

Lindfield *Life*

Inc. Scaynes Hill & Walstead

Local village talk,
by the village

February 2014 Issue #59

Free



Winter warmers in the kitchen

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The Hobbit film review

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Meet twins' mother and vicar

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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, editor

Welcome to this month's edition of the Lindfield Life. We are delighted to be able to bring you another batch of news and information from the village.

While 2014 is still relatively fresh we have a couple of 'new' things for Lindfield. The first is the relaunch of the popular restaurant **Limes Bistro** on the High Street. And, while it's not a relaunch, **The White Horse** down the road has a change of management and new ideas for the pub. See **page 12 and 8** respectively.

Elsewhere, in other business news, the owners of the **Scaynes Hill BP garage** are giving us all the opportunity to be generous while they give away car washes and raise money for charity this month. **Page 5** has all the details.

How are you doing on those books you got for Christmas? If you've finished them already, check out **Cavan's regular literary expose** on **page 26**. We also welcome a new contributor, **Joe Goodchild**, who sheds light on the latest film in the **Hobbit trilogy** on **page 27**.

In this month's Village People feature, Claire Cooper catches up with the only vicar in the Chichester Diocese to have taken maternity leave, **Rev Lisa Bartlett**. The Scaynes Hill vicar, and new mother of twins last year, shares a bit of personal and parish life on **page 18**.

Before I sign off, can I make a plea? In bustling communities like Lindfield and Scaynes Hill there is loads going on and tons of fascinating residents. At Lindfield Life we love hearing about it all so that we can share it. We welcome **contributions** (or just ideas) from all in the village, so do please email us at **editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk**. It could be a cover photo, notification of a forthcoming event or a report on something that's already taken place. Book reviews by children are always nice to include too.

Do keep in touch – we'd rather have information twice than not at all.

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We'd love to hear from groups, organisations and individuals about what's happening locally. Include a photo if you can. Email your stories to editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk

Arts Festival Quiz

Fancy testing your brain power against other villagers?

Then get along to the White Horse pub for a quiz night on 25th February. The event, which kicks off at 8pm, is being held to raise money for the Lindfield Arts Festival and entry costs £3 per person. Those not successful in the quiz could still get lucky in the raffle and pick up one of the fabulous prizes donated by local businesses. Just turn up on the evening with all the brain power you have!

The festival, which runs from 12th-14th of September this year, is shaping up to be an exciting one with the local classical group Enzemble Reza confirmed to dazzle Lindfield with an inspiring concert on the Sunday afternoon.

There is going to be a six hour Zumbathon taking place in March and details will be announced in the next issue of Lindfield Life... so keep your eyes peeled!

If you'd like to sign up to be a LAFF (Lindfield Arts Festival Friend) it's only £20 and you'll get some wonderful festival benefits by becoming one.

For more information please visit the website www.lindfieldartsfestival.com



225 years and counting

The weather vane at All Saints Church has just been restored, regilded and returned back to the top of the village. It has moved with the wind since 1788 and has to be cared for at least every fifty years or so. The inset photo here shows Rev Sidney Swann inspecting the weathercock in 1935, although it was also regilded back in 1990.

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Charity car wash in Scaynes Hill – 13th Feb

The garage and SPAR shop in Scaynes Hill is open for some special business this month. On Thursday 13th February they will be removing the price tag from the car wash and making it available in exchange for any donation to Cancer Research UK.

The owners, brothers Jay & Gunvant Patel, have been running the event annually since 2009 when they sent £345 to the charity. Last year the machine washed more than 120 cars and raised over £1,500. "Every donation

really does make a difference," Jay said. "Some people pay a lot and others pay a little but together we raise a large sum of money to make someone else's life better."

The garage opens at 6am and the offer continues throughout the whole day until 11pm when they close. Customers can also take part in the raffle for a Hamper worth £50 when they buy tickets for just £1. Jay and Gunvant are also giving away free copies of The Mid Sussex Times during the day too.



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Share your old Village Day pics



The King Edward Hall (KEH) are asking residents to send them your photos and stories from previous Lindfield Village Day's as they begin to put together this year's event Programme, which will go on sale in May.

Village Day is organised by a team of individuals on behalf of KEH, which is run as a charitable trust. The annual event provides a significant amount of the Hall's income. Nikki Smith, part of the team, suggested the idea to include some photos in this year's Village Day Programme. "There are lots of people, like me, who have lived round here since they were children. With that comes memories of past Village Day's from a very different perspective. It will be great to look back and recognise a few faces too!"

If you have photos you could share please email them to programme@kingedwardhall.org.uk – along with any stories that may go with them.

Lindfield Village Day takes place this year on Saturday 31st May and promises a carnival atmosphere in the Brazil-inspired themed procession down the High Street.

ABOVE: Tractor rides on the Common from 1980s
BELOW: 'Millennium Bugs' from the Lindfield School float in 2000



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New management at The White Horse

Changes are taking place yet again at The White Horse, opposite the pond, with new management in place from last month.

Mohammad Yeasin has taken over the running of the pub which has had a series of attempts to kick-start its business in recent years. "We are trying to get back to a traditional country pub feel," he explains. There is pool, darts, chess and cribbage available for customers to play. Plus, from this month, there will be karaoke in the bar every Sunday night from 8pm.

"We want to create great entertainment for the village and will be bringing live bands, Arabian belly dance nights and we even have some Bollywood dancers lined up."

The live music starts with a popular local band White Light who play at the pub on Saturday 1st of February and there will also be more live music on Valentine's Day. The White Horse is open between 12–11pm with food served from 12–2pm and 5.30–9pm.



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Lindfield in The Great War

To commemorate the centenary of the start of the Great War, the Lindfield History Project Group will be holding an exhibition in the King Edward Hall on the 9th-10th of August. The exhibition will describe life in the village during the war years and also focus on the men and women who served their country. Sadly, over 60 men from Lindfield lost their life in the war.

Much information is being drawn from local newspapers but to assist research the Group would welcome the opportunity to view any post cards, letters, documents, photographs, medals, badges or other memorabilia residents may have regarding the Great War, especially anything relating to Lindfield. Photographs of Lindfield men who served or details of their wartime experiences would be particularly helpful.

Please contact Richard Bryant on 01444 482136 if you have any items or information you are willing to share.

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Jenny first established her practice in Brisbane, Australia in 1988, after graduating from Sydney University.

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Jenny has done postgraduate studies in paediatrics and acupuncture and is passionate about chiropractic and the help it can give to people of all ages.

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Limes relaunch

Following a two and a half week closure immediately after Christmas Limes Bistro has opened its doors with a whole new look.

Mike and Pat Morris took over the restaurant last year and this relaunch represents the pair making their own mark on the popular village eatery.

They opened with a launch event in January which revealed the new decor and showcased their menu. Around 30 invited guests enjoyed trying dishes like chicory, crispy shallots and toasted coconut; the oriental flavours of seabass with chilli, ginger and spring onion and, for dessert, a deliciously smooth orange and thyme sorbet.



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Friends of the Scrase Valley need help!

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The reserve is owned by Mid Sussex District Council and managed with the help of a Steering Committee composed of Councillors, Council staff and local residents. For many years a Friends Group (Friends of the Scrase Valley) has reported to the Steering Committee and undertaken conservation work in the reserve.

The Friends Group has two sections, one to look after the orchard and another to work in the main part of the reserve. The Friends now urgently need new leadership, particularly for the second group. John Pilkington from the Friends said: "I would be very happy to meet with anybody who could help in this work. I can offer advice on conservation matters if required but feel strongly that it is time to hand over the organisation to younger members!"

The Friends Group is a properly constituted organisation affiliated to the Trust for Conservation Volunteers (TCV, formerly BTCV) and over the years



has been supported financially by Mid Sussex District Council, Lindfield Parish Council and Haywards Heath District Council. "We have had a lot of good fellowship and fun working on tasks such as mowing the wetter parts of the meadows, coppicing hazel, stream clearing and rubbish removal," added John. "I would dearly love to see a strong body of volunteers built up again under dynamic leadership, so please do let me know if you are interested."

For more information contact John Pilkington (j.b.pilkington@gmail.com; 01444 482166).



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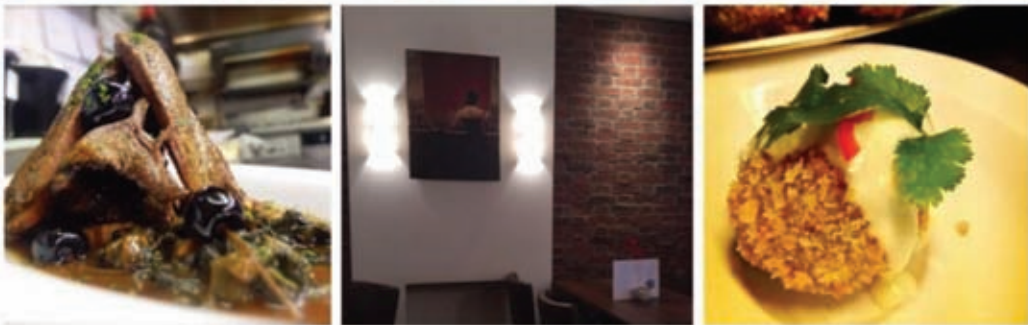


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Photo: Steve Mallaby

We've got it covered

HOME FRONT

By Jacqui Smith, interior designer

Wall coverings, be they conventional wallpaper or digital murals, are becoming more and more popular. Every season I see new and exciting materials emerge; bolder patterns and the possibilities within the digital wall art arena continue to grow. Wallpaper is divisive; the mere mention of the word has some people running for the hills with recollections of 70s' decorating horrors or tired rental properties from student days but it is an important and versatile decorating tool. The sheer range of wall coverings available today can make the gear change into using wallpaper even more daunting, so the following advice might help.

Choose your wall covering to suit the style of your room and also the functionality of it. More formal spaces can take a damask or a stripe, flock papers look amazing in dining room, whereas a more contemporary space calls for something textured, geometric or metallic. You then need to think about how you plan to use it in the room, be it a feature wall or all four walls. Covering all four walls is a classic treatment. Don't be put off by large scale designs; if they are simple they will not overwhelm a room. Feature walls are a great way of adding drama and focus to a room and can be used to highlight an area of a room such as a headboard wall. They can also be used to define or zone a space; for instance papering the wall behind the dining table in an open plan kitchen diner. When papering a feature wall with a pattern, your remaining three walls should be painted in a colour that either matches the base colour of the paper or works tonally with one of the shades within it. When using an archive paper I would suggest looking at the heritage paint collections.

Patterned papers can of course be mixed with patterned fabrics but stick to a limited colour palette.

You can choose another print from the same collection. Personally I find this route a little matchy matchy and prefer more contrast but that is not to say that it's wrong of course. It's all down to personal taste. I adore textured wallpapers. They provide a wall with some dimension and hide all manner of imperfections. One of my favourite suppliers of textured papers is French company Elitis. The colours are great and quality excellent – decorators love them!

Archive wallpapers are featuring in many of the new collections; William Morris, Cole and Son, Sanderson and GP & J Baker to name but a few. These are classic designs and in no way old-fashioned. Archive papers can be used in any setting but the main thing to consider is the scale of the pattern in relation to your home. The heavy patterns from the Victorian period will work best in a room with a high ceiling. Conversely, a delicate floral 1930s design is better suited to spaces with lower ceilings. Archive wallpapers can look stunning when used as a backdrop to modern furniture. The rule for mixing old with new is to find a common design element, such as material or shape. For instance, old and new furniture can work if the timber is the same and, similarly, curvy modern furniture will sit very happily in front of patterned wallpaper that echoes these curves.

For a real statement you might consider a bespoke digital wall mural. Digitally printed on a variety of papers from textured to plain and also now available as a seamless product, this product is widely used in commercial spaces and now you will start to see it more in private homes. The best piece of advice I can give you when it comes to wall coverings though is, whatever type you decide upon, have a professional such as Nigel from Izzard Wall Coverings to hang it for you!

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Lisa Barnett

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By Claire Cooper

When Lisa Barnett arrived at St Augustine's Church in Scaynes Hill two and a half years ago, she immediately broke tradition by becoming the parish's first female vicar.

But earlier this year Lisa went on to create a further piece of history by becoming the first vicar in the diocese to take maternity leave, after giving birth to twin daughters.

Now back at work, Lisa is enjoying the challenge of juggling her part-time role as vicar of St Augustine's Church with being mum to Cara and Amy, who have just celebrated their first birthday.

"Returning to work was daunting but wonderful at the same time," said Lisa. "I've had fantastic support from the community in Scaynes Hill. Some church congregations might not be too pleased about their vicar taking maternity leave but everyone here was really delighted for us. When the babies were born parishioners drew up a rota and brought us meals every day.

"My first Sunday service after returning to work was very special, with me leading from the front and having my husband and daughters at the back of the church."

Sussex born and bred, Lisa grew up in Worthing and became a Christian when she was 15 years old. "I had a lot of friends who were Christians and spent a lot of time in discussions with them, asking difficult questions and enjoying our debates," she recalled. "Gradually I found myself talking to God and saying: 'I still have a lot of questions but I believe you're there.'"

On leaving school Lisa studied to become a primary school teacher, spending her postgraduate year teaching in Russia before returning to England to teach at a school in Worthing.

"All the time I was training and teaching, ordination

was always at the back of my mind," said Lisa.

"But young female clergy were rare, vicars were predominantly male and older and I didn't think it was for me," she said. "It took God quite a while to convince me that it was what he was calling me to do!"

When Lisa applied, was accepted and enrolled on a three year course at Ridley Hall in Cambridge, it was clear that the tide was beginning to change as she was among several younger women training to become priests.

"It was an enormous privilege to train at Cambridge and our course had around 60% male and 40% female students," said Lisa. "The church is doing a lot to encourage people to consider getting ordained younger but to be young and female is still unusual in this area. However, I quite enjoy being not what people expect!"

Lisa was ordained at Chichester Cathedral and her curacy was at Patcham in Brighton. "It was a really good parish to learn the ropes of ministry. There was a busy schedule of services, as well as plenty of weddings, baptisms and funerals, and I had the opportunity to learn from a lovely training vicar, Canon Neil Milmine, who has since retired."

During her time in Patcham, Lisa met and married her husband Stephen. "When we first met at a badminton club, he had no idea I was a vicar," said Lisa. "It wasn't until Easter, when he asked a friend why I was so busy that she told him!"

After four years in Patcham, Lisa's curacy came to an end. "Many people believe vicars have to go where they are sent but we do get a choice!" said Lisa. "I got in touch with the Bishop and explained the kind of parish that I was hoping for. One consideration was that it was close to the London to Brighton train line, because of my husband's work."

"When I heard about the Scaynes Hill job it was perfect. It's a small parish, and the job is part-time which was ideal because we wanted to start a family."

Lisa arrived in the village in June 2011 and was immediately welcomed into the parish. "People here are very open," said Lisa. "The previous vicar was part-time and also spent a lot of time in Africa and services have often been taken by women clergy in the past, so my arrival wasn't a big surprise."

But for visitors to Scaynes Hill the presence of a young female vicar can still be a conversation stopper. "People often phone and ask to speak to the vicar, and when I say 'that's me' there's sometimes an awkward silence," says Lisa. "I do find myself wondering how long it will be before people aren't surprised to find a woman vicar and when gender is no longer an issue."

And, of course, there are the inevitable comparisons with Dawn French's eccentric and lovable vicar Geraldine Grainger in the BBC sitcom *The Vicar of Dibley*. "Well I love chocolate and confess to having a chocolate cupboard but the similarities end there and I'm lucky that Scaynes Hill is nothing like Dibley!" said Lisa, who is a fan of the programme. "It's really important that the church can laugh at itself," she says.

"One of the lovely things about my job is the variety. I get to be with people through the highs and the lows of life. I try to be involved in the community, being around people and aware of what's going on."

There's a lot of administration involved with running the church and preparing for the Sunday services. "As a foundation governor I also spend a lot of time in the village school which, as a former primary school teacher, is always a treat for me," she says.

One of the highlights of Lisa's week is rehearsing with the community choir she set up shortly after arriving in the village. "I love music and had previously run gospel choirs, so I was really keen to start something here in the village," she said. "The lovely thing about the Scaynes Hill Community Choir is that it includes all age groups, from children to the older members of the parish. I really enjoy taking off the vicar hat and putting on my music hat for a while."

The opening of the church annexe in June 2012 was a very significant moment for the church community in Scaynes Hill and was the completion of an ambitious project started by Lisa's predecessor. "The building work began around three months after I arrived, when we still had a further £90,000 to raise towards our half million pound target," said Lisa. "It was a brave move but it gave more focus to the fund-raising and we are now very close to reaching our target. People have been amazingly generous, and given a lot of time and energy to the fundraising effort."

The annexe has already added a new dimension to parish life. "It's opened the church to the community in a really lovely way, from the Anchor Coffee Shop which opens every Tuesday morning to the two youth groups which meet on a Friday night.

"There are moments when I'm in the annexe and I feel so privileged to be the vicar of such a wonderful building and space."



Another proud moment was the baptism of her daughters. "I could have baptised my daughters myself but decided against it," said Lisa. "I wanted us just to be parents on the day, so we were delighted when the Revd Jean Sedgley agreed to step in and baptise the girls for us. We chose the names Amy and Cara as they both mean beloved."

The baptism was also a proud moment for members of the congregation who had supported Lisa throughout her pregnancy.

Lisa recalled how severe morning sickness meant she had to reveal her pregnancy sooner than planned. "When I announced it to the congregation, everyone clapped – it was wonderful!"

But the following week there was a further surprise for the congregation at St Augustine's. "I went for my scan and discovered I was expecting twins. It was amazing to be getting two for one! The congregation were delighted for us, even though they must have wondered if they would ever see their vicar again once the babies were born!"



Lisa carried on working until four weeks before the twins were born. "I made it through Christmas – thanks to the support and help of parishioners, who were incredibly loving. I was enormous and had a special chair in the pulpit which was carried back and forth to the altar for me."

The arrival of the twins has certainly added a new dimension to life at the vicarage and the juggling is sometimes challenging. "But I'm quite good at organising my diary and I'm extremely lucky to have flexible childcare thanks to the grandparents and a nanny one day a week."

"Having twins means you get sympathy left, right and centre! Complete strangers come up and are full of admiration because of the twins and that can be lovely when I'm feeling particularly exhausted!"

Looking back over an eventful year, Lisa feels overwhelmed by the love and support from her parishioners. "I feel very blessed to be here," she says.


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Sticky Chicken

Preheat oven 180°C. Line a shallow baking pan with foil (for easier washing up). Add chicken thighs (on the bone and not skinned) in a single layer, slightly apart. Cook for 15-20 min, then top each thigh with a spoonful of chilli jelly. Continue to cook for 10-15 mins or until chicken is a rich golden brown and cooked through. Best served hot or warm, not chilled.

Breakfast Muffins

Preheat oven 200°C. Line or grease 9 large muffin pans. Sift 225g plain flour, 1tbs baking powder and a pinch salt into a large bowl. Stir in 50g coarse porridge oats and 100g grated mature Cheddar cheese. Melt 110g butter, whisk in 225ml cold milk then 2 large eggs. Add to the dry ingredients and stir just to combine, do not over mix. Half fill the muffin pans with batter, then add a generous spoonful of your chosen chilli jelly. Top with remaining batter. Bake for 20-25 mins until golden brown. Best served warm. Great with bacon and eggs.

Chilli Rarebit

Measure 4tbs plain flour and 4tbs milk (or beer) into a pan and whisk until smooth. Stir in 225g finely grated hard cheese. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until the cheese has melted and the mixture is smooth and thickened. Stir in 2-3 tbs chilli jelly (to taste). Thickly spread on toast and grill until bubbling. Use immediately or cool, cover and refrigerate (up to 1 week).

Chocolate Sauce

Break 175g plain chocolate into a bowl and add 3tbs golden syrup and 1tbs fresh orange juice. Cook over low heat, stirring, until smooth and glossy. Add 2-3tbs (to taste) chilli jelly – I especially like the Blood Orange version – and stir until melted. Immediately pour over scoops of icecream and serve.

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By Caroline Young

Is our grey winter weather getting you down? Could your winter dishes do with a little more warmth? I have just the answer – chilli jelly! An even bigger surprise – it is made right here in our village! Using fruits from local orchards and chillies from an award-winning British grower, Charlotte and Jason Lacny make a wide range of chilli jellies called Lily's Chillies (their daughter's name). They have rapidly won five Great Taste awards in just two years. Ranging from mellow to really fiery, the vividly coloured jellies make a humble cheese sandwich really special or a spoonful stirred into hot tomato soup will rapidly give you a glow. Not sure just how "hot" you want to be? Be guided by the number of chilli pods printed on the labels.

The nearest stockists for the jellies and their ketchups are Cloughs Deli and The Witch Inn on Sunte Avenue or Field & Forrest Deli on the High Street or go online www.lilyschillies.com.

As well as being delicious served straight from the jar, I find the jellies really good used in recipes like a seasoning. I add a spoonful or more to meat casseroles, stirring in just before serving. Or simply stirred into freshly cooked hot pasta, rice or grains – with a knob of butter or some olive oil the jelly adds both colour and flavour. For a beautiful glaze generously spread jelly over an almost cooked roast joint of meat, poultry or ham and pop back into the oven to complete cooking. Make up a bread mix and allow to prove. Press out to a rectangle, make indentations with your fingers and fill each with a dollop of jelly. Sprinkle with cheese if wished and bake to packet directions.

When baking a Camembert cheese to serve hot, spoon a generous layer of jelly over the top before putting into the oven. Serve piping hot with crusty bread. Try stirred into all kinds of stirfries, as a marinade ingredient or try these simple ideas...



Lily's Chillies in brief:

Australian chef Jason Lacny moved to Sussex after meeting his future wife Charlotte

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There are more recipes on their website devised by Jason to complement their products



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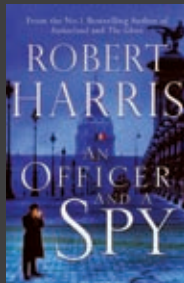
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An Officer and a Spy by Robert Harris

BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

Robert Harris has become rightly one of our best popular novelists, being able to create great thrillers such as "Fatherland" and "The Ghost" as well as a whole series of historical tales from the Roman Empire. This novel is a fictional reconstruction of one of the most notorious cases of prejudice and injustice. Captain Alfred Dreyfus was a French soldier who was wrongly convicted of spying against his country for Germany. He was the victim of prejudice, as he was one of the most senior Jewish men in the French Army. Despite his denials, he was sentenced to be transported to Devil's Island. It took the bravery of men like the writer Zola to campaign for a new inquiry into his treatment, though for many years the French establishment were determined not to re-open the case. Harris retells the story from the point of view of an officer called George Picquart. Told in a fast moving way, Picquart's struggle to uncover the truth and the way he deals with the obstacles put in his way makes for a gripping read. The Dreyfus affair may have started as a small issue but it became one that influenced the world we live in.

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The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug

FILM REVIEW

By Joe Goodchild

Peter Jackson recently released the second in a thrilling franchise of three epics – the Hobbit Saga. This middle chapter is named 'The Desolation of Smaug'. For those familiar with the book, this film starts with the heroic hobbit Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman) and his dwarfish companions' entry to Murkwood and the departing of Gandalf, the wizard. Our heroes brave the suffocating darkness of the wood, encountering enormous spiders and imprisoning wood-elves until the film's culmination with the beginning of the dragon Smaug's (Benedict Cumberbatch) assault on Laketown. Similar to the previous section of the adventure, this film is often criticised as too long but I was gripped throughout Mr Baggins' journey.

By far my favourite scene was the river chase, in which Bilbo and his friends escape the wood-elves by floating in barrels and armed only with their fists. The wood-elves give chase, as do the mysterious Necromancer's orcs, who are instructed to destroy the heroes. Thanks to the dwarves' superior fighting skill, a lot of luck and a change in the elves' hearts, the Company partake in a high speed battle and escape to Laketown. However, they are followed by Legolas and Tauriel (a she-elf who has feelings for Killi, one of the party who is shot in the battle). With so many enemies mounting, the future of Middle Earth lies in the balance, and a quest that was at first only for financial gain is the only thing that can decide which way destiny will fall.

The film is different from the book in that Legolas, who wasn't in the original book, is involved in the story. Also the 'Necromancer', who is only mentioned in passing in the book, is much more involved. He seems to want the adventurers dead, for purposes unexplained as yet... I highly recommend the film, especially in 3D. It is an exciting and intriguing cinematic series and I cannot wait until next winter for the final chapter of Bilbo Baggins' journey.



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New professional at golf course

Haywards Heath Golf Club (HHGC) has recently welcomed a new resident Head Professional. James Verrall took up the position in December at the club, which is actually on High Beech Lane in Lindfield.

James was first introduced to golf by his grandfather, who took him when he was just eight years old. His uncle also encouraged him to play and he did so throughout his childhood until, when he was 15, Robert Dickman – the owner and golf pro at Cuckfield Golf Centre – suggested that he should consider doing it professionally.

Around this time James starting working at weekends with Robert at Cuckfield, while he studied A-levels at Haywards Heath College. In 2007 he began studying a Professional Golf Association (PGA) Foundation Degree at the University of Birmingham and playing at The Belfrey course. It was the same course that the eccentrically-dressed golfer Ian Poulter undertook some years earlier.

James had always wanted to be a resident pro and run his own shop. "I recall at the beginning of university," James said, "that 90% of the year group started wanting to be a player with only two of us saying we wanted be to be a golf pro. By the end of the degree it had almost exactly switched around!"

At 26 James has become the youngest pro at Haywards Heath Golf Club in its 92 year history. As a



local guy he's very happy to be based in the village where his grandparents still live. "It's great to be so close to granddad after his help in the early days all those years ago!" He also hopes to achieve another of his career goals by starting a new academy at HHGC in the near future.

James leads the existing team of professionals at the club, Sam Holloway and Jack Walls.

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Beckworth House: appeal for information

Lindfield Life readers are being asked to help piece together the history of the Townshend family who lived in the village in the early 1900s.

Andrew Avenell, who lives in Wiltshire, is appealing for help in his search for information and photographs of his ancestors who lived and worked on the Beckworth Estate.

In an email to the magazine, Andrew says: "I have been searching the net for images of the former Beckworth House in Lindfield but cannot seem to find any photographs or information on what has become of it.

"My great-grandparents, Henry and Esther Townshend, lived in what was Beckworth Lodge, the cottage on the estate, and my great-grandfather was head game keeper on the estate when it was privately owned. They had two sons, my grandfather Frederick and his brother Ernest who was killed in action in Gallipoli in 1915, aged 36.

"On March 29th 1911, a few hours after my mother Winifred was born, my grandmother died of childbirth and is buried in St Peter's church yard in an unmarked grave.

"Following the death of his wife, my grandfather, Fredrick Townshend, moved to Beckworth Lodge with his two sons, Ernest then aged about 13, Percy then aged 5 and my mother less than a month old.

"My mother was brought up by her grandmother until she was 6 months old and then by her father's sister



and her husband, who brought her up along with their two daughters Ruby and Dorothy in Eastbourne. My grandparents, Fredrick and Ellen Marie Townshend, lived in Cowfold in what was then The Red Lion Hotel.

"My grandfather also worked on the Beckworth estate until his death some 5 years after his wife. He was in his mid 30s and is buried in Walstead cemetery, again in an unmarked grave.

"To the right of his grave lies the joint grave of my great grandparents, which is marked by a headstone and surround.

"If your readers can shed any light on Beckworth House and have any photographs they could share with me I would be extremely grateful."

If you can help, please email editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk



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How a date with a stranger could help your relationship

By Ania Tylunas

Imagine yourself being one of the people in the following scene. He rings the doorbell with a rose in his hand. She is waiting in all her finery, looking mysterious and alluring. They spend the evening chatting, hanging onto every word the other is saying, trying to find out as much as possible about one another. There is outrageous flirting and a lot of laughter. He is suave; she lets herself be charmed. There is a lot of gentle touching on the arm, whispering of secrets and trying one another's food. The build up of charge is palpable... As the evening comes to a close they both look forward to another soirée together...

Now imagine that this is something you could experience, not as an illicit affair but as part of your relationship. How? By pretending – every so often – that you have only just met. Let's face it – when we first fall in love we are on our best behaviour; something that often falls by the wayside later on. We could all learn from how we used to be at the beginnings of love. And so the meaning of the ritual is to reconnect with the better part of ourselves and our partner. The result? Once you have got over the giggles and really gone for it you can truly help re-stake the smouldering fire of love.

So here is how we could all benefit from the underlying principles:

1. Spend time together. Time to a relationship is like water to a plant. This is how we build attachments and keep them going. If you are under pressure, be it work-wise, with children or elderly relatives, pencil in time together less often but make it a quality time.
2. Really listen and be curious about your partner.
Do you remember how you listened when you first met? Revisit that sentiment and listen as if the world

depended on your understanding! Your partner will feel heard and closer to you as a result. Make sure this is a two way process.

3. Try not to criticise, offer solutions or be sarcastic. If you do, you will get your partner onto the defensive, which will stop the dialogue and start an argument.
4. Use "I" rather than "You" in your conversations.
Compare the following statements: "You never do anything around the house" and "I like it when you help out, makes me feel you care". Which one would you respond better to? It's a no-brainer but so easy to overlook!
5. Reintroduce touch. This aspect can be easily forgotten in long term relationships but is so important. Remember how you used to sit together on the sofa? Kiss hello? Give a spontaneous hug? Hold hands? We all need touch to feel close, so why not reintroduce what has worked so well for you at the beginning? Try taking small steps towards intimacy.
6. Have fun. Something physical works wonders and the more childish, the better. Fairground rides, trampoline jumps, dancing, pin bowling and tickling all work wonders to reconnect us to the child in us. Laughing together is a bonding experience and creates shared memories.
7. Flirt and be (a little bit) mysterious. There was a time when we would not dream of sharing the bathroom or sharing other, less-than-appealing, aspects of ourselves. There is a fine line between being comfortable with one another and being so familiar that we stop making the effort. A little mystery and flirting can bring the sparkle back!
Wishing you all a fabulous time with the person you love on Valentine's Day and beyond!

What's on in February

AT KING EDWARD HALL

- 1st **Lindfield Horticultural Society Coffee Morning and Plant Sale** in the Jubilee Room.
10am to 12pm. Entry £1.
(Mrs Alison Elliott 01444 483039)
- 3rd **Autumn Club Meeting** – Social Afternoon including AGM (Sally Dew 01444 414456)
- 6th **Country Market** – 10am to 11am
(Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 11th **Lindfield Preservation Society** – An illustrated talk (Meeting and Membership information from John Chapman 484470)
- 12th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – An evening with Guest Speaker, Richard Horsely, Nursery Manager at the Camelia Botnar Foundation at Cowfold. The Foundation helps young marginalised adults aged between 16-21 learn a trade with training and hands-on experience, giving them the tools to realise their potential. In the King Edward Hall. Members £1, visitors £2. All welcome. www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk
(Mrs Alison Elliott 01444 483039)
- 13th **Country Market** – 10am to 11am
- 20th **Country Market** – 10am to 11am followed by Annual General Meeting
- 20th **Film Show Evening** Film TBC 7.30pm
(Jennie Powell 01444 483431)
- 22nd **Finders Keepers Dress Agency** – Preloved Mobile Clothes Sale
(Sian 01444 412764 or Sue 01444 451420)
- 22nd **Lindfield Folk Dance Club** – Barn Dance
(Mike Fairweather 01444 482741)
- 23rd **The Fretful Federation Mandolin Orchestra** – Afternoon Performance
(Mr David Barwell 01444 412704)
- 27th **Country Market** – 10am to 11am

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

AND ELSEWHERE

- 1st **White Light** at The White Horse 9pm
A popular, talented local band
- 2nd **Karaoke** at The White Horse from 8pm
(and every Sunday)
- 14th **Live Music** at The White Horse
- 19th **Mid-Sussex Decorative and Fine Arts Society Lecture**: "The Trees Wave, the Clouds Pass – Virginia Woolf on Life and Art" by Karin Fernald
10.15 for 10.45am at Clair Hall, Haywards Heath
- 22nd **Cuckfield Vintage Emporium**
The Queen's Hall, Cuckfield, 11am-4pm
An exceptional range of great value vintage treasures including, decorative homeware, rustic gardenalia, designer labels, exquisite jewellery and country antiques from Sussex's most original and creative stallholders. Delicious homemade cakes & pies in our Tearooms. Free tea or coffee when you buy our delicious cakes. Entrance £1
- 25th **Lindfield Arts Festival quiz night**
The White Horse 8pm
- 27th **World Music 11** Methodist Church, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, 2pm
Haywards Heath U3A presents an interesting and varied programme of music from the four corners of the earth including China, Russia, New Zealand, Mauritania, Bolivia and Israel. Entrance £1 including tea and biscuits
- 27th **Mid Sussex National Trust Association**
"Clayton Tunnel" by David Porter
Clair Hall, Studio 7.30pm



Poppy Appeal

By Pauline Parkyns, Poppy Appeal Organiser Lindfield

We have just banked the Poppy Appeal money and I would like to sincerely thank the residents of Lindfield for raising a staggering £8,519. This figure will greatly benefit our brave heroes who have, and indeed still are, suffering. I would also like to say thank you to all my loyal Poppy Collectors, to whom the weather has not always been kind this year. But they go out whatever the weather to collect these astounding amounts of money.

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0.5%
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