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## EDITORIAL

## By Emma Tingley, Editor

It hardly seems possible that it's August already. Before long we'll be racing headlong into the autumn and counting down the days to Christmas! But while we're here we really ought to stop and enjoy it for a while. Summer is a time to take a break, refresh the batteries and enjoy all that's on offer in our area. 'Stay-cations' are the new holiday and although I have to admit that we'll be heading to Devon for a week, we'll also be making the most of time at home too. With our youngest heading off to school for the first time in September, we're determined to make everyday at home together count and have oodles of plans for the lovely summer days. If you don't know the area very well, or even if you've lived here forever, I challenge you to explore somewhere new. And let us know how you get on!

**Arthur Woods** continues his series 'Ninety Not Out' this month with his memories of the 1940s, especially of British industry in the post-war years. I've really enjoyed reading Arthur's features so far – they're an incredible personal insight into social and economic history. I look forward to the final instalment next month as he heads into the 1950s.

We're delighted that **Amy Packham** has been getting the scoop on some of the talent we have in the village: local band 'DYL' celebrates the launch of its second album and drama student **Laura Schofield** is accepted into one of the UKs top academies. She'll be one to watch – and don't forget, you heard about her here first!

And finally, Lindfield's Independent Tennis Coach, Marion Bradburn, shares a heart-warming story that will benefit the whole community and Caroline Young is back with her usual mouth-watering recipes: summer salads.

Please note that deadline for the September edition will be slightly earlier than usual, so please ensure that any news item or event information is with us by **Thursday**4th August. So until next time ... happy holidays!



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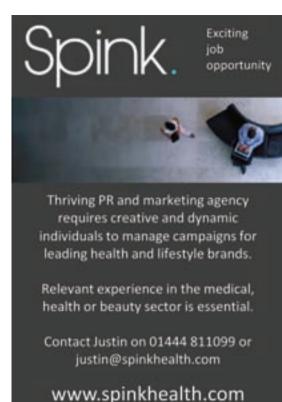
#### Lindfield Life

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Paul Dudman
A side view of All Saints
Church, Lindfield.



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## By Marion Bradburn & Karoline Baird

For years, Hanne Harris of East Grinstead drove to Lindfield each Friday to watch her grandson Archie Hutchings play tennis. She would unpack a portable chair from the back of her car and settle down to watch and encourage Archie and the other juniors during their tennis lesson.

In May of this year, Hanne unexpectedly passed away and her daughter Krista suggested that in tribute to her mother, a memorial bench could be erected beside Court 4. The Council immediately agreed and within 2 weeks, the bench was in place.

Archie's tennis coach, Marion Bradburn, shares her memories of Hanne:

Hanne was born in Germany but lived most of her life in England where she married Gordon, had a daughter and four grandchildren whom she adored and lived for - she played a very active part in their lives. She was a familiar face in Lindfield, having worked part-time in the local bakery and for a number of years at Coffee Connection where she made many friends and will be remembered by many customers.

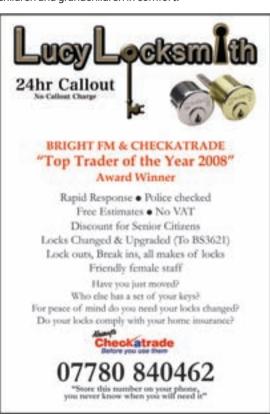
I met Hanne through her grandson Archie, a young talented tennis player whom I have been coaching for the past couple of years at the tennis courts on Lindfield Common. Whenever Archie was playing tennis, Hanne would be there encouraging not only her grandson, but all the other juniors that were playing too. For all the other parents watching their children play tennis, Hanne became a dear friend and part of tennis life in Lindfield, every Friday afternoon.

For all the years that I have been coaching at the courts in Lindfield, parents and grandparents (on an average about 80 people per week) had nowhere to sit down, unless it was on the verge of grass next to the tennis court or on chairs that they brought with them.

In happy memory of Hanne, a memorial bench has been placed next to the court I use for coaching. This could not have happened without the very kind and prompt assistance of our council whom we'd like to thank from the bottom of our hearts. Something positive has come out of a very sad occasion and that is something

that I had to share with all of you.

So next time you walk by the courts in Lindfield, take the weight off your feet and sit down on this very special bench, watch the youngsters enjoying themselves on the tennis courts (which by the way the council has resurfaced only a couple of months ago) – and may your thoughts, even if it is just for a second or so, go to our very beloved friend Hanne. She would be tickled pink that she is helping more people watch and encourage their children and grandchildren in comfort.



<u>/</u> www.lindfieldlife.co.uk



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

## Campaign raised funds

By Kathleen Rusby Hon. Secretary Lindfield Branch RBL

The Lindfield Branch of the Royal British Legion wish to thank everyone who contributed to the funds of the "Battle Back" Campaign. The weather on Sunday morning was very kind to us and the sun dutifully shone. About 48 people came along and we raised the sum of £403.00 after expenses were cleared.



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There's a lot of talk of 'green energy' in the air at the moment – and not without some good reason.

The ever-increasing cost of traditionally generated energy is forcing consumers to consider the options – especially where power can be generated from freely available natural resources, like the sun.

However, all this talk usually throws up many questions. Local heating and solar installers – BSW – have many of the answers. The company recently completed a showcase solar photovoltaic (PV) installation at their premises in Scaynes Hill, just outside Lindfield (pictured above). "There's a lot of fear surrounding new technologies, especially in its financial viability" says BSW Chairman John Belliere "but as an official installer of PV panels we are able to show homeowners that it really does work out as a sound investment".

Solar panels work by converting sunlight to usable electricity and supplying it to the National Grid automatically. The property owner receives a set fee per kilowatt generated, which the Government pays as part of a 'feed-in' tariff – setup through an electricity supply company and paid quarterly to the householder for a full 25 years. The payments are also index-linked and free of tax. In addition property owners can use the electricity from the PV panels during the day at no cost.

The installation at BSW's Rock Lodge is an array of 32 PV panels, which will generate 7.68kWh of power at peak output. An installation of this size (and it is large by most domestic standards) will cost around £30,000, however the calculated revenue from the feed-in tariff is over £3,000 per year. This means during the 25 year contract the lifetime benefit will be well over £80,000.

"Rest assured," John continues "we can't make this

stuff up! As an MCS approved installer we have to show the homeowner that this Government initiative works." The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) means that only approved installers are recognised under the Government's feed-in tariff.

BSW are very pleased to have been accredited by MCS, as it can be added to a multitude of other qualification bodies and safety organisations, including Gas Safe, OFTEC, NIC EIC, ROSPA and Check-a-trade.

In addition to PV panels, the company has a long history of mechanical services installation both for commercial and domestic customers. In fact, BSW was originally started in Croydon by John's father in 1962, and the company celebrates its 50th birthday next year. The business opened a Scaynes Hill branch in 2000 and has been serving the people of West Sussex ever since. The firm currently has over 60 operatives working for them, with 30 staff in the back office, talking to customers and planning the workload; beit a new boiler, heating repairs, maintenance or installation of renewable energy solutions.

Keeping it in the family, Troy Belliere is Operations Director: "What we are known for is the quality of our work. Ultimately it's the job that counts, and our standards are very high." That stands in their service offer too. With any installation of a heating system BSW offer a 3 year warranty on parts and labour – with callouts at any time of day or night, at no cost to the customer.

In a market that is crowded with a plethora of engineers, BSW offer a local service with the backup and response times of a larger organisation. So, call the friendly team at BSW on 01444 831138 for your heating or renewable solution needs.

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## Chopped Vegetable Salad

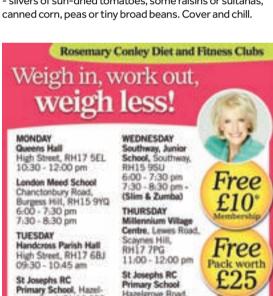
No exact quantities, it depends on how many servings vou want.

Using a large bowl tip in halved cherry tomatoes, finely chopped red onions, red and/or yellow peppers and diced cucumber (I like to quarter the cucumber lengthwise, scoop out and discard the seeds and dice the flesh). Make a dressing of lemon juice, oil, a little honey, wholegrain mustard, crushed garlic and seasoning. Pour over and stir to combine. In addition I like to add some or all of the following - slivers of sun-dried tomatoes, some raisins or sultanas,

## Pesto Pasta

Makes 4-6 servings

Cook 225g pasta to package directions. Can be any shape including filled pasta such as ravioli or cappellitti. While it is cooking make the dressing in a large bowl. Whisk together 45ml pesto (green or red) with 3tbs oil, juice 1 lemon and seasoning. Drain the pasta thoroughly and add to the dressing, stirring to combine. Cool slightly then add any or all of the following - slivers of salami, crumbled Feta cheese, marinated artichokes, tomatoes or peppers, black or green olives.



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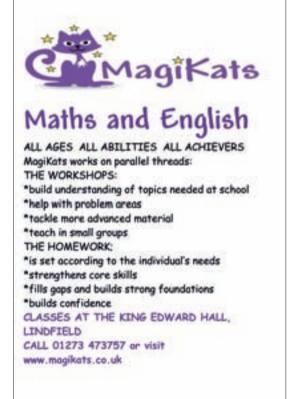
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WEDNESDAY



## By Caroline Young

Summertime... and the living is easy... I think is an old song but it should also be our mantra for summer cooking. Nobody wants to spend time preparing elaborate meals but the family is always hungry! We have an abundance of home-grown vegetables and fruit to choose from this time of the year and I like to combine many of them to produce tasty salads. The recipes I have chosen this month have the added advantage that they can be made in advance and will sit happily in the fridge for two to three days ready to serve with cold meats, cheeses or items from the barbecue.

## Pickled Cucumber

Makes 4-6 servings

Using a food processor or mandolin, very thinly slice 1 large (unpeeled) cucumber. Layer the slices in a colander and sprinkle with salt. Leave to drain for 1 hour then rinse with cold water and spread to drain on a teatowel. Measure 2tbs granulated sugar into the serving bowl, add 4tbs boiling water and stir until dissolved. Add 4tbs white wine vinegar and freshly ground pepper. Stir in the cucumber slices and chill for at least 1 hour before serving. Sprinkle with finely chopped spring onions or chives before serving.

## Caramelised Brioche Toasts with Berries

Using a thick slice of brioche (or Italian panettone bread) per serving, generously dust with icing sugar and pop under a hot grill until golden brown – watch carefully as it will only take a minute. Serve piping hot topped with ice cream and fresh berries.



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Pete, founder member of The Pete Cornish JAZZ FX band, seriously considered giving up his beloved saxophone because of failing teeth.

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## State of Emergency: The way we were Britain 1970-74 by Dominic Sandbrook

## **BOOK REVIEW**

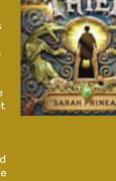
## By Cavan Wood

The 1970s were once described as the decade when taste was forgotten. The genius of this book is that it shows you the social and political history of the time and helps you to understand it. Sandbrook's extensive reading and research brings to life diverse political figures as Ted Heath, Harold Wilson, Tony Benn and Arthur Scargill. He can also demonstrate how an episode of "Whatever happened to the Likely Lads?" can tell you more about the society than a thousand PhDs! This unique approach, combing insight into culture and politic has made him one of the best read historians in the country. He isn't right about everything – but even when he is wrong or a little less than charitable, he is worth reading. Perhaps for me the best part of the book is the account of the Poulson affair and how it destroyed Conservative politician Reginald Maulding. Sandbrook manages to show us the hubris and the waste of talent in Maulding's undoing - a cautionary tale for anyone interested in seeking power. Even with all of this insight he cannot answer why we watched programmes as bad as "On the Buses" or "Love thy neighbour"!

# The Magic Thief by Sarah Prineas

## **BOOK REVIEW**

By Henry Bensley (age 7)
The story is based in
Wellmet. Nevery is a wizard
and Conn is his apprentice
(although Conn started
off as a thief). They met
when Conn stole Nevery's
magic stone called a locus
magicalicus. Nevery takes
Conn on as his apprentice
because Conn didn't drop
dead when he touched the
locus magicalicus. Wellmet
is suffering from the loss



Can Nevery and Conn discover why? It fascinated me how a thief can become a wizard's apprentice. I could not put this book down, it was truly amazing. I really like The Magic Thief because I can imagine I am a wizard's apprentice too. Conn learnt never steal from a wizard and to never give up.

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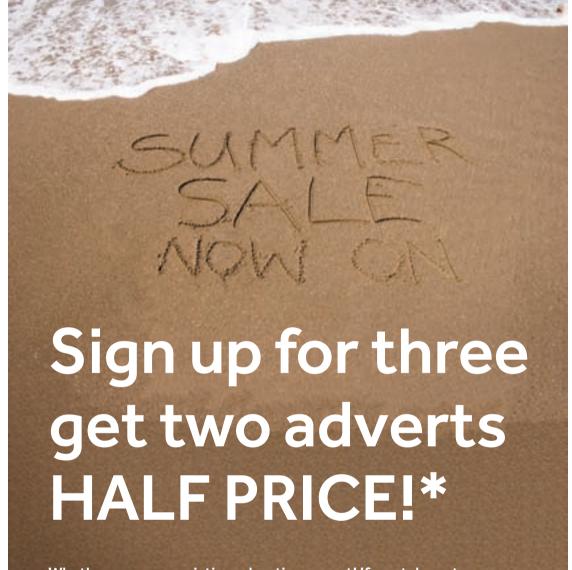
Readers of Lindfield Life are invited to join a free trial of the CareConnectMe service. To find out more visit: www.CareConnectMe.com

## Race to Infinity: BT Broadband Update

Exchange preparation and planning activities are well underway. These will be complete by October 2011 and the fibre equipment for Lindfield will then be installed in the Haywards Heath exchange. The rollout design hopes to deliver around 90% fibre coverage of the exchange area. Evidence of the work as it's underway will include the installation of new equipment such as green cabinets along the roadside, and our engineers putting in place additional footway boxes plus many hundreds of metres of tubing and fibre optic cable both within the underground network and to our distribution poles.

The work will take some weeks/months to complete so not everyone will be able to order a service from day one. However once the build phase starts the community will be able to visit www.bt.com/infinity to check individual phone numbers to check their progress.

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## By Amy Packham

Local band 'DYL' was greeted with crowds of fans at the launch party of their second album at the Stand Up Inn earlier this summer. Double Yellow Lines is a band formed of four musicians who all grew up in Lindfield, and have progressed over the 3 years they have been together.

DYL formed in August 2008, and although initially finding it hard to name the band, they got their name from an unexpected source. Gary Sparks, known as 'the front man', describes how they came up with it after a night out at Orange Square in Haywards Heath. "We were having a drink on my birthday in August and discussing names for the band. When we left there were cars parked on double yellow lines and one of the girls said 'what about that?' and we went with it".

In the early days, the band was formed of five members, but a few months in the guitarist left and Gary picked up the role of rhythm guitar after previously only being a vocalist. The remaining four members Dan Ford, brothers Oli and Chris Slack, along with Gary, have in the past been in separate local bands before merging to form DYL. Many have been participating in local bands since the young age of 15. Prior to DYL, Gary was in a band called Soundbite. "I was in Soundbite for 3 years; it included members such as Rick Pentacost, a keyboard player who had worked with big names such as Jools Holland and Sir Paul McCartney and also Julian Scott, from 'M' who had the number one single 'Pop Music'". Covering most of the pubs in Mid Sussex it was whilst performing with Soundbite that he met current DYL musicians, bass player Dan and drummer Chris. "They used to come along and see me while rehearsing for Soundbite; we got to know each other through that. It was Dan who approached me about starting a new band which prompted me to leave" explains Gary.

Describing their style as indie/rock, DYL base their inspiration on famous bands such as The Stereophonics,

Kings of Leon and The Killers. The local band spent their first 5 months together writing and composing songs for their first album. "I wrote 2 tracks before we formed DYL" the front man explains, "Along with those tracks we wrote an additional 8 or 9 between August 2008 and January 2009". DYL began recording their first album in February 2009. Taking quite some time to record, they moved to various studios and decided to not start gigging until their first album was finished. "We didn't have a launch party for our first album; we waited until we could do a gig with a set of a substantial amount of our own music rather than just a mixture of covers."

The wait proved to be a success as DYL explains their most memorable performance was their first live gig in summer 2009. Taking place at the Druid's Arms in Brighton on the level, their hard work paid off as they were able to play a set of all their own original music. "We wrote, composed and recorded all the tracks in a year and our first live gig was one all of us will remember" Gary recalls.

The band collaborates in the writing and production of songs. "The general concept of writing is by myself and Chris Ward who helps us with the running of the band; he did a lot of poetry and so is good at rhyming and lyrics" explains Gary, "Drummer Chris and bass guitarist Dan also get involved. Dan has written some of our songs on his own, and some I have written on my own." These lyrical ideas are then taken to 'the Slack brothers' as they are able to put their stamp on it musically. Oli Slack, the lead guitarist is currently studying Music Technology at Surrey University and therefore his knowledge of music production and composition is invaluable for the band.

"We all put our ideas together, sometimes a track can be put together in one rehearsal however this has only happened a couple of times – sometimes it can take 2 years of putting drafts in before a track is finally recorded."

The success of DYL was born in Lindfield, where





two of the band members still live, as well as their families. Known as their 'home venue', the Stand Up Inn is of great significance to them. Gary talks of his close connection to the Stand Up, "my Auntie used to own the Stand Up in the 1960's and 70's. She was the first landlady in the area that applied for and got a music license; she started the live music scene in Lindfield." DYL specifically chose the Stand Up to host their launch party for that close-to-home feeling. Although approached by other venues, some of which were bigger and could have attracted larger crowds, they stuck by holding it at their 'home venue'. The pub was said to be 'absolutely rammed' as DYL played their first set of original songs before moving onto a mixture of covers in their second set. "The initial concept for the band was with me and Dan Ford at the Stand Up. We went out for a beer and discussed the formation of DYL so it only seemed fitting that we hosted our launch party there."

Rehearsing at Rockability in Haywards Heath and Backline Studios in Guildford, the band continues to be inspired by music to compose and produce new songs. At Rockability they work with Clive Layton, a friend of the musicians where they have been rehearsing together since 2008.

What does the future hold for DYL? "A lot of people ask me, do we want to be famous? It would be nice but it's a scary thought" admits Gary. The main thing DYL wants to achieve is to have a good local following throughout Lindfield and beyond and to progress to bigger venues. They want to be well known, well liked and for their music to be enjoyed locally. "If someone came up to us and said 'I like track 5', that would be especially nice!"

To find out more about DYL, visit their website: www. doubleyellowlinesband.co.uk where you can listen to previews of tracks and purchase their latest album 'Silhouette'.



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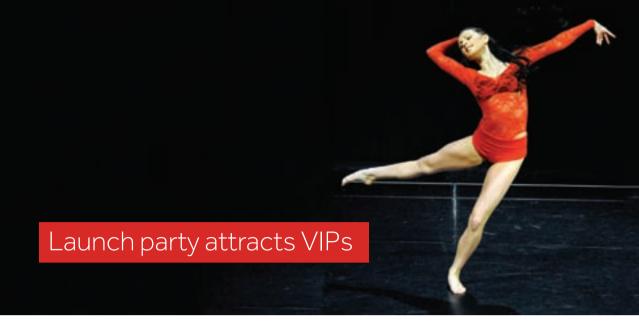


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Saturday 2nd July marked the Opening Ceremony of the Gielgud Academy of Performing Arts at The Hub studios, Haywards Heath. The ceremony consisted of a dance display by the very first 80 pupils of the Academy as it celebrated the end of its inaugural term. The VIP guests, including top names from the world of ballet, parents and pupils were thrilled by a guest performance by Danielle Cato (recently seen on the BBC's "So You Think You Can Dance") and leading West End performer, Ben Harrold. Both artists are clients of Gielgud Management – the agency to which the school is attached, run by Hollywood choreographer, Piers Gielgud (great nephew of Sir John). He is also a director of the school alongside his wife, award-winning filmmaker, Suzanne Gielgud, who is the Principal of the Academy.

At the centre of the proceedings and guests of honour were Dame Beryl Grey and West End choreographer, Gillian Lynne, CBE.

Dame Beryl addressed the children and told them "So much talent can be lost by poor teaching. In the hands of really good teachers, such you have here at the Gielgud Academy, you have the opportunity to blossom and go forward and reach the top. There's nothing to stop you, it's just what you've got to do!"

Dame Beryl knows all about reaching the top. She was selected by Dame Ninette de Valois to perform the leading role of Odette/Odile with the Vic Wells Ballet (later to become the Royal Ballet) at the tender age of 15. She was the first British Ballerina to be invited to dance in Russia with the Bolshoi Ballet and was a prima ballerina of the Royal Ballet. Following a career that took her all over the world, she was director of London Festival ballet (now English National Ballet). Dame Beryl Grey is the highest-ranking dignitary in the world of dance.

Gillian Lynne CBE, another of the schools patrons and award winning director and choreographer of "Cats", "Phantom of the Opera" and "Chitty Chitty Bang, Bang" told the children: "You have to know that all the discipline you are learning in this wonderful school is what you

are going to hang onto whether you become a classical dancer, an actor or a singer. You are so lucky to be here." She then led the children in a chant of "I am so lucky to be here" which brought the house down in rapturous applause. She finished by telling them "Good luck on the wonderful journey you are starting on, you couldn't be in a better place".

"I have come to recognise the determination and also the professionalism that Suzanne (Gielgud) gives to anything to which she turns her mind and you've all heard how her heart is truly behind building this school. I think we are very privileged being here today because we are at the beginning, to see the seed of what I think is going to grow into being a very distinguished school".

David Wall CBE, a patron of the Academy and former star of the Royal Ballet, congratulated the impressive array of boys (most of them total newcomers to dance) and thanked their parents for giving them the opportunity to train, telling them that: "Whatever they achieve in their dance, what it will certainly give them is discipline, musicality and strength."

Finally, to mark the end of the formal proceedings, Dame Beryl and Gillian Lynne declared the school open, medals were presented to children for progress and hard work and a Gielgud Academy cake was cut.



Above: Suzanne Gielgud, Dame Beryl Grey & Gillian Lynne CBE. Top: Danielle Cato

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# Cushions?

## **HOME FRONT**

#### By Jacqui Smith

Cushions: now there's a marmite word. Next to the "do you like green?" question, opinions on cushions are likely to prompt wildly polarised reactions; they seem to be one of those things that people love or loathe. Discussion over cushion design and quantity in a scheme seems to instantly engage the interest of most of our female clients yet at the same time have the men running for the hills. The suggestion of cushions in the bedroom seems to be especially emotive. "Where's a man supposed to sleep" was what a friend's husband bemoaned as he cleared his luxury hotel bed and sent cushions of varying shapes and sizes flying into the corner of the room. Don't get me wrong, as a designer I am being employed to translate my client's brief, including likes and dislikes, into a beautiful and liveable scheme so if a client really does not want cushions, I will not insist. However there are a number of reasons why I would encourage a client to consider cushions in a scheme since they can play a key role in a room design.

A well balanced scheme is all about texture and contrast. Cushions will add depth to a scheme both by virtue of the fabric used and the colour or pattern. For instance a neutral scheme will look far from boring with cushions in a variety of textures and sizes. Cushions also add warmth and comfort to a room and will make it seem more inviting. Mulberry has some stunning velours and velvets which I would defy anyone not to want to sink into. On a sofa or chair a cushion can be used to soften hard edges or conversely exaggerate a shape. Position and size is important and I always take a bag of calico cushion pads to a client's house so we can road test the varying sizes and shapes in situ. Since cushions require relatively little fabric they also provide a great way of introducing a stunning but possibly budget breaking fabric into the scheme. Even more frugally you could use the more costly fabric for the face only and back with a plain. On the subject of budget, they are an extremely cost effective way of changing the look of a room. Bright accent cushions will bring a plain looking sofa to life in an instant; beautifully trimmed cushions will transform a simple quest bedroom. Finally on the subject of credit crunch design, they are a fantastic way of using up remnants. If your scheme needs "bringing together" then a patterned cushion can provide that lynchpin, uniting for instance the carpet colour, sofa and existing curtains. Cushions can add real personality to a room through the colour, shape and trimmings. Additionally a personalised cushion makes a beautiful gift!

Of course my two young sons are yet to appreciate the true purpose of cushions. I am told however that they make great Nerf gun bunkers!



Last month local writer, Arthur Woods, transported us back to life in the 1930s: a captivating picture of his memories of childhood games, the first days of his apprenticeship at the Austin Motor Company in Birmingham and an insight into the British motor industry. We left him at the end of the 1930s when war had broken out and he took up service in the army. This month he continues the journey and we join him in the 1940s with his recollections of the post-war years in Birmingham.



## By Arthur Woods

In the whole of my army service I met only one Austin apprentice and that in unusual circumstances. The 8th Army was preparing for the 2nd battle of the Desert wars against the Germans led by General Rommel in November 1941. In that month at a place on the frontier between Libya and Egypt, Sidi Omar marked only by coils of barbed wire we met; he with his troop of 11th Hussars in their armoured reconnaissance cars and me with my troop of 25-pounder field guns. We talked not of the Austin, only of lousy food and shortage of water. The battle started a few days later and the British lost almost 750 tanks, the Germans about 500 and each side about 7000 dead with twice as many wounded. The battle lasted only 13 days. The next year in the same month and the 3rd Desert War, he fell at El Alamein.

Leaving the army in May 1946 with no regrets, I returned to the Austin in the September. We were a mixed lot that returned; older, much older than our years, who had held ranks from major to private, from lieutenant commander to ordinary seaman; and the way of life had moved on. The world had become a place where Jack had decided 'he was as good as his master'. The unions now called the tune and I remember a shop steward who boasted he could bring the shop out on strike over the 'poor quality' of the tea in the canteen, and he was as good as his word!



That winter of 1946/47 was the worst in living memory with the December snow still on the ground in April and industry brought to a standstill for some weeks. Food rationing sometimes did not hold to the war-time as poor transport made worse by the winter, interfered with deliveries. After six years of war people expected better. Especially as countries such as France and even Germany had little or no food shortages. The Government was blamed of course, and Aneurin Bevan, that Socialist politician of wit remarked "Only an organising genius could create a shortage of coal in a country built on coal and a shortage of fish in a country surrounded by fish".

Birmingham had the most highly developed bus system in the country and the line known as the Inner Circle was famous for its speed in moving workers from home to factory and back. The number 8, as it was named, from 1928 linked the city's inner suburbs. Aptly called the Workman's Special, it went clockwise from Five Ways through Sparkbrook to Small Heath, to feed the BSA works making the hugely popular BSA motorcycles with a staff of 3500. The whole of the city centre was contained by the Workman's Special, taking them to Mulliner's Body Builders, Saltley Gas Works, HP Sauce Works famous for the product that made British food the laughing stock of Europe but nevertheless wellknown worldwide, the Hercules Cycle Company, Ansells Brewery and the Jewellery Quarter and back to Five Ways. Birmingham made everything from steamrollers to hairpins. This massive conglomerate of industrial might encircled in such a tight area was, within 30 years, to disappear like some ancient city in early history; not

destroyed by war but by the arrival of fresh ideas about wealth creation that made it uneconomic to engage in metal working manufacture as a huge source of employment. Birmingham was only one of many cities to have its work centres altered beyond recognition, but it was the most dramatic. It was not for nothing that it was called "The Workshop of the World".

The working conditions in 1946 were hard; a scandal but widespread in the western world. In the Austin foundries where 110 tons of iron and 10 tons of steel were cast daily, no protective clothing seemed to be worn. In a typical glass bottle making plant the conditions were no better. Terrific heat and molten glass dropping behind the machines. A man would be wearing wooden clogs, bare footed; a towel round his head and no overalls. There were no showers, and a filthy canteen added to the austerity of a 51/2 day week of over 50 hours. These were not abnormal conditions through heavy industry, and I doubt if plants in the UK were worse than elsewhere. Though I did notice that in foundries in such countries as France, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Scandinavia where I spent much of my working life from 1950, working conditions were notably better than in the UK. The 5 day week arrived here long before it reached Continental Europe though, which is why our industries shrank faster than for example, in Germany where plants were run by engineers rather than accountants, and capital was made available to invest in modern machines to improve quality, output and working conditions.

Next month... the 1950s.





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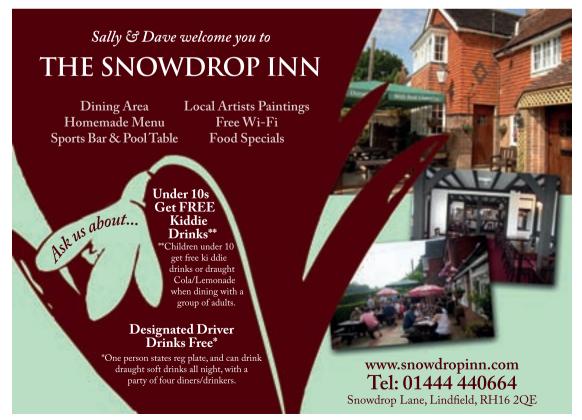


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Laura is one of only nine girls accepted into LAMDA from over 4000 applicants

## By Amy Packham

Many face hardships when chasing their dream however budding young actress, Laura Schofield, proves that determination to achieve your dream should not be given up. Having lived in Lindfield for 17 years, the 22 year old is about to embark on a three year acting course at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA).

From a very young age, Laura has always has had a great interest in drama. "I've been brought up in a fairly creative family; my parents took me to the theatre a lot as a child." It was at the age of two that Laura first took to the stage as a sheep in her school nativity. "I went on to study GCSE Drama at Oathall Community College and also obtained full marks for Performing Arts at Central Sussex College" she explains.

When beginning to audition for drama schools, it became clear that it wasn't going to be an easy ride. With the huge amount of applicants each year, candidates find it hard to get a recall let alone the offer of a place. She describes it as 'a long and almost torturing process'. Laura explains how auditions for drama schools cost a fortune, "you're up against 4000 other people and the amount of work you have to put in is immense." Although having had recalls, Laura hadn't managed to get a place, describing it as 'pretty soul destroying', having worked so hard each year to apply.

Her journey took a huge turn this year as she managed to gain acceptance to three drama schools – Rose Bruford, Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and LAMDA. "I was completely overwhelmed to have a choice between three amazing schools, I decided on LAMDA as the success rate of their students is very high, and they're classed as one of the best schools in the country." Laura describes herself as 'a bit of a home girl', liking the idea of being able to pop home to Lindfield for weekend breaks. Beating off the competition of 4000 other applicants, she is proud to become one of the nine girls accepted onto the course. "I remember getting the phonecall from the head of acting; I was shaking and almost told him I loved him!"

Aside from her determination in her auditioning, Laura has carried on her passion of acting with the West Sussex County Youth Theatre. "They have given me so many exciting opportunities to really understand what it takes to be an actor." She has been lucky to work with professional artists such as Robin Belfield, Jonathan Goodwin and Elizabeth Freestone and undertaken many different roles as part of this theatre group. "I have just finished touring my last show playing the title role in Antigone. The buzz I get from being on stage is indescribable. I'm very proud to have been a part of the Youth Theatre for so long."

Laura speaks passionately about theatre, "it's not what I want to do, it's want I need to do and there's nothing else on the planet I can imagine doing. My family and friends have been my rock, through the tears and smiles these last 5 years and I am ever so grateful."

"I hope I can offer inspiration to other young people out there. Whatever your dream may be, don't give up. You can make it happen."

Obviously embarking on this course is a costly process and if you feel inspired by Laura's story and wish to contribute any sponsorship towards her career as an actor then please contact the editor who will get in touch with Laura.

## What's on in August

## AT KING EDWARD HALL

1st-6th The Adventurers Art Club Annual Exhibition (Mrs Valerie Harvey 455704)

2nd The Mid Sussex Wine Society

We are pleased to announce that Ian Gledhill will be giving a talk at 8pm.
He will be sharing with us his extensive knowledge of the Volks Railway.
Meeting and Membership information from Angela Seward (01444 484447

4th Country Market (Sheila Hobbs 483396)

7th Ruwach Christian Church – Morning Service (Ruth Hollis 459025)

(Ruth Hollis 459025)

11th Country Market

14th Ruwach Christian Church - Morning Service

18th Country Market

21st Ruwach Christian Church – Morning Service

25th Country Market

28th Ruwch Christian Church – Morning Service

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

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## Please note:

Deadline for the September edition is Thursday 4th August. All news items and events information should be sent to editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk





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