

# Lindfield *Life*

Inc. Scaynes Hill & Walstead

Local village talk,  
by the village

July 2016 Issue #88

Free

Preservation Society news

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## EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Well, as I have said before at this time of year, now summer can officially start; **Village Day** has happened!

The weather was kind to us for another year and thousands of folk descended on the common to enjoy the day of festivities in Lindfield. See our page of photos (courtesy of the amazing **Clare Ozkan Photography**) on our centre spread at **page 22**.

Just last week I had the pleasure of meeting the new owners of **FIKA** Lesley and Madi Somerville. Check the story out **over the page** - and try their brownies next time you are in the High Street, they are very yummy!

Young Lindfield resident **Emma MacKay** received some fantastic news recently, as she earned herself a scholarship to the well-known Tring Park Theatre School – pick the story up on **page 10**.

On **page 12** we go behind the scenes at **Mid Sussex Golf Club**, and on **page 17 Jacqui Smith** explains just some of the differences between engaging in commercial and residential interior design work.

On **page 21 Lindfield Preservation Society** brings us up to speed on what's on its radar, and on **page 36 Lindfield Parish Council** shares its **Annual Report** - where there's a lot of information about the area where you live.

**Claire Cooper** gets her welly boots on, on **page 26**, where she meets a few Lindfield **allotment holders** and finds out what's growing.

**Page 30** introduces us to resident **Ginny Salmon**, who tells the story of her granny and a little of her childhood in what was then Southern Rhodesia.

If you have a story which you would like to tell, we'd love to hear from you. It could be personal, or perhaps you've heard of a new business/shop moving into the village? We love hearing from you, so do get in touch. Send an email to [editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk](mailto:editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk) or send a message via Twitter or Facebook.

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Lindfield Life

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 Matthew Buss  
View from Backwoods Lane  
in the summer



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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)

## FIKA new start

Lindfield tea shop FIKA is under new management. The shop, at 64 High Street, has been bought by mother and daughter Lesley and Madi Somerville.

Both ladies are local and they've been looking for an opportunity to undertake a business of this type for some years – when the opportunity for FIKA came up they were very excited about the possibility. "We love Lindfield, and to have a shop on the High Street is perfect for us," Madi explained. "It is very convenient for us and we've already been made welcome by residents and neighbours."

Both have worked in catering, with Madi being a trained chef and pastry specialist in the past. "For me," she said, "it's time to do it for myself after years of having worked for others."

FIKA will offer great value and delicious home-made cakes and snacks – all made on-site and available to eat in or take away, from bacon sandwiches to cakes and, of course, tea and coffee too. Look out for cream teas during the summer and the daily specials board too!

FIKA is open six days a week from 8.30am-5pm.



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# Open Gardens



Eight Scaynes Hill gardens will be open to the public on Saturday 2nd July from 1.30-5.30pm to raise funds for St Peter & St James' Hospice.

The gardens, all within the central part of the village, are of various sizes and designs, with colourful summer planting – one which features an unexpected surprise!

Afternoon teas with home-made cakes will be available at St Augustine's Church annexe (proceeds to family support work in Chichester Diocese), where tickets and maps will be sold at £5 per adult, children free.

Tickets can also be bought at each garden.

So do go along and enjoy a lovely afternoon visiting the gardens while supporting the wonderful work done at the hospice.

# Farewell Mr Buckland!

After five years of hard work and many humorous times, the much loved Mr Buckland is retiring from his role as Premises Manager at Lindfield Primary. Paul Buckland has played a pivotal role in school life and continually served the school above and beyond his premises duties, most recently heading up the winning Lindfield Primary PTA float on village day as Doc Brown!



Marcus Still, Principal, said: "Mr Buckland, with his dedication and endless sense of humour, will be sorely missed by pupils and staff alike. We wish him well for the future and would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to him for his years of hard work and commitment to the school and wider community."

If you are interested in the role Premises Manager at Lindfield Primary, please contact the School Business Manager at the school on 01444 482524.



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# Trams and trains treat for club

By Richard Mason

Given that late spring is, to some members of Cuckfield and Lindfield Probus Club, seen as a good time to get away, we had a good turnout of 47 (out of the current membership of 58) at our May gathering.

Hosted at Lindfield Golf Club, and after a filling and well-prepared two course meal plus coffee, members were to enjoy an excellent talk given by Ian Gledhill on early public conveyance. Concentrating on the last two hundred years of tram transport and illustrated by a wealth of photos, members were taken from the earliest days when trams were pulled by horses to those representative of today's state of the art motor vehicles.

This is a good time to be a member of our Probus Club with a Ladies Summer Lunch in June, a train trip on the Bluebell Railway scheduled for July and a President's Tea Party to be held at Heaven Farm this August.

Full details of our activities and the advantages of membership can be obtained by contacting Richard Mason on 01444 453672.

## Lindfield Afternoon WI

By Hilary Shelford

Lindfield Afternoon WI was formed in late January 2016 and our membership is steadily growing. In the coming months we look forward to various speakers, a flower arranging demonstration and other varied topics. We are even having a Tai Chi demonstration and taster session to get us up and moving.

Groups are being formed in order for people to pursue or try new hobbies and activities. We welcome ideas from our members so that we can help everyone to get what they want from the WI.

We are naturally in our early stages, but, with a strong committee, feel we will go from strength to strength.

Anyone considering the WI as a new interest is very welcome to come along to one of our monthly meetings – remember, we are all new as well and we all enjoy meeting, chatting and making new friends.

We meet at the King Edward Hall, Lindfield at 2.15pm on the first Tuesday of each month (except August).

Please contact us by email on [la16wi@gmail.com](mailto:la16wi@gmail.com) or just turn up at our next meeting.



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## Lindfield store sells fudge for charity

The Toll House Store & Café is taking part in Chestnut Tree House's £50 Challenge by selling specially made fudge. The flavour - vanilla chocolate swirl with pick 'n' mix topping - was dreamt up by the charity and brought to life by Mini Mouthfuls.

All profits from the sale of the confectionery will go to the charity. Giving local businesses across the South £50 and four months to grow the money provides vital funds to help local children with life-limiting illnesses.

Claire Fuller, of the Toll House Store & Cafe, said: "We are delighted to support such a great cause and have some fun along the way. We would encourage other local businesses to get involved with this innovative campaign with their own fundraising ideas." The fudge is available in store now.



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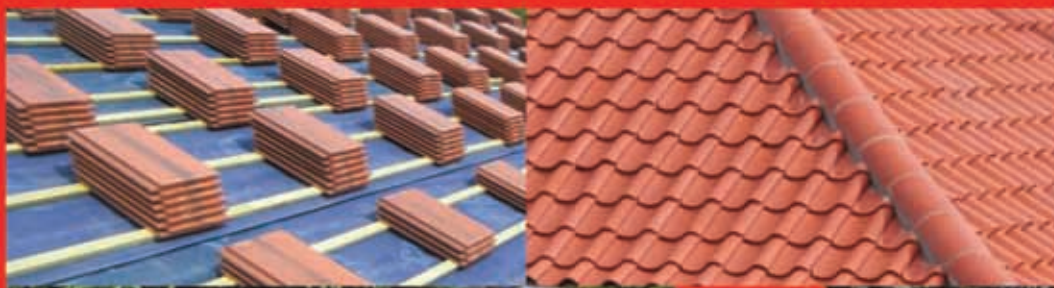
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# Emma makes the grade

Talented young dancer Emma MacKay is following in her grandmother's 'ballet steps'!

Emma, aged 11, has been awarded a prestigious government funded dance scholarship to attend Tring Park School for the Performing Arts full-time this September.

The selection process is rigorous as this funding is available to so few students. Three hundred and fifty children were selected to attend a six hour audition at Tring and 60 of the most talented ballerinas were chosen to return for the final audition, where just six scholarships were available.

Emma has always lived in Lindfield with her dad Rob, her mum Sarah and big sister Becky. Dancing is in her blood. Many people around the village still remember her late grandma, Tilda Long, who for years ran Lindfield School of Ballet at the King Edward Hall.

Emma started attending ballet classes at Drusilla Duffill Theatre School in Burgess Hill aged four, where she fell in love with dance and was soon attending modern, tap, jazz and musical theatre classes. At weekends she has trained with London Junior Ballet and more recently with The Royal Ballet School.

It requires a lot of commitment from Emma - she gets up at 6am on a school morning to do her homework, harp and dance practise so that she can attend her dance classes after school and at weekends.

She has had an amazing year so far, winning a total of ten cups for ballet, modern, character and tap at dance festivals and was thrilled to be named 'Junior Sussex Dancer of the Year' in April.

Emma is so excited to be starting at Tring, where she will be boarding. It will be a full school day - starting at 8am and finishing at 6.30pm. She will spend half the day taking dance classes and half doing regular school work.

In the meantime, Emma is busy rehearsing for her final performance with Drusilla Duffill Theatre School at their show at The Hawth and will be attending Ballet Summer School at Pineapple Dance in London in August.



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# Residents enjoys showing off the village

The pond, the shops, All Saints Church and Old Place were among the highlights for a group of Zambian churchgoers who recently enjoyed visiting the village.

The group, from St Paul's Church in Kalomo, Zambia, were the guests of Haywards Heath Methodist Church, which has many members living in the village.

"Using the wonderfully informative Guide obtained from the Parish Council office, the visitors proceeded upward from the Pond, stopping every few yards to consider the antiquity of the shops and houses, to Old Place, Lindfield House and – to their delight – the Thatched Cottage," said Alastair Porter.

"Back tracking a few yards to All Saints Church, the party, having arranged a fraternal visit, was welcomed by the Rev Hugh Bourne. He greeted the individual members of the visiting party – the Minister of St. Paul's, the Rev Given Bwalya and three members of his congregation who consisted of the leaders of the Men's and Women's Fellowships and the church's thriving Boys' Brigade."

After exploring the interior of All Saints, the party adjourned to the Tiger for coffee and biscuits. "It was explained that St. Paul's is a part of the United Church of Zambia of which the Methodist Church was one of the founding members, but, despite that part of its roots, the UCZ does have Bishops!" said Alastair.

The partnership between St. Paul's and Haywards Heath Methodist Church is now almost 10 years old. "The principal purposes of the partnership are to increase awareness of the one world church, to learn from diversity and share best worship practices," said Alastair.

He added that the visitors also enjoyed their first visit to the sea (Zambia being a landlocked country), a ride on the Bluebell Railway and an all day trip to London.



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## LAF gets popular author at September's event

By Lynn Tulip

The Lindfield Arts Festival 2016 programme is filling up fast!

We've welcomed The Book Activist – Victoria Dilly – on board to support the literary element of the festival and are delighted that award-winning author Eve Ainsworth (pictured) will now be joining us on Saturday 17th September for author talks. "Eve will be talking to children about her work as an author and inspiring them with her love for reading and writing," says Victoria who, as The Book Activist, is involved in promoting and encouraging reading for pleasure in the local community. "I'm talking to several authors about the festival, so watch this space for further announcements!"

Creative writing will also be on the menu, with Inkpots running workshops for everyone who loves writing, reading and drawing. Gill Pawley set up Inkpots in 2012: "At Inkpots, we care passionately about creativity for children and young people and helping them to express themselves and let imaginations fly. I can't wait to bring Inkpots to Lindfield Arts Festival!"

A classic car show, Rok Skool and baby ballet, as well as the street play, are all on the programme too. Keep the date free and enjoy the High Street, full of colour, amusements, song and dance. More information from the website [www.lindfieldartsfestival.com](http://www.lindfieldartsfestival.com) or email: [enquiries@lindfieldartsfestival.com](mailto:enquiries@lindfieldartsfestival.com)





## New Head Chef appointment

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Mid Sussex Golf Club is proud to announce Peter Howard MCGCB as the new Head Chef.

Howard, 45, is highly experienced having worked at some of the country's top restaurants and establishments for over 29 years. His portfolio includes Head Chef at the Michelin rated Manley's in Storrington, London's Café de Paris, Harley Street Clinic and Bryce's Old School House (to name a few), and has chef managed local restaurants such as Limes Bistro in Lindfield and Kew at Wakehurst Place.

Peter is also a full member of The Association of Master Chefs of Great Britain, formed in 1980 – an organisation that furthers professional development through training and guidance and promotes the very best of British cuisine. Election to Full Master Chef status is by invitation only and is open to working chefs who can demonstrate they are at the top of their profession.

Peter has stated: "I have a real sincere aspiration and vision for the food offering at the club. I want to re-energize the kitchen and restaurant by introducing different foods and some newer trends to the menu. I would like to focus on local produce and suppliers and hope to offer an opportunity to explore a new and more varied dining experience. I look forward to being part of the team to move the food offering at the club forward."

Peter joined the team last month and is pictured here with general managers Lee Andrews and Andrew Smith. The club's motto is: 'Where everyone is welcome'.

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## A new school and college with arts specialism

A local performing arts academy has put together a proposal to take over the former Haywards Heath College site as a new primary, secondary and sixth form free school.

Lindfield resident Suzanne Gielgud (pictured) has been running Gielgud Academy from The Hub since its inception in 2011 but, in the light of Central Sussex College's decision to close the Haywards Heath campus after the next academic year, she has seen a huge opportunity to create a facility that the whole of West Sussex can be proud of.

"Our proposal is to take over the site and turn it into an all-through school for ages 5-18 with a specialism in the arts," Suzanne commented. "According to West Sussex County Council (WSCC) many primary schools in the area are at capacity already and more spaces are needed. Creating an all-through school not only meets the need to have an excellent sixth form in the area but will also relieve pressure for primary places too."

The new school would be a traditional, and non fee-paying, school but with a specialism in performing arts. "I genuinely believe that within every student there is always a particular gifting in the arts, be it dance, photography, art, music, film or design," Suzanne continues. "We want to create a school where those gifts can flourish alongside an outstanding academic education."

Suzanne is currently in the process of forming the Gielgud Academy Trust and has already had very positive meetings with both WSCC and the Department for Education, who are very interested in a provision of this kind being made available in Haywards Heath. "They told me the site was ideally suited to be divided for this purpose. I've also walked around the campus with three headteachers who agreed it would be a fantastic facility as a primary, secondary and a sixth form."

The college buildings are all just a few years old, with particular attention having been spent on creating a state of the art theatre and rehearsal studios all with



"I've seen so much talent at GAPA, their teachers are amazing and I fully support their bid to become a full-time performing arts free school."

John Partridge, actor

fully-sprung floors. The facilities are so good that Katie Derham and Anton Du Beke used them to practise locally during the last series of Strictly Come Dancing. Suzanne's vision includes using the facilities how they were designed to be used. "It would be such a waste of the huge sums of money spent on the building to make it top spec, to not utilise them fully every day," she explained.

Having a clear vision is something Suzanne is used to. She started Gielgud Academy of Performing Arts (GAPA) five years ago, and it now teaches nearly 300 children and young people. She also has experience of working with government bodies too. Twenty years ago her management company began working with the Training & Enterprise Council to create a programme to help professional actors and performers gain extra skills to find employment.

Suzanne has been featured on BBC local radio and TV last month as she seeks to promote what she is trying to do with the Gielgud Academy Free School. If accepted the school would open in September 2017. Parents in the area are asked to complete a very short (2 mins) survey at: [www.gielgudacademy.co.uk](http://www.gielgudacademy.co.uk)

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### HOME FRONT

**By Jacqui Smith, interior designer**

Having recently experienced the tender process for two commercial jobs and the hoops we had to jump through to even make the shortlist it got me thinking about how different the engagement process is between private residential and commercial clients. A recent 22 page tender document for a new build care home development asked us to provide CVs for each member of the team, and it's not uncommon, at first interview stage, to be sat at a board table faced with six members of the project team. Of course the rigorous selection process makes sense commercially, and, with so many people involved in the project from the client side, it necessitates the large interview panel and gives them the opportunity to scrutinise who they might be working with for what is often a long period of time. Yet in all the 15 years which we have been in business we have only come close to an interview scenario with a residential client on two or three occasions.

The relationship with your interior designer can become a very close one and the nature of the work means that rapport, clear communication and understanding are incredibly important if everything is to run smoothly. You would not take on an employee without asking some detailed questions about their experience. You are engaging an interior designer for work and also to gauge how you might work together, so it should be more than acceptable to check them out when you meet them. For us a great deal of our work comes through word of mouth, and personal recommendation counts for a great deal, but still the personalities need to work for the optimum client/designer relationship.

Questions to ask any designer you are considering commissioning would be relevant experience (fairly obviously), how long they have been in practice and how they trained. You might want to understand how they have dealt with more challenging aspects of a project. Interior design is a process which, regardless of how carefully planned the project is, always throws up unforeseen hurdles along the way and how the designer

deals with this is definitely worth exploring.

It's your home, not the designer's. Whilst they can bring to their clients, among other things, exciting new fabrics and wall coverings, a designer should not insist on clients using anything that they do not like. I know that sounds obvious but I have met many people in the past who have been robustly persuaded into a scheme which they did not feel at all comfortable with. Last year a client explained that, whilst her sitting room looked lovely, it really 'was not her'. This should never happen. It's the designer's job to listen carefully to a client's brief, analyse their style and seasonal personality and produce a scheme that looks beautiful and makes their home easy to live in. If you ever come across someone on a crusade to use a certain fabric or paint colour which he or she has been aching to use, run for the hills!

Your designer should be able to save you time and money and prevent you from making expensive mistakes. Designers will typically specify from trade sources, using suppliers with whom they have a long-standing relationship and whose quality they trust. Designers can specify from high street sources and point clients in the right direction for some online suppliers but it's very difficult for them to vouch for quality and service. There are plenty of excellent online retailers out there but there are also those who offer discounts but little in the way of service. Sourcing through a designer will free you from hassle; they deal with all the ordering, scheduling, deliveries and any after sales issues on the rare occasion that they arise.

You will want to explore how your designer charges. The most common model these days is a design fee for pulling together the scheme and then anything they supply being charged at retail. You should look for broken down costs rather than lump sums.

Your designer should be a reassuring rather than a bossy presence. You should feel comfortable in their company and the whole experience should be an enjoyable one!

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# Postcard back home



By Ryan Stonely

I grew up in Lindfield and have lived there most of my life. I graduated from university in 2014 and left to travel around the world last year. My girlfriend and I are currently in Australia and couldn't help but notice there is a suburb named Lindfield in Sydney's north. I wondered if it was just a coincidental name choice but it turns out there is a loose historical link to our village back home.

The suburb derives its name from an early landowner called Mr List who named his property after our village back home in England. When the train line was built they named the station Lindfield as the house was the only geographical point of reference in the area. It's now something of a leafy commuter's suburb. An antithetical recent history to Lindfield (England) I guess, which retained its charm by rejecting the railway line rather than being built around one!

I've been intrigued by my connection to Lindfield's Australian namesake so I couldn't resist getting in touch while I was here.

We are continuing to travel around the world and are writing a blog as we go – [www.flatearthmag.com](http://www.flatearthmag.com)



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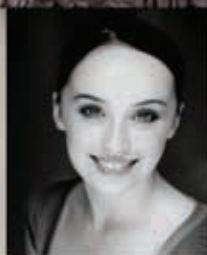
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Speculative developers continue to target Lindfield with schemes for large, unnecessary and inappropriate housing estates. The Preservation Society supports sensitive development and opposes sacrificing our countryside for the sake of such schemes.

on this site, demonstrating a striking lack of respect for Lindfield's character. The district planning committee will not decide on this application before 14th July. There is still time to send your objections to Mid Sussex District Council's Planning Department, citing reference DM/16/1012.

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## Wates – what happened next?

On 7th April Mid Sussex District Council's planning committee refused Wates' application for up to 200 dwellings on greenfield land south of Scamps Hill. Unsurprisingly, the developers have appealed. The Secretary of State has called in their appeal for his determination. The Secretary appears to be calling in all appeals that involve a formally adopted Neighbourhood Plan. Because of the volume of such appeals, we may have to wait some time for his decision. In addition, the developers have applied for a Judicial Review of Lindfield's Neighbourhood Plan in an attempt to have it quashed. If the court decides to consider this application, a decision is unlikely before the autumn. Their application shows that the developers regard the Neighbourhood Plan as a serious obstacle. Of course it also demonstrates their lack of respect for the democratically expressed will of the community.

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## Taylor Wimpey's attempt on Lindfield

Lindfield Common is one of the defining and treasured features of our village. It is so important it is designated a part of the Lindfield Conservation Area along with the Pond and our High Street. In the 1980s, the village campaigned successfully to stop houses being built on the land you can see on the rising ground on the far side of Gravelye Lane, as shown in the picture above. Taylor Wimpey has applied to build up to 130 dwellings

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## Also on our radar

Reside Developments has targeted a field off Portsmouth Wood Close for another 50 houses. This site is outside the built-up boundaries of the village and building on it would therefore violate the Neighbourhood Plan, which specifically excludes this kind of development. When their application is formalised, we will ask all residents to join us in objecting to this scheme.

---

## Protecting Lindfield from HGVs

Last February the Society submitted an application for a Traffic Regulation Order to protect Lindfield and other rural areas in central and northern Mid Sussex from unnecessary HGV traffic that is threatening our residents and harming our ancient buildings. We have requested weight limit signs at 37 junctions along the routes recommended for HGVs by our County Councils, namely A23, A272, A275, A22 and A264 to ensure HGVs stick to these roads unless they need access to others. There has been unanimous support from nine Parish Councils and Haywards Heath Town Council. Our local MPs are supportive, as are interested community groups. We had a positive meeting with the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner in Lewes because WSCC had expressed concerns about enforcement. One haulage company has stated they would respect signs were they provided. There is more to do.



## Fun in the sun for village events

### VILLAGE DAY PHOTO ROUND-UP

**By Sarah Richmond (Village Day and Village Run Committee)**

Lindfield's Village Day (4th June) and Village Run (30th May) look set to have raised over £9,500 for the King Edward Hall repairs fund - what an amazing achievement and a huge thank you to all the runners, sponsors, marshals, visitors, stallholders, raffle prize donors and volunteers who made it possible.

We held our nerve for the Village Run as rain threatened to make everything a little more muddy but sunshine and a light breeze made for good conditions in the end.

Congratulations to both 5k and 10k runners and special thanks to Potential Personal Training and Six Physio, our Run sponsors for all the work before and on the day, and it was good to welcome the Co-Op team and their water supply!

Village Day went off with a bang thanks to the traditional firing of the anvil on the Common.

From the transport themed procession with steam trains, Victorian railway children, space rockets and a solar powered car as well as wonderful vintage vehicles and two magnificent shire horses - to the games in the arena and another equine starring role, in pantomime horse races, there was something for everyone.

The entrants to the Children's Pet Show - animal and human - had a great time. And congratulations to all who entered their cookery and craft into the Grand Competition, especially to Ken Watt for his prizewinning stained glass. Seen here receiving his award from celebrity guest judge on the day, Katie Derham.

'Best Village Day ever', 'I had a lovely day, thank you' and, from a smaller guest: 'I won a toy - hurrah!' were just some of the comments we received on the day.

If you loved both events - why not come and help out next year? Whether you just have a couple of hours or would like to get more involved - we're a welcoming bunch and would like to have more people to share the hi-vis jackets... do get in touch by email to: [villageday@kingedwardhall.org.uk](mailto:villageday@kingedwardhall.org.uk)





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# Grow your own



## By Claire Cooper

At the end of World War One, soldiers returning to Lindfield village were given an area of land to cultivate.

Tucked away behind Lindfield pond, the land offered peaceful respite as well as a chance to provide healthy home-grown fruit and vegetables for the soldiers' families.

One hundred years later, villagers are still enjoying the same peace, tranquility and satisfaction of growing their own produce as allotment holders.

In fact the plots are now so popular that there's a waiting list of residents keen to get back to the soil.

The allotments are owned and run by the Parish Council. Allotment holder Mary Allen oversees the site and is responsible for holding the waiting list and letting the plots.

Originally the plots were ten rods (a rod is 5½ yards) but over the years these have been split into smaller plots of 5 and 2½ rods in order to accommodate more gardeners," said Mary.

"Two and a half rods is perfect for beginners as there are always opportunities to take on more land at a later date."

There are few rules. "No livestock, bees or trees," said Mary. "Apart from that, allotment holders are free to grow whatever they like!"

The allotment holders range from young parents, keen to involve their children in planting and growing fruit and vegetables, to retired villagers with more time on their hands. Most grow to feed their families and friends – others to exhibit at horticultural shows. And all agree that food tastes much better when you've grown it yourself!



Sharon Harris took over her allotment a year ago and, with help from friend Nicky Bovey, has transformed her weed ridden plot into an allotment to be proud of. "When we arrived it was weed heaven, and covered with bindweed," said Sharon.

Once they had tackled the weeds, the pair sat down to plan the plot and decide what to grow.

"Ours is the first allotment you see as you come through the gate so it's important that it looks nice," said Sharon. "We wanted to include areas for fruit and a central bed for growing flowers to cut.

"We also aimed to use recycled materials as much as possible - from wood dumped in a skip, to a neighbour's unwanted patio paving stones," Sharon added. "The only thing we've had to buy is netting!"

Last year the friends constructed fruit cages and were rewarded with bumper crops of blackberries, gooseberries, raspberries, strawberries and redcurrants.

"It's been great fun, and we've met lots of lovely people," said Nicky. "Everyone has been impressed with the transformation."

Sarah Campbell is also a new allotment holder, and

spent three years on the waiting list before getting a plot last year. "I'd never grown any vegetables before so I arrived here with a book in one hand and a trowel in the other!" she said. "But fortunately everyone has been really lovely, helping me and giving advice and tips. I was even given a few potatoes to start me off!"



Sarah was lucky as her allotment had been well-kept with good soil. "Having an allotment is a big commitment and hard work but also therapeutic and so much more rewarding than I ever thought it would be! When I took home my first home-grown vegetables I was ecstatic! I've even made my own gooseberry and elderflower jam."

Sarah's enthusiasm has now rubbed off on her husband. "He thought the allotment was just a plaything but he's now really keen and has even built me some raised beds!" said Sarah. "When I took over the plot it seemed really big, but now I'd quite like some more!"



The newcomers are inspired and encouraged by more experienced allotment holders, some who grow, exhibit and win awards at local and national competitions. Among them is Richard Hilson whose daffodils, dahlias and potatoes have won many national prizes.

But it hasn't always been plain sailing. "When I took over my allotment 13 years ago it was full of bindweed and I had to sift every inch of soil to get rid of it," he said.

"It takes a lot of work to keep it shipshape but it's my hobby and I enjoy it," said Richard. "I particularly like digging in the winter - it feels good to be out in the fresh air."

Another prize winning gardener is Tim Richardson, an allotment holder for 15 years. Ask him what he grows and the list is endless. "It's better to ask what I don't grow!"

"Everyone has been really lovely helping me and giving advice."

he said. "I think I've tried pretty much everything!

"I like growing unusual things like chilli peppers and aubergines and experimenting with new varieties," he said. "This year I'm growing a variety of melon called 'Collective Farm Woman' and a carrot called 'flyaway.'"

His only disaster has been sweetcorn. "The badgers got it!" said Tim. "Despite my best efforts they can dig underneath everything!"

But there's no doubt that Tim's pride and joy are his award winning daffodils. "I started showing at the Lindfield Horticultural Society show but have now progressed to regional and national competitions," said Tim who has exhibited at the National Daffodil Society Shows at Warwickshire and Reading, and the South East England Daffodil Society Show (SEEDS) at Maidstone and the RHS Daffodil Shows at Wisley.

"My biggest achievement so far was winning 1st prize for a collection of nine daffodils at SEEDS," he recalled. "There were 11 competitors in the class and I was up against professionals who breed and sell daffodils so I was really pleased." He was also awarded 3rd place for a collection of 12 at Warwickshire.



"But what I'd really like to win is the 'Richardson Cup' as it already has my name on it!"



# Homegrown veg

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## Potato Salad with Chive Dressing

Serves 4-6  
Cook 900g small new potatoes (no need to peel) in boiling water just until tender. Drain, then tip on to a teatowel to dry. Put 2tbs olive oil, 1tbs white wine vinegar and 1tbs wholegrain mustard into a serving bowl and whisk to combine. Stir in a bunch of spring onions, trimmed and finely sliced. Add the hot potatoes, only halving or slicing if bigger than bite-sized. Gently combine with the dressing then leave to stand for one hour. Stir together 2-3tbs each of mayonnaise and soured cream, and very gently stir into the potatoes. Season to taste and sprinkle generously with chopped chives.

## Crunchy-topped New Potatoes

Serves 4  
Delicious served with cold meats, smoked mackerel fillets or cold poached salmon.  
Preheat the oven 180°. Cook 900g very small new potatoes just until tender then drain well. Tip into a buttered shallow baking dish. Melt 25g butter in a pan then stir in 2tbs flour and cook, stirring, for a minute. Gradually stir in 300ml single cream, cook until just bubbling then remove from the heat. Stir in 150g grated mild flavoured hard cheese such as Cheshire (or try the cheese flavoured with chives) until melted. Season to taste and pour over the potatoes. Combine a generous handful of fresh breadcrumbs with another of grated cheese and sprinkle over the top of the dish. Bake for about 30 min or until the topping is golden brown.

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By Caroline Young

Warmer weather means lighter dishes and the pleasure of eating young home-grown vegetables and fruit. Less time spent in the kitchen too! Please be sure to buy produce grown as close to home as possible – if not from your own garden or allotment. To my mind the flavour of East Anglian, Cornish and Sussex new season's potatoes is far superior to that of Jersey Royals.

**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**

## Creamy Noodles with Smoked Salmon

Serves 3-4

Cook 250g fresh tagliatelli to pack directions and drain well. Using the same pan heat 25g butter in 150ml double cream until bubbling. Add the finely grated rind of one lemon and 200g shredded smoked salmon – you could use the inexpensive packs of salmon pieces. Gently combine with the hot noodles and serve in bowls.

## Strawberry Sundaes

Combine sliced strawberries with honey-flavoured Greek yogurt and roughly crushed Amaretti biscuits. Pile into individual glasses and serve - heaven in a glass!

## Couscous Salad with Bacon Dressing

Serves 4

Prepare 150g couscous to packet directions - I like to use the large grained wholewheat variety. Meanwhile lightly fry 100g bacon cubes (or chorizo) in a frypan until golden. Remove with a slotted spoon and, in the bacon fat plus 3tbs olive oil, gently fry a medium-sized thinly sliced onion, sprinkled with a teaspoonful of sugar, until golden brown. Add some crushed garlic, 2tbs red wine vinegar and 2tbs soy sauce. Add to the couscous together with the bacon. Gently combine adding seasoning to taste. Leave to stand, at room temperature, for one hour. Good served with thick slices of avocado and crusty bread.

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# A Southern Rhodesian childhood

In May 2010 Ginny Salmon arrived in the village as a refugee from Zimbabwe. She had few belongings, and only two photographs from her childhood - one of herself and another of her grandmother. Ginny has recently been writing her memoirs, recalling life growing up in Rhodesia – a world apart from the village she now calls home.

Here she shares stories of her family.

## By Ginny Salmon

Granny, my father's mother, was born in Bitten near Bath. One of three sisters she was disgraced by falling pregnant and giving birth to a daughter, my Aunty Joan. She decided to leave her home and travel with her tiny baby to South Africa where she hoped to work as a lady's maid. She also had an outstanding skill as she was a competent seamstress having worked in the trade making army and navy uniforms and greatcoats.

She had a special place in her heart for the navy, and during the Second World War she and Aunty Joan would knit yards of black stockings for sailors. These, together with mounds of home-made fruit cake, would be posted back to Somerset and relatives in Britain.

Anyhow, arriving in Cape Town in about 1918 after the end of the First World War, granny met up with my paternal grandfather who married her and decided to move up to Southern Rhodesia. They were almost penniless, but felt their future was in a new country.

Life in Salisbury before the 1920s was hard but there were many opportunities for the resourceful with limited money. The town was set to grow. Government buildings would be needed as well as schools and hospitals. Bricks would have to be available and to make bricks one needed good clay soil and water. Happily, on the very outskirts of the growing town were deposits of clay soil. This area of many acres was leased to my grandfather for twenty pounds sterling for 50 years by the Salisbury municipality. The days of pugmills drawn by oxen were born.

Sadly, years later after four children were born, my grandfather died after lifting a vehicle from behind to test the contents of the petrol tank and rupturing his spleen. My Aunty Joan, being unmarried and the eldest, became the main office worker at the brickfields, dealing with incoming and outgoing trucks of bricks and keeping the office accounts. Besides all this she was able to deal with the African labour and able to patch up minor injuries as she kept a supply of iodine and plasters at the ready (to this day I cannot abide the pungent smell of iodine as I was often found roaming around the brickfield office).

Aunty Joan also dealt strictly with the weekly distribution of rations to the many African workers who would queue up on Fridays for their share of maize meal,



meat and rock salt – the latter a much enjoyed condiment with the maize meal. Pay days were weekly and carefully calibrated cash was distributed to each worker. Most appreciated by the Africans was the occasional sharing out of Africa beer brewed illicitly and left to ferment, hidden down in the vast clay pits. This was a lethal brew concocted of maize meal and methylated spirits with the addition of dead rats and all manner of unspeakable items. If drunk by a few as was intended, it would be really dangerous.

However, if discovered by the police or Aunty Joan and granny, it was shared out at the office and eager workers would line up with their containers – jam jars, metal jugs and metal teapots. Better to share the brew was the theme.

The African workers were mainly Christian and clung to their traditional ceremonies. One such annual ceremony was the night-time celebration of singing and dancing to the beat of African drums while huge and fearsome puppets, taller than a man and containing a dancer, would glide menacingly around the circle of singing and ululating bystanders. Granny and Aunty Joan would make a short but required visit to the ceremony, and the one and only time I went with them as a small child I was completely terrified.

Granny loved to recall the story of gold dust and the Ruwena river trips and it gives an idea of the early days in Rhodesia.

Occasionally Granny would get an urge to drive out with Aunty Joan from Salisbury northwards to the Mtoko area and African villages situated on a tributary of the Zambezi River where small amounts alluvial gold might be panned. They would sally forth armed with

supplies and gifts for the local chieftain where protocol demanded they ask his permission to camp and pan for gold dust in the river. They travelled in their Model T Ford along about 30 miles of overgrown and rutted track to the chief's village. It was a holiday and escape from routine for them both.

On this particular occasion they manage to pan a tiny amount of gold dust, which was filtered into a small glass aspirin bottle. This would be taken home and exchanged at the Standard Bank for cash.

On the homeward journey and yet far from Mutoko, disaster struck. They had punctured a tyre on the rough tracks and would have to fit their spare wheel. Two women on a lonely road with daylight soon fading. As luck would have it, just then a white professional gold panner approached. In no time at all he had changed the wheel and cheerfully set off ahead of them on his way back to Mutoko and then to Salisbury.

It was only as he left that Granny noticed a small canvas bag lying in the road. Opening it they discovered a fair amount of gold dust – fruits of weeks of gold panning in the Rowena River. The gentleman had allowed it to fall into the road from his vehicle.

Without hesitation, the bag was taken back to Salisbury and the Standard Bank from where the owner was later able to retrieve it, much to his relief. How granny loved to tell this story, and how I loved to hear

of the honesty of those early, difficult days in Southern Rhodesia.



One of the many early buildings in Salisbury, built with bricks from the brickfield, was the Dominican Convent, so it seemed natural that I should start my school days there in May as I turned five.

This school was reached from the brickfields up across railway tracks and then straight up Fourth Street to the convent. The school calendar year began in January but I had to wait until May to turn five. Up on the square bicycle carrier I perched while my mother pedalled up to the school.

I began my education with two disadvantages. Firstly, I had been christened an Anglican in a dear small church near the brickfields, and secondly all the children in the kindergarten were already settled and used to teaching. I found solace in the 'shop corner' to play with the assortment of miniature 'pretend goods'. In those days most local groceries were of British origin – tiny Bovril jars, lemon curd jars, Lifebouv soap. So I contentedly began my education over 70 years ago in the toy shop!

Now, looking back to those early, happy memories, I thank God to be living in Lindfield where I am able to attend the local Anglican Church as I approach the end of my days.


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# Have you always wanted to skydive?

St Catherine's Hospice is looking for thrill seekers to take to the skies and go up, up and away as part of its first ever tandem skydiving challenge.

Taking place on Saturday 20th August at the Old Sarum Airfield in Salisbury, the bespoke challenge is being held to celebrate 33 years of St Catherine's supporting terminally ill people and their family and friends in the local community. To commemorate this, the hospice has secured 33 exclusive skydiving spots so supporters can enjoy an adrenaline rush like no other.

Flying 10,000 feet through the clouds at speeds of up to 125 miles per hour, brave hospice supporters will be strapped to an experienced instructor from GoSkydive, and will freefall for approximately 30 seconds.

Last year Michelle Hanley arranged her own skydive to support St Catherine's. She said: "I'm scared of heights so it was a huge challenge, but it was nothing compared to the bravery that St Catherine's patients and families



face every day. I'm so proud of myself and couldn't be happier to raise £700 in sponsorship!"

Gordon Blamire, founder and Managing Director for GoSkydive, added: "GoSkydive is the only centre that specialises in tandem skydives for first-timers. We're looking forward to helping people raise as much as possible for St Catherine's whilst having a really good time!"

If you would like to take part in the skydive, you can register online at: <http://www.goskydive.com/st-catherines-hospice>. If you can't make the 20th August date St Catherine's is also looking for thrill seekers willing to take on their skydive challenge throughout the year.

To find out more contact St Catherine's Event Team on: [events@stch.org.uk](mailto:events@stch.org.uk) or call 01293 583063.

**Summer Sussex Garden Tea Parties  
in Cowfold 2016**

Diary Dates:  
**Sunday 3rd July  
Sunday 21st August**

Enjoy an open garden party with live music, delicious tea and cakes.


The tea parties are especially for people with dementia, their families and friends. A representative from Horsham Alzheimer's Society will be there with information about local services.

We look forward to welcoming you -- there is no charge. If you would like more information, please contact Joanne 07711 698 279 or 01403 864 419



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# The backswing

TEERING OFF



**By James Verrall, Head Golf Professional**

The backswing in golf throws up many questions from players. Things like: Am I swinging back too long? Am I swinging back too fast? Is my swing steep or flat?

In this month's tip I will try and help you to understand some of the key points to a good backswing.

First, you must realise that the longer you swing back the less control of the club you have; however, the longer you swing back the more distance you will get. Therefore you need to find the optimum point where you can achieve maximum distance whilst still staying in control of the club. If the club goes beyond being parallel to the ground at the top of the swing, or you can see the club out the corner of your eye when you swing back, then this is definitely too far.

The left arm should stay straight during the backswing (but not locked straight). It should also feel like it is slightly across your chest and not too wide away from your body.

Having a slow steady backswing rhythm is crucial. The backswing is all about getting into the right position to start the follow through. Take your time, as swinging back too fast could cause such faults as swaying.

Let your left shoulder turn underneath your chin. Making a good shoulder turn will help to get the club in the right position at the top of the backswing.

Try to keep your head completely still on the backswing. Moving around will cause all sorts of problems when you come to strike the ball.

Try all of this and see if it can help make some improvements to your golf swing. Enjoy the glorious golf weather this month, and I hope to see you at Haywards Heath Golf Club soon.

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# Florence Foster Jenkins by Nicholas Martin and Jasper Rees

## BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

This is an extraordinary story. Florence Foster Jenkins became a New York socialite who came to believe that she was a great singer. She wasn't! She once said: "People may say I couldn't sing. But no one can say that I didn't sing."

Her strange, out of tune recordings became cult albums, which David Bowie said were an influence on him (I think he was being ironic!). The recent Stephen Frears movie saw Meryl Streep give a great performance as this woman, a mixture of arrogance and naivety.

Like the story of Eddie the Eagle, this strange tale is important as it is about failure, not the kind of overcoming against the odds. Despite all her efforts, all her practices, she was still awful. Yet at the heart of this, she had a tragic secret which enables us to find her not just funny but also to see in her something of ourselves – complicated, lovable and arrogant she may have been but above all she was willing to keep going when others would have stopped. Perhaps that is a good lesson to learn.



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# Lindfield Parish Council

July 2016

Parish Office: Clock Tower House, Lindfield Enterprise Park, Lewes Road, Lindfield, RH16 2LH  
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Web site: [www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

(Chairman of Council, Councillor William Blunden)

The Council year 2015/16 started with an uncontested election, having received only 10 nominations for 12 positions. We welcomed new Councillor Judy Durrant who stood for election and also Liz Hinze and Stewart Shortland, who were subsequently co-opted to fill the two vacancies. Having said goodbye to Roger Pickett along with Michael Amor and Jane Chatfield, who had all made a valuable contribution to the wellbeing of the Council, Roger Pickett was once again co-opted in February to fill the casual vacancy that arose due to the resignation of Liz Hinze for personal reasons. The Council would like to thank Mrs Hinze for the contribution she made during her time on the Council. Once again this has been an interesting and challenging year for your Parish Council. We also welcomed our new Responsible Financial Officer, Tracy Ely, to the Council, replacing Sue Kolien who had served the Council for nearly 20 years.

The most noticeable challenge for the Council over the last year was the upgrading of the WSCC streetlights. The completion of the conversion of a number of lights to heritage style, for which the Parish Council has paid a significant contribution, is still awaited.

The lack of a District Plan and a five year land supply is still leaving the area open to unwelcome planning applications such as the Birchen Field, Walstead and Scamps Hill sites. This is particularly disappointing as local Town and Parish Councils have all been working very hard to produce their Neighbourhood Plans which are intended to represent the views of local people as to where new developments should go in their particular areas. The Lindfield and Lindfield Rural plan was 'made' by Mid Sussex District Council on the 23rd March.

As ever, the past year presented the Council with challenges but a number of achievements can be reported. The Minutes of the last year reveal how busy the Council has been, particularly the Planning and Traffic Committee and the Environment and Amenities Committee, and the Committee reports highlight a number of achievements.

We have raised the precept this year, for the first time since 2009/10, to £157,000, which is an increase of approximately 3.3% and in real terms adds just £1.57 to the Band D equivalent.

Members of Lindfield Parish Council:

They can all be contacted, in the first instance, via the Parish

**Cllr. William Blunden**  
(Chairman)

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

**Cllr. Mike Allen**

**Cllr. Judith Durrant**

**Cllr. Alan Gomme**

**Cllr. Stephen Henton**

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

Parish Clerk:  
Mrs Christine Irwin

Deputy Parish Clerk:  
Mr Iain McLean

Responsible Financial  
Officer: Mrs Tracy Ely

## PLANNING & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

(Chairman: Councillor Alan Gomme)

The committee has considered 145 planning applications during 2015/16, of which 44 related to trees. Most of these came from Mid Sussex District Council but we did also consider the occasional West Sussex County Council application, e.g. where they undertake work to trees that are either listed or within the Conservation Area. As always, we are particularly concerned to protect our listed buildings and properties within the High Street/Compton Road Conservation Area, and the Areas of Townscape Character (which have now been added to by our Neighbourhood Plan, of which more below) and to ensure, where relevant, that the guidelines contained within the Lindfield Village Design Statement are followed by homeowners and developers alike.

The applications normally relate to land, property or trees within our urban Parish but last year we did offer comments on a number of significant applications within Lindfield Rural Parish and Haywards Heath, when we considered that such developments would have an adverse effect on our own Parish, especially when it comes to the adequacy of our local infrastructure and amenities. This included the large scale housing application at Scamps Hill, which Mid Sussex District Council has since refused, and a similar sized application recently along Gravelly Lane, which has yet to be decided.

Notable applications within our own Parish included two that we considered unneighbourly and one that we considered would mean undesirable changes to a Listed Building within the Conservation Area.

A proposed rear extension at Chimney Corner, High Street came before the committee on two occasions and we considered it would have an unacceptable impact on the reasonable enjoyment of the neighbour's light and view contrary to Local Plan policy. It was a very similar

situation with the proposed side extension to 30 Savill Road; in that case we considered that the height of the proposed extension would have an unacceptable impact on no. 32.

The Barn, Hickmans Lane is a Listed Building within the Conservation Area but is a very difficult building to see from either Hickmans Lane or the High Street. A proposal for a single storey side extension and replacement of the existing lean to roof at the side with a solid roof including roof lantern came before us and although these works would not really be seen by members of the public, we concluded that we could not support the application because of the concerns about the adverse effect on it as a Listed Building and the setting of the Conservation Area.

The application for a residential development of 48 dwellings on land north of Birchen Lane, which although mainly in Haywards Heath does include a small area within our Parish, was also refused by Mid Sussex District Council but which, unsurprisingly, went to appeal. We are still awaiting the result of that appeal, but it is expected shortly. In this case our comments mainly related to the traffic flows that would be generated on our road network from such a development.

On that traffic front, the Committee has also progressed the commissioning of the Traffic Survey throughout our Parish in order to seek possible solutions to the many traffic related issues that our residents have brought to our attention. A consultant, Creative Roads Limited, was therefore appointed in the autumn last year, and work is now well underway to inform how we approach these concerns. We hope to come up with our recommendations and possible solutions for consultation with our Parish later in the year.

We also commented to Mid Sussex District Council on their proposed Community Infrastructure Levy – Draft Charging Schedule, and we expressed our concern that the proposed levy did not appear to be high enough, being only 78.5% of the forecasted shortfall and based on the assumption that all possible SHLAA sites would be developed.

Office, or by reference to the Lindfield Village Directory and Year Book, which contains details of individual contact numbers.

**Cllr. Margaret Hersey**

**Cllr. Simon Hodgson**

**Cllr. Roger Pickett**

**Cllr. Ron Plass**

**Cllr. Stewart Shortland**

**Cllr. Christopher Snowling**

During the year we and the Lindfield Preservation Society became concerned about a number of changes to either Listed Buildings or properties within the Conservation Area that were being done without the appropriate planning permission. So together we started a regular review of the Conservation Area in order to look out for such recent alterations and to then either take the matter up with the owners or the planning officers at Mid Sussex District, whichever seemed the most appropriate in the individual circumstances.

### Neighbourhood Plan

Since my last report, the Plan has been through the independent examination stage, and where it was considered appropriate, the recommendations of the examiner were taken on board. The Plan subsequently went to referendum on 28th January 2016, where it passed with a 95% 'yes' vote. It was then formally made by Mid Sussex District Council on 23rd March 2016, and so it is now a material consideration in terms of planning applications that are decided in our Parish, by Mid Sussex District Council as our Planning Authority. However, the law says that whilst the District Council does not have its own Development Plan in place, or an approved 5 year housing land supply, the weight that can be attached is open to a range of views. We will be watching this space.

## ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

(Chairman: Councillor William Blunden)

The Environment and Amenities Committee is responsible for providing and maintaining the Denmans Lane Allotment Site, the public toilets, some street lighting, litter bins, bus shelters and other items of street furniture. The committee also liaises with MSDC regarding management of the Common, the Pond and Hickmans Lane Playing Field and with WSCC on various highway matters. Winter maintenance, Christmas lights, the annual Christmas Festival Night and Spring Clean also come under this Committee's remit.

The E&A Committee has achieved a number of objectives for the benefit of the village during 2015/16 and, in addition to routine payments, the Committee's expenditure has been considerable with some long-term projects coming to fruition.

Over the last five years we have been working with our street lighting contractors to upgrade the Parish Council's 46 lights, replacing old or obsolete equipment and painting columns. As a result the lights are now more reliable, we have far fewer reported faults and

our energy costs have been reduced. The latest work carried out in 2015 involved the replacement of all the old concrete columns in Brookway with steel ones, at a cost of £9,625 paid to our street lighting contractors and a further £17,305 to UK Power Networks for necessary underground work. The Parish Council has also made a contribution of £13,143 to the cost of the upgrade of the West Sussex County Council's street lights in order to ensure that heritage style lights were installed in the Conservation Area. Unfortunately we are still waiting for this to be completed.

Another project which has finally been done is the re-paving at the corner of Lewes Road and the High Street, with additional bollards installed to deter parking which had contributed to the break-up of the York Stone. There are further plans to add a couple more bollards on the area north of the crossing.

We have taken part in discussions about the proposed footpath to Lindfield Primary Academy School and improvements to the dog waste bin service and we have negotiated an arrangement with Haywards Heath Town Council for some maintenance to be done as paid work (including cleaning and painting items of street furniture).

The Village Spring Clean in April has been much better supported in the last few years – many thanks to the people who give up their morning once a year to make this a great community effort.

During the coming year the E&A Committee's priorities are additional bollards on the High Street paving north of the crossing and moving forward with a number of joint projects with Mid Sussex District and West Sussex County Councils, including upgrading the play equipment in Hickmans Lane and installation of some dropped kerbs.

## FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

(Chairman: Councillor Stephen Henton)

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is responsible for overseeing and reviewing the day to day financial matters of Lindfield Parish Council and to recommend to the Council the annual budget and the precept to be levied for the Parish. Staffing and the Parish Office accommodation also come under the remit of this Committee, as well as governance, insurance, risk assessment, production of the Lindfield Parish Directory and Year Book and any matters of policy which do not fall clearly within the responsibilities of the other Committees, or where there is conflict between them.

Putting together the annual budget is a major task. As Lindfield Parish Council has very little income from

other sources, most of its funds have to come from the annual precept which is one element of the Council Tax. In 2015/16 the precept was £152,000, prior to which we had not increased it since 2009/10. If the amount required to fund the budget is underestimated, the Council is unable to obtain any further sums from other sources, other than loans for particular capital projects, so it is essential that reserves are held as a safeguard in case of unexpected but necessary expenditure. After careful consideration of the budget for 2016/17, it was agreed to increase the precept to £157,000.

Full copies of the accounts are available from the Parish Office. A breakdown of the budget for 2016/17 is enclosed with this report, together with an abbreviated version of the receipts and payments for 2015/16.

The ongoing work of the Committee includes reviewing monthly income & expenditure against the budget, carrying out periodic checks on the financial records and reporting to Council annually on the effectiveness of the internal audit and internal control procedures. The finances of the Council are subject to

both external and internal audit – to date no significant problems have been identified and some helpful suggestions have been followed up.

The capital project for providing public conveniences on the Common also comes under this Committee and it had been the intention to hold a public consultation on the proposals around this time. However, because of concerns expressed by a number of residents about the proposed site we will be looking again at all the other possible options.

Each year the Council sets aside an amount of money in the F&GP Committee's budget for grants/donations, either to local village based groups or to organisations whose activities benefit residents of our Parish. In 2015/16 a total of £1,200 was paid in grants to the following organisations: St Catherine's Hospice (£250), St Peter and St James Hospice (£250), West Sussex Mediation Service (£100), Mid Sussex Older People's Council (£100), 4Sight (£150), Victim Support (£100) and the Lindfield Arts Festival (£250).

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2016

2014/2015			2015/2016	
£			£	
		<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
152,000.00		Precept	152,000.00	
127.01		Interest Received	145.19	
802.64		Allotments: Rents and Licence Fee	787.80	
3,485.00		Village Directory: Advertising	3,990.00	
12.00		Village Directory: Donations	12.50	
330.00		Christmas Festival Night	462.86	
5,000.00		WSCC: Contribution towards paving repairs	307.50	
769.24		WSCC: Re-imburement for grass cutting	-	
2,410.00		WSCC: Re-imburement for tree pollarding	-	
4,719.55		Insurance claims: Allotment shed and front door	-	
7,125.00		Rent: Clock Tower House	9,500.02	
84,170.00		Sale of 6 Denmans Lane	-	
1,234.52		Other Income	4,390.75	
8,872.03	<b>271,056.99</b>	VAT re-imburements	14,325.97	<b>185,922.59</b>
		<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
74,715.02		Administration:	74,564.91	
		Capital: repayment of loan for Clock Tower House;		
28,927.54		office equipment; toilets on the Common	26,320.91	
2,502.00		Other Expenditure on Parish Office	5,263.33	
12,191.64		Finance and General Purposes Committee	10,553.55	
36,271.74		Environment and Amenities Committee	98,976.31	
1,081.93		Planning and Traffic Committee	492.88	
8,588.06	<b>164,277.93</b>	VAT on Payments	22,389.57	<b>238,561.46</b>
	<b>106,779.06</b>			<b>- 52,638.87</b>
		<b>SUMMARY year ending 31 March 2016</b>		
Opening Balance	269,490.83	Payments	238,561.46	
Receipts	185,922.59	Closing Balance	216,851.96	
	<b>£ 455,413.42</b>		<b>£ 455,413.42</b>	
<b>BANK RECONCILIATION</b>				
Current Account	- 3,573.86			
Business Saver Account	220,193.92			
	<b>216,620.06</b>			
Petty Cash in Hand	231.90			
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£ 216,851.96</b>			

**BUDGET 2016/17** (Precept £157,000)

	£	£
<b>FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE</b>		
Administration	115,780.00	
Chairman's Fund	500.00	
Grants/Donations	2,000.00	
Annual Memberships/Subscriptions	2,500.00	
Village Directory	6,500.00	
Newsletter/Annual Report	2,000.00	
Members' Allowances	2,500.00	
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>131,780.00</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE</b>		
Street Lighting - Energy/maintenance costs	4,300.00	
- Upgrading Street lights	7,000.00	
- Christmas lights	6,000.00	
Maintenance/Gardening (including annual Village Spring Clean and work carried out by Haywards Heath Town Council)	7,500.00	
Allotments	3,000.00	
Christmas Festival Night	1,000.00	
Village Archives	300.00	
Mobile Civic Amenity Freighter	2,000.00	
Denmans Lane toilets - running costs	12,500.00	
Extra Bollards, High Street (North of Crossing)	3,000.00	
Digital mapping	250.00	
Joint Project with MSDC/WSCC - Post and rail fencing - Pond and Common	2,000.00	
Grass cutting (High Street)	2,000.00	
Emergency Equipment	750.00	
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>51,600.00</b>
<b>PLANNING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE</b>		
Miscellaneous	200.00	
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>200.00</b>
<b>BUDGET TOTAL 2016-17</b>		<b>183,580.00</b>



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# What's on in July

## AT KING EDWARD HALL

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- 7th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am  
(Mrs Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 9th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – 2-4.45pm  
**Annual Summer Show:** Lindfield Horticulture Society invites you to join us in celebrating the horticultural achievements of our fellow gardeners at our Summer Show of produce and flowers. Home-made cakes and coffee will be on offer as well as a sale of plants. (Entry £1, children free. All welcome. Membership enquiries 01444 456509)
- 14th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am
- 19th **Lindfield Flower Club** – 2.30pm  
Pat MacDonald will demonstrate and her talk is called "TEEBEEDEE"
- 21st **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am
- 23rd **Sale of Teak Garden Furniture**
- 28th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11.15am
- 30th/ **The Adventurers Art Club Annual Exhibition**  
31st (Mrs Valerie Harvey 01444 455704)

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)

## Get your event listed here for FREE

Just email the full details of what you are planning to us at [editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk](mailto:editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk) before 8th of the preceding month and we will do our best to list it alongside other local events in/around the area.

## AND ELSEWHERE

### July

- 2nd **Scaynes Hill Open Gardens** – 1.30-5.30pm  
Eight gardens open for St Peter and St James Hospice. Teas and tickets at the church in aid of Family Support work.
- 2nd **Comedy Night Fundraiser** – doors open 7.30pm  
Woodside, Bolnore Village  
Fundraiser for Group B Strep charity. Three award-winning comedians will perform - Miles Crawford, Richard Morton and Britain's Got Talent star finalist, Danny Posthill. Bar available. (Tickets £10 from [www.gbss.org.uk](http://www.gbss.org.uk) or phone 01444 416176)
- 3rd **The Ensemble Reza Community Orchestra** – 5-7pm, Oathall Community College  
The Ensemble Reza Community Orchestra will be presenting a great programme of music for their sizzling summer concert. (Tickets cost £8 and £3 and are available on the door or from Carousel Music or online from Ensemble Reza)
- 12th **Mid Sussex Ramblers** – 10am  
Meet at Plumpton Station (BN7 3BW)  
Plumpton Circular – Plumpton Station, Race Course, Plumpton Place, East Chiltington, Plumpton Station. Good views of the Downs. Mainly flat. Dogs welcome. Five miles. (Contact Jim G 01444 246206 or 07598 143869)
- 13th **Tiger Arts Lunchtime Concert** – 1pm  
Lindfield United Reformed Church  
Mark Baigent (oboe) & Helen Sharp (harp)  
A concert of music for oboe and harp from the 19th century using instruments of the period. Helen is a busy freelance harpist working with international orchestras including the London Symphony Orchestra and Mark is a freelance oboist specialising in performing on period oboes. He regularly works with the Kings Consort and with Sir John Eliot Gardiner's Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique. Light lunches available from 12.15pm.

### August

- 27th **Bring & Buy Horse Book Sale** – 2.30-5pm  
The Adastra Hall, Keymer Road, Hassocks  
Mid Sussex Area Bridleways Group hosts a new and secondhand horse book sale for adults & children, and enjoy a cream tea. 01444 456145

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