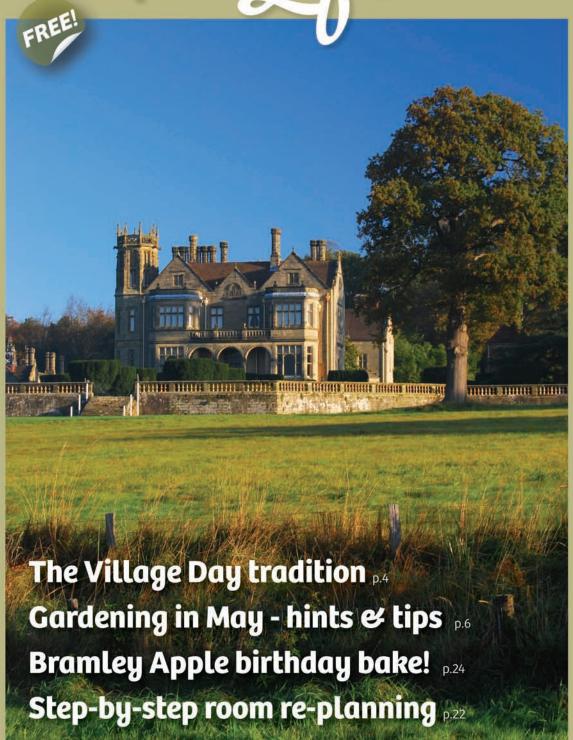
Lindfield Life

Local village talk, by the village

May 2009 Issue #2





# Lindfield Life



Cover image by Paul Dudman: Paxhill Park, Lindfield Got a great cover picture? See website for details: www.lindfieldlife.co.uk

### Welcome!

I LOVE the month of May! The days are getting longer and warmer, Bank holidays at both ends of the month and it's not long until a half term break. There is a buzz about the village with preparations for Village Day underway. Whether you're part of a group and are planning a stall or just keeping the day free for a wander around the common to enjoy the refreshments and entertainment, Village Day is for everyone. On this theme our community editor, Caroline, has been talking to Brian Newcombe, one of the original founders of Village Day about its history. Many of our contributors this month will be present on the day - the Horticultural Society with their ever-popular plant stall (get there early for that one), 1st Lindfield Scouts with a grand draw to raise funds for the much needed new hut and the churches of the village providing welcoming refreshments.

We welcome Gabrielle Hall to Lindfield Life bringing us a new regular feature - 'At work in the village'. She'll be looking at the people and history behind the businesses in Lindfield, and what makes it such a special place to live and work. Gabrielle has lived in the village for over thirty years and has two shops on the High Street, Forget-me-not and Heart & Soul. If you have any ideas to share, she'd be pleased to hear from you (gabrielle@heartandsoulgifts.co.uk).

If you've got a good story to share with the village we'd love to hear from you. Don't forget you can also advertise local events; we offer reduced rates for not-for-profit organisations. Copy date for the June edition is 5pm on Friday 8th May. There are lots of ways to be a part of Lindfield Life!

Emma Tingley, Editor

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May 2009

# Summer fun on Common ground

By Caroline Young

OUR VILLAGE DAY has a very long tradition of being the day for everyone in the village to enjoy themselves, with family members who have moved away coming home to get together with all their relatives on the Common. Lindfield has a long history of very successfully celebrating major events such as coronations (Queen Victoria onwards), all the jubilees and events relating to the wars. After the Silver Jubilee success in 1977 it was decided to make the event an annual celebration, to be based on the principle that it was a day by the village for the village.

There had been fairs on the common for a very long time, both animal fairs and funfairs with August 8th the big day when Bensons or Harris' arrived and set up their amusements. The fair vehicles queued up all along the Lewes Road until they were allowed on the Common at 8am. It was a great source of temporary employment for the local youth who also diligently searched the grass for dropped coins after the fair had left. There was even a touch of gambling and many a bottom drawer was filled with funfair prizes.



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ABOVE: Julie Lord, Miss Lindfield at 1979 Village Day.

ABOVE: Julie Lord, Miss Lindfield at 1979 Village Day. LEFT: Brian Newcombe, past chairman of the event for 32 years, wearing his traditional head wear for the day!

When Village Day as we know it began, the procession took an hour to proceed from Hickmans Lane to the Common led by the chosen Village Queen and her attendants followed by, at times, numerous floats from some of the fifty societies associated with the village and several bands. The demise of open-topped lorries, not to mention "health and safety", put an end to decorated floats. There used to be events in the pond itself plus illuminated decorations around the water but too many rules and regulations, including needing planning permission, have put an end to those. The older residents were treated to tea in the King Edward Hall where a television showed the events on days such as the Coronation.

Originally the Day was funded by just a few pitches (stands) but now there are over 100. Setting up today starts at 4am. Sadly some events, such as "It's a Knockout" and stoolball, have had to be discontinued due to the restrictions and cost of insurance. The Sussex tradition of firing the anvil by the village blacksmith, said to ward off evil spirits, had been carried out for many years by George Brown and this year will be undertaken by Kevin Pollard.

Happily some things never change. The traditional loyal greetings are always sent to the Queen and the reply is read out at the opening of the festivities. The programme of events is similar to those for the celebration of Queen Victoria's Coronation and the proceeds from the day are used for the upkeep of the King Edward Hall which is owned by the residents of Lindfield.

Village Day this year is on Saturday 30th May with the Fun Run (also to raise funds for the King Edward Hall) on Bank Holiday Monday 25th May. If anyone would like to help with either event all offers would be gladly accepted. Just call June Tilley on 484244.

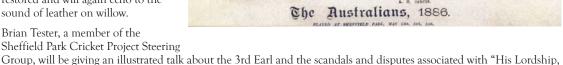
### Local cricket ground has a place in history

ON 28 IUNE 2009 the Old England cricket team will play Lord Sheffield's XI to celebrate the re-opening of the historic cricket ground at Sheffield Park Garden.

The 3rd Earl of Sheffield had a passion for cricket and built what was once considered a world class cricket ground in his garden at Sheffield Park. During the 1860-1890's he hosted the first match of each Australian cricket tour, when the home side would be captained by the great W.G. Grace. During the centenary year of the 3rd Earl's death the cricket ground has been restored and will again echo to the sound of leather on willow.

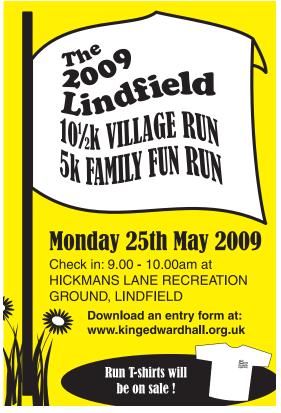
Brian Tester, a member of the Sheffield Park Cricket Project Steering

a very good Fellow but he takes a lot of understanding!"



The King Edward Hall on Wednesday 20 May at 8:00pm. Admission £1. All Welcome.

For more information about the cricket match on 28 June visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sheffieldpark or call 01825 790231





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May 2009



This is a wonderful time of year to be asked to write a gardening page for Lindfield Life, as May is the time when it all happens.

There is not a lot to gardening, we can all have a go and you just have to remember one or two rules. The first and most important is that you cannot fight nature. There are clever Horticulturalists

around who control heat and light and confuse plants into thinking that it is a different time of year but you and I can't do that, the best we can do is water, fertilise and protect. There is nothing you can do to protect against a late frost, so do be very careful what you plant out and when you do it. My father would not have planted any bedding out until after the 26th May but I suppose with climate warming that could come forward a week but no

more. Too many of us plant out too early or without hardening off properly, so that the only people who gain are the Garden Centres when we go back for replacements. Most of your winter bedding will last to the end of May. Enjoy the primulas, wallflowers, pansies and tulips, you don't have to rush to dig



them up, there are always plenty of plants available on Village Day, which this year is the 30th May.

My second rule is not to be greedy; space out your plants, keep them clean and weed free, let the sun and air get to them. We are not able to copy the dense planting regime of the late Christopher Lloyd of Great Dixter; it just doesn't work unless you have acres of nursery beds, from which you can bring fit and healthy plants into the garden to replace those that have finished. Even with regular feeding the soil has only enough goodness for one plant at a time.



May is the time of year for enriching the soil and preparing your beds. It is most important that you put some goodness back into the ground. Top-dress your beds with a soil improver or mushroom compost. There are a lot of soil improvers around, usually produced from recycled garden waste, which are not very expensive but do, if you can, have a look at it first. Keep well away from anything that is woody, decaying wood takes nitrogen out of the soil and should be avoided. Whilst on the subject of nitrogen don't forget the old favourite general fertiliser Growmore. Growmore in granular form is a very efficient fertiliser, you can just throw handfuls around even on your grass and then you just wait for the rain to take it to your plants. The Lindfield Horticultural Society's Sundries Centre has it in stock, for members to purchase at under £10 for a 25-kilo bag. This is the best way to buy it, as it will last a long time as long as it is kept dry. Similarly when preparing your borders for bedding, just fork them over and liberally sprinkle Growmore over the ground before you put in the bedding as this will take nitrogen down to the roots.



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This is also the time of year to say thank you to the plants that are just finishing. Mix up a can of Phostrogen or Maxicrop Complete and with a fine rose water your daffodils and tulips so that they can absorb the goodness through their foliage and take it back into the bulb to give it a kick start next year. Don't forget the acidic plants, your rhododendrons and camellias are now forming buds for next year and need to have their roots watered with Sequestrene.

I am sure that every garden in Lindfield has at least one rose in it and that they give you tremendous pleasure. However now is the time to ensure that it looks good and has a long flowering season. You need to sprinkle Rose food around the plant and gently tease it into the soil. It is possible that you do not have blackspot or greenfly at the moment but now is the time to spray with Roseclear, do not wait until you have the symptoms.

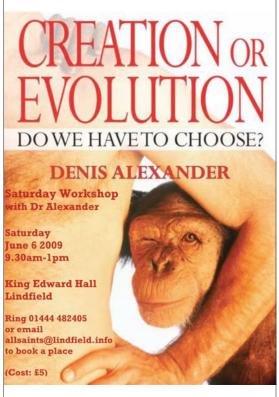
For those of you who have a vegetable patch, I'm sure you will know that the 8th May is the most important day of the gardening calendar, it's the day you plant runner beans. Don't ask me why but it is! Similar to the flower garden, do not plant out too early any plant that is delicate. A very large number of courgettes and

cucumbers are lost every year, it's not just the frost, it's the cold and damp as well. For those of you who have not brought things on in the greenhouse it's a good time for sowing leeks, beetroot, lettuce etc outdoors

It is also a good time to sow traditional outside crops such as parsnips and carrots as the ground has to be warm for germination but please leave non-traditional crops, such as sweetcorn to the last week of the month. I am a great believer in the fact that there is very little difference in the harvest date of something started indoors and transplanted out and the same type of plant sown directly where it is to mature.

So there it is, that is all there is to gardening in May. Wait until the frost is gone, harden off your plants, improve your soil, space out your plants giving them air and light, keep them clean and weed free and throw Growmore everwhere.





May 2009



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### Music at hand

by Eileen Symes

IT IS A HAPPY thought that in the heart of the village there is a small and enthusiastic group of people who meet each week to practice their musical skills.

It was as long ago as 1981 that the Lindfield Handbell Ringers formed a small group of players who were eager to learn and improve their ability as bellringers and to this day they remain a keen gathering of players who continue to learn and hone their skills as did those early pioneers. In 2006 The Lindfield

Handbell Ringers celebrated their Silver Anniversary. Sandra Winter, leading authority on 'Bell Ringing', began the afternoon with an interesting and lively workshop. Afterwards the members continued the celebrations with refreshments and a special cake that had been ordered to make it a happy milestone in the continuing life of the Lindfield Bellringers.

Of course, in the first place the handbells had to be acquired and at considerable expense these were ordered from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry at a cost of £1,600 but today their value would have increased by several thousand pounds. It could be said the handbells represent a miniature orchestra and with such a range of notes they are able to play a wide variety of music.

In those first years the players would set up their tables in people's homes but happily today we have a permanent home at The Stables behind The Tiger, near to the parish church. Throughout the years recruitment has proved a problem but today numbers have mostly remained steady with a few new members to keep a good balance of players.

The Lindfield Handbell Ringers take great pleasure in playing many of the old well loved melodies we all recognise and love, from Mozart and other classical composers to folk tunes and established melodies such as Country Gardens and Moon River. Our programme also includes music from many different countries and well known popular songs.



But apart

from the enjoyment and pleasure the team get from playing and practising music they have the added pleasure of giving pleasure to others. During the year they have one or two engagements at different venues but the team are really kept busy during the last few weeks leading up to Christmas. The players have many requests to play at nursing and residential homes and find it so rewarding to know how much joy it gives to those folks, who are often unable to move very far, to hear the bells playing the well known carols and to often join in with singing those words they have never forgotten. Other organisations such as the Zipper Club and the Women's Institute and one or two Church gatherings like to celebrate their Christmas parties by hearing the Lindfield Handbells ringing out the Christmas music.

With the enthusiasm that has always been an integral part of The Lindfield Handbell Ringers there is no doubt their future is bright, happy and long lasting.



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May 2009

### **NEWS**

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

### From Lindfield to India and back

RETURNING FROM a six month labour of love in New Delhi with BMS World Mission is local girl, Katie Cookney, seen here (in foreground) with fellow Gap Year

students and Action Team members, Hannah Cooper, Amy Glover and David Drysdale.

Why did they do it? Has the experience changed them? Were their fears about Delhi belly ill founded? How did they cope with a different culture? How's their Hindi? Did they make new friends? Did they miss home?

The Team will be in and around Lindfield from the 11-17 May to answer some of those questions and perhaps inspire other prospective 'Gappers' to do the same. If you would like to know what it's like to go and serve, teach English, learn a little Hindi, get immersed in a different

culture and get along with three total strangers (and you just happen to be too old for one of the school venues) then why not look in at one of the Sunday morning

> services at Lindfield United Reformed Church on the 17th? They would love to meet you.

Here's Katie's provisional programme for the week:

Monday Evening: Lindfield URC Boys Brigade. Tuesday All Day: Blackthorns Primary School. Wednesday, Morning: Great Walstead School Chapel. Evening: 25-40s Group. Thursday:

Free time. Friday Morning: Ardingly College. Evening: Lindfield URC Zest+. Saturday Evening: Lindfield URC Supper. Sunday Morning: Lindfield URC

And yes.. we hear they did manage a little sightseeing as well.



CHARLES DARWIN'S Origin of Species is being widely discussed and celebrated this year.

All Saints Church in Lindfield has taken this opportunity to hold a workshop that will discuss whether belief in a God who created the world out of nothing is compatible with Darwin's theory.

Dr Denis Alexander will explore the question - Creation or Evolution? This will be followed by an opportunity for group discussion and promises to be a stimulating event.

The workshop takes place on Saturday 6th June at the King Edward Hall, Lindfield. It will start at 9.30am and finish at 1pm.

To book your place please ring Sarah Hagger at the church office on 01444-482405 or email: allsaints@lindfield.info

There will be a £5 charge per person to cover costs.

Dr Alexander is a molecular biologist and is director of the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion at St Edmund's College, Cambridge. His book 'Creation and Evolution: Do We Have to Choose?' was published in 2008.

# Something for the children

LINDFIELD Dramatic Club will present their first children's show for more than 20 years over the late spring bank holiday with a production of 'The Selfish Shellfish'.

David Wood's poignant play looks at a serious contemporary issue in an entertaining, though not flippant, way. The author hopes that young audiences' concern about oil pollution will be encouraged by this story, which views the problem from the point of view of the shellfish directly involved in the rock pool.

The story of the characters' fight to avoid becoming the innocent victims of pollution caused by the collision of two ships at sea, is delightfully told, with the audience being encouraged to participate.

The Selfish Shellfish, directed by Ron Skinner, will be at the King Edward Hall on Saturday and Sunday, 23rd and 24th May, at 2pm and again at 5.30pm. Tickets (adults £7.50 and children £5), will be available from the Happy Feet Boutique in Denmans Lane, Lindfield or telephone 01444 450466.

# Village Day stall in aid of war heroes

THE LINDFIELD BRANCH of the Royal British Legion will run their stall on Village Day 30th May to raise awareness and funds on behalf of the Heroes of the present day conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.



### TABLE TOP SALE

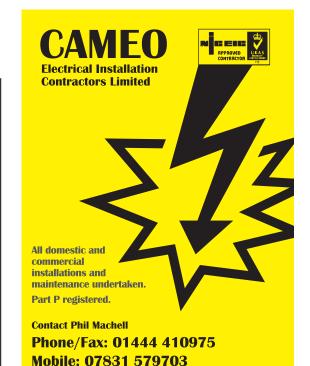
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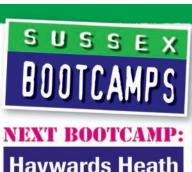
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May 2009 11

### 1st Lindfield Scouts still going strong

By Geoff Bennett

AT LAST YEAR'S village day a long standing member of the community asked: "Is Lindfield Scout Group still running?" I am pleased to say that it is, and growing rapidly!

The group can trace its history back to 1912 and has been at its present site. off Eastern Road, since the mid 1950s. There have been a number of changes in the history of scouting, namely the introduction of Beavers (for younger boys aged 6-8 years) in the 60s, mixed sections of boys and girls and the introduction of a modern program designed to meet the changes in society. This does not mean the traditional values have been lost and camping, pioneering, hiking and other traditional scouting activities remain the most popular, and at the forefront of scouting. Coming up is the district 'camp-a-lot' at the South of England Show Ground in Ardingly and a weekend camp

at Blacklands Farm, near East Grinstead. Not only will this camp be physically challenging with activities from canoeing to climbing, but will also test the group's survival skills. For the first time, this year the scouts will be cooking all their own meals and in preparation for this a local chef has been helping the group learn basic cooking skills during their weekly activities in Lindfield.

Lindfield Scout Group is one of the most popular in the district and as a result will be splitting the scout section into two troops (Trafalgar & Waterloo) in May, which will allow the scout troop to expand from 25 to 38 local boys and girls. This has only been made possible due to the support of the adult leaders and section assistants. The group currently has a total of 78 boys and girls, 13 warranted leaders, three section assistants and an executive committee of six but is looking to recruit more adults to assist with the running of the group and to join the new hut project team. Working with children and young people is often a challenging yet highly rewarding task. Is this something you could give a few hours each week to?



### Did you know?

There have been over 250 million young people involved in scouting since 1907.

There are currently over 28 million scouts in 216 countries.

10 out of the 11 astronauts who went to the moon were scouts.



#### THE HUT

The current scout hut has seen its day and is slowly becoming part of the eco system on which it stands. It is the intent of the group to continue to provide our young community with the opportunity that scouting provides, and raise funds over the next few years to replace the hut with one that will take the group forward into the foreseeable future. In order to achieve this the group

will need to raise approximately £250,000 - no small task! Aside from the money they are looking for help from an architect for the design and to support planning applications. A Grand Draw is being run with a range of fantastic prizes donated by local businesses, including a laptop, mountain bike and digital camera - so get along to the Scout stall on Village Day and get yourself some tickets to support them and be in with a chance of winning. The hut is a resource for the village and is also used by the district guide group, a local dance school and can be hired for private events and parties.

Draft plans for the proposed new hut can be viewed at the parish office.

If you are interested in helping with the group, or would like to invest in the hut, then contact: Geoff Bennett at Haywards Heath Police Station or on 07768 687768.

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### Mid Sussex's Best kept secret

AS YOU ENTER the village of Scaynes Hill, just a mile and a half from Lindfield High Street, on your left you will see an impressive building set back from the road behind its own private car park.

Many strangers to Scaynes Hill ask what it is. Well, it is Scaynes Hill's village hall or to give it its correct title Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre.

In the 1990s a group of residents decided they would like to mark the passing of the second millennium with some lasting monument. As the Women's Institute Hall, used as the village hall, had seen better days it was decided to replace it with a new up to date facility. So the idea of a new hall was conceived. The hard work of raising the finance, finding a site and getting the necessary planning consents began. Funding came from a number of sources including The Millennium Lottery Fund, Scaynes Hill residents and the Scaynes Hill Women's Institute, who sold their old hall.

The chosen location was on the recreation ground which already had access from the main A272 Lewes Road. However, this involved the demolition of the sports changing rooms and so the new hall incorporates changing rooms with showers for both home and away teams as well as a referee's room.

The centre opened its doors for business right on schedule in April 2000

Beside the large main hall, with a stage, there is also the smaller Millard room and both have access to the large, modern, well-equipped kitchen.

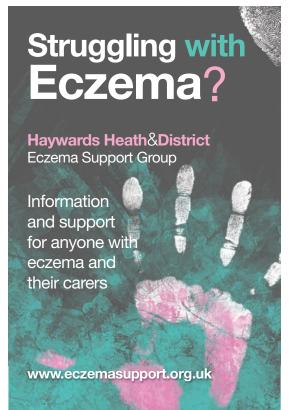


The Millennium Village

Centre is home to the Lindfield Rural Parish Council and among the regular users, besides the Local Authority which uses the Centre for Adult Education classes, are a number of organisations varying from Scaynes Hill Pre-School to the Women's Institute, from karate and bridge to children's ballet and tap classes and from Scouts to line dancing. The centre is available for hire for private functions such as birthday and anniversary parties and is increasingly popular as a wedding reception venue.

In 2008 the Centre became only the third village hall in Sussex to receive the prestigious Hallmark award which is the quality standards scheme for village halls showing that the facilities and management are amongst the highest in the country.

For more info visit the website at www.scayneshillcentre.org





### **Cycling in Sussex**

In the second of a series of three articles for Lindfield Life our cycling correspondent sets out again from Lindfield to discover part of the rural landscape that inspired one of our most famous authors. Vinas leg registrative registration for the control of the control



IF APRIL was the month to get pedalling again then May is surely the time to consolidate those fitness gains and venture a little further afield in this 30 mile circuit, another of my favourite rides, taking in some of the county's more memorable vantage points. Our route will take us up over part of the 6500 acre Ashdown Forest and into the fictional world of Winnie the Pooh. Fancy coming along?

Follow exactly the same route as last month from Lindfield Post Office of down the Lewes Road, left past Great Walstead School 2, Town Place and onwards to Fletching 4. It's here, before the road swings right towards the Fletching sign, that we part company with the familiar route and strike off to the left along a narrow, hedged lane which soon joins the Nutley road, emerging as Bell Lane at the gates of the parish church of St James the Less, whose presence predates the present imposing stone building erected in 1844. A low gear is definitely called for when climbing the final half mile of Bell Lane 6. My customary slow progress and heavy breathing usually get that dog barking (fortunately from inside a large hedged garden), but I haven't heard him this year - I wonder if he has moved?

Turn left at the church on to the A22 and then after half a mile turn right into Crowborough Road, keeping a sharp eye out for traffic. Before continuing the climb over the first cattle grid and on to open heathland, characteristic of much of the Ashdown Forest with its dwarf gorse and heathers, you might try a small diversion to Nutley Windmill 6 (signposted left amongst the trees), the last working open-trestle post mill in Sussex and one of only five surviving in the whole country. Beyond the cattle grid views to the South Downs on a clear day are magnificent but if rain threatens beware, shelter is in short supply apart from the occasional copse. Enjoy the freewheeling at this point but watch out for errant

sheep. There's one more climb before reaching the next cattle grid and soon turning left on to the B2026, and thence northwards to King's Standing (and perchance an ice cream at the car park!). Ignore the right fork towards Groombridge and a place signed 'unwells' (possibly where unfit cyclists go at this point?) and continue northwards to Hartfield and to the heart of Pooh Country.

It's worth pausing for breath at 'Four Counties' car park just to take in the panorama with glimpses of Kent and Surrey as well as East and West Sussex, although my favourite view is at Gill's Lap (the Galleon's Lap mentioned in 'The House at Pooh Corner') at the top of a long, fast and potentially dangerous descent towards Coleman's Hatch. This time we're going to resist the temptation to speed and to take a short walk to the memorial to A A Milne, (creator of Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore, Roo and friends) hidden behind a small group of trees but with often misty views of the High Weald and North Downs beyond.

The road continues downhill for a further two miles into Hartfield village, the centre of

the now famous 'Pooh Corner' shop and tea rooms 8, an international mecca for Pooh aficionados. It's the only shop in Sussex I know that displays





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directions in Japanese to Pooh Bridge , our next port of call which unfortunately is back up Jack's Hill, from whence we came, and second right into Chuck Hatch Lane. Cycle past the designated car park and take the first right; at the large, gated house follow a rough track to the stream below, collecting at least six obligatory twigs along the way to play Poohsticks at the rustic, wooden bridge where grown ups pass through an invisible enchanted wall and become children once again.

Tear yourself away and return to Chuck Hatch Lane, turn right and carry on to the ford **(through the splash or over the footbridge,** 

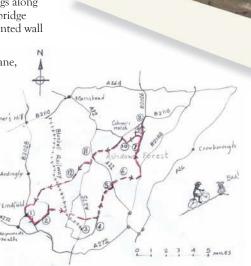
whichever takes vour fancy) and then right, up the hill to The Hatch Inn. originally a row of cottages said to date back to 1430. Well worth a visit for a meal, where the food is of high quality, locally sourced produce but, if you're planning an evening visit, booking ahead is usually wise. Go there at dawn on 1st May and vou'll see Morris Men dancing.

At the junction by the pub turn left and prepare for a gentler but longer climb up towards Wych Cross •, taking in more vistas to the north and passing Ashdown Forest Visitor Centre, the prestigious Ashdown Park Hotel and Wych Cross Garden Centre, famous for its large collection of roses. Take a left at the lights and first right towards Danehill along the A275. My preference is to then take the quiet backroads by turning right to Horsted Keynes @ past Birch Grove and the former Macmillan family estate, with its high fences and gates, through the village and out under the Bluebell Line into the dip with the smell of wild garlic wafting across from the Water Company site. One final climb awaits before continuing straight on to more freewheeling down Park Lane, joining the Ardingly road at the bottom of Buxshalls Hill and the final short, sharp ascent into Lindfield High Street.

The spire at All Saints and the familiar timbered houses of Old Place are indeed a welcome sight!

### >>Next month:

27,000 cyclists hit the High Street on Sunday 21st June in the spectacular London to Brighton Bike Ride. Don't miss it!







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By Gabrielle Hall

I HOPE you enjoyed the first issue of Lindfield Life with an article on the High Street and businesses you can find here. We intend to make this a regular feature and include information on many of the businesses situated in our local area.

Whilst we should not need to be reminded that strong local support is essential for each and every business to survive, it's important that we are. Shop traders have their fair share of competition already. The rapid growth of superstores and internet shopping has had a dramatic affect on the choices people make and many local businesses have to work especially hard to keep their place in the market. Some people complain that "all high streets look the same". Fortunately, ours doesn't. It is filled to the brim with independent specialists who offer something different and always welcome their customers with open arms. I hope you will agree that it's high time we spread that positive message.

So in each issue of Lindfield Life I will be highlighting just how special we are. From the daily essentials to life's little luxuries, Lindfield has something for everyone. I shall look at the businesses to be found here, delve into the history



# The Jewellery Workshop



Debbie Smith is a qualified jewellery maker and designer, specialising in silver. She has many years experience working within the industry and has now opened up her workshop for the benefit of students who wish to learn the techniques or improve on existing skills

Small classes of up to 5 students allow personal coaching and ensure that all necessary safety measures and equipment use are learnt at an early stage.

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Six week beginners courses initially run as a set programme to introduce the student to basic skills, and the opportunity to make some specific pieces of jewellery.

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of the buildings, discover what is produced in the local area and introduce you to some of the people who make this village so special. The High Street alone is home to twenty seven specialist shops, four pubs, two restaurants, one tea room and a wealth of enthusiastic people who have a commitment to serving the local community. Together they work hard to preserve the identity of our historic village. Now is the perfect time to reflect upon this and really start to appreciate what we have...

PAUL SEWELL, with his business West Sussex Clocks, specialises in the sale, repair and restoration of antique clocks. Several of his pieces can be found at Tufnells in Lindfield, the very popular gift and lifestyle store run by his relatives Lisa and Jeremy Goodger.

Having served a seven year apprenticeship in Horology (clockmaking), Paul has been a clockmaker for over 30 years and is a member of the British Horological Institute. His practical skills and understanding of the elements of clock movement restoration ensures that each piece is highly original.

There is one rather special piece to be found in Tufnells right now, known as a Durrant Shop Regulator, which is believed to have been made by Henry Durrant (a family name synonymous with Lindfield) who worked here in

the late 19th century and early 20th century. His family owned the piano factory and it is thought the clock would have been displayed there to remind staff and customers of the time. That may sound rather obvious to us now, but remember there were few timepieces in existence then and any that were made would have been reserved for the very wealthy.

Paul offers a full repair service and clocks can be left at Tufnells for collection. His advice to customers looking for a repair or restoration service is to always place an antique clock in the very safe hands of a professional, in other words, they must be a member of the BHI.

You can view the clocks on display at Tufnells, 75 High Street, Lindfield during shop opening hours 9.30am-5pm Monday to Saturday and 12noon to 4pm each Sunday.

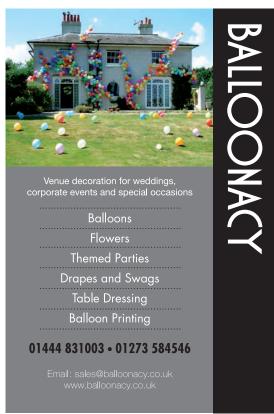
In the next issue I shall be focusing on food. As we approach the summer season with the promise of sunshine and potential to eat outside, I will look at local produce available and ways to make our menus just a little more appealing.

Please get in touch if you have any ideas to share (gabrielle@heartandsoulgifts.co.uk). It would be great to hear from you











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### BOOK REVIEWS If you'd

If you'd like to have a go at writing a book review — contact us at editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk

# Ethel and Ernest A true Story

by Raymond Briggs

By Emma Makosz-Lawrence

IMAGINE A RED-BRICK terraced house: bow windows, halls adjoining. You have probably passed something fairly similar in your strolls around the village. This particular house is owned by newly-weds Ethel and Ernest - they have purchased it for the heart stopping amount of eight hundred and twenty pounds (yes, £825.00). Ernest's wages will soon be 3 guineas a week so he assures Ethel that they can afford the "mortgage" business that they are getting into. Ethel is in service and Ernest a milkman. We meet them in 1928 shortly before their wedding and follow them, their house and the social history of our country, until they die weeks apart in 1971.

Raymond Briggs has written an honest, moving portrait of his parents' marriage. He shows us ordinary people: setting up home, living through WWII, getting to grips with the Welfare State, Hiroshima, motorways, television, fridges, social change and a son who, although he went to grammar school, chooses not to go to university but to Art School.

And, that's the thing
- the art. This book is
an evocative narrative
and it is a graphic
novel. Briggs uses
his words and his
pictures to create this
moving story. Indeed
the first two pages,
which detail Briggs'



parent's courtship, are wordless. The pictures are luscious and loving and an essential part of the narrative. In one scene we see the newly-weds on a mattress on the floor of their huge, empty new bedroom. As the years progress the room becomes smaller, filled with things - the couple fill the room as they fill their married life. It is telling that one of the last pictures is of Raymond in his parents' room staring at the marital bed which he is now to give to charity.

The art enhances the story and brings to life this lovely, slightly mismatched couple. Ernest is a solid Labour man. Ethel, possibly because of her years as a "lady's maid", is rather more aspirational (she is upset that Raymond wears boots during his period of National Service as boots are "common").

Briggs tells us in the title that this is a true story · I would add that Ethel and Ernest is also a love story. The story of his parents' love certainly but also a loving and evocative picture of an important period of social change.

Created by Francesca Simon in 1994, Horrid Henry books have become popular across the world, being published in 25 languages. Here's what Ben has to say about one of the most popular Horrid Henry stories ...

### **Horrid Henry's Nits**

by Francesca Simon

By Ben White (aged 7)

THERE ARE LOTS of Horrid Henry books but this one is my favourite. In this story he has nits and is very cheeky

and naughty and deliberately gives them to everyone in his class, even Miss Battleaxe his teacher, just before the nit nurse comes. He even gives them to his brother, Perfect Peter, who runs home crying. At the end of the story, Henry's got no nits because he's given them to everyone else.





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# home front

### Step by step design process

by Jacqui Smith, interior designer

EMBARKING ON the redesign of a room is exciting and adopting a step by step approach to your project will help you ensure that you achieve the desired results.

Start by assessing the space. Do the proportions work, is the ceiling too low or too high, does the room face north, what are the things you like about the room and what elements of the room do not work for you in its current state? Think about the purpose of the room, is its function changing, who will use it, what they will do there and is there enough storage space? Next consider the furniture, both what you have as well as what you might need to replace or source. With the role of the space clearly defined, take a critical look at the lighting. Establishing position and type of lighting is a key consideration at the initial stages of a project since changes to it are likely to involve channelling wires into walls, moving sockets and so forth, all of which you will want to have completed before decorating. The lighting should ensure that anybody using the room will be able to enjoy the appropriate level of light for the mood, be it reading, keyboard work or relaxing over a meal.

Once you have agreed on structural changes (if required), considered the layout and lighting, its time to look at the colour scheme. Quite often there is something in the room which goes some way to determining the direction of the scheme - a treasured painting perhaps, a recently purchased sofa, a coloured carpet. When choosing fabrics always go for more samples than you think you'll need. It's quite likely that there will be changes during the design process requiring a re-think on fabric for instance, so it's handy to have some back up options. Where possible view samples in the room in which they will appear - fabrics, like paint colours, all behave differently in varying natural and artificial lights. Paint choice comes a fair way down the list since with all the rainbow of colours available these days and the fact that many companies will mix to a defined colour, you will always be able to find a paint to match your chosen fabrics; falling in love with a paint colour and then trying to find a fabric to match is so much harder.

If you find yourself stuck when planning a new room scheme, then start collecting pictures from magazines, colours, fabrics, furniture, accessories, anything that catches your eye. Try not to analyse it too much in the first stage since it's a bit like brain storming where all ideas are good ideas. You may find a room scheme that you are drawn to but on closer scrutiny it's actually the shape of the sofa which appeals to you or the choice of fabric, so keep anything that grabs you since it will help you or your designer in the quest for the perfect scheme.

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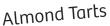


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# and Food.

FESTIVALS AND FOOD in the month of May focus around the day we call Whit Sunday or Pentecost. This is the seventh Sunday after Easter Sunday and today celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit in the form of flames to the followers of Jesus but the celebration dates even further back in history with many pagan rites associated with the date. The most well known tradition is the dancing around the maypole on the village green. Dating from the 19th century and originating in southern Europe, the gaily painted pole was sixty to eighty feet high and decorated with flowers and ribbons. The May Queen and her maids of honour are said to have given their name to delicious tarts of the same name. There are numerous legends around the origin of the tarts associated with Richmond, Hampton Court Palace, Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. The first printed recipe appeared in 1665 and commercial production began in 1750 in a tiny bakery on Hill Street, Richmond where they continued to be baked by various owners until 1957. Despite being seriously damaged during WW2, the bakery, now in George Street, is still baking the famous little tarts today. Of course there are numerous variations of the recipe - this is my very simple one. Serve warm with crème fraiche and fresh raspberries for dessert on Whit Sunday.



Preheat the oven 180°. Beat together 50g self-raising flour, 1/2tsp baking powder, 25g ground almonds, 75g soft butter, 1 medium egg and 2tsp almond essence, to a soft smooth batter adding a little milk if needed. Line small tart pans with sweet shortcrust pastry (homemade or chilled ready-rolled), add a small spoonful of raspberry jam to each one and bake for 5min. Add a spoonful of cake batter to each tart and bake for a further 15min or until golden brown. Sift over a generous topping of icing sugar and serve as above.

Customs centred around cheese for Whit Sunday abound. In St. Braivels in Gloucestershire bread and cheese is thrown from the castle walls to be scrambled for in the lane below. I hope they wrap it up first! Still in the same county, in Randwick they chase large wheels of Double Gloucester down a hill and in Stilton, Cambridgeshire they do likewise with the famous blue cheese.

Tiny home-grown new potatoes will soon be available. Combined with Double Gloucester cheese, or Stilton, they make a delicious spring meal.



The Bramley Apple celebrates its 200th birthday this year. In 1809 a little girl called Mary Ann Brailsford planted some apple pips in the garden of her home in Southwell, Notts. In 1846 after the house and garden had been bought by Matthew Bramley, Henry Merryweather, a local nurseryman, asked if he could take cuttings from the now

matured tree and also sell the fruit. Bramley agreed but only if the apples were named Bramley's Seedling. In 1900 the original tree blew down in a storm but survived and continues to still bear fruit 200 years later. Essential for silky-smooth apple purees and our famous apple sauce to serve with pork, the familiar large green apples are probably best known for filling excellent pies and crumbles. This recipe is a little different, combining apples with chicken and pasta. It comes from the Bramley Apple website www.bramleyapples.co.uk where you can find dozens of different ways to use our unique Bramley apples.

### Hot Potato, Cheese and Herb Salad

Cook 450g tiny new potatoes until just tender. Meanwhile, in a large bowl whisk together 2tbs white wine vinegar, 2tbs clear honey, 50ml olive oil and seasoning. Drain the potatoes and add to the dressing stirring gently until well coated. Add 3-4tbs finely chopped spring onions and 100g (or more) of your chosen cheese, broken into small chunks. Serve hot or

### Chicken Pasta with Bramley Apples (serves 2-3)

Using a large pan, cook 125g penne pasta to packet directions.

Meanwhile, quarter, core and slice 1 Bramley apple and gently fry in 1tbs olive oil until golden brown. Remove from the pan with a slotted spoon. Add another tbs oil to the pan and add 2 very thinly sliced chicken breast fillets and several roughly chopped spring onions. Cook, stirring, over high heat for about 4 min or until golden brown.

Thoroughly drain the pasta and tip back into the pan. Add the chicken, apples and 4tbs pesto sauce. Gently combine, season to taste, spoon into warm bowls and serve immediately. Great with hot garlic bread.

An old Sussex rhyme tells us "An apple pie without the cheese is like a kiss without the squeeze".

Next time you have hot apple pie, try this for a delicious variation of our traditional dessert. Grate about 100g of mature full flavoured Cheddar cheese. Remove the fully cooked pie (or a hot reheated one) from the oven, spoon the cheese around the edge of the top crust and return to the oven until the cheese has melted and is bubbling hot. Serve immediately.

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The club is very keen to bring new players into the club and can offer the opportunity to play this enjoyable, competitive and skilful game.

Most friendly matches against other clubs are played either in the afternoon midweek or at weekends. Leagues are usually played Tuesday or Thursday evenings, leaving most mornings and plenty of other time free for competitions, coaching or practice sessions.



Apart from that members can enjoy an active social programme of events ranging from themed BBQs, cheese and wine tastings, skittles and quizzes. The club has its own bar so you can enjoy a drink whilst playing or watching.

We invite you to come along to one of our "Open Sessions" on Friday evening 12th June at 6pm or on Saturday morning 20th June at 10am. Here you will be welcomed, shown around and given the chance to bowl a few woods yourself. Should you wish to join before then, simply contact the secretary Stephen Henton on 01444 483252. For more information, please have look at our website www.lindfieldbowlingclub.co.uk



# Tree warden voluntary work

IN LINDFIELD there are a small group of tree wardens who work under the auspices of West Sussex County Council. Volunteers are given the opportunity to attend courses and visit other areas with interesting projects going on. The scheme is nationwide and is part of The Tree Council's community action programme.

The Tree Warden Scheme gives people the chance to care for their local trees, hedges and woods. They might become involved with the planting of new trees or advising where there is a suitable spot for one. Or keeping a watchful eye on the sapling after planting.

Sometimes wardens get the opportunity to work with the local primary schools, trying to encourage young minds to observe nature. They could also be included in the planting of new trees if appropriate. The amount of time a tree warden spends on this work is entirely up to the individual and their particular lifestyle. A basic knowledge of trees is helpful but sheer observation increases that knowledge very rapidly. The courses are extremely useful and cater for beginners as well as those with more experience.

Don't be afraid to offer your services. Your countryside needs you! Enquire at the Lindfield Parish office on Denmans Lane or call Jane Donald on 01444 483959

### Subscribe to Lindfield Life

LINDFIELD LIFE magazine is delivered free to over 3,500 homes in the village of Lindfield, both central and the rural parish (Scaynes Hill). However there are some areas which we are simply not able to deliver to, due to the dispersed nature of the housing. This is particularly true in very rural areas of our community, outside the core hub of the village.



For those outside this delivery area (see it defined here www.lindfieldlife.co.uk/our-delivery-area) you are, of course, welcome to pick up a free copy from shops and outlets in both villages. Last month we worked hard to try and get as many copies as possible into shops; principally Lindfield Post Office and Scaynes Hill Petrol Station.

However, if you would rather receive your copy through the post, we have now begun a subscription option for those one mile (or even three hundred miles!) miles outside the delivery area - but always want to ensure they get a copy first! For just £12 a year, you will receive your copy of the magazine by post as soon as it's available. See our website for details on how to subscribe - www.lindfieldlife.co.uk/subscription - or call us on 01444 884115.





# Lindfield Horticultural Society's Spring Show





THE SPRING SHOW lived up to its name on 4th April with two tables the length of the King Edward Hall full of daffodils – the scent really hit visitors as they entered. Richard Hilson's perfect daffodils of many different varieties and colours won him the Daffodil Society Bronze Medal & Certificate but there were many other exhibitors too. A new award, the Daffodil Cup, for exhibitors who have never won a first prize for daffodils, went to Tim Richardson.

Many exhibitors make up for the lack of fruit and vegetables at this time of year with pot plants. Jim Stockwell's giant acacia sentis attracted a great deal of attention, as well as the award for Best Pot Plant. There were fewer flower arrangements than usual – where are you, Lindfield flower arrangers? A special feature of the Spring Show is the photographic competition. There was a good range of entries featuring both nearby and exotic locations. The George Murrell cup went to Dorothy Brown. Talking of photos, there should be pictures of the show on our website www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk while the Middy photographer's record of the show is on www. midsussextimes.co.uk.

#### What's on...

Saturday 2nd May: Coffee Morning and Plant Sale in the Jubilee Room, King Edward Hall from 10am-12 noon. The plant stall is more popular than ever at this time of year. There are always old favourites and unusual varieties available – but you need to be there early!

Wednesday 13 May: Fergus Garrett, Head Gardener at Great Dixter, will talk on 'Continuous Colour in a Mixed Border'. Fergus worked with the late great Christopher Lloyd and he is committed to carrying on his work and philosophy. The stunning colours of Great Dixter's borders are world-famous, so come and be inspired! Entry is by ticket only, £1.00 for members and £2.00 to nonmembers from Michael Elliott on 483039.

To become a member of Lindfield Horticultural Society contact Tom Hughes, membership secretary, on 01444 415270 or visit the LHS stand on Village Day.

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# What's on at: The King Edward Hall

- 2nd Lindfield Horticultural Society Coffee Morning (Alison Elliott 483039)
- 3rd Ruwach Christian Church Morning and Evening services (Janet Hilton 459025)
- 5th Cups and Cakes Charity Coffee morning (Claire Fuller 415135)
- 7th Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)
- 9th Lindfield Bonfire Society Coffee Morning (Wendy Box 482809)
- 10th Ruwach Christian Church Morning and Evening Services (Janet Hilton 459025)
- 12th Cups and Cakes Charity Coffee Morning (Claire Fuller 415135)
- 13th Lindfield Horticultural Society meeting with guest speaker (Alison Elliott 483039)
- 14th Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)
- 15th Lindfield Crafts and Market (Beverley Smith 440274)
   Heber Opera performance - Eugene Onegin by Tchaikovsky (Roger Clow 01273 736272)
- 17th Ruwach Christian Church Morning and Evening Services (Janet Hilton 459025)
- 19th Cups and Cakes Charity Coffee Morning (Claire Fuller 415135)
- 21st Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)

22/23/24th

Lindfield Dramatic Club Production (Rex Cooper 01444 831512)

- 25th King Edward Hall Village Run and Fun Run
- 28th Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)

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31st Ruwach Christian Church -Morning and Evening Services (Janet Hilton 459025)

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HomeSmiths (Interior Design)www.homesmiths.co.uk	01444 484705
JPM Tilingwww.jpmtiling.co.uk	07967 344460
Just The Occassionwww.justtheoccasion.org.uk	01444 483233
Lindfield Chiropractic Centrewww.lindfieldchiro.co.uk	01444 484582
Lindfield Garage	01444 458 641
Lindfield Marquees	01444 482183
Lindfield Motorswww.lindfield-motors.co.uk	01444 482988
M.J & J.M Holman (Plumbing)	01444 892499
Mansell McTaggartwww.mansellmctaggart.co.uk	
Masters and Sons	01444 482107
Mick Lewry (Pest Control)	01444 483137
N. Whittaker (Landscaping/Paving)www.nwhittakerpaving.co.uk	01444 450300
Norsatwww.norsat.co.uk	0800 096 1097
Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre www.scayneshillcentre.org	01444 831511
Stephen Gallico Solicitors	01444 411333

Sublime Livewww.sublimelive.com	08450 095 059
Sussex Bootcampswww.sussexbootcamps.co.uk	07787 759 922
Sussex Children's Centrewww.sussexchildrenscentre.com	0844 967 0362
Tony Lawson (Chiropractor)	
Walstead Placewww.caringhomes.org/our-homes/wals	0808 1371522 tead-place
Leisure	
Its Magicwww.itsmagic.org.uk	01444 255134
JoJo Pilates www.jojopilates.co.uk	
Churches \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	
All Saints Church	01444 482405
Lindfield United Reformed Church www.lindfieldurc.org.uk	
Retail	
Fine Furnishingswww.finesofas.co.uk	
Giraffe Gems	
Tufnells www.tufnells.co.uk	
Out & About	
Limes of Lindfield www.limesoflindfield.co.uk	01444 487858
Stand Up Innwww.standupinn.co.uk	01444 482995
The Bent Arms	01444 483146
Watsons	
Education/Childcare	
Lindfield PTA	
Norto5 Kidzwww.norto5.com	
The Acorns Nursery Schoolwww.theacornsnurseryschool.com	01444 455081
The Jewellery Workshop	01444 483138



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