

Lindfield *Life*

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Local village talk,
by the village

Nov 2016 Issue #92

Free



Bonfire Night – 5th Nov

page 15

Lindfield remembers its war heroes

page 12

Get to know Michael Davies

page 38

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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Many folk move into villages like Lindfield in order to escape the push and pull of life in larger towns and cities but this month's magazine shows, yet again, just how busy a more rural life can be!

On **page 11** you can read about four hard-working residents who have been honoured at a recent **Community Service Awards** ceremony organised by Mid Sussex District Council. Well done to **Betty, Jennie, Richard and Ron**.

Resident **Beth Mercer** provides our wonderful cover shot from last year's **Bonfire Night**. All the details of this year's event are given in the article on **page 15**. And don't forget to support **Lindfield Bonfire Society** financially before the day. You can find out about membership or just make a one-off donation online at the group's website (www.lindfieldbonfiresociety.co.uk).

This month in the magazine we are fortunate enough to feature a number of villagers. On **page 20** Claire Cooper met **Simon Taylor** - dog whisperer extraordinaire! Keeping on the doggy theme, on **page 24** we find out about **Pat Kaye's** rescue charity. And on **page 38** you can read **Rev Michael Davies's** story from church leadership to model tunnels!

Eric Dawes shares some more of his **Lindfield memories** from 80 years ago on **page 28**. Elsewhere on the history theme, **Linda Grace** and **Margaret Nicolle** bring us up to speed with Lindfield legend Helena Hall on **page 42**.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this packed issue - I'm extremely grateful, and it just shows what a fab place Lindfield is.

I can't sign off without making reference to the annual **Remembrance Day Parade** taking place on Sunday 13th November. More about this and the Lindfield branch of the **Royal British Legion** on page 12.

Issue #92 - November 2016 -
4,600 copies printed

Next magazine copydate:
8th November 2016

Next magazine published:
25th November 2016

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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed within the magazine are of the individual authors and not necessarily those of the editors. Whilst the editors welcome contributions & photographs, this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to include them and that the item may be edited & that there is no breach of copyright. Neither the editors nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement.

Lindfield Life Published by Kipper



 Beth Mercer
Amongst the Lindfield
Bonfire Night procession

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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

Care home heroed in review

Summerlands Residential Care Home, in Lindfield, has been selected to appear in the 2015/16 edition of The Parliamentary Review.

Established by former minister The Rt Hon David Curry shortly after the 2010 general election, The Parliamentary Review's September release has become a key fixture in the political calendar.

Summerlands Residential Care Home features alongside The Chancellor of the Exchequer, The Rt Hon Philip Hammond, and a small number of outstanding organisations in the Care edition. The main aim of The Review is to showcase best practice as a learning tool to the public and private sector, with this edition aimed particularly at leading policymakers and executives within the Care arena.

The articles in The Review act as both a blueprint for success and a template for reform.

Director of The Parliamentary Review, Daniel Yossman, said: "It's been an utter privilege to work with a range of organisations from across the country in this year's Review. Without their input, our aims of spreading expert knowledge and raising standards simply would not be achievable."



Christmas floral workshop planned

Lindfield Horticultural Society is running a workshop, led by local florist Khee Joon Kenneway, which will teach you how to make your own beautiful floral Christmas centrepiece.

The event will take place on 13th December at the United Reformed Church from 1-3pm.

The tickets cost £25 and include florist materials, instruction and refreshments.

Contact Jenny Samuels for more details: jennyalxndr@aol.com

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An a capella concert in Lindfield

Three a capella groups are planning a night of fabulous entertainment on Saturday 19th November at All Saints Church Lindfield.

Vocal Fusion Acapella, a male voice chorus, and Kaleidoscope Singers, a mixed voice chamber choir, will sing a popular selection of 19th and 20th century songs, including I Got Rhythm, Stepping Out with my Baby, Nevertheless and The Nearness of You as well many others.

They will be supported by Stepping Out, an a capella quartet which sings all over the south east and will be singing pieces from its own repertoire of popular songs.

Refreshments are available in the church from 3pm onwards, and the concert will commence at 4pm and will conclude around 5.15pm.

Tickets are £8 including refreshments and are available on the door or at the church office.

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Former pub gets its sign back

By Diane Flint

If you have glanced up while walking past the old Tiger Inn at the top of the High Street you will have seen this lovely new sign: a tiger gazing up at a bright shining star.

It is the winning design of Lindfield resident and artist Wally Jex, and it was hoisted into place in time to mark this year's Tiger centenary – 100 years since All Saints Church bought the building.

Wally, 75, has lived in Compton Road with his wife Jenny for 17 years and used to be a TV advertising scriptwriter and illustrator. With his creative partner Hugh Silvey he was responsible for campaigns like Fred the Homepride flour grader.

Designing the Tiger sign was a different kind of challenge for Wally.



He said: "Tigers and Christianity don't have a lot in common but I thought that having one looking up at a star would work."

Wally is still working and currently designs greetings cards and creates a monthly cartoon strip for the Dalesman magazine with Hugh.

In his spare time he works on his allotment behind the pond and is a member of Lindfield Horticultural Society.

And he still likes to travel the globe with his wife Jenny.

"I was one of the settlers who emigrated to Australia on a £10 ticket, then moved to Canada before returning to the UK and eventually Lindfield," he said.

So the next time you are walking along the High Street near the church, look up and see the magnificent tiger gazing at a star for yourselves!

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Lindfield film director has film selected at Raindance

Suzanne Gielgud, from Lindfield, had her feature length documentary film *The Gospel of Ross McKim* selected for the prestigious Raindance Film Festival in London last month.

This international film festival, currently in its 24th year, annually selects the best independent films from across the globe and screens them at the Vue cinema's in Piccadilly and Leicester Square during a 10-day film extravaganza in London.

Suzanne beat off stiff competition to get her documentary selected. This year there were over 8000 films entered, from which only 100 feature films were chosen. Gielgud's feature length documentary told the story of Dr Ross McKim, once named by a critic as 'the most beautiful dancer in Britain'. Ross McKim then turned to choreography before spending the next 30 years as the Artistic Director of the legendary Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance.

Guests at the film screening in London included Lord and Lady Sainsbury (Anya Sainsbury is a former Royal Ballet ballerina and was executive producer on the film), the award winning Rambert dancer Dane Hurst and the subject of the film himself, Dr Ross McKim. As well as being an award winning film-maker, Suzanne Gielgud is also the Principal of the Gielgud Academy in Haywards Heath. She said: "I was so thrilled to have my film chosen for this prestigious film festival. The screening on the 28th September 2016 was a very emotional day for me



Piers and Suzanne Gielgud (left) with Lord and Lady Sainsbury

because on that day we also had a deadline to hand in our free school bid to the Department for Education. We've been working very hard on our bid for the last five months and so to have the bid deadline at midday and this amazing film festival in the evening of the same day was awesome, if not a little draining!

"I am now hoping and praying that our bid is accepted so we can open the Gielgud Academy full time, all-through free school in Haywards Heath. I can't wait to inspire a new generation of filmmakers, dancers, singers, actors and artists and provide them with expert professional arts training alongside a solid, excellent academic provision. The children in this area deserve it."

More information about the Gielgud Academy free school and a chance to fill in a survey and register interest can be found at www.gielgudacademy.co.uk

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Residents awarded for service

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

By Claire Cooper

Four of Lindfield's 'unsung heroes' who regularly give up their time to organise and support community events in the village have been presented with awards.

Betty Billins, Ron Plass and Jennie and Richard Powell have all received Community Service Awards from Mid Sussex District Council.

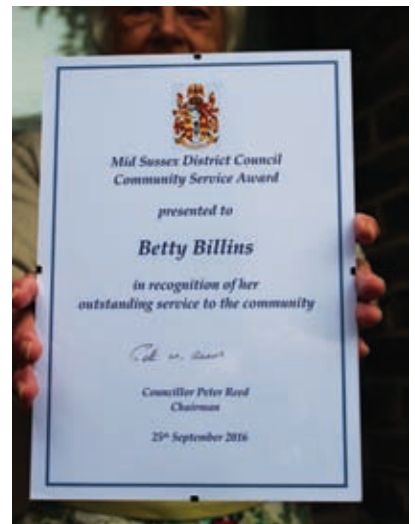
The awards, for volunteers whose work 'enriches the lives of others while making Mid Sussex a great place to live', were presented by Council Chairman Peter Reed and the High Sheriff of West Sussex Mark Spofforth at a garden party in September.

A poppy collector for 65 years, Betty Billins was nominated by the Parish Council in recognition of her 50 years as standard bearer for the Women's Section of the Lindfield British Legion. Betty also supports the Parish Council by delivering diaries and taking part in the annual spring clean.

Jenny and Richard Powell are best known for arranging the popular 'Lindfield Film Evenings' which run from September to May. The screenings at the King Edward Hall give residents a chance to see up to date films and enjoy hot drinks and cake, all within walking distance of their homes.

Ron Plass was nominated in recognition of his 'total commitment' to two of the village's most popular events - the Lindfield Village Day and Family Runs. As a leading member of the organising team, Ron has helped to raise the profile of the village celebrations and, as a result, boost the funds for the village hall and Lindfield community.

Jennie and Richard are also involved in many other aspects of village life, including Village Day and looking after the village pond. They were described by Cllr Margaret Hersey as 'a very spirited couple giving so much to others within and outside the village of Lindfield'.





Remembering our servicemen/women

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

By Jane Harding, Chairman of Lindfield Branch

With nearly 100 members, Lindfield Branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL) is one of the most thriving in Sussex.

We are blessed with a committed membership and raise in excess of £12,000 each year. With your generosity and support, here are just some examples of where this money is used:

There are rehabilitation centres such as The Battleback Centre, enabling servicemen and women to regain independence. Money is also targeted for research, for example to minimise the effects of injuries caused by roadside bombs.

There are Poppy Homes offering residential, day, dementia and mental health care. Welfare breaks are also available.

A quarter of all welfare cases are due to housing and homelessness. Homes are found with household goods and mobility adaptations provided.

Help is given with benefit problems, debt advice, financial assistance, funeral costs and representation with funerals when requested. There is an RBL independent inquest advice service to help during a coroner's inquest.

Established in 1921 The Royal British Legion was founded after the First World War to provide assistance to returning servicemen and their families. Its work continues today.

On Sunday 13th November Lindfield holds its annual act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 2.30pm followed by an Ecumenical service at All Saints Church. Afterwards we make our annual pilgrimage down the High Street to King Edward Hall - this was used as a hospital in WWI.

Everyone is welcome to take part in the Parade, please wear any medals on the right side of your chest (on behalf of any blood relative). Refreshments are offered afterwards. We believe passionately that remembrance

of the sacrifice made by all people during conflict should be honoured, please come and join us.

A common misconception is that a person must have been a member of the Armed Services to be eligible to join the RBL. This is not the case. Anyone, young or old, male or female, who wishes to support the RBL's commitment to Remembrance and Fellowship, Representation and Rehabilitation of service personnel is eligible to join the RBL.

We URGENTLY need a Standard Bearer. No experience is necessary and training will be given.

We warmly welcome new members and if you would like to join us please contact the Lindfield RBL Membership Secretary, Mrs Wendy Ahl – telephone 01444 459746 or email wendyahl@gmail.com

Pictured above: Vice-chair Andrew Harding, 50 year member Kath Rusby & Chairman Jane Harding.

Quiz Night Thank You

The Lindfield Branch of The Royal British Legion would like to thank everyone for their support and generosity at our Quiz Night held in King Edward Hall last month. The magnificent sum of £685 was raised with a further £35 collected in our Poppy Box.

This year our branch was awarded The Dacre Cup, given to a Sussex branch (without a club) that has shown the greatest improvement in membership during the year.



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What a guy!

LINDFIELD BONFIRE NIGHT

Photos by Beth Mercer

By Claire Cooper

This year's Lindfield Bonfire Night celebrations will be held on Saturday 5th November.

Organised by Lindfield Bonfire Society, the evening event starts with a fancy dress competition at the King Edward Hall, followed by a torchlight procession around the village, arriving at the common where the bonfire is lit. The evening ends with a firework display.

Earlier in the day, at 2pm, the society will be running a Guy Building Competition. The competition is free to enter – just bring along your guy to the judging on Lindfield common.

The fancy dress competition, held in the King Edward Hall, is free to enter and open to both the public and Bonfire Society members.

The classes are: Children up to 6 years, 7-11 years, 12-15 years, Adults, Groups. There will prizes on the night!

The event will see several roads closed from 6.30pm to 9.30pm, and villagers are encouraged to walk to the event. If you live outside the village, the society recommends parking in Haywards Heath and walking into Lindfield.

The torchlight procession starts at 7.30pm from the King Edward Hall, taking in Black Hill, The Witch, and Hickmans Lane, where the procession will stop and re-torch before proceeding down the High Street and on to the common.

Bonfire Society members will be running a street collection on the night to raise funds for local children's charities Chestnut Tree House, Court Meadow RDA, CLAPA (Cleft Lip and Palate Association), Kangaroos and Orchard House.

Saturday 5th November

6.30pm	Fancy Dress Competition – at the King Edward Hall (free to enter)
7.30pm	Torchlight Procession – parade through the village
8.15pm	Lighting of the Bonfire – preceded by the Traditional Bonfire Prayer
8.30pm	Grand Firework Display – on common
9pm	End of show

*All timings are approximate and subject to weather conditions.

Everyone is welcome to join the parade and celebrations but asked to remember a few simple rules:

- Do not bring sparklers, fireworks or bangers into the village or on to the common as it is dangerous and against the law (yes, even the sparklers!).
- LBS operates a strict no fireworks policy outside of its display. The discharging of rookies, bangers or other fireworks is not permitted before the procession, during it or in the public viewing areas.
- Please do not bring pets with you.
- For public safety no drones are allowed at the event. Anyone found operating one will be reported to the police.
- Please be considerate to local residents before, during and after the event.

For more information you can check the Lindfield Bonfire Society Facebook page or its website: www.lindfieldbonfiresociety.co.uk

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Plentiful harvest at church

By Pastor Mervyn Weeks

Over the weekend of the 1st/2nd October Lindfield Evangelical Free Church held its harvest celebration services and events. As well as holding a traditional Harvest Supper on the Saturday evening, we also invited our neighbours in Chaloner Road to a Cream Tea on the Sunday afternoon. The congregation and the many visitors remarked on the very special Harvest feature at the front of the church that reminded us that it's God who provides for all our needs.

Many in the church brought gifts of perishable and non-perishable goods, local farmers also supplied bales of hay and straw, as well as various farming implements. The display was lovingly and thoughtfully put together by a member of our congregation, who was ably assisted by many of the church family.

As LEFC is in the heart of the community in Chaloner Road, we felt led to bless those in our area that we've had contact with and that we know are on their own or in special need at this time, blessing them with a gift of a small hamper of harvest produce.

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Chris Chatfield, Managing Director of Compass Travel said: "I am delighted to have reached a mutual agreement with theSussexBus to continue these routes as part of our expanding network."

All theSussexBus routes have been taken over with effect from Saturday 1st October 2016. Apart from just one change to Route 33 Saturdays, routes and timetables will be unchanged. Monthly/weekly tickets issued by theSussexBus will be accepted by Compass until expiry. More info: www.compass-travel.co.uk



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The Dog Whisperer

VILLAGE PEOPLE



Sharing your home with a dog can be one of life's most rewarding experiences. But when things go wrong life becomes traumatic and owners find themselves struggling to build a healthy relationship with their pet.

Trainer Simon Taylor tells us how his understanding of dogs deepened after he was attacked as a child, how his canine 'best friends' have helped him cope with adversity and how he is rapidly becoming known as Lindfield's 'dog whisperer'.

By Claire Cooper

Dogs have been part of Simon's life since the day he was born. "I was born at home, and when my grandparents came to visit they presented my parents with a border collie puppy," he said. "My mother wasn't best pleased but my father felt strongly that every boy should grow up with a dog – so the puppy stayed!" It was the beginning of a beautiful friendship, with Kit becoming Simon's 'best mate'.

Simon's passion for dogs was inherited from his father. "He had a natural ability to communicate with dogs," said Simon. But both father's and son's love of dogs was challenged when Simon was badly bitten when he was just 9 years old. "My dad was a builder and scout leader and had raised funds to build a new scout hut," said Simon. "I went along to help, and dad set me the task of digging out an old tree stump. I was an active child and he knew it would keep me occupied for several days."

Simon spent hours hacking away at the stump, unaware that next door, behind a fence, a large German Shepherd dog was getting increasingly agitated.

Eventually the dog snapped, leaping over the fence and attacking Simon. "I was terrified and thought I was going to die, as the dog clawed at my ribs," said Simon, who was rushed to hospital and given more than 60 stitches.

But despite his horrific injuries, Simon blamed himself and his biggest concern was for the dog. "When I learnt it had been put to sleep I was heartbroken," he said. "I knew I had irritated it to the point of madness and that it was my fault. I've carried the guilt for most of my life, but now

that I've been able to save several dogs from being put to sleep I think I've paid my debt."

Simon was understandably nervous of dogs for some time but, helped by Kit, he gradually returned to his old self. "But it really upset the apple cart with my relationships with dogs, and whenever we came across a German Shepherd my fear would wash over me like a cold sweat," said Simon. "It was understandable but I hated it."

Kit lived to the grand old age of 16. "I was devastated when the time came to say goodbye," said Simon. "It was the only time I ever saw my dad shed a tear."

A year later, Simon began to visit Battersea Dogs Home. "I had no intention of adopting, but then I met Pebbles, an aggressive Staffie cross who was proving impossible to rehome. He was there every time I visited and we formed a bond," said Simon, who was soon asking his parents if he could bring her home. "I knew then that I had a special connection with dogs, particularly those other people didn't understand."

Pebs was strong, aggressive and destructive, but, despite biting many other dogs, several people, and even two policemen, Simon persevered. "Once Pebs began to understand that potential threats would be dealt with by me and not him, we formed an unbreakable bond."

Simon came to Sussex 28 years ago, to work on a construction project in Ardingly. "It was supposed to be a six week job building an extension to the property, but the owner got the 'building bug' and I ended up staying for five years," Simon recalled.

"I couldn't believe my luck! It was the most fantastic change in my life. I totally fell in love with Sussex – it was the perfect place for me and my dog. I never even went back to London to collect my furniture!"

When the Ardingly project ended, Simon landed another dream job - as 'builder in residence' at Wakehurst Place. "It was a wonderful time to work at Wakehurst as the Millenium Seed Bank was being constructed," said Simon. "My job involved everything from changing a washer to being part of the team building the new visitor centre!"

But in 2005 Simon's life changed dramatically when his health began to deteriorate. "I had six major orthopaedic operations, broke my leg and underwent facial surgery," said Simon. "My marriage had also broken down, I had no money and I ended up spiralling into depression and having a complete breakdown."

With his dog Jess by his side Simon managed to get his life back on track, and a chance conversation with a Lindfield neighbour took him in a new direction. "He asked me what my passion was, and I replied without any hesitation – dogs," said Simon. "Then follow it," said my neighbour."

Unwittingly, Simon was already working as a trainer. "During my walks in Lindfield I would come across walkers who were having problems with their dogs and I'd go over and see if I could help," said Simon. He could often see the reasons behind the dog's behaviour and, more importantly, where the owners were going wrong.

Word soon began to spread. "At the time it was just a hobby, but people kept telling me that I should do it for a living. At first I just laughed, but as I began to work with dogs and their owners I realised there was a real need to spread the word and teach owners to do what came naturally to me."

Simon began reading everything he could find about dog training, behaviour and psychology. "I found I instinctively knew a lot of what I was reading – I could already speak 'dog language'. That's when I decided to set up 'One Man and Your Dog'."

That was 10 years ago. "It just took off and I now work full-time as a trainer, specialising in aggressive dogs," said Simon. "It's the best job ever!"

Success came quickly. "Every dog I have worked with has changed, and I can honestly say I've never had a failure. Sometimes it takes just ten minutes to starting turning aggressive behaviour around."

Simon's simple, kind and effective method is based on understanding the way dogs communicate.

"The biggest problems come from people trying to 'humanise' their dogs," said Simon. "Dogs don't have human thoughts and don't speak human language. Once owners understand canine communication, everything falls into place."

"People come to me and tell me their dog hates them. It doesn't – hate is a human emotion. What has usually happened is that the owner has given their dog the role of pack leader, putting it in a place where it doesn't want to be. Very few dogs naturally want to be the pack leader. Once you take control, your dog can relax."

"It's not difficult to give a dog what it needs. Most



people just need to be shown. Once you've mastered it, the bond becomes much more intense and training becomes enjoyable rather than a chore. Once people master observational skills they can read situations and take action."

Simon organises popular 'pack walks' around the village, giving dogs and owners he has worked with a chance to socialise. "It's lovely to hear owners sharing advice," said Simon. "Seeing the pleasure they get from being able to confidently walk their dog with others really makes my day."

Most clients are local, but one family travelled from France with their dog after hearing about Simon's techniques. Other clients have included several dog trainers and even an RSPCA inspector!

"I hear lots of stories about dogs biting their trainers," said Simon. "One owner told me how the trainer said they were going to get something from the car and promptly drove off!"

People are often surprised that the dogs with the biggest problems are often 'working' breeds such as collies, spaniels, Labradors and terriers – popular family pets. "If you buy a working breed then you must be prepared to work it," said Simon. He added that staffies and bull terriers are the most completely misunderstood dogs.

Simon's current companion is Baby a two year old Staffie. "Baby was dumped outside the Dogs Trust with terrible injuries when she was just a puppy," said Simon. "She had been tied up and brutalised and was considered unable to be rehomed. She's now the nicest dog you could wish to meet."

Encouraged by his friend, journalist Tony Lawrence, Simon has written 'How to Speak Dog,' a guide to help owners communicate with pets – which was published and presented to him at a surprise celebration.

"I walked into the Bent Arms for a drink and realised that the garden was full of my clients, their dogs – and the book!" said Simon.

The guide is packed full of Simon's canine wisdom, summed up by client Rachel Gorden: "The thing about Simon is that he genuinely loves dogs and always sees beyond the 'problem' to their true potential," said Rachel. "Once he has trained both dog and owner they are always the better for it!"



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An old adversary returns to Lindfield!

It is all change at Lindfield's High Street café deli, Field and Forrest. Jules, full name Julian Hansford, who used to regularly oppose Lindfield on the common in the 80s (wearing the Cricket whites of Burgess Hill) is the new owner/operator.

Jules is a family man with long-term partner Claire and boys Noah and Laurie. He travels daily from Dartford to the village. He has good experience of a delicatessen having previously managed one in Shoreham and also having worked in a busy Sussex café/bakery. Jules has a successful background in the dance and entertainment business, and remains a busy specialist DJ.

He has been seeking the ideal deli/café opportunity for the last six years, and with the help of a Lindfield local, Steve Leslie, he was made aware of the opportunity to take over Field and Forrest.

"Field and Forrest attracted me as a compact and extremely well run business, and at the same time being one that I could develop whilst knowing it had good local support," Jules said.

"With the Christmas season fast approaching – I ask all locals to let us know your seasonal preferences early!

"In the meantime, please drop by and say hi to myself and the team, as well as browsing the Christmas lines which are starting to arrive. We stock and serve great coffee, as well as offering a deli style sandwich range."



World Coffees move premises and rebrand

World Coffees is in the process of moving from Denmans Lane to new premises. The new shop is situated in a self-contained unit behind South Down Cellars, down Alma Road in Lindfield.



The move coincides with a rebrand to 'Lindfield Coffee Works', designed by local resident Will Parr. "I think changing the name reinforces the localness of the roastery," said Kris Whelan. "Although the coffee isn't grown here, we are still very much a local company. We have plenty of history in the village, employ local people and supply many businesses in the area. World Coffees has been part of Lindfield since 1994 and it was important to me to keep the roastery here and build on the fantastic work of the previous owner, Jackie McGahan."

The new site will house the coffee roasting operation, where you'll be able to continue to pick up bags of coffee to enjoy at home. In addition there will be a new coffee bar where you can sit and enjoy a drink whilst watching the roasting take place. The aim of the new shop is to highlight the diverse and intrinsic world of coffee, from how it's grown and farmed to demonstrating why different beans taste the way they do, in an open, relaxed & interactive environment.

Follow @lindcoffeeworks for updates of when the new site will be open which should be later this month.

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Doggy rescue mission

By Claire Cooper

The shocking stories of dogs living on 'death row' at public shelters in Romania is enough the tug at the heartstrings of any animal lover.

But when one little chihuahua cross-breed pup appeared on a charity Facebook page, Lindfield's Pat Kaye just couldn't turn away.

Pat contacted the Romanian Rescue Appeal (based in Britain) and, a few months later, the little dog Pearl arrived at her home in Eastern Road.

"I can't remember how I heard about the plight of Romanian dogs, but once I saw Pearl on the Facebook page I knew I had to do something to help," explained Pat. "She looked like a little dog we had just lost, so it seemed right that I should try to save her life."

Pat fostered Pearl for several weeks before a permanent home was found. "I was delighted when I found her a fantastic new home," she said.

But Pearl's happy ending was just the beginning for Pat who, working alongside her friend Lisa Carslake from Haywards Heath, has gone on to successfully rescue and rehome hundreds of stray dogs.

"After rescuing Pearl I started to look at other dog rescue sites and was horrified to discover the massive scale of the stray dog problem in Romania," said Pat. "Dogs are often seen as vermin – like rats. Many people won't stop if they see an animal in the road and don't care if they see one suffering." She added that this attitude makes it difficult for people to keep dogs as pets.

"I also read that dog catchers are paid 50 euros for every dog caught, so rounding up strays is big business, as is allowing them to breed.

"The dogs are taken to public shelters, some of which are just large open pens, with little or no shelter, or they are confined in small dungeon-like prisons with a wooden pallet as their only comfort. If they are not claimed within 14 days they are euthanised, often not humanely."

Pat was already volunteering for British charities,

carrying out home checks for rescued dogs. "It was while I was carrying out a check that I met Lisa and discovered she had been involved with dog rescue work for a couple of years," said Pat. "Lisa had brought around 300 dogs to Britain for rehoming through her charity Rommie Rescue."

Pat immediately offered to help. "Lisa showed me the ropes, we joined forces and now rescue together."

Rommie Rescue, which is in the process of becoming a registered charity, has two aims:

- To save dogs on 'death row' and send them into private shelters where they can be properly cared for and assessed, whilst being prepared to travel to the UK for adoption.
- To find foster carers, and permanent homes for the rescued dogs.

Pat explained why she is so committed to rescuing dogs from Eastern Europe.

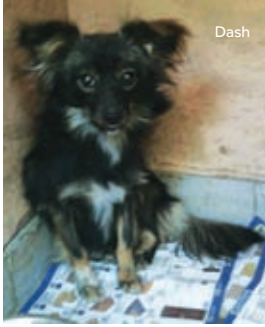
"In this country we have strict animal welfare laws and stray dogs are looked after very well by animal rescue charities," she said. "They get food, shelter, exercise and veterinary care and, if they have to be euthanised, it is done humanely.

"However, animal welfare laws in Romania (brought about in 2008 when Romania joined the EU) are ignored. The public shelters are appalling with all the dogs kept together and fighting for what little food and water they can find. As you can imagine, the little dogs and puppies often don't survive."

And it's these little dogs that Pat brings to Britain for rehoming. "In Britain you won't find many little mixed breed dogs in rescue centres, but in Romania there are hundreds, including many puppies.

"We are able to rescue these very sweet little dogs knowing that we can rehome them very easily."

Rommie Rescue works closely with volunteers in



Dash



Fiji



Pumpkin Pie



Tess



Merry



Jester - who only has three legs

Romania who visit the public shelters, feeding the dogs and rescuing as many as they can afford to. "They also have the difficult task of deciding which dogs are the most 'adoptable'," said Pat.

Once they are healthy enough to be rehomed, the dogs appear on the charity's website (www.rommierescue.co.uk). "It costs us around £225 to bring each dog to Britain," said Pat. "This covers the adoption fee, travel cost, vaccinations, spaying or neutering and passport.

"We ask new owners to cover these costs and the money goes straight back into rescuing the next dog." The whole process takes around three to four weeks.

Pat and Lisa bring dogs to Britain on a regular basis and are always on the lookout for foster carers who are willing to look after the dogs until new homes are found. "Some of the dogs are very traumatised and need to spend time in foster care to rehabilitate before being rehomed, but others are in their new homes within a couple of days of arriving in Britain," said Pat.

The charity also raises money to support the rescue centres in Romania, sending over dog beds, blankets and other supplies. "The winters are harsh and many dogs die from the cold," said Pat.

Pat has dozens of stories of the dogs she has rescued and rehomed.

"One of the first dogs I helped rescue was Goldie," Pat recalled. "She was very ill after being attacked by another dog in shelter and would never walk without an operation. I put a plea on Facebook and through crowdfunding, raised the money to pay for the operation."

More recently, Pat rescued Fiji, a little Tibetan spaniel cross-breed puppy who was found on a rubbish dump when she was eight weeks old.

"Fiji would almost certainly have died in the public shelter as she was just too small to survive with all the big dogs around," said Pat. "We managed to move her to a private foster home for a couple of months before bringing

her to Lindfield where she was immediately rehomed."

Pat now works tirelessly to raise the profile of her charity and to bring the next dogs to Britain. "It's all just escalated," she said. "I can't leave a dog to die when I know that I could find a fantastic home here, and all it takes is the money to bring it over. I have to do what I can to help these dogs and support the rescuers out there in Romania who are dedicating their lives to it."

Pat's own dogs, Pandora and Sushi, are getting used to the regular patter of tiny paws, and because Pat offers full rescue back-up for every dog rehomed it's not unusual for her to have a rescue dog or puppy in her own home.

"They are both very tolerant, but much as I'd like to add to the family I have to put them first and foster temporarily," said Pat. "However, some of my rescue dogs have been homed by my family and friends so they are never too far away which is fantastic. I love to see how they are getting on in their new homes and how happy they are."

Pat and Lisa have big plans for their charity, including raising funds to build a shelter in Romania. "We'd love to build kennels for mums and pups and have kennels here in England too," said Pat.

You can find out more about Rommie Rescue at a fundraising event at the King Edward Hall on 9th November.

The event, from 7pm to 9pm, provides an opportunity to find out more about the charity and to meet Lindfield's 'dog whisperer' Simon Taylor (featured on page 20) who will be giving a talk based on his book *How to Speak Dog*.

There'll also be a chance to meet some of the dogs Pat has rescued, along with their new owners.

The event is being sponsored by Masters and Son and Mike Oliver. Tickets cost £5 and will be available on the door. For more information contact Wendy at swintoneaglewendy@yahoo.co.uk

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I remember Lindfield: 80 years ago

THE VILLAGE AT WAR



By Eric Dawes

I was born in the village in 1926, so the war years 1939 to 1945 were a significant time in my teenage years.

There had been much speculation about war in the late 30s, and I remember the Pathe News film at the cinemas showing the 1938 Olympic Games in Germany and the amazing show of power from that country. There were two cinemas in Haywards Heath - the Broadway (later Upton's Furniture Store) and the Perrymount (near to where Clair Hall is now). We also listened on the radio to the historic announcements by Prime Minister Chamberlain, and I remember seeing him wave the infamous piece of agreement paper on the Pathe News.

War came and was declared on Sunday 3rd September 1939. I was in All Saints Church singing in the choir at morning service. Soon after the service started, with Revd Buckingham presiding, the vergers hurried up the aisle and whispered a message to the Vicar who solemnly announced that war had been declared. The service was abandoned and everybody left. As we got outside the dreadful air raid sirens sounded, causing panic! Nobody knew what was happening or what to do at this very early stage of the war. Many believed that the Germans were already invading our country! I ran the whole length of the High Street to get to my home at Pelham Place. The All Clear sounded quite soon and we learnt of an unidentified aircraft flying over the area. It was a very emotional and worrying day!

After that life changed in every way. Adolph Hitler was talked about everywhere. The tedious 'blackout' was declared, causing much concern for rural folk who were frightened that a bomb would drop on them personally if they showed a light. All kinds of war and emergency organisations suddenly became part of our lives - the Civil Defence Force, The Home Guard (Dad's Army), the Auxiliary Fire Service and the Air Raid Wardens.

In spite of the apparently deadly, well equipped enemy

there was a grim determination among ordinary folk, especially in villages, to do all they could to fight on the home front and to keep up the spirits with a new-found social attitude of helping each other that was certainly evident in Lindfield. Young men went off to serve in the forces and women took their jobs. It became the norm to see lady drivers, farmhands and many in uniform serving in the Forces. Rationing of food and other items soon became established and lives were governed by coupons and ration books! Gas masks became part of the new life too. Wearing them became a great adventure for some young people but a great trauma for many older folk.

I remember the well-known artist, historian and author Helena Hall, who lived at Blue Gates opposite the common past the pond, who became a leading Air Raid Warden and rode her bicycle all over the village. The old original Fire Station in Lewes Road became the Auxiliary Station with a trained crew and modern pump. Wardens were issued with stirrup pumps to put out incendiary fires if the Germans dropped fire bombs.

Extra 'special' police were appointed and various places were designated as Air Raid Shelters. The only one I remember was the cellar at Master's old shop, where the Co-op now is, which was only available during shop opening hours! Many houses had Anderson Shelters built in their gardens.

Evacuees arrived from London and other cities, dropped off at the King Edward Hall where they were allocated to local families. Some stayed a short while, but others became part of the village. I recall two brothers (named Ferguson) who joined the church choir with me. I could never work out why they were sent to our village right in the 'front line' for German air attacks.

These attacks became more frequent and more serious as the war went on. We would often see our fighter planes meeting enemy aircraft over the village,



with frequent 'dog-fights' and much cheering and shouting if a German plane went down.

Later in the war the dreaded 'doodle-bugs' and rockets caused great alarm, making a dreadful noise that elderly people will never forget. Everyone knew to take cover if the noise suddenly stopped as it meant the flying bomb was going to drop out of the sky.

There were many young pilots from the village including the famous Frank Carey, a pre-war flyer, who won many medals for distinguished war service and is reputed to have brought down 50 enemy planes. His family kept a hardware shop on the corner of Brushes Lane, just past the Bent Arms.

There were always military vehicles on the roads, many travelling in convoy, and there were plenty of uniformed people about – on leave or travelling to their next destination. It was not until the later part of the war when thousands of troops, mainly Canadians, descended on our county. This was the pre-invasion build up, and every possible place was used to house them and their equipment. Camps grew up overnight in the grounds of large houses – the house becoming the headquarters. They included Paxhill on the Ardingly Road, which was commandeered, and a huge camp of tin Nissan huts was built on either side of the road nearby.



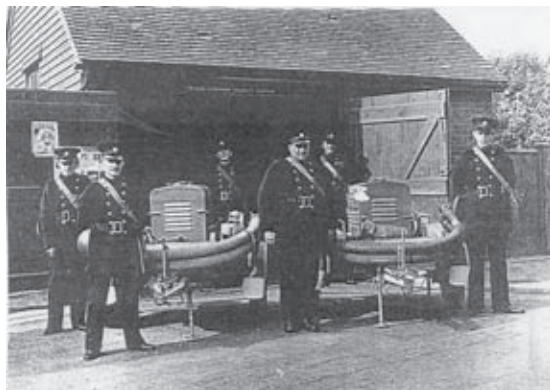
Thousands of troops swamped the village and Crosskeys, near Alma Road, became the Officer's Mess. The Tiger became a social meeting place used by hundreds of troops in their off-duty time. The shops and pubs did a great trade and there was much 'fraternising' with local girls, with frequent dances and social events at

the King Edward Hall.

I recall the parades on the common and the excitement when General Montgomery came to inspect the troops. There were stories about it not being him but the 'double' that was used on occasions, but I think it was the great man. Many of the Canadians were killed at the infamous Dieppe Raid but we did not get to know about that until long after.

Suddenly, overnight, there was a great moving out and we worked out that the invasion of Europe had started. It took some time for the village to settle down to its rural self when they had all gone.

The young serving men (really only boys) were often talked about - sometimes for having done something brave but sadly, more often, when the family had the worst news possible that their son, or father, had been killed in action. The news usually came by telegram.



In June 1944 my family received the dreaded telegram saying that my brother Leslie, just 20 years old, was 'missing' feared shot down while on active service in the Mediterranean War Zone. I shall never forget that day and can only imagine how my poor parents felt.

This was later changed to 'Killed in Action'. Like so many other families, ours was changed for ever.

The end of the war brought mixed emotions for everyone – relief, thanksgiving, sadness, anger, determination, pride in our fighting forces and apprehension for the future.

As one of the village lads (I was just 18) I joined others to build great bonfires on the common to celebrate VE Day and later VJ Day. I had started Teacher Training College but was called to do my National Service – the order arriving on VJ Day!

Unlike my dear brother I had been spared the horrors of actually fighting for my country.

I do not know to this day how I would have coped with that.

Photo captions: Left: General Bernard Montgomery inspecting troops on Lindfield common. Top: Bonfire being constructed on the common to celebrate end of the war. Above: Auxillary Fire Service with their pumps outside Lindfield Fire Station. Left hand page: Frank Carey.

War Graves remembered

By Rebecca Patman

Across the country, the Women's Institute is taking part in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Living Memory project. The project commemorates the centenary of the 141 days of the Battle of the Somme by focusing attention on Commonwealth War Graves in UK churchyards and cemeteries, often overshadowed by the CWGC's military cemeteries overseas.

Lindfield Evening WI members visited Lindfield Rural Cemetery at Walstead on 10th September and left flowers on the graves of three local servicemen who died in World War I: William Winn, Wilfred Winn and Reginald Burtenshaw. There are six WWI casualties in the cemetery, but, even with the help of cemetery registrar Matthew Gallagher, the graves of Thomas Weatherby, Guy Twiss and Harold Tingley couldn't be found.

This photograph shows Wilfred Winn's headstone. Wilfred was badly gassed and died in Henningford Military Hospital. The words inscribed by his parents hint at their misery and desolation:

**No loved ones stood beside him
He gave no last farewell
Not a word of comfort could he have
From those who loved him well.**

Lindfield Rural Cemetery is tranquil and lovely, gently cared for by the Parish Council and a helpful place to reflect on what happened at the Somme a hundred years ago.



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Introducing a new community group for Mid Sussex

A new community group has been formed by Lindfield residents, to cover the entire Mid Sussex area. This voluntary organisation will promote Remembrance, Education and Development over the coming five years, hosting Military History based events, talks and activities. Mid Sussex RED (MS RED for short) is a not-for-profit event planning group of amateur military historians who care passionately about the preservation of remembrance, education and development of Mid Sussex residents of all ages.

MS RED will arrange events at no charge to the numerous Sussex based not-for-profit or charity organisations invited to display, talk and engage with Mid Sussex residents. MS RED will keep a percentage of all money raised by ticket sales to carry forward towards arranging its next event. MS RED will pass the majority of money raised from events to selected charities and not for profit organisations who attend. At no time will any MS RED member be paid from these funds, and all members of MS RED are unpaid volunteers.

On Friday 11th November 2016 the country will observe Armistice Day remembrance commemorations. MS RED will host a World War I Remembrance Exhibition & MS RED Launch Event at the King Edward Hall in Lindfield, between 7pm and 9pm that evening. Numerous charitable and not-for-profit organisations will be in attendance with a variety of related displays.


- Mini museum of WWI memorabilia and artefacts
- Exhibitions of village life in WWI
- Numerous display stands and a children's written/art exhibition
- Guest speakers on WWI topics will be in attendance in the Jubilee Room
- There will be drinks and snacks on sale with all profits being dispersed to the charitable organisations

The organisation's website will be continuously updated regarding the exhibitors and activities taking place at this event. Please email tickets@midsussexred.co.uk with your ticket requirements (£2 adults, £1 aged 11-17, under 11s FREE with a pre-booked ticket).

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Bumper fundraising helps children and young people

A mental health hospital for young people in Haywards Heath has received a welcome boost thanks to fundraising by a local group.

Members of the Inner Wheel Club of Cuckfield and Lindfield raised £1,652.50 during a year of fundraising for Chalkhill Hospital, which is run by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

The Inner Wheel is one of the world's largest women's voluntary organisations, working in 104 countries. Any woman who shares the aim of the organisation to improve the lives of others by personal service may join the Inner Wheel.

Chalkhill provides inpatient care and day services for children and young people aged 12-18 years old who have emotional difficulties and mental health problems, including eating disorders. It is on the Princess Royal Hospital site in Haywards Heath.

During her year as President, Sally Dew nominated Chalkhill to benefit from fundraising activities organised by the club. Amongst their many fundraising activities, members organised a fashion show and raffle, with help from local shops in Haywards Heath; entered teams in the Rotary's sponsored Darts Marathon and ran a stall at Lindfield Village Day selling their own handbags, scarves and books, which they donated to the cause.

Sally said: "I'm so happy to give this money to Chalkhill knowing that it will make a real difference to the young people who use its services. The Inner Wheel is all

about being part of the community, so during my year as President I wanted to raise money for a local cause. I spent many years working as a teacher and this, along with the heightened awareness of mental health issues in young people, meant that I wanted to do something to support Chalkhill.

"Recently, together with fellow Inner Wheel member Valerie Clapp, I visited Chalkhill to present our cheque and we had the chance to meet some of the young people there. They were really excited about the things that the money could be used for to help them relax and get the most out of their time there. They also presented me with a lovely thank you card, full of wonderful messages, and I'll be sharing this with our members who worked so hard to raise this money."



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Moving with the Tudor times

HOME FRONT

By Jacqui Smith, interior designer

Tudor history is one of my great loves. David once commented that I managed to go for almost an entire year reading only books with 'Queen' in the title. Take me to Hever Castle or Hampton Court Palace and you will see me drift off into some kind of time travel trance as I imagine all the people I have read so much about gliding through panelled corridors, themselves adorned in rich and sumptuous fabrics. So when our lovely GP & J Baker rep arrived on our doorstep with the new Historic Royal Palaces collection, I was instantly engaged.

In a previous life I worked for Penguin books and was involved in the first range of Penguin merchandise, all inspired by the trademark orange book jackets. I can therefore imagine the fun the design team would have had pulling together these stunning fabric designs from the archives of the Royal Palaces. In this first collection, the inspiration has been drawn from elements of the spectacular gardens, architecture and interiors of the Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace, Banqueting House, Kensington Palace and Kew Palace. The Historic Royal Palaces collection is a dazzling assembly of rich and diverse designs using a wide variety of techniques and cloth. I love it.

A collection inspired in part by Hampton Court would not be complete without a 'Cardinal Stripe', an exquisite cut velvet stripe in striking jewel shades and a beautiful 'Wolsey' chenille. The latter, available in five gorgeous colour ways, reflects the magnificence of Cardinal Wolsey's decoration of Hampton Court Palace. This opulent quilted damask has a colour palette ranging from the richly dramatic Bronze/Ebony, Jade and vibrant Garnet to soft Verdigris and Mink. All of them would work beautifully on a chair or for a cushion. I was also drawn to the Tudor Squares design, a cotton and silk blend which has been woven in three shades to create the illusion of ancient flagstones found in so many of the Royal Palaces.

Architecture is the inspiration for the Chimney Weave and Tudor Weave. These richly textured fabrics are based on the intricate brickwork of the famous Hampton

Court Palace chimneys. An integral part of the 1514 design for Thomas Wolsey's original palace, they were the earliest of their type in England and a demonstration of his exceptional wealth. I seem to recall reading that the sheer quantity of chimney pot clusters was designed to demonstrate Wolsey's power, confirming to all that he was second only to King Henry VIII.

The romantic blooms of the gardens at Hampton Court Palace, painted on to the ceiling of the King's Little Bedchamber, translate beautifully on to a linen and a velvet, both in a range of colours. One of my particular favourites is the Queen's Sampler (pictured above). Inspired by the naïve and varied stitches and patterns incorporated into early samplers, this unique design, arranged in wide squares and panels, demonstrates the art and skilful techniques of early embroideries on the beautifully decorated garments worn by the Queen. What I love about it is how the geometric embroidery is so true to the original; not uniform but showing some variety in shape, exactly what you would expect from hand needlecraft. The collection also features Cromwell, a dramatic geometric pattern using exquisite antique gold thread embroidery to emphasize the grandeur of the design and is a reference to another great man of that time, Thomas Cromwell and his power and influence at the court of Henry VIII.

The Palace Maps Linen is an interesting finely detailed montage of antique plans and maps, sourced from drawings archived at the Tower of London, which relates to the Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace, Kensington Palace and Kew Palace. Created by generations of architects, this design shows important historical features and reveals details which have changed dramatically over time.

People often ask me how they can mix old with new. This versatile collection does it beautifully.
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What to do when the ball is above your feet

TEEING OFF



By James Verrall, Head Golf Professional

Many golfers think about awkward lies as being uphill or downhill, but on many golf courses you will also find yourself on side slopes. When standing on a side slope with the ball above your feet it is important to make specific changes to counter the effect of the slope.

To counter the slope you will need to put more weight on to your toes so you are leaning into the hill. Then, whilst still keeping your knee flex, you need to tilt your spine upwards to a more vertical position.

Be sure to grip lower down the club doing this will help you to make a good crisp strike on the ball. If you hold the club at regular length you will be in danger of hitting too much ground.

Feel like you swing much more with the arms and reduce your body rotation. Too much body rotation will cause you to lose balance and likely fall back on to your heels. By doing this you will create a much flatter swing, which is needed to make a good contact.

If everything is executed properly, then the ball will curve right to left in the air. The ball will actually move more right to left with the more lofted club that you use. This is because of something called face plane tilt.

Try this next time you find the ball above your feet and see what you can do. Now with Christmas coming, don't miss our HUGE CHRISTMAS GOLF SALE WEEKEND 26th – 27th November everything on sale that weekend only, from clubs, clothes, lessons, balls, shoes and much more. You can also enjoy a free glass of wine and mince pie with me and the rest of the team.

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Just a typical minister's life

Well-known resident Michael Davies has been a resident of Lindfield for more than 19 years, but his life's work spans the globe in various roles as URC Minister...

Michael was born in Harrow in 1933 and brought up in the Eastcote/Pinner area in Middlesex. From 1950-55 he was articled in the City of London as an accountant and company secretary, but then felt the call to Christian ministry and from 1955-59 trained to be a Presbyterian minister at Westminster College, Cambridge.

In 1959 he married Rosemary Davison, whom he met in the youth group at their home church St Andrews, Eastcote, and was inducted Assistant Minister at St Columbas Church, Worthing with oversight of a new congregation being started at Rustington. This was an exciting time there, as in six years it grew from 25 people to 200 members and built its church and halls. In 1962 he was sent to Haywards Heath to explore the setting up of a Presbyterian Church and actually preached at Lindfield Congregational Church – but they did not proceed in view of the impending union of Presbyterians and Congregationalists. In 1963 Michael, Rosemary and their new first baby daughter, Heather, enjoyed a three months exchange ministry in Illinois, USA, travelling there and back in style on the old Cunard Queens.

1965 saw the family, which now included second daughter, Jacky, move to Wallasey, Merseyside, where Michael became minister at Egremont Church, a big cathedral-like edifice with 400 members, overlooking the River Mersey and the city of Liverpool. Whilst there son Peter joined the family.

In complete contrast, 1970 saw them all moving back to London when he was appointed Secretary-General of Help the Aged, then a new charity appeal which passed its first £1 million annual income whilst he was there. It was also in this period that it instigated what is now the largest not-for-profit Housing Association in the country – the Anchor Group. More recently, of course, Help the Aged has joined with Age Concern to become Age UK, a major national charity.

In 1972 the United Reformed Church (URC) was founded when Congregationalists and Presbyterians united. Michael joined the headquarters staff team as national Youth Secretary at a pioneering time for the new church. Young people were given a great

deal of say in running their own show. FURY was founded – the Fellowship of United Reformed Youth – and had its own annual Assembly. There was a big programme of youth activities, camps and conferences and a boating event Anchors Aweigh! on the Norfolk Broads each Easter, with up to 12 large cruisers and 100 teenagers, which he ran for twenty years.

During this time Michael was chair of British Council of Churches Youth Unit and a member of the Executive of the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe, the only youth organisation which operated both sides of what was then the 'iron curtain'. So he joined the 'ecumenical jet set' with interesting trips to meetings in such places as Finland, Odessa, Northern Ireland (in the midst of the troubles) and Rome. One vivid memory was a visit to the Buchenwald Concentration Camp in East Germany.

In 1978 he was appointed Moderator of the Thames North Province of the URC, caring for 168 churches and over 100 ministers in churches in north London and the home counties. The 12 Moderators from England & Wales met monthly and were once described as 'bishops without the purple, the paraphernalia or the power'. Their main role was helping vacant churches find ministers and giving leadership in mission.

After twelve years in this post he admits he would have liked a 'nice, quiet country pastorate' to look after for his final assignment, whilst he hoped Rosemary would further her teaching career. But, as he explained: "The Lord has a great sense of humour." In 1990 he was elected Assistant General Secretary of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in Geneva. This was a complete contrast to all which had gone before, with his original training coming to the fore. They wanted a mixture of pastor to the 344 staff and administrator to look after the funds and infrastructure. It was a very demanding time. The Berlin Wall coming down had considerable repercussions for the WCC, as did other current economic constraints. Basically based in Geneva, he was also given responsibility for liaison with North East Asian churches (Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan and Korea – with the UK and Australia thrown in) – which meant a good deal of time in the air and visiting church leaders and headquarters in those lands. The WCC also had major world Assemblies in 1991 (in Canberra at the height of the first Gulf War) and 1998 (Harare at a difficult time of unrest in Zimbabwe). Each had five or six thousand participants and were major undertakings, even without the political events overshadowing them.

Back home in ostensible 'retirement' he continued serving the WCC as a consultant in the UK 1997-99, as well as being roped in to a number of other different jobs. He served as Treasurer of the Free Church Council 1998-2003, President of the URC East Sussex District Council 2001-03 and held various jobs for the Southern Synod based in Croydon. In 2008 he was appointed a Trustee of the URC and regularly travels to their Church House in Tavistock Place to assist in such tasks as helping arrange the URC's biennial General Assembly, undertaking the annual Risk Management Review for the church's central administration and overseeing a £7m centenary makeover for Westminster College in Cambridge, where he trained in the 1950s.

But it has not all been church related activity! Almost as soon as they moved to Lindfield both banks closed on consecutive days and Michael served on a small group trying unsuccessfully to acquire the former Barclays Bank for community purposes. Then there was the saga of the postal address – where Royal Mail obstinately refused to acknowledge the existence of Lindfield and to include it in our postal address. He chaired the Lindfield Postal Action Group, with the late Lord Peter Blaker as a very active campaign President, until eventually good sense prevailed and that battle was won.

So he found himself a Lindfield Parish Councillor 2003-11, chairing the Finance and General Purposes Committee and also a Parish Council Action Group battling against the closure of all the village public conveniences threatened by MSDC!

A lifelong interest has been railways, and he works in spare moments on Uxbridge Junction, a 00 Gauge model of an imaginary M25 type railway by-passing London on the North West. In the 12" to the foot gauge he is secretary to the Sussex & Coastway Division of Railfuture (the Railway Development Society), which is trying to get the Uckfield to Lewes line reinstated and Marshlink (Hastings to Ashford) electrified. Sadly he suspects it will be his grandchildren that will be the first to reap any benefit from these efforts.

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Helena Hall: a potted history of the Lindfield legend

Helena Hall was born in Shoreham in 1873 and died in Lindfield in 1967. Linda Grace and Margaret Nicolle would like to share some stories about this remarkable lady who was a resident of Lindfield for many years.

Miss Hall had a fascinating family background. Her father was a businessman and politician. In 1884, General Kruger, President of the Transvaal, came to England to request financial support for the government of the Transvaal. Helena's father gave General Kruger's party a luncheon in Brighton, to which local politicians were invited. Helena loved to tell people about this as it probably made her feel important.

She nearly didn't make it to Lindfield. In 1892, her father, who was living in the USA, decided to return to England to straighten up his business affairs which were being badly managed by Frank, his son-in-law. Frank was warned of the visit and decided to go to Australia to avoid him. Frank, his wife (Betty), their three young children and Helena, who was going as help, were on the ship. Father arrived before the ship set sail and got Helena and her belongings off. She had not wanted to go and considered herself rescued. She was always glad she did not go to Australia, seeing it as a turning point in her life.



Helena moved to live in Lindfield in 1920. She would have been well-known in the village and it could be said that she had a 'finger in every pie'. Her house has been described as having walls crammed with books and pictures, and shelves which were full of memorabilia of her life. Every item had a story to tell, which Helena was always pleased to impart to anyone who showed an interest.

A long-time resident of Lindfield has described how, when she was about 8 years old, she was chosen to act in a play Miss Hall was putting on at the King Edward Hall. Rehearsals were held at Helena's home, and after one session Miss Hall said to her: "Right now you can help me with the washing up," Her immediate thought was 'old lady, not much to wash up and I am a Brownie' so willingly followed her to the kitchen to be faced with a mountain of crockery. She had never seen such a collection and felt there could not be another cup in the house!

If this has intrigued and/or amused you, then you will enjoy reading *A Woman Living in the Shadow of the Second World War*; Helena Hall's Journal from the Home Front published by Pen and Sword Books. Signed copies of the book can be obtained from Margaret (margaretnicolle@outlook.com).



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Mid Downs Hospital Radio celebrates 40 years

A community radio station which started life in a hospital room cupboard celebrates its 40th birthday this year.

From its very humble beginnings, with limited studio facilities broadcasting only into hospital wards, Mid Downs Hospital Radio has grown steadily and now broadcasts daily to thousands of the patients, visitors and staff at the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath and to the wider community.

As a registered charity, run entirely by volunteers, Mid Downs Radio (MDR) is dependent on fundraising activities and donations to support its 24 hour/7 days a week broadcasting service.

Today's Mid Downs Radio operates from a modern studio based on the first floor of the Princess Royal Hospital to a listening audience not just in the wards but in the departmental waiting rooms and public spaces throughout the hospital, in the local community via 1350 AM and on the 'Listen Live' link on its website www.mdr.org.uk

Members are currently busy planning 40th anniversary celebrations which includes inviting all current and former members to a party on November 19th at the Red Lion in Lindfield. Wendy Swinton Eagle, MDR Vice Chair, said: "We would like to invite all members, ex members and their partners to the party but don't have contact details for everyone so we're asking people to pass the word round. Anyone who'd like

to come should contact me either through the studio on 01444 441350 or wendy@mdr.org.uk. We'd also love to have some stories about the 'good old days' to put on our website."

The station is also on the lookout for new volunteers wishing to train to be presenters. "We have a good track record of recruiting new members who, without any previous experience in broadcasting, following training, are now hosting their own show," said Wendy.

The group would also welcome new members who can get involved in other activities linked to programme production such as technical/computer issues, request collecting and fundraising.

Anyone interested in becoming a member should contact Lynda White, MDR Membership Secretary, on membership@mdr.org.uk

There are future plans for MDR which include expanding the listener base into waiting rooms in GP surgeries and other communal areas within the community.

The station is always looking for opportunities to work more closely with the local community and can arrange for speakers to attend meetings of local health and community organisations, societies, schools and other groups to talk about the radio station. To book a speaker contact chairman@org.uk

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1971: Never a dull moment by David Hepworth

BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

One of the perennial questions for rock fans is – when is the most important year in its history? There are good arguments to be made for other years such as 1956, 1967 and 1977.

Music journalist and critic David Hepworth makes a compelling case for 1971. “If all we had of David Bowie was his work from 1971, that would be enough,” he argues. A sentence which was written before the star’s untimely death and yet it is convincing argued.

This was the year that saw the most interesting work by Nick Drake, Led Zeppelin, Carly Simon and Don McLean. Hepworth used to edit both Q and Smash Hits magazines, so he does bring his gently mocking humour to his subject. His comment that Rod Stewart’s first serious girlfriend was the beginning of a number of ‘serial blondes’.

He does set the music in the historical and cultural contexts, showing that although the rise of iPhones and iPods mean that we can carry around the significant music of the year in our pocket, losing sight of its origins is not healthy as it enables us to realise how special these sounds are. After all, the technology that made American Pie or Stairway to Heaven, along with that which got humans to the moon and back is less than most of us now carry with us.

A terrific, insightful and funny read from a master of his genre.

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Autumnal soups

SIMPLY GOOD FOOD

Creamy Squash and Parsnip Soup

Serves 4

Peel a medium sized butternut squash, discarding the seeds and cut into cubes. Peel and cube 3-4 medium-sized parsnips. Peel and thinly slice about 5cm fresh ginger and a medium onion. Tip into a good-sized microwave casserole, add a splash of olive oil and stir. Cover and cook (HIGH) 5 min. Stir in 450ml hot vegetable stock and 75g red lentils, cover and cook on MED. for 15-20 min or until very soft. Cool slightly then buzz to a puree in a processor. Add a 400ml can 'lighter' coconut milk and buzz until combined. Season to taste and serve topped with a sprinkling of paprika.

Broccoli and Bacon Soup

Serves 4

Tip a handful of scissor-snipped streaky bacon into a large microwave casserole. Cook on HIGH for 5 min then remove with a slotted spoon. Add a little oil if needed then stir in a sliced medium onion and 2-3 crushed garlic cloves. Cover and cook 5 min. Roughly chop a large head of broccoli (include stems) and drain a 400g can butterbeans. Add both to the casserole plus 450ml hot vegetable stock. Cover and cook on MED for 15-20 min or until very soft. Cool slightly then buzz in a processor until smooth. Season to taste. Serve topped with the bacon.



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By Caroline Young

November is here and so soup is definitely on my menu. Apart from home made soups being really delicious they are a perfect way to use up those 'less than fresh' vegetables in your fridge or maybe those slightly misshapen items from your own home-grown harvest. I have given you the microwave cooking methods as they are so time (and power) saving.

All the recipes make four generous servings.

Quick Tomato Soup

Serves 4

Using a large microwave casserole tip in a finely chopped onion and 2-3 crushed garlic cloves. Cover and cook HIGH for 5 min. Stir in one 400g can chopped tomatoes, a generous pinch of sugar and 150ml stock. I also like to add a sliced roasted red pepper (from a jar) but this is optional! Cover and cook for about 20 min on MED, or until slightly thickened. Season to taste. Stir in a 400ml can 'lighter' evaporated milk. I like to serve this soup as is, chunky, but you could buzz it in the processor until smooth.

Sweet Potato and Peanut Soup

Serves 4

Put 1 finely chopped onion and 1-2 crushed garlic cloves into a large microwave casserole, cover and cook HIGH for 5 min. Peel and slice 375g sweet potatoes and 1 large baking potato. Add to the onions with 600ml vegetable stock. Cover and cook HIGH 12 min or until vegetables are very soft. Cool slightly and buzz in the processor with 3tbs dried milk powder until smooth. Return to the casserole and gently reheat stirring in 2-3 generous spoonfuls of crunchy peanut butter until melted.



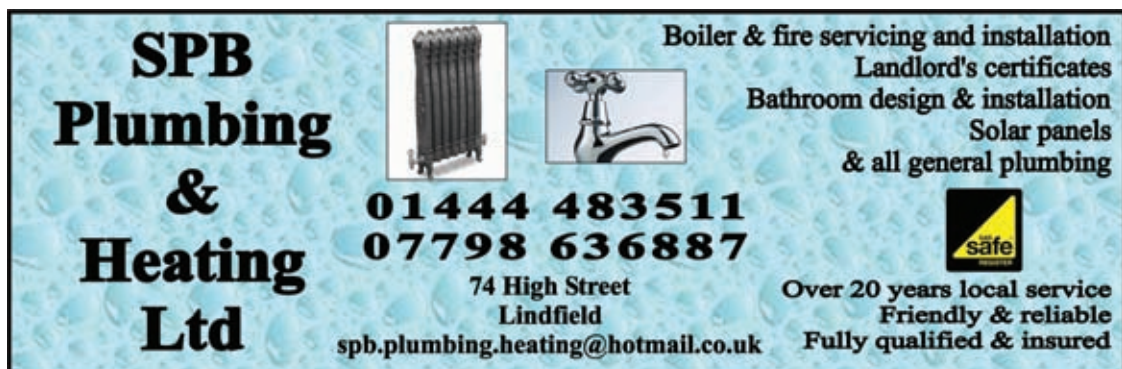
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Win Holiday on Ice tickets for new show: BELIEVE



The world-renowned show, Holiday on Ice, which has been running for more than 72 years, will be returning to The Brighton Centre in January 2017 with new spectacular show – BELIEVE.

Directed and choreographed by Olympic and four time world champion Christopher Dean, BELIEVE will open at The Brighton Centre on Wednesday 4th January and run until Sunday 8th January 2017.

The show is an incredibly exciting and fast paced production that tells the modern day story of the traditional Shakespeare classic about desire, jealousy and true love – Romeo and Juliet. With Olympic level choreographies combined with the best live music, beautiful décor, glamorous costumes and hi-tech special effects, BELIEVE is destined to become a show that will truly conquer hearts.

Tickets for Holiday on Ice BELIEVE at The Brighton Centre are on sale now and are available from www.brightoncentre.co.uk or by contacting the box office on 0844 847 1538. Family and group discounts available.

Lindfield Life has one family ticket to giveaway! To be in with a chance to grab this family ticket simply email your name and address to competition@lindfieldlife.co.uk before 8th November 2016.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Tickets are valid to see Holiday on Ice: BELIEVE at The Brighton Centre on Wednesday 4th January 2017 at 8pm only. Family ticket can be used by any combination of a total of four adults and children. At least one adult must be present. No purchase necessary. Tickets are non-exchangeable. Closing date for entries is 8th November, entries received after this date will not be counted. Winners will be required to collect their tickets from the box office on the night of the show. Any travel and accommodation is not included in the prize.



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What do we know about William Allen?

By Margaret Nicolle

That William Allen was a famous man there has never been any doubt. A man not only of national importance but also one whose influence was seen on the international stage when Europe was addressing the aftermath of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars after the Emperor's final defeat at Waterloo. No small wonder then that, because of this wider fame combined with what he did in and for our village between 1824 and 1843, he has no real competitors for the title of Lindfield's most famous person.

This is the first of a series of articles explaining the international, national and local importance of William Allen. Later articles will address subjects covered in this introduction in more detail and especially his work in our village and his continuing legacy here. Quaker businessman and later partner in the firm of Allen and Hanburys (manufacturers and retailers of drugs and surgical instruments), he was an eminent scientist and humanitarian who campaigned on social issues on many fronts, not least in Lindfield where he established our Black Hill schools and our allotments.

Born in Spitalfields, London in 1770 William Allen was the eldest son of a Quaker silk merchant. Allen's Quaker faith was a driving force throughout his life. His diary reveals a man who set himself high moral standards who devoted his time and energy to good causes. Allen had his share of personal tragedy. His first wife, Mary Hamilton, died five days after the birth of a daughter Mary. His marriage to Charlotte Hanbury ended with her death ten years later. His third marriage to the wealthy widow Grizell Birkbeck led to the publication of hostile caricatures and personal attacks suggesting marriage to an older woman could only be for financial gain.

Prevented by his religion from attending university, he was at first apprenticed to his father's business. However, in 1792 he accepted a clerkship in Joseph Gurney Bevan's chemical establishment at Plough Court, Lombard Street London. Bevan recognised his ability and gave him opportunities to study science. With the formation of the Askesian Society which met at Plough Court, the place became a gathering ground for all interested in scientific discussion and experiment such as John Dalton, Dr. William Babington and Sir Humphrey Davy. Allen's diary refers to his scientific paper Experiments on Respiration. 'We all breathed the gaseous oxide of azote (laughing gas). It took a surprising effect upon me, abolishing, completely at first, all sensation; then I had the idea of being carried violently upward in a dark cavern, with only a few glimmering lights...' When the Pharmaceutical Society was established in 1841, Allen became the first President. He was a member of the Linnean Society, the world's oldest biological society, and a



founder member of both the Astronomical Society and the Geological Society.

In Spitalfields many handloom weavers were out of work. Allen was a pioneer in the formation of much needed soup kitchens in an attempt to address hunger, a driving force of crime. He was Chairman of the Society for the Abolition of Capital Punishment for crimes against property. He accompanied Elizabeth Fry on some of her visits to Newgate prison. The diary entry for February 8th 1818 states: 'Went with Elizabeth Fry to Newgate. About one hundred women prisoners were collected and they behaved in the most exemplary manner. E.J.Fry read the seventh chapter of Luke... I also ventured to address them and I felt peace. We were all well satisfied with our visit.' He was the treasurer of the British and Foreign Schools Society for over thirty years, a society committed to extending education to the masses.

Allen gave loyal support to William Wilberforce, Thomas Clarkson and Thomas Fowell Buxton in the long campaign against the slave trade, finally abolished within the British Empire in 1807. In 1822 he attended the Congress of Verona on behalf of William Wilberforce, too frail by then to travel, pressing the need to end the slave trade. Little progress was made as the French in particular opposed British proposals giving a right to search ships at sea for illegal trade in slaves. The Quakers petitioned Parliament to abolish slavery in the British Empire, finally achieved in 1833. Allen appears in the famous large painting of the Anti-Slavery Society Convention of 1840 by Benjamin Robert Haydon in The National Gallery.

He became a respected friend of the Emperor



Alexander I of Russia and was invited there to give his opinion on conditions in prisons and to help establish schools for the masses to be run on the Lancastrian monitorial system. The rigid conservatism of Alexander I and the aristocracy on which the tsar's rule depended meant that the school proposals there met with limited success. However, when consideration is given to the difficult travel conditions at the time, especially in winter, Allen's travels are remarkable.

In the spring of 1819 he set off for Odessa and Constantinople by way of Moscow. He travelled in a primitive sledge drawn by three horses. The course of the road was shown only by branches of pine and snow drifts covered holes, which could be four to ten feet deep. If the horses could not scramble out of the holes everyone had to get out and put their shoulders to the sledge. If, when travelling at night, the shafts of the sledge broke, they were forced to creep back under their coverings and wait until daybreak. The sledge, in spite of outriggers, was liable to tip them out when crossing snow and ice... Sometimes, as at Novorograd, Allen slept on a wolf skin as Russian landlords did not provide beds. Sometimes travel stopped and all were obliged to lie quietly by the roadside until daybreak. In all Allen made eight journeys throughout Europe visiting prisons, hospitals, poor houses and schools and endeavouring to secure religious toleration for minorities. There was scarcely a sovereign in Europe whom Allen did not visit.



He was also on cordial terms with the Duke of Wellington and the Duke of Kent (father of Queen Victoria), helping the latter deal with his financial difficulties. In 1831 Allen and Elizabeth Fry went to Kensington Palace to meet the Duchess of Kent and the young 12 year old Princess Victoria. Much later Queen Victoria commented to Lord Bright that she was 'quite well informed about the Quakers. Mr Allen was one of them and he was a great friend of my father's.' Following the marriage of Queen Victoria to Prince Albert in 1840, Allen led the loyal address of the Quakers at Buckingham Palace. A wide range of people visited him in Stoke Newington and here in Lindfield. These included such well known figures as William Wilberforce, Thomas Clarkson, Lord Brougham and Sir Humphrey Davy.

Allen died at Gravelye Cottage, Lindfield in 1843 and is buried in the Quaker burial ground in Stoke Newington.

William Allen Quaker Friend of Lindfield, price £8.95, can be obtained from The Toll House or by contacting the author Margaret Nicolle margaretnicolle@outlook.com. Illustrated talks on William Allen and on Quakerism are available.

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5,000 visitors at Wakehurst's Bountiful Botanics festival

A weekend of enchantment and learning defined this year's hugely successful Bountiful Botanics festival at Wakehurst, in nearby Ardingly.

The sunny Autumnal weather, with only an occasional shower, was the perfect backdrop for Wakehurst's second Bountiful Botanics festival, celebrating the changing of the season, at the 535 acre estate.

An array of marquees surrounded the Elizabethan mansion and bled out into the botanical gardens, housing a range of fascinating and unusual workshops. These were educational for all ages and focused around the serious message of preservation and conservation. Interspersed with this were lots of fun activities such as the hugely popular tree-climbing experience and tractor rides.

Visitors could take part in seed-swapping, planting workshops and cider pressing. Experts were on hand to explain about bee-keeping, to give gardening tips and to take groups on foraging tours around the country estate.

Glow Wild winter lantern festival is the next event on the Wakehurst calendar. Here you will be able to experience the magic of Wakehurst's winter landscape after dark as it comes alive with the twinkling of thousands of lanterns placed around the gardens and mansion. The UK's tallest living Christmas tree, a giant Redwood, will take centre stage.

Glow Wild takes place 2nd – 18th December on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 4-7.30pm.

Lindfield Life on holiday!

We asked, and you delivered. Here's a couple of late entry holiday snaps readers have sent in... thank you.



Wendy Dumbleton celebrating her Golden Wedding anniversary in Italy



Annika Beadle with her copy in front of Burj al Khalifa in Dubai



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					8	2	
							9
2	9		1	5			3
		7	8		4	5	
		4		2			
8			9		7	1	
	6			1			
		3					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

< #3 Solution

Find the solution in next month's magazine

Courtesy of <http://andrews-sudoku.blogspot.co.uk>

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What's on in November

AT KING EDWARD HALL

- 1st **Lindfield Afternoon WI Group** – 2.15pm
- 2nd **The Lindfield Horticultural Society AGM** – 7.30pm
(Members please note amended date)
AGM followed by Bob Tunks, renowned for his prowess as a horticultural judge in the field of flower arranging. We are lucky enough to welcome him back to demonstrate in his own inimitable style how we might prepare for Christmas. All welcome. (Membership enquiries tel: 01444 456509 www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk)
- 3rd **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
Note: our revised opening times 22nd December (Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 5th **Lindfield Bonfire Society** – Guy Fawkes Celebrations
- 8th **Lindfield Preservation Society** – 2.30pm
Presents an illustrated talk on The Magic of Pantomime by Ian Gledhill. The history of this enduring and peculiarly British institution, interspersed with personal anecdotes from years of working (and appearing) in pantomime. All welcome, entry free (John Chapman 484470)
- 9th **'How to Speak Dog' Talk** – 7pm
Talk by local dog trainer Simon Taylor in aid of local dog rescue charity Rommie Rescue. Also includes information about the work of the charity and a chance to meet rescued dogs and their owners. Tickets, £5, available on the door. (Wendy 07981 163334 or Pat 07938 135979)
- 10th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
- 11th **WWI Remembrance Exhibition** – 7pm
Armistice Day, and a new community group is being launched by Lindfield residents called Mid Sussex RED
- 13th **Royal British Legion** – Remembrance Day Afternoon Tea
- 17th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
- 18th **Fundraising Lunch** on behalf of the Heatherley Cheshire Home (Norah Olver 01444 483578)
- 19th **Christmas Craft Fair** – 10am-3pm
Lindfield Bonfire Society Fair with a wide variety of stalls, café and tombola (Sarah 01444 487470)
- 24th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
- 24th **Film Show: Bridget Jones's Baby** – 7.30pm
Tickets (£6) from Tufnells (includes tea and cake)
- 28th **Lindfield Flower Club** – 2.30pm
'By Candlelight' talk by Graham King

AND ELSEWHERE

November

- 1st **NHS Retirement Fellowship** – 10.15am
Franklands Village Hall
- 3rd **Mid Sussex Association National Trust** – 2.30pm
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath
'Lewes Bonfire Night' by Ardy Thomas
- 4th **Sussex Mineral and Lapidary Society** – 7.30pm
Redwood Centre, Perrymount Road, HH
Illustrated talk: 'Hawaiian Volcanoes' (01444 483041 www.smls.org.uk)
- 5th **Lindfield Bonfire Night** – starts 6.30pm
(See page 15)
- 12th **THE MINERAL SHOW** – 10am-4.30pm
Redwood Centre, Perrymount Road, HH
Sussex Mineral and Lapidary Society one day show. (Entry: £2.50 adults, 50p children)
- 13th **RBL Remembrance Parade** – 2.30pm
All Saints Church, Lindfield
- 13th **REMEMBRANCE CONCERT** – 7.30pm
Dolphin Leisure Centre Haywards Heath
Concert by Ardingly Choral Society in aid of the British Legion. (Tickets £14 (£12) from Shirley Ventham 01273 831264 or Carousel Music)
- 16th **Mid Sussex Decorative & Fine Arts Society**
10.15am, Clair Hall, Haywards Heath
'Double Dutch-paintings in the town houses of 17 century Dutch merchants' lecture by Lynne Gibson. (Non members welcome £7 on the door)
- 17th **Mid Sussex Association National Trust** – 2.30pm
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath
AGM followed by short talks on NT properties
- 19th **SUSSEX CHORUS** – 7.30pm
The King's Church, Burgess Hill
Carl Orff, Carmina Burana
(www.sussexchorus.org or 01444 412579)
- 25th- **The Attic Club Original Art Fair** – from 10am
27th The Queen's Hall, Cuckfield, RH17 5EL

December

- 2nd **Jazz Evening** – 8pm
Ditchling Village Hall
The Mike Lavelle Quintet. Cabaret atmosphere. Bistro setting. Fundraising event by the Friends of the Princess Royal Hospital to help upgrade the Neo Natal Unit. Bring your own food and drink. Cash only bar. (Tickets £15 Mike Lavelle 01444 831475 or Ditchling Post Office)

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Masters & Son (funerals).....	49
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RTFJ (bespoke jewellery)	53
Mark Revill & Co (estate agents)	B

Out & About

Somers (tea room)	10
Ardingly Choral Society	27
Wakehurst Place	30
Haywards Heath Golf Club	37
The Sloop Inn	42
Orion Cinema	44

Retail

John Higgins Contemporary Silver	7
JV Golf (HHGC)	14

Education/Childcare

Norto5 Kidz (pre-school).....	3
Tinkerbells Music	19
Gielgud Academy.....	35
Kiddi Caru (day nursery)	40
Lindfield Art Studio	46
Ardingly Training Centre (swimming)...	48

Health/Lifestyle

Potential Personal Training.....	2
Flo Paul Podiatry	3
Action for Deafness.....	4
Lindfield Chiropractic Centre.....	8
The Alternative Healthcare	13
Six Physio.....	16
Lindfield Barners	18
Linear Fitness.....	33
The Pennington Clinic.....	41
Talk for Change (therapy)	41
The Style Lounge	44
Feet Unique	45
Jakki Todd (beautician)	53

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