

# Lindfield Life

The background of the magazine cover is a photograph of a row of white, two-story houses with dark roofs and bay windows. In the foreground, there is a large field of purple and white crocuses. The entire cover has a purple tint. The title 'Lindfield Life' is in a large, white, serif font at the top left. Below it, in a smaller white font, is 'Inc. Scaynes Hill & Walstead'. At the top right, in white text, is 'Local village talk, by the village' and 'April 2014 Issue #61'. A purple circle on the right side contains the word 'Free' in white. At the bottom, there are three white text boxes with purple backgrounds containing article titles and page numbers.

Inc. Scaynes Hill & Walstead

Local village talk,  
by the village

April 2014 Issue #61

Free

Reducing the mental health stigma

page 25

News from schools

page 10

Do you remember Dick Lyth?

page 16





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## EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

I think most of us had forgotten what it felt like to have the sun on our backs until recently. But the welcome return of warmth and light does mean that not only do we have to dig out those sunglasses but that there are plenty of outdoor opportunities coming up. Check out the **What's On** on **page 42** for the usual listings, both inside and outside! Plus there are various **Easter activities** taking place at Borde Hill and Wakehurst Place, see **page 15**. And don't forget the **Lindfield Run** takes place later next month on 26th May.

A number of local businesses are featured in our pages: **SWALK** has recently changed ownership (**page 5**), **The Bent Arms** has had more than a lick of paint in its own three week makeover (see **page 5**) and **The Toll House** announces a new lineup of events starting with an 'Evening with Dickens' this month (**page 6**).

We are very pleased to have stories from not one but three **local schools** on **page 10**.

Last month we had a big response from readers following the Beckworth House article by Richard Bryant. Many of you wanted to look at the **aerial photo** in more detail and, as a result, I have posted a link to the original on the **Lindfield Blog** from our website. This month, on **page 12**, we feature a photo sent to us by reader Alec Fruin. It shows the **area of the High Street around the pond** but its particularly fun to see what's changed since the photo was taken – which we believe was in the 1950s. Areas behind the Cooperative store and the space that is now Tollgate are most obvious.

Talking of the pond, if you missed the contractors wading about in the water and performing the regular '**fish destocking**', then you can see the work thanks to Neil Giles capturing it and keeping us all up to date. Find this story on **page 6**.

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# NEWS

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



## Team gets new kit

A Lindfield-based company has just agreed to sponsor the village football teams Lindfield Rovers and Lindfield Juniors. Lime Tree Designs, which specialises in residential building planning, has its logo emblazoned on the kit which has now been supplied to all 38 children in the Under 8s team.

Company Director Alistair Ewen commented: "This represents the first time the U8s football team has had its own matching kit, having previously made do with odd shirts, socks and shorts. So we are pleased to be able to help out."

## Bunny Run

Hare along to Haywards Heath to help St Catherine's Hospice.

You'd be hopping mad to miss out on St Catherine's Hospice's Easter fundraiser.

The Bunny Run, sponsored by Tuplin, will take place at Victoria Park in Haywards Heath on Sunday 13th April. It's the ideal feel-good family fun day out, with Easter-themed activities and a guest appearance from Bertie the Bunny.

However you choose to complete the 2.5k course – walking, running or hopping – you'll receive a pair of bunny ears at the start so you look the part and Easter treats to welcome you in at the finish.

Entry in advance (before 6 April) is £10 per adult, £5 per child, £25 family (2 adults 2 children).

You can also enter on the day at £15 per adult, £8 per child and £40 family.

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## Facelift for The Bent Arms

One of the oldest pubs in Lindfield received a new lease of life when landlord Howard Collins set about updating the décor recently.

The Grade II listed building is owned by Hall & Woodhouse but Howard, who has been tenant for over 11 years, managed to negotiate a deal with the brewery whereby the two parties split the cost of internal renovation between them.

The work was carried out over a three week period in February but the pub was actually only closed for five days. The new look leaves the space brighter and more open, however the lifesize brown bear still looks on across the bar as the 'unofficial landlord' of the pub.

The Bent Arms is open from breakfast until late, seven days a week and also has nine bedrooms upstairs available for B&B.



## Changes to SWALK team



There's a new face on the High Street as SWALK welcomes a new team member.

Scott Grant will be joining the SWALK team as a director and investor in the company, which has been on the High Street for almost two years.

As Scott moves in, Jade Logue moves on from the day-to-day running of the store. However, she will remain a Director of SWALK Ltd and will continue behind the scenes as a consultant.

The store, with new investment, will now be run by Store Manager/Director Becca Belfield who has worked alongside Jade since the birth of SWALK.

To celebrate, SWALK is inviting customers to call in for a free glass of bubbles on Friday 28th March, and enjoy 10% off all purchases made between 6-9pm.

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# Music at The Toll House

The Toll House Store & Café is undertaking a number of exciting and innovative events throughout the coming year. With the sun making a welcome return, the café's courtyard garden will be reopening with a new look and featuring the work of Erica Lily Flowers. The courtyard will be the venue for a monthly Brocante where Toll House retailers and other invited vendors will sell interesting and eclectic wares and the Café is hosting An Evening with Dickens on 4th April. The Café is also the venue for a series of workshops – felt making, flower arranging, needlework and cake decorating – for adults and children during the Easter holidays. The Toll House is supporting St Peter and St James hospice and the first of a number of planned events is a special coffee morning and exclusive shopping event, in association with World Coffees, at the end of April. Please contact Mary, Claire or Charlotte or visit The Toll House Store & Café for more details of all events. The trio would also like to hear from local musicians and singers interested in performing at some of their events and possibly selling CDs in-store.



Photo by Neil Giles

## Destocking the pond

In accordance with its duties, Mid Sussex District Council arranged to have the pond 'destocked of fish' in early March.

The contractors had to lower the water level, which proved more problematic than expected as the water valve didn't open on the day. Nets were cast across the pond and the destocking exercise was deemed successful.



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# Toploader at Lindfield Arts Festival




The rumours are true! News comes 'hot off the press' that the headline act appearing at this year's Lindfield Arts Festival is the internationally successful rock group Toploader.

Band member guitarist Dan Hipgrave, a fellow Lindfield resident along with lead singer and pianist Joe, bassist Matt and drummer Rob, will dazzle festival goers on Saturday 13th September with a concert on the common that will blow Lindfield away! The atmosphere is set to be electrifying as the village will see over 1,000 people gather to appreciate a local chart topping band. The supporting act to the local gig is yet to be confirmed.

Toploader will wow the crowds and entertain the festival goers with a concert that will have everyone up and 'Dancing in the Moonlight'.

Lindfield Life readers have a unique opportunity to purchase early bird tickets with the first 500 tickets on sale now for only £15. Please visit [www.lindfieldartsfestival.com](http://www.lindfieldartsfestival.com) to buy your tickets. These will sell out soon, so don't miss out. It is going to be an evening to remember!



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## Success for Lindfield again!

Children from Lindfield Primary School were once again triumphant at the annual Mid Sussex Quicksticks Hockey tournament at Oathall this month. Seventeen children from the school competed in a number of matches. However, it was the 'A' squad of Michael Allison, Jake Smith, Matilda Pardoe, Edward Mason, Jude Divall and Holly Herbert that retained the trophy, after success in 2013. Five wins from five matches in the group stages, including victories over local rivals Northlands Wood and St. Wilfrid's, resulted in a familiar final against Harlands. Lindfield were victorious 2-0 and now go on to represent Mid Sussex in County Final in July.



## 'The Big Pedal'

Road Safety and walking to school has been the focus of children at Lindfield Primary School.

The children have taken part in 'The Big Pedal', a giant inter-school cycling and scooting competition that encourages children, teachers and parents to choose two wheels for their school journeys. Children earn points for their school every time they cycle or scoot to school and then have the opportunity to win one of more than 20 fantastic prizes.

In May the children will be celebrating 'Walk to School Week', an event organised by 'Living Streets' which aims to encourage more children to walk to school.

Living Streets report that walking instead of driving saves, on average, £400 a year.

# Student judges pick Ruby Redfort as their reading gem

Forget the Man Booker Prize or the Blue Peter Book Awards, the honour every children's author wants has been announced at Oathall Community College!

The school's Year 7 reading team named 'Ruby Redfort: Look Into My Eyes' by Lauren Child from a nine-strong shortlist selected by the county's school library service. Their choice matched those of students from across the county, who also picked the book as the winner of the West Sussex Children's Book Award.

The student judges each read as many of the nine shortlisted books as possible and met author Nicola Davies as part of the judging process. They then met to discuss their opinions before deciding on Lauren Child's story of a teenage detective as the winner.

One of those judges, Eithne Yates-Kneen, said: "I enjoyed the chance to have my say in what I thought was a good book."

The Year 7 reading team includes Kie Baker, Andrew Galt, Darcey Gee, William Gordon, Paige Martin, Priya Murugaiyan, Eve Mustin, Imogen Pickering, Nathaniel Van den Dolder, Harry Woodington, and Eithne Yates-Kneen.

Miss Evans, Head of English, said:

"It was really valuable for students to talk to a



published author and be inspired about how characters and stories are created. To then judge the books encouraged our students to read critically, which is a great skill to develop. Reading for pleasure is the best activity you can do to raise your grades and enrich your life."



# New Science Club

By Marianne Brand, Blackthorns Headteacher

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 at Blackthorns Community Primary School have been given the opportunity to 'apply' to become part of the new Science Club at the school.

The club has been set up by Blackthorns mum and scientist Megan Healy and 20 successful applicants have been working with Megan and some other parents to complete some wonderful science experiments.

Science is all around us, and it is wonderful to see children enthuse about it. Blackthorns CP School has a wonderfully creative stance behind all that it does. Take a stroll around and you are in for a treat. Walls beautifully covered in children's work, role-play areas transformed by dedicated staff and watch out for more work hanging from the ceiling. This creativity extends into science lessons. For example, children were challenged to think about separation techniques after the animal feed at Hogwarts was contaminated!

The MRC Genome Science Club gives the children plenty of opportunity to do hands on science. For example, the chemical reaction behind commercially available hand warmers was recently explored. Racing hovercraft was serious fun. The children have experienced custard behaving strangely, raced Lego vehicles and prepared DNA from kiwi fruit.

Children develop teamwork skills, plus there are



chances for leadership. At the end of each half term, students can bring in an experiment from home. They lead their team through the practical that they have prepared.

Having worked in research at the University of Sussex, Megan worked with the school's Deputy Head Teacher, Sally Stoyles, to form the MRC Genome Science Club. Prof Carr, Director of the Genome Damage and Stability Centre at Sussex University, applied for funding from the Medical Research Council. In addition, on behalf of the University, he has secured funding for the next three years. Professor Tony Carr visited Blackthorns in February to present the school with £1,500 of science resources, including white lab coats and goggles for the club participants.

A website is currently being developed. Watch this space!



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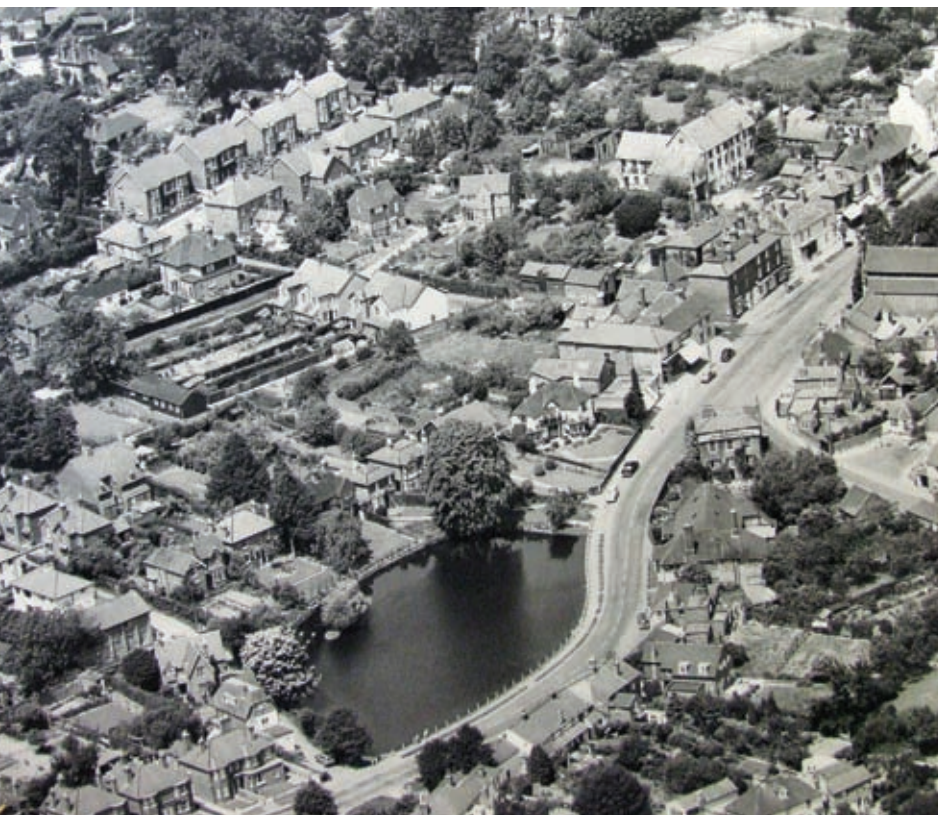
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# View from above

Following the huge interest shown in last month's story about Beckworth House and the aerial photo of Lindfield from the 40s, one reader has sent in a copy of this photo which he believes is from the 50s. What differences can you spot from today?



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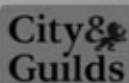
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## Bowling Kids' Club

Children in Lindfield have the chance to take up a new sport right in the heart of the village.

Lindfield Bowling club will be running a kids' club on Saturday mornings.

The event follows the success of last year's club, when youngsters were introduced to the popular game using sets of brightly coloured woods.

The club will be launched on 19th April when families can have a go at bowling on the immaculate Lindfield Common greens between 10am and 12 noon. There will also be a coffee morning on 26th April at 10am.

Bowling is a sport for all ages and members of the Lindfield Club always welcome new members.

The club has a bar and runs social events throughout the year, including Captain's Day which raises money for charities and a fun morning bowling against the Lindfield Club.

Potential members can find out more at an open morning on Saturday 10th May from 10am.

For more information ring Sue 01444 452883 or Vivienne 01444 414350

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# Come and Eggslore Borde Hill Garden this Easter!

With events and activities running from Saturday 5th to Monday 21st April 2014, there's plenty on offer for the whole family.

Children can hunt the hidden creatures and their eggs in the garden, complete a fun and educational trail, find the Easter Bunny and pick up a prize. There will also be Giant Garden Games on the lawn for all visitors.

A fun and interactive Easter Zoo opens its doors on 13th April, from 12pm to 4pm, when children can make some furry, feathered friends including meerkats, bunnies, racoons, ducklings, owls, parrots, hedgehogs and more!

Don't miss the Mad Hatter's Picnic Party on 20th April, from 12pm to 4pm. Bring along a picnic and join the Mad Hatter, Alice and the White Rabbit for garden fun and games. Visitors are encouraged to dress up for the Fancy Dress Competition, the more creative the better! Competition judging at 2pm.

## Bluebells and Brimstones Festival

Celebrate spring at a new festival being held at Wakehurst Place near Haywards Heath, the glorious country estate of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The Bluebells and Brimstones festival, running during April and May, will be a celebration of Wakehurst's spring flowers, with a variety of events including guided walks through the beautiful woodlands and arboreta, special open days at the estate's Loder Valley Nature Reserve and falconry displays.

During May visitors will be able see Wakehurst's newborn Southdown lambs take their first steps, and follow the nature-inspired Wildweave sculpture trail around the gardens.

**Festival highlights include the Loder Valley Nature Reserve Open Days – Easter weekend (18th–21st April) and over the May Bank Holidays. On 27th April and 4th & 5th May there are guided Spring walks by Wakehurst's volunteer guides starting at 11.30am each day.**



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# The Red Pelican: The Story of a Lindfield WW2 Hero

by Keith Ward

Long-time residents of Lindfield may remember Dick and Nora Lyth, who lived in Backwoods Lane for the last 23 years of Dick's life (he died in 2005). A recently published book entitled 'The Red Pelican' recounts Dick's extraordinary exploits during and immediately following the Second World War.

The story opens in December 1938. Dick, then aged 22, has just graduated from Oxford with a degree in Logic and Military History and is on his way to southern Sudan. He has a two-year assignment there, working for the Church Missionary Society, setting up schools and teaching the local children. A few months earlier, Dick's proposal of marriage had been accepted by Nora and they expected to be parted for only two years before marrying. The war changed all that, the two years becoming six.

Dick made an enjoyable start to his CMS duties but within a short time felt that work in the bush was less important than playing his part in the war. He therefore volunteered, underwent six weeks of intense training and was commissioned, aged 23, with the rank of Major. General Platt, Commander of the Sudan Defence Force, explained that there were some 300,000 Italian-led troops in Ethiopia, many of them massing on the Sudan border. Dick's orders, as the only white officer in that remote area, were to recruit and train warriors to

hold back the Italians by whatever means possible. He surveyed the local men and found a mere 120 who were suitable.

Training them produced mixed results. Rifles were issued but at first the warriors thought that by pointing in the general direction and pulling the trigger the loud bang would do the rest. Bayonet training came more easily, as the men were skilled in combat involving spears. Dick had no doubt about their bravery and after four weeks declared them ready for battle.

The force was split into four platoons with a sergeant in charge of each and the first task was to march over 200 miles to make contact with the enemy. Heat was intense and when breaks were taken each soldier was permitted just three gulps of water to relieve his raging thirst. Lack of water was not the only problem; food too was in short supply and the need for fresh meat was a constant concern. Fortunately, Dick had become a crack shot while at Oxford and his firearms skills were frequently employed over the ensuing months as he and his men hunted oryx, buffalo, zebra, guinea fowl and even hippopotamus.

Dick's force eventually made contact with the enemy. On the first of many encounters recorded in the book, his men climbed throughout the night to reach high ground overlooking one of the Italian camps. At dawn, following Dick's signal, his men started shooting into the camp, causing many casualties. Knowing that the Italian-led troops had bigger and better guns, Dick soon gave the order to withdraw. They ran for several miles and then marched at a fast pace for the next three hours. A number of similar attacks followed as Dick waged guerrilla warfare and (as he later discovered) was successful in making the Italians think there were more like 12,000 men arrayed against them rather than the actual 120.

Fortune did not always favour the brave Sudanese. On one occasion, Dick and his men were ambushed and, in the hand-to-hand fighting that ensued, Dick was attacked by two soldiers. He shot the first and killed the other with his bayonet. In a later encounter, Dick himself was shot in the leg. With virtually no medical supplies to hand, he poured iodine into the gaping wound that stretched from his thigh to his knee. Then, while one of his men held the edges of his flesh together, Dick inserted 16 stitches, sewing the wound up as tight as he could.

After many months of danger and deprivation, Dick's job was done. He had succeeded in his assignment to keep the Italians from entering the Sudan and eventually the would-be invaders abandoned their positions and







retreated to the north. With the enemy gone, following various formalities, Dick's company was disbanded.

He was then appointed as a Frontier Agent. In this role, keeping peace among the various ethnic groups was a top priority. For the next three years, as the only Englishman living in that isolated area, he gained a reputation for fairness, justice and honesty where corruption was too often the norm. As a Christian, he led small weekly worship services. His great delight was receiving letters from Nora, though sometimes there would be a gap of several months between deliveries.

During these years Dick became fully accepted by the local Murle culture. To be viewed as a man he needed to join an 'age-set'. He chose the group called 'Kelang' (the Leopards) and went through the elaborate initiation ceremony. Thereafter, he was known by the Murle as 'Kemberong', the Red Pelican. Dick's prowess with the rifle was often called into service and on several occasions he shot marauding lions that were attacking herds of cows. By the end of 1944, with the war in Europe finally coming to a close, Dick was ordered to leave his post and report to Khartoum.

There he was offered the long-term position as District Commissioner in southern Sudan. Dick gratefully accepted this prestigious role, which he held for the next ten years. The first thing he did was to hasten back to England, where he was thrilled to meet up with Nora after their prolonged separation. They were married on 15th December 1944, just ten days after their reunion.

Back in the Sudan with Nora by his side, his work included that of judge and being responsible for passing the death sentence on those found guilty of murder. And so things continued until the end of 1954, when Sudan achieved independence.

In the following 28 years, before coming to Lindfield, he trained as an Anglican minister and returned to Africa where he was made a bishop overseeing a diocese the size of Scotland. Then, back in the United Kingdom once again, he spent time helping lead a church in Chorley Wood. Finally, in 1982, he and Nora retired to Lindfield where his leadership gifts were fully used at All Saints Church and in the wider community. His encouraging spirit and gentle humour were much appreciated by many whose lives he touched.

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RTFJ started life four years ago when Richard decided to swap his life of commuting to Hatton Garden, where he managed a trade workshop supplying the top West End jewellers, for a local workshop in the country where he started his own business.

However, his real love started much earlier. He has been fascinated by rocks and gems since he was five and, although Richard's father was a coppersmith and didn't have any interest in geology, it did mean that Richard was competently soldering in their garage when he was just eight years old!

Richard grew up in Sussex and completed a seven year apprenticeship in London after college. He hasn't looked back since. "It's such a privilege doing something you love," Richard commented. "I feel very lucky to really enjoy my work."

RTFJ undertakes most types of jewellery commissions, from earrings to pendants and eternity rings to necklaces. Each piece is uniquely designed and manufactured by hand to the customer's specifications.

Last year Richard, with the help of his apprentice Hugo Johnson, made wedding rings for 48 excited bridal parties. RTFJ was also the national winner of the 'Special Touch' award at the Wedding Industry Awards 2014

- judged entirely on customer feedback in a category which celebrated the item that really made the wedding day special.

RTFJ offers couples who are commissioning wedding rings a glass of bubbly at their initial consultation.

"It's a very special job to make someone's wedding rings, which we understand and appreciate," Richard continued. "They love to come here and see where it is actually made. I can show examples and give ideas but the design and spec is made just for them. The moment when they pick up their rings and see them for the first time is always a little tense but so exhilarating."

Richard offers all his customers a peace of mind guarantee, in that he will alter any item if they are not happy with it! "The trouble with bespoke is that I can't show examples of what it will look like," he said. The designer-extraordinaire admits that he can't even draw it. "I've never been able to draw; something which customers who have seen my work always find hard to believe!"

In the small workshop Richard and Hugo are also able to repair, restore or alter cherished jewellery - sometimes while you wait and enjoy a coffee. Some customers choose to melt down special jewellery and have it remodelled into something more modern. All of this is possible on your doorstep.

**For more information or to book a no obligation consultation about a piece of jewellery you have in mind, call Richard on 01444 471380. You can see examples of RTFJ's work at [www.rtfj.co.uk](http://www.rtfj.co.uk)**

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# Andrew Smith

## VILLAGE PEOPLE

### By Claire Cooper

When young Welsh schoolboy Andrew Smith first picked up a golf club at just 11 years old, he never dreamt he would one day be a Golf Professional managing a golf club at the foot of the stunning South Downs.

But with hard work, determination and a shared vision with two fellow professionals, Andrew has reversed the fortunes of the once struggling Mid Sussex Golf Club and restored its reputation as one of the leading forward thinking clubs in the south east.

"I'm extremely proud of what we have achieved," said Andrew, who lives in The Limes. "Not only have we completely renovated the club house, dramatically improved the condition of the golf course and built new facilities but we have also created a range of new golfing opportunities and opened up the sport to the whole community."

Andrew's love of golf began when he was growing up in Cardiff. "I began playing golf when I was just 11 years old," he said. "By the time I was 12 I was knocking on the local golf club secretary's door asking if I could join!"

Andrew continued to play throughout his high school years and, following A levels, went on to the University of Wales to study Environmental Health and French. But golf continued to dominate his world. "I was playing golf regularly and represented South Glamorgan at County Level," said Andrew.

"After a year of university I decided to defer my studies to focus on golf and maybe get it out of my system." But there was no going back, as Andrew's passion for golf grew stronger and he decided to take steps towards becoming a professional.

"I enrolled at the PGA Academy in Burton on Trent and was offered a position as a PGA trainee at Haywards Heath Golf course," said Andrew.

The following year he passed his course and became a PGA qualified golf professional.

He married Kate and the pair moved to Lindfield before becoming the proud parents of children Owen and Elizabeth. "I love everything about living in Lindfield

and am so grateful to be bringing my children up in such a beautiful place," said Andrew, whose sister Annette also lives in the village. "To have my family close by is very important to me."

Andrew spent 14 successful years at Haywards Heath Golf Club with Michael Henning and other members of the team, including Lee Andrews who, Andrew says, 'is like a brother'. "But the dream of being part of a team running a club in its entirety was our focus."

The trio joined forces with outside investment and acquired Mid Sussex Golf Club in 2011. "The course is set in 157 acres of the most beautiful land, with glorious views of the South Downs National Park," said Andrew. "It needed a lot of investment but the potential was huge."

"Overnight I was helping to run, manage and plan within a bigger commercial business," said Andrew. "We are responsible for a golf club, course, retail shop and restaurant, with 25 full time employees and 15 casuals, and had to quickly get to grips with human resources, health and safety, and project management."

The investments made were crucial to modernising the club house and included creating a new restaurant and function room with glorious views of the course.

"Our aim is to become a different kind of members' club – to encourage everyone to play here," said Andrew. "It's good for golf and it's good for us!"

The club now offers 14 different categories of membership, including an Academy which aims to get people started. "We also offer classes for adults with learning difficulties and recently we have taught a group from Holyrood House," said Andrew. "We have run classes through the adult education service and for Age Concern and work very closely with the local community, Aspire Sussex and various other schools and organisations."

The junior section has also grown, with 96 youngsters now playing regularly. "It is our intention to build on this figure and get as many youngsters playing as possible.



This year we became the first course in the country to offer a 'short course' for beginners and for our younger players," said Andrew. The course, which is sponsored by Porsche Mid Sussex, enables young golfers to play alongside adults but with shorter driving distances and encourages families and beginners to play together.

The club also encourages people to take up the sport by offering national initiatives such as Golf England's 'Get into Golf' scheme. "Golf is great for fitness," said Andrew. "You can burn up to 1,000 calories playing a round of golf and it's great for the mind."

Andrew is also passionate about using the club to support charity events and activities, which have included raising funds to buy a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) unit for the premises.

"Only 35% of golf courses have a Pad unit, so we thought it would be a useful piece of equipment for the club," said Andrew.

Recently he discovered just how valuable it was, when member John Evans collapsed at the wheel as he was driving away from the club. Luckily a local doctor was on the course and he started CPR.

"The first we knew of the situation was that we received a call from the Ambulance Service requiring our AED defibrillator," said Andrew. "We grabbed the machine and ran to the end of the driveway. When we arrived, John was not breathing and I immediately opened the defib box, followed the clear instructions given by the device, and administered the shock."

Within a few minutes, the ambulance arrived and the paramedics took over. "The Air Ambulance arrived really quickly and landed on the 9th Hole, and I remember thinking how John was being given the best chance by everyone," said Andrew.

"Luckily, John has made a remarkable recovery, thanks to the paramedics, medical staff, and also due to the happy coincidence of a doctor on the 9th Green and the PAD."

The club also supported various charities including St Catherine's Hospice, St Peter and St James Hospice and Macmillan cancer research, by hosting golf days and charity evenings. "The Macmillan events were organised with the help of my close friend Dax Garside, who has thyroid cancer, and have raised more than £25,000," said Andrew.



Andrew Smith with John Evans and the defibrillator

The most recent event was sponsored by Caffyns and supported by members of Brighton & Hove Albion and Sussex Cricket Club.

"It's wonderful to see the club used to benefit charities and support local people," Andrew added. "Our aim is for the club house to become a community hub where people feel welcome even if they don't play golf. It's a lovely place to stop and have a coffee."

Although managing the club takes up most of Andrew's working day, he still finds time to teach. "I've always enjoyed teaching and working with some of the new groups at Mid Sussex has been hugely rewarding."

Several of his students have gone on to golf colleges in America, while one former pupil, Max Chilton, went on to become a Formula One driver.

"I bumped into him at a charity event and, I'm pleased to say, he recognised me straight away," said Andrew, who taught Max while he was a pupil at Ardingly College.

Recently Andrew played golf with Ian Wright, ex Arsenal Legend, and Joe Miller, World Long Drive champion, which he says was 'great fun!'

Looking to the future, Andrew hopes to increase opportunities for members while attracting more people to the sport.

"One of our biggest challenges is getting people here as we are a rural location," he said. "But the upside is that we are not associated with one particular town or village so can attract members from a very wide area."

"And with the bad weather behind us and the course in great condition, we are looking forward to a great summer of golf!"

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For those not familiar with the show, one presenter (Anna Richardson) sampled cosmetic/medical treatments and the other (Louise Redknapp) tried several 'natural' remedies, then each rated their personal results. Of all her experiences, the only one Louise Redknapp said she will continue with regularly is facial acupuncture.



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# It is Time to Talk

## What links Stephen Fry, Ruby Wax and a humble cup of tea?

By Ania Tylunas

You may be aware of the fact that Stephen Fry and Ruby Wax are two among many celebrities who have lent their support to a national campaign Time to Talk, which aims to reduce mental health stigma and increase support for all who experience psychological problems. Like the rest of us, by virtue of being human, and in their case quite brilliant, they struggle at times. Stephen Fry lives with bipolar disorder and Ruby Wax has struggled with anxiety and depression in the past. Ruby has now trained as a therapist and both of them been open about their mental health issues.

Mental health issues can sound scary and often bring to mind outdated stereotypes. The reality of it is, and I can say this with confidence after over 10 years as a therapist with the NHS, that ordinary people – people we might know and care about – can be affected by negative life events at times. Recent surveys estimate that 1 in 4 of us will be affected by anxiety or depression in a year and 75% of us will experience them in our lifetime.

So let's flesh out our idea of what a mental health issue might look like in a quiet neighbourhood of Lindfield. Well, it can look very ordinary. It could be a friend whose husband died 3 years ago and she is still finding life without him a struggle. It may be a kind neighbour who shies away from any social invitation. Perhaps it is a cousin who seems really preoccupied with her health and who is always researching a condition she feels she may have. It could be a colleague at work who is going through a divorce and his confidence, as well as the quality of work, have taken a hit. It may be a friend who kind of disappeared from the radar. Or it may be somebody who insists that taking the stairs to the 5th floor really helps with his exercise regime (nothing to do with fear of lifts of course...).

Now, if we described these people using medical diagnoses it may be that we would use such terms as: complex grief, depression, social anxiety, phobia or health anxiety. This is when it gets scary – when we see the label before we see the person. However, we can all make a difference by remembering that mental health

"Recent surveys estimate that 1 in 4 of us will be affected by anxiety or depression in a year and 75% of us will experience them in our lifetime"

issues effect ordinary people. People we know and love. People we can make a real difference to. People who can recover really well.

You do not have to be an expert in mental health to make a difference to somebody's life and the Time to Talk adverts you might have seen on Channel 4 and ITV drive this message strongly. What it takes is a willingness to make contact and listen without judgement, willingness to offer companionship, sometimes practical help, sometimes a cup of tea (which in Britain we know remedies most ills!). If you feel someone you know is struggling, you can call or text them. You can send a postcard. You can drop by. You can suggest a walk. And you do not need to talk about problems all the time – in fact everyday conversations work really well to reconnect us to normality when we struggle.

Sometimes, especially when we care about people, we desperately want to help so come up with solutions. Tempting as it may be, try to resist. Offer hope, not solutions. Sometimes when we 'just' listen and empathise we are actually saying a great deal. What we say when we stay silent is: 'I am here for you. I accept you as you are right now. I am not in it just for the good times. I care. I have confidence things will get better. I know it is hard but hang on in there'.

Most of us, given enough time and support, recover well. You probably know this already because, chances are, you have been there yourself at some point in your life.

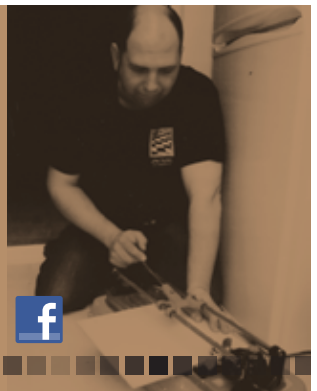
If you would like to know more about how you can support a loved one through a tough time, you can get more helpful expert advice on the national website [www.time-to-change.co.uk](http://www.time-to-change.co.uk).

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# The 80/20 rule

HOME FRONT

**By Jacqui Smith, interior designer**

The president of the Society of British Interior Design, Vanessa Brady, recently tweeted that interior design is 20% creativity and 80% admin. She is absolutely right, and there are some days when admin takes over entirely. I would add that within that 80% sit many other things interior designers find themselves doing; all far from glamorous but all entirely necessary to get the job done.

Recently Katy and I were out completing some final sourcing for three show homes we are fitting out in Littlehampton. David was meeting us later in the afternoon to collect us plus our sourcing haul, so we had been making our way round our usual shopping haunts, paying for our goods yet leaving them for collection later. To save our backs and speed our end of day collection, Katy suggested that we chat up the lady in M&S to see if we could borrow a trolley. Yes, I winced a little at this suggestion and, yes, we had some strange glances as we zoomed out of the store with only a small bag of groceries in our trolley but this was a good plan I convinced myself. As Katy and I stood in the queue in Debenhams, congratulating ourselves on the trolley loan and a successful day's procurement, we glanced at our watches and simultaneously realised the folly of our plan. It was 5.20pm on a Tuesday; the shops would be closing shortly and, more importantly, so would M&S. Aaagh! I left Katy to deal with the credit card and a hefty Debenhams' shop for her to somehow manage back to David and the car. Meanwhile, my day ended with me dashing through County Mall, supermarket sweep style, running into various shops flapping my collection notes, getting bemused looks from other shoppers and the odd tut from retailers spying the M&S trolley.

We were recently completing a care home in Kent. I had been on site to supervise the install and check in the

furniture. The bulk of the curtains and blinds had already been fitted but the client had requested an additional blind for the management office. I am all for rolling up my sleeves and getting my hands dirty, and do so regularly, but I had not expected my first experience of fitting a vertical blind to attract quite so much of an audience. The window in question was internal, sitting between the office and the main reception (pictured above). As I stood assessing the job I was faced with, new residents were arriving in the reception area with their relatives and on my side of the glass the management team were having an informal meeting. The fitting of a vertical blind (and I know this now) involves clipping the track to the brackets and then carefully hanging each of the louvers from the hooks on the track. Every now and then I am reminded that I can no longer see in 3D and this was one such occasion. With a stack of very long, very slippery and, en masse, heavy louvers slung over my left shoulder, stretching over an unhelpfully placed filing cabinet, focusing very hard on getting the louver to clip over the hook, missing a few times, I could feel both my audiences eyes on me, willing me on. It must have been one of the slowest blind fittings in history, and I felt the need to explain to the care staff why I was appearing to make such a meal of the fitting, but I did it and felt very proud of myself. As I left the office and walked back through reception I was met with a ripple of applause from my resident onlookers. So, high speed shopping or extreme vertical blind fitting, I'm your woman!

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# **HANDEL'S MESSIAH**



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### **NEXT CONCERT**

**5<sup>th</sup> Apr 2014: Amanda Buckland (soprano)  
and Jane Haughton (mezzo)**



These popular local artists will perform a selection of songs on the theme of *Travels through Europe*, including



works by Poulenc, Purcell, Brahms, Donizetti and de Falla.

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014: The English Piano Trio**

Formed in 1988, the highly-regarded English Piano Trio performs regularly in many prestigious London and European concert halls. Their programme will include Beethoven's well-known *Archduke* trio.



Both concert start at 7.45 pm in St Wilfrid's Church, Haywards Heath.

**Tickets £12, conc's £11, member's discount £3**  
**Family rate: 2 adults half price with under-18 (£3)**

For further information, telephone 01444-456227, or visit:  
**www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk**



# Using Winter produce

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## Red Cabbage With Pears

Serves 2

A world away from pickled red cabbage, here this much under-used winter vegetable is cooked to a melting consistency with the added punch of ginger and pear. Allow time for it to cook slowly, or make ahead and reheat. It can be frozen (or chilled) and reheated.

Trim a 375g red cabbage, cutting out the centre and any thick ribs. Very finely cut into shreds. Put 1 large thinly sliced onion and a dash of oil into a large pan, cover and cook over medium heat, stirring once or twice, until soft and beginning to brown. Stir in 2 crushed garlic cloves, 1tsp ground coriander and 2tbs clear honey. Add the cabbage and 75ml apple juice or stock. Cover and cook over low heat, stirring once or twice, for about 20 min or until cabbage is very soft. Quarter, peel and core 1 large ripe pear. Cut into chunks. Finely chop 1 knob of preserved ginger (from a jar). Add pear, ginger and 1tbs sherry or red wine vinegar to the pan and continue to cook, stirring gently, just until the pear is tender and the liquid evaporated. Season to taste.

## Roasted Onions

Serves 2

Preheat the oven 180°. Peel 2 large onions (about 225g each) and cut in half crossways. Place in a baking dish cut side down, add 1tbs cold water and cover with foil, Bake for 30 min. Combine 50ml clear honey, 2tsp oil and 1 tbs mild curry paste. Remove the foil from the baking dish and turn the onions cut side up. Spoon the honey mixture over the top and add a good seasoning of salt and pepper. Return to the oven for about another 30 min, basting with the pan juices once or twice. Cook until very tender, then serve piping hot.

## ROC ON SATURDAY for over 55s

This new venture will begin on Saturday 12th April in the lounge and hall of the United Reformed Church in the centre of the village. There is an open invitation to all of 55 years of age and over to meet together for tea, coffee and cake in a spirit of developing friendships and making connections. There would be table activities, interest groups or just opportunity to chat. Under the umbrella of Redeeming our Communities (ROC), from time to time there would be guest speakers from Police, Fire Brigade and Ambulance services, offering helpful advice, especially to those living alone. Doors will open at 3pm until 4.30pm and there will be no charge.

The meetings are planned for second and fourth Saturday afternoons of each month this year.

For more information contact Peter Diack on 01444 482428.



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By Caroline Young

The weather may be warming up slightly but we still have a long way to go before a plate of crisp salad sounds like a good idea. Take a fresh look at some of our home-grown winter vegetables and try them in a slightly different way. The slim, bright pink stems of English rhubarb should be appearing in the shops about now. Combined with cream, they make a delicious simple dessert.

## Cauliflower with Bacon and Herbs

Serves 4

Break 1 cauliflower into florets and cook in lightly salted water until just tender. Drain well and keep hot. Roughly chop 4 rashers streaky bacon and fry until crisp, then remove from the pan with a slotted spoon. Add 1tbs oil, a crushed garlic clove, 1tbs wholegrain mustard and 1tbs red or white wine vinegar to the bacon fat in the pan. Stirring constantly, bring just to the boil. Remove from the heat and stir in the bacon and 2tbs each of finely chopped parsley and mint leaves. Season, then add the cauliflower, gently stirring together. Serve immediately.

## Rhubarb Fool

Serves 4

Slice 450g young rhubarb into a pan with the juice of 1 lemon and 50-75g caster sugar (to taste). Cover and cook gently for about 10 min until tender. Cool, then purée in a processor. Whip 150ml double cream to soft peaks, fold in the fruit, spoon into glasses and chill before serving. Just add a crisp biscuit or two.



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## Confidence in wet conditions

### TEEING OFF

By James Verrall, Head Golf Professional

It was not the greatest start this year for golfers with such wet conditions. A lot of courses have been closed or have had many temporary greens and tees but now the weather is changing, you can all get back on the golf course. However you need to be aware of the wet and muddy lies that may face you.

When the ground is soft the club is more likely to dig in, which causes 'fat' shots (hitting lots of ground), or you can become so worried about hitting it 'fat' that you clip the ball and hit it thin. Here are some points which can help you conquer wet lies around the course.

The first thing you need to realise is that you need to hit the ball first. The club should hit the ground but only after you have hit the ball. Move the ball about an inch further back in your stance and make sure you keep your hands in front of the club to ensure this happens. This will also cause the ball to come out lower.

Try and be aggressive with this shot; make sure you do not slow down when impacting the ball. If you slow down and hit the ground first, then hitting the shot heavy is magnified. Make sure you do not hinge your wrists in the 'impact zone'. Solid wrists and an aggressive stroke will provide greater results.

You will need a shorter swing to make sure you are in control of the club. Because of this, and also the heavy ground, consider taking an extra club to get your distance.

Trying to clip the ball off the top of a wet lie can be tricky and will lead to inconsistent results. Don't be afraid to get yourself a little muddy.

There are times you can take relief. If your ball is in casual water, this is when the water is visible on the surface of the ground, you're then allowed a free drop at the nearest point of relief.

Playing golf in these conditions is challenging but also fun. Try it and, after getting experience hitting golf shots from soggy lies, you will become a better golfer when the course dries out.

As mentioned last month, we are giving FREE golf lessons during April to new and returning golfers here at Haywards Heath Golf Club. Be sure to take advantage and call 01444 414866 to book your lesson.



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## Balloon on test

Lindfield resident and hot air balloonist Mike Scholes was recently seen flying a balloon from the Common. He was testing a harness for a blind veterans balloon where the pilot is simply suspended without a basket. The good news is that the harness worked!



## Something a little faster...

One of the voluntary drivers for the Sussex ambulance, Mr Robert Norris, who many Lindfield residents will know, has just enjoyed a visit to Brands Hatch. He jokingly volunteered to transport patients at high speed on a 'need to know' basis only around Brands Hatch. The limitations being no slower than 100mph!! Unfortunately it became a little complicated with insurance, which was probably just as well.

The thrill was organised by his wife for Robert's birthday.

Robert can certainly recommend the day, consisting of a track briefing followed by 'getting to know the circuit' under tuition in a BMW or similar. This is then followed by a drive in the Italian Stallion, with a 0 to 62mph in just over 3 seconds. The car, a Ferrari 360 Modena, is a beast of a car and defiantly gets the pulse racing to say the least.

Robert said his hospital runs will never be the same...



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As one of the most picturesque villages in the country, you'd expect Lindfield to be a magnet for artists.

But surprisingly few have chosen to feature the beauty and character of the High Street buildings and businesses.

All that is about to change as local artist Richard Baker creates a series of Street Scene illustrations, capturing the essence of the village through the eyes of a local.

"My mother has lived in Lindfield almost all her life, and I moved back to Gravelly Lane a few years ago, so the village is very much home to me," said Richard. "Because I love the buildings and understand what they stand for, I have a personal knowledge which I can incorporate in my work."

Richard, who describes his work as the result of 'a wandering imagination and intricate penmanship', begins each picture in the traditional way, by sketching the building and taking photographs, but then looks to the internet for further inspiration. "I find google maps really useful as I'm passionate about detail," he said. "I like to play with perspective, so the results are not exactly how you might expect to see them. I like to capture the beauty and detail of each building but then add something!"

A perfect example is the picture Richard created to mark his mum's 60th birthday. "I took three of her favourite shops – the Toll House, post office and bakery and put them together on one sketch," said Richard.

If you look closely you can see Happy Birthday Mum written on a shop door.

Look closely at any of Richard's paintings and you'll spot something quirky in the detail, like a cat sitting in the window or the pig outside the butchers. "I'm a keen cyclist, so I like to incorporate a bike whenever I can!" said Richard, who is happy to discuss commissions and customising images to make them more personal.

Richard's talent was inherited from his father, who is also an artist. "He inspired and encouraged me when I was younger," said Richard who, after leaving school, went on to complete an art degree at AIB, Arts Institute, Bournemouth.

He returned to Sussex and, after a spell working for a graphic design agency, set up a business with three friends – Techicolour Moon. "We created artwork for hoardings at music festivals – including Gottwood and Beach Break Live."

Richard is currently working in London from a studio in Hackney but looks forward to returning home to Lindfield. "Working in London has made me appreciate Sussex," he said. "I miss the trees and the green open space."

Richard has also created a series of Street Scene images of Cuckfield, inspired by time spent working in the village.

For more information about his work, visit his website [www.mrbaker.co.uk](http://www.mrbaker.co.uk)

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# The Library of Unrequited Love by Sophie Divry

## BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

This is a very impressive book which has a poetic quality to it. A French female librarian goes to work to find that a man has been locked in the library all night. She decides to offload her problems, her joys and the way in which her colleagues have often treated her with disdain on the poor trapped man. She has also a love for a frequent user of the library, a young researcher called Martin, which is unrequited and she has never shared with the object of her affection. This short novel is all from the mouth of this one lady, so that by the end of the tale we have created a detailed picture of a highly complex individual, whom we are both fascinated and repelled by. It has a seemingly poetic structure which helps us to see a whole character; a person who, despite a life of being unfulfilled, remains interesting. There are layers of subtle writing which repay more than one read, I suspect.

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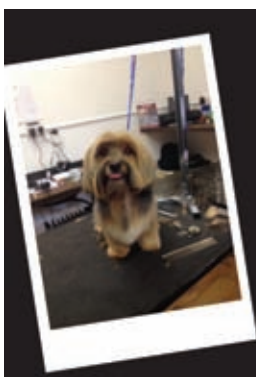
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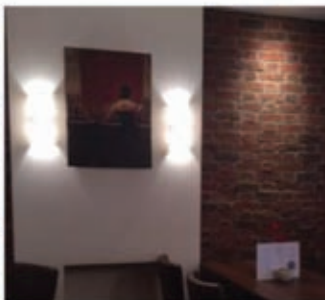
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Jenny first established her practice in Brisbane, Australia in 1988, after graduating from Sydney University.

Subsequently Jenny taught chiropractic at Macquarie University for five years.

She has worked with Australian Olympic Athletes and members of the Australian Rugby Team.

Jenny has done postgraduate studies in paediatrics and acupuncture and is passionate about chiropractic and the help it can give to people of all ages.

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## Changes to the Concessionary Travelscheme

We have been advised by Mid Sussex District Council of a new arrangement with the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) which means that the process of issuing annual Senior Railcards will change from 1st April 2014. From this date a unique promotional number will be provided instead of the familiar voucher, which will enable residents to renew their cards by telephone or online. Please note: the Parish Council will no longer be able to take your payment - this will have to be made direct to ATOC online or by telephone.

N.B. The information below was correct as far as we were aware at the time it was written but, as this is a new procedure, further changes are possible once it has been tried and tested.

ATOC are offering an increased level of discount which means that from 1st April 2014 until the next price increase, all Mid Sussex District Council residents will now only pay £24 – a saving of £6 on the full price of a rail card. A Senior Railcard gives you a 1/3 off most Standard and First Class off peak rail fares throughout Great Britain for a year.

**New Applications for Annual Senior Railcards**  
(Eligibility – you must be aged 60 or over and be permanently resident in Mid Sussex)

- Visit the Parish Office (Clock Tower House, Lindfield Enterprise Park, Lewes Road), or Mid Sussex District Council's office (Oaklands, Oaklands Road Haywards Heath), with proof of age (passport or driving licence) and proof of residency (Council Tax or utility bill showing your name and current address, or driving licence). National Insurance numbers will no longer be required for railcards.

- Completion of application forms will no longer be required.
- You will be given a unique promotional number and the details for redeeming this number so that you can obtain your card.
- Then either go online to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> or telephone 08448 714036 to complete the transaction. You will be asked for your unique promotional number.
- Payment by card direct to ATOC will be required over the phone or online.
- Your railcard will then be sent by post to your home address.

### Renewal of Annual Senior Railcards - first year of the new scheme

- Visit or telephone the Parish Office or visit Mid Sussex District Council's office.
- You will be given a new unique promotional number
- Then either go online to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> or telephone 08448 714036 to complete the transaction. You will be asked for your unique promotional number.
- Payment by card direct to ATOC will be required over the phone or online.
- Your railcard will then be sent by post to your home address.

### Renewal of Annual Senior Railcards – subsequent years of the new scheme

If you have provided an email address, you will receive notification from ATOC reminding you that your rail card is due for renewal and providing the new unique promotional number to be used. So you will be able to complete the transaction by phone or online with no need to visit the Parish Office.

If you have not provided an email address, you will need to visit or phone the Parish Office or MSDC to obtain your new unique promotional number and then go online to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> or telephone 08448 714036 as above.

Members of Lindfield Parish Council:

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

**Cllr. William Blunden**  
(Chairman)

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

**Cllr. Mike Allen**

**Cllr. Michael Amor**

**Cllr. Jane Chatfield**

**Cllr. Alan Gomme**



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

Parish Clerk:  
Mrs. Christine Irwin

Deputy Parish Clerk:  
Iain McLean

Responsible Financial  
Officer: Mrs. Sue Kolien

**Bus passes**

(Eligibility: you must be permanently resident in West Sussex and the age qualification is on a sliding scale, tied to changes in the State Pension Age for women.)

A bus pass entitles you to free travel on local bus services in England between 9.30am and 11pm weekdays and any time at weekends and on Transport for London buses.

From 1st April 2013, West Sussex County Council became responsible for bus passes issued under the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme. Application forms for bus passes can be downloaded from <http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/buses> or paper copies can be obtained from the Parish Office. Send the completed form, together with a recent passport photograph and copies of your proof of age and residency to the address on the back of the form. Your pass will be posted to your home address. You will be contacted when the card is due for renewal in 5 years.

West Sussex Bus Pass Information Line: 0845 075 1018 (local rate)

**New free Annual Senior Railcards**  
(Eligibility: as for bus passes, above)

If you do not wish to have the free bus pass, you can choose to have the senior railcard free of charge instead. Because this is tied to the bus pass scheme, applications are to be made on the same form as for the bus pass – see above.

**Renewal of free Annual Senior Railcards**  
Telephone the West Sussex Bus Pass Information Line, or 0845 075 1018) to obtain a unique promotion code which will be sent to you in the post. Then either go to <http://www.senior-railcard.co.uk> and follow the procedure or contact the Railcard Help Desk on 08448 714036.

# Village Spring Clean – Saturday 26 April 2014

Why not come and join us for our annual Spring Clean around the Village in the morning of Saturday 26 April? The Parish Council has organised a Spring Clean every year since 1999, when it started as an initiative of the Tidy Britain Group, and helpers find it to be a rewarding and worthwhile few hours. Volunteers meet in the King Edward Hall and are given tasks such as collecting litter from the areas in the village not covered by the normal street cleaning agencies. Street furniture, such as the posts around the Pond and the Common, always benefits from a wash down after the winter and cutting back vegetation in the footpaths is another job that can be tackled. The Spring Clean will take place between 9.30am and 1pm and there will be a free ploughman's style lunch for all participants. Any children taking part must be supervised by parents or adult group leaders if they belong to youth organisations. Suggestions for areas in the village that might benefit from a little "TLC" are always appreciated, particularly if you could let us know in advance to help with the planning. If there is a task you particularly want to tackle, please let us know beforehand and we'll save that job for you. Litter pickers and bags, buckets, detergent and cloths will be provided but you are asked to bring your own gloves - and wheelbarrows can be very useful for bringing back sacks full of litter.

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

- Cllr. Stephen Henton
- Cllr. Margaret Hersey
- Cllr. Simon Hodgson
- Cllr. Roger Pickett
- Cllr. Ron Plass
- Cllr. Christopher Snowling

## Parish Meeting – Thursday 10 April 2014

The Parish Meeting (which, it must be stressed, is NOT a meeting of the Parish Council) is a forum for local government electors to discuss parish affairs and to pass resolutions on them, although such resolutions are not binding on the Parish Council. As this Parish has a Parish Council, it is the Council's Chairman who must convene and, if present, chair the meeting. This year's Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 10th April at 8pm in the King Edward Hall. The Agenda will be on the Parish Council's notice board in Denmans Lane nearer the time, as well as on our website ([www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.lindfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)).

## Neighbourhood Plan Progress Report

At the time of writing this newsletter, representatives of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group were due to attend a Neighbourhood Plan workshop at Mid Sussex District Council on 11th March aimed at clarifying the Neighbourhood Plan process as it currently stands, following the withdrawal of the Mid Sussex District Plan, after its rejection by the Independent Examiner, and in the light of the rejection of the Slaugham Neighbourhood Plan and other Neighbourhood Plan issues elsewhere. The Steering Group will be considering how to proceed with the Lindfield and Lindfield Rural Neighbourhood Plan, taking into account the advice received.

Cllr Alan Gomme,  
Chairman of Lindfield & Lindfield Rural Parishes  
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

## Grass verges

The grass verges in the village have never looked as awful as they have in recent months. With the ground being so soft after all the rain, it has been even more affected than usual by vehicles being parked on the verges or when careless drivers have run over them. This has happened in a lot of roads and in some areas the verges look as though they have been ploughed up. Not a great deal can be done about unidentifiable passing vehicles leaving tyre tracks but we can all at least set a good example by taking care with our own parking, leaving space in narrow roads for others to pass and asking our visitors and traders not to park on the grass. If parking on the verge is unavoidable because of building work at your property, please ensure that your contractors make good any damage on completion.

## West Sussex Mobile Library Service

West Sussex's mobile library service offers a library on your doorstep for those areas of the county without a local library.

We offer a wide range of adult books as well as a request service, so if we don't have the book you're looking for you can order it and collect it on your next visit. Both mobile vehicles also carry a range of children's stock.

The vehicle is fully accessible, and stocks large print and audiobooks for borrowers who require material in those formats.

Joining couldn't be easier - it takes five minutes and all we need to see is something with your name and address on it.

In Lindfield the mobile stops at the Common and Compton Road. To find out when the mobile library visits, check out our website at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries) or give Horsham Library a ring on 01403 224 350. The dates are also on the Parish Council noticeboard in Denmans Lane.

We look forward to welcoming you on a West Sussex Mobile Library soon!



# Proposed development at land north of Birchen Lane

Although the application for a housing development on land north of Birchen Lane has a Haywards Heath reference, the northern part of this site is within Lindfield Parish. The Parish Council's Planning and Traffic Committee agreed to defer consideration of the planning application in view of the fact that it was to be invalidated pending the outcome of further Ecology reports required because of the possible presence of Great Crested Newts on the site. The Parish Council will give this application full consideration when it is revalidated later in the year.

## Mobile Civic Amenity Collections

The refuse freighters will be in the Tollgate car park on Sunday 18th May 2014 between the hours of 10am and 12noon for the collection of household and garden waste. Please note that due to current legislation they cannot accept items such as televisions, computer monitors and fluorescent tubes. These can still be taken to a civic amenity centre. Please do not leave rubbish in the absence of the refuse freighter.

## Police Community Support Officer

PCSO Nicola Green can be contacted direct on her mobile number 07789 168791 or by email at Nicola.Green.01@sussex.pnn.police.uk. However this is not monitored on her days off, so members of the public reporting a crime should contact 101 in a non emergency incident or 999 if appropriate.

## Parish Council meetings

### April – June 2014

Thursday	3rd April	Environment and Amenities Committee	8pm
Monday	7th April	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8pm
Thursday	10th April	Parish Meeting (Not a Council meeting)	8pm
Tuesday	29th April	Planning and Traffic Committee (full)	8pm
Thursday	15th May	Annual Meeting of Council	7.30pm
Tuesday	20th May	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8pm
Thursday	22nd May	Finance and General Purposes Committee	8pm
Thursday	5th June	Environment and Amenities Committee	8pm
Tuesday	10th June	Planning and Traffic Committee (plans only)	8pm

All meetings are held in the King Edward Hall, unless shown otherwise. Please check the noticeboard in Denmans Lane for any additional meetings that may be called. All meetings are open to the public and there is a period set aside at the beginning of each meeting for public questions/comments, except at "plans only" Planning and Traffic Committee meetings. At meetings of the Planning and Traffic Committee, up to two people for and two against each planning application are allowed.

# What's on in April

## AT KING EDWARD HALL

## AND ELSEWHERE

- 3rd **Country Market** 10–11.15am  
(Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 3rd **Film Show "Saving Mr Banks"** (PG) Doors open 7.30pm Tickets available from Tufnells (Jennie Powell 01444 483431)
- 5th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – Annual Spring Show (Mrs Alison Elliott 01444 483039)
- 7th **Autumn Club Social Afternoon**  
(Sally Dew 01444 414456)
- 8th **The Inner Wheel Club of Cuckfield & Lindfield**  
–Charity Fashion Show by Elegance in aid of West Sussex Young Carers  
(Mrs Sue Sumpter 01444 451014)
- 9th **Lindfield Horticultural Society**  
An evening with Guest Speaker  
(Mrs Alison Elliott 01444 483039)
- 10th **Country Market** 10–11.15am
- 12th **Lindfield Bonfire Society Vintage Coffee Morning** – also books for sale and Tombola. All proceeds towards this year's bonfire celebrations on 5th November. New members welcome, see our website for details. (Sarah Tampion-Lacey 01444 487470, email lindfieldbonfiresoc@gmail.com, www.lindfieldbonfiresociety.co.uk)
- 16th **Lindfield Preservation Society** – Social Evening. All welcome, entry free. (Meeting & membership enquiries John Chapman 01444 484470)
- 16th **Mid-Sussex Death & Living Now Café**  
(Joanna Warrington 07769 674347)
- 17th **Country Market** 10–11.15am
- 19th **Finders Keepers Mobile Dress Agency**  
Preloved Clothing Sale  
(Sian 01444 412764 or Sue 01444 451420)
- 24th **Country Market** 10–11.15am
- 26th **Lindfield Parish Council** – Annual Village Spring Clean (Christine Irwin 01444 484115)
- 26th **NSPCC St George's Day Dinner and Dance**  
(Caroline Lillywhite 01444 447090)
- 27th **Sale of Teak Garden Furniture**  
(David Orchard 0800 0776 374)

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

If you would like to hire the King Edward Hall please contact the Honorary Bookings Secretary for further information on telephone number 01444 483266 or by e-mail on bookings@kingedwardhall.org.uk

- 1st **Music Quiz**  
The Stand Up Inn 8pm  
Hosted by Lindfield Bonfire Society to raise funds for Fireworks on 5th November in the village (lindfieldbonfiresoc@gmail.com Sarah 01444 487470)
- 4th **Dickens Night**  
at The Toll House
- 7th **Cake Decorating Workshop**  
The Toll House Store & Café  
with Dainty Bakes
- 9th **Mid-Sussex Franco-British Society**  
The Function Suite, Clair Hall, Perrymount Road Haywards Heath, RH16 3DN 8–10 pm  
A richly illustrated talk in French entitled Proust et l'œil de Ruskin en Bourgogne by Dr. Cynthia Gamble. All members and visitors are most welcome. (Barbara Stevens 01444 452385)
- 12th **Mid Sussex Association National Trust Coffee Morning**  
Community Room, Haywards Heath Methodist Church, Perrymount Road 10–11 30am  
Raising funds to donate to our local NT properties. Cakes, preserves, books, DVDs, jigsaws on sale. Light refreshments available.
- 12th **ROC on Saturday**  
Lindfield URC Lounge 3 – 4.30pm  
Fortnightly event for over 55s: tea, coffee and cakes and various activities. All welcome. No charge. (01444 482428 for details)
- 12th **Sussex Chorus: Handel's Messiah**  
St. Bartholomew's Church, Brighton.  
Tickets: £15, concessions £12, children & students £5. (The Dome Box Office 01273 709709 www.sussexchorus.org)
- 19th **Cuckfield Vintage Emporium**  
Queen's Hall, Cuckfield 11am–4pm  
A beautiful village hall full of vintage treasures, decorative homeware, rustic gardenalia, pre-loved cashmeres & silks, handmade jewellery and country antiques. Free tea/coffee with our delicious homemade cakes. Try our pies too! Entrance £1. Free prize draw. Supporting CHICKS, the charity for UK disadvantaged kids. (Darcy Shepherd 07773 360631)
- 26th **ROC on Saturday**  
Lindfield URC Lounge 3–4.30pm  
(01444 482428 for details)



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