

Lindfield Life

Inc. Scaynes Hill & Walstead

Local village talk,
by the village

March 2014 Issue #60

Free

An aerial photograph of a village street in Lindfield, showing a mix of traditional stone and brick buildings, some with gabled roofs, and modern houses. The street is paved and has a central lane. There are green trees and lawns on either side of the road.

Village People: research scientist Mark

page 22

Jane awarded 'Mum of the Year'

page 9

Lindfield history – Beckworth House

page 30

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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

We always know when the year has settled in; when we have trouble fitting in all the articles and information for the month! But it's a great problem for us to have, as we know a full magazine makes an even better read.

First off let me point you to the **Lindfield Rural Parish Council** regular newsletter which is on **page 38**. We are extremely grateful to both Parish Councils for keeping the community up to date in this way. It's good to know what is going on behind the scenes.

We have the usual array of **village news**, which is mostly near the front of the magazine, starting on **page 4**. The big thing that everyone appears to be talking about is those **roadworks on the High Street**. Having spoken to many folk about it, we wanted to do our bit to encourage shoppers back to Lindfield – which is NOT CLOSED! Lindfield has a fine selection of retailers, many of whom are independent businesses with interesting and unique product lines. All this is still available right now. Nothing has changed. So tell your friends not to stop coming to the village but to come and enjoy the fact that the road is quieter! Our feature is on **page 12**.

This month I am unapologetic and immensely proud to introduce a good friend of mine to the **Village People** frame on **page 22**. **Mark Gasson**, who grew up here, has spent many years as a research scientist and is now making waves in the toy industry. His is a fascinating journey from Reading to LA!

Cavan Wood (now also published in *The Guardian*!) shares his latest read with us on **page 27**, **James Verrall** talks golf posture on **page 33** and our interior design guru **Jacqui Smith** tells the lamp shades who's boss on **page 29**!

Last but not least, it's great news to learn that **Jane Plumb** has recently been awarded 'TESCO Mum of the Year'. We have featured Jane's charity work before on our pages but this amazing accolade makes it well worth another mention here on **page 9**. Well done Jane!

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Lindfield Life Published by Kipper



Louise Hawes – view of Lindfield from the spire

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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

Oathall's Royal Festival Hall performance

Two students from Oathall Community College recently performed on stage with the London Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO) at the Royal Festival Hall.

Nathanael Thomas-Atkin and Dominic Clark play with the West Sussex County Orchestra and they were invited to join the world-renowned LPO for the latest in their series of 'Bright Sparks' concerts.

Bright Sparks is an innovative education project which looks to bring the GCSE music curriculum to life for an audience of students and their teachers.

A group of Year 10 and 11 students from Oathall were also there on the day to see their classmates shine on stage.

Mrs MacTaggart, head of performing arts at Oathall said: "The whole day was wonderful, the performance was superb and what an amazing opportunity for our boys to rehearse and play in concert with the LPO at such a prestigious venue. They did exceptionally well, we're all so proud of them."

Death Cafe open at King Edward Hall

The village hall plays host to an usual event this month. The Death Cafe is a place where you can share your thoughts and fears, ask questions and discuss issues about death.

"Death is the great equaliser; it's something we all experience and the one event in life that is certain," commented co-organiser Joanna Warrington, a funeral celebrant from Haywards Heath, "and yet it is the greatest taboo subject, the elephant in the room."

Issues that to be discussed at the event include: wills, living wills, a good death plan, caring for elderly relatives, funeral arrangements, writing a good eulogy, coping with bereavement and loss, where to die (hospital v home v hospice). "Discussion will not follow an agenda. People bring their own thoughts," continued Joanna.

The event takes place at 7.30pm on 5th March in King Edward Hall.

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Ashdown Singers back at the URC

Lindfield United Reformed Church plays host to The Ashdown Singers again this month. The Sussex-based chamber choir of thirty voices has been playing in Lindfield since 2003 and this year will be performing The Crucifixion by Stainer.

The choir is made up of members from across Sussex but, for one, it will be on 'home turf'. Tenor singer Hilary Shepherd lives in Lindfield and attends the URC. "I joined the Ashdown Singers in 1997 after hearing them in Uckfield and being very impressed," he said. "I particularly enjoy the larger works, such as the 'Requiems' by Mozart and Faure. I love it. When I return home from rehearsal I'm on a high!"

The choir has a long-standing history with St Peter & St James Hospice, which they are raising money for at this concert too. "Charitable work is an essential part of the choir's ethos," commented leader Terence Steele. "We have performed in cathedrals, concert halls, on local radio broadcasts and in village churches like Lindfield URC. It has lovely acoustics and we always get a great welcome here."

The concert takes place on Saturday 29th March at 7.30pm.



A passion for taste: How to prepare lamb!

Oathall Farm butcher Steve Bradshaw will be demonstrating his skills at King Edward Hall later this month.

The event, part of a series of events to be organised by local churches entitled 'A Passion for Life', will show how to butcher, prepare and cook a whole Sussex lamb to its very best. There will also be opportunity for audience participation in the form of sausage making whilst enjoy a local Horsham ale or glass of wine.

Rico Tice, a Christian speaker and co-author of Christianity Explored, will also be giving a talk during the evening.

Tickets for the event, which starts at 8pm, are £5 which includes a bag of fresh lamb to take home. Tickets and more information from the All Saints Church office 01444 482405.

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New Sussex Macmillan Cancer Support Centre

Work has started on building Sussex's first cancer
information and support centre in Brighton, much to
the delight of local supporters who have helped turn the
dream into reality.

The new Sussex Macmillan Cancer Support Centre
will be built opposite the Sussex Cancer Centre at
the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton and is
expected to open to the public in Spring 2015.

The project, a partnership between Macmillan Cancer
Support, Sussex Cancer Fund and Brighton and Sussex
University Hospitals NHS Trust, is costing nearly £6m.
Macmillan has agreed to find £3.6m and local support
groups have been busy running events and raising funds
for the last few years to help reach the ambitious target.

David Metcalfe from the Mid Sussex branch, who
lives in Lindfield, says: "I'm constantly amazed by the
generosity of local people who support our events –
from our collection days at local supermarkets to our
golf days and opera evenings."

Over the past three years the branch has raised
around £100,000 for the new support centre and the
Macmillan nurses.

"Last year we broke all records and raised £30,390,"
said David, "but we couldn't have done it without our
loyal team of friends who give up their time to shake tins
and organise events."

"Most people have been affected by cancer in some
way and those who have come into contact with the
Macmillan nurses speak very highly of the wonderful
support, not just for the patients but the entire family.
There's so much goodwill toward Macmillan."

Last year's biggest fund-raising events for the Mid
Sussex branch included Golf Days at Mid Sussex and
Royal Ashdown Golf Clubs, an opera evening and a gala
dinner at Jeremy's restaurant in Haywards Heath.

Plans are well under way for this year's events, kicking
off with Songs from the Musicals performed by Cameo
Opera at Mid Sussex Golf Club on 4th April.

Building work on the centre started on 24th February.
Once opened, the new centre will offer all-round support
for cancer patients in a calm, friendly and non-medical
environment.

The centre will also link up existing information and
support services across Sussex, to ensure that cancer
patients, families, carers and friends in the county can
find the support they need, at the time they need it most.

David added: "We still need to raise £1.27m to fund
the main centre and to set up a network of local satellite
centres to support people nearer to their homes."

"We are always on the look out for more volunteers
who can spare a little time to help. With more help we
can explore new opportunities and continue to support
people on their cancer journey."

To find out more about how you can help or to book
your ticket for Songs from the Shows, contact David on
01444 415060.

Zumbathon for Lindfield Arts Festival



The pink lady is at it again! Esther Featherstone, a local Zumba fitness instructor, is taking a 6 hour Zumbathon at Clair Hall in Haywards Heath on Sunday 16th March 2014 at 2pm. Participants can sign up to shimmy for two, four or the whole six hours! All money raised will go to this year's Lindfield Arts Festival, taking place over the weekend of the 12th-14th September 2014. The festival, which is now a registered charity, relies heavily on fundraising and what better way to support your village than by taking part in this fantastic event. For more information on the festival please visit www.lindfieldartsfestival.com. To download your Zumbathon entry form, please visit www.esthercise.co.uk.



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Jane Plumb: Campaigning Mum of the Year

Oliver Plumb has always known his mum was one in a million, but now it's official!

Mum Jane, from Lindfield, has been chosen as Campaigning Mum of the Year in an annual competition run by Tesco. Oliver nominated his mum in recognition of her campaign to raise awareness of Group B Strep, the infection that led to the death of his newborn brother.

"I nominated Mum because I felt she deserved to be recognised as Tesco Mum of the Year. She works incredibly hard for the charity to bring about change and, at the same time, is a loving and supportive Mum who takes care of the family," said Oliver, 21, who is studying Philosophy and Literature at Warwick University.

"I was completely blown away by the fact that Oliver had nominated me," said Jane. "It's such a lovely thing to do. I'm honoured, touched and almost speechless!"

Jane found out she had won the award just before Christmas but was sworn to secrecy until earlier this month. "It was difficult to keep it to myself," said Jane, who was whisked up to London for a photo shoot along with the other winning mums and celebrity mum Coleen Rooney, Tesco Mum of the Year Ambassador.

It was a lovely day and Coleen was delightful – a wonderful ambassador for the awards," said Jane.

"But what's really brilliant is that the award will hugely raise awareness and the profile of our charity, Group B Strep Support."

Following the death of premature baby son Theo 17 years ago, Jane has been campaigning for pregnant women to be offered advice and testing for Group B Strep (GBS).

"Theo was born nearly 15 weeks early and his doctors told us GBS had contributed to his death," said Jane.

"I had never heard of it. We did some research and found GBS is actually as common, or even more common, than conditions like spina bifida yet far fewer women have heard of it and testing is not offered as part of routine antenatal care.

"Steps could have been taken and, although I don't think they would have made a difference in Theo's case, I was heartbroken when I realised nothing had been done."

After Theo's death, Jane and husband Robert looked for support and guidance but couldn't find the answers



they needed. Determined to support other families in the same position, the couple founded Group B Strep Support (GBSS) and achieved charitable status six months to the day after Theo's death.

In 2003, the charity's efforts contributed to the first national GBS guidelines being published by The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

Jane, who is also mum to Camilla who's 15, added:

"Over the past 17 years, GBSS has grown from just something I did on a part-time basis to a professional operation, which works with both health professionals and parents to raise awareness and provide support and information.

"Sometimes I hear from parents who say the information we gave them meant their babies were born free from GBS infection and it all seems worthwhile. It's for those babies, babies like Theo, that we'll keep campaigning and raising awareness."

Tesco judges said: "We were awestruck by Jane's unwavering dedication to helping other families, no matter what hurdle she encountered."

Jane will be presented with her award at a ceremony in March, and the event will be filmed by Channel 5 and be shown on Mother's Day.

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We are open!

LINDFIELD SHOPPING

By Claire Cooper

Traders in Lindfield are pulling out all the stops to spread the word that the High Street is open for business.

The traders are working together to undo some of the damage caused by misleading road signs over the South East Water mains works at the top of the High Street near All Saints Church.

The problems started when South East Water erected signs announcing that the High Street was closed. The signs, on all routes into the village, led drivers to believe there was no access to the High Street and, as a result, traders have lost valuable custom.

"On average takings are down around 30-40%, although some are reporting losses of up to 70%," said Jeremy Goodger, who owns Tufnells. "Others have seen appointments cancelled. It's been very damaging to trade. There is talk of compensation but what's the point of that if customers have changed their habits and are shopping elsewhere?"

The work, to install a new water main, is due to take 12 weeks. "That's a quarter of our year and includes several significant days such as Valentine's Day, Mothering Sunday and the run up to Easter," added Jeremy. "Many of our High Street shops rely on these dates for sales, so it's vital that we get the message out there that we are still open for business."

Once the signage problem materialised, traders quickly pulled together to take action. "One of the beauties of working in a village is that there's real chemistry between the shop owners and we look out for one another," said Jeremy.

"There have been a lot of emails flying around between ourselves and to South East Water and the various councils," added Jo Hart who owns Field and Forrest.

Their efforts have already resulted in extra signage being erected on the routes into the village, and South East Water taking out adverts in local newspapers and

radio stations. In addition, traders have been spreading the word through social media sites like twitter and Facebook in an effort to claw back some of the business lost in those first few weeks.

"We've had to 'think outside the box' and be a lot more proactive," said Liz Jefferson, owner of Doodie Stark. "We've all been supporting each other by retweeting details of special offers and promotions available in village shops. We are also appealing to residents to spread the word and to keep supporting us by doing as much shopping as they can in the village. Every sale really matters."

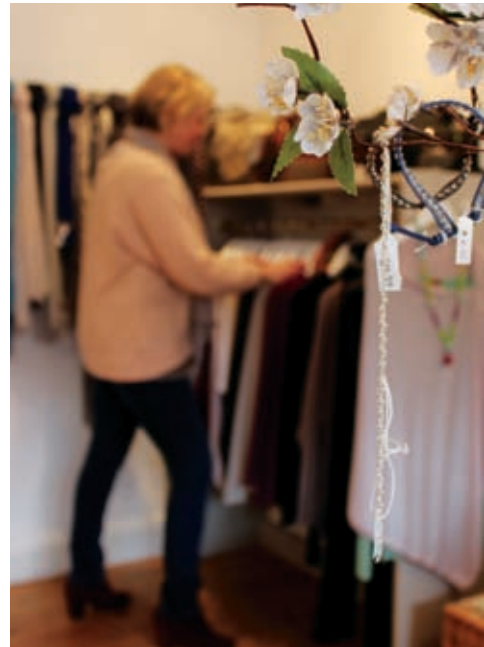
Liz's business, on the junction of the High Street and Hickmans Lane, has been severely affected by the roadworks, with three way traffic lights outside the shop adding to the problems.

"We're already out on a limb here and the lights have made it worse," said Liz. "I've been told that the purpose of the lights is to make turning easier and safer for the diverted buses but it seems excessive for one extra bus an hour."

She added that many of her customers come from other towns, such as East Grinstead and Brighton, and have been put off after hearing reports that the High Street was closed.

Browsing in Tufnells, shopper Jeanette Blackwell, from Ardingly, said she almost didn't come into the village as she didn't think it would be open. "A friend of mine changed her plans to meet for coffee in the village last week for the same reason," she said.

"The signage has been changed but a lot of damage has been done," added Jo from Field and Forrest. "We're lucky as we have quite a lot of local trade and residents have been really supportive but we have had odd days which were just dire and I know other traders are having a really difficult time."



"The first couple of days were awful but we contacted everyone on our mailing list to make sure they know that the High Street is still open," said James Halliday, manager of South Downs Cellar. "We also have a wholesale business which has helped, and our Lindfield customers have been really supportive – despite the disruption on the High Street they still want their wine!

"January is always a difficult month for us particularly as it's become popular to give up drinking for the month, but once people get paid and we leave January behind things tend to pick up."

Also looking on the bright side is Keiran Mc Nally, owner of Keiran James toy shop. "Although the High Street was virtually empty the first few days, many of my customers with young children and pushchairs commented how nice it was to be able to cross the road easily and safely!" he said.

"The whole thing has been very badly managed but word is starting to get around. I've got new stock, which has helped, and have special offers on some products.

"But I think people will come back as they love to shop on such a beautiful High Street with such fantastic architecture. When they shop in Lindfield they are shopping in lovely surroundings and in buildings which are over 100 years old."

As traders continue to count the cost of the roadworks, the message is clear.

"Lindfield High Street has always been a great place to shop with a wide range of unique businesses, plenty of great places to eat and free parking throughout the village," said Jeremy.

"In fact there's never been a better time to shop here. The street is quiet, everyone has plenty of stock, there are lots of special offers and you'll get the warmest welcome ever!"

A message from South East Water

"We would like to apologise again for the disruption this work is causing. We aim to ensure that life in Lindfield can continue as normal as far as possible while construction takes place, to ensure minimal disruption. We are endeavouring to complete this project as quickly as possible. As a result our contractor has two teams on site, both working extended hours - 7am until 7pm, seven days a week."

"Many of my customers commented on how nice it is to be able to cross the road easily and safely!"

Keiran Mc Nally





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Mother's Day Special at Borde Hill Garden!

On Sunday 30th March Borde Hill Garden is giving mums the day off (well almost)! Mums will be offered the children's entry price of just £5! They will also be given a scented ceramic keepsake gift.

If you are looking for a special Mother's Day gift, a memorable day out within the beautiful grounds of this historic Garden could be just the ticket! The spring bulbs and blooms will brighten the day and whilst youngsters explore the Adventure Playground & play the Giant Garden Games, mums can enjoy Borde Hill's extensive collection of camellias, magnolias and early-flowering rhododendrons. Don't forget that all the family are welcome, including any four legged friends!

For a luxurious lunch, the award-winning Jeremy's Restaurant (Good Food Guide 2013) offers modern European cuisine in a relaxed and picturesque setting. Cosy Café Elvira serves morning coffee, delicious home cooked lunches and Sussex cream teas. There is also the Green Tree Gallery with a beautiful selection of arts and crafts.

St. John Passion sung by Ardingly Choral Society

By Sharon Harris

Bach's dramatic St John Passion will be presented in the impressive setting of Ardingly College Chapel on Passion Sunday 6th April at 7.30pm. It is eleven years since this extraordinary and most moving work has been performed there. With its concise and vivid outbursts and delicate chorales from the chorus, contrasting with the emotional arias of the soloists, this great work sums up the essential story of the Christian gospel and evokes the spirit of the coming Eastertide.

The narrative will be taken by our evangelist Lawrence Olsworth-Peter, who has had such a great start to his career, as has our soprano Eloise Irving, both of whom are well-known locally. The other soloists all live locally; Jane Haughton (alto) and Andrew Sinclair (tenor) often sing for the society and it is especially pleasing to mention the return of Bob Davies who will sing the vital part of Jesus while also undertaking the bass arias.

The Mid-Sussex Sinfonia with Richard Toms (organ continuo) will be providing the orchestral support, continuing a history built over many years.

Tickets are £14 (concessions £12) and can be bought from Carousel Music and from Mrs Shirley Ventham (phone 01273 831264).

Haywards Heath Lions Club **Jumble Sale**

15th March 2014

12pm – 2pm

King Edward Hall, High Street, Lindfield

Jumble Sale is at the King Edward Hall, Lindfield, on Saturday 15th March at 12noon in aid of Haywards Health Lions Club. There will be lots of good quality bric a brac, clothes, linen, books and toys. Also a tombola and refreshments, which will include home-made cakes. Donations of jumble will be much appreciated on the day at the Hall from 9am or for collection in advance please call 07711 018479.

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New Lindfield drama club launches

An exciting new holiday club is starting in the Easter holidays for children aged 7-13. 'Out of a Hat' is a drama workshop from Creative Education UK, aimed at helping children develop confidence through drama. It will be run by Marcus Dilly, who lives in Lindfield, and who has been performing and teaching drama for more than ten years.

Marcus brings his professional acting experience to his drama teaching, working with a wide variety of Youth Theatre Groups, putting on regular performances including 'The 39 Steps', 'Animal Farm' and 'Reduced Shakespeare' plays and delivering private tuition LAMDA lessons for all ages. He also runs Creative Education UK, presenting educational historically themed shows for children in Primary Schools across the South East.

"In my experience, teaching children performance through drama helps them develop confidence and self-esteem, promotes positive communication skills, encourages creativity and imagination and allows them to express themselves in new ways. It's my hope that 'Out of a Hat' will give children the opportunity to do this in a fun and safe environment, at the same time as providing a welcome holiday activity!"

The holiday workshop will cover core acting skills, including melodrama, physical theatre, storytelling, devising and pantomime, with an opportunity for parents to see their children's work during the course.

Building on the success of 'Out of a Hat' for the



holidays, Marcus plans to start a Saturday morning workshop on a termly basis. "We feel there is a space for something a little different, which will be accessible to all budgets and provide children who perhaps do not have the benefit of drama within the school environment a chance to try it out!"

If you are interested in booking a place for your son or daughter for the Easter holiday workshop, please visit the website www.creativeeducationuk.com and click on 'Out of a Hat' or email outofahatLtd@gmail.com.

The workshop will run from Monday 7th April until Wednesday 9th April, from 9.30am-3.00pm at Tavistock & Summerhill School in Lindfield.

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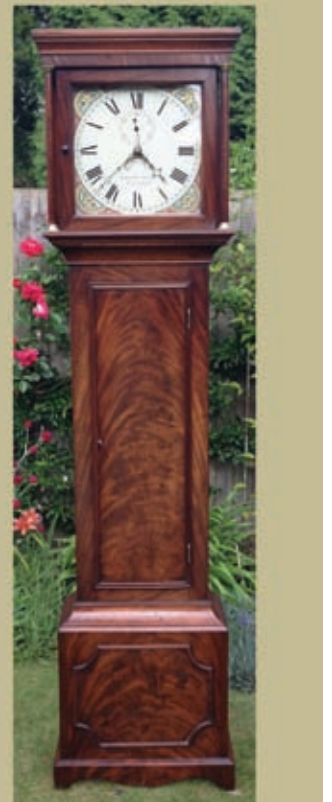
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Pupils from the Gielgud Academy (GAPA) were blown away by the talents of Rock Star Saffron from Republica last month.

GAPA held a day of workshops at The Hub in Haywards Heath, with events including an advanced ballet workshop, a media and journalism workshop with TV news presenter John Young and a rock pop vocal workshop with Saffron.

Saffron (Sam Sprackling), who lives in Sussex, was hand picked by Arlene Phillips for a lead role in Starlight Express on their world tour before she'd even left Vocational College. She then played the role of Magenta in the West End Musical version of The Rocky Horror Show. In 1994 Saffron formed her own band 'Republica' and had a string of hits including Ready to Go and Drop Dead Gorgeous, which became a film soundtrack, taking her to Hollywood. Saffron has also sung and recorded with the Cure and the Prodigy.

GAPA Principal Piers Gielgud added: "It was such a treat to have Saffron kick off our new live band workshops. She really inspired the kids to believe in themselves and what they can achieve."

Olli Wells, 15, from Lindfield added: "I'm really fired up and ready to go after that. Singing with Saffron and the live band was amazing!"

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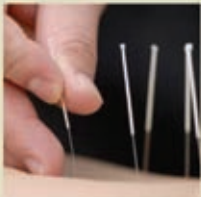


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Limes of Lindfield

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

By Rosie Baker

I love that feeling of being comfortably satisfied. Not completely stuffed to the point that I can't remember any of the flavours and with the pangs of regret, but really contented with the aromas still lingering in my mind. This is definitely the feeling that I left with after an evening at Limes on the High Street. Pat and Mike Morris bought this popular local restaurant a year ago and, over the first ten months, gradually refined the restaurant's menu and style. But over Christmas you may have noticed that the restaurant interior, too, has changed – and only for the better. We hadn't eaten there for some time, so I was pleasantly surprised by its new look. Exposed brickwork, new furniture and, at last, long curtains adorn the front bay window, not only adding a strong red accent colour to the new décor but providing some soft furnishings that improve the ambience and the acoustics.

We were greeted by manager Davina as if we were visiting her own home; welcomed like old friends. The staff team were all very attentive, providing us with water without having to ask and always on hand to answer any questions about the menu. Head chef Pat is passionate about local suppliers and seasonal produce. "It's a different menu almost every day," Davina told us. "We can only write them after our morning deliveries." The wine is supplied by South Downs Cellars (also on the High Street) and as we perused the menu Davina pointed out more local highlights, including the duck from Balcombe and the South Downs lamb.

First across the palette was a welcome glass of Blood Orange Prosecco Fizz. A beautifully sweet taster to get us started, shortly followed by an amuse-bouche; simply the most amazing vegetable spring roll I've ever tasted!

Our starters arrive. On one side of the table we had the cured salmon served with a refreshing celeriac and apple remoulade and melba toast. On the other, the

chicory with toasted coconut served with a ground peanut and chilli oil dressing. The innovative flavour combinations worked together beautifully and provided yet another hint to Pat's culinary background.

Before taking over at Limes, Pat worked in the kitchens of several well-known London restaurants where she perfected her own unique style, combining great British homely cooking with hints of her native Thai cuisine.

Back to the table and we were to reap the rewards of our mains selections. In my place was the sweet potato and cashew massaman curry. The traditional Thai dish looked and smelled delicious and I somehow knew before I tucked in I was going to have trouble switching dishes at half time! However, when the time came, I swapped for confit duck leg served with dauphinoise potatoes and savoy cabbage. This was cooked beautifully in the rich sauce and was superb. The meat fell easily off the bone, just the way it should do.

We ended the evening, and our meal, with desserts. I first tucked into a delicious meringue and roasted plum which was like an Eton mess, without the mess! Also on the table we enjoyed the quince and steamed sponge served with crème Anglaise. This felt like a very traditional British dessert but the flavours and texture of the sponge were wonderfully light; just perfect for this time of night.

As we walked out on to the wet, blustery High Street again we were greeted with normality after what was a very special meal. We are already planning our next visit!

Limes is now taking bookings for Mother's Day 30th March. Call 01444 487858 or visit the website for more information: www.limesoflindfield.co.uk Search for Limes of Lindfield on Facebook or follow @LimesLindfield



He's a record-breaker

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By David Tingley

If you were lucky enough to be given a copy of *The Guinness Book of World Records* for Christmas this year, then you may have already read about this month's guest on page 130.

Mark Gasson grew up in Lindfield. You could say he's 'born and bred'. He went to the old Junior School, Oathall Community College and studied Maths, Physics and Chemistry at A Level down the road at Haywards Heath College. "I always enjoyed science," Mark explains. "My father is an engineer and I used to love going to work with him occasionally as a child." That said, when he left school he was none the wiser about what he actually wanted to do. A 'state-of-the-art' careers computer program suggested working as a baker!

In 1995 Mark left the confines of West Sussex to study Cybernetics at the University of Reading. "In many ways," Mark continued, "I felt an affinity with Reading because its large leafy campus reminded me of my old home in Sussex."

After successfully completing his Degree he was invited to stay on to do a PhD at the University. He did so and, working closely with Professor Warwick at Reading, his thesis explored connecting the human nervous system to a computer so that the Professor could feel what a robotic hand was touching.

Alongside the time spent on his PhD, Mark was also working as a research fellow at the University; a position he held for over 12 years. This role saw him lending his time and expertise to both undergraduate students and the department as they also explored new research topics and wrote academic publications. Mark reflects back on his time with an office on campus: "Working at a University is incredibly energising. Every year there are new and enthusiastic students brought on to the site in their hundreds. Teaching them was certainly a challenge. With first years I always tried to remind myself how I had felt early on, so that I didn't make too many assumptions

or gloss over what was basic to me but new to them."

It was during this period that Mark worked on a research project that led to his inclusion in this year's aforementioned book of records. In it Mark is credited with being the first human to be infected with a computer virus. On the face of it, a bizarre claim indeed but there is more and it's literally beneath the surface.

You see the broader research was about medical implants. Mark, along with a legal researcher Professor Bert-Jaap Koops from the Netherlands, was trying to raise awareness of something that hadn't yet happened but had the potential to be a problem in the future.

"Put simply," Mark explains, "implanted devices such as artificial pacemakers and cochlear implants can be remotely controlled (from outside the body) by very specialist computers. What happens if such devices were 'hacked' by a third party? It would then be possible to harm the person. But is it a technology-based crime or is it assault? This will become increasingly important as we find new ways to use implants to repair and even upgrade and enhance the body in the future."

The research caused a stir back in 2010 when it was released, attracting criticism from some security analysts as scaremongering.

As part of the work Mark had an electronic chip which acts like a security access card surgically implanted into his left hand in March 2009 and it's still there today. "I wanted to experience what it felt like to have a device as part of my body. We talked to patients who had had medical implants and we knew it was difficult for them to describe the connection they felt to their device. To them it literally becomes a part of their body. We could have simulated the transfer of a virus to a chip on a desk – but that simply wouldn't have been the same."

Mark and his team are concerned that manufacturers of such devices tend to rely on 'security through obscurity' rather than more robust methods employed



The implant in Mark's hand



My Keepon

in almost all other computer networks these days. Following this research, and despite the criticism, a number of other notable tests and trials have been undertaken by other academics around the world.

It's at this point that you may consider the world of a research scientist is a pretty heavy one. But there is another side to Mark's career...

In 2003 he formed a company with friend and fellow Reading student Jim Wyatt. With Kablamm Ltd the pair wanted to explore some practical applications for the commercial sector of what they had learnt about robotics and artificial intelligence. And the answer was toys!

After a slow start and a good few replies from the likes of Hasbro and Mattel saying 'we like what you do but you're too small for us to deal with' - Jim and Mark began developing links with manufacturers in China and finally found that things began to pick up at the Nuremberg Toy Fair in 2010.

They had developed a great idea for a talking and waving monkey toy, and soon entered into talks with UK-based toy distributor Wow! Stuff. That idea became a best-selling toy for Christmas 2010 and answered to the name of 'Dave the funky shoulder monkey'!

It was during this year that Jim opened an office in Los Angeles and Mark spent time travelling between the UK, China and the US.

The following year they worked on a toy which was based on technology that had been developed as a robot to help children with developmental disorders (such as Autism) learn and respond to the mechanics and behaviour of social communication. My Keepon (also distributed by Wow! Stuff) has its own language, responds to being touched and craves attention from its owner.

They continued to work with the Wolverhampton-based company and developed many of their new toy lines, including the popular cuddly singing group Singalongz launched in 2012.

Last year Mark and Jim sold their company to Wow! Stuff, although the association with them and toys isn't set to cease any time soon. The pair still continue work with them in New Toy Development (in a department the company call skunkworks) and Mark has now moved out to Los Angeles too.

Mark has now left Reading (a place in which he had lived for the same length of time as Lindfield) and the UK, at least for the moment. But his home is still the village and he loves to return. "I have never missed the opportunity to come home for Christmas," he says. "Whenever I come back I always walk around the place, visit the old church; soaking up the atmosphere and history of the village. I love how the shop windows change to reflect the times but the buildings don't.

"If there was one thing I would wish for Lindfield," he continues, "it's that the children of today get more opportunities to explore and discover the history of this amazing village."

But it's not only local history but Mark's own childhood that he recalls. Whether it's playing over the back at what we now know as the Eastern Road Nature Reserve, trying to catch a glimpse of the magnificent buildings at Old Place or adults calling the police when a small group of them were trying to play a game of cricket where Blackthorns School now stands. All looked back on with fond memories.

As Mark heads for warmer climes, he goes in search of the toy of Christmas 2015 and 2016. He will still seek opportunities for scientific research in his field but that, he says, will be in the background. His parting word is a tip for this year's Santa delivery: "RFX Racing. Intelligent slot-car racing, without the slots! It's a great toy, even if I do say so myself!"

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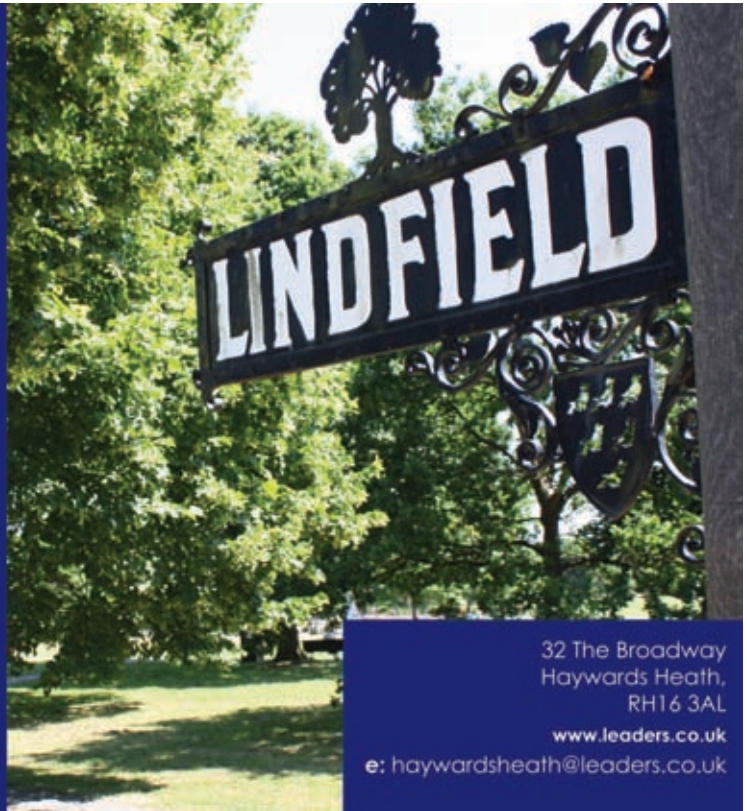
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12 Years a Slave by Solomon Northup

BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

The recent film of this work was a powerful and disturbing depiction of slavery, as is this book. Solomon Northup was a freed black who lived in New York but found himself kidnapped and taken to the American South. His kidnappers changed his name and forced him to deny his education and true story in order to survive this ordeal. His bravery and determination come ringing out of this story. He refused to allow his spirit to be crushed, whatever else his "masters" did to his body. The evil of this system is appalling and what makes this book even more potent is it is a first-hand account. How could people believe that a black person was property, was a piece of machinery? Northup wrote his book in 1853, so the style is very like Victorian novelists of the period such as Dickens. His book is dedicated to Harriet Beecher Stowe, who wrote 'Uncle Tom's Cabin', as he saw in her a champion of freedom. (In many literary circles Stowe is often reviled but here Northup sees her storytelling as important in the fight against slavery.) This book is as Steve McQueen's preface puts it, 'like Anne Frank' for the black community. Read it!

Cavan Wood, our regular contributor here had his review of "The Last Runaway" by Tracy Chevalier selected by The Guardian for their New Year Selection of Readers' Books of the Year. He had to write no more than fifty words as why the novel had captured his attention – four times less than he is allowed here!

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Photo: Clare Goldsmith

Designing with care

HOME FRONT

By Jacqui Smith, interior designer

I like to plan; I need to plan, especially when juggling projects and family. At the end of last year I looked at the first two months of this year and could see very clearly how busy we were going to be. The weather has, unsurprisingly, had an impact on progress of the builders on many of the sites we have been working on, be it the builders we directly manage for residential work, the contractors that our care home clients engage or the Barratt build team. Two fit-outs that were scheduled for December were pushed into January and these together with what we already had booked in made for an incredibly hectic start to 2014. By the end of January we had fitted out a sixty bed care home for West Kent Housing Association and a five bed show home for Barratt David Wilson. With the installs following along one after the other, this threw into sharp relief the differences between these projects. One day I was in Kent discussing bed linen needs with the manager of a new care home for the elderly; the next day I was feeling the pressure of an impending show home launch and wondering how we were going to complete a show house crawling with trades "finishing off".

As a serial detail queen I get a real buzz from completing a show home, seeing everything that we have so carefully chosen come together during the fit out. That's the fun side of the job. The downside is often working in a cold plot (an unheated new build being so much colder since the fabric of the building is cold), a plot that is swarming with trades all trying to complete the show house on time and the WC being the other side of a boggy site. When the job is done, the show house is completed and the launch takes place and that is it. This job is all about marketing, showing houses in their best light to help the developers sell them. Whilst a care

home project can also involve a cold and trade-filled site, the end game is different. Here we are creating environments for people with very specific needs. Yes, there is a degree of marketing here, of course, since a well presented, well designed care home devoid of pastel shades and Queen Anne chairs will appeal more to potential residents, but this work to me has a realness about it. I was over at our recently completed Extra Care project in Kent during January to oversee and style the professional photography. At the same time the home was receiving its first residents. It reminded me of moving into halls at University. Families were arriving with relatives, eating lunch together in the newly furnished dining room. Personal belongings were being moved in, transforming a new building into a home and the air was thick with a mixture of excitement and, I guess, anxiety. The photographer, Clare Goldsmith, and I were especially touched by a lovely elderly gentleman and his daughter. Bob had moved in the night before and had already decided on his favourite place to sit in the communal lounge. He told us that he loved the shared spaces and was looking forward to meeting new residents and finding his new routine. As we worked our way through the various floors for our shots, we kept seeing Bob, with his walking frame, taking in his new surroundings, examining the art and commenting on the colours. Of course there is a buzz from seeing a completed sparkly show home with everything accessorised to the gunnels but the feeling I had as we left Montgomery Court having met Bob and seeing this building we had worked on for so long turn into home for up to 60 people was something altogether different.

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Beckworth House

LINDFIELD HISTORY



Last month we appealed to readers to help Andrew Avenell trace his family history and find out more about the Beckworth Estate where his ancestors lived and worked. Our thanks go to Richard Bryant for providing the following account...

By Richard Bryant, Lindfield History Project Group

Adjacent to Lindfield Common, Beckworth House and grounds stood on the land now occupied by Lindfield Primary School. Taking its name from a medieval field of that name, Beckworth House was built in 1872 for its first owner, Mr William Blaber, by Parker Anscombe, a well-known Lindfield builder. Living with Mr Blaber, a retired merchant, was his wife Elizabeth and their three children, plus a governess and five domestic staff.

By the 1890s the house was lived in by Ernest and Agnes Arbouin, of whom little is known.

From the early 1900s until after the Great War, Beckworth was owned by Mr Mellor Brown. The 1911 Census records that he was aged 72, living on 'Private Means' and had been married for 35 years to Eva, aged 56. At that time they employed five live-in domestic staff. Additionally, at least two outdoor staff were employed; Mr Townshend and family lived in Beckworth Lodge, while the other man lived 'above the stables'. Mrs Mellor Brown was a regular supporter of good causes during the Great War.

Major George Churcher and his wife Aida purchased the property in 1924. A member of the Royal Horticultural Society, Major Churcher was a respected and well-known cultivator of gladiolus, creating new hybrid varieties. He was also a keen grower of daffodils and peonies. An active member of the RHS, he wrote a paper on 'The Modern Gladiolus' and was a regular exhibitor at shows. George Churcher died in 1938 and in his memory Aida gave All Saints church the carved oak eagle lectern.

In September 1939 at the outbreak of World War II,

the patients and staff of the Hostel of God, a Catholic Hospice in Clapham, were evacuated to Beckworth.

After the war, in about 1946, it became the dormitory house for boys sent to attend an agricultural course at Haywards Heath Secondary School (now Oathall Community School). The house was later used as the East Sussex County Council Youth Employment Service and Area Education office.

A purpose-built children's residential nursery was constructed in the extensive grounds. Costing £36,000 it opened in January 1966, as St Nicholas Nursery, to provide a home for 18 babies and young children taken into East Sussex County Council care. The matron was Miss Whitmarsh.

St Nicholas is remembered with warmth, as a lovely place by children and staff. The children lived in small groups as a 'family' of four or five children in their own self-contained accommodation. Each family was looked after by nurses solely dedicated to them. Children were treated as individuals and would be taken on shopping trips into the village or Haywards Heath to buy their own clothes.

The nursery closed in 1976, being redundant following the realignment of East Sussex and West Sussex county boundaries. The building was demolished and the site developed as St. Nicholas Court.

Beckworth House was demolished in March 2000 to make way for the redevelopment of Lindfield Primary School. However, Beckworth Lodge remains to this day and stands at the entrance to the school.



Photos
Left: Circa 1940 aerial view of Lindfield indicating the position of Beckworth House (discovered by reader Deborah Rendall). Below: George Churcher in his study at Beckworth. Bottom: George in his Beckworth gardens. Bottom Left: Beckworth Lodge as it is today and the main house being demolished in 2000.



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Great posture is crucial

TEeing OFF



By James Verrall, Head Golf Professional

I have great pleasure in bringing you my first golf tip of the month. As a first tip, I wanted to take it right back to basics and look at the set up. This is your key to making a good golf swing. So often I see faults in someone's swing, which can be helped by simply improving the set up.

To ensure your set up is correct, make sure you check the following. With a shoulder width stance, your weight should be distributed to the balls of your feet. Then try to tilt over from your hips and stick your butt out so that your back remains straight. A curved back during your set up makes it difficult to make the necessary turn needed for the swing. This can be checked by your playing partner or in a mirror.

Now we need to flex our knees. Many amateur golfers make the mistake of over-bending, remember it is just a light flex. I like to think that my knees just cover my shoelaces. You should now find that your eyes will be roughly over your hands. Behind your hands suggests your weight is on the heels and you are likely to hit it left. Eyes past your hands suggests your weight maybe more on the toes and you will likely hit it right.

When you make your swing, try to retain the angle of your back and not lift up. Not retaining this angle often leads to ball-striking issues, most notably a loss of power and shots that are often topped or hit 'fat' because of the scooping motion that results from this problem.

Visit our brand new teaching academy and junior teaching academy today to help us check your posture and improve your golf.

For all those who want to start to play golf, we will be holding a Learn To Play in April month when will be giving FREE golf lessons to all beginners and returners to the game. Please call us on 01444 414866 to find out more and book your place.

www.haywardsheathgolfclub.co.uk



Apple bounty

SIMPLY GOOD FOOD

Parsnip and apple soup

Makes 4 generous portions and can be frozen.
When reheating do not allow to boil.

Gently cook 1 chopped onion in a knob of butter until soft but not browned. Add 450g peeled and sliced parsnips, 2 large peeled and sliced apples (may be cookers or eating) and 600ml chicken or vegetable stock. Cook over medium heat until very soft. Cool slightly then tip into a processor. Buzz until smooth. Add enough milk to thin to serving consistency, pour back into the pan and gently heat. Serve sprinkled with a little paprika or Parmesan cheese.

Spiced turkey steaks with apples

Serves 2

Put 150ml apple juice and 1tbs white wine or cider vinegar into a freezer bag. Add 2 turkey breast slices, seal and refrigerate several hours or overnight. To cook: preheat oven to 180°. Combine 3tbs plain flour, 1tsp each of ground ginger and cinnamon on a plate. Lift the turkey out of the marinade with a fork and coat with the seasoned flour. Put into a lightly buttered shallow baking dish and cook for 15 min. Combine the reserved marinade with 1tbs soft brown sugar and 2 tbs Calvados, brandy or apple juice. Quarter and core 1 eating apple. Tuck the apple around the turkey, pour over the marinade and continue to cook for about 10 min or until apples are soft.

Talk to your local audience
on our pages...

Go to www.lindfieldlife.co.uk for more information

Lindfield *Life*

By Caroline Young

We had such a wonderful apple harvest last year perhaps you still have a store of apples to use? Added to recipes such as soup or to a gratin they add a mellow sweetness. Try layering thinly sliced parsnips, onions and apples in buttered dish. Pour over seasoned cream (with wholegrain mustard if handy) and bake until soft throughout and golden brown. If wished, top with grated cheese (Gruyere would be my choice) and continue to bake until melted. I have used sliced turkey breast for the main dish. These are a very economical buy and could be used instead of chicken breasts in almost any poultry recipe. Bramley apples cook to a smooth puree and combined with crunchy ginger snap crumbs make a quick pudding. Both the soup and the apple puree can be cooked in the microwave.

Honeyed apple crunch

Serves 4

Peel, core and slice 450g Bramley apples. Put into a pan with 3tbs orange juice, a good pinch of ground cinnamon and 3tbs honey. Cover and cook over low heat until the apples are completely cooked. Beat to a smooth puree. Allow to cool slightly then layer in straight-sided glasses with roughly crushed gingersnap biscuits. Top with cream or yogurt and a sprinkling of cinnamon.

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- **Hips & knees**
- **Ankles & feet**

Dr Jennifer Layton Doctor of Chiropractic
BSc GradDipChiro

Lindfield Chiropractic Centre
83 High Street, Lindfield, Sussex RH16 2HN

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

Subsequently Jenny taught chiropractic at Macquarie University for five years.

She has worked with Australian Olympic Athletes and members of the Australian Rugby Team.

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.

She has been serving the people of Lindfield since 2007.

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Garage celebrates 40th anniversary

One Lindfield business is celebrating its 40th anniversary this month.

Lindfield Motors was started in 1974 by Jim and Janette Yule, and is now run by their son and daughter-in-law Alan and Nicola. It was originally two separate businesses as it used to sell fuel on the forecourt. They have also sold second-hand cars during their history too. "But it's always been fixing cars and keeping our customers happy," Nicola said. In 2003 they extended the workshop and built a new reception in order to facilitate MoT testing on-site.

Jim, who was in the Formula One industry before starting the garage, retired from the business three years ago. Alan completed A-levels at college and then worked in the family business when he was 20 'because it seemed like the natural thing to do'. Alan ran a Formula Ford racing team from the garage until 2003 when the couple had their first child.

The business employs six people at the garage on Lewes Road, including Paul Markham, who has been there 25 years since he started out as an apprentice mechanic when he left school. They also have some very long-standing customers – a few of whom have been there since the beginning. "Garages traditionally have such a bad reputation. We are always trying to challenge that by giving great service," Nicola said.



Lindfield Motors is fully equipped to deal with all types of cars, including having the skills and technology needed for diagnostics and testing on newer vehicles, and is open between 8am-6.30pm Monday to Friday.

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A still life image featuring a dark green vase with greenery, a small wooden table, and a framed picture. The background is a light-colored wall.

Confidence, Opportunity, Potential

A photograph of a young girl with blonde hair, wearing a dark blue sweater, playing a cello. She is looking intently at the instrument. The background is a plain white wall.

Number 21/22

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Lindfield Rural Parish Council Newsletter

March 2014

Millennium Village Centre, Lewes Road, Scaynes Hill, West Sussex RH17 7PG
Tel: 01444 831499 email: lindfieldrural.parishcouncil@virgin.net www.lindfieldrural-pc.org.uk

Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) held a meeting on 3rd February 2014 to receive the report from Action in rural Sussex (AirS) about the responses to the pre-submission draft of the Lindfield and Lindfield Rural Neighbourhood Plan (NP).

A total of 62 responses to the draft were received during the 6 week consultation period, which ran from 1st November 2013 to 13th December 2013. The responses indicated a general satisfaction with the draft policies, although there were a few comments about housing numbers, the decision not to allocate specific sites for new housing and also on the absence of various environmental and traffic related issues. The reasoning for this was explained and it was stated that a slight redesign of the layout, to provide both policies and proposals, would enable some of the missing detail to be included as evidence within the plan.

However, the recent withdrawal of the Mid Sussex District Plan following rejection by the independent examiner, the rejection of the Slaugham Parish Neighbourhood Plan by its independent examiner and other issues relating to the production of Neighbourhood Plans in other parts of the country, indicate that our draft plan may require some further amendment in order to pass the independent examination. It was felt, therefore, that some further guidance should be obtained about the design and layout of our NP.

Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) have arranged a meeting in early March with all local NP producers and consultants, representatives from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and the Independent Examiners, with a view to clarifying the NP process as it now stands. It was agreed that no further action would be taken on progressing our NP until after this meeting. Depending on the advice received, our reworded draft plan may be submitted to MSDC for examination or the amendments may make it necessary to hold a further 6 week consultation.

Reduced Speed Limit on Anchor Hill

As part of East Sussex County Council's review of speed limits on rural A and B class roads, the A272 was identified for a 50mph speed limit between North Chailey and the County boundary. As part of our discussions with West Sussex County Council and the Police, it was agreed that it would help to provide drivers with a more consistent message if the 50mph speed limit was extended to Scaynes Hill.

The proposal to implement the reduced 50mph speed limit from the East/West Sussex border at Pelling Bridge up Anchor Hill to Scaynes Hill is now out for public consultation. It is expected that it will go forward and the limit will be implemented later in the Spring/Summer.

Budget 2014/2015

At the Parish Council Meeting on 13 January the budget for the coming financial year was discussed and agreed. It was resolved to set the precept at £50,803.00, an increase on the current year from £50,300.00. However, based on information from Mid Sussex District Council, due to changes in the tax base this will result in most households paying the same as 2013/2014 and even a small decrease for lower band properties.

Your Parish Councillors:

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Ray Jones (Vice Chair)
Brian Bunt
Chris Hersey
Margaret Hersey
Keith Martin

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Tel: 482270
Tel: 831431

Steve Minter
Andy Spooner
Christopher Snowling
Parish Clerk: Di Morgan
Assistant: Irene Nicholas

Tel: 831786
Tel: 831602
Tel: 482172
Tel: 831499
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

.....



Scaynes Hill Common

The Council recently carried out a survey of residents, whose properties were either adjacent or in view of Scaynes Hill Common, to capture opinions regarding the level of protection required to prevent the incursion of vehicles.

The response was a healthy 50%, with 56% wanting the current arrangement to continue, i.e. protecting the circumference with four inch round posts.

Many residents suggested a bund and ditch arrangement; however this has been prohibited by TransCo due to a fragile, cast iron gas main running the length of the common.

The council is very grateful for the feedback from the community.

The council has agreed to continue with maintaining the posts - possibly using a synthetic material to keep future maintenance charges to a minimum.

The council also is preparing a fact sheet for residents local to the common, detailing the appropriate action if vehicles are taken on to the common.

Christmas Power Outage

The power outage for the majority of Scaynes Hill residents on Christmas Day was caused by two trees falling on overhead power lines. The first in Costells Wood took out the primary supply followed by a tree, near Clearwater Lane, taking out the secondary supply. UK Power Networks (UKPN) do have a cyclical tree management programme; however if you notice a tree which may interfere with overhead lines please contact them on 0845 601 4516 or online at www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk to book a site visit.

Rural areas are more prone to outages; whether due to trees, theft, vandalism or equipment failure. If the community works with UKPN to manage the trees, hopefully we will have fewer outages in the future.

The council has also asked UKPN to investigate the automation of switchover to the secondary supply, thereby reducing the duration of power outages.

Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 14th April 2014 at the Millennium Village Centre, Scaynes Hill at 8pm. 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 7.45pm and all residents are welcome.

Fairtrade gig

The nearest Fairtrade town is celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight this month.

There are a series of events taking place in Burgess Hill including the opening night 'All this and Stand up for Fairtrade' at The Martlets Hall on Friday 7th March. The event features Rock Choir, Hereward Kaye (formerly of The Flying Picketts) and comedians Paul Kerensa and Tony Vino. Tony played in Lindfield before Christmas at an event which was broadcast live on The Gift FM.

Other events during the week or so include dance and film shows, The Dublin Legends playing live, Battle of the Bands competitions, a pudding night and a ceilidh on Saturday 15th March.

For more information on the festival see the website: www.burgesshillfreedomfestival.com



Charity fund-raiser

Four Lindfield businesses played a key role in a recent fund-raising event at Clair Hall. 'How To Make 2014 Your Best Year Ever' was organised by Lindfield resident and business owner Maxine Hayes, raising over £1400 for Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice.

The money was raised through donations made by Mid Sussex residents who attended the event to learn health, fitness and personal care strategies and best practices from local experts in their fields. Lindfield businesses had a strong presence at the event as Ania Tylunas (Talk for Change), Tabitha Bird (Bird Food) took stands and Jenny Layton (Lindfield Chiropractic Centre) and Maxine (Potential Personal Training) took to the stage to give presentations. Popular speaker and media guest Pete Cohen also spoke to the audience about the motivation and mentality behind changing habits.

"It was superb," said Ania. "I was able to chat with a number of people during the evening about things like how to offer support to a loved one who is going through a tough time and tips about how to stay well mentally."

Maxine commented: "I was so proud that we were representing Lindfield there; it just proves how much the village has to offer Mid Sussex."

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What's on in March

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AND ELSEWHERE

- 1st **Royal British Legion (Womens Section)**
Coffee Morning (Mrs Denise John 01444 416155)
- 2nd **Sale of Teak Garden Furniture**
(David Orchard 0800 0776 374)
- 3rd **Autumn Club Meeting – Social Afternoon**
(Sally Dew 01444 414456)
- 5th **Mid-Sussex Death & Living Now Café** 7.30pm
Come along to the cafe to share your thoughts and fears, ask questions about the taboo subject (Joanna Warrington 07769 674347)
- 6th **Country Market** – 10 to 11am
(Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 6th **Film Show "Gravity" 12A** Doors open 7.30pm
Tickets available from Tufnells (Jennie Powell 01444 483431)
- 11th **Lindfield Preservation Society**
King Edward Hall. 'Sussex Village Life in the Middle Ages' by Mark Perry-Nash. Through the year with the people of a Sussex Village in the 14th Century. All welcome, entry free. (Meeting and Membership information from John Chapman 484470)
- 12th **Lindfield Horticultural Society**
8pm 'Clematis Through the Seasons' by Everett Leeds. Everett was instrumental in founding both the British and International Clematis Societies. He has written two books on Clematis, an encyclopaedia and a pocket guide. Members £1, visitors £2. All welcome. www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk (Mrs Alison Elliott 01444 483039)
- 13th **Country Market** – 10 to 11am
- 15th **Haywards Heath Lions Club Jumble Sale**
12-2pm Donations of jumble will be much appreciated on the day at the Hall from 9am or for collection in advance please call 07711 018479.
- 20th **Country Market** – 10 to 11am
- 24th **King Edward Hall** – Annual General Meeting 8pm
(Rupert Ayton 01444 483716)
- 27th **Country Market** – 10 to 11am
- 29th **Finders Keepers – Preloved Clothing Sale**
(Sian 01444 412764 or Sue 01444 451420)
- 7th **The Haywards Heath & District Business Association Conference 'The Future of Business'** – Clair Hall. To be opened by The Rt Hon Nicholas Soames. www.hhdba.com
- 12th **Meeting of the Mid-Sussex Franco-British Society** – The Function Suite, Clair Hall, Haywards Heath 8–10pm. Illustrated talk in French by Séverine Dieudonné: Africa Turns Green. All members and visitors are most welcome. For further information, please contact the Secretary, Mrs. Barbara Stevens, on 01444 452385. The annual Society membership fee is £25, payable in September. Visitor's fee is £4 per evening, payable at meetings.
- 12th **Tiger Arts Lunchtime Concert**
All Saints Church 1pm with light lunches served in the Tiger from 12.15pm
Mariette Davina (soprano) & Richard Watson (piano). Both Mariette and Richard are classically trained and come to us from Bristol. Mariette has an easy listening style, is a worship leader and her compositions have a unique style.
- 15th **Tiger Arts Evening concert** – All Saints Church 7.30pm 'The Golden Piano Trio'
We welcome back this gifted trio of professional musicians. Valtie Nunn plays violin, and is the daughter of members of All Saints. Dan James plays cello and Manuel Lopez Jorge completes the trio on piano.
- 19th **Mid-Sussex Decorative and Fine Arts Society Lecture** – Clair Hall, Haywards Heath 10.15 for 10.45am. 'The Country House in the 20th Century' by Roger Mitchell
- 20th **The National Trust, Mid Sussex Association, winter lecture** – Clair Hall, Haywards Heath 2.30pm. "Endangered Species of Borneo" by Ray Hale.
- 29th **The Ashdown Singers: "The Crucifixion" by Stainer** – Lindfield United Reformed Church 7.30pm
- 30th **Lambing Day** – Oathall Community College Farm 12-4pm Come and see the newborn lambs and enjoy tea and cake, and visit the farm shop
Free entry

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

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