

# Lindfield *Life*

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Issue #132 Jan. 2020

Free



Sheep do sponsored walk

page 16

Village People: Keren Ghitis

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## EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Welcome to the New Year issue of the magazine! I guess many of us will feel differently about the 12 months stretched out in front right now.

Whatever your perspective, I hope you'll enjoy taking in the content of this issue, which reminds us of all that is great about living here in Lindfield.

On **page 44 Ayesha Gilani** selects six individuals to inspire us with their musical selections in **Pond Island Discs**. On **page 32 Mary Collins** goes **Behind the Counter** at The Witch Inn as she tells landlord **Sean Turner's** story. And, on **page 25**, I'm delighted to introduce new contributor and Scaynes Hill resident **Toby Wyithe**, who will seek to enlighten us on all things in the technology and gaming sector. See the first article on **page 25**. Thank you to these three and to all our regular contributors – we have plenty of talented writers in our midst!

There is lots of school talk in this issue with **Oathall students** taking part in a fundraising marathon relay challenge before they broke up – see **page 16**. Oathall gets another mention on **page 19**, and again on **page 38!** **Karl Luckhurst** shares what the pupils of **Blackthorns Primary Academy** were up to at the end of last term on **page 48**, and **Lindfield Primary Academy** has its regular update column on **page 51**.

I am delighted to see the magazine making it half way around the world again, courtesy of readers **Jenny, Charles** and **Sylvia** on **page 52**.

On **page 54 Cavan Wood** picks up another book and tells us why we should too in our regular **Book Review**.

On a final note, it's been great to continue working with **Lindfield Parish Council** during 2019. On **page 56** its regular newsletter can be found, and there's an extra mention for a very successful **Christmas Festival Night** on **page 43** too.

Happy New Year to all.



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### Lindfield Life


The Barn, Hurstwood Grange,  
Haywards Heath RH17 7QX  
Telephone 01444 884115  
www.lindfieldlife.co.uk


Editor: David Tingley  
Assistant: Claire Cooper  
editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk  
Advertising: Emily Billson  
ads@kipperlife.com

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## LBS marks historic executions

By Dave Hawk

Lindfield Bonfire Society will be celebrating the origin of our bonfire traditions at The Red Lion on Thursday 30th January. Skull Drummery will be giving a performance in the garden after a reading of the Bonfire Prayer.

The celebration marks the events from a cold 30th January when Everard Digby, Robert Wintour, John Grant and Thomas Bates, were tied to hurdles - wooden panels - and dragged through the crowded streets of London to St Paul's Churchyard, where they were executed as traitors. Our annual Bonfire Procession through the village to The Common remembers this parading of traitors to meet their doom.

Come along to learn more about the Society and to hear the amazing Bonfire Drummers – the fun starts at 7.30pm.





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## Looking for a 2020 goal?

Organisers of Lindfield Village Run have opened the booking doors early in order to capture locals who are looking to commit to a physical challenge this year.

The annual run is a traditional cross-country event which features two distances: a 5k family fun run and a longer 10k course. Both start and end at Hickmans Lane Playing Fields.

This year the run will take place on Sunday 17th May - a change from its usual spot on the last Bank Holiday Monday in May, following the 2020 change in public holiday earlier in the month, and the knock-on effects to other events locally.

Runners can book their place at Lindfield Village Run via the website [www.kingedwardhall.org.uk](http://www.kingedwardhall.org.uk) - as the event is a major fundraiser for the village hall.

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# New management at The Snowdrop

Chris and Ellie Baglot have recently taken up the reins at the popular Lindfield pub The Snowdrop Inn.

The pair met in London but spent ten years in Australia before deciding that it was time to 'be my own boss' according to Ellie – who was brought up in Loxwood and is a trained pastry chef.

"We are lucky that the excellent staff have stayed on," Chris explained. Chris' background is in stage and theatre production, being involved in New Year's Eve at the Sydney Opera House among others. "We are both looking forward to this new challenge in this lovely rural location – which is just what we were looking for."

The couple will be running various special events in 2020, including celebrating Australia Day on 26th January with lamb roasts and 'prawns on the barbie'!



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# David & Clare take over furniture company

Based on Lindfield Business Park, Fine Furnishings has new owners in the form of David and Clare Gorringe.

David has worked for the business for 25 years, after joining as an apprentice upholsterer in 1994. "I had hoped that I would run my own upholstery business one day," he explained, "so when Andrew told me he was retiring there was no hesitation; I knew this was an opportunity not to be missed!"

The couple are running the company together and look forward to giving the showroom off Lewes Road a fresher look in 2020. "Being my own boss is exciting, but I'm also now able to put all my industry experience into practice and it will all be for my family – which will be fantastic."



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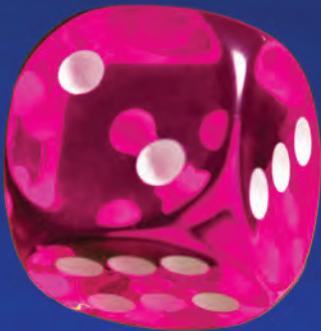
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# Mid Sussex Osteopaths

**OPEN FOR BUSINESS**

Almost everyone living in this area will be aware of the Dolphin Leisure Centre in Haywards Heath, but did you know that, contained within it is a team of osteopaths seeking to improve the lives of both office workers and retirees?

Mid Sussex Osteopaths has been based in the town for 12 years but has just expanded, moving to larger space within the Dolphin over the Christmas period. The team of three, led by Adam Fiske, is now more ready than ever to help and support the people in this community to get back to their feet more easily – literally!

Adam, who's been qualified since 2005, explained: "We talk about getting back to the life you used to have – which means different things for different people. For a grandparent that might be about making it possible to get down on the floor to play with their grandchildren. We've seen parents who find it difficult to lift their child in and out of the car seat. And those who sit at a desk all week, discover that they have less movement than they used to and start struggling with seemingly inexplicable aches and pains in the lower back or neck."

Many in these situations can feel trapped by their apparent physical limitations – but patients of Mid Sussex Osteopaths testify that there is another way. Lucie Brown says: 'My back pain is now completely gone in just a few sessions and it has given me a new appreciation for a pain-free life. I can't believe it took me so long to go to an osteopath!' Or Jenny Luff, who woke up one morning in agony with back pain: 'It was terrible. I couldn't even pick up my kids! Conveniently I got an appointment that evening, so once the kids were in bed and a 45 min consultation and treatment later, my back felt so much better. It hadn't felt that good since before I was pregnant!'

Adam Fiske gained his qualification at the British School of Osteopathy (BSO) in London and is now a committee member of the profession's regulator,

the General Osteopathic Council. He grew up in the area and remembers swimming at the Dolphin as a child. Working alongside him is Adam Wilson – also a BSO graduate – who, as a keen sportsman, likes to combine osteopathic techniques with exercise and stretching to aid a patient's recovery. Emily Colaluca completes the team and has a Masters degree from The University College of Osteopathy. Emily uses a range of techniques from soft tissue massage to rehabilitation exercises and lifestyle advice with her patients, who can range from athletes to expectant mothers.



As with any healthcare professional, the process of working with an osteopath is very much a two-way street according to Adam: "It always starts with discussion of your symptoms and full case history but includes finding out any fears or myths that you might have heard about the treatment ahead of you. The team and I pride ourselves on putting the patient at ease from day one and always talk to you about what we are doing."

Adam, Adam and Emily would love to show off their new treatment rooms and can help anyone who feels pain or discomfort on a regular, or semi-regular, basis. To book in, just call 01444 360359 or book online at the website [www.midsussexosteopaths.co.uk](http://www.midsussexosteopaths.co.uk). If you're not sure if they can help, they offer free 20 minute consultations to answer any questions that you might have.

"It really doesn't take that much to be where you want to be," Adam explains. "Small changes can make a big difference in helping your body fix itself."

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# Keren Ghitis

VILLAGE PEOPLE



From the earliest days people have been telling and recording their stories. These stories provide us with valuable links to the past and bring history to life. But life stories can also be a powerful tool in raising awareness of injustice, inequality and suffering.

Lindfield resident Keren Ghitis has spent 15 years travelling all over the world capturing stories of ordinary people faced with unimaginable adversity. She now lives in Lindfield and works as a psychotherapist at the Koorana Centre in Ardingly.

## By Claire Cooper

Keren was born in Israel into a Latin American family. "My dad was Colombian, my mum Brazilian and our spoken language was Spanish," she said. "I was brought up in a Latin culture in the Middle East!"

With her multicultural upbringing, Keren knew, from an early age, that she wanted to work with marginalised communities.

"As I grew up, I became aware of the many different kinds of social injustice and the divide between rich and poor, particularly in Colombia and Brazil, which made me determined to work in those areas," Keren recalled.

"The political situation in Israel had also sparked my interest in social justice and human rights."

The opportunity to make a difference came when Keren joined PANOS, a London based company leading the way in using media and communication for development, shedding light on unreported issues and providing a voice for the poor and marginalised.

Keren was a member of the Oral Testimonies team. "Our role was to equip people to record their life experiences and present their stories to inspire change," said Keren. "I worked with people living with HIV and Aids, victims of war, survivors of trafficking, domestic slavery and communities in poverty."

"When people tell their stories it has a huge impact on raising awareness and conveys a reality stronger than statistics."

Keren's work with young people living with HIV and Aids in the Dominican Republic highlighted the spread of the virus and its impact on the poorest people. "I worked

with one young girl living with HIV whose grandmother refused to use the same cutlery and dishes. The girl lived in a room away from the rest of the family. As you can imagine, this experience of constantly being rejected affected her very deeply."

Keren travelled all over the world gathering stories. "We would teach local people how to document their life stories, starting with how to use a tape recorder and progressing to videos."

"When you consider that many people we trained had never seen a television, learning to hold and use a video camera was a completely new experience! We would transcribe the recordings into English and show the videos at global conferences and in international media to promote change and policy innovation."

"It's amazing how people love to tell you about their lives and I have uncovered some beautiful gems," said Keren. "It's also surprising what people discover about themselves and previous generations."

"Telling your story can be empowering, and learning interviewing skills for gathering testimonies can instil confidence." In some projects this led to people becoming leaders and spokespersons for their communities, breaking traditional cycles of silence and disadvantage. A project with Saharawi refugee women in Algeria led to opening a media unit in the camps.

"I've seen so much trauma and suffering, but also witnessed compassion, understanding and kindness," said Keren, whose films were shown at the International Labour Organisation conference in Geneva to generate discussion on modern slavery.

“Stories can be important and convey a difficult experience of fragility in a moving way.”



One memorable project saw Keren travel to Bosnia a few years after the war had ended, to document the story of a family from Sarajevo. “I stayed with a Muslim family who had been displaced during the conflict, and whose former home was now occupied by a Croatian family, supposedly the enemy,” Keren recalled.

“The family members had been given permission to return to their home to collect personal items such as photos and pictures and I accompanied them.

“Of course there was pain and resentment during the encounter between the two families, but I was also able to capture the beauty and understanding of humans - the Muslim family had also been displaced so could identify with the suffering of the Croatian family.

“I learnt lessons about attachment, the loss and pain that conflict brings but also the ability of these people to see beyond the hatred and focus on the humane.”

While gathering other people’s stories in Madagascar, Keren’s own life story began a new chapter when she met her future husband. “Owen worked for Andrew Lees Trust in Southern Madagascar,” said Keren. “We met during a project recording videos and telling the stories of the indigenous people documenting the effects that big companies were having on their communities and resources.

“When I returned to London we survived a long distance relationship, and eventually Owen moved back to London to be with me!”

Back in London Keren worked with women who had escaped from trafficking and slavery. “I worked on a project with the Metropolitan Police to raise awareness of how to treat victims of sexual abuse and trafficking with more compassion and understanding,” Keren recalled.

Many of these women from Africa and Eastern Europe had been trafficked to the UK sex industry. “Although they were now free, many found themselves subjected to traumatic and challenging interview processes, which were often disrespectful of the experiences they had suffered,” said Keren.

“But by working together, we were able to communicate to the victims what the police needed from them and also support the police in learning how to communicate with the women. It was an inspiring project, which was really beneficial for both sides.”

The project also marked a change in direction for Keren. “I began to realise that beyond documenting and facilitating groups, I really wanted to help alleviate people’s suffering,” said Keren. “I became acutely aware of the different types of trauma and suffering that exist all around us.”

This became clear when Keren got a job working as a facilitator at the Management Centre in London. “I was training and coaching managers and employees working for major charities, including Oxfam, the RNLI,

Macmillan Cancer Support and the Tate Modern,” she said. “Many of these people were suffering burnout as they struggled to cope with the stress and pressure to perform. “I became aware that, although these people seemed to have so much - good jobs, money, and material possessions, they were unhappy, stressed and detached from their feelings.

“And although the trauma and pain they were suffering was vastly different to many of the people I had worked with overseas their bodies reacted in the same way - the ‘fight or flight or freeze’ mechanism still kicked in. We are all wired in the same way.”

This realisation took Keren’s coaching to another level. “I trained as a yoga teacher and began to study mindfulness.” Keren also enrolled on a Core Process Psychotherapy postgraduate course at the Karuna Institute affiliated with Middlesex University. “Core Process Psychotherapy marries western psychology with Buddhist and mindfulness principles,” Keren explained. “By understanding our habits and conditioned responses, using mindfulness and compassion, we can discover more expansive ways of living in the world.

“When my kids were born I moved to Israel to be close to my family. I spent time working in a hospital where I saw the positive effect mindfulness had on people with mental health conditions, even those with severe problems.”

On returning to England recently, with Owen and children Leo and Zoe, Keren also discovered Lindfield! “We didn’t want the craziness of London and craved the countryside,” said Keren. “I had previously studied for a degree at Sussex University so I knew the area, but fell in love with Lindfield the first time we visited.

“The countryside, sense of community and easy access to London and Gatwick made it perfect for us.”

The family quickly settled into village life. “Living here is so exciting, the people are so welcoming and every time I go out with the children we have an adventure!” said Keren. “Zoe loves dogs, so we have to always stop and chat with anyone walking their dog!”

Keren is now exploring opportunities to run mindfulness, yoga and well-being workshops close to home as well as working with her psychotherapy clients.

During the summer she ran a meditation and mindfulness workshop at Borde Hill Garden as part of International Peace Day and is already planning a similar programme for 2020.



Photo: Richard Paice Photography

## Celebrating ten years on the High Street

**DENZILOE**

**Denziloe was originally opened in Lindfield by Joan Denziloe back in 1964. Joan's daughter Sonia and granddaughter Maria carry on the legacy, celebrating making their own history as the business has just marked its tenth birthday recently.**

To honour the occasion Maria was keen to redesign the décor of the beautiful period building at 77 High Street. "The classic diamond-shaped chandeliers remain in position but the new furnishings give the salon a whole new feel," Maria commented. "We've had fantastic reactions from clients so far, saying how much more welcoming and relaxing it feels." Maria continued to say that clients struggle to remember what the salon looked like before.

The growing salon is pleased to announce its latest recruit, Mikey, who brings with him over 15 years of experience in the industry. He is a Wella Master Colour Expert and works as a Senior Designer. Mikey said: "I am delighted to have joined the hugely reputable Denziloe team and to be continuing to create bespoke work as a Master Colourist with some of the best products and technology in our industry."

"We have a fabulous team of creative stylists to inspire and advise you, so entering the next decade is a great time for a personalised new look," Maria went on. "The motto emblazoned on the wall says it all – 'An original is worth more than a copy'."

"We have a wonderful clientele," Maria said. "Whether our customers have a high maintenance look which requires regular visits or a more classic look which requires less visits. We offer free complimentary consultations to discuss your needs and desires. We attract clients from far and wide and are known for our exemplary customer service," Maria continued. "We recognise that it's important to build trust in order to retain a customer's loyalty. We all work on the principle that we design hair that's right for the client. In small communities like this word-of-mouth travels fast so we



ensure that what is being shared is positive about their Denziloe experience."

As well as stylists having access to the best hair care products in the salon, Denziloe customers can take them home to recreate their look themselves. It's a Certified Wella Salon, which also stocks the Sebastian Professional styling range. The sustainable hair brand Davines has recently been introduced due to huge demand to become more environmentally friendly, so your shampoo and conditioner bottles can now be refilled.

With only about 30% of businesses said to make it to a tenth year, Maria and her team are clearly doing something right. "In that time we've even started to see the next generation of families coming in too, which is lovely," she said.

So, if you're thinking 'new year, new me', now is the time to book your next hair appointment at Denziloe by calling 01444 484424.

Special Offer – £10 off all cut or colour services in January with Master Colour Expert Mikey when you quote 'Lindfield Life'. Offer applies to new customers only.

# Archie art revealed

Archie the Articulture Caterpillar, made by participants of Lindfield Horticultural Society's workshop at the 2019 Lindfield Arts Festival, has been revealed. Well done to all involved.



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## Fundraising marathon relay at school

**By Claire Cooper**

Students from Oathall Community College donned their Christmas sweaters and headgear for a festive relay marathon around the campus last term - and even the farm's very own 'woolly jumpers' joined in the fun!

The students, many who work on the school farm, organised the event to raise funds for the Gunjur Project Association, which supports communities in Gambia.

As well as education and training, the charity works to provide healthcare such as free medicine and life changing eye treatments for those in need. Houses have been made safe, food provided for families in crisis and a community garden set up to encourage women to grow their own vegetables. A literary project attracted 60 women signing up to learn how to read and write.

The school has been supporting the charity for the past year, and next month (February) 40 students will be travelling to Gambia to see the project first hand and get involved in community events.

The visit is being led by sports teacher Annie Murray, who worked with the project at her previous school. "When I came to Oathall I wanted to continue supporting the project," she explained. "I gave a presentation at the school assembly and the response from the students was brilliant!"

Annie began making plans for the visit and students were asked to write a letter explaining why they wanted to take part. Those chosen have been busy raising the funds to cover the trip themselves.

"We'll be travelling to Gunjur village and staying in a lodge set up by a British family," said Annie, who has visited the project several times. "The students will be taking part in and leading sports activities and organising a sports festival at the end of the week. It's a demanding trip and the students are there to work, but also to enjoy



the experience of a totally different culture."

She added that previous visits have seen students performing with local bands and learning how to drum.

The school has already sent 40 boxes to the project filled with sports equipment, exercise books, stationary and text books, and the money raised by the sponsored marathon will be used to buy more supplies to take with them.

Around 60 students took part in the relay, walking or running laps of the campus, passing the baton and eventually covering the full marathon distance of 26.2 miles. Two of the farm sheep, April and Daphne, completed laps, along with Khaleesi, the school's bearded dragon! They have already raised more than £700!

Farm manager John Blackholly, who was busy cooking burgers to serve to the hungry runners, said: "I'm so proud of the students who have given up their time to organise, set up and take part in the sponsored marathon. Many of them had already been up early to look after the farm animals, but stayed on to join the event."





## New Year, new mind, new rainbows

By Isabella Mortimer (age 11)

In November I was invited to join Chris Lee who organised an amazing evening event at the King Edward Hall to discuss and share ideas about how our climate is changing and what we can do about it.

At the event I spoke about writing in Lindfield Life. Not only did I get to share my thoughts, I was also inspired by the people talking too. I believe that it is important to experience sharing your passion and thoughts, whether it's environmental related or not, but it is so important that you have a say. So a big thank you to all the amazing and inspiring people that attended the event.

Here are some top tips:

- Remember your water bottle – free refills are available all over the UK - [www.refill.org.uk](http://www.refill.org.uk) will tell you where
- Let your grass grow and leave the leaves – our wildlife and environment will thank you
- Plan your car trips so lots of jobs are done in one trip
- Contact the council to persuade them not to use pesticides on verges which is harmful to humans and animals
- Shop local – Clough's (Sunte Avenue) is amazing with lots of large glass bottles full of seeds, dried fruit, spices, pasta, rice and much more to decant; Ecover laundry and washing up liquid and Faith in Nature hand wash to refill ... and much more. The range totally surprised me and we will be back to stock up. Take your own bottles and containers to fill.
- Buy fresh produce that is in season so it is more likely to be from the UK
- Reuse bubble wrap to keep plants protected from the cold or reuse it when you send something. Large volumes will probably be appreciated by the local charity shop for packaging.

### New Year's resolution ideas...

I am going to have a goal a month to try to move towards zero waste. To start with I am going to collect used stamps and donate them to RNIB who can get valuable charitable funds. I have asked family and friends to collect them at work and at home. You can get prepaid envelopes or boxes by going online to [www.rnib.org.uk](http://www.rnib.org.uk) or ring 0303 123 9999.

A huge thank you again to Chris Lee at Fairer World Lindfield. You can sign up for their newsletter by looking at their website.

Thank you for all the positive feedback about my articles, which I really do appreciate.

Here's to a bright 2020. Happy New Year!

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# Author Sue Cheung visits Oathall

By Debra Perrin, Librarian

Students in Year 9 at Oathall Community College were recently privileged to hear author Sue Cheung talk about her book 'Chinglish'. The book reflects Sue's upbringing as a first generation Chinese immigrant to the UK in the 1980s in Coventry. She talked about the difficulties she faced with language barriers both at school and at home - her parents spoke a little-known dialect called Hakka which neither she nor her siblings spoke. Her mum spoke no English, although her dad did but he was a distant parent. We later learned how he was actually much more than that too.

Sue is a children's book illustrator by profession, and she explained that it was only over various conversations with her editor that together they decided she had a story to tell and that she should write it.

Our students were enthralled. Sue is a witty and engaging speaker and she explained that humour and her drawings had been her way of coping with a fractured family life. She explained that she had used humour to hide behind both as a child and as an adult. We had also



invited our students from other years for whom English is not their first language and they appreciated Sue's story particularly from that perspective.

Towards the end of Sue's time with us, she answered questions from the students ranging from 'who was your favourite author as a child?' (the answer was Sue Townsend, author of *The Diary of Adrian Mole* aged 13¾) to 'what was it like growing up over a Chinese takeaway?' and 'do you talk to your Dad now?'.

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# Arts Festival is back for another year!

After this year's most successful festival ever, with an estimated attendance of over 6,000 people, LAF2020 is already underway. The date has already been set at 18th-20th September 2020.

With a variety of arts in a myriad of forms, Lindfield Arts Festival is returning with art, crafts, drama, dance, children's activities, literary talks and music, to name a few of the attractions on offer. As ever there will be food and drink aplenty with the High Street shops open for business.

With so much happening, we are calling for Lindfield residents to come forward and take part or join the organisers. The team needs your support in whatever field you would like to contribute, from co-ordinating the event to merely volunteering on the day.

Please send your details or request any information to: [enquiries@lindfieldartsfestival.com](mailto:enquiries@lindfieldartsfestival.com).

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# Want to get fit in 2020?



## Getting fit in her fifties – Jo is now two stone lighter and loving strength training at Performance Project.

Performance Project is a personal training gym tucked away behind Sainsburys on the Burrell Road business park in Haywards Heath. It helps members of the local community to get in shape, and in some cases it has completely turned lives around.

Established in 2015, Performance Project has been on a mission since then to get people fit, healthy and strong in order for them to live their best lives outside the gym. It is a friendly, welcoming environment where people go to train with expert personal trainers to make sure they get the most from every session.

Performance Project offers semi-private personal training sessions on the hour every hour, which means you train in groups of up to four people but each session is still tailored to your individual needs and goals.

On top of the personal training sessions, Performance Project supports its members with ongoing nutrition advice, extra classes such as yoga, boxing and a cardio-based class called SWEAT, and plenty of social events.

All the members of Performance Project have achieved things they never thought possible when they joined. Some surpassed all expectations, including Jo, a female member in her fifties, who lost four stone in just two months, vastly improved her fitness, gained confidence and discovered a love for lifting weights that she never imagined possible.

Jo said: "My 58th birthday was on the horizon. The scales said I weighed 12 stone – the heaviest I'd ever been. I didn't really recognise this person in the mirror or quite understand how I'd got to this point."

In her fifties and feeling at an all-time low, Jo realised that she needed some help to turn things around. With some trepidation, she decided to give Performance Project a go. She had previously joined other gyms but had been left feeling baffled by the range of equipment and intimidated by the Lycra-clad healthy-looking users, so she just didn't go.

Understandably she was a little sceptical about the whole 'gym thing' and couldn't see how fitness and protein shakes applied to her. After just a couple of sessions at Performance Project Jo realised how different this place is to other gyms. She felt comfortable in the gym and, most importantly, she felt understood.

Performance Project's expert trainers worked with Jo to set her fitness goals and advise her on nutrition. She became part of the amazing supportive community of members there, and she really began to actually enjoy exercising.

Jo's biggest revelation was how much she enjoys her progression in her training and the physical changes that she began to see very rapidly. Jo said: "I have become a girl who likes to lift relatively heavy things, and this is certainly something I would never have predicted!"

Alongside the new found enjoyment, Jo saw improvements in her strength and fitness that she notices every day, for example walking up 46 stairs to work without feeling breathless, lifting and carrying things much more easily, and even blow drying her hair without her arms aching!

Overall Jo now feels more confident about her physical appearance and generally more motivated and in control in more aspects of her life (eating and drinking being only one of these). She has more energy and even sleeps better than she did before starting at Performance Project.

If you'd like to make a change or get in the best shape of your life, Performance Project is always happy to chat or to show you around the gym. It offers a 30-day trial without any commitment so you can see for yourself what all the fuss is about!

Get in touch if you'd like to find out more: [admin@performanceproject.co.uk](mailto:admin@performanceproject.co.uk), follow on Instagram @theperformanceproject or visit: [www.performanceproject.co.uk](http://www.performanceproject.co.uk)

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## The future of cloud gaming

### TECH HEAD

In this new feature we welcome **Toby Wyithe** as our technology expert with a passion for the Film and Video Game industries. In this column he will look at, and comment on, recent and future developments in this marketplace.

By **Toby Wyithe**

Historically waking up on Christmas morning without the latest games console wrapped up under the tree would cause a lot of disappointment. However, with the release of Google Stadia in November this reality was entirely possible. You can simply connect a Stadia controller to a PC using Google Chrome, any TV connected to a Google Chromecast or in fact any Google made device (iPhones and Androids coming soon). Google has the unique distinction of joining the console race without a console.



Cloud gaming is not entirely new; Xbox has Project X Cloud and PlayStation 4 allows remote play through Wi-Fi connections with both of these offerings allowing you to play the games you already own without the need to repurchase.

The marketing campaigns for Stadia promised the future of gaming but with an incredibly weak launch line up. Along with a number of their promised features not available, it has been a very rocky start.

As an avid video game fan, any advancements in the industry are always welcomed with both excitement and intrigue. The ability to use a variety of portable devices to play the same game whilst on the move is very appealing; just look at the popularity of the Nintendo Switch.

Early reviews praised the technological advancements, but what use is that if there is simply nothing worth playing? Netflix has revolutionised the way people consume media but people don't renew their subscriptions because of the technical capabilities of the service, they do so for the content.

Any video game service will live or die by the variety and quality of the available games. The Xbox One X is the most powerful video game console available but it has sold a fraction of the less powerful PlayStation 4 Pro. Why? PlayStation has better and more varied game library, a view shared by the majority of the video game community.

Cloud gaming is very real, and there is an increasing level of interest and excitement but until they find a way to increase the content available Google will struggle to make a foothold in this market.

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Thinking about and researching holidays can consume hours or even days, is often stressful and you can find yourself getting stuck or going round in circles as opposed to enjoying the feeling that it's done! I take all that away for you at a time that suits you. It is a level of true concierge service that provides real value.

I relish the challenge of being given a broad scope, as one customer said to me: 'Here is my budget, I have no idea what she wants to do, but my wife wants to take five girlfriends to the sun'. Within a couple of hours I found

something beyond expectations. Another customer wanted to take a three-generation group of 12 on a special holiday for a 70th birthday celebration with entertainment suitable for all and was delighted with the result. The intrinsic value of delivering on challenges like that and seeing my customers reaction is so rewarding. Sometimes customers know what they want, and they simply want someone to deal with it. Again it's done both efficiently and with great attention to detail. Nothing is too much trouble, and the fact that it is only me dealing with your holiday means you will get top personal service. My business grows on repeat bookings and personal recommendations, which are the best compliments I can receive.

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# Panto season: Oh yes it is!

Rehearsals are well under way for The Weald Theatre Group's Annual Charity Panto at Clair Hall, which this year is Dick Whittington, directed and written by Lance Milton.

All proceeds for the past 77 years have been donated to local charities, and last year WTG was able to donate £3,000 to Woodland Mead School and St Peter and St James Hospice. Other beneficiaries over the years have included: Kangaroos, Chestnut Tree Hospice, Dame Vera Lynn Children Charities and the Trevor Mann Baby Unit.

The cast, who all come from the local area, include 30 children who are kept in control by Nick Geddie, who, when not playing the part of Jimmy in Panto, is the Assistant Principal at Lindfield Primary Academy. He is pictured here in rehearsal with Beth Hinton a long-standing member of the theatre group.

For your chance to win a family ticket for either Tuesday 7th or Wednesday 8th January send the answers to the following questions to: [Anneskinner0@gmail.com](mailto:Anneskinner0@gmail.com) before 1st January.

Question 1. How many years has WTG been raising money for charity?

Question 2. Who is the director of Dick Whittington?

Question 3. Name one of our charities

The group is always looking for charities it can help. Please contact Anne at the email above to request to be a beneficiary next year.

Dick Whittington runs between 7th and 11th January at Clair Hall – for more information see [www.wealdtheatre.co.uk](http://www.wealdtheatre.co.uk)



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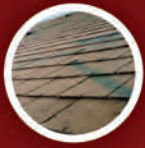
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# The Witch Inn

## BEHIND THE COUNTER

By Mary Collins

The Witch Inn stands at the junction of Sunte Avenue and Hickmans Lane, a location that rumour has it gives the popular pub its unusual name – according to local folklore, the corpse of a witch once hung where the roads met as a warning to others intent on casting wicked spells.

Myths aside, the inn stands on the site of a 1600s farmstead called Wigsel's Watering, which stood at the edge of the now long gone open land of West Common. It was replaced sometime in the early 19th Century by The Bricklayers Arms, later becoming The Witch Inn.

With the opening of the railway, the inn soon became a favourite venue for 'bean feasts', annual works' outings, from as far afield as London and Brighton. Offering 'Good Stabling', the inn also provided a stopover for coach travellers and may also have been frequented, earlier in its history, by the notorious highwaymen that plagued the area.

Many landlords have come and gone since the likes of Jack Hayward terrorised travellers on the nearby heath, and the latest incumbent is owner and head chef Sean Turner, an affable young man intent on making his own mark on the venue by creating a standout gastro pub.

Reminiscing about his early recollections of the pub, he says: "I actually had my first ever drink here – I might have been underage at the time! In those days it was very much a traditional boozier."

Brought up in the trade – Sean's parents owned pubs in Ditchling and Burgess Hill before retiring – he went on: "I am 100% born and bred into it. I live and breathe it."

Talking about the changes in the industry he has witnessed, Sean explains: "There have been massive changes from mum and dad's day. The local boozier would see old chaps at the bar with their paper, pipe and pint. A couple of pints later they would go home to eat. They are characters you just don't see any more, I guess in part because of the smoking ban. The positive side of no smoking is that pubs have been opened up to families and are now very much places to eat. My dad saw this coming and was perhaps ahead of his time, pushing food and creating regular diners at his pubs."

Encouraged by his parents, at 18 he left home to pursue a career in catering. He trained as a chef at Brighton Technical College before moving to Sweden to follow his heart. The relationship didn't last, but his love of Swedish food did.

Working in the open kitchen of the upmarket Bill & Bull Wine Bar in Uppsala, north of Stockholm, gave him a profound love of creating and serving interesting dishes with unusual ingredients. Returning to the UK in 2012 Sean worked at The Witch alongside French chef Fredric Bodeau, which gave him a grounding in French cuisine and the opportunity to acquire the business.





In 2013 Sean took the plunge and bought the pub. Applying everything he has learned over the last 20 years, and, taking his dad's advice: 'Don't ever treat it as a job – it's not, it's a lifestyle. Treat it that way and you'll be fine', he embarked on building the business.

Working hard, Sean has created a menu that fuses English, French and Swedish dishes to create an appealing menu and a popular destination. With its light and bright bar, cosy snug, open fires and on-trend décor, the pub is very much part of the community and regularly holds special events. Recently, during the Lindfield Arts Festival, the pub hosted a flower workshop, wine tasting, live music and a hog roast, and during the bonfire night celebrations it was packed with more than 300 people.

Owning an independent pub allows Sean free rein as to what drinks he serves and to work very closely with local suppliers such as South Downs Cellar, 360°, Bluebell Wines and the Albourne Estate to offer an extensive range of wines, beers, craft lagers and a 'gin list that is second to none'.

Sean is also passionate about sourcing local foods – cheeses from Sussex dairies, fresh fish from Newhaven and meat, which he butchers himself, from local farms. "I like to know where produce comes from and go with what's in season, often trying something we have never done before. If you know where your ingredients come from it makes the whole experience much more enjoyable and sustainable."

Living alone above the pub, and the epitome of hard work, Sean rises early each day to bake bread and make stock, and goes to bed after closing the kitchen late into the night. Asked what he likes to do when he has a free day, he says: "I never get time off," adding, "but do like to treat the staff to days out. We have been to local wineries and restaurants to see what other people are doing, and it gives me a chance to step back and look at the bigger picture about the business."

Despite never getting any free time, and only ever having busman's holidays, he is clearly enjoying himself. "I love the pub and I enjoy the people that work here – I love them to bits and we are a family." Such harmony is not what most people think of in a restaurant, with the usual battles between front of house and the kitchen, but as Sean adds: "Here it really is lovely – we all get on brilliantly and work very well together."

Talking about the recent festivities, he says: "Once all the paying customers are gone, I cook a Christmas feast for the staff – we have a great time with all the trimmings and lots of alcohol!"

And what of the new year? Sean tells me: "It's a time for looking forward – everything is forgiven and we all have a fresh slate. But if I could predict what will happen I would be minted! One thing I might do is organise a trip for the staff to Covent Garden at 4am to see where our fruit and veg comes from – that would be quite the bean feast!"

Asked what keeps him going, he says: "There is a certain amount of adrenaline pumping but there are not many jobs that you get praised for on a daily basis – I don't do it for the recognition, but it is wonderful when you are appreciated by customers. The other day I made a Victoria sponge for a 70th birthday and as I followed the deserts out I got a standing ovation – it was a real buzz and it's those moments that reassure me I am in the right business."

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## Local kitchen designers celebrate their first year in business

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**Sarah, Amy, congrats on your first year in business. Has the year been as you expected?**

I think we can both admit now, we were terrified and excited in equal measures when we set the business up. We both really believed in our concept and business plan but there was the fear no one else would! However, our clients have really been on board with the concept that we bring the showroom to them and can be flexible around their busy working and family lives.

We have been blown away with the response we have had, from our local network of fitters and tradesmen, old clients, friends, family and suppliers – everyone has been so supportive and incredible. We finished 2019 – just shy of trading for a year – having sold our 34th kitchen, which is way beyond our somewhat conservative expectations. Needless to say we have been thrilled with the response.

**What do you think has been the key to your great first year?**

We have kept our ethos pretty simple: To provide good designs, not to compromise on the quality of our products and, most importantly, offer a personal service that gives our clients confidence and peace of mind that we will be on hand to help throughout the process. We really do care, and there is nothing better than meeting with our clients after the project has finished and seeing how happy they are; it gives us real job satisfaction.

**Any highlights?**

Probably the lovely feedback from our clients and when they have then recommended us to their friends and family for their kitchen renovations. We have been lucky to work on a variety of different projects, from simple kitchen replacements to full blown extension building projects. We have also worked on some amazing developments, which has been really exciting.

**What is coming for 2020?**

We have got several projects booked in, which is great, and we are just really excited to see what 2020 brings.

Trend wise, the last couple of years have been all about darker kitchen cabinets and lighter worktops – marble effect being popular in particular. These colour palettes look set to continue. However, the darker more dramatic style work tops are also making a comeback. Embrace a darker colour palette by adding splashes of warm hues and metallic finishes that tie everything together. Gold accessories are becoming more of a must-have – whether it is a tap, sink, handles or even lighting. We do have a blog on our website that discusses trends if anyone needs inspiration.

If you would like to have a chat about your kitchen plans then we would love to hear from you!

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**Don't just listen to us....**

**Here are a few of our recent projects and what our customers have to say...**

"After feeling disappointed with the designs and service from bigger kitchen suppliers I stumbled across Polished Kitchen Designs and worked with them on a large family kitchen we needed for one of our projects. The quality of design, product and customer service Sarah & Amy offer was above and beyond any kitchen supplier we have worked with in the past and we have already got more projects booked in with them for the future."

**Danny Gillespie – 6 Sides Ltd Building Solutions**



"Fantastic work by everyone at Polished Kitchen Designs on my new kitchen. Design, hard work and great organisation. The house has been transformed!"



"We were blown away by Polished Kitchen Designs competitive pricing and how professional the whole team are. We couldn't be happier with our finished kitchen and all of our friends and family have been totally wowed by it."



# World champion boxer officially opens new school gym

Five times WBC Champion and local sporting hero Ruth Ashdown cut the ribbon to officially open the new Switch Academy at Oathall Community College last month.

Ruth, the first woman to hold a diamond belt in Muay Thai Boxing, was the special guest at the launch of the new £40,000 facility.

The gym, a joint fitness initiative between Switch Gym and Oathall Community College, will be available to college students during the day and adults, enrolling on- the semi-private training sessions, in the early morning and evenings.

Before cutting the ribbon, Ruth commented: "This is such a great facility and the students are so lucky to have it."

Addressing the students, she added: "You really need to use it, few other schools have anything as good as this!"

College headteacher, Eddie Rodriguez, said: "This building has been largely unused for a significant amount of time and I can't think of a better way of utilising it. Switch Academy has done an amazing job of providing an excellent training facility for the college which will greatly enhance the student's health and fitness curriculum."

Switch Academy director, Chris Patch, said: "When we opened Switch Gym, we wanted to make giving back to the local community a huge priority.

"I believe being in partnership with Oathall and opening this facility for both pupils and staff as well as the local residents continues this work. We are so proud to open this gym."



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## Lindfield Girls crowned Mid Sussex champions

**By James Smyth**

Members of Lindfield's Years 5/6 girls' football team were celebrating last month as they were crowned Mid Sussex champions at the area finals at Warden Park.

After qualifying, alongside local rivals St Wilfrid's School in early November as Haywards Heath runners-up, the girls were confident when the tournament started. They defeated Windmills and Blackwell in their group, with some fantastic attacking and defending play in both games, to once again set up a final against St Wilfrid's.

However, unlike in previous games, Lindfield managed to get the better of their opposition, and, after hitting the post twice, they scored the winner in the second half to win the tournament and qualify for the county final for the second time in three years.

We wish the girls good luck when they travel down to Lancing for the finals. Lindfield Years 5/6 boys team also took part in the Mid Sussex final and performed admirably to win their 3rd/4th play-off and take home a bronze medal.

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We have continued in 2019 to be engaged in a number of planning issues. In 2018 the Secretary of State for Housing overruled both Mid Sussex District Council and a Government Planning Inspector's appeal decision by granting permission to Wates the developers for 200 homes south of Scamps Hill. No construction has taken place at the time of writing, but we will continue to monitor the situation with a view at least to limiting the impact on the community. The Secretary's decision is a very unfortunate demonstration of government planning policy, which remains heavily weighted in favour of development at any cost.

Another speculative application for 43 dwellings off High Beech Lane received outline planning permission in 2017. There was widespread opposition at the time, due largely to serious questions about land stability and flood risk in the area. Conditions were at least attached to the planning permission requiring analysis of these risks. Subsequently, the Council has granted detailed 'reserved matters' planning permission, despite the fact that no such studies have been produced and despite four other planning conditions being breached. We are pressing for an independent evaluation and publication of the developer's risk analysis, if and when it appears.

The saga of proposed development on the site of the former Tavistock and Summerhill School continued in 2019. Following withdrawal of the original application for a large complex of blocks of flats and 'townhouses', a slightly modified version has emerged. It remains an urban concept entirely out of keeping with Lindfield's character. We continue to urge that planning permission be refused.

A scheme for a very large development on the site

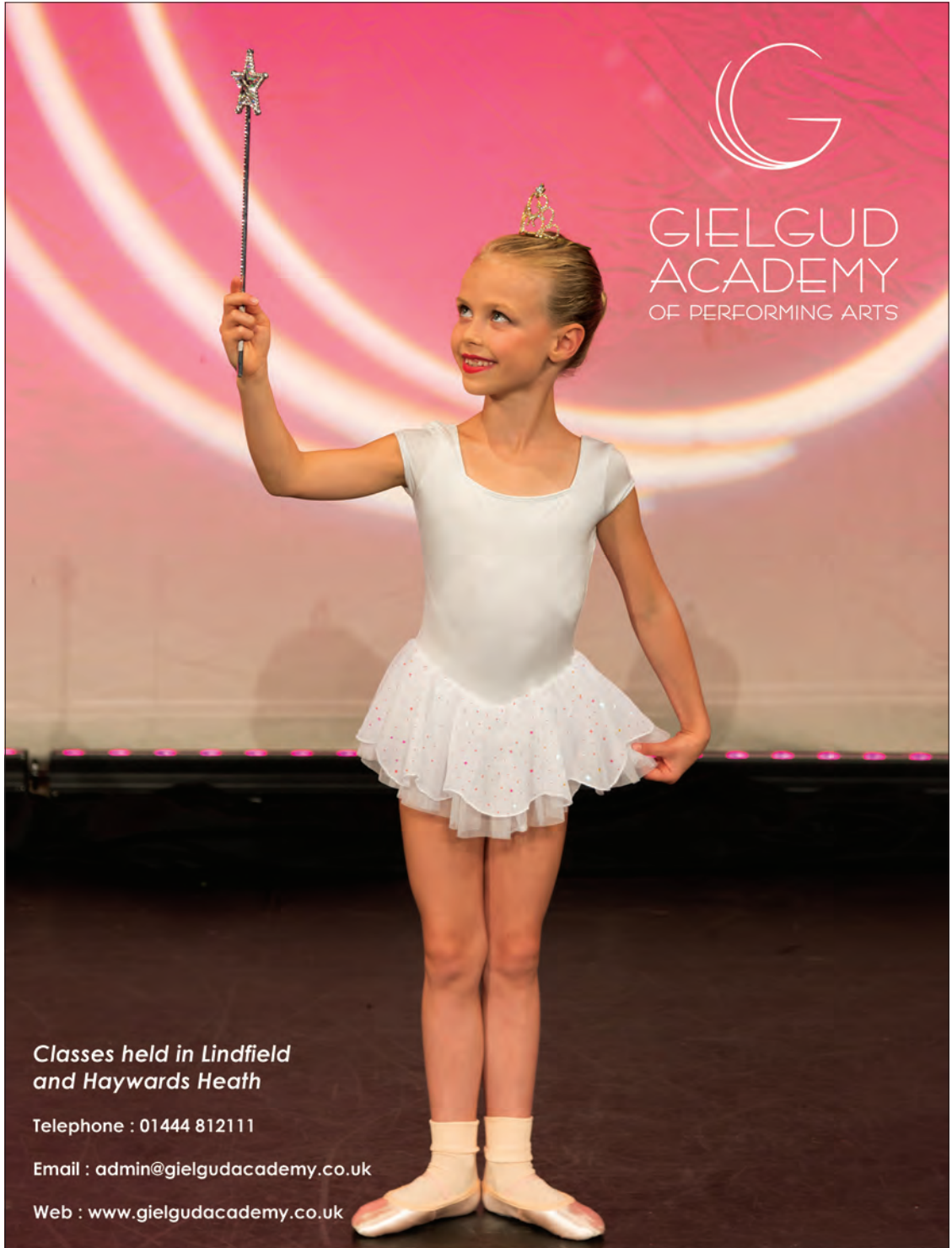
of Haywards Heath Golf Club is, at the time of writing, in abeyance. The District Council has named the site an Asset of Community Value, which provides some protection, but that status now seems to be in doubt. It is in any case clear that the would-be developers will not give up. Vigilance will be required here.

We reviewed 120 planning applications over the year, taking a public position where we considered it appropriate.

The Society launched a programme of design awards in 2019. We were pleased to recognise the efforts of three households who have carried out building work using thoughtful design and materials that contribute to the sympathetic development of Lindfield. Certificates commending good craftsmanship and design will continue to be awarded at our annual AGM.

We expect 2020 to be another challenging year. We always welcome new members, and in particular new participants on our management committee. We would like to thank all our members for your support in 2019 and we wish all Lindfield Life readers a happy and peaceful New Year.





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## Festival Night attracts great numbers

Lindfield's traditional Christmas High Street event – Festival Night – proved to be more popular than ever last month, when the closed road was packed with villagers enjoying the pre-Christmas build-up.

Organised by Lindfield Parish Council, the evening included shops being open and even spilling out on to the High Street to get involved in the wandering foot traffic.

The United Reformed Church was the usual central location for Father Christmas to reside in his grotto, plus there was also entertainment from Skylarks – Lindfield Primary Academy's children's choir. In the church lounge there was another opportunity for residents to view the Love Lindfield display boards, originally created for Lindfield Arts Festival, and out the back there were creative Christmas story scenes in knitted characters.



# Pond Island Discs

By Ayesha Gilani

Auld Lang Syne. Love it or loathe it, there's no denying its power in galvanising bleary-eyed revellers into a lusty-throated throng on New Year's Eve. The song first captured the attention of Scottish poet Robert Burns in the 1780s. He said he had come across an old man singing the song. In 1788 he sent it to the Scots Musical Museum, indicating that it was an ancient song but that he'd been the first to record it on paper. The song speaks of old friendships. Its words evoke a sense of belonging and fellowship, tinged with nostalgia. Much like the song, this month's castaways can be credited for galvanising our community into action on a number of different issues over the years. Friendship, fellowship and belonging are some of the inspired themes resounding throughout their work. I couldn't think of a more positive way to kick-off a new decade than in the company of these inspirational Lindfieldians. Each one giving up their time to make a difference in their community and beyond. Here they are with their chosen tracks. Wishing you all a happy and harmonious Hogmanay!

**Stan Rosenthal:** is the founder of the Happy Cafe Network. The first cafe was set up in Brighton in 2014, giving people an opportunity to connect over a cuppa and learn skills for enhancing their psychological well-being. Since then, it has inspired a network of cafes in the UK and around the world.



**Make Someone Happy - Jimmy Durante**

"I'm a soppy romantic, so when I first saw Sleepless in Seattle and this song came on at the end of the movie I must admit I shed a tear. The lyrics took on a fresh meaning when I joined Action for Happiness and set up the Happy Cafe Network - 'Make someone happy, just one someone happy and you will be happy too'. How's that for a New Year's resolution?"

**Isabella Mortimer:** Lindfield Life's very own Greta Thunberg. Isabella is a shining star in our community with her compelling writing style and her passion and dedication to safeguarding the future of our planet.



**Fight Song - Rachel Platten**

"I have chosen this song to represent how much we have done in 2019 for our planet and also how we have got to keep fighting in the years to come. In Lindfield many families and friends are making a huge difference, but imagine what it would be like if we all worked together as a community, and I strongly believe that we can."

**Esther Featherstone:** founder of Swoove Fitness, which has raised more than £64,000 for charities. Esther was the recipient of a Business in Community Award at the recent Mid Sussex Applause Awards ceremony.



**Somewhere Over The Rainbow - Israel Kamakawiwo'ole**

"This is my chosen Pond Island Disc because not only is it the song I walked down the aisle to 11 years ago but I love his version of this classic song. I live by the colours of the rainbow so the words of the song resonate deeply with me. I believe in a world of huge change; positivity, love, respect and inclusivity is key."

**Colin McFarlin:** aka Lindfield Life's recycling guru. Colin volunteers as a Waste Prevention Advisor. He recently received a Take Pride in Mid Sussex Award and notched up 220 hours of volunteering in 2019!



**Goodbye to Love - Carpenters**

"Although I have lived in Lindfield for 30 years, my music is still influenced by my home city Liverpool where I grew up. My music is very eclectic from Beatles, Eagles, Carpenters and Bee Gees up to Coldplay and Ed Sheeran. If I had to choose one song, I can always listen to 'Goodbye to Love' written by Richard Carpenter and performed by Karen Carpenter and that guitar solo by Tony Peluso. Wishing you all a healthy and happy 2020."

**Linda and Brian Dove:** this inspirational Lindfield couple recently picked up a joint Stronger Communities Award for all volunteers helping at the Spire IT Support Café.



**Shine on you Crazy Diamonds - Pink Floyd & Carpet Crawlers - Genesis**

"Having very different tastes in music, we fortunately overlap with groups in the Pink Floyd and early Genesis genre. Once retired we decided to help local people with their computer problems and the weekly 'Spire IT One to One Sessions' were born. Now approaching its sixth year, we are a dedicated team of four who enjoy helping others."

**Victoria Hersey and Vic Donougher:**

this dynamic duo got pulses racing by organising the village's first Community Exercise Day. The day, which included 11 different exercise events held back-to-back, raised more than £2,500 for local charity Family Support Work.



**10,000 Reasons - Matt Redman**

"We are originally friends from church so it felt right to pick a worship song as our choice. It has such powerful words that really speak to both of us. It reminds us to always be grateful and to look for the joy in the small things."

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# Life on the home front

## LINDFIELD HISTORY



Lindfield Air Raid Precaution Wardenes

By Richard Bryant, Lindfield History Project Group

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the ending of World War Two. The war had a dramatic effect on every aspect of life on the Home Front from shortages to bombing.

As the threat of war increased, from 1937 Government started implementing precautions to protect the Home Front. Air raid precautions featured heavily as there was strong expectation an air bombardment by high explosives, incendiaries and gas would commence immediately on the declaration of war. Volunteer Air Raid Precaution wardenes were recruited in every community and gas masks issued.

The months following September 1939 were quiet and called the 'Phoney War', as aerial battles and bombardment did not occur until 1940. The Lindfield ARP wardenes were on duty night and day from the outset with one of their main duties being to enforce the blackout to ensure no light was emitted from any building. The street lights were turned off and vehicle lights restricted and darkness descended. The ARP wardenes established posts around the village, the main ones being at King Edward Hall and the Tiger where the wardenes slept overnight in the cellar and an ambulance was kept in a garage at the rear.

Early in 1940 British troops started to be stationed in Lindfield, followed a year later by a large contingent of Canadians. The village quickly turned into an army base. A large camp was established at Paxhill for about 1,800 soldiers and a considerable number of properties around the village, ranging from Old Place to semis in Backwoods Lane, were requisitioned for military use. The army units regularly changed and there was a large build-up of stores and equipment around the village in preparation for D-Day. On 29th February 1944 several



General Montgomery on Lindfield Common

thousand troops assembled on the Common to be addressed by General Montgomery, an event witnessed at a distance by most of the residents. The military presence in Lindfield was much reduced after the invasion of Europe.

Returning to earlier in the conflict, following Dunkirk the country was vulnerable with invasion expected in mid-September 1940. A volunteer home defence force was quickly recruited and the Home Guard, Lindfield Company, established their headquarters in the barn behind the Red Lion. The Scaynes Hill Company used the Anchor Inn (now The Farmers). Both were tasked in the event of an invasion to defend the Ouse, as the river had been designated 'a stop line' to hinder a German advance. The northern bank was revetted (made vertical with trees, timbers and wattles) to impede tanks and vehicles attempting to cross. Strategically positioned pill boxes and other defences were constructed to defend the bridges. Each night Lindfield Home Guard manned



Pill box at Lindfield Bridge

the Lindfield Bridge pill box; it was described as 'very comfortable and homely'. When eventually equipped with Lee Enfield rifles each man was given ten rounds, 'enough to kill 12 enemy: 10 with bullets, one with the bayonet and the last with the butt'. An anti-tank gun was not received until late in the war. Thankfully, the All Saints bells never rang to signal an invasion!

From May 1940 aerial battles in the skies over Lindfield were a common occurrence, especially during the Battle of Britain. Observing the 'dog fights', although dangerous, was popular with village children and the Common provided a good vantage point. A schoolboy at the time recalled being on the Common and 'hearing loud sizzling noise as the hot metal of spent bullets lay on the damp grass'. Any Allied or German aircraft crashing in the vicinity acted as a magnet to boys and girls who would rush on their bikes to view the aircraft and hopefully collect souvenirs from the debris.

On 25th October 1940, during a routine patrol, a Hurricane suffered engine failure and made a forced landing at Haywards Heath Golf Club. The uninjured pilot escaped the damaged aircraft and a minor fire ensued. Village children arrived before the police and fire brigade and stood on a bunker watching as the fire took hold setting off the machine guns. The bullets went into the bunker just beneath their feet. A narrow escape. Sadly two brothers living at Walstead were not so lucky. While out playing they found a shell, and on taking it home it exploded. Tragically both were killed.

The threat of bombing increased from 1940 and the sound of the air raid siren became a feature of everyday life; the most was eight times in one day. Despite numerous warnings, thankfully Lindfield escaped any bombing casualties or significant damage. A stick of five bombs fell in the land off Backwoods Lane (now the nature reserve).

Others fell at Paxhill and near Buxshalls. Lindfield did not have any public air raid shelters, although the cellars of Masters (Co-op site) and today's Martin's shops were designated as shelters during shop opening hours. The school and some households created their own shelters



Emergency exit in All Saints church

or 'safe place'. After a time, with so many warnings being false alarms, life generally carried on as usual. At school, if a threat sounded imminent, on the command 'rabbits' children dived under their iron framed box topped desks for protection. All Saints built an emergency exit with a staircase in the South Chapel (pictured).

After D-Day, V1 flying bombs arrived in the sky over Lindfield causing much consternation, for when their rasping engine noise stopped it signified the bomb was about to fall to the ground and explode. Fifteen V1s fell in the Lindfield area. One was attacked by a Spitfire over Lindfield Common and hit the ground near Franklands Village causing extensive minor property damage but without casualties.

There was a brighter side to life for, despite blackouts, air raid sirens and shortages, a social scene thrived with many varied events being organised, usually to raise money for war related causes. These included national events such as Salute the Soldier, Fund a Spitfire and Warship Week, with each community being set a funding target. The Salute the Soldier target for Lindfield was £7,000. The entertainments ranged from concerts and plays to demonstrations of battle drill by the Home Guard, exhibition billiard matches and musical entertainments, plus the inevitable whist drives.

In January 1940 the Lindfield and Scaynes Hill Royal British Legion held its first annual Rabbit Pie Supper in a decorated King Edward Hall. The Mid Sussex Times reported that, in spite of war casting a shadow, 180 attended and the 'atmosphere was one of great joviality' and 'in addition to rabbit pies, Christmas puddings and other food, there was no lack of liquid refreshments and cigarettes'. Rabbits were a useful supplement to the meat ration.

Without doubt the weekly 'penny hop' dances in King Edward Hall were the most popular entertainment for young women and both British and Canadian soldiers. Recalled with fondness, these were generally regarded as the best in the area, with young women travelling by bus or bicycle from Haywards Heath and nearby villages to attend. The Rhythm Kings was the most popular band. Four young women from the village later became Canadian war brides.

Not unsurprisingly major annual events like the August Fair and Bonfire Night celebrations were not held during the war. Likewise the village sporting clubs suspended organised sport, although golf remained available at High Beeches albeit over only ten holes, the others having been put to the plough in support for 'Dig for Victory'.

The British spirit prevailed and the best was made of these difficult years.

If you have any photographs of Canadian soldiers in Lindfield, please get in touch. Contact Lindfield History Project Group on 01444 482136 or visit [www.lindfieldhistory.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldhistory.org.uk) for more information.



# An active Advent for Blackthorns athletes

By Karl Luckhurst

November and December saw a total of 66 pupils at Blackthorns Community Primary Academy represent the school across a variety of events. November saw boys and girls attend a fabulous fitness festival in which the children took part in Zumba, body combat and Pilates sessions at The Triangle in Burgess Hill. Also, the girl's football team took part in the Mid Sussex tournament, finishing seventh.

The athletes took centre stage in December. We started off with an indoor athletics competition, which took place at Warden Park Academy. 23 children from Years 5 and 6 took part in a number of track and field events in which points were scored for quickest times and best scores. Field events included standing long and triple jump, vertical jump, javelin, chest push and speed bounce. Track events took the form of relays in the sports hall, including the very challenging six lap paarlauf and the very fun over/under challenge, which included hurdles and a tunnel children had to run through! Blackthorns finished third out of eight schools, which was amazing as this was the first time in the school's history that we have entered Sportshall Athletics. Well done to all the children who took part, but a special well done to Rosena and Ella who won both of their relay races!

Also in December, 20 children spent their Saturday morning taking part in the Mid Sussex Cross Country event at Warden Park. All the children successfully ran two laps of the field – totalling 1.2km despite the tricky muddy conditions. The first six (girls) and eight (boys) positions were added together to give a team score; the girls team finished sixth out of 14 schools and the boys team finished fifth out of 15 schools. Well done to Elizabeth, Nicky and Gethin who finished in the top 25 and therefore qualified for the Sussex finals in January. A big thanks to Mr Higgs who has coached and led the Cross Country team.




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## Lindfield villagers take action on climate change

Fairer World Lindfield held an event entitled 'Your Climate – Your Choices' on Wednesday 20th November at King Edward Hall, attended by 150 people. Fairer World Lindfield is a group of residents aiming to raise awareness of climate change and encourage simple actions that can bring about meaningful impact.

At the event Peter Desmond and Chris Lee, members of the Fairer World Lindfield Steering Group, presented some of the science behind climate change and possible solutions. Peter said: "This was our way of responding to the climate and ecological crisis we are experiencing."

Rachel Carruthers, Sustainability Senior Advisor for West Sussex County Council, spoke about initiatives that the Council is undertaking to mitigate climate change. Sally May from Circular Brighton & Hove proposed that a new mindset is needed to make a better world. Trying to buy more products with less plastic packaging is something most people would like to achieve and Harriet's of Hove, the plastic-free pantry, shared their inspiring story.

The idea of trying to shop plastic-free was strengthened by Lindfield's own local shop Cloughs Deli, which displayed some of its ever-growing stock of foods and household items without plastic packaging. Chris talked about the small everyday steps she could take towards change. She said: "I am limited in what I can do but, just because I can't do everything, that is no reason for me to do nothing."

Research suggests that the fashion industry is responsible for 10% of our greenhouse gas emissions; Goldfinch Styling showed how stylish pre-loved clothes can be a way forward. Other stalls on the



evening included Anna from TROPIC enabling people to buy beauty products made with natural ingredients and Jenny from SuperLooper who has just set up a subscription service for good quality baby and maternity clothes.

One of the highlights of the event was a presentation by four pupils from Blackthorns Community Primary Academy in Lindfield: Eddie Barker, Benjamin Reid, Esther Thomas and Isabella Payne. They are part of the school's Eco Committee, which is working towards Plastic-free School status.

Peter and Chris concluded the event: "Even though the climate and ecological crisis can feel overwhelming at times, we can make a difference both individually and collectively in our own lives. We all have a voice, so we need to make sure those in positions of power hear us."

If you would like to learn more about the work of Fairer World Lindfield and join in some of their future activities, they can be found on Facebook or call 07956 586390.

## Meet John, your local tiler...

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# Support getting back into work

Mid Sussex District Council has been engaged in providing a new service that is focused on helping people back into employment. There are many reasons why folk may struggle in finding work, and this council service offers 1:1 tailored assistance structured to the specific needs of that person.



Many of our more rural residents can often feel isolated, meaning help and support in job hunting and practical advice with CVs and applications may seem harder to access.

As well as increasing a person's income, employment can raise personal well-being, self-esteem and self-worth. Not just for them, but for their family members too!

The scheme, in place since May 2019, operates under a wide and broad remit of 'preventing homelessness', which can mean anything as varied as someone falling into rent arrears due to having a low income, or a person who relies on 'sofa surfing' because they can't afford their own rent in the open market.

Rents in Mid Sussex tend to be high compared to the national average, so, in most cases, work is the best way forward to securing and keeping a home, adding the security and peace of mind that tenancy brings.

Iain Fitzsimons, the employment support coordinator at Mid Sussex District Council believes that most people genuinely want to work, but past or current personal situations can present real or perceived barriers to that employment: "Recent welfare benefit reforms have shifted Government strategy to incentivising work more. That means more people are entering the work force than have done for many years. My objective is to

try to equip those who need help in finding work with practical support in finding the right job for them. For example, I work with lots of single parents who have great skills and experience, but just need that kick-start to get things going now the kids are getting a bit older."

As part of the scheme, employers can play an important role. Recruiting reliable staff can be problematic, time consuming and unpredictable. But, according to Iain, what could be better for a local business than having a local resident join that company?

"A local connection is for me a 'no brainer'. I really think a community flourishes more when local people are involved in it, whether that's through volunteering, working or socialising. The scheme we're running may even be able to help not only find the right candidate for an employer, but in the right circumstances discuss possibilities of a trial period. That way if things don't work out, no harm is done."

Success stories so far for the scheme include helping a Cuckfield resident in securing full-time work. A recent arrival to the UK and with very limited English, he was given the opportunity by a local employer who recognised that, although his circumstances meant his options were somewhat limited, his personal drive, enthusiasm and desire to work to provide for his family and be able to give something back to the community that gave him shelter and safety were assets to be harnessed and put to good use.

If you feel you could do with help in getting back to work, know someone who does or are an employer with an eye to recruit local people, please contact Iain on 01444 477546, or email: [employmentsupport@midsex.gov.uk](mailto:employmentsupport@midsex.gov.uk)



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## LINDFIELD PRIMARY

**Very best wishes to all members of our community for a happy and healthy 2020 from staff and pupils at Lindfield Primary Academy. Our spring term begins on 7th January and we are looking forward to a new year of exciting learning, new challenges and fun activities.**

Exciting work has taken place to develop the outside space behind our Year 1 classrooms. Our aim for this space is to create an 'outside classroom' where children can engage with the curriculum in a creative way. The vibrant sheltered space includes seating cubes, chalk top tables, role-play house, sandpit with activity wall and builders yard.



Children and adults in our academy participated in 'Switch Off Fortnight'. This important campaign highlighted the use of energy at home and at school and reminded us all to SWITCH OFF devices or lights if they are not being used. We are hoping that the good habits we started in these two weeks will last. Our diligent Eco Warriors, armed with their clipboards, monitored the use of electricity around the school.



KS2 were visited by the charity 'Show Racism the Red Card'. Years 4, 5 and 6 participated in workshops exploring the topic of racism and what actions we can all take to prevent racism. The children were visited by footballer Leon Braithwaite, who told us about his first-hand experiences of racism on and off the pitch. As a staff team, we ended the day with some brilliant training delivered by the charity on the topic.

**In our local community, our Early Years children enjoyed visiting residents of Compton House Nursing Home and sharing a Christmas story with them. It was lovely to see that the residents and staff appeared to enjoy the visit just as much!**

Finally, a plea for your help: we have signed up to 'The Sun on Sunday's brilliant 'Books For Schools' promotion to provide primary schools with a free book box from the Collins Big Cat reading scheme. The free books cover a diverse range of subjects from fairy tales to football, from camping to crocodiles and from wild cats to worms - there is really something for all ages and abilities! To claim our free books we have to collect 3,500 tokens from 'The Sun' and 'The Sun on Sunday' during the promotion. If you could help us reach the target by collecting as many tokens as you can and sending them in to the academy office by 20th January, our young readers will benefit enormously.

# Holiday snaps

We love seeing your copy of Lindfield Life getting around the world, so do please take a snap and email it in to [photos@lindfieldlife.co.uk](mailto:photos@lindfieldlife.co.uk) - thanks!



Darcy & Erin Faraday in Lapland before Christmas



Sylvia Shortland in front of the Franz Joseph Glacier, New Zealand

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# Helena Hall needlewoman and artist

By Margaret Nicolle

Helena Hall kept a detailed journal of events during the Second World War and of her work as a local ARP Warden but her journal reveals more hidden aspects of her work. In her youth Miss Hall was a student at the Royal College of Heraldry in London and afterwards worked at a heraldic stationer's. Later she worked as the manageress of a private hotel in Hyde Park Gate. According to her great niece, Elisabeth McDougall, it was while working at the hotel that Miss Hall spent a great deal of time doing needlework, becoming an expert needlewoman.

She designed tablecloths bearing the school arms of public schools such as Eton, Harrow and Rugby. The intention was that the senior scholars would buy the tablecloths for use in their study rooms. She also undertook major ecclesiastical commissions, including works for Chichester Cathedral and the Chapel of New College, Cambridge. Perhaps one of her most significant works was a cross-stitch curtain measuring some 10 feet by 5 feet and containing over one million stitches. The curtain, depicting the heraldic arms of the noble families of England, is set against a background of oak leaves and acorns.

First hung at the Royal Academy, it is now displayed at Michelham Priory, Sussex.

She was involved with the decoration of Lindfield for the local celebration of the Jubilee of King George V and Queen Mary in 1935. She made 150 flags and also a heraldic shield for every post in the High Street, from All Saints Church to the pond. The flags were used for decoration at village social events. She continued her

artistic work for the village throughout the war by making more flags, banners, posters and Christmas cards for Lindfield troops. Miss Hall was a prolific artist and writer on local history. During the 1920s and 1930s she cycled to every parish church in Sussex to draw the church ironwork. For many years she was responsible for the periodic issues of the Lindfield All Saints Church Guide, which she illustrated with her own sketches. She designed the wrought iron altar rails for the church.

## Thursday 27th March 1941

The last few days I have been working all day at the street decoration for War Weapons Week. The material – unbleached calico – I have made 2 ft deep and painted in orange. Then I made 16 flags about 2ft long St George, Andrew and Patrick and one Union Jack; eight flags each end of the lettering to go across 54ft span of the High Street from Mr Ling's shop to the Red Lion.

## Friday 5th May 1944

Our 'Salute the Soldier' week begins tomorrow. This afternoon with Mr Thompson's help I decorated the village hall with flags. I have now made 27 United Nations flags.

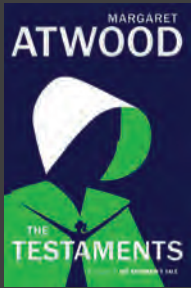
Extracts taken from A WOMAN LIVING IN THE SHADOW OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR HELENA HALL'S JOURNAL FROM THE HOME FRONT available from margaretnicolle@outlook.com 01444 482685 or lagrace15@hotmail.com.



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## The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

### BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

This book is the sequel you did not think you needed! Did *The Handmaid's Tale* need it? Wasn't it a story complete in itself? The answer is it is, but yet this new volume sits happily besides a 35 year old book, inspired by very different times, yet strangely fitting ours.

By using the many voices of other narrators, we can get beyond the terror of Offred's fate. There is a very surprising twist in connection with one character, which seems very logical but begs to know if there were clues in the previous book?

This seems to be a powerful novel which should be redundant - surely women should be treated with respect by now - but Atwood has rightly seen that the populism of the present is nearly always sexist. Perhaps this is why it co-won the Booker Prize this year?



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# Lindfield Parish Council

**JANUARY 2020**

Parish Office:  
Clock Tower House,  
Lindfield Enterprise Park, Lewes Road,  
Lindfield, West Sussex RH16 2LH

Telephone: 01444 484115  
Email: clerks@lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk  
Website: www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

## Councillor profiles: Amanda Matthews and Val Upton

### Cllr Amanda Matthews

Originally from Cambridgeshire our move to West Sussex was supposed to be temporary, until we were introduced to Lindfield. Lindfield has been our home for 20 years, moving here with my husband and young family. Both our children attended Lindfield Primary School and Oathall Community College. My mum also moved to the village five years ago. The village and village life has always had much to offer and I look forward to the cycle of events throughout the year.

I work at Mid Sussex District Council in the Customer Services Dept assisting residents with their queries. I also enjoyed eight years at Haywards Heath Sixth Form College working as a Learning Support Assistant. I am delighted the college will be opening once again.

You can usually find me pottering in the garden or on our allotment or walking our Border Collie around the village. I also enjoy watching local bands playing in the pubs on the high street or at The Lindfield Club.

I was co-opted on to the Parish Council in June and sit on the Planning & Traffic Committee and the Environment & Amenities Committee.



### Cllr Val Upton

I was first co-opted onto Lindfield Parish Council in May 2003 and I am Vice Chairman of the Council and a member of all three main Committees. I have lived in Lindfield with my husband for the last 34 years, but have had connections

here all my life as my mother was born in the village. I am a member of All Saints Church Lindfield, where I am involved in many activities including helping at Noah's Ark Tots group as well as helping at All Saints Kids on a Sunday. In 2010 I retired from a full time Nurse Practitioner and a part time Stroke Co-Ordinator post at the Princess Royal Hospital after working in the National Health Service for 44 years. I have returned to the hospital as a volunteer. I enjoy walking, Caravanning and swimming. I represent the Council at Mid Sussex Older Peoples Council (MSOPC); I am now Vice Chairman of MSOPC as well as a Trustee and Director. I am also the Chairman of the Lindfield Branch of the Royal British Legion.



## Grants

The Council has agreed the following donations so far for the financial year 2019/20:

- Lindfield Branch of the Royal British Legion, £250 to enable a road closure on the 10th November 2019 for Remembrance Sunday
- Lindfield Bonfire Society, £500 towards the provision of first responders at this year's Lindfield Bonfire Night
- St Peters & St James Hospice, £250 towards patient transport services enabling people to attend the wellness centre so that they can enjoy a range of activities and therapies
- Lindfield Arts Festival, £250 towards the group's 10th year anniversary events
- 4 Sight, £200 towards outreach support for residents in Lindfield living with sight loss
- Victim Support, £100 towards the cost of recruiting and training volunteers who provide emotional and practical support and facilities to the victims and witnesses of crime in the Sussex Area
- Mid Sussex Older Peoples Council, £250 towards a Christmas tea and entertainment for older people in the King Edward Hall

Members of Lindfield Parish Council:

Members can all be contacted, in the first instance, via the Parish Office, or by

**Cllr. William Blunden**  
(Chairman)

**Cllr. Valerie Upton**  
(Vice Chairman)

**Cllr. Linda Grace**

**Cllr. Stephen Henton**

**Cllr. Margaret Hersey**

**Cllr. Mike Leach**



Lindfield Parish Council Office is usually staffed five days a week and is open to the public on Tuesdays 1pm to 4pm, Thursdays and Fridays 10am to 1pm – when members of the public are welcome to come along to look at planning applications for Lindfield, obtain the codes for obtaining concessionary railcards, or simply seek advice on issues of concern. However, if you do need to speak with someone outside our normal opening hours, then please contact the Clerk who will be happy to make alternative arrangements with you.

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Lindfield-Parish-Council/101095867968556](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lindfield-Parish-Council/101095867968556)

Parish Clerk:  
Mr Andrew Funnell

Deputy Parish Clerk:  
Mr David Parsons

Responsible Financial Officer:  
Mrs Tracy Ely

Village Orderly:  
Mr John Cunningham

## New WSCC 'Road Safety' Facebook page

The Road Safety Team at West Sussex County Council has set up a new Facebook page to help deliver important Road Safety messages to its residents, as well as the wider public who also use the roads of West Sussex.

By creating this Facebook page, the Road Safety Team will be able to support their partners' campaigns happening throughout the country, write specifically about seasonally related topics, provide advice to support all modes of transport and much more – essentially delivering a whole wealth of important and much needed Road Safety information. Ultimately, the aim is to help reduce the Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI's) statistics on the roads of West Sussex (and

beyond), as well as reducing all incidents and injuries which occur on a daily basis, by delivering as much information and advice as possible.

If you are interested in keeping up to date with Road Safety topics, or have any questions you wish to ask, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/RoadSafetyWSCC> and follow this page! Thank you for your support.



## Parish update

Lindfield Parish Council has:

- Formally adopted a climate change policy. In order to help the Council meet the policy objectives a Working Group has been created that will report to the Environment and Amenities Committee. The policy is available to view at: [www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/\\_UserFiles/Files/Policies/ClimateChangePolicy14-11-19.pdf](http://www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/_UserFiles/Files/Policies/ClimateChangePolicy14-11-19.pdf)
- Agreed to fund a replacement piece of play equipment in the Hickmans Lane playground, which is owned and maintained by Mid Sussex District Council
- Completed the remedial work on the welcome to Lindfield gate at the north end of the High Street
- Been considering its budget for 2020/21. The Council will submit its precept request to Mid Sussex District Council by the end of January 2020.
- Review its winter management plan. The plan seeks to help volunteers keep key footpaths open in the event of severe winter weather. If you would be interested in volunteering to help with snow clearance and gritting of footpaths please contact us. The plan is available to view on our website, use this shortlink: <https://bit.ly/2rLjQan>
- Agreed to launch a Facebook page for the Parish Council: [www.facebook.com/pages/Lindfield-Parish-Council/101095867968556](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lindfield-Parish-Council/101095867968556)

reference to page 12 of the Lindfield Village Directory and Year Book, which contains Councillors' addresses and phone numbers.

Cllr. Amanda  
Matthews

Cllr. Roger  
Pickett

Cllr. Ron  
Plass

Cllr. John  
Stevens

Cllr. Ian  
Wilson

Cllr. Cavan  
Wood

## Christmas Festival Night

The High Street was packed with people enjoying the lively atmosphere and festive cheer at our Christmas Festival Night on 3rd December. Thank you to all those involved in making the event a successful and very enjoyable family evening. The stalls set up by local charities and small businesses along the street offered a good range of gifts, cards, decorations and other items, food, hot drinks and entertainment. Many of the local shops were open during the evening and a great deal of effort had been put into dressing shop windows, which all looked fantastic. Lindfield is fortunate to have such a wide range of shops, and a variety of places to eat at the heart of our community. Mid Downs Radio added to the atmosphere with festive music to suit all tastes and conducted interviews over the loudspeakers. Father Christmas was greeted by a very long queue of children waiting patiently with their grown-ups to have a chat with him and receive a small present in the grotto, which was set up ready for him in the United Reformed Church. This year 98 children met Father Christmas. Lindfield Parish Council wishes to thank the many people on whom the success of this event depends, in particular: members of the United Reformed Church for making this vital indoor venue available and for providing refreshments and a warm welcome, Mid Downs Radio for festive music and announcements and Masters and Son for chauffeuring Father Christmas to his grotto in style. The evening could not go ahead without the cooperation of 6-10 Traffic Management, who set up and manned the road closure, and Event Medic Services - we are very grateful to them. Thanks also go to Tom Kidger from Goddenwick Farm for donating a Christmas tree for the village and to John Cottenham at Cottenham's of Lindfield - Craft Butchers, for letting us put it on the butcher's shop roof. As always we are indebted to the people who kindly provide the power for the High Street Christmas lights from their properties. Finally, thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy this community event. We hope that the village's local shops benefited from the evening, and that stallholders raising money for charity had a successful evening.



Father Christmas arriving after being chauffeured by Masters & Sons



Christmas Tree kindly supplied by Goddenwick Farm



Father Christmas and Mother Christmas

## Christmas tree recycling

You can drop off your real Christmas tree for recycling at various points within Mid Sussex. Our local site is: Lindfield Common near the Bowling Green Car Park, Backwoods Lane. All real Christmas tree recycling sites will be open between Saturday 28th December and Friday 10th January. Further details can be found at: [www.midsussex.gov.uk/waste-recycling/christmas-tree-recycling-sites/](http://www.midsussex.gov.uk/waste-recycling/christmas-tree-recycling-sites/)

Remember: Real Christmas trees can be composted in your garden waste bin. Just make sure the lid is closed.

## Mobile Civic Amenity Collections

The refuse freighters will next be in the Tollgate car park on Sunday 12th January 2020, between the hours of 10am and 12 noon, for the collection of household and garden waste. Please do not leave rubbish in the absence of the refuse freighter.

Dates of the remaining collections for the current financial year are as follows – Sunday: 15th March 2020.

Please note that a number of items cannot be disposed of through the Mobile Waste Collection: electrical items, tyres, rubble and hardcore (eg. paving stones, gravel, concrete, bricks and tiles), items such as ceramic baths and shower trays, toilet pans and sinks, gas canisters and paint pots with any contents. These need to be taken to the Waste and Recycling Site and charges apply to certain items. There is a list of the chargeable items on: [www.recycleforwestsussex.org/recycling-sites](http://www.recycleforwestsussex.org/recycling-sites)

## Parish Council meetings

JAN - MAR 2020

Planning and Traffic (Full)	Monday 6th January	8pm
Finance and General Purposes	Thursday 9th January	8pm
Full Council	Thursday 16th January	8pm
Planning and Traffic (Plans only)	Tuesday 28th January	8pm
Environment and Amenities	Thursday 6th February	8pm
Planning and Traffic (Plans only)	Tuesday 18th February	8pm
Finance and General Purposes	Thursday 5th March	8pm
Planning and Traffic (Full)	Monday 9th March	8pm
Full Council	Thursday 12th March	8pm
Planning and Traffic (Plans only)	Tuesday 31st March	8pm

All meetings are held in the King Edward Hall, unless shown otherwise. Please check our website or the noticeboard in Denmans Lane for any additional meetings that may be called. All meetings are open to the public and there is a period set aside at the beginning of each meeting for public questions/comments, except at 'plans only' Planning and Traffic Committee meetings. At all meetings of the Planning and Traffic Committee, up to two people for and two against each planning application are allowed to speak, for a maximum of two minutes each, at the invitation of the Chairman.

# Additional support if power is lost

By Derek Pratt, Sussex Neighbourhood Watch

Power cuts don't happen very often these days, but, if there's a power cut, have you ever wondered how some people would cope?

UK Power Networks own, and run, the electricity cables in most of our region and fixes power cuts. It also provides a free priority service for anyone who might face extra difficulty in the event of a power cut, including households with an elderly person, young children, someone less mobile or someone with a health condition.

By registering with UK Power Networks' Priority Services Register you will be given a priority 24-hour phone number for communication, receive extra information and regular updates during any power cut. In the event of a longer power cut you could receive hot food, hot drinks and hot water, mobile phone charging and more.

It's quick and free to register by completing a short questionnaire. If you have family or friends who meet the criteria you can register on their behalf if they are happy for you to do so. More information can be found online at: [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/power-cut/priority-services-register](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/power-cut/priority-services-register)



Photo: Mike Anton

## Christine parties at 80!

One Lindfield resident recently celebrated her 80th birthday and invited family and friends from around the country to join her in The Bent Arms.

Christine Woodham (nee Turner) has lived in the village her whole life, including attending the old Junior School. Her father used to be the Police Sergeant for Lindfield.

Chris brought up her four children in the village, while caring for her sick husband and working nights at Cuckfield Hospital. She's clearly seen many changes in Lindfield over her lifetime and still enjoys the memories of days gone by. "I used to stop off at Mr Peakes – the grocery store – on Lewes Road (where Flowercraft now is) on my way to school. A bag of broken biscuits cost just one penny!" Chris recalled.

Christine says that she 'doesn't feel 80!' and that she had a wonderful time enjoying a Sunday Roast with 23 guests, including many former Lindfield friends.



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# Fun food post-festivities

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## Apple and potato gratin (Serves 4)

Preheat oven 180C. Peel, core and slice 2 eating apples. Peel and thinly slice 2 large baking potatoes and a medium-sized onion. Finely chop 150g ham, (the meat from a cooked ham hock would be perfect for this dish). Butter a shallow baking dish and layer potatoes, apple, ham and onions ending with a potato layer. Whisk a generous tsp (or more to taste) mild or wholegrain mustard into 300ml crème fraiche, season and spoon over the potatoes. Bake for 30 mins or until soft in the middle and golden brown. A variation would be to add a layer of grated cheese or buttered breadcrumbs on the top before baking.

## Roasted red onions

Preheat oven 160C. Using a medium-sized red onion per serving, stand each one on its base and cut into four quarters but not quite through. Line a small baking tin with foil and arrange the onions cut side up in a single layer. Sprinkle with salt and pepper then drizzle with oil and either maple syrup or honey. Roast for about 1 hour or until soft. Delicious with roast beef.

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By Caroline Young

So many food pages in January centre on what we should be eating after all the festive indulgences we have been enjoying. I thought we could be a bit different - to welcome in the new year by being a little adventurous! It is so easy, especially in the dark days of winter, to cook our well used recipes but, with a little tweaking, we can introduce some new ideas to brighten up our menus. Please try some of my ideas.



## Sweet and spicy chicken traybake

(Serves 4)

This would also work well with other vegetables and/or sausages instead of chicken. After removing the foil, arrange the sausages on top and bake for about 20 min or until the sausages are cooked through.

Line a shallow roasting pan with foil and lightly coat with oil. Peel and cube 3-4 sweet potatoes (or 750g butternut squash, peeled, deseeded and cubed), peel and halve 8 shallots, cut a medium-sized aubergine into cubes. Tip into the pan, plus 150g dried apricots. Combine the finely grated rind and juice of 1 orange with some crushed garlic, 3tbs oil, seasoning and a tsp each of cinnamon and cumin. Drizzle over the vegetables, spooning them lightly together. Arrange 8 small chicken thighs (with or without skins) on top of the vegetables and season them. Cover loosely with foil and bake for 20 mins. Remove the foil and continue to bake for about 15 min or until the chicken is golden brown and the vegetables soft.

## Venison

The popularity of venison is growing rapidly. Venison is healthier compared to other red meats, with plenty of iron and Vitamin B2, and is lean, so low in fat yet high in protein. Usually locally sourced and reasonably priced, it is readily available this time of the year – visit our village butcher soon.

You can use any basic casserole recipe and cook in the oven, microwave or slow cooker. I like to marinade the diced meat in a combination of red wine, shallots, celery and spices such as cloves and star anise, for several hours or overnight. Remove the meat with a slotted spoon and gently brown in a dash of hot oil. Tip into a casserole, add the marinade plus wintery ingredients such as cooked chestnuts, wild mushrooms (soak first), figs, dried apricots or prunes. Add an optional dash of port and cook as usual. Just before the end of the cooking time, stir in a generous spoonful of cranberry sauce or redcurrant jelly. So simple, so delicious!

One day, they might need the same care their Nanny did.

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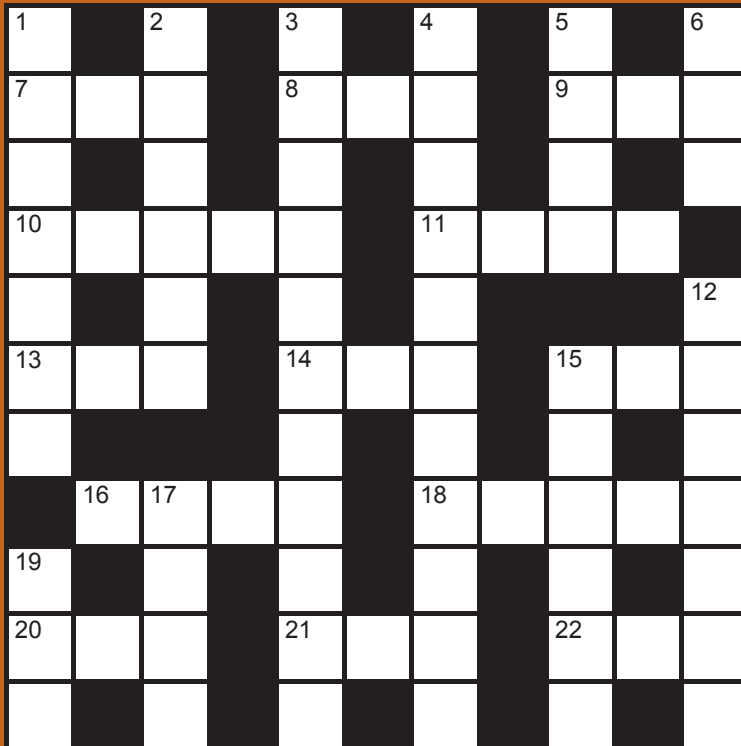
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# Family crossword



Got 20 mins spare?  
Have a go at this crossword - which should be varied enough for all ages to answer some clues.

Answers on p.68

## Across

- 7 Meadow (3)
- 8 And so on (3)
- 9 Biblical Sarah's husband (Abbr.) (3)
- 10 Cram (5)
- 11 Mild oath (4)
- 13 Before (3)
- 14 Cereal grass (3)
- 15 At the present time (3)
- 16 Large marine food fish (4)

- 18 Sharp (5)
- 20 Lyric poem (3)
- 21 Dove sound (3)
- 22 Weeding implement (3)

## Down

- 1 Drunk (7)
- 2 Ripe (6)
- 3 Execution (11)
- 4 Speed controller (11)
- 5 Individual facts (4)
- 6 Light meal (3)
- 12 Add sugar (7)
- 15 Nothing (6)
- 17 Secondhand (4)
- 19 Enemy (3)

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# Sudoku

Find the solution  
on p.68

2	4							9
	5		6		1			
	3		8					
	2				3	6		
				8			5	3
	9	8	4					
		4			2		1	
								7
			1	9			8	

Courtesy of <http://andrews-sudoku.blogspot.co.uk>

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## RECYCLE THIS...

Colin McFarlin is a Volunteer Waste Prevention Advisor with West Sussex County Council.



Thank you for all your individual enquiries about your recycling. By the time you read this I will have replied individually to all your emails to the editor on recycling. Do keep the questions coming.

## Recycling Wisdoms

I am starting an occasional item: 'Recycling Wisdoms'. This where I share your recycling wisdoms. What do you do to recycle more? What do you do to recycle better? Tell me about your local community recycling points. What do they accept? What wisdoms would you like to share? Who is in charge of recycling in your house?

Claire tells me how she is fully emptying toothpaste tubes. There is always some left in the shoulder, so she cuts the tube in half and uses the cut off bit to re-close it. She tells me she is always amazed to find another week's worth by doing this to any tube.

Jane tells me she recently visited the garden centre at Wych Cross, and at the far end of the car park is a collection point for plastic plant pots and trays which then go to be recycled. B&Q in Burgess Hill also have a similar collection point.



As much as this page is about recycling and keeping as much as possible out of your rubbish bin, our foremost thought should be to reuse, repair and reduce, and then recycle. I would love to hear of ways you have reduced your rubbish.

To repair you can take to a Repair Café. There are Repair cafes in Chailey, Horsham, Forest Row and one is opening soon in Burgess Hill. If you are interested in starting one in your village, do let me know and I can put you in touch with the organisers of successful Repair Cafés.

Would you like me to give a talk to your local group on recycling? Do you have an individual question on specific items you are not sure how to recycle? One email to the Editor, with a picture if possible, and I can let you know.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

## Badminton Sessions for Reception, Years 1 - 3 And Pre-School Children

Led by an ex-England junior badminton player and level 2 coach. Rackets and shuttles will be supplied. First session will be free and then £5 per session.

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Years Reception - 3

Thursday - 1:00-2:00

King Edwards Hall, Lindfield  
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Tuesday - 3:30-4:30

Scaynes Hill Village Hall  
Years Reception - 3

Thursday - 3:30-4:30

King Edwards Hall, Lindfield  
Years Reception - 3

Wednesday - 4:00-5:00

Wivelsfield Village Hall  
Years Reception - 3

Friday - 4:00-5:00

Ashenground Community Centre,  
Haywards Heath  
Years Reception - 3



Contact - Jonty Russ  
jontyruss@gmail.com or  
07557100843



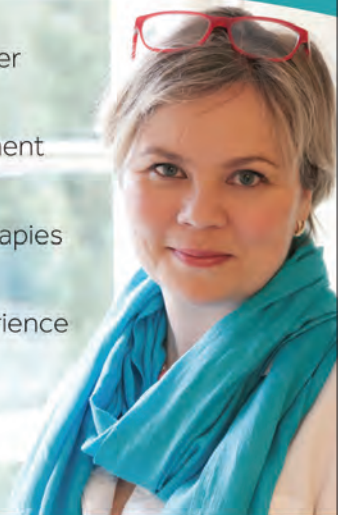
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## Challenge yourself to read more in 2020

West Sussex Libraries are delighted to present the Mid Sussex Reading Challenge, running in Haywards Heath Library, along with other local libraries. The challenge invites people of all ages and reading abilities to read 12 books in 2020, following a variety of themes such as 'a book that has been adapted into a film' and 'a banned book'. Whether you're looking to kick-start a new reading habit or just want to share your love of reading with others, everyone is welcome to join. You can take part as an individual, as part of a reading group or even get reading as a family.

The Mid Sussex Reading Challenge follows on from the success of the Horsham District Year of Culture Reading Challenge, which ran in seven West Sussex Libraries throughout 2019, attracting over 230 participants.

The full list of challenges plus great recommended reads for each month can be found on the reading challenge blog at [midsussexreadingchallenge.art.blog](http://midsussexreadingchallenge.art.blog), and libraries are also welcoming book review submissions. Participants are also invited to join challenge Facebook group to share their latest reads, pick up ideas for great new books and chat with local people about their love of reading.

If you'd like to take part, sign up by visiting any Mid Sussex Library with your library card – and if you don't have a library card, it's completely free to join!

Pop into the Haywards Heath Library to pick up a leaflet and challenge yourself to read something new in 2020.

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### PUZZLE ANSWERS

From the puzzle fun on page 64

#### CROSSWORD:

ACROSS: 7 Lea, 8 Etc, 9 Abe, 10 Stuff, 11 Egad, 13 Ere, 14 Rye, 15 Now, 16 Tuna, 18 Acute, 20 Ode, 21 Coo, 22 Hoe.

DOWN: 1 Sloshed, 2 Mature, 3 Performance, 4 Accelerator, 5 Data, 6 Tea, 12 Sweeten, 15 Nought, 17 Used, 19 Foe.




#### SUDOKU:

2	4	1	3	7	5	8	6	9
8	5	9	6	2	1	7	3	4
6	3	7	8	4	9	5	2	1
7	2	5	9	1	3	6	4	8
4	1	6	2	8	7	9	5	3
3	9	8	4	5	6	1	7	2
9	8	4	7	6	2	3	1	5
1	6	2	5	3	8	4	9	7
5	7	3	1	9	4	2	8	6

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# What's on...

## ELSEWHERE

### January

- 7th **Mid Sussex NHS Retirement F'ship** – 10.15am  
Franklands Village Hall, Haywards Heath - Val Upton talks on 'The Way Ahead'
- 7th **Dick Whittington Panto**  
-11th Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - presented by The Weald Theatre Group (www.wealdtheatre.co.uk 01444 455440)
- 8th **Tiger Arts** – 1pm  
All Saints Church, Lindfield - Wimbledon Palais Ukulele Band (light lunches in the Tiger from 12.15pm)
- 13th **Hassocks Field Society** – 7.45pm  
Adastra Hall, Hassocks - 'Fire at Uppark House' – A talk by Ken Lloyd (visitors £2, Beryl Varley 01273 832351)
- 15th **The Arts Society Mid Sussex** – 10am  
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - 'The Magic of Prague: Czech Art and Culture' by Gavin Plumley (Non-members welcome, £7)
- 15th **The Mid Sussex Franco-British Soc.** – 8pm  
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - An illustrated talk in French by Joyce Quin, membre des Lords depuis 2006 (£5, Barbara Stevens, 01444 452385)
- 16th **Haywards Heath Ceramics Group** – 10am  
Clair Hall - Talk on 'British Art Deco - between the Wars' by Elisabeth Bogdan (free entry on first visit, otherwise £8, 01444 483372 or 452804)
- 16th **Mid Sussex National Trust** – 2.30pm  
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - 'History of The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew' presented by Sarah Oldridge
- 16th **Burning (15)** – 8pm  
Players Theatre, Hurst - film show by Hurst Village Cinema (tickets from Mishon Mackay and www.hurstfilms.com)
- 17th **HHD U3A** – 2pm  
Adastra Hall, Hassocks - 'Sussex stories behind the news' with Richard Lindfield
- 17th **The Wind in the Willows** – doors 6.30pm  
The Queen's Hall, Cuckfield - Rain or Shine Theatre present its fast-paced comic retelling of the classic tale (Tickets from Cuckfield Parish Office £10/£7)
- 17th **Mother Goose Panto**  
-19th The Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint - Family panto fun, Friday at 7.30pm, Sat/Sun 1pm & 5pm (Tickets £11/£8 www.hurstplayers.org.uk)

- 17th **Heading for Extinction** – 7.30pm  
Village Centre, Hurstpierpoint - Talk about climate change by HKD Transition group (not suitable for young children)
- 21st **Cuckfield Evening WI** – 7.30pm  
Baptist Church, Polestub Lane, Cuckfield - 'Well-being with you in mind' by Amanda Grainger
- 24th **Downton Abbey (PG)** – doors 7pm  
Adastra Hall, Hassocks - Star Cinema showing (Tickets £4.50/£4)
- 24th **Mother Goose Panto**  
-26th The Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint - Family panto fun, Friday at 7.30pm, Sat/Sun 1pm & 5pm (Tickets £11/£8 www.hurstplayers.org.uk)
- 25th **Burns Supper** – 6.30pm  
Roffey Park - Mid Sussex Caledonian Society annual event (secretary@ midsussexcaledoniansociety.org.uk)
- 27th **Hassocks Field Society** – 7.45pm  
Adastra Hall, Hassocks - 'Tales of the River Bank' a talk by Ian Everest (visitors £2, Beryl Varley 01273 832351)
- 28th **Pregnancy Loss Support Group** – 7.30-9pm  
New support group for those affected by pregnancy or baby loss (for venue details contact angie@walkingwithyou.org.uk or call 07974 729566)
- 30th **Skull Drummery** – 7.30pm  
The Red Lion, Lindfield - traditional event by Lindfield Bonfire Society, drumming performance in the pub garden
- 31st **The Kindergarten Teacher (12A)** – 8pm  
Players Theatre, Hurst - film show by Hurst Village Cinema (tickets from Mishon Mackay and www.hurstfilms.com)

### February

- 5th **Mid Sussex NHS Fellowship** – 10.15am  
Franklands Village Hall, Haywards Heath - The Buzz of Bees with Otto Somodi
- 5th **Hurst Monthly Social Group** – 2pm  
Guide HQ, Trinity Road, Hurst - Fish & Chip lunch (pre-ordered) & AGM (Dianne 01273 835284)

# What's on

AT KING EDWARD HALL

## January

8th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – Evening with Guest Speaker (Pat Whetstone 01444 483236)

9th **Lindfield Evening WI** – 7.30pm  
Katherine Collett 'A Licence to Thrill' - James Bond facts, fiction and fabulous songs (new members welcome: secretaryLEWI@gmail.com)

23rd **July (12A)** – doors 7.30pm  
(Tickets £6 from Tufnells)

28th **Lindfield Flower Club AGM** – 2.15pm  
Followed by its first flower demonstration of the year entitled 'Change The Grip' by Angela Merryfield

## February

1st **Coffee Morning, Seed Swap & Plant Sale** – 10-12am. Organised by and for Lindfield Horticultural Society

Please refer to the King Edward Hall notice board for additional information regarding the above events.

If you would like to hire the King Edward Hall please contact the Honorary Booking Secretary for further information on telephone number 01444 483266 or by e-mail on bookings@kingedwardhall.org.uk

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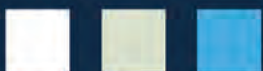
Your Local  
Property Experts

T: 01444 484564

42 High Street, Lindfield

E: [Lindfield@markrevill.com](mailto:Lindfield@markrevill.com)

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