



The speaker at the February meeting of CAMEO was Liz Furber, who spoke about Ripple Africa, the charity she and her husband Geoff had founded in Malawi. They aim to empower communities so they can achieve a sustainable future, 'providing a hand up and not a hand out'

On 3 March, a service for the Women's World Day of Prayer took place in the chapel in Smallfield Hall.

Prepared by women in the Philippines, it included readings from four women describing their day-to-day lives. Small bags of rice were given out to represent all that those in many rural areas had to eat



The Edenbridge Town Band entertained the audience at a fund-raising concert in Horne in February. The band, which celebrated its 150th birthday last year, had a very varied repertoire and their skill and the introductions and background to the pieces they played made it a very enjoyable evening



Windmill United Benefice

The parishes of Burstow, Horne and Outwood

Rector: Revd Nicholas Calver
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April 2017



Looking at Lent

A quantity of delicious home-made soups and breads were enjoyed at the Lent Lunch in Smallfield on 18 March. A steady stream of people supported the event, raising £235 for the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call, which this year is supporting projects in Southwark Diocese (the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation; Faith in Action Merton Homelessness Project; and Deptford Reach) and in Zimbabwe, where the projects all support food security and water shortages. Please hand any further contributions to the churchwardens or Nicholas.

A joint benefice service for Candlemas

As the three churches came together in St John the Baptist, Outwood to 'turn from Christ's birth to his passion', Outwood churchwarden Nick Case-Green was moved to reflect...

We are home at last. We have travelled hither and thither. We were on our own. We joined with St Mary's. We were separated from St Mary's against our wish. We were joined with Christ Church and being the small partner were a little lost. Many at Christ Church didn't know we existed. We would go to Christ Church but few would come to us. We were told St John's must close as our numbers were too low (where two or three are gathered together etc...). Horne and Burstow said, "No, that must not happen, we want you." With their nurture and the agreement of Bishop Jonathan we were brought back to life. Now we are happy to be a part of a thriving Benefice. At Candlemas we saw an affirmation of that commitment when 70 souls from the three parishes joined us for communion. Thank you, St Mary's and St Bartholomew's for your help.

A celebration of mothering

Mothering Sunday saw three special services in the benefice. Preparations started on the Saturday with posies being made for Outwood and Horne (*below left*) and Burstow (*bottom left*) with daffodils kindly donated by the Smallfield Co-op. On the day, Charles, at Horne, explored the relevance of Mothering Sunday to us all. If God chose a very ordinary girl to be the mother of Jesus, he said, what might he have in mind for each of us in our ordinariness? After the service all shared a very unordinary cake (*right*)! At Burstow, Nicholas likened the message of Mothering Sunday to a cake: the eggs are the symbol of life; sugar the sweetness of comfort; butter the richness of love; milk sustains us and reminds us to give thanks for

those who nurture us; and flour shows how we can flower (!) when loved. The Burstow Scouts helped distribute the posies after the service (*below right*), before forming a guard of honour as people left (*bottom right*). Then at Outwood, Nicholas talked about the word honey being used as a term of love and endearment, and likened the hard work and protective nature of the bee to the work of mothering (*bottom*).



The theme of February Messy Church was 'Finding hidden treasure' Participants made treasure chests (both edible and not!) before learning a new song, 'Heaven is in my heart' and enjoying tea

