

Lindfield Life

Inc. Scaynes Hill & Walsstead

Local village talk,
by the village

March 2011 Issue #24

FREE!

A mum, six huskies & the Arctic p.7

"The bells, the bells..." p.16

Lindfield Rural Parish Newsletter p.28

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Lindfield Life



David Tingley: A familiar house on the High Street.

Got a great cover picture? See website for details: www.lindfieldlife.co.uk

THE 27TH MARCH this year marks the beginning of British Summer Time but as I write this editorial it is a cold and grey day and summer seems a long way off. Thankfully Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, will be here first to warm us up! Make sure you've got all you need in stock for 8th March. Just thinking about pancakes is inspiring me to make some as a treat for pudding tonight!

We've got lots for you between the covers this month. Our Village People feature is back with a window into the life of Paul Burris, local musician, and more recently, contributor to Lindfield Life. The stories of his youthful antics have made many of us laugh so now it is time to find out more about Paul.

Residents of Lindfield have been busy. The Rotary Club of Lindfield and Cuckfield tell us about the recent Youth Speaks competition and the success of the Lindfield students. Local mum, Helen Bullimore, is preparing for a Husky Challenge later this month. She will be sledding 250km across the Arctic between Norway and Sweden with a team of six huskies to raise money for both St Peter and St James Hospice and Lindfield Primary School. Pupils from Blackthorns Primary School tell us about their visit to a nursing home and we've got news from BT about Infinity Broadband.

This month Lindfield Life pays tribute to resident Eric Holloway, who sadly passed away in January. As one of the founding directors of Virgin Atlantic we had been hoping to find out more of his story in our Village People feature, but deteriorating health meant that this was not possible. So we are grateful that his wife Sue has kindly allowed us to print this tribute.

I'd like to take this opportunity to invite you all to a special coffee and cakes event on Saturday 2nd April - we'll be raising funds for Sussex Air Ambulance - to find out why you'll have to read 'Flying to the Rescue' on page 6.

Emma Tingley, Editorial Team

Lindfield Life magazine is published by Kipper Creative Limited

Issue #24 - March 2011 - 4,200 copies printed

Lindfield Life Brooklands Barn, Rocky Lane, Haywards Heath, RH16 4RR

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Flower judge does demonstration

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S March event will be a demonstration of floral arrangements by Robert Tunks. Robert, who lives locally, is a well-known national judge who also acts as the main judge for the flower sections of the shows. He is always a very popular presenter. The arrangements he produces during the evening are raffled at the end. The talk will take place in the King Edward Hall on Wednesday 9th March at 8pm. Entry is 50p for members and £1 for visitors. All welcome.

Don't forget to start thinking about entries for the Spring Show, which will take place on Saturday 2nd April.

www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk

Making friends and sharing songs

AT THE BEGINNING of 2011 Year 4 pupils from Blackthorns CP School returned to Compton House Care Home. They were looking forward to renewing friendships begun before Christmas.

They eagerly set off from the school on a crisp, but dull afternoon discussing their hopes and dreams for their futures ready to share these with the residents of the care home.

Quickly shedding coats and hats, they met up with their old friends re-establishing contacts made on their last visit. Everyone was particularly eager to see one of the residents, whose 100th birthday had been celebrated recently.

Following refreshments, the children entertained the eager audience with songs, both old and new, supported on the piano by Mrs Moffatt. The programme included a clarinet solo with the residents joining in with singing and clapping.

All too soon it was time to return to school - everyone eagerly looking forward to the next visit.

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Lindfield students are the best ...



LINDFIELD STUDENTS

MOPPED up the honours in Rotary's annual "Youth Speaks" competition on 20th January, organised by the Rotary Club of Cuckfield and Lindfield and hosted by Warden Park School. Each speaker, supported by a Chair and a Vote-of-thanks, had six minutes to put their case on their chosen subject, after which they had to respond to a searching question by a member of the audience.

The team fielded by Oathall Community College in the senior section courted controversy head-on with their topic, "Am I abnormal? A look at how young people spend their leisure time." Fergus Harris, himself an army cadet, extolled the virtues of the wide range of outdoor pursuits and stimulating opportunities now available to young people, while airing his disappointment at the number of his peers, who waste time and compromise their studies with their appetite for computer games and videos. What really impressed his audience was that Fergus spoke from the heart, fluently and without a single note to help him.

In the intermediate section, Polly Heine tackled the complex philosophical issue "Are we born wicked?" with assurance well beyond her tender years. Citing research by leading authorities and offering Adolf Hitler's childhood as a discussion point, Polly concluded that, more than anything else, we are products of the society we are born into and which brings us up.

Chairman of Mid-Sussex District Council Jane Keel presented the prizes and awards and congratulated all of the teams taking part for their polished performances and the skilful way in which they tackled their topics.

Winners of the senior competition for 14 - 17 year-olds was the Oathall Community College team of Laura Blackholly, Fergus Harris and Amy Nelson. Great Walstead had two teams entered in the intermediate



competition for 11 - 13 year-olds and the adjudicators said how hard it had been for them to decide on the winner. After a long debate, they declared that the team of Alexander Hodgins, Polly Heine and Sebastian Gilling-Ulph was just ahead in what had turned out to be a photo-finish.

Lead-adjudicator David Mortimer said how impressed they had been by all of the teams' grasp of their subjects and the confident way in which they presented them. "We were incredibly fortunate to have such a depth of talent to judge - so the adjudicators had no easy options." Ann Aughwane had words of advice for those acting as Chair for the meetings and encouraged all students to take the opportunity of pursuing the enjoyable disciplines of debating and public speaking. Jenny Porter advised those proposing the Vote of Thanks to do just that - and not to discuss the speaker's topic in detail all over again.

For the Rotary Club, Geoff Dew, President-elect said, "Once again it shows what a wealth of talent there is in this area when it comes to public speaking. We are delighted we can help develop their confidence and skills in this way and wish them every success in the next rounds of the competition."

More details about this event and the many other opportunities for young people can be obtained from Bill Cormie, Chairman of Youth Activities, Cuckfield and Lindfield Rotary Club. Telephone 01444 482780. Email cormie-b@black-hill.freeserve.co.uk.



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Flying to the rescue in Lindfield

Emma Tingley, editor (Beth Barling & John Barling)

7TH OCTOBER 2010 was a day that many local residents and certainly most of the children at Lindfield Primary School will remember. It was just after school had finished on that day when the Kent Air Ambulance Service's helicopter, with its crew of pilot, paramedic and doctor, landed on Lindfield Common to take a lady cyclist with serious head injuries, sustained in a road accident by the pond, to a specialist neurological unit in a hospital in Essex. Within 25 minutes of take-off and already having received emergency treatment from paramedics and a doctor she was under the care of the hospital's expert trauma team. Thanks to all the professionals involved in her care she is now home and on the road to recovery.

'Saving lives - saving time', the strap line of our own county's Air Ambulance Service, which works hand in hand with the Kent team (its Service was established 22 years ago), certainly says it all for the many casualties attended by the Sussex Air Ambulance since its inception in 2007. From its base in Dunsfold where it can reach the furthest part of the county within 20 minutes, the leased MD902 Explorer helicopter has flown around 2000 missions, saving the lives of many caught up in road, horseriding, agricultural and other accidents.

Wherever the Explorer lands it can reach any receiving A&E hospital within 7 minutes and can reach the regional trauma centre in London within 38 minutes. The Service, which operates 12 hours each day, 365 days a year, is available to every person living or working in or travelling through the county.

Surprisingly, for a service which costs £1.7 million each year to run, no funding is received from government or National Lottery. It relies almost entirely on money raised from the people of Sussex. With £550 buying an hour's flying time a typical rescue mission will cost anywhere between £1500 and £2000. Such a service most of us take for granted and hope that we shall never need it.

The lady injured that day was my mum. I will never forget that day or the days that followed. Our journey from Lindfield to Queen's Hospital via the M25 took at least a couple of hours that day, but we were comforted by the knowledge that my mum had already arrived and was being cared for by the team of experts.

We are so grateful to all those who have supported our family over the past months, both within the medical profession and the community in which we live. Soon after the incident we started talking about how we could do something positive as a result of an event that for a short time shook us to the core. We decided to have a go at raising some funds for Sussex Air Ambulance.

So you are all invited to join us at a 'coffee and cakes' fundraising event on Saturday 2nd April at the United Reformed Church on the High Street (10am - 2pm). Please do pop in & join us in supporting this special cause. We'd love to see you there!

It is hoped that with your generosity the event will raise at least enough to underwrite one more life saving mission by the 'angels of the skies'.



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Helen's Husky Challenge

By Helen Bullimore

LAST YEAR I decided that it was high time I set myself a new challenge, one that would push me in areas that I had not explored previously, and while I was doing my challenge I thought it would be a great opportunity to raise some money for a good cause. My choice of charities was easy and it didn't take a moment to decide on supporting St Peter and St James Hospice as my main charity. I know it costs £5,000 a day to run of which 90% has to be found by fund raising. I also decided to donate 20% of what I raise to Lindfield Primary School where my 7yr old son attends.

From 25th March I will be sledding 250km across the Arctic between Norway and Sweden with a team of six huskies. The temperature will vary during the day from +4 to -15°C and with the addition of wind chill these temperatures will drop considerably!!! Of course during the night things will be even colder dropping to at least -25°C. I will be responsible for feeding and caring for my huskies, (and yes that includes cleaning up after them!!) putting up my own tent, cooking and feeding myself and melting snow daily for my vital supply of water. The days will be long and at times pretty arduous starting at 8:30am and will finish hopefully by 10:30pm, when I will be very glad of my specialist sleeping bag.



I have had to hire a great amount of specialist kit to help me cope with the cold conditions, I can only hope what I do have will keep me warm and dry!

All the money I raise will be going to my chosen charities as I am paying for the entire challenge myself.

So please please sponsor me to help these two great causes. My website address is <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/helenbullimore>. Thank you!

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The yes-man of Lindfield

by David Tingley

YOU KNOW HIM. Paul. Paul Burris? You know him, right? Brought up on a farm in Epsom, was held up at gun-point in a village store in Felbridge and headlined at the Kathmandu Himalayan Blues Festival in 2009! But more of that later.

Paul lives in the village now but that wasn't always the case. In fact his first memories of Lindfield were of the local pubs while visiting his friend 40 years ago. "I remember the 'original' Stand Up" Paul told me. "They actually had bags of potatoes and onions for sale by the bar! And, once when leaving The Snowdrop, back in the day, I drove the wrong Austin Cambridge home." While dropping his passenger off, they remarked: "Isn't your car blue?" Which prompted him to return the green model he was occupying!

Aside from becoming an accomplished musician in his spare time, Paul has also enjoyed a colourful employment history too. His father encouraged him into an engineering career early on, and he worked for British Caledonian Airways as an aircraft engineer for 13 years. A role he later walked out of, simply deciding that "he'd had enough." This opened the door to a range of

other opportunities. Paul has been a motorcycle courier, a film extra, fixed underground sewage pumping stations, sold timeshare properties for a gangster in Lanzarote, worked in an abattoir and owned and run a small village shop.

The latter was just another opportunity. Having bought the premises, Paul became the sub-postmaster in the nearby village of Felbridge while he was in his thirties, in what seemed like a "good idea." However, one morning Paul was on the phone to a supplier putting in his order of Tizer, when a masked man walked into the shop holding a gun. Fortunately he was able to calmly tell the person on the end of the phone what was happening, and left the phone connected while he went into the shop to confront the man. After a harrowing altercation, the gunman fled. Oddly the first on the scene was the Evening Argus newspaper reporter! When the Police did arrive their first question was "who do you pay your rates to?" Paul answered, and they promptly left again saying that he would have to wait for Sussex Police!

Paul is a man who likes to say yes. "There is no point being the master in anything" he states, "as there is always more to learn." Paul said yes when asked to remove a stuck locking pin in the tower crane, on top of a highrise building in the middle of an ice storm. He said yes to the Law Society when they asked him to play at their Annual Ball in Chancery Lane. He said yes to John Wellington, editor of the Mail-on-Sunday, when asked to try his hand at writing about his experiences. Plus he's been married twice!

Paul also said yes in reply to a very special invitation which came through his door out of the blue 15 years ago. One of the charities that he had done some fundraising for was Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA), and he was invited to a lunch with RDA President, HRH Princess Anne. "We got on really well. In fact one of her aides had to move her on after 15 minutes of us chatting. I'm sure we could have talked all day" Paul recalls.

But Paul is no stranger to famous names. He's been at parties with Courtney Love. One of his bands, Blues Business, has backed Rhythm & Blues pianist Mike Sanchez at a gig last year. He also played with legendary boogie woogie pianist Champion Jack Dupree at The 100 Club on Oxford Street.

It was two years ago when he had the opportunity to be the star. Blues Business were invited to be the headline act at the Kathmandu Himalayan Blues Festival. "At first I thought it was a con!





But I soon realised that it was definitely for real.” Paul and the band were treated like royalty with chauffeur-driven limos with full motorcycle outriders escorting them from Tribhuvan International Airport. The great Australian guitarist Jimi Hocking even opened as their support act!

It was around the same time, that Paul also took on another new challenge. He was asked to consider being on the board of governors for The Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust - a position which he soon took up. The Trust provides specialist mental health, substance misuse and learning disability services across East & West Sussex and Brighton & Hove. He was asked to be a part of it, following his own personal experiences having been diagnosed with Manic Depression (now referred to as Bipolar disorder) when he was 28 years old. Paul has now been discharged after years battling with the condition. The lowest point was when he was ‘sectioned’ and placed in an institution. He was in his forties then, and was considered a danger to himself.

“One of the big things I want people to know” Paul explains, “is that you can come back from that terrible place in your life.” He is keen to point out that things have changed a lot in mental health care since those dark days, but he is still keen to be involved in promoting the Trust and helping to reduce the stigma of mental illness. Part of his work now as a governor is to do just that. Paul will be involved in Lindfield Arts Festival in May not only as a musician, but also in his capacity with the Foundation Trust.

Going forward Paul continues to try new things. He is currently writing his first book and also hopes to record his debut solo album - after many years of promising himself he would. Paul’s motto appears to be one borrowed from the iconic sports brand: “Just do it.” And I guess he probably will!

myspace.com/paulburris



BOOK REVIEW

If you'd like to have a go at writing a book review, or are part of a reading group and would like to review a book together – do get in touch at editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk

The King's Speech

Mark Logue and Peter Conradi

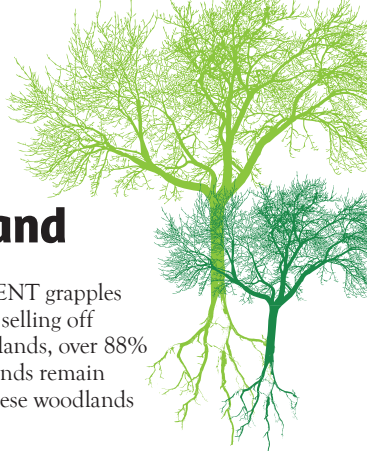
By Cavan Wood

THIS IS MOVING and inspiring book in its own right, not just because of its connection to the wonderful film of the same name. Based on the diaries of the speech therapist Lionel Logue who helped George the 6th deal with his stammer, they chart the relationship between them. It is an excellent history of the development of the Royal Family, facing the realities of war, the Abdication of Edward the 8th and the need to conquer the new media of radio.

As well as the two men involved, you are aware that this story of a famous man trying to triumph is the story of two women whose support made this possible – Logue's wife Myra and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.



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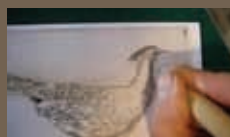
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Simply Good Food...

By Caroline Young

MANY AREAS OF the world, including our own country have, and are still experiencing, unprecedented weather conditions and this will most certainly have an effect on the supply and cost of many basic foodstuffs. We have got so used to being able to buy all foods all the year round at affordable prices and this may well change. Perhaps now is the time to really think about only buying food in season, supporting our own farming industry and taking a good look at our eating habits. One way to do this is to look at alternative ingredients and to become less reliant on convenience foods. Using the microwave to cook main dishes also reduces your cooking costs. Try my recipes to get you going.

Bean and Barley Hotpot Serves 4

Unlike pot barley, pearl barley does not need soaking as it has been steamed and polished to reduce the cooking time. Try it in recipes such as risotto in place of rice or, with beans (another excellent source of non-meat protein) in this hotpot.

Measure 175g pearl barley into a sieve and rinse under cold water. Tip into a medium casserole, add 750ml boiling water plus a vegetable stock cube and stir well. Cook on HIGH for about 20min, stirring once, or until the barley is almost tender (bite a grain). Cover and leave to stand.

Put 5 roughly chopped streaky bacon rashers into a frypan with a thinly sliced large onion and 2 crushed garlic cloves. Cook over low heat until the onion is soft and golden brown. Cut a small (300g) aubergine into small cubes (discard end and stem) and add to the onion with 2tbs clear honey, the finely grated rind and juice of 1 lemon, 400g can chopped tomatoes and a good pinch of dried thyme. Cover and cook for about 5 min.

Add to the barley, cover and cook on HIGH for about 10 min or until aubergine is soft and the hotpot is piping hot. Check seasoning and serve topped with grated cheese (optional).



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Winter Vegetable Bake

Serves 4

Good served, if wished, with grilled sausages or cold ham, this recipe can be divided amongst 4 individual dishes, covered and frozen. Thaw thoroughly and reheat on MED until piping hot before topping with cheese and grilling.

Peel and cube (or slice) 450g baking potatoes, 2 large carrots and 2 small parsnips. Put into a casserole with 6tbs water, cover and cook on HIGH for 8 min or until very soft.

Meanwhile, in a frypan, cook 2 thinly sliced leeks and 1 sliced onion in a generous knob of butter (use garlic butter if wished) until golden brown. Drain the vegetables, season and mash until smooth.

Stir into the leeks plus 75g grated mature Cheddar cheese and 3tbs hot milk. Spoon into a shallow baking dish, top with more grated cheese and slip under a hot grill until golden brown and piping hot.

Apple Compote with Spiced Bread

Per person: cook 1 large English dessert apple, peeled, cored and roughly chopped, with 2tbs soft brown sugar on HIGH (covered) until very soft. Meanwhile, lightly toast thick slices of brioche or fruit bread on both sides, sprinkle with caster sugar and cinnamon and grill until the sugar has melted. Top with the apples and serve immediately.



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Disputed Estates and Wills


By Stephen Gallico

WITH THE INCREASE in divorce, breakdown of relationships, second marriages and unmarried partnerships, many people can die leaving Wills which have seriously unintended results. For example, if someone remarries without making a new Will, the children of the first marriage may inherit absolutely nothing, while the children of the second husband or wife receive an unexpected windfall.

In other cases elderly people in poor health can be persuaded by unscrupulous carers to make Wills in their favour, cutting out children or grandchildren.

In cases like this the law can help in various ways:

- a relative who is unreasonably excluded can claim proper financial provision out of the Estate.
- a Will may be set aside if the person who signed it was too ill to understand it or to approve its terms, or was put under threat.
- mistakes in a Will (for example if a name has been omitted) can be amended by the Court.
- disputes about the meaning or effect of a Will can often be resolved by means of a Deed of Arrangement.
- an Estate where no Will is left (known as an intestacy) can be redistributed by means of a Deed of Arrangement.



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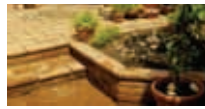
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Bell ringing

By Lucy Cooper

THE CHIMING CHURCH bells are a familiar sound in the village, but who are the ringers? I went to All Saints to meet them, and learn the ropes of bell ringing...

I met Richard Hutchings the 'Tower Bell Team' chairman outside All Saints Church on Tuesday evening. I was eager to meet the bell ringers and catch a glimpse of the bells. I followed him into the church, and up a steep ladder through a small hatch in the roof, and to my surprise I found myself in a small and cosy room. Not the roof!

There were 8 ropes hanging down to my head height that went up into small holes in the very, very high ceiling. But there was no sign of any bells. We had to climb another

ladder to reach the bell tower. I had no idea how high up I was and I didn't want to look down. But when I reached the top, climbed into the tower and looked around I could finally see the All Saints bells. They were hanging from the roof on different levels, some bigger than others, but all were enormous and

looked extremely heavy. I'm told the largest is the tenor bell that weighs 168 stone (well over a ton!). The oldest bell was fitted in 1599, and even the most recent are still over 100 years old. "Our oldest bell has lasted from one Queen Elizabeth through to another!" said Richard.

We could hear the members starting to arrive in the room below, so Richard called down for a bell to be rung so he

could demonstrate it swinging. It was fascinating seeing such a heavy frame swinging up and down, but it was so loud! Once I found my feet safely back on the floor of the bell ringing room I was introduced to the nine members of the Tower Bell team. "We have many different ages here," Richard said. "From Patsy and Mickey, our two young adults to those of retirement age. And we're a very social group." I asked Richard what makes a good bell ringer, and he replied: "Anybody can do it. Look at us, we're all so different. You don't have to be good at music to become a bell ringer, but it requires a good sense of rhythm and co-ordination." He told me that the key to getting really good at bell ringing is to listen. It's really important that everyone concentrates on the leader who calls the instructions for the next movements.

I noticed that on the walls were several wooden plaques commemorating special occasions when the bells have been rung, such as the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. On these occasions the bells are rung continuously for over 3 hours, and this is called a peal. Stamina, staying power and pulling power are essential for taking part!

I learnt that 'Grandsire' is one of the standard methods of ringing, usually rung on an odd number of bells. It's where the bells are rung to a series of arrangements, almost mathematically, rather than following a melody. Grandsire doubles uses 5 bells and Grandsire triples uses 7 bells. They're some of the oldest methods and date back to the 18th century.

So soon it was my turn to try and ring a bell. Richard handed me a rope and asked me to try and ring it. I tugged on the rope and couldn't make a noise at all! Disappointed and confused I turned back to Richard. He explained that because of the vast weight of the bell, I needed to pull down on the rope, and while still keeping a firm hold on it, try to chime it. I tugged the rope and



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If you can
ride a bike,
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ring a bell.

the bell began to ring. "It's stopping against the bell that makes the sound, not pulling the bell down," he told me. I was very aware and nervous that the bell on the end of the rope hanging in the roof above me was around 8 times my weight!

I then took a step back and left it to the professionals to demonstrate Grandsire doubles, Grandsire triples, and a round. A round almost makes the ringers look like they're doing a Mexican wave! The bells are rung in order of pitch, and play the melody that most people will have heard many times and may think of as the 'wedding chime.'

Young member Patsy who has been with the team for over a year said; "The great thing is that once you know how to bell ring, you can do it at any church or group. I've

been lucky enough to ring at Cape Town and Liverpool Cathedrals." Another member, Mickey, began bell-ringing for his Duke of Edinburgh award, and never left!

As I left the team they were heading down to the village club for a drink. The team practices every Tuesday evening (7.45pm-9pm) at All Saints on the High Street, and play for two Sunday services. They also get to play for weddings. They welcome anybody who is interested in trying out bell ringing as a hobby, or even youngsters working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award. If you feel like having a go, don't hesitate to contact Richard Hutchings on 01444 453466.

You never know you might just have the knack! As Richard says, "If you can ride a bike, you can ring a bell."

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Lindfield Arts Festival

the countdown continues...

PERFORMANCE, ARTS, CRAFT workshops, and cookery demonstrations are just some of the many activities taking place during the Lindfield Arts Festival. Welcoming all participants from across the local community, the festival has opened its doors for registration – please visit www.lindfieldartsfestival.com for more information. For those without internet access please contact Lynn Tulip on 07801 689801 / 01444 484747.

Newly signed up, and among the many exhibitors and performers taking part this year, will be Can Control, with their popular urban art workshops and demonstrations. Yellowtale Theatre Company, The Barefoot Players, and Crescendo are also taking part with performances throughout the village and we're delighted to welcome the Mr Men back again this year. In other festival news, Lindfield Parish Council and West Sussex County Council have generously agreed to grant funds towards the festival, joining Barratt Southern Counties, Kipper, the design and branding consultancy, Lindfield Motors, KPS Contractors, the Bent Arms and Rok Skool in the line up of sponsors. Chestnut Tree House, the only children's hospice in Sussex, will be the main overall beneficiary of profits raised during the weekend event.



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A tribute to Reginald Eric Holloway

By Gavin Keegan (adapted by Merwyn Huggett)

ERIC WAS BORN in 1921 in Northampton and, after leaving school at fourteen, became apprenticed to a local printer. But the aviation bug had already bitten him through his father's membership of the local flying club and, as soon as he could in 1940 aged eighteen, he enlisted in the RAF and commenced training as a wireless operator (WOP).

In his autobiography*, Eric details his war service which saw him flying initially on Wellington bombers and later transferring to Coastal Command flying on Short Sunderland flying boats. He saw service in many overseas countries including India and Burma.

Eric was finally demobbed in 1946 by which time he had risen to the commissioned rank of Flying Officer. He was later promoted to Flight Lieutenant and commanded a Volunteer Reserve Signals Group. It was about this time that Eric first obtained his UK amateur call-sign of G3HUA.

After being demobbed, Eric realised that he very much wanted to continue in aviation rather returning to printing. He was able to obtain a job with BOAC as a Radio Officer, initially on flying boats, but later on various airliners such as the Boeing Stratocruiser, (which was a civilianised Flying Fortress), the Handley Page Hermes and the York, which was a derivative of the Lancaster Bomber.

The flying life then was varied and very different from today's relative comfort and ease in modern jets and mechanical failures were fairly frequent. On one occasion when crossing the Atlantic in a Stratocruiser, one of the engines suffered a catastrophic failure and very nearly caused the aircraft to have to ditch in the ocean at night – a very unappealing prospect! Over time, BOAC decided that pilots should be trained to operate the radios and so Eric applied for and was re-trained as a Navigator and continued his flying career in this new capacity, one which he very much enjoyed.

By 1953 BOAC decided that Pilots should also be trained to act as navigators thus rendering navigators redundant. Eric completed his last flight with them on 16th September 1953. He then considered himself fortunate in gaining a job as a trainee air traffic controller with International AirRadio and after his training course was completed he found himself posted to Tripoli in Libya. He and his family remained there for one year but the conditions of his work in Tripoli were not ideal so in March 1965 Eric and family relocated back to Southampton. Here he was employed as an ATC Controller at the nearby airfield of Hamble which was

principally used as a training base for civilian pilots destined for BOAC.

Clearly, life as an ATC controller did not hold the appeal of the flying life for Eric and this coupled with difficulties in his first marriage inclined him to seek an appointment back in the air as a navigator. In October 1966, Eric joined Transglobe Airways as an experienced Atlantic Navigator and resumed the aircrew life and adventures that he so enjoyed. As an added bonus, it was during his Transglobe years that he met and ultimately married Sue, his wife of over forty years. As was often the way during the fifties and sixties, airlines popped up, and then failed, quite frequently and this was to be the fate of Transglobe in November 1968.

Once again, Eric started the search for another job and was offered employment by several airlines but decided in January 1969 to join Laker Airways as a Senior Training and Check Navigator. Here he had additional duties connected with bringing some Boeing 707 variants onto the Laker fleets. Sadly, the fates combined against Freddie Laker and on the 2nd February 1982, largely contributed to by very underhand behaviour by some of the world's leading airlines, Laker Airways closed down leaving Eric, once again unemployed. By this time, Eric had become quite well known and respected in the airline world, not only as an expert navigator but also as a well qualified performance and operations specialist. So, on reading his book, it comes as no surprise to read that he was in demand to assist "start-up" airlines and aircraft operators with writing the necessary manuals and obtaining the various route licences necessary to get their operation 'off the ground'.

Over time, Eric became involved with an American lawyer who wished to start up a new airline and as a result of this contact Eric eventually became one of the five founding directors of Virgin Atlantic Airways. The pace of Eric's life became ever more hectic due to the demands of his very important role within Virgin and the stress of this high powered job clearly seems to have contributed to the health problems that he experienced in later life.

Eric finally ended his aviation career when he retired from Virgin Atlantic on the 30th June 1989 having completed fifty years of service with the RAF and the various airlines for whom he worked. It was, by any standards, a very impressive career and his legacy still lives on – indeed on the day of Eric's funeral Sue received an e-mail from Sir Richard Branson, in which Richard said that 'Virgin would not be where they are today without Eric's considerable contribution'.



‘Virgin would not be where they are today without Eric’s considerable contribution’

Sir Richard Branson



Unfortunately, Eric’s health had deteriorated quite markedly over the past few years. He underwent a heart bypass in about 1992 and was later diagnosed with muscular dystrophy which is a progressive disease.

Eric maintained a continual interest in Amateur Radio since the immediate post war years and made many friends through radio all over the world. He took every opportunity to meet up with his amateur friends whenever he happened to be in their particular part of the world and his aviation career helped enormously in these visits. He was a member of the Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society (MSARS) for over forty years.

Sadly, Eric’s health worsened over the past few years but he remained stoical and good humoured and was a frequent participant on the various Mid Sussex Amateur Radio networks.

Eric died peacefully at about 0700hours on Thursday 20th January 2011, after a short period of deteriorating health and will be sadly missed.

* ‘The Stars are my Friends’ by Eric Holloway. ISBN 1-84394-170-8



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We got it!

Lindfield makes the top ten

OVER RECENT MONTHS we have been keeping readers up to date with Lindfield's participation in BT's Race to Infinity competition to secure super-fast broadband for the village. The competition initially set out to find five communities where demand for super-fast broadband was highest. But the exceptionally high levels of voting resulted in BT first increasing the winning list to six and now to ten communities. With Lindfield coming in at number ten, BT have confirmed the village as one of the winning communities. The new fibre optic network will be upgraded by early 2012 at the latest. BT Infinity fibre optic broadband is capable of offering download speeds of up to 40Mbps and upload speeds of up to 10Mbps, the faster speeds reducing the amount of time to upload and download files and improving the online experience of users whether they are interested in social networking, gaming or streaming video.

Peter Cowen, BT's South East regional partnership director said: "This is fantastic news for the Lindfield community and the prize is thoroughly deserved. The



Race to Infinity received a tremendous response from the local people in all these communities. We decided to extend the list of winners to the 'top ten' because of the exceptional passion and commitment shown by local campaigners and residents."

Nicholas Soames, MP for Mid Sussex, said: "This is fantastic news for the village of Lindfield. Faster broadband will really help this community and their campaign has really demonstrated what can be achieved when people pull together for a common goal."

So a big thank you and well done to Alan Gomme, our campaign organiser for the village, and all those who helped him to encourage others to vote.

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By Jacqui Smith, Interior Designer

I AM A FABRIC junkie. I love to see a new design, cool over the spectrum of colourways and get excited about all the possible schemes I could use it in. I get a sad sort of pleasure from looking at our ever increasing library of fabric books. Our latest investment in the world of pattern books has prompted grand ideas for our dining room window. It's a bay so instantly the space demands more consideration and the pros and cons of the various bay dressing options need thinking through. A short term solution would not be congruent with what we preach and we have taken a considered approach.

Rushing at any choice when it comes to investing in your home can prove to be expensive and when metres of fabric and making costs are in question, you want to ensure that you make the correct choice. When choosing curtains here are some things to consider:

Fabric choice - style. There is a bewildering selection of fabrics available which can make the whole decision process incredibly challenging. Start by considering the look you want to create – the best way to achieve this is by making a mood board detailing all aspects of the interior from existing pieces to fresh ideas and thoughts you have for redecoration. Seeing it all together will provide you with a clear picture of how the finished room might look and enable you to make a more informed choice for the style of your curtains.

Fabric choice – type. The type of fabric you choose in terms of thickness and weight will correspond to the look and feel of the room but also depend on the primary function of the window dressing. If draught exclusion is paramount then your curtains should be interlined, an internal lining that adds bulk and insulation to your curtain. Bedroom curtains might want to be black-out lined.

Pole, track or pelmet? Choosing the correct hanging mechanism is key. It needs to be correct for the weight of the curtains and appropriate for the room, its style and finish working in with the rest of your scheme.

Which heading? My default heading choice is double pinch pleats – classic and smart. The more contemporary eyelet heading allows the curtain to be threaded directly on to the pole and is suited not only to a modern interior but where stack back (the space your curtains take up when open) is limited.

Fabric width and pattern repeat. Most curtain fabrics are 137cm wide. Certain voiles are available as double width so perfect for seamless curtains. When using a fabric with a pattern, consider the repeat, ie the depth of the full pattern and how that will translate into the finished curtain. It's worth thinking about how the pattern will appear made up as a curtain, open and closed.

Now, which fabric for our dining room...?



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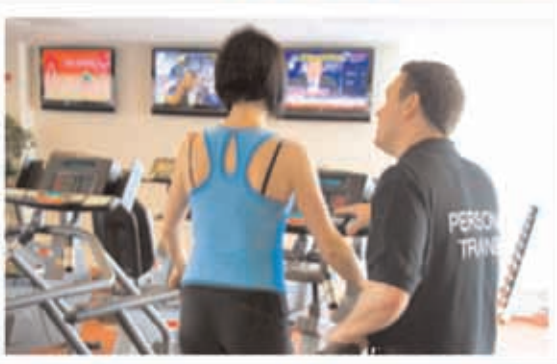
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Winter Management Plan

After last winter's adverse weather conditions, West Sussex County Council set up a series of meetings with interested parties to formulate a strategy and structure for a Winter Management Plan. Within the structure of that plan, and like its neighboring parishes, Lindfield Rural Parish Council has set up its own Local Winter Management Plan, which was agreed by the Council at its meeting on 17th January 2011.

The Local Winter Management Plan clarifies what the community can expect from the principal authorities and what the Parish Council has put in place so that we can be better prepared to help ourselves. The Winter Management Plan is consistent with, and forms part of, Mid Sussex District Council's Emergency Plan. The plan will be reviewed annually.

West Sussex County Council, as Highway Authority, assumes overall responsibility on snow and ice clearance on the public highway. Their priorities are concentrated on keeping the main roads and routes to essential services open throughout the County.

Role of the Parish Council

Parish Councils do not have a statutory duty to deal with snow and ice (except the area around their own property) and we do not have the resources to make a commitment to provide a snow clearing service. What we hope to do therefore is to encourage and facilitate self help as far as possible and to liaise with other authorities and agencies. To achieve this we have taken [or will take] the following action:

- Establish and maintain links with key personnel of principle authorities
- Prepare and publish a Local Winter Management Plan, to include contact details, location of salt bins and a statement of how salt supplies will be managed
- Inform WSCC of any additional roads that, on the basis of local knowledge, it is considered should be on the treatment route
- Purchase salt bins for agreed locations and arrange to have them filled by WSCC
- Provide locks for salt bins, labelled with keyholders' details and snow clearing advice
- Publish keyholders' contact details in the Plan
- Nominate a Co-ordinator
- Receive the Daily Decision from WSCC and liaise with key personnel and local contacts regarding any action to be taken

- Request additional salt in Hippo bags from WSCC for selected locations
- Purchase equipment as appropriate
- Liaise with WSCC for replenishment of salt supplies [subject to availability]
- Liaise with MSDC for their contractors to treat car park
- Inform WSCC of any severely affected key roads requiring treatment
- Review the Winter Management Plan annually or following severe weather events and consider further action

Salt Bins & Hippo Bags

Hippo bags were distributed to strategic locations throughout the parish during the inclement weather in late autumn. Subsequently, salt bins have been installed in eight locations within the parish. The salt bins are positioned as follows and sited on the basis of our previous experience with the locations of the hippo bags.

Lindfield:

The Platt near the junction with The Hollow
The Hollow junction with The Rise
Corner of Coomers Lane and Westland Road
Junction of Croxton Lane and William Allen Lane

Scaynes Hill:

Corner of Orchard Close and A272
Corner of Ham Lane and A272
Corner of Church Road and A272
Corner of Vicarage Lane and Church Road

The salt for public bins is provided by WSCC on the understanding that it is kept for use on the public pavements, not on private property. WSCC will not refill the bins if they believe the contents are being misappropriated. Bins located in private roads will not be filled by WSCC and residents may wish to make their own arrangements, perhaps through their residents' associations.

For domestic use, dishwasher or table salt can be used to melt snow and ice. Sand, grit or ash can be used but it will not melt snow or ice, it will simply provide more grip. Over-salting is damaging to the environment and a waste of a limited resource. The recommended spread rate for hand salting is approximately 20 grams of salt / grit per metre square (a tablespoonful).

The full plan can be viewed on the Parish Council's website or a copy can be obtained from the Parish Council office.

Free advisory visits for landowners in West Sussex, covering the High Weald AONB

Participate in a free visit from the High Weald AONB. This programme has been running for over a year and since then Matt has visited over 100 landowners and presented at many Parish AGMs, to give them a further understanding of their local landscape history.

The visit is provided by the High Weald Joint Advisory Committee with grant-aid from the High Weald Sustainable Development Fund.

The visit will give you the chance to:

- explore maps showing the historical development of your property
- learn more about its special landscape, archaeology & wildlife features
- understand its contribution to the beauty of the High Weald
- find out more about specialists that can assist you with land management: undertaking surveys, producing management plans, sourcing grants and finding contractors.

Following the visit you will be offered free digital images of the historical maps for your property and contact details of specialists.

A Medieval Landscape

At the heart of South East England, the High Weald AONB covers 1461 square kilometres (564 square miles) across parts of Surrey, West Sussex, East Sussex and Kent.

The High Weald's natural beauty stems from its character, which was largely established by the 14th century and has survived to the present day. As a result, the High Weald is considered to be one of the best surviving, intact medieval landscapes in Northern Europe.

The five key components of its character are:

- rolling hills and steep-sided gill streams, studded by sandstone outcrops
- small, irregular-shaped fields and open heaths
- abundant, interconnected ancient woods
- scattered farmsteads and hamlets
- narrow, sunken lanes arising from pannage

Contact Unit Cultural Landscape Advisor, Matt Pitts.

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T: 01580 879500 www.highweald.org

Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 11th April 2011 at the Millennium Village Centre, Scaynes Hill at 20.00hr. This meeting will afford residents the opportunity to meet the Councillors who will report on this year's business. There will be guest speakers and an opportunity for residents to raise any questions. A glass of wine will be offered from 19.45hr and all residents are welcome.

Scaynes Hill Village Plan

We are delighted to announce that the Scaynes Hill Village Plan has been published which, through

consultation with the whole village, best identifies what changes need to occur to improve life in the village now and for the future. Copies have been delivered throughout the village, and additional ones can be obtained by calling the Parish office on 831499 or emailing committee@scayneshillplan.org. However, the plan is only the start. To bring it to life we are seeking volunteers to be part of the ongoing Village Plan Action Group. They will need to work closely with the Parish Council, West Sussex County Council Highways, Mid Sussex District Council, the Police and other partners to ensure the right actions are taken to fulfil the plan. If you would like to volunteer, then please do contact us as above.

Your Parish Councillors:

John Dumbleton (Chair) Tel: 482633

Sheila Hobbs (Vice Chair) Tel: 483396

Brian Bunt Tel: 831636

Chris Hersey Tel: 482270

Margaret Hersey Tel: 482270

Ray Jones (Newsletter Editor) Tel: 453868

Steve Minter Tel: 831786

Christopher Snowling Tel: 482172

Steve Windsor Tel: 484796

Parish Clerk: Karin Milne Tel: 831499

Deputy Clerk: Tricia Longley Tel: 831499

Assistant: Irene Nicholas Tel: 831499

Lindfield Rural Parish Council Office is open to the Public on Tuesdays 12.30 to 13.30 and Thursdays 10.00 to 11.00

What's on at King Edward Hall

- 1st Mid Sussex Wine Society
8pm A wine tasting on 'Wines for the Summer Months' presented by Andrew Harris of Harveys Wine Shop, Lewes. (Meeting and Membership information from Angela Seward 484447).
- 3rd Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)
- 6th Ruwach Christian Church – Morning and Evening Services (Ruth Hollis 459025)
- 9th Lindfield Horticultural Society – Evening with guest speaker (Mrs Alison Elliott 483039)
- 10th Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)
- 12th Village-Vintage Fair (info@village-vintage.co.uk)
- 13th Ruwach Christian Church – Morning and Evening Services (Ruth Hollis 459025)
- 14th King Edward Hall – Annual General Meeting (Brian Newcombe 482425)
- 15th Lindfield Preservation Society
2.30pm. Simon Langton's presentation on 'Fun with Antiques'. (Meeting and Membership information from John Chapman 484470).
- 17th Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)
- 17th King Edward Hall Film Show Evening (Gillian Alderman 483181)
- 18th Lindfield Crafts & Market (Beverley Smith 440274)
- 18th Ruwach Christian Church – Evening Youth Service (Ruth Hollis 459025)
- 19th Haywards Heath Lions Club – Jumble Sale (Amanda Dembrey 01273 890777)
- 20th Ruwach Christian Church – Morning and Evening Services (Ruth Hollis 459025)
- 23rd An evening of Salsa Dancing (Julia Cooper 417781)
- 24th Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)
- 27th Ruwach Christian Church – Morning and Evening Services (Ruth Hollis 459025)
- 31st Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)

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 Bookings Secretary for further information on telephone number 01444 483266 or by e-mail on bookings@kingedwardhall.org.uk

What's on elsewhere in/around Lindfield

9th March, 12.15pm

Tiger Arts presents Valtie Nunn (Violin)

Concert takes place in All Saints Church and is preceded by light lunches, served from 12.15pm

Tiger Church Centre Lounge

All Saints Church, Lindfield

26th March, 2.30pm

Young Musicians' Showcase

Haywards Heath Music Society

St Wilfrid's Church, Haywards Heath

28th March – 9th April

Art Exhibition and sale of paintings

Haywards Heath U.3.A Pastels & Acrylics Group

Haywards Heath Library

HAYWARDS HEATH
LIONS CLUB



JUMBLE SALE

KING EDWARD HALL
LINDFIELD

SATURDAY
19th March
12.00 (Midday)

Donations of jumble will be
much appreciated either
on the day from 9.00 a.m. or for collection
call: 01273 890777 or
email: jumble@haywardsheathlionsclub.org.uk

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www.blueskypfc.co.uk

Confident Woman11 .0800 1164 773
www.confidentwomanuk.com

Jackie Scanlon (Counsellor)207734 414126
www.counsellinginsussex.co.uk

Jakki Todd (Beautician).....18 ...01444 487474
www.jakki.net

Lindfield Chiropactic Centre401444 484582
www.lindfieldchiro.co.uk

Tony Dawson (Chiropractor)26 ..01444 440857

Churches

Lindfield United Reformed Church...23 ..01444 487607
www.lindfieldurc.org.uk

Services

AJ Mullen (Builder).....16 ...01444 414657

Barratt HomesB... 01444 487 712
www.barratthomes.co.uk

Belle Casa (Cleaning Services)19 .0871 951 2345
www.bellecasa.co.uk

Dean Ferguson (Electrician).....22 ..01825 723661
www.expectationlandscapes.co.uk

Expectation Landscapes15 ..01444 413966
www.expectationlandscapes.co.uk

Highley Manor Hotel201444 811 711
www.highleymanor.co.uk

Hilary May (Garden Design).....22 ...01444 414674

Holdham & Sons (Decorating)22 ..01444 235557

HomeSmiths (Interior Design)10 ..01444 440880
www.homesmiths.co.uk

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www.impactpainting.co.uk

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www.kps.uk.com

Lindfield Motors.....13 ..01444 482988
www.lindfield-motors.co.uk

Lucy Locksmith.....307780 840462

Martin Western (Carpenter/Joiner) ...25 ..01444 454306

Masters and Sons.....22 ..01444 482107

Mid Sussex Decorators301273 841964

N. Whittaker (Landscaping/Paving) ...18 ..01444 450300
www.nwhittakerpaving.co.uk

Norsat (TV).....701444 318089
www.norsat.co.uk

Property Matters (Maintenance).....11 ..07768 900331

Stephen Gallico Solicitors14 ...01444 411333
www.sgallico.co.uk

Tom Seymour (IT Support).....18 ..07843 116783
www.support.debomb.co.uk

Out & About

The Snowdrop Inn24 ..01444 440664
www.snowdropinn.com

Education/Childcare

Great Walstead School2501444 483528
www.greatwalstead.co.uk

Magikats (Maths/English Tuition).....12 ...01273 473757
www.magikats.co.uk

Rok Skool19 ..01444 484979
www.rokskool.co.uk

Tavistock & Summerhill School21...01444 450256

The Acorns Nursery School501444 455081
www.theacornsnurseryschool.com

Retail

Jamie at Home1901444 443124

 **Haywards Heath Music Society**
69th Season 2010-2011

NEXT CONCERT

26th Mar 2011 YOUNG MUSICIANS' SHOWCASE

This is an opportunity to listen to some of the best young musical talent in the district. The Young Musicians' Showcase was established to give musicians under the age of 18 the opportunity of a public platform for their performances. The concert will include solos, duets and ensembles, and performers have auditioned to ensure a high standard. Come along and support the stars of tomorrow!



The concert is in St Wilfrid's Church at 2.30 pm.
Tickets £3 adults, £1.50 children

9th Apr 2011 **JAYSON GILLHAM (piano)**
7th May 2011 **CONCERT ROYAL (ensemble)**

If you enjoy concerts of live music, please consider becoming a member. Our discount makes membership really worthwhile, and joining will help give the Society a firm financial basis.

For further information, telephone 01444-456227, or visit:
www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk

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