

# Lindfield Life

Inc. Scaynes Hill & Walstead

Local village talk,  
by the village

June 2016 Issue #87

Free



Village People: Jo Swannell

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## EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

In this month's issue of Lindfield Life we have many treats for you!

Firstly, we seem to have featured a number of clubs in our pages here. The Lindfield members of the **Mid Sussex Triathlon Club** talk about their experiences on page 26.

**The Dolphin Ladies Swimming Club** opens its doors on page 29. And on page 31 the **Lindfield and Cuckfield Probus Club** explains what its recent highlights have been.

If time is your nemesis, then can I suggest that you flick over to page 20 where our regular columnist **Caroline Young** gives tips and recipes on making full use of your microwave in your culinary jaunts!

I had the pleasure of meeting Lindfield resident **Pauline Sutherland** this month, who told me all about a new business venture which she is aiming at anyone going on holiday this year. Could that be you? Read about **Clean Getaway** on page 15.

A couple of folk from the village are celebrating on our pages this month. **Oliver Manchester** has done tremendously well to have been added to the **England U11 Junior Chess Squad**. Read his story on page 11.

**Jill Walkinton** is also getting excited with the launch of her new book 'Hooray for Knickers' - Jill's books are wonderful, and I'm sure it will be well-received by children locally and across the country. See page 13.

**Claire Cooper** talks to Lindfield artist **Jo Swannell** about her journey career journey from fossil fixer, graphic designer to full-blown artist! Read all about it on page 22, where you can also see her work.

As ever, any suggestions you can make about **other amazing folk** who live here in Lindfield would be most welcome. You know that we love telling stories!

We love hearing from you, so do get in touch. Send an email to [editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk](mailto:editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk), like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter!

Enjoy June and **Lindfield Village Day** on 4th!

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We 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](mailto:editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk)

## Butchers changes hands

Popular Lindfield butcher Glyn Thomas & Sons has been bought by one of the partners.

Ian Thomas retired last month and John Cottenham, who has been a partner in the business for seven years, took over as sole owner.

John, who lives in Plumpton, knows the village well since working with Ian and he says that he classes his customers as 'more like friends'.

The name will remain, as will the current staff, and they will continue to use the same high quality local suppliers. However, John will be using his own personal connections with farmers to add local specials including lamb from the South Downs expected in this month.

Within six days of opening the doors under the new ownership John is proud to say that they have achieved 5 points on the Food Health Rating awarded by MSDC – the first butcher in Mid Sussex to attain the top award.

Plans for the future include being proactive with the local schools, working more with local pubs and restaurants, and John is also planning to run butchery training courses at the shop due to popular demand.

## Haywards Heath College new hope...

In the next issue, the Gielgud Academy will be announcing its exciting proposals for a new free school for local children aged 5-18, with a specialism in the performing arts and media, at the Hub. Its proposals are designed to fully utilise the Hub's state of the art theatre and studio facility at the Central Sussex College campus in Haywards Heath, which has recently announced its closure of the Sixth Form in July 2017.

## Find 'Love in Lindfield' on Village Day

Local author David Smith will be signing copies of his latest novel – Love in Lindfield – on the common on Village Day. Meet David at the Toll House Store & Café stall (next to the Grand Competition tent) between 2-3pm.

Set in Lindfield, the novel tells the story of Harry, a BBC locations researcher working in rural Sussex, and Ellie, a spirited and independently minded local artist who is cataloguing the former home of Victorian stained glass artist Charles Eamer Kempe at the request of its unscrupulous owner Serena Ross.



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# Lindfield regain Mid Sussex Tag Rugby title

By James Smyth

Lindfield certainly is the village for tag rugby in Mid Sussex, as once again both the primary schools excelled at the Mid Sussex Tag Rugby Final.

Over the last four years, Lindfield and Blackthorns have both won the tournament twice and, with both teams contesting last year's final, it was no surprise that it was an all Lindfield village affair at the conclusion of this year's event. Both teams performed admirably in winning their groups, with Lindfield Primary Academy winning four and drawing one, scoring over 40 tries in the process.

Both teams knew, however, that the toughest challenge lay ahead. Lindfield got off to a flier and soon established a two try lead. From this point on, both teams matched each other try for try, with attacking mistakes becoming fewer and further between. When the final whistle blew, it was Lindfield who came out on top, 10-8, and regained the trophy they had won in 2013 & 2014 from their local rivals. The boys and girls in white are looking forward to the County Final later this term.



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## Katie Derham joins Village Day judges panel

The Grand Competition judges are flexing their muscles in anticipation of a bumper crop of local growers, bakers and model makers showing off their creative talents on Village Day - Saturday 4th June.

BBC newscaster Katie Derham will judge 'Best in Show', while Richard Hilson of the Lindfield Horticultural Society, and registered judge for the RHS, will be casting his expert eye over the homegrown fruit and veg, the roses and other flower arrangements. Well-known village supporters Becca & Robin Belfield and Howard Collins will be deciding who goes home with a rosette in other categories.

Whether you bake, grow, brew, knit or paint, there is a category for everyone, including children, and there is still time to register your entry at The Toll House Store & Café, Lindfield High Street – closing date for entries is Wednesday 1st June. Please see the Village Day programme (available throughout the village), visit the Toll House or go to [www.kingedwardhall.org.uk](http://www.kingedwardhall.org.uk) for a full list of categories.



## Procession gets moving

Lindfield Village Day, held on Saturday 4th June, promises a travelling display in its first spectacle – the procession down the High Street.

Meeting at 12.15pm at Hickmans Lane Playing Fields, anyone can be involved in the transport-themed procession - which can involve anything from a walking group with banners, to fancy dress and decorating cars and trucks.

The organising team is hoping for good weather as the day gets closer.

Also planned for the afternoon is a new event for 2016 - Pantomime Horse Races on the Common in the main arena. Alongside the various heats of this sport will be other fun games for anyone to take part in while enjoying the stalls, beer tent and miniature railway during the afternoon.

More information on the event can be found at the organising charity's website: [www.kingedwardhall.org.uk/villageday](http://www.kingedwardhall.org.uk/villageday)

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## Lindfield Cubs and Scouts 'Clean for the Queen'

Last month the 1st Lindfield Cubs and Scouts took part in the national campaign to Clean for the Queen in honour of her 90th birthday.

The Queen is patron of the Scouting Association, so it seemed fitting to mark her birthday in this way and to serve our local community at the same time.

Armed with black sacks and litter pickers borrowed from MSDC Park Rangers, the Cubs and Scouts spent

three evenings cleaning up the Eastern Road and Scrase Valley nature reserves, as well as Lindfield Common. They did a great job – well done!

1st Lindfield are still in urgent need of adult volunteers to join Beavers, Cubs and Scouts groups. If you think you could help or would like to know more, please contact Alan Dyke at [gsl@lindfieldscouts.org](mailto:gsl@lindfieldscouts.org)

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# LAF still making plans for September

By Lynn Tulip

Please make sure that Saturday 17th September is in your diary. There's entertainment for all!

Classic cars, the violin trade, model railways and wine tasting, along with face-painting, circus skills and graffiti, are all on offer for the Lindfield Arts Festival 2016. You'll see plenty of Arts and Crafts at the King Edward Hall, along with a model railway.

Lindfield charity The Combers Trust is sponsoring 20 children to have the opportunity of making a graffiti tag to be part of the decoration for the low-loader accompanying the 175th celebrations in Haywards Heath. Children from diverse groups in the Mid Sussex area have been invited to apply for the places, and West Sussex High Sheriff, Mark Spofforth will judge the competition.

If you have little ones there will be plenty for them to see and do, including storytelling, dancing and singing. For families, you can enjoy the street play, admire the arts and crafts and relish the local choirs.

Friends of the Festival have the opportunity to attend a preview evening and are offered some complimentary tickets to the different events.

For further information and to become a 'Friend of the Festival' please visit [www.lindfieldartsfestival.com](http://www.lindfieldartsfestival.com)

# U3A group celebrates

Members of the Haywards Heath & District U3A have two special reasons to celebrate this year.

The group is celebrating its 25th anniversary and has also welcomed it's 1,000th member!



At the recent AGM, the Chairman of Haywards Heath & District U3A, John Kinchington, announced that the membership of the organisation has now reached 1,007!

The group, which also covers Lindfield, Cuckfield and Balcombe and was started in 1991, offers more than 85 special interest groups with topics ranging from Art to Yoga. Some groups are small and meet in members' houses, including board games and language groups. Other larger groups meet in local halls, for example the Gardens and Heritage groups.

The HHU3A also has groups which do not have meetings but see members getting together for walking or birdwatching, exploring London or going to the theatre.

Anybody not in full-time employment can join the U3A by either downloading an application form from the website [www.haywardsheathu3a.org.uk](http://www.haywardsheathu3a.org.uk) or by phoning the membership secretary on 01444 440452.


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# Lindfield Chess champ

When Lindfield's Oliver Manchester picked up his first chess piece aged just three it was the start of something special.

By the time he was six Oliver was the Under 7 Sussex Champion; by eight he was outplaying his dad; aged nine he won the Under 9 Sussex Champion title and last month he was awarded a coveted place in the England U11 National Chess Junior Squad.

"Representing England has been Oliver's dream from a very early age," said his proud mum Sandra. "It's all he's ever wanted to do."

Oliver was selected for the squad after performing well at a trial selection tournament at Liverpool College. The two day trial involved playing six matches, each lasting up to two hours. "It was very tense for us, but Oliver seems to have nerves of steel," said Sandra. "He copes really well with the pressure."

Oliver started playing chess with his twin brother Thomas and was taught by dad Edward.

The boys went on to join the school chess club at Lindfield Primary School, and then Burgess Hill Junior Chess, where Oliver's natural ability was quickly recognised.

Oliver has gone from strength to strength, travelling all over England attending training sessions, regional matches and qualifying tournaments.

As a member of Sussex Junior Chess, the county chess organisation, run entirely by parent volunteers,



including Sandra, Oliver attends training days where he works with coaches to improve his game. He also has his own coach, David Graham from Worthing, who visits him at home to give individual training. "We are very grateful to Dave for all his support and encouragement. He has many years of experience of preparing children for the England circuit," said Sandra.

Now a pupil at Hurstpierpoint College, Oliver says he is looking forward to representing England in his first international tournament in Belgium later this year.

"My friends are really impressed and my form tutor said she was amazed," he said.

And his advice to other young chess players? "Definitely join a club as you will get lots of help and experience to help you improve."

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# Jill Lewis launches pants book

Young readers have given the thumbs up to the latest book by Lindfield author Jill Lewis.

'Hooray for Knickers' was launched to three to seven year old at Burgess Hill School for Girls – who all agreed that the adventure book is certainly not 'pants!'.

The picture book, a funny madcap royal adventure where everyone ends up wearing knickers, even the King, was written by Jill Walkinton and Alison Lewis, who write as Jill Lewis.

Illustrated by Deborah Allwright, the book is packed with silly rhymes and plenty of knickers, and is perfect for reading out loud.

Children were delighted when Jill, Alison and Deborah arrived at the school wearing silly pantomime knickers and enjoyed signing dozens of copies at the end of the session.

"The response was great - you could have heard the proverbial pin drop!" said Jill. "We had more than 80 children to the main event; they all were captivated by the silliness as the misheard orders unravelled!"

Comments from the children ranged from: 'I liked the big, big picture at the end with all the wrong stuff they had brought. It was a very funny book!' - Milly, to 'I loved the knickers because they were funny!' - Georgia.

Jill and Alison, who meet up every Friday to work together, have eight picture books published. Jill is Head of Individual Educational Needs at Burgess Hill and Alison is part of the production team for children's stage shows such as Peppa Pig & Octonauts, so they understand what appeals to children and how to support aspects of education at the same time.



Jill, Alison and Deborah said that it was great being able to launch their new book on home territory and were delighted with the response their story (and pantomime knickers) received!

Jill Lewis offers free workshops to schools, together with a follow-up series of worksheets which are linked to the National Curriculum but based on 'Hooray for Knickers'.

Schools interested in holding a similar event should contact: [ethomas@eukegmont.com](mailto:ethomas@eukegmont.com)



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# Your home in safe hands

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When you go away this summer, will you be stressing about leaving your home before you board the plane?

This is the situation Lindfield resident Pauline Sutherland found herself in earlier in the year, and that problem gave birth to a solution – one which she doesn't believe is being offered by anyone else.

Pauline is proud to launch Clean Getaway – her business concept to put the minds of local residents at rest when they leave their home for holidays.

"I realised that I was running around like crazy trying to tidy the place up – really stressing out – so that our home was nice to return back to in two weeks time," Pauline explains. "Then it struck me, if I felt like that, there was a good chance that others felt the same before going away."

Pauline returned from her trip and promptly tested the theory on a local social media group – the response she got was 'amazing' and she set about planning the business immediately.

Clean Getaway offers a standard package to holiday-goers of a taxi to/from the airport, two hours of Pauline's time while they are away and a welcome pack in the kitchen when they return home – all for just £100.

It is a totally flexible and tailored service as the time allocated can be increased. And it fits perfectly with Pauline's family life and her more recent work experience.

Although Pauline is qualified in insurance by trade – she used to work for HSBC in the City – she changed tack when she had a family and has spent the last 15 years as a part-time cleaner and ten of those years as a local licensed taxi driver too. "Making this new service available means I am bringing together both of those worlds to create a genuinely useful service for my customers," Pauline continued.

The hours of Pauline's time can be used for tasks such as feeding home pets, moving post from the front door,



mowing the lawn, cleaning, watering plants or waiting in for a delivery to arrive while you are away.

Pauline, a keen animal lover and pictured here with her Labrador Buddy, explains that the service is always personalised: "The first thing I do, after the initial phone call, is to meet up in their home so that the prospective customer can show me exactly what they would require doing and how. This also gives them a chance to meet me in person." She is very aware that having someone in your home is a personal service and a responsibility which she doesn't take lightly. "I will always provide any quote for the service by email after our meeting. There is never any pressure to accept," she says.

Mrs M, from Lindfield, explains why she will always be using her services: "Pauline is reliable, punctual, friendly and nothing is too much trouble. I highly recommend her." While a thank you note from another local client, Mrs K, simply said: "I don't want to embarrass you, but you're the best cleaner I've ever had – and I've had a few!"

What Pauline offers with the Clean Getaway service is peace of mind while you are away. Whether that's about your cat being looked after in its own home, someone opening the curtains or the place being clean and fresh when you get back – she can make your holiday even more relaxing.

To chat to Pauline about your own requirements for home holiday cover, call her today on 07729 345000.



## How I'll remember the Centenary of the Battle of the Somme

### By a Lindfield resident

My family history from 100 years ago is not unique. It is, I'm sure, quite similar to millions of other families stories across Europe and the world. Our relatives answered the call from each of their nations and during the hot summer of 1914, descended (predominantly) on France & Belgium. All nations, filled with nationalistic pride and fervour, supremely confident that they each would be the victors 'by Christmas'. We all (I hope) know the main facts of those horrific, carnage filled years. Every family has a unique & personal story to tell.

One of my great-grandfathers, who fought in the trenches of France, was 'poison (mustard) gassed' in 1916 and sent back to England. His wife was told that this 20-something man would succumb to the injuries his lungs had sustained, and be lucky to have 'a couple more years'. He died over 60 years later, though he endured every day with restrictions to his physical abilities and, I'm reliably informed, my great-grandmother's constant 'reminders' when he annoyed her!

This is just one story passed to me via my grandfather and my mother to me. I will ensure that these memories live through my two children, whom, I hope, will understand the importance of keeping them 'alive' for future generations.

Friday 1st July is the centenary of the Battle of the Somme which took place during World War I.

On 1st July 1916 hundreds of thousands of soldiers from all combatant nations commenced this 141-day long battle in northern France. This was the largest, bloodiest battle of World War I, with more than one million people killed, wounded or taken prisoner. In the months leading up to the battle a series of vast tunnels had been dug by thousands of miners, from the British front line, underneath 'no man's land', towards the German trenches.

At 07:28 on the morning of 1st July 1916, hundreds of tons of explosives, placed within these mines, were detonated (17 separate mines). The carnage created is, to this day, indescribable. As the spoil from the explosions (which had rattled windows in LONDON) was settling, at 07:30, the whistles blew and thousands went 'over the top'. On this first, horrific day the British Army

had just under 20,000 soldiers killed with an additional 38,000 wounded. The largest single loss of life the British Army has ever suffered. To place these numbers into some perspective, Brighton & Hove Albion's AMEX Football Stadium could be filled TWICE with those brave and selfless men.

One of the mine explosions caused a massive crater, named Lochnagar (after the starting trench the miners had dug out from), which is situated on the outskirts of the village of Ovilliers-La-Boisselle in northern France. It is now a memorial maintained by volunteers, receiving around 250,000 visitors annually.

When this explosion took place, it is estimated that the spoil from it went over 1.2 kilometres in the air (4,000 feet). The next time you are in London look at The Shard building. The spoil from this explosion went over four times higher than it. The next time you may visit Blackthorns / Lindfield Primary School look at the grass playing field, which is just under 100 metres long. That's nearly the same width of today's Lochnagar crater. The next time you look at an average two storey house, double the height. That is the approximate depth of the crater (21 metres or 70 feet). Only approximate statistics are available however, but the German army is believed to have lost around 6,000 men due to this one crater explosion alone. For perspective, the 2011 Census stated that Lindfield village (not including Lindfield Rural) had 5,836 residents.

I have selected just one day and one personal/family memory. I wish to remain anonymous as my name does not count and is not important. What is massively important and I do implore every villager to do on Friday 1st July, is to stop and remember, even for just 100 seconds, the selflessness of the millions who lost their lives.

The village of Lindfield and its surrounding rural area lost 64 men during World War I, with nine of those men losing their lives as a result of this battle. The two memorials to them are situated within and outside All Saints Church. Theirs are the only names to be remembered from Lindfield village on that day.

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# Ideas for fast food

SIMPLY GOOD FOOD

## Paprika Chicken

Serves 2

Put a medium-sized thinly sliced onion, some crushed garlic, 100g sliced button mushrooms, a thinly sliced carrot and a knob of butter into a medium casserole. Cover and cook (100%) for 4 min, stirring once, until just soft. Put 1tbs plain flour and 1tsp smoked paprika into a freezer bag, add 225g skinned and diced chicken breast and shake to coat. Add the chicken and any remaining flour to the casserole then stir in 75ml chicken stock. Cover and cook (75%) for about 10 min, stirring once, until cooked through. Stir in 4tbs soured cream, season to taste and serve piping hot with pasta or rice.

## Ham and Leek Hotpot

Serves 2

Put 225g thickly sliced leeks and 100g diced carrots into a medium casserole. Sprinkle with a little oil and cook, covered, for 3 min until soft. Stir in 225g diced ham and 1tbs flour. Whisk together 150ml vegetable stock, 2tbs wholegrain mustard, 1tbs honey, grated rind and juice of one small lemon and add to the dish with one small eating apple, peeled and sliced. Cook (100%) for 2-3 min just to bring to the boil, cover and cook (75%) for 10 min, stirring once, until the vegetables are just tender. Season to taste.

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## Lindfield Life

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By Caroline Young

I have recently read some interesting articles on an American foodie website where they were getting really excited about being able to cook a whole dish in the microwave! English cooks have been doing that very successfully at least from the 80s if not earlier. The following recipes, dating from 1995, are from a publication I edited at that time called Microwave Cook. To serve four, double the ingredients and cook for 50% longer than stated time. Check results and cook longer if needed. They taste just as good today! (Timings are for a 700 watt microwave)

**Have you tried any of these recipes? If so, why not let us know on Facebook, Twitter or send an email with a photo to editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk**

## Bombay Lamb Curry

Serves 4

Put a chopped large onion into a large casserole with some crushed garlic, 1tbs oil and 1tsp each of ground cumin, coriander, turmeric and cinnamon and 1tbs garam marsala. Stir to combine, cover and cook 5 min. Stir in 750g diced lean lamb neck fillet, 125g chopped fresh tomatoes and a chopped small green chilli. Cover and cook (100%) for 10 min then stir well and continue to cook on MEDIUM- LOW for about an hour or until the meat is tender. Season to taste.

## Pasta with Asparagus and Creamy Chilli sauce

Serves 2

Put 175g penne pasta into a large bowl and cover generously with boiling water from the kettle. Cook 6 min 100%, stirring once. Stir in 250g asparagus spears, cut into 2.5cm pieces. Cook 3 min, cover and leave to stand. Whisk 100ml crème fraiche and 2tbs chilli jelly (or sauce) until combined. Microwave on 50% just to heat through. Drain the pasta and asparagus well and combine with the sauce. Top with grated Parmesan cheese.



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# Fixer turned painter

VILLAGE PEOPLE

From 'mending' dinosaurs at the Natural History Museum to painting them on a crazy golf course in Kent, Lindfield artist Jo Swannell never knows where her next job will lead. Her work has taken her to the Costa Rican Jungle, a London mansion and even a world famous cruise ship. Not bad for someone who never really thought she could make a living from painting.

By Claire Cooper

"At school I was told that art wouldn't get me a 'real job', and I was very interested in science subjects, so I concentrated on that instead," said Jo, who is originally from Hertfordshire. After graduating from University College London with a degree in archaeological conservation, it seemed Jo was destined for a career in archaeology when she landed a dream job - 'mending dinosaurs' in the basement of the Natural History Museum!

"It was a very exciting first job: just to walk into that building every day was amazing," said Jo. "In the lab we had stuff coming in from excavations and it was our job to remove the rock to reveal the fossils, making replicas and piecing them together."

After four years Jo decided to leave the museum and move out of London. "Finding museum work outside the city was hard, so I reinvented myself as a graphic designer."

Jo worked as part of the in-house design team for a holiday company. "Unfortunately it wasn't very artistically fulfilling, and I also discovered that sitting at a computer all day was really bad for me!" she said.

Keen for a new adventure, Jo signed up for a Global Vision International expedition into the rainforest in Costa Rica. "I've always been interested in conservation and wildlife so I volunteered for the project," she said. "I worked as part of a team studying the turtles laying eggs on the beaches, and protecting them from poachers."

Jo became a valued member of the team, and when the expedition ended was invited to stay on as a member of staff.

"It was a wonderful and life changing experience, and I felt a huge sense of responsibility," she said. "Collecting data to present to academic circles was 'proper science' and it was important for us to produce credible research."

The experience also provided Jo with an opportunity to create her first large scale artwork – on the dining tables. "In the camp we had these long wooden tables and I was asked if I could brighten them up with jungle scenes," said Jo. "I often wonder what state they're in now!"

Returning to England was hard. "In Costa Rica I had a responsible role in my little environment," she said. "Coming back home made me feel somewhat insignificant, and trying to get a job was difficult."

So when Jo was offered the chance to cat sit for a friend in Hove, while she went travelling around the world, she jumped at it.

"Rather inconveniently she came back after a year, but by that time I had settled and grown to love the city, so I found myself a flat on Brighton seafront."

"Brighton is a good place to be an artist, but the downside is that there are millions of others! But I had done a couple of interior murals for friends, so I decided to call myself a mural painter and see what happened!"

"I also attended the brilliant Draw Brighton classes run by Jake Spicer, who was a big encouragement."

With no money for advertising, Jo took the direct approach, calling in and introducing herself at shops and businesses in Brighton and Hove - and it worked!



"One of my first projects was at a lovely Italian restaurant in Hove, where I painted a map of central Rome which included scenes from Fellini films, such as *La Dolce Vita*," she said. "It was really good fun working there. Every day they brought me lovely food and an endless supply of coffee!"

Jo went on to paint murals in a restaurant in Seven Dials and a florist shop.

"One of my favourites was a mural on the outside wall of the Onca Gallery in Brighton, which promotes wildlife and conservation issues through artistic projects. For me that was a perfect combination of course," said Jo. "I painted a scene to raise awareness of plastic pollution."

As a freelance artist Jo never knows where her next job will take her, or what it will involve. "I've done quite a lot of work for a French company which specialises in very high end interior design," said Jo. The work includes creating special paint effects, such as graining, marbling and stone effects.

"I remember being sent to an address in Highgate which turned out to be a 60 room mansion owned by a Russian oligarch. When I arrived I was subject to security checks and my bags were searched. A pretty strange working environment.

"I learnt a lot from that company, especially about the 'French way' of painting. I had not done much graining before, and I had to learn very quickly to be very good at it!"

Jo also spent time as part of a team of artists painting murals on the biggest cruise ship in the world – the *Harmony of the Seas*. "I painted part of the 15th floor - the upper deck - in the winter in San Nazaire when the weather was absolutely freezing. It was windy too - sometimes paint was blown off the brushes before we could get it on the walls!" she said. Jo returned to work on the ship earlier this month.

Closer to home, Jo has created jungle scenes for the *Jungle Rumble* crazy golf course on Madeira Drive in Brighton. "I also painted an adventure golf site in Kent, featuring the natural combination of pirates and dinosaurs with a few sharks and cannibals thrown in for good measure!

"There are days when I think 'is this really my job?',"

like when I'm painting a giant cannibal cauldron in the sunshine!"

While studying scenic painting for theatre at DAP studios in London, Jo had the opportunity to try something new. "I really admire Caravaggio so I was delighted when I got the opportunity to create a large-scale copy of a small part of one of his masterpieces, using facilities at the studios," she said. "It was a chance to experiment with scaling things up using precise grid work, and I was really proud of the finished piece."

Jo moved to Lindfield just over a year ago. "I decided to leave Brighton but wanted to have easy access to London," she said. "Lindfield is commutable but has a nice country feel to it and I love living here. It's so peaceful to come back to a village at the end of the day and not to another city.

"The greenery is definitely good for me - it's lovely to run in the nature reserve and to hear the birds singing."

Jo is currently working for Brighton & Hove City Council on a series of murals for the underpasses on a popular housing estate.

"The idea is to improve the environment for residents and to deter graffiti," said Jo. "There are 12 design locations each 8 metres long, to be painted with murals depicting scenes from around Brighton and Hove, from the beach huts to the Royal Pavilion." The project should take most of the summer.

"I love working on projects which have the potential to make a real difference to people's lives and make them feel good," said Jo. "Residents stop and chat and offer me cups of tea and I've added things to the paintings after their suggestions, such as the odd seagull!"

"In Brighton lots of very interesting people come up and chat to you," said Jo. "Some want to talk, others stand, stare and walk away. The worst are the ones that stand really close and don't say anything at all!"

Since moving to Lindfield Jo has been putting her own stamp on her home in Linden Grove. "I've just finished an Edward Hopper mural in the dining room," she said. And she's keen to make her mark on the village too. "I'd love to create a mural in Lindfield some day!"

To find out more about Jo and her work, visit her website [www.brightonmurals.co.uk](http://www.brightonmurals.co.uk)



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# What's the market doing?

## PROPERTY PAGE

**By Mathew Gurr, Move Revolution**

Born and bred in Mid Sussex and living with my family in Haywards Heath, I have worked in the property market for the best part of 20 years and I am now Area Sales Manager for Move Revolution, having opened their Haywards Heath branch just before Christmas. In a competitive market it is important to stand out and differentiate yourself from your competitors. We recognise that exceptional marketing and providing excellent service to our clients is hugely important, which is why we provide professional photography on every home advertised and offer a seven day a week service. By living locally, that seven day a week service simply becomes a way of life!

Looking at the market on a local level, many of you know there is plenty of talk at the moment in the village regarding pending planning applications, and the positive and negative demands and effect that could have. At the time of writing this, the land to the south of Scamps Hill is under consideration with Mid Sussex, which will stretch the boundaries of the village. Whilst in the opinion of the developer, Wates will create 200 dwellings and a 9.54 Ha Country Park, the impact on the road and local schools is a crucial factor leaving many concerned as to how the village will handle additional traffic.

Over the last 12 months it is fair to say the prices locally have increased considerably. The desire for village life aided by outstanding independent retailers ensures that the village is a major pull to families looking from further afield. Added to the fact you can jump on the train at Haywards Heath and technically be in the city within an hour (service levels we know fluctuate!) there cannot be too many villages that will have the demand of Lindfield.

Every day there are reports in the national media about a percentage increase in house prices across the UK, and how it has never been a better time to borrow money. That said, pick up another paper or follow a link to a different website and a different position of the housing market is casted. What I have learnt after 18 years in the property industry is to pretty much ignore what is



The desire for village life is a major pull to families looking from further afield. You can jump on a train and be in the city within an hour; there cannot be too many villages that will have the demand of Lindfield.

happening nationally; the most important information is what is happening in your local area and specifically what is happening in Lindfield. Our experience of talking to sellers is that there are many who want to move but simply cannot find a property to buy. That is where an experienced and knowledgeable Estate Agent is crucial, one that can find homes that might not be on the open market.

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## Lindfield's Triathlon heroes

**MID SUSSEX TRIATHLON CLUB**

Summer is a busy time for members of the Mid Sussex Triathlon Club who are in training for a range of events in the months ahead.

Club members are currently preparing for the major event of the year - the Mid Sussex Sprint Triathlon and Aquathon, held at the Triangle Leisure Centre in Burgess Hill on Sunday 12th June.

The Sprint Triathlon involves a 400m swim in the Leisure Centre pool, a 25km bike ride around the Sussex lanes and lastly a 5km run. The Aquathon is similar but does not include the run.

Athletes taking part in previous years have described the event as 'very friendly and enjoyable', and the club hopes these comments will encourage newcomers to the sport to sign up.

Lindfield members include Ben Fergie, who joined the club to become a better triathlete and especially a better runner. "I had never been a member of a club and always just trained on my own," he said. "I was training for the marathon when I first joined, and the knowledge and motivation from the club and coaches gave me great encouragement to complete my first marathon. I now have no more marathons planned but lots more triathlons!"

Fellow Lindfield member and keen long distance swimmer Vicky von der Linden has been a member for four years. "I joined after I heard that they train for open water swimming in Ardingly reservoir as I found trundling up and down in the pool could get boring!" she said. "The club encouraged me for my 10km swim, and I found everyone so supportive and enthusiastic. It was also surprisingly inexpensive to join."

Vicky attends most swimming sessions and trains hard for multiple long distance swim events. "Since I joined, I slowly started running - a sport I had previously hated my whole life!

"The encouragement from the Mid Sussex Tri club coaches changed my attitude towards running and, as a result, my belief in my ability, and I am doing my first marathon this year!" she added.

"You don't need to be an elite athlete to train with the club; it caters for all abilities, holds many social events, and is all round an inviting and fabulous club!"

Neil Giles moved to Lindfield four years ago, joined the club and has now qualified as a coach. "The Mid Sussex Club encourages participation in the sport at all levels and is a friendly club," he said. "There's also good access to the sea and good biking in the area."

Earlier this year the club held a Club Duathlon event at Ardingly Reservoir in April and Junior Triathlon events at Walstead School in May.

Future events include a charity swim at Ardingly Reservoir on the 6th August where participants can swim 5km, 3km or 1km, or all three if they feel energetic! There is also a club triathlon festival at Ardingly Reservoir on the 28th August (Bank Holiday Sunday) where competitors can do Olympic Distance or Middle Distance Triathlons.

The club holds regular training sessions at The Dolphin in Haywards Heath on Thursday evenings, involving running and swimming as well as Spin and Gym sessions. There is also swimming at the Ardingly College pool on Tuesday evenings in the winter months and open water swimming in the reservoir from May to October on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings.

So if you want to get fit and participate in swimming, running and cycling, and make some new friends. Why not join up?

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# Dementia design at home

## HOME FRONT



**By Jacqui Smith, interior designer**

I am certainly not a dementia expert. I have no medical background nor do I have relatives or friends with the disease. I am simply a designer who has worked with care home owners and who is quite evangelical about how an interior can enhance a person's wellbeing, be it colours, layout or lighting. There are many different types of dementia, each with differing symptoms, but the main challenges are: difficulty in remembering things; struggling to work things out (cognitive impairment); finding it hard to learn new things; the general changes that come with age but a reduced ability to understand them and cope with them and generally heightened levels of stress.

Encouraging people with dementia to live in their own home as long as possible is important. They will be familiar with their surroundings and, as their condition develops, not trying to remember new places will lessen their stress. This is by no means an exhaustive list but here are a few suggestions on how changes in the home can support a person with dementia.

Increasing light levels for somebody with deteriorating vision and dementia can make a world of difference. Maximise natural light by keeping window treatments light and bright and curtains stacked well clear of the window. Paint the room a lighter colour and ensure that the room is adequately lit with a combination of general lighting (eg. pendants, downlights or wall lights) and task lighting (eg. desk lamps or floor lamps to aid close work). When considering lighting, glare can be an issue whether from sunlight streaming through the window at a certain time of the day or an artificial light source with a bulb on show. Both can cause discomfort and disorientation.

As well as declining sight, a person with dementia may suffer with impaired hearing. I know myself how, since my sight loss, a busy office can have me shutting my eyes before speaking to enable me to focus properly. For a

person with dementia too much noise will exacerbate the ability to think, so simply considering the general background noise in a home and how it might be turned off or down will help them to formulate thoughts and feel less overwhelmed.

Contrasts in floor surfaces can appear like a step to a person with dementia. Even a dark threshold between two adjacent rooms can look like something that might cause a person to trip and make them nervous about walking over it. Dark door mats in the hall against a lighter floor should also be avoided as they can appear like a hole. When considering hard floor surfaces they should be matt to avoid glare. A shiny tiled floor in bright sunlight can look wet and cause confusion. Ideally the flooring throughout the home should be the same colour regardless of the surface. Continuing on the subject of contrast, it can be used most effectively for clearly indicating a change in surface. For instance, skirting painted to contrast with the floor will show a person with dementia very clearly where the floor ends and the wall begins.

Human beings recognise colour before words, so colour coding is sometimes used by carers to help a person locate, for instance, things in their kitchen. Whilst not a bad idea it is an idea that requires new learning, so a picture of what is in the drawer would be preferable.

Finally, the health benefits of fresh air are massive so encouraging a person with dementia to spend time in their garden is really important. Vitamin D is good for our bones and may lessen the effect of a fall, and daylight regulates the body clock so will help retain healthy sleeping patterns. Ensuring that a person can easily and safely access an outdoor space will benefit their health as well as their sense of independence.

[www.homesmiths.co.uk](http://www.homesmiths.co.uk) 01444 440880

# Dolphin Ladies in full swim

When Jeanne Izod decided to start a ladies swimming club at the newly opened Dolphin Leisure Centre in 1977 she was delighted when 12 swimmers signed up for lessons.

She could not have dreamt that nearly 40 years later the club would have welcomed more than 1,500 ladies for swimming lessons.

Today membership stands at around 170, with one original member still swimming and many more members swimming regularly with the club for more than 25 years.

The ASA qualified teaching team of 20 also includes many former club members – some who could only swim 'head-up breaststroke' when they joined the club and progressed through the classes.

"We cater for all abilities, from non-swimmers through to highly competent swimmers," explained Margaret Carter, the membership secretary. "Non-swimmers and beginners are taught in small groups and usually have a teacher in the water to help build confidence."

The club runs weekly sessions at the Dolphin Leisure Centre in Haywards Heath and at Ardingly Swim centre (based at Ardingly College).

Tuesday morning sessions at The Dolphin include classes for beginners and improvers, swimming widths or lengths according to ability and working on all strokes, turns and water skills. The more proficient and advanced swimmers attend length classes, working up to competition level.

At Ardingly College on a Friday, 25m lengths are available to all swimmers, but beginners stay in the shallow water until ready to progress deeper.

"Every swimmer is allowed to develop confidence and improve technique at their personal pace," said Wendy Dumbleton, who has been teaching since 1982. "Many swimmers have found their health, as well as fitness and self-confidence, has improved during the time spent having swimming lessons with us."

Members range from young mums, joining when their children start school, to those who have retired. "The oldest swimmer we have had was 96 year old Irene Curtis, one of our original treasurers," said teacher Stephanie Wilson. "Irene is now 102 years old and still has an active mind, which shows the youngsters how good swimming is for body and mind."

Lindfield's Sue Bulley has been a member of the Dolphin Ladies Swimming Club for nearly 20 years. "When I started coming along to classes I was unable to swim and very nervous in the water," she recalled. "I found the club very friendly, with swimmers of mixed ages and abilities. With the expert guidance and patience of some great swimming teachers not only did I learn to swim with confidence, I also made many new friends."

"You never stop learning, and I still look forward to swimming with the Tuesday and Friday groups after all these years and meeting fellow swimmers socially."

Fellow Lindfield swimmer Barbara Hayward said she was initially nervous about joining a swimming club. "I thought I wasn't good enough to join a club and



that everyone would be much better than me," she recalled. "But everyone was so welcoming and friendly. I remember the delight of learning to do my first 'push and glide'! Over the 20 years I have been a member I've had wonderful support and friendship from my fellow swimmers."

"Every time I walk through Haywards Heath or go into a coffee shop I seem to meet other members, which is lovely! My swimming lessons mean the world to me!"

Classes run during term time only, which is an advantage for mums with school children and The Dolphin also has a crèche facility. There are currently places for new swimmers, particularly at the Dolphin Leisure centre on Tuesday mornings.

For more information about the club visit: [www.dolphinladiesswimmingclub.co.uk](http://www.dolphinladiesswimmingclub.co.uk)

# Hospital friends celebrate 2016

2016 marks two very important anniversaries for The Friends of the Princess Royal Hospital: the 60th anniversary of The Friends (formerly The Cuckfield Hospital League of Friends) and the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Princess Royal Hospital and the transfer of the services from Cuckfield Hospital.

To celebrate, the recently launched Periwinkle Appeal is targeting £80,000 to co-fund a significant upgrade of facilities on the Special Care Baby Unit. A refreshed, open and modernised unit will give mothers and babies more privacy and much more space. The improved facilities will also make a major contribution to the way the medical team cares for babies and supports families.

"We are really excited as the fundraising is gaining momentum," said member Annette Smith. "In March we received our first donation from Lindfield Primary Academy, and the first of our Spring/Summer events took place in April with a Charity Golf Day. We are now planning a BBQ & Summer Dance party on 10th June at 8pm at Mid Sussex Golf Club, Ditchling. We really hope people will join us for some summer fun and dancing to support our local Special Care Baby Unit."

For tickets, which cost £25, please contact Vivian on 07725 034837.

The summer finale will be a fundraising walk across the South Downs from the Princess Royal Hospital to the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton. "This promises a day of talking, walking and scenic views, with plenty of pubs along the way for refreshments." The walk, approximately 16 miles with a half way option, takes place on 9th July.

The Friends of the Princess Royal Hospital is a Registered Charity No. 257130. For further details on supporting these fundraising activities please contact Annette Smith on 07775 758480 or visit the [www.prhfriends.org](http://www.prhfriends.org)



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## Probus Club enjoys week away

By Richard Mason

As an addition to our monthly gatherings Lindfield and Cuckfield Probus Club hosts several other social events, the 'jewel in the crown' being a week away with friends old and new.

Excellently organised by our very own John Crook, 48 members inclusive of partners recently visited an almost always dry Porthcawl to enjoy the hospitality of the seafront hotel, the Seabank, and a series of excursions into the Welsh countryside. They included a ride on the narrow gauge Brecon Railway, and a visit to the Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh whose documented skirmishes included Rourke's Drift made famous by the film Zulu, plus the National Trust houses

at Duffryn and Tredegar. Also visited was the open air Museum of Welsh Life, made especially memorable both by the diversity of properties displayed and it being 'live' with locals dressed in the costumes of the ages portrayed. A great holiday was had by all!

Possibly unique as a luncheon club, Probus draws its membership from the retired and is supported by those who made their careers either in the business community or from the professions. It meets once a month on the third Thursday at Lindfield Golf Club and, exceptionally, is able to accept one or two applications for membership.

For further details please contact Richard Mason on 01444 453672.

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# South of England Show 'Year of Sheep'

Where better to celebrate the Queen's official 90th birthday weekend than at the South of England Show on 9th, 10th and 11th June in Ardingly, where you can enjoy the best of the British countryside, food and drink and outdoor entertainment for the whole family?

For three glorious days, the South of England Agricultural Society will throw the spotlight on both the new and traditional, with stunning displays of the best of British agriculture, equestrianism, countryside learning, country crafts and sports; as well as great music, delicious food and drink and superb shopping.

New to the show will be The Ardingly Eye, a spectacular 32 metre high giant wheel, where visitors will get a unique bird's eye view of the entire 150-acre showground which will be alive with hundreds of competitions and entertainment for all ages, arranged in zones to ensure the best possible visitor experience.

The society's 'Year of Sheep' theme will be celebrated with special displays in the Livestock and Discover the Countryside zones and will include sheep shearing and herding displays as well as fleece competitions and much more across the three days.

There will be new entertainment in the main ring this year with the Royal Signals White Helmet motorcycle display team, who will be performing death-defying stunts every day of the show.

More than 1,500 horses and ponies will take part in the equestrian showcase that forms an enormous part of the three-day extravaganza, featuring dozens of classes from impressive heavy horse turnouts to the fast paced inter-hunt relay, spectacular show jumping to beautiful hackneys.

An exciting new Music Stage will showcase a range of talented up-and-coming performers from across the region, combining folk, acoustic, pop and bluegrass providing entertainment for all the family.

Last year more than 70,000 visitors enjoyed entertainment, music, crafts, shopping and one of the most impressive food halls in the South East featuring many delicious local and regional foods.

More information at: [www.seas.org.uk](http://www.seas.org.uk)



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## The Great British Dream Factory by Dominic Sandbrook

### BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

Subtitled *The Strange History of our National Imagination*, this is a very readable cultural history.

Sandbrook's contention is that British popular culture replaced the Empire as the way in which we as a nation transformed the world. Following on from a BBC series, this asks a question about when British identity was formed. For Sandbrook, the Victorian era and the teachings of Samuel Smiles' 'Self Help' are emblematic of Britain's unique culture: progressive, yet with a deep vein of conservatism, evidenced by *Downton Abbey*. We do idealise the past – comparing the real country house of the era with the idealised family of Julian Fellows is quite revealing. Sandbrook rightly takes on John Lennon for inventing a working class past when he was actually quite bourgeois!

At times, you may disagree with Sandbrook – personally I really do not think you can sustain an argument that Band Aid reflects the self-help philosophy. What he does do is make sense of some of the different strands of culture and our history.

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## Denmans Lane Open Garden

Keen gardeners Sue and Jim Stockwell will be welcoming visitors to their garden on Sunday 12th June, from 2-5pm, to raise funds for St Peter & St James Hospice.

Sue and Jim have lived at 47 Denmans Lane for 20 years and over that time have created a beautiful and tranquil garden on their one acre site behind the Denmans Lane allotments. In the front garden there is a wildlife pond, sinuous lawn, rose garden, exotic bed, herbaceous borders and an 'eyecatcher' gazebo.

Behind the house there is a new parterre garden, two greenhouses, including a 20ft Solardome that featured at the 2014 Chelsea Flower show, woodland garden, formal pond, yew hedges, herbaceous borders, meadow, vegetable, fruit and cutting gardens.

Entrance to the garden costs £3 and visitors also have the chance to enjoy tea and cakes, buy plants or try their luck on a tombola.

Sue and Jim hope that the event will encourage other residents come forward and open their gardens for charity and create a 'Lindfield Gardens Trail' to support the hospice. "We've been trying for a couple of years to find a few other gardens that could be opened on the same day," said Jim. "So far we have failed to persuade anyone else to join us, so we are going it alone for the first time but if anyone would like to join us next year we'd be delighted to hear from them."

Jim and Sue can be contacted on 459363 or by emailing [Jamesastockwell@aol.com](mailto:Jamesastockwell@aol.com)

# Outstanding talent celebrated at Annual Cadets Dinner

Members of Haywards Heath (172) Squadron, Air Cadets recently gathered for the annual Dining Inn night - a special occasion when cadets enjoy a formal dinner and celebrate the squadron's achievements over the last year.

This year's event was extra special as Flight Lieutenant (Flt Lt) David Thompson was 'Dined Out'. Flt Lt Thompson recently retired from the Air Cadets after 15 years of loyal service and relinquished his command of the 172 Squadron to Flight Lieutenant David Emsley.

Awards were presented by the commanding officer of Sussex wing, Kevin Tucker, to recognise the achievements of the cadets in the past year.

The Community Service award went to Corporal Thomas Jarvis, who was recognised for taking part in the most events within the local area, including remembrance parade, fundraising for the British Legion and volunteering at Shoreham Air Show.

The coveted Best Shot award went to Sergeant Oliver Trehearne from Lindfield.

Cadet Luisito Collett was thrilled to be named Best New Recruit, as new cadets can only be considered for this award in the first year of their service.

The two most sought-after awards of the evening are Best Cadet and the Best Non Commissioned Officer (NCO) shield. These are highly contested honours, requiring outstanding achievement, attendance, and a wide display of completed activities. The 'Best Cadet' Shield went to Cadet Theo Garraway and the 'Best NCO' Shield went to Sergeant Lucy Baker.

But the highlight of the evening was cadet promotions. During a cadet's career they have the opportunity to gain promotion to higher ranks, taking on more responsibilities and becoming a leader. Five promotions were awarded, Cadets: Theo Garraway Christian Bryan, Oliver Maddock, Max Hutchings and Orla Redpath were presented with Corporal rank slides and thus join the NCO team. Finally, congratulations were given to the squadron's cadets for the many challenges they have taken on and accomplished this year.

The cadets have endless opportunities to take part in numerous different activities. There are a mix of physical and mental challenges from sports, formal parades and adventures abroad. There are many chances to gain useful career qualifications such as first aid, communications, health & safety and even BTECs. Newcomers can also expect opportunities to fly, shoot and take part in adventure training, all the while learning leadership qualities, first aid, survival and field craft skills. There is even an opportunity to complete a flying scholarship culminating in a solo flight.

They are always looking for new recruits to join and staff civilian instructors to help.

Anyone interested in joining (Year 8 and at least 12 years old) can email [172@aircadets.org](mailto:172@aircadets.org) or call on Tuesday or Thursday evening from 7-9.30pm on 01444 441072.





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# Lindfield Rural Parish Council Newsletter

June 2016

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## Chairman's Report 2016

By John Dumbleton

This report attempts to highlight the important issues that have impacted on the Parish over the past year.

1) I would suggest that the most individual issue and achievement this year was the completion of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP). It has been three years in the making for both Lindfield Parishes and within that period extensive investigations have taken place with the substantial involvement of residents. We have held many exhibitions and 'pop in' sessions over the years and the whole process has culminated in the approval of the Government Examiner, MSDC and finally the Referendum, when there was a substantial majority of residents in favour of the NP. I would like to take this opportunity of recording my thanks to all residents who took part in the process but a special thanks to Alan Gomme (LPC) and Andy Spooner (LRPC) for their exceptional involvement in ensuring a successful result.

2) The first test of the NP came with the planning application from Wates for 200 homes off Scaynes Hill Road, Walstead. Although the NP was in place, both the MSDC District Plan and the 5 year housing supply were not ratified. In the end, however, the MSDC Committee of Councillors rejected the Wates application by a substantial majority.

We do, however, have several further proposed planning applications around the Parish waiting in the wings, namely the Taylor Wimpey development for 140 homes in the Gravelye Lane/Scamps Hill area of Lindfield – this application is required to be considered by MSDC within the next few weeks. We are waiting planning applications for 50 dwellings in the Portsmouth Wood area of Lindfield (access opposite Haywards Heath Golf Club) and the proposal for 55 residences on a site adjacent to The Inn on the Green in Scaynes Hill - vehicular access would be by way of Anchor Hill.

The Parish Council (PC) has yet to decide how they will focus on the above when the applicants decide to submit a planning application to MSDC.

The Parish Council viewed 78 applications, most of which were acceptable to the community.

3) The residents of Scaynes Hill had requested their

own allotments way back in 2011 (Scaynes Hill Action Plan) and the Parish Council had been attempting to establish suitable land but be confident that there was still the demand. We believe we have achieved that goal and Council has approved the purchase of land in Clearwater Lane. The purchase process is in hand at present and a rough guide of layout has been presented to Councillors. It is proposed to install mains water and adequate parking, both on-site.

4) Other main features of the year were as follows:

a. Burial Ground – The cemetery continues to provide funds for the community and the Chapel and Lodge are let, also providing additional funds. Additional cremation plots were created in the Remembrance Garden and we have been able to establish an approximate ten year supply of burial plots within the existing burial ground.

b. The Scaynes Hill Common and Anchor Pond continue to be maintained as a result of advice from local environmental groups. With the latter, Council has recently approved the provision of new fencing around the pond, and with the Common, the Sustainability Group has agreed to advise as a wild flower meadow on half of the Common.

c. Gravelye Lane Allotments continue to thrive thanks to the continued support from a small band of volunteers who maintain the allotments. It is with great sadness that I have to report the passing of George Mason this year. He was our chief maintenance fellow for many years. George was awarded the Allotment Cup, which was presented to his widow, Mavis, at the Parish meeting.

d. MSDC have extended the number of 'dog bins' in the District, and Council has been able to increase the number within the Parish. The new locations can be viewed at the Parish Office.

e. A full list of works carried out and outstanding, including projects to be funded by developers, is available at the Parish Office.

## Your Parish Councillors:

John Dumbleton (Chair)	Tel: 482633	Keith Martin	Tel: 831431
Ray Jones (Vice Chair)	Tel: 453868	Steve Minter	Tel: 831786
Brian Bunt	Tel: 484661	Andy Spooner	Tel: 831602
Richard Cox	Tel: 484070	Parish Clerk: Vera Grainger	Tel: 831499
Chris Hersey	Tel: 482270	Assistant: Irene Nicholas	Tel: 831499
Margaret Hersey	Tel: 482270	Finance Officer: Sarah Anderson	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

.....

f. Following on the WSCC street lighting review, the PC is carrying out its own review of its lighting. Unlike WSCC, the PC is installing LED lights. The first lights to be replaced are in Croxton Lane, Lindfield. A full list of street lighting owned by the PC can be obtained from the Parish Office.

g. The Parish Meeting on 25th April was again a great success, attracting well over 70 residents. There were two main speakers, Richard Speller from WSCC Highways and Inspector Paul Woods explaining the remodelled community policing arrangement. The full report of the meeting may be obtained from the Parish Office.

5) We are pleased to announce that the Parish Council continues to maintain the precept (Council Tax) at the same level as preceding years.

6) The Parish Council continues to support local charities, the list of which is held by the Clerk.

7) Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow Councillors, Di (Clerk until December when she resigned), Christine Field and Lin Stockwell for their support over the past year. However, my special thanks must go to Vera (previously our Finance Officer but now Clerk) and Irene for their extreme endeavours over the first four months of this year in a period of frantic activity. I would like to welcome Sarah Anderson who has taken up the role of Finance Officer.

## Lindfield Rural Parish Council Allotments

The Council are pleased to inform that the waiting list for allotments is now open and that applications are welcome from both within and outside the parish. Please contact Cllr. John Dumbleton (482633) or the Parish Office (831499) if you are interested.

## Change of Office Staff

As mentioned in the Chairman's report, Di Morgan left the Council at the end of January having worked for the Council for four years. In January Vera Grainger, previously Responsible Finance Officer for the Council, was appointed to the role of Clerk to the Council. Sarah Anderson started work with the Council on 18th April as Responsible Finance Officer. Sarah is an accountant with previous experience of working for a registered charity. Irene Nicholas is Assistant Clerk and has worked for the Council since 2007. The three staff members all live in the local area and between them have varied skills and a good knowledge of the local area.

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# PRB Accountants

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When you are looking for an accountant you don't necessarily look for the person who has the most musical skills. However, Chris Whitley-Jones certainly has more strings to his bow than just accountancy qualifications.

Chris earned a choral scholarship for Hurstpierpoint College when he was 10, so he began commuting to that school from his home in Brighton. He was soon tempted down to the local church to sing in the robed choir on a regular basis.

He took up the piano and then the organ, and this new-found skill was soon utilised by his university chaplain while he studied Economics at Cardiff University.

"Music has been a big part of my life for a long time," Chris explained. "I like to think it makes me a more 'rounded' person!"

Chris joined PRB Accountants (the practice was called Pollins Rayner Boxall at the time) in 1980 when the office was in Hove. When he was 32 he was asked to become a partner in the business, and he hasn't looked back since.

"I've always been comfortable with numbers," Chris explains, "and they make sense to me." However, Chris is aware that there is a certain stereotype associated with accountants! "Yes, I know, everyone thinks we are boring as a profession," he says. Although he tells me that a client of his recently described him as 'the only accountant that I've ever met with a personality'!

PRB Accountants has been based in Haywards Heath for 25 years and has earned itself a reputation for being accessible and friendly to its clientele. Not something which all accountants are able to boast about! The business is a single location practice employing 20 staff across various roles; partners, qualified accountants, bookkeepers and admin. They also have access to a wider team of specialists when necessary.

Typical clients can vary from someone who just needs a personal tax return completing and filing, to a multi-

million pound organisation operating across a number of sites. "We cater for all businesses, including dentists, manufacturers and financial services. They are all different but we try and keep our friendly approach the same whoever we are dealing with."

PRB is also one of only two accountancy practices in the UK that specialises in representing direct selling distributors. "With the sharp rise in many individuals earning money through selling on products and services of companies like Forever Living and Utility Warehouse, we have found ourselves somewhat of a niche for looking after these particular clients," Chris commented.

In fact they have teamed up with a software company based in Ardingly to offer a cloud-based bookkeeping solution specifically designed for sole traders and partnerships. "Cloudkeeping offers our customers a simple online system for keeping track of expenses, mileage, tax bills etc – it's a great bit of kit, works on PCs and tablets, plus it's good value too," Chris explained.

Of course the pinch point for individual tax returns is the end of January, and Chris had his fair share of last minute cries for help around that time. One desperate client phoned him on 30th January and was simply 'too scared to press send' on their submission!

Chris and the team at PRB work with clients all around the UK, Ireland and even USA, however, he's always keen to work with businesses and individuals close to home. Hurst resident Kevin Carey comments: "We've used Chris for many years and have always received excellent and prompt service. We like the personal touch and friendly approach provided by the firm and their attention to detail."

If you would like a conversation with Chris Whitley-Jones about your needs call him on 01444 458252 or email [cwhitley-jones@prbmp.com](mailto:cwhitley-jones@prbmp.com). He may not sing to you during your initial meeting, but it's nice to know he can!

# A Royal Quarter Peal for the Queen

At 1pm on 21st April the bells of All Saints Lindfield rang out a tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her 90th Birthday. Although a full peal can no longer be rung on the ageing Lindfield bells, a quarter peal, lasting 45 minutes, was rung to mark this special occasion.

During 2016 the ringers and their friends and supporters, along with other church members, will continue in their efforts to complete the fundraising necessary to install a new ring of bells, to be known as 'The Queen Elizabeth II Bells'. This year's events towards achieving this goal have already begun. On 12th March the All Saints team of flower arrangers organised an event in the form of a splendid demonstration of 'Sussex Life in Flowers'. Proceeds from this were shared between funding their entry to this year's Chichester Cathedral Festival of Flowers and funding for the Bell and Clock Project.

Over the summer further events are planned, including those outlined below, so do watch out for these!

**JUNE** - Village Day on Lindfield Common - on 4th June... Did you know that there seems to be a strong correlation between bell-ringing and trains? Well, perhaps this is just a local phenomenon! Anyway, this year there will be a bell-ringers' pitch on the common featuring a layout for model trains. Young train enthusiasts and other interested parties will be able to try their hand at managing the line.

**JULY** - Orienteering in the Woods at Walstead - on 9th July... Come and try out your skills with map and compass! This family friendly event will be held at Great Walstead School on the afternoon of Saturday 9th July starting at 2.30pm. Fun for the whole family as you navigate the grounds - sturdy walking shoes recommended. There's plenty of parking, and you will be contributing to the bell fund through a small entry fee.



For further information and for tickets for this event contact All Saints Church Office on 01444 482405, or come along on the day.

## Meet John, your local tiler...

Hi, I'm John. I do tiling all around Lindfield! Talk to me about any tiling work - bathrooms, kitchens, conservatories, hallways... in fact anything you want tiled! I also do kitchen and bathroom refits too! I'm happy to give free advice and estimates for the work. I have years of experience, so just ask and I'll show you references from other happy customers.


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# Thick rough

## TEEING OFF



**By James Verrall, Head Golf Professional**

Finally it looks like summer is here and we can all get out on the golf course more regularly!

With this in mind, the grass is growing thick and fast so this month we will take a look at shots from the deep rough. By deep rough I mean anything from around five inches and above.

First pick a club with a reasonable amount of loft; you want to get the ball up and out of the long grass as quickly as possible.

Take your stance with your feet close together, which will allow you to have a steeper angle of attack on the ball. Lean more weight on to the left side as this will also help.

Then grip the club lower down and hold tighter. This will give more control and will stop the club head twisting as it goes through the long grass. If you hold the club too loose then it will likely twist open.

When you swing the club back, keep the weight on the left side. The backswing should be started by hinging the wrists straight up; this is because you want to attack the back of the ball at a very steep angle.

Hit down on the ball, and hit hard. The angle at which the club attacks the ball will mean you will not be able to really follow through. Try to keep your wrists as firm as possible as you hit, and remember to keep gripping hard.

To avoid having to hit this shot though, my best advice would be to come and see me for a lesson so we can keep the ball on the fairway. Just call me at Haywards Heath Golf Club on 01444 414866.

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# What's on in June

## AT KING EDWARD HALL

## AND ELSEWHERE

- 2nd **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am  
(Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 4th **Lindfield Village Day** – from 12.30pm  
Procession down High Street, stalls, events and Grand Competition Tent on Lindfield Common (more info [www.kingedwardhall.org.uk](http://www.kingedwardhall.org.uk) or call 07941 450636 or email [villageday@kingedwardhall.org.uk](mailto:villageday@kingedwardhall.org.uk))
- 7th **Lindfield Afternoon WI Group** – 2.15pm
- 9th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am
- 16th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am
- 18th **LBS Summer Party and Quiz Night** – 7.30pm  
Fundraiser for Lindfield Bonfire Society  
Tickets £5 each to include quiz entry and nibbles. Sounds Wicked Disco. Licensed Bar. Tickets available from LBS stall on Village Day, Glyn Thomas in Lindfield and Sarah Lacey Drycleaning in Haywards Heath (Sarah Tampion-Lacey 01444 487470)
- 23rd **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am
- 28th **Lindfield Flower Club** – 2.30pm  
Gill Homer will demonstrate and her talk is called 'Creative Thinking'
- 30th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am

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 email on [bookings@kingedwardhall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@kingedwardhall.org.uk)

## Battle of the Somme Centenary Tea

The Lindfield Royal British Legion is commemorating the centenary of the first Battle of the Somme with an Open Garden and Tea at Orchard House, Staplefield Road, Cuckfield on Friday 1st July between 2-5 pm. The tickets are £6, available from Pauline Parkyns on 01444 482672 or Jane Harding 01444 454846.

- 3rd **Sussex Mineral and Lapidary Society Talk** – 7.30pm  
Redwood Centre, Perrymount Road, HH  
Illustrated talk: Metals and their Minerals for a Green Economy by Dr Richard Herrington, Natural History Museum ([www.smls.org.uk](http://www.smls.org.uk))
- 5th **Cockhaise Farm Open Day** – 11am-4pm  
Rides, walks, milking demos & BBQ  
Cockhaise Farm, Lindfield RH16 2QP
- 8th-17th **Much Ado About Nothing** – (various times)  
Cockhaise Farm. Profits from this production to St Peter & St James Hospice (details: [www.playersinthepark.co.uk](http://www.playersinthepark.co.uk))
- 9th **Haywards Heath Ceramics Group** – 9.45am  
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath  
'Venetian Glass' by Elisa Sani (tickets £8, call 01444 483372 or 414477)
- 10th **Friends of the Princess Royal Hospital BBQ & Summer Dance Party** – 8pm  
Mid Sussex Golf Club, Ditchling (tickets, which cost £25, please contact Vivian on 07725 034837)
- 10th **Big Summer Wine & Beer Tasting** – 6-10pm  
Horsted Keynes Village Hall, RH17 7AP  
South Downs Cellars are bringing you the opportunity to taste from over 40 wines and more than 20 beers all hand-picked for the summer months (call 01444 484025 for tickets)
- 10th **MSOPC Queen's Birthday Tea** – 2.30-4.30pm  
Cophthorne Effingham Park  
Cream Tea and music from the Absolutely Vintage Swing Band (tickets 01444 242760 – [anita@msopc.org.uk](mailto:anita@msopc.org.uk))
- 12th **A service of celebration** – 10am  
St Augustines Scaynes Hill  
Held to mark the 90th birthday of her majesty Queen Elizabeth, followed by refreshments
- 15th **Mid Sussex Decorative & Fine Arts Soc** – 10.15am  
Clair Hall, HH. Magnificent Mosaics - Windows into the colourful Roman World, a talk by Christopher Bradley (visitors welcome, £7)
- 18th **Sussex Chorus Concert** – 7.30pm  
Hurstpierpoint College Chapel ([www.sussexchorus.org](http://www.sussexchorus.org))
- 19th **London to Brighton Bike Ride** - from early  
Traffic routes affected through Lindfield
- 25th **St Augustine's CEP School Summer Fair** – 10.30am-1.30pm, Scaynes Hill  
BBQ, Bouncy Castle, Candy Floss, Raffle, Children's Activities and Displays

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