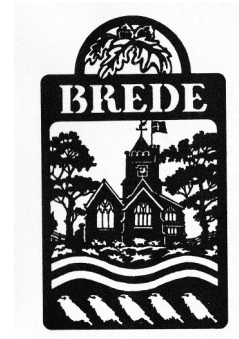


Brede and Broad Oak Community Newsletter

March 2026



Published by Brede Parish Council



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NEXT Newsletter

The next newsletter will be in July 2026. Please ensure all submissions are sent to the clerk, Tracy Dixon (clerk@brede-pc.gov.uk) by **Friday 15th May 2026**.

Brede Parish Council

Notes from the Chair

An important and often lengthy discussion in the Parish Council at this time of year, is to set the financial contribution from householders (the 'precept') for local services in the year starting in April. Like everyone else, we would like excellent services and facilities, but with the Council Tax as low as possible!

Some people argue that Parish Council costs are such a small proportion of the overall Council Tax (around 2%, with the rest going to the County and District Councils, the Fire Authority and the Police) that we needn't worry too much, but every little helps as they say.

Improvements in the Parish this year have certainly been appreciated, but people see wonderful facilities in other villages and would like them here. Some of the costs this year have been funded through grants, but we have also dipped into our reserves and don't want to deplete them any further. This is particularly important with the forthcoming reorganisation of local government, as it seems likely that parish councils will be asked to take on additional responsibilities.

So this year we have looked at our costs and future needs in even more detail than usual. We started 'top down', considering current expenditure line by line and then discussing our future needs. Then some of us worked 'bottom up', that is to say we decided how much extra it would be reasonable for people to pay including inflation and worked back to see what we could provide for that amount of money.

Perhaps the most instructive exercise was a comparison with the precept for other parishes in Rother District. Parish Councils in this area are very varied, from Bexhill through to some very small rural areas. Taken overall, our precept this year for a Band D property was the 6th lowest out of the 33 parishes in Rother. Band D is the mid-point nationally and includes some of the smaller houses in the Parish.

Continued on next page

Notes from the Chair - continued

We then looked in more detail at nine parishes in Rother that are roughly the same size as Brede. This year, the highest parish council precept for a Band D property in these areas was £145. We charged £50, which was the second lowest. The average for the similar councils was £80. That, and the small number of houses built in the Parish, explains our low expenditure and relatively modest facilities.

After much discussion we decided to increase the Parish precept for 2026-27 by 28 pence per week for Band D houses, including inflation. Other property bands will of course pay a greater or lesser amount. That will allow us a little flexibility in expenditure and to put a small amount back into our reserves. More details are given on page 5

If people want better facilities, longer term we will need to increase the precept gently, perhaps towards the mid-point of the precepts for similar councils.

Before Christmas we were delighted to welcome Nigel Hobson to the Council. Nigel owned a consultancy business for architectural and civil engineering companies, before leading global divisions in organisations that provide payment and risk management systems in the financial services sector. Nigel has returned to this country after 17 years in the US and now lives on the Udimore Road. He has served two terms as a school governor.

There is still one vacancy for someone wishes to contribute to the community by working on the Council.

Stephen Hampson
Chair

Brede Parish Council Budget for 2026-27

At its January meeting, Brede Parish Councillors discussed the planned budget for 2026-27 and agreed the precept that would be charged for the year. The precept is the part of the Council Tax which is charged specifically for the Parish, and is used by the Parish Council for the upkeep of the services it provides and for projects within the Community. The precept agreed for 2026-27 was £56,775 which works out at £64.71 for a band D dwelling.

INCOME	Precept	56775
	Interest and newsletter advertising	4700
Total Projected Income		62775
EXPENDITURE		
Administration	Clerk/travel/office/insurance/website	28975
	Hall hire	450
	Newsletter	2000
	Audit	450
	Training and functions	600
Total Administration		32475
Donations	Burial Grounds	800
	Plants	200
Donations		1000
Maintenance and upkeep of assets	Rec Ground and Greens	4200
	Trees	4200
	Rec Ground Equipment	2600
	Public Seats/Bus Shelters/Bins	2000
	Grass Cutting/footpaths	3000
Total Maintenance		16000
Projects	New Pavillion	500
	Christmas Trees 2026	1200
	Land Maintenance	5000
	Asset maintenance	2000
	Clerks Computer	1000
	Transfer to Reserves	3300
Total Projects		13000
	s137	300
Total other expenditure		300
Total projected Expenditure		62775

Parish Council Notices

Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month, usually starting at 7.30pm.

They alternate between the Village Hall Committee Room and the Trinity Methodist Church Hall

Tuesday 24th March 2026	Trinity Methodist Church Hall
Tuesday 28th April 2026	Brede Village Hall, Committee Room
Tuesday 26th May 2026	Trinity Methodist Church Hall
Tuesday 23rd June 2026	Brede Village Hall
Tuesday 28th July 2026	Trinity Methodist Church Hall

Planning Meetings and Extraordinary Meetings will be called as required.

All meetings are advertised on Notice Boards and the Council website.

All residents of the parish are welcome to attend meetings.

If you would like to advertise in the Newsletter

For three editions, starting with the July issue:

Black and White	Colour
£47 ¼ page	£62 ¼ page
£82 ½ page	£102 ½ page
£155 whole page	£180 whole page

Please contact the Clerk

Tracy Dixon

clerk@brede-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 07540 562345

The Newsletter goes to every home in the parish.



Brede Parish Assembly

Saturday 21st March

Brede Village Hall 5.30pm

- 5.30 to 6pm Refreshments and networking
- 6 to 6.20pm Introduction and Annual Report by the Chair. Cllr S Hampson
- 6.20 to 6.30pm East Sussex County Council report.
East Sussex County Cllr Carl Maynard
- 6.30 to 6.40pm Rother District Council Report
Rother District Cllr Neil Gordon
- 6.40 to 7pm Question time
- 7 to 7.30pm Speaker. To be arranged
- 7.30 to 7.45pm Final question time and close of meeting.

Come along and find out what your Parish Council do and have your say.

MAKE A CHANGE

BECOME A LOCAL COUNCILLOR

If you care about where you live and are passionate about the community, then think about applying to become a Councillor.

The Parish Council still has a vacancy to fill. You need to be able to attend monthly meetings on a Tuesday.

Please contact the clerk for further information.

Eligibility

To become a Brede Parish Councillor **you must:**

- Be a Commonwealth citizen (which includes a British subject), or a citizen of a member state of the European Union and be over 18.

In addition, you must meet one of the following four qualifications:

- You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector for the parish from the day of your co-option, **OR**

During the whole of the 12 months preceding co-option, you:

- Have resided in the parish, or within 3 miles of it, **OR**
- Had your principle place of work in the parish **OR**
- Occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises in the parish.

Disqualifications:

You **may not** become a Brede Parish Councillor if:

- You hold a paid office or other place of profit in the gift of Brede Parish Council.
- You have been declared bankrupt in the past 5 years and not repaid the debts.
- You have been convicted of a criminal offence and sentenced to not less than 3 months imprisonment (including suspended sentences) within the past 5 years.
- You have been disqualified under the Representation of the Peoples Act 1983
- You are subject to the notification requirement of/or under Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

Broad Oak Doctors Surgery

The Parish Council has received the following statement:

"We have been made aware of numerous rumours circulating on social media regarding the services being provided by Northiam and Broad Oak Surgery.

We understand that any uncertainty about local services can be worrying, and we want to be clear that patient care remains our priority. The practice is currently reviewing all the services as part of ongoing planning, which is normal process within the NHS. Should any permanent changes be proposed in the future, patients will be informed formally, clearly, and in advance and, where appropriate, patient views will be considered.

We kindly ask patients not to rely on rumours and to use official practice communications for accurate information.

Thank you

Drs Parnell, Albardiaz, James and Dale"

Draft Rother Local Plan 2025–2042

Development Strategy and Site Allocations

Rother District's draft development strategy and site allocations is now available at <https://www.rother.gov.uk/draftlocalplan2026>. The proposal is for 29 new houses on land to the west of the Northiam Road with access via Oakhill Drive/Tillingham View (planning permission has already been submitted), 70 houses on land to the west of Tillingham View with access from the Chitcombe Road and 20 houses at Broad Oak Lodge, further along the Chitcombe Road. There is also a proposal for a permanent single family traveller's site on the east side of Kingwood Hill. This already exists with temporary permission. The Parish Council will be submitting comments on behalf of the community but, if you wish to make your own comments, these must be submitted to Rother District **by 23rd March**.

East Sussex County Councillor - Cllr Carl Maynard

My workload in Broad Oak and Brede locally has mostly featured enquires about sensitive individual cases and the inevitable concerns about highways and footways. Please ensure you do report anything of concern whether it's a blocked drain, pothole or overgrown hedge etc. Whilst the steward inspects and reports on issues that he finds, it is helpful when members of the public report issues, especially when they aren't on main roads. I have several calls a week with the steward and work with him to try to resolve ongoing issues. Please let me know if you suspect any substandard repairs or ongoing issues.

Brede Parish Community Awards 2026

Nominations for the Community Awards are now welcome. Please send them to Tracy Dixon the Clerk at email: clerk@brede-pc.gov.uk or phone 07540 562345

Community Spirit Award

Awarded to someone who brings a community spirit to the Parish.

Young Person of The Year Award

In recognition of a young person doing or achieving something amazing.

Brede Shield

Awarded to a person(s)/group who enhance the community.

Garden Competition 2026

The garden competitions are open to all those living in the Parish. There is no need to enter, just make your front garden as attractive as possible.

Categories are:

Best Large Garden

Best Small Garden

Best Hanging Baskets and Containers

We will continue the custom this year of inviting residents to nominate a neighbour's garden, to ensure no gardens are missed. Please send nominations to the Clerk between the 20th and 31st May. (Garden address only, no names required). The judges will walk around the Parish in June.

A presentation afternoon will be held in July, date to be announced. All residents are welcome to attend.

Brede Village Hall

It seems like only the other day that I was drafting the article for the November newsletter and here we are 'marching' through 2026.

Whilst it may seem a long time ago now, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and managed to avoid the many viruses that were going around.



2025 was a good year for your Village Hall and thanks to the hard work of the Booking Clerk and Committee members we saw bookings increase and remain strong.

The classes and groups being run from the hall offer a varied mix of activities for a wide range of individual abilities, ages and interests. Please take a moment to check them out and maybe come along and try one.

Thanks, in the main, to successful grant applications the Committee were able to drive forward with their maintenance and improvement programme. This will continue throughout 2026 to make the hall not only more welcoming, but also more environmentally friendly and efficient.

As always, I do like to mention the weekly Farmers' Market on a Friday from 10am (well probably more like 9.30ish) until midday. Aside from the many varied stalls, many people regularly come along for just a coffee, biscuits and a chat, oh and sometimes there is cake!

Christmas 2025 proved to be extra special for the Farmers Market as we were treated to a carol service by the school one week and then an adult choir the following week, which included mulled wine and mince pies served by an elf. Let's see if we can top that in 2026.

And on that note all that is left for me to say is here's hoping for a lovely summer.



Brede Village Hall

is proud to host

Brede Farmers' Market

Every Friday - 10 'til 12

Come & support your local fisherman, food producers, crafters and growers

Why not enjoy tea/coffee & fresh cake whilst there!

Lots of free parking available



Brede School

Celebrating a Remarkable Start to the School Year at Brede Primary School

It has been a truly exceptional autumn at Brede Primary School, and we are delighted to share some wonderful news with our local community. Brede Primary has been officially named the highest performing primary school in East Sussex, with our 2025 results celebrated nationally by the Department of Education. This achievement reflects the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of our children, staff and families, and we are incredibly proud of everyone involved.

One of the highlights of the year so far has been the success of Green Explorer Fridays, which have been a big hit with both children and staff. Pupils have embraced outdoor learning with great enthusiasm: making fires and exploring the natural world in Forest School, digging and planting in Gardening School as we prepare for spring, developing confidence and independence through the Junior Duke Award, and having huge fun while learning new skills at Farm School. These experiences have brought learning to life and helped our children build resilience, teamwork and curiosity.

Our children also brought great joy to the wider community through music and celebration. There were many happy faces when the school choir sang at the annual Christmas Fair and the Farmers Market. We extend a heartfelt thank you to our fantastic PTA and our friends at Trinity Methodist Church for their continued support and partnership.

This year's Christmas Fair was particularly special, as it was held at the Village Hall for the first time, placing the children, families and staff of the school right at the heart of the local community. We are extremely grateful to all the families who supported our Christmas events, including cheering on our youngest children as they performed a wonderful Nativity. The children also created a fantastic Christmas tree inspired by the nursery rhyme *London's Burning* for St George's Christmas Tree Festival, showcasing their creativity and teamwork.

Finally, we said a sad farewell to two of our longest-serving and much-loved members of staff, Mrs Billenness and Mrs Bull. Their dedication and care have meant so much to generations of children and families. We wish them both a restful, happy and well-deserved retirement.

Thank you to everyone in our community for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting term ahead at Brede Primary School.

Julie Knock

Headteacher





TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
B R O A D O A K

Greetings to everyone in Broad Oak and Brede from us all at Trinity.

Taking the best from our previous Monday and Wednesday meetings, from 1 April we will be starting an informal 'Wednesday Welcome' from 2-4pm. A rolling programme of discussions, crafts and activities, followed by plenty of time to chat over tea and cake, will provide something for everyone. Or just drop in for our bookswap, or to bring a donation for Hastings Foodbank. There will be no meeting on Monday 30 March.

Wednesday Welcome
from 1 April 2-4pm.
Relaxed company, crafts,
discussions, bookswap,
refreshments

It was good to see many from the village for our Carols by Candlelight. We look forward to seeing you again for our service of Easter Praise, including Holy Communion, on Sunday 5th April.

We enjoy a strong relationship with Brede Primary School, so David (our Community Worker), has arranged for various classes to visit Trinity during the spring term. We will welcome the whole school for an assembly at the end of March.

Our Sunday services normally start at 10.30am, but on 5th Sundays we have a more informal service in hall at 3pm. You will always receive a warm welcome.

For more information about anything at Trinity, give me a call or visit our website www.trinitybroad oak.org.

Angela Pepper-Coleman, Senior Steward
01424 753295 / 07950 790339



St George's Brede

Regular Services:

Holy Communion at 9:30am

BCP Holy Communion at 11:00am

Any information regarding special services will be found on our website and Facebook.

Lent Lilies

This is the time when we think of loved ones. If you have someone you would like to have remembered, we can do an arrangement of lilies and write the name of a loved one on a list that will be shown in St George's Brede at Easter. The cost this year will be £4 per lily. Please contact me as soon as possible if you wish to purchase one, Rhiannon 01424 882037. We do have a voicemail system, please leave a message if needed.



Easter Extravaganza 10am to 12.30pm

Holy Saturday 4th April

Dragon Egg Hunt

Easter Bonnet Competition 3-10 yrs

Best Cookies 11-15 yrs

Decorated Easter Cake Competition (Adults)

Raffle, crafts, seed planting, choir singing and more

Come and join us for family fun.

Brede and Udimore Luncheon Club

The Village Lunch Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 12.30. p.m. at the 'Red Lion' Brede. At our friendly and sociable Club, members are served a two-course lunch prepared on the premises by the chef and his team. At the start of 2026 the cost of the meal is £14.pp. Coffee, teas and other drinks to complement your meal can be purchased at the bar. We always finish our lunchtime with a generous raffle!

For information about the Lunch Club, please contact:

Frances Parnham (Membership Secretary) T: 01424 882007



Our meeting this month will be on Wednesday 4th March at 1.30pm. It will be held at 2, Bellhurst Cottages, Chitcombe Road, Broad Oak TN31 6EU. Please contact Rhiannon the Branch Leader if you are interested on 014242 822037.

At the District meeting in March, the discussion will be on what celebrations Sussex may hold to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Mothers' Union.

Our founder Mary Sumner would be amazed how long her legacy has survived and continues. A courageous lady who stood up for her Christian values and wanted to do more for the poor in her husband's parish, she gathered her friends and took food and clothing to those families in need. Others heard of her work and thus grew the Mother' Union all over the world.

Mothers' Union is a little different now; we collect socks for detainees at Gatwick, make up toiletry bags for emergency admitted hospital admissions and bake cakes for the Citizenship Ceremony. We also support parents whose babies are in the prem unit and Doctors and Nurses under pressure. 'Eating Cake', drinking tea and having a natter does so much good.

Rhiannon Oliver: Brede Branch Leader and MU Bexhill District Chairman.



Brede Friendly Circle

Our group goes out for coffee at various locations within a 15 mile area. We always aim to be at the venue by 10.30pm.

We have a few drivers who can offer transport to those who require it.

Our venues over the next four months are:-

March 18th	Lime Wharf
April 15 th	The Waterside Café at the Fish Farm
May 20 th	Merryments
June 17 th	Tibbs Farm

We have fun and friendship within our group and, if you feel that this is something you might enjoy, then please contact our membership secretary Carol on 01424 883262



We offer a range of enjoyable events each month to members and non-members of our association in support of The National Trust.

Walks September-June | Talks October-May

Our 5 mile circular walks cost £3 and begin at 10.00am. All walks end with a rewarding pub lunch and a quiz. Our talks with popular guest speakers cover a range of topics and are held from 2.00pm at Brede Village Hall, and cost £5 for members/£10 for non-members – including refreshments.

Future Events

March

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Thursday 12 th | Fairlight walk & lunch at The Cove |
| Thursday 19 th | AGM and talk by Andrew Ashton on Goldenhurst, the history of an ancient farmhouse |

April

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 14 th | Walk TBC |
| Thursday 16 th | Talk by Sue Flipping entitled 'Not Just Safaris'. The beauty of South Africa's gardens |
| Wednesday 22 nd | Outing to NT's Emmetts Gardens and Quebec House with walk option |

May

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Saturday 9 th | Spring Lunch: Flackley Ash, Peasmarsh |
| Thursday 14 th | Walk TBC |
| Wednesday 20 th | Theatre trip: 'Operation Mincemeat' at The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury |
| Thursday 21 st | Talk by Melanie Gibson-Barton entitled 'And So To Ted'. The history of Teddies and other Bears |

Contact: Dee Williams (membership) 07760 115413 membership@ryenationaltrust@gmail.com Julie Etches (bookings) 01797 225317, Julie.etches054@btinternet.com
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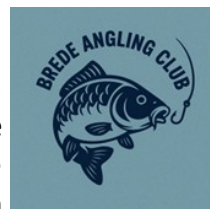
USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS		
Conquest Hospital		0300 131 4500
Responders		01424 883473
Rye Memorial Care Hospital	No A&E	01797 224499
Northiam Surgery	Drs Sally Parnell, Alex Dale, Anna James and Nicky Cudlipp	01797 252140
Brede Village Hall Surgery	Rye Medical Centre	01797 223333
Broad Oak Surgery Mon, Tues & Thurs 8.30am –1pm Weds 8.30am-12noon Friday 8.30am-11am	Dr Richard Albardiaz	01424 882394
Police	Non-emergency	101
Schools		
Brede Primary School		01424 882393
Rye College		01797 222545
Robertsbridge College		01580 840669
Transport		
Rye & District Community Bus		01797 227722
Rye Dial a Ride		01797 227722
Churches in the Parish		
St George's Church Brede	David Oliver, Churchwarden	01424 882037
Trinity Methodist Church	Rev'd Ian Couchman	01424 755699
St Theresa's Catholic Church	Father Richard	01424 773125
Useful Magazines & Newspapers		
Rye & Battle Observer/weekly	Brede Column Rhiannon Oliver	01424 882037 07375957244
Brede Parish Church Magazine/monthly	David Oliver	01424 882037
Brede Parish Newsletter	Tracy Dixon	clerk@brede-pc.org.uk

Groups in the Village	Contact	Phone number	Venue	When	Time
1 st Brede Scout Group/Beavers & Cubs	Cherry McCleery	07761 730956	Scout Hut	Mondays & Tues	
Bookswap	Stephen Hampson	01424 882690	Trinity Methodist Church	Wednesdays	2-4pm from 1st April
Brede & Udimore Luncheon Club	Fran Parnham	01424 882007		4 th Tues	12.30pm
Farmers Market Ruth Burgess Email farmersmarket@brede.villagehall.org.uk			Village Hall	Every Friday	10am - noon
Brede Friendly Circle	Carol Baxter	01424 883262		3 rd Wed of month	10am
Wednesday Welcome	Angela Pepper	01424 753295	Trinity Methodist Church	Every Weds	2-4pm from 1st April
Friends of Brede School		01424 882393			
Mothers' Union	Rhiannon Oliver	01424 882037	St George's Church Room	1 st Wed of month	1.30pm
Beginners Yoga	Jodie Creaser	07583 469584	Village Hall	Tues Wed	7.30-8.30pm 9.30-10.30am
Pilates	Geraldine Bennett	07811 141873	Village Hall	Thurs	6.30pm
Adult Ballet Barre Class	Aysha Jamie	01424 883238	Village Hall	Thurs	11am
Little Giants Baby and Toddler Group	Rhiannon Oliver	01424 882037	St George's Church	Thurs (term time)	9.30am to 10.30am

Groups Continued	Contact	Phone number	Venue	When	Time
Bell Ringers	Wendy Burchett	01424 882727	St George's Church	1st and 3rd Sundays	8.45-9.30am
Brede Crafters	Jacqui Armstrong	01424 883091	Village Hall	Last Wed of month	2- 4pm
Women's Institute	jemdrew1925@gmail.com susan.orchard4@btinternet.com		Village Hall	2nd Wed of month	2-4pm
Brede Steam Engine Society	Jane Moody	07788 903153	Brede Water-works	1 st Sat of month	10am – 4pm
BSARS	m0nuc.bsars@gmail.com		Scout Hut	Tues & 1 st Sat	
Design with Flowers	Rhiannon Oliver	01424 882037	2 Bellhurst Cottages	2nd Mon of month	7-9pm
Painting for Pleasure	Anne Cootes	01424 882542	Village Hall	Every Tuesday	9.30am
Angling Club	Donna Bolton	07842 790237			
Cricket Club	Graeme Dining	079412288660 01424 852413			
Short Mat Bowls Club	Sue McGavin/ Lynne Bramley	01424 883566/ 07795 202733	Village Hall	Fridays	4-6pm
Rye and District National Trust	Keith Sellens	07940 777250	Village Hall	3rd Thursday	2pm
Vocality	Nadia Florence-Marshall	01424 882948	Village Hall	1st, 2nd, 4th (&5th) Thursdays	2pm

Brede Angling Club

Brede Angling Club is a small, friendly village club with exclusive **fishing rights to Kingswood Pond**, located in the fields to the left just before the Broad Oak Village Hall. We are also proud members of the **Rother Fishery Association (RFA)**, giving our members access to additional waters at **Newenden, Bodiam, and parts of the Military Canal**.



Membership Rates:

- Adults: **£20 per year**
- Juniors: **£7 per year** (*under 16, as long as their 16th birthday is after 16th June*)
- Under 5s: **Free**

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.

Kingswood Pond is open all year round (RFA waters observe the traditional closed season). **Day tickets available (with 1 day's notice):** Adults: **£5** Juniors: **£2.50** Call the number below to book.

Memberships and Renewals

We are now accepting **renewals and new membership requests**.

All members must email to request a membership form.

Payment can be made by **bank transfer or cash**, and membership cards will be **posted or hand delivered**. Please allow up to **5 days** for processing.

For more info or to request a form:

Email: donnabolton989@gmail.com **Call:** 07807 827006

Brede Painting for Pleasure.

Painting for Pleasure is a friendly art group that continues to meet at Brede Village Hall on Tuesday morning 9.30-12.30. We do our own thing, but help each other when needed. We hold an exhibition of our work for sale every August bank holiday.

Contact Ann Cootes on anniecootes@icloud.com



Singers wanted

Established by passionate music enthusiasts, 15 years ago, Vocality rehearses weekly, embracing a wide range of musical genres. No auditions are required; enthusiasm and a love of music are all you need.

Vocality is more than just a choir; it is a community hub where friendships blossom and local connections are strengthened. Members not only sing together, but also participate in social gatherings, charity events, and performances in local venues, supporting community initiatives and spreading joy through music.

Whether you are looking to improve your singing, meet new people, or simply have fun, Vocality offers a welcoming and enjoyable environment for all. Join us and discover the transformative power of music within your community.

The place: Brede Village Hall, (except on a third Thursday when we meet at Trinity Methodist Church Hall) – the time 2pm to 3.30pm. Plus a cup of well-earned tea and a biscuit. There is a modest membership fee to cover venue hire and sheet music etc.

Any questions please call Nadia Florence-Marshall 01424 882948.



1st Brede Scouts

Brede Scout Hut, Stubb Lane', Brede TN31 6EG

Mondays 5–6pm Beavers 6 to 8½

Monday 6.30—8pm Cubs 8½ - 10½

Tuesday 7—9 pm Scouts 10½ to 14½

We are still in need of new and additional Cub and Beaver Leaders; Contact Cherry for information. 07761 730956 gsl1stbrede@hotmail.com

Group Scout Leader

Cherry McCleery
07761 730956
gsl1stbrede@hotmail.com

Beaver Scout Leader (6-8 yrs)

Cherry McCleery
07761 730956
gsl1stbrede@hotmail.com

Cub Scout Leader (8-10½ yrs)

Peter Clark 07702 407725
famclark@hotmail.com

Scout Leader (10½ to 14½ yrs)

Luciano Frige 07818 070807

Brede WI

The last three months of 2025 was a busy time for Brede WI and, between October and December, we welcomed six new members bringing our current membership to 44.

At our October meeting we enjoyed a visit from BUGS – Battle Ukelele Group – who provided an hour of lively music and singing along to music ‘of our era’ - everyone remembers Hi Ho Silver Lining ! It was a really great afternoon. The BUGS are a very talented and entertaining group and well worth seeing when performing around the area.

Instead of a pantomime, November saw the inaugural performance by The Brede WI Showgirls who performed Unleashed Talent – a variety show featuring music, dance, drama and synchronised swimming – on the stage ! This was an Open Meeting when Brede residents, friends and family could enjoy the performance and Afternoon Tea for £5 – a real bargain !

We were superbly entertained at our Christmas Party in December by King Henry VIII, alias Tony Hall, who presented a humorous insight into his Court, love life and marriages. This was also an Open Meeting which was well attended by visitors. We rounded off the year with our customary Christmas Lunch at Flackley Ash Hotel, where we were well looked after and even treated to a visit from Father Christmas.

A varied and interesting programme is planned for 2026, so look out for the Open Meetings which may be of interest. We will also be holding fundraising events to support St Michael’s Hospice, our charity for 2026.

If you would like to know more about Brede WI, please contact:

Sue Orchard - Joint President
01424 883322



4 Charities

We are a local charity that holds a monthly "Get together" in the first Friday of every month at the Udimore Community Hall.

Coffee (or tea) and biscuits (or cake) are provided, and card and board games are available (or just come for a chat) and company).

The morning starts at 10:30 and finishes at 12:30 and a donation of £5 is requested (all of which is distributed to the four charities).

The four charities we support are:

FSW – a Sussex based charity which supports families going through hardship

Freedom from Fistula providing medical care in Africa for women who have after birth problems

Papua New Guinea Church Partnership which is a Christian group providing health and educational facilities

Tanzanear who run a school for deaf children.

These are all UK registered charities and all the funds we raised are distributed between them.

If you don't have transport and would like to come, this can be arranged, as the FlexiBus can pick you up and return you.

There is no charge for the transport if you hold a Rother Bus pass, or £4 return if you don't, but you will need to let us know so that we can arrange the transport. Contact Steve on 0770 217 3839 or email him at steve@chitcombe.co.uk.

Everyone is very welcome.

Please contact Steve Edwards on 01424 882222 or email him at steve@chitcombe.co.uk to book a seat.

Visit www.4charities.net for more information.

Design with Flowers

Our next meeting will be on March 9th at 7pm. Meetings are held at 2 Bellhurst Cottages, Chitcombe Road, Broad Oak, TN31 6EU.

In January we did a green vegetation design at our first meeting and then met again on the 26th January and did 'All for Love', instead of a February meeting.

Our next subject is a design for St Patrick's day which will be on Monday 8th March at 7pm. On April 13th we will do A Spring Design and on May 11th A Hogarth Curve as shown.

June 8th will be A Concave Design. If you fancy having a go, do come and join us for a fun few hours and take home a master piece for all to admire.

Please contact me if you are interested 01424 882037 or email rhiannonoliver20@gmail.com



A Hogarth Curve

BREDE STEAM GIANTS

The Heritage Site on your doorstep.

The work on our new Power House continues. It is surprising sometimes just how much work has to be done to complete a project. The building of the new Power House and relocating of all the electric compressors continues, but the end is in sight, at last!

All the compressors are now installed and new airlines have been installed throughout the buildings to give a better air supply to all our engines. We took the opportunity to install new emergency cut-off valves adjacent to the engines while completing the new pipework; hopefully they will never be needed - but it is an improvement to the system and was best done while all the rest of the work was being completed. The electrical work is still ongoing, so the electric compressors are still not in use.

We have been relying on air from our one remaining diesel compressor to run the engines on Open Days. This diesel compressor is ageing fast and we are worried about how long it will continue to function. It has been a struggle to get it to work recently and so, in December, we took the decision not to open to the public in January and February. These are the months when we welcome the least number of visitors and also the diesel compressor struggles more when the weather is cold. It would also give our volunteers more time to work on the compressors. They can't do much work on Open Days and have to get everything ready on the Saturday before every Open Day too - this means that they can only get their teeth into their work on two Saturdays per month.

Hopefully, having this extra time will mean that all the work can be finished more quickly and we can get it all tested and fully operational ready for the summer openings. We will be open once again on 7th March, but will have to wait and see whether we can use the new compressors, or will have to rely on the trusty diesel machine. In any case, the old diesel will have had a rest, a bit of an overhaul and the weather should be warmer! We are looking out for a diesel compressor to replace our old one, as we will still need to have one available at times.

When all the work has been completed, we will be able to run all the engines at the same time on every Open Day as we used to, but without the noise of any diesel compressors.

This has been a major upgrade to the whole system and will, hopefully, ensure that the “Giants” will continue to be a source of pride for the village for many years to come.

Please accept our apologies for not being open in January and February, we hope that the above helps you to understand why we didn't open. Apart from the COVID times, this is the only time when the Giants have been closed.

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to enable this major project to become a reality. Do come and see how we are progressing.

We will continue to open on the first Saturday of every month throughout the year and Bank Holiday Mondays from 10am - 4pm.

We have a small cafe serving hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes, cash only. There is an accessible toilet which also has a baby-change facility, in addition to our original facilities which are only accessible via a flight of steps.

Entry and guided tours are free. Donations are always welcome to help us to keep these wonderful engines operating.

The village of Brede is really fortunate to have such a wonderful Heritage site within its boundary - visitors come from all over the world to see the “Giants”, as our Visitor’s Book can testify! If you haven’t seen the “Giants” already, it is well worth popping in for a quick look - it won’t cost anything and you may be amazed!

We look forward to welcoming you all!





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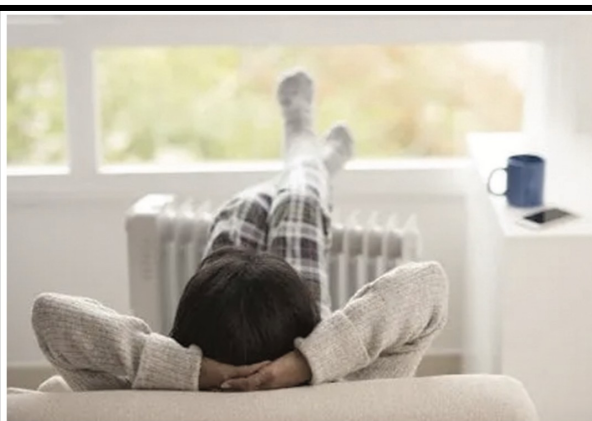
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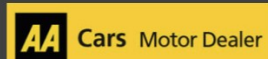
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Halls in our Parish

Brede Village Hall:	Penny Williams 07541 263 991
Scout Hut:	Cherry McCleery 07761 730956
Brede Church Room:	Wardens 01424 882037
Trinity Methodist Church:	Stephen Hampson 01424 882690

Brede Village Hall

Brede Village Hall offers a bright modern building with central heating and a well fitted kitchen, an extendable stage and disabled facilities. Seating is available for up to 120 people. There are tables, chairs, crockery and cutlery for over 100 people. There is plenty of off-road parking. What more could you want?

Booking Clerk Mrs Penny Williams 07541 263991

For more information go to www.brededevillagehall.org.uk and you will find details of the hall facilities, a schedule showing when it is available for hire and contact details. If you would like to have a look at the hall before booking to see if it is suitable for your purpose, that can easily be arranged.

For hiring charges, please visit the website: www.brededevillagehall.org.uk or ring the booking clerk.

Brede Scout Hut

Cherry McCleery 07761 730956 gsl1stbrede@hotmail.com

The perfect venue if you require a smaller hall, with a large, grassed outdoor area, big enough for a marquee and a small patio area. Ideal for weddings, parties and small groups. Small parking area for roughly 15 cars. Good sized kitchen with dishwasher, range cooker and fridge-freezer. Toilets, including disabled toilet and a shower.

Charges; £6 per hour plus a £50 deposit, refundable if premises left as found.

Overnight camping £10 plus £3 per person.

Some evenings not available due to Scout Groups meeting but, please text or call for more information.

Trinity Methodist Church and Hall

Trinity has recently been re-furbished and the hall, a small meeting room or the whole building are now available for hire. The Church, which has a good sound system, seats about 75 and the hall about 35 depending on the layout. The premises are fully accessible with ramps to the front and side, an accessible toilet and a hearing loop in the church. There is a modern, well-equipped kitchen and modern heating and lighting throughout the building. Further information is available on our website www.trinitybroad oak.org.uk, or visit us to look around.

The Small Print

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Cllr Martin Griffiths Planning Chair	Cllr.Martin.Griffiths@brede-pc.gov.uk	07836 662216
Cllr Julie Allison Recreation Ground Chair	Cllr.Julie.Allison@brede-pc.gov.uk	07816 322502
Cllr Mark Wey Speedwatch	Cllr.Mark.Wey@brede-pc.gov.uk	07974 196309
Cllr Rhiannon Oliver	Cllr.Rhiannon.Oliver@brede-pc.gov.uk	01424 882037
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	Vacant	
District Councillor Neil Gordon	Cllr.Neil.Gordon@rother.gov.uk	07711 042934
County Councillor Carl Maynard	Cllr.Carl.Maynard@EastSussex.gov.uk	07500 224869
Clerk Mrs Tracy Dixon	Email: clerk@brede-pc.gov.uk	07540 562345.

Committees and Responsibilities	Councillors
Planning	All Councillors
Highways	All Councillors
Brede Village Hall liaison	Cllrs M Duffield and D McDonald
Footpath liaison	Cllr Nigel Hobson
Recreation Ground & Equipment	All Councillors to report as necessary
Finance and Audit	Mrs T Dixon / Mr K Robertson
Trees, Seats, Bus Shelters, Bins, Hedges	All Councillors to report issues.
Newsletter	Clerk, Mrs T Dixon
Speed Watch	Cllr M Wey
Website and Facebook	Clerk, Mrs T Dixon
RALC & ESALC Representatives	Cllrs M Griffiths and M Wey
Recreation Ground Committee	Cllrs Allison, Oliver, Duffield and Hampson
Personnel Committee	Cllrs Allison, Hampson and McDonald

