

Lindfield Life

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Local village talk,
by the village

May 2015 Issue #74

Free



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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Since Easter we have certainly seen a rise in temperatures and a glimpse of the summer months to come.

For me, and many others I'm sure, this month heralds the arrival of the summer season as we enjoy two annual village festivities. **Lindfield Village Run** starts and finishes on Hickmans Lane Playing Fields and this year is on Bank Holiday Monday **25th May**. **Lindfield Village Day** takes over the Common (**Sat 30th May**) with over 100 stalls and entertainment in the arena. This year it promises to be even more fun with 'school sports day' games for all to join in. See more on both events on **page 32**.

On **page 16** we celebrate with a little-known group which has been part of the village for over 100 years. **Lindfield Miniature Rifle Club** is a purpose-built sports venue right in the centre of the village. Read about the club's special event and a little of how it all got started in 1914.

Our **Village People** feature this month goes behind the counter at Lindfield's **post office**. **Alan and Wendy Stamford** are set to retire, so Claire Cooper chatted to them about their time running a village institution like the post office. Read their story on **page 20**.

It seems that with the warmer weather comes more **sporting success** and I am pleased to be able to bring you achievements from both **Oathall Community College** (page 8) and **Lindfield Primary School** (page 9). Also, **Blackthorns Primary School** has recently won an award celebrating their high attainment in Key Stage 2 tests - see **page 12**. Plus, still with Blackthorns, I was delighted to be shown round a history exhibition the children had created last month. Josie, Isla and Lizzie gave me the low down on what they had been studying, which was a fascinating insight into village history, even for a lifelong resident like myself! Thanks girls. Read about '**The Great Exhibition**' on **page 24**.

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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

Commemorate VE Day

A special family-friendly VE Day event takes place in Lindfield on 9th May. It is being organised by the Sussex Fundraising team of the Royal British Legion to commemorate 70 years since VE Day.

The event kicks off at 11.30am with a parade through the village. The parade will be led by a marching band with Standard Bearers from the Royal British Legion, Cadets and local school children dressed as WW2 evacuees. The parade will halt and a recording of Winston Churchill's famous speech to announce the German surrender and the end of the war will sound.

The event will include stalls from local businesses and a live band to keep the feel of 1945 alive. Food will be available, based on the era's ration restrictions, and street collections will be going on throughout the day to help raise vital funds for the Poppy Appeal. All proceeds from the Commemoration of VE day will go towards the Poppy Appeal.

Plastics recycling

Now instead of ending their existence in a landfill, West Sussex's plastic pots, tubs and trays will get a new lease of life as, amongst other things, garden furniture, duvets, carpets or even a fleece jacket.

Residents can now place plastic containers such as yoghurt pots, ice cream tubs, fruit and vegetable punnets and ready meal trays into their household recycling collection alongside plastic drink, detergent and bathroom bottles. The only requirement is that they are clean, dry and loose.

David Barling, West Sussex County Council's Cabinet Member for Residents' Services, said: "Plastic pots, tubs and trays take an extremely long time to break down, often sitting in landfill for years without showing the smallest signs of decay. It also costs the County Council more money to send waste to landfill than it does to recycle it, so there are real environmental and economic benefits to the changes we are making to household recycling collections."

To find out more about recycling in West Sussex, including what can be placed in household recycling bins, please visit www.recycleforwestsussex.org/plastics.

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Competition Winner

Talented Lilia Cole was the worthy winner of the Harmony at Home Easter Art Competition.

Lilia, aged 7 and a pupil at Blackthorns School, impressed the judges with her detailed painting of Easter bunnies.

Shop owner Claire Fisher said: "All the entries were fantastic and we were delighted that so many children got creative and entered the competition. We were very proud to display them in our shop window.

"Judging was really difficult but in the end we were all in agreement that Lilia should be the winner. She'd worked so hard doing the whole painting in water colours and added lots of small details.

"We were very pleased to announce her as our winner but would like to say a huge thank you to all the children who entered."

Chuckles and Chips

Lindfield Dramatic Club will be serving another helping of Chuckles and Chips in the King Edward Hall this month, with a double bill of comedy separated, as usual, by a fish and chip supper.

In what will be a 'first' for the club, will be an original play called Sound Man, written and directed by Tim Bishop and set in a radio studio, where a niche radio station is presenting a variety show.

Although set in the present day, it includes all the acts that were a staple diet in the popular radio shows of yesteryear – and more besides. What ensues, often more by accident than design, is not to be missed.

In the first half of the evening Rex Cooper directs an excerpt from the wonderful radio comedy series 'Ladies of Letters', by Carole Hayman and Lou Wakefield, in which two ladies share a sometimes rocky relationship, conducted by correspondence.

Chuckles and Chips is on Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd May, starting at 8pm.

Places are limited to 60 each evening and tickets, costing £12, will be on sale from the beginning of May at Tufnells Home at 59 High Street, Lindfield.



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Author visits Oathall

Students were given a fascinating insight into the life of top teen author Alex Scarrow when he visited Oathall Community College last month.

The visit was part of a series of events organised by the English faculty to celebrate World Book Day and to encourage students to become readers and writers.

Following a presentation to the whole Year 7 group, Alex Scarrow went on to spend the rest of the day working with students in a series of workshops.

Alex told students he became a writer after his dreams of being a rock star and a game designer were unsuccessful. With the success of his new book series, *Time Riders*, he is now in talks about making his books into a blockbuster movie.

Speaking about the visit, student William Fry said: "This has inspired me to continue with my writing." Sam Anstee added: "This book is so good I haven't been able to put it down."

In the same month, Year 9 students from the creative writing club spent the day at the Guardian newspaper offices working with journalists and editors to create mock newspaper front pages. The experience was made as real as possible with students taking on the roles of reporters and editors, working to tight deadlines and given first-hand access to the latest news that day from Guardian journalists. At the end of the day each student was given a copy of their mock newspaper.

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New monthly activity group to support parents and carers with young children

The Koorana Centre in Ardingly is offering a new monthly drop-in session for parents and carers with young children. The sessions are free to attend and donations are welcome towards a local children's charity, Kangaroos.

The aim of the group is to provide a regular opportunity for parents and carers to make friends with like-minded people, while the children enjoy playtime and craft activities. Children with special needs are very welcome.

Organisers Anna Ashley and Gabrielle Anya Raffello, who both work from the wellbeing centre, believe this regular session will enable parents to feel more supported and help them overcome some of the feelings of isolation they may experience.

Anna runs Baby Calm and Toddler Calm parenting sessions. She will be on hand to provide support to anyone who may be interested in finding new ways to cope with the demands placed upon them as parents and carers. The 'gentle parenting approach' can help with all sorts of challenging situations, especially issues around sleep and how to manage some of the more difficult changes in behavior as children become toddlers and then move on to school.

Gabrielle Anya Raffello supports a variety of people with relaxation classes, and can provide tips on how to stay balanced and let go of tension and stress. As the founder and director of the Koorana Centre, she helps people to connect with teachers and therapists who lead activities in its wellbeing programme. As a practitioner, she specialises in supporting highly sensitive children and young people, and connects with a number of families who care for young children with specific learning needs.

They will be joined by Stacey Renphrey, who teaches the Relax Kids programme in Mid Sussex. Relax Kids is a unique 7 step programme which takes children from a high 'fizzy' energy to calm and relaxed in a fun and creative way.

The new monthly session takes place on the third Wednesday of each month from 1-2.30pm. There is no need to book in advance. Tea and biscuits are provided for adults, please bring drinks for the children.

For further information you are welcome to telephone the centre on 01444 810295, email info@thekooranacentre.com or visit its website www.thekooranacentre.com.



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Oathall cricketing girls are winners again!

Oathall's under13 girls' cricket team have done it again and beaten off strong competition to become the Lady Taversers U13 County indoor cricket winners!

This victory continues Oathall's strong winning streak and follows the success of the U15 team which became national champions in last year's competition.

Miss Laura Gyngell, PE teacher and coach, said: "I was nervous about our chances of success in this round of the competition as we were up against some really strong teams from Bedes, Warden Park and Sir Robert Woodward Academy.

"I was really pleased with how strongly we played, with some exciting and enthralling performances from team members.

"We now go on to represent Sussex in the regional finals where we compete against schools from London and the Home Counties."

Members of Oathall's winning U13 team were: Issy Peacock (captain), Ellie Taylor (vice-captain), Millie Herbert, Kia Layne, Amber Tranter, Imogen Wilkins, Ellie Hohol and Milly Bulitokaivale-Lancaster.

Photograph: Oathall's winning U13 Girls Cricket Team at Sussex County Cricket ground in Hove.




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Back to back titles for Lindfield Girls!

By James Smyth

Lindfield Primary School's Years 5/6 Girls' football team celebrated success yet again last month with a second successive Haywards Heath title.

Captain Jazzy White was able to once again lift the trophy after the girls defeated Holy Trinity 1-0 in the final.

It was just reward for a fantastic season, where the girls have lost just once (in the Mid-Sussex semi finals).

The tournament, held at Lindfield Primary School, included 10 primary schools from Haywards Heath, Cuckfield, Lindfield and Ardingly. Lindfield dominated their group, scoring 16 times while defeating St. Wilfrid's, Holy Trinity, Blackthorns and Northlands Wood.

This set up a semi-final against Harlands, where Alyssia Read scored a last minute winner to put the girls through to the final. Special mention must go to Hazel Cotton who, along with scoring the winner in the final, managed a further 10 goals in the tournament and goalkeeper Louisa Clare who, in 20 matches this season, has conceded just one goal.

All the team should be proud of their efforts – well done Lindfield!

Photograph: Front Row: Etienne Cleave, Hazel Cotton, Jazzy White (Captain), Georgia White. Back Row: Mr. Smyth (PE Coordinator), Emily Devine, Alyssia Read, Louisa Clare, Emma Bravo.



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Blackthorns Award

Blackthorns Community Primary School has received an award for being in the top 10% of schools nationally.

The SSAT Educational Outcomes award follows in-depth analysis of official Department for Education data on all state-funded schools in England by SSAT, the largest and most active national network of schools.

This analysis identified Blackthorns Community Primary School (which recently became Blackthorns Community Primary Academy) as being in the top 10% of schools nationally for high attainment in the end of primary (KS2) results.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT, said: "Blackthorns Community Primary School should be congratulated for its exceptional achievement. These results are testament to the commitment and hard work of the children, teachers and leadership team, and show what can be achieved when skilled teachers have high expectations and ambition for every young person."

Marianne Brand, Principal of Blackthorns Community Primary Academy, said: "We are delighted that the hard work of the staff and children has received such wonderful recognition. The fact that our attainment is within the top 10% of schools nationally is testament to the excellent teaching and dedication of our whole staff team, from when the children arrive in Early Years until they leave at the end of Key Stage 2. We are fortunate also to have incredibly hardworking children and a very supportive whole school community."



Lindfield Primary school appoints head teacher

Lindfield Primary School's Governing Body has announced that Marcus Still has been appointed as head teacher of the school. He was officially took over with the new title last month.

Marcus Still has been the acting head teacher at the school since September last year. Mike Brand, co-chair of the Governors, commented: "We have been very impressed with his leadership and he has outperformed in a number of key areas. The Governing Body were therefore unanimous in their decision to offer Marcus Still the post of substantive head teacher of Lindfield Primary School."

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Business gets £25k grant

Sussex Uniforms, owned by Lindfield resident Georgina Bradley, has just opened its new production line after being awarded a £25,000 grant by West Sussex County Council.

Industrial embroidery machines are an expensive investment and one which the business was not in a position to make until they heard of the 'Be the Business' grant from WSCC. Georgina Bradley commented: "This is a fantastic addition to our production department which will enable us to recruit more staff and accommodate the increasing demand for our service."

Louise Goldsmith, Leader of West Sussex County Council and holder of the Economy portfolio, said: "I'm thrilled to hear that this money is making a real difference to a local company."

For job opportunities at Sussex Uniforms see their website via <http://bit.ly/1IGh85T>



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New minister's induction service

By Fiona Tingley

On the afternoon of 28th March a near capacity congregation packed into Lindfield United Reformed Church (LURC) to celebrate and formally welcome new minister, Rev Keith Morrison.

It was great to welcome a number of folk who had travelled down from Keith's previous churches in Northampton, and to have the support of friends from All Saints and the Evangelical Free Church, representatives from other Churches in the area and members of the Parish Council.

One of our new minister's real passions is to engage with the community, and Will Blunden (pictured with Keith) was one of those who greeted him during the service. The service included modern worship songs, traditional hymns, prayers, an address which was both a challenge and an encouragement, and the actual Induction of Keith to the pastorate here in Lindfield.

There was lots of handshaking and a present and flowers for Keith and his wife Emmeline. The ladies of LURC kept up their reputation for good food, putting on an amazing afternoon tea for everyone to enjoy. So, all in all, a very memorable and happy time. Now the church family look forward to all that's in store for them as they move forward into a new chapter of the church's life, together with the other churches in our village.



Photo by Henderson McEwan

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Rifle Club celebrates centenary

Last month Graham Davison, the President of the Lindfield Miniature Rifle Club (LMRC), gave an inspiring speech to the gathering before making the toast to commemorate the centenary. He made the point that the club owed a debt to Mr Sturdy and Miss Savill for their generous donation, made 100 years ago, of the land and money to build the range.

The Club Secretary, Richard 'Dickie' Bird, the person responsible for the safety and regulatory compliance of the club, noted how different things are today. "The range, initiated to teach young men to shoot straight for their participation in an awful war, is now used for the enjoyment of a technical and disciplined sport."

The club also has a tradition of supporting the Scouts in their pursuit of firearm skills. Encouraging the youngsters of the district assists in the aims of the club, which is to bring new talent to the sport.

A feature not overlooked by Alex Henderson, who observed that LMRC is amongst only a few that encourages adolescents in this way. Alex, who joined the club when moving into the area, found the club inviting and the members friendly. He went on to represent British Schoolboys and now represents the Sussex County Team in .22 as well as shooting in the LMRC Teams.

Another member who holds high aspirations is Oliver. He joined the club along with his father James. He had used an air rifle under the supervision of his father prior to joining the club but wanted to stretch his skills. As a member of the Air Training Corps (Haywards Heath) he is currently training for the 'Cadet 100'. If he makes the grade he will be eligible to be selected for the GB Junior Squad. We wish him every success in all his competitions.

Dan, aged 20, and Ed, aged 16, both joined the club following meeting members at the LMRC 'Shooting Gallery' on Village Day. Both wanted to experience shooting in a proper environment. Ed has successfully competed in County competitions, which have provided him with the experience to shoot at different ranges.

Another Village Day introduction to the club is Louise Toomey, a local vet. She was new to the area and was looking for a club to join. LMRC fitted the bill, being very

friendly and welcoming. She enjoys the 'calmness but competitive edge' of the sport.

Nick Holden, an ex-Naval Officer, enjoys the sport for the precise discipline that it brings. He feels the club is the right size and provides a good balance of age, backgrounds and abilities. He remarks: "It is a sport for all; not discriminating between young, old mature, disabled, religion or gender."

'Deceptively simple but difficult to master', 'technical and disciplined', 'calm but competitive', if you want a challenging sport try Target Rifle Shooting. Please ring Richard Bird for more details 07811 546672.



How the LMRC first started

By Lindfield History Project Group

Arising from the invasion threat in the Great War, the proposal that Lindfield should have a miniature rifle range was first made in autumn 1914 but did not proceed due to the absence of a suitable site. Suggested sites for the range included the school yard and on the common.

After a Council Meeting in January 1915 support from residents gathered momentum and the search for a suitable site was renewed. Mr W Sturdy agreed to provide a site in Tentermead adjoining Alma Lane and Miss Maud Savill offered to fund the building of a 25 yard four-target indoor range. Mr Parker Anscombe was ordered to put the work in hand.

This was announced at a well attended meeting on 13th February 1915 and it was agreed that a miniature rifle club affiliated to the Association of Miniature Rifle Clubs should be formed. Miss Savill was elected President along with six Vice Presidents and a large committee. All were prominent residents. Mr Rotherham and Mr Jesse Newnham volunteered to give shooting instruction and Miss Savill agreed to fund the purchase of four rifles.

The rifle range opening ceremony, performed by Colonel Dudley Sampson, took place at 3pm on Wednesday 31st March 1915. A Guard of Honour was provided by Lindfield Boy Scouts and the drum and fife band of the 2/2nd London Field Ambulance, RAMC played. It is reported that Colonel Sampson achieved a bull's eye with his first shot!

The Club's annual subscription was 2s 6d and 1s for boys under 16 years. The range was open each weekday evening and Wednesday afternoons. The Lindfield Boy Scouts and the Volunteer Training Corps were allocated use of the range on Wednesday and Thursday evenings respectively.

At the Club's first AGM in March 1916, subscriptions totalling £9 7s 0d and a £25 expenses deficit was reported. Membership numbers are not known but the Presidents, Vice Presidents and Committee totalled 25; largely the same individuals as the Lindfield Volunteer Training Corps. Indicating the 'great and the good' recognised the need for rifle practice in support of home defence. At the meeting it was decided ladies should be allowed to join the Club and were allotted Wednesday afternoons for their shooting.

Between March 1915 and March 1916, some 50,000 rounds were fired at the range. Members had to buy the ammunition at cost from the Club. The range continued to be widely used throughout the remainder of the Great War.

With the coming of the peace the Club closed as it was felt the last thing men would want to do was handle a rifle again. Following a short break, the Club was re-established and continues to this day. A modern indoor range on the same site has recently replaced the original corrugated iron clad range building when it was rebuilt by Club members in 2010.



Antiques Roadshow presenter confirmed

Haywards Heath Ceramics Group will have a very special guest speaker at their meeting this month.

On Thursday 14th May Paul Atterbury, the well-known member of the BBC Antiques Road Show, will be speaking about Poole Pottery.

Coffee is served from 9.45am at Clair Hall, Haywards Heath.

Guests are very welcome, for further details please call 01444 483372 or go to www.HHCG.org.uk/wordpress



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Badger-watching



Nature lovers have the chance to get up close and personal to one of our most wonderful creatures this summer.

Badger watching sessions are on offer at Wakehurst Place all summer long.

Bookings are now being taken for Tuesday evenings until September to see the badgers in the Loder Valley Nature Reserve.

The evenings are led by an expert guide with viewing from a specially built hide, sunken to ground level, enabling views of these fascinating animals at close quarters as they emerge from their sett at dusk.

"Badgers vary their activity depending on the season, weather and time of darkness," explains Wakehurst's conservation manager Iain Parkinson. "As a rule they first appear at the hide well before nightfall."

The sessions start at 7pm and last until the badgers have departed, up to 10pm. The average departure time is 9.30pm. The hide is approximately half a mile from the meeting point and stout walking shoes or walking boots are required.

Full details from the Wakehurst website kew.org/Wakehurst or by calling 01444 894067.



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Alan and Wendy Stamford

VILLAGE PEOPLE



When Alan and Wendy Stamford close the door of the village Post Office next month they will be marking the end of an era for the village.

The little Post Office on the corner of the High Street and Lewes Road has served generations of villagers, often patiently queueing outside the door to buy their stamps and post their parcels.

For the last 17 years Alan and Wendy have been the friendly faces behind the post office counter, along with staff Glenda (four years) and Janet (two years), so it seems appropriate that they are all retiring together next month.

As they prepare to leave the village, Alan and Wendy spoke about how they came to buy the Post Office and become an integral part of village life, how, faced with adversity, they were touched by the kindness and support of customers, and how they are looking forward to their first proper holiday in 17 years!

By Claire Cooper

Alan and Wendy first met as teenagers when they worked at WH Smith's in Churchill Square in Brighton. "I was only 15½, and it was my first job," said Wendy.

Romance blossomed and the pair were eventually married, moving to Grimsby working at WH Smith before returning to Sussex and running Dillons newsagents in Worthing for 25 years.

With many years' experience running newsagents' shops, it was only a matter of time before Alan and Wendy decided they would like a business of their own.

"We had always thought about running our own business but didn't want to take the risk while our two children were young," said Wendy. "Alan had always wanted to own a card shop as he loves choosing and ordering greetings cards!"

Tired of the long hours involved in running a newsagents, the pair started looking around for a business that didn't involve getting up at the crack of dawn to organise the morning paper rounds.

"So we were delighted when details of the Lindfield

Post Office arrived in the post!" said Wendy.

However, at first it seemed an impossible dream as the sale included both the shop and house next door and was way beyond the couple's budget. "I spoke to the estate agent who sang its praises and suggested we still came and looked as there might be an opportunity to buy just the Post Office. Even without the house it was still slightly over our budget but we loved it straight away."

So the couple jumped in at the deep end and bought the Post Office. "We had to stretch ourselves just to buy this bit and we wondered if we were pushing ourselves too far," Alan recalled. "But it proved to be absolutely the right decision."

Alan and Wendy took over the business in November 1998. "Alan had two weeks training, followed by someone working with us for two weeks and then we were on our own," said Wendy.

"We were straight into the Christmas rush but it was good fun and such a relief not to have to start work at

5am every morning!" She added that they also enjoyed their first Sundays off for 25 years!

"When we took over there were no computers, so every transaction had to be processed by hand," said Alan.

The couple quickly settled into the village life, thanks to the warm welcome from customers.

"My son-in-law suggested it might take years for people in the village to accept us but in reality he couldn't have been more wrong," said Wendy. "Everyone accepted us straight away."

It was this support which carried Alan and Wendy through the traumatic time when the Post Office was ram-raided in December 2007. In the early hours of the morning a 4x4 vehicle was driven at speed into the building, demolishing the outer wall.

When Alan and Wendy arrived on the scene, the Post Office resembled a building site - everything was covered in rubble but the safe was still intact.

"I think they assumed the safe was on the wall they demolished, but fortunately it was on another wall and just got buried in rubble!" said Alan.

But the extensive damage meant the Post Office was closed for 5 months. "Everything had to be replaced, including the counter and glass," said Alan. "Because nothing had been taken we couldn't claim for loss of earnings and we used up all our savings just to survive. It was a tough time and it seemed to go on forever."

But customers and the wider community soon rallied round.

"We had so many cards and flowers that our house resembled a florist's shop," said Wendy.

"We're Christians so we had great support from the church too," added Alan. "Without them I don't think we could have carried on."

Even when the Post Office reopened, times were hard. "People had started going elsewhere, so it took a couple of months to get back on our feet."

The support has continued and today the little Post Office is as busy as ever, with customers often queuing outside the door at busy times. "It always surprises me that people don't complain about the queues," said Alan. "But I think they enjoy chatting to each other."

The nature of the Post Office business has changed over the years with a huge increase in parcel posting due

to online shopping such as ebay and Amazon. "It's also brought many more younger people into the shop," said Alan.

The couple's decision to retire last year presented an opportunity for the Post Office to review its presence in the village, resulting in the forthcoming move to Martins newsagents further up the High Street.

"The Post Office needs to be within a viable business," Alan explained. "The business needs to support the Post Office rather than the other way round."

"At first customers were concerned about us, until they found out that we were very happy to be retiring," he added. "Once they knew that, many said they had no objections to the move. I think most people are relieved that Lindfield will still have a Post Office, particularly as others such as Horsted Keynes have closed."

Alan, Wendy, Janet and Glenda will serve their last customers on Thursday 18th June. The new post office opens at Martins the following day.

"We'll then spend about a week packing up before leaving the village," said Alan. He added that the building will be sold in due course.

Meanwhile, the couple are looking forward to lazy mornings and long walks near their home in Worthing. "It will be lovely to choose what we want to do and when we want to do it," said Alan. "I'm planning to enjoy our garden and the chance to go for walks on the seafront and stop for a coffee."

"And I'm looking forward to being one of those ladies who lunch," added Wendy.

They also plan to visit their daughter in Australia at the end of the year.

"But we know we are going to miss Lindfield and particularly the people," said Alan. "Lindfield has a very special community feel where people genuinely look out for one another. We've seen lots of people come and go but have made some lovely friends."

"We'll miss the connection with people and the banter and, of course, our staff. And Alan will miss ordering the cards!" Wendy added.

"We are so grateful to everyone who has supported us over the years. To us it's always been more about the people than the business, and that's why we have enjoyed 17 very happy years here."

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Colour psychology

HOME FRONT

By Jacqui Smith, interior designer

Colour is something which is all around us. The effect it can have on our sense of wellbeing is enormous, so getting it right in our living spaces is crucial. Colour is unsurprisingly an everyday part of the job of an interior designer and it is down to us to use it cleverly to produce a scheme that works for our client, whether we are designing someone's sitting room or bedroom or a dining room or admin office for a nursing home.

Whilst colour and how it makes people feel applies to all our projects, our residential clients will usually have a clear idea themselves about their colour preferences so we tend not to get into meaty discussions about the psychology behind it. Having said that, at the very early stages in a project when exploring a husband and wife's position on different shades, we have witnessed not only couples who had no idea about the other's strong feelings on green but dawning realisations on the genesis of certain colour aversions, such as an old school uniform or a paint colour used on a hospital ward stayed in as a child. Where colour psychology comes into play mostly for us is in our commercial design work. Choosing the right colours for key finishes is paramount when designing care homes. Since colour can affect certain behaviours, we are really looking at the function of the space in tandem with the needs of the resident when deciding on a particular hue. The dementia home we have just begun working on has prompted me to look into colour psychology in more depth. The following findings are by no means exhaustive but the ones I felt most noteworthy.

White is used by many architects for its purity and neutrality. From a psychological point of view white can be sterile and isolating and does not promote long term well-being. I fully concur with this; white does not do it for me at all and whenever I see it used en masse it strikes me as such a missed opportunity for something a little warmer and more inviting. Teal is an

interesting one. Its properties include balance, calm, soothing and rejuvenation. It's an equilibrium restorer and a combination of blue (known for its tranquillity) and the peace and balance of green. What I found most interesting was that as a combination of blue and green, teal mixes the two colours for which our eyes require little or no adjusting. I am guessing that this has something to do with their being colours of sky, sea and land, hues that we have as human beings always felt at one with. Indigo stands for trust, honesty and friendly logic and reason. As the colour of the mind it stimulates clear thought but as such may suppress appetite, so best avoided in kitchens or dining areas. Orange is fun, invigorating and motivational. The boost of orange comes from the red, whilst the happiness and optimism stems from the yellow. It's a colour that encourages social interaction and also stimulates the appetite, so a great colour for dining areas in care homes. I should add here that I am not having Happy Eater thoughts but am definitely using certain shades of orange in the dining areas for this current project. So now on to grey – I know, it seems to be everywhere. An alternative to cream, it's another safe neutral for walls. I like grey and have used it for clients as well as ourselves but I have also seen some appalling applications of it too. Grey comes across as calming but studies show that if used in isolation it can be calming to the point of draining and should be avoided in environments requiring creativity. So if you are using grey, make sure that you team it with a more upbeat accent colour.

On a final note, I know in last month's piece I rather confidently announced that our sparkly new website would be up and running. It was not and we realised this the day we received our own copy of the magazine. By the time you read this the new site, complete with video testimonials from some of our clients, should be ready to enjoy. www.homesmiths.co.uk

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'The Great Exhibition'

By David Tingley

Children in Year 3 at Blackthorns Primary School got the chance to show off their term's work last month when they held 'The Great Exhibition'.

The class was studying Victorian Britain and, in particular, how the railway coming to Haywards Heath affected the area. It was noted, for instance, how the sign at the station originally read 'The station for Cuckfield & Lindfield' – as there was hardly anything making up Haywards Heath town at the time.

The children also had chance to write their own letters of support or protest about the coming of the railway as if they were contributing to the 1837 Town Hall meeting.

Visitors to the exhibition heard about the children's field trip into the village with local historian Richard Bryant, learning many interesting things about Lindfield,



including the fact that Happy Feet shoe shop used to be the village blacksmiths.

The information about Lindfield has been collated into a large display board in the school reception area. The board shows the High Street with large QR codes (2D bar codes which can be scanned by smart phones) at various locations. When scanned these codes show the viewer a YouTube clip featuring old images of the building or area, or a sound clip of the children reading key facts relevant to the Victorian era in Lindfield.

Year 3 teacher Sarah Neller explained: "After the walk around the village, when the children discovered many new facts about life in the 19th century, they wanted to find a way of sharing the information. Recording the facts (with the help of parent Clare Jones) was their idea and I think they have done it really well."

Pictured Josie Cox, Isla Deeble & Izzie Jones in front of the exhibition display

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A group of Lindfield residents have mobilised a campaign to restrict the movement of large heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) through the village. Working with Lindfield Preservation Society, the group has started a petition to: 'Implement a 7.5 tonne weight limit (except for local access) on the B2028 and throughout Lindfield and to support the removal of all signs that direct traffic for Wakehurst and the South of England Show through Lindfield High Street'.

The group – known as Lindfield Traffic – would also like to see the speed limit lowered to 20mph in the conversation area in the village. The large 32 tonne trucks have been a familiar sight driving through Lindfield over the last 18 months en route to various assignments. The current job is a huge land project which has planning permission for receiving up to 6,000 lorry loads. It is currently thought that Lindfield sees around 25 (plus return trips) per day.

In their research members of Lindfield Traffic discovered that Lindfield is one of the few villages in Sussex to not already have a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). The order would mean that HGVs over 7.5 tonne would not be permitted to use the route.

They also looked at the width of other local roads. Lewes Road (B2111) is 4.65m at its narrowest point by the Post Office but has no width restriction. Whereas Hurstwood Lane in Haywards Heath does have a vehicle width restriction of 1.95m in place even though its smallest point is 5.0m wide.

However the group's petition also wants to see roadside signage changed after a TRO has been granted. This has not been met with universal praise from businesses on the High Street. Mary Collins, co-owner of The Toll House Store & Café, commented: "Whilst



we appreciate the need to reduce the number of HGV vehicles travelling through the village, directional signage to Wakehurst Place and Ardingly is invaluable in helping increase passing trade for all the shops and eateries." Tufnells owner Lisa Goodger concurred: "It is a fact that many of the businesses in the village report increased footfall when there are large events taking place at the South of England Showground & Wakehurst and this is not something we would want to lose."

The petition can be signed online at the following website shortcut <http://ow.ly/KWneN>. Residents who have already signed it seem to feel strongly: "I live in this pretty village and am fed up with these lorries speeding through," was a comment made by Kay Jackson. Crispin Billson cited children, the infirm and elderly as being particularly at risk from these vehicles that are 'unsuited to the road'.

The campaign group can be contacted by email on lindfieldtraffic@gmail.com



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Bank holiday entertaining

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Very finely chop (or use the processor/blender) a small handful of fresh mint leaves with 2tsp sugar. Whisk in 2tbs white wine vinegar, 6tbs rapeseed oil and 2tsp clear honey. Season to taste. Tip into a shallow bowl. Peel, core and cut 4 ripe dessert pears into thin slices and add them to the dressing. Gently turn in the dressing to coat the fruit, cover and leave for 2-3 hours.

Arrange thinly sliced smoked duck on individual plates and add the sliced pears, drizzling with the pretty herb-flecked dressing.

Mixed Seafood au Gratin

Preheat the oven 160°. Cut 400g salmon fillet and 400g halibut into portion-sized pieces. Place in a single layer in a large frying pan and add 250ml dry white wine and 125ml water. Cover and cook over a low heat until just cooked. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the fish to a hot shallow baking dish (large enough to hold the fish in a single layer), placing the salmon and halibut at opposite ends of the dish. Pile 200g cooked large prawns in the centre.

Strain the cooking liquid and make up to 375ml with water. Melt 40g butter in a pan and stir in 40g flour.



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By Caroline Young

We have two Bank holidays this month and maybe you might be planning to do some entertaining? Hopefully we will be seeing more sunshine, our gardens will be looking fresh and colourful and the shops offering lighter summery foods to tempt you. Family or friends, it is always fun to gather around the table and enjoy a delicious meal together. These are some of my favourite dishes to serve now that hearty roasts and casseroles no longer appeal. They all serve 4-6. Serve the simple fish dish with grilled English asparagus spears and the hot Potato Salad. Enjoy.

Cook, stirring, over low heat for 1 min then whisk in the fish stock to make a smooth sauce. Gently simmer, stirring, for 4-5 min then season to taste and remove from the heat. Beat in 1 egg yolk and 125ml double cream to make a rich sauce. Spoon over the fish, sprinkle with a good handful of finely grated Cheshire or Gruyere cheese and slip under a preheated grill until golden brown.

Hot Potato Salad

Boil 800g very small new potatoes in lightly salted water until just fork tender – do not overcook. Drain well then tip on to a tea towel to dry. Put 1tsp wholegrain mustard into a serving bowl with 1tbs white wine vinegar, 4tbs light olive oil and seasoning. Whisk to combine then stir in a good handful of finely sliced spring onions. Add the

hot potatoes and turn to coat with the dressing. Very finely chop fresh mint, parsley and chives – you need about 3tbs – add to the potatoes and gently combine. Serve while hot.

Lemon Cream Parfaits

Up to 2 hours before serving: whisk 450ml double cream to soft peaks then gently fold in 4-5tbs good quality lemon or lime curd. Using one third of the cream mixture, spoon into 4 tall dessert glasses. Top with a small layer of fresh raspberries then a similar layer of crushed chocolate chip cookies. Repeat the layers – cream, fruit, cookie crumbs then end with a layer of cream. Decorate with a few more raspberries and a mint sprig. Chill.



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Sir Vivian Dunn

STORIES FROM THE GRAVES

This month we are pleased to return to our series of Walsstead Burial Ground features and tell the story of a world famous musician, composer and Military Band leader.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Francis Vivian Dunn KCVO OBE FRAM FRSA was the Director of Music of the Portsmouth Division of the Royal Marines from 1931 to 1953 and Principal Director of Music of the Royal Marines from 1953 to 1968. He was also the first British Armed Forces military musician to be knighted.

By Claire Cooper

Francis Vivian Dunn was born on 24th December 1908 in Jabalpur, India. His father, William James Dunn, was bandmaster of the Second Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps and later director of music of the Royal Horse Guards.

Dunn studied piano with his mother, Beatrice Maud, and undertook choral studies in Winchester. In 1923 he attended the Konservatorium der Musik in Cologne while the family was in Germany with the Army of the Rhine, and on returning to England two years later he went to the Royal Academy of Music.

He studied conducting with Henry Wood and composition with Walton O'Donnell. As a violinist, he performed in the Queen's Hall Promenade Orchestra (under Wood) and in 1930 was a founder member of the BBC Symphony Orchestra with Sir Adrian Boult.

Dunn was released from his contract with the BBC and on 3rd September 1931, aged 22, commissioned as a lieutenant in the Royal Marines to be director of music for Portsmouth Division of the Corps. This appointment also carried with it the responsibility of directing the Royal Marines Band on the Royal Yacht. He took part in the royal tour of South Africa in 1947 aboard HMS Vanguard and in a Royal Marines band tour of the US and Canada in 1949.

His appointment as Principal Director of Music of the Royal Marines, the subsequent promotion to

Lieutenant-Colonel and election as a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music were all achieved in 1953. Later in the Coronation year, Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh embarked in SS Gothic for a world-wide tour of the Commonwealth, for which Dunn directed the accompanying Royal Marines Band.

At the conclusion of the tour the Queen appointed him CVO, and in 1960 appointed him OBE.

In 1955, Dunn was asked by Euan Lloyd of Warwick Films to compose the theme music for *The Cockleshell Heroes* (which was otherwise scored by John Addison).

He later appeared as himself, conducting the Royal Marines, in the end titles of the 1966 film *Thunderbirds Are Go*.

In 1968, Dunn retired as the professional head of the Royal Marines Band Service after 38 years' service. In January 1969 he became the only military musician ever to receive the Order of Knighthood in the Royal Victorian Order.

Throughout his 'retirement', Dunn continued to further the cause of orchestral, military and light music.

He became a guest conductor with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, recorded with the Light Music Society Orchestra and conducted bands and orchestras at several universities in Canada and the US.

In 1969, he received an EMI Golden Disc award for sales of more than one million Royal Marines Band records. In the same year he was also elected as an



honorary member of the American Bandmasters Association. In 1987 he received the Sudler Medal of the Order of Merit from the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

He became the Founder President of the International Military Music Society in 1976, a position which he held until his death.

In 1988, after serving as the Senior Warden, Dunn became the first military musician to be installed as the Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

Dunn composed and arranged more than 60 pieces of music. These include *The Globe and Laurel* (1935, rev. 1945), *The Captain General* (1949), *Cockleshell Heroes* (1955) and *Mountbatten March* (1972). He arranged numerous others including *The Preobrajensky March* attributed to Donajowsky (later to become the official slow march of the Royal Marines) and *A Life on the Ocean Wave* (the official quick march).

Dunn married Margery Halliday in 1938. They had one son (Patrick) and two daughters (Leonie and Rosey).

Daughter Rosey recalled how her parents chose to live in Lindfield quite by chance. "They were visiting friends in the area, got lost and happened to drive past the house - 16 West Common which was newly built," she said. "They bought it soon after and rented it out until my father retired in 1969.

"They loved Lindfield village, particularly the duck pond and especially the Bent Arms where they had many meals with friends."

She added that Vivian was a passionate golfer and was a member of Haywards Heath Golf Club for many years.

Vivian Dunn died from lung cancer in Haywards Heath on 3rd April 1995 aged 86. Margery, Lady Dunn, died on 26th June 1998.

Both chose to be buried in the country cemetery at Walstead. "The funeral, complete with Royal Marines orchestra and buglers, was beautifully managed by Masters and Son," Rosey recalled.

Last year Rosey and her sister Leonie returned to Deal for the unveiling of a Blue Plaque by the Deal Historical Society placed on the house in the former RM barracks where the family lived.

'Few musicians can claim, as Dunn could, to have been linked in some way with their chosen profession in every decade of the 20th century. He was born in its first decade, on Christmas Eve 1908, within earshot of his father's band room in Jabalpur, India; Dunn senior, then bandmaster of the Second Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps, was later to become Director of Music of the Royal Horse Guards. In the century's last decade, Vivian Dunn could be seen conducting the Central Band of the Royal Air Force in one of his own compositions.'

Above taken from an obituary published in The Independent





Boys' Brigade awards

The Lindfield Boys' Brigade held its annual awards evening recently, the awards being presented by Jeff Cackett and his wife Val, who attend the Parish Church. Among the awards were several perfect attendance prizes. Hayden Alexander won the best uniform trophy for the second year running. The Lindfield Company is growing in numbers of boys but is in need of adult workers.

If you think you can help and would like to find out more, please contact Geoffrey Cocksedge on 07583813721.

Village Run and Village Day coming up

Lindfield Village Run will take place this year on Bank Holiday Monday 25th May. As usual there will be two distance runs; 10k and what is traditionally known as the Family Fun Run 5k.

Runners wishing to pre-book their place can do so until 20th May online at www.kingedwardhall.org.uk. Or registration will be open from 9am on the day at the Run's start and finish on Hickmans Lane Playing Fields. The 5k starts at 10.30am, with the 10k just after at 10.45am.

Lindfield's traditional Village Day will be held on Saturday 30th May with the usual vast array of stalls and entertainment filling the Common.

The fun starts with the procession leaving Hickmans Lane Playing Fields after the judging at 12.30pm. The procession will be led this year by the fantastic Euphoria Steel Band - giving the caribbean vibe.

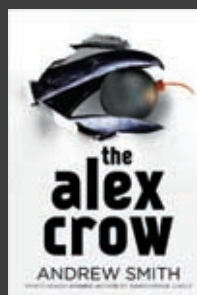
For more information about Village Day see the website or contact Katherine Alcock on 07941 450636 or by email on villageday@kingedwardhall.org.uk

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The Alex Crow by Andrew Smith

BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

To create a world is the aim of every novelist. Andrew Smith's tale manages to combine a series of different stories which effortlessly merge into one whole tale. Ariel is the survivor of an attack on a Middle Eastern village who is adopted by a geneticist in the USA. Then there is the teenager who thinks Joseph Stalin is telling him what to do. A tale of a ship trapped in ice in the Victorian era. How can all these come together? The skill of the writer is that he sustains these disparate elements until the big reveal. By using a convention – what teenagers get up to at a summer camp – he subverts the literature of American youth while seemingly embracing it. Smith is an original voice, with a unique talent. This story is well worth searching out. Although probably aimed at teenagers, this is a book whose tale will satisfy all ages.



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Open Garden

On Sunday 10th May 2015 from 2 – 5.30pm the Worrall family are kindly opening their garden, Birchanger Gardens, Handcross RH17 6JY, in aid of St Catherine's Hospice.

This is a beautiful 7-acre garden with magnificent displays of azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias. There is a grassy avenue, lake, lily pond, pergola, Etruscan-style temple and much more.

This lovely garden is only open to the public for a few weekends each year, so make sure you don't miss it. It is located 2 miles east of the A23 at Handcross on the B2110 and 2 miles north of Balcombe and will be signposted on the day. Entrance is £4, children visit for free, and dogs on leads are welcome. Car parking is free and refreshments, with home-made cakes, will be served.

For further details please contact Marian Erritt on 01444 413391.

Additional gardens will be open to raise funds for St Catherine's, so see their website, www.stch.org.uk, for details.

Macmillan fundraising

Fundraisers from the Mid Sussex branch of Macmillan Cancer Support are celebrating another record-breaking year.

Events and collections held during the past year have raised £36,901.

Fundraising events have included a charity dinner and auction at Jeremy's restaurant at Borde Hill which raised £5,000, and a golf competition at Mid Sussex Golf Club which made £11,000.

Collections at local supermarkets have also raised thousands of pounds for the charity.

"It just shows what can be achieved when people get together to make an effort and, of course, the continuous generosity of the residents of Mid Sussex," said fundraiser David Metcalfe from Lindfield.

All funds raised go directly to Macmillan care in Sussex and the building of the new Support Centre at the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Brighton, which is on target to be completed by the end of this year.

The next major event will be an evening of 'Songs from the Shows' and dinner at Mid Sussex Golf Club on 24th May. Tickets are available by calling David on 01444 415060.

The Worrell family will also be opening their gardens at Birchanger, Balcombe to raise money for Macmillan on 9th May.

David would also be delighted to hear from anyone interested in volunteering for street collections or helping to run events.

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LindfieldLife



Success from a downhill lie

TEEING OFF

By James Verrall, Head Golf Professional

With such a varied array of slopes on the golf course it is essential that a good golfer knows how to approach each one. The downhill lie which we will look at today is one of the harder, awkward lie shots.

When deciding on which club you want to hit from the downhill lie, do not choose a wood!! Even if you still have 300 yards to go, you are much better off choosing a hybrid. The angle of the hill means you cannot get the club shallow to the ball, something crucial when playing a wood. The downhill lie also takes loft off the club, something which a fairway wood does not have much of.

Now we have got the right club in our hands we need to get the right set up. The first thing to do is get your shoulders parallel with the hill; this can be done by leaning more weight on the front foot. The ball then needs to be positioned back in the stance, which will ensure you do not hit too much ground first.

When swinging back try to keep the weight on the front foot, this will mean you won't turn much on the backswing and will end up swinging more with the arms. This is ok, so don't try and force a turn.

Because of the angle of our shoulders and the less turn on the backswing, our downswing will be steeper. Again this is ok as it will mean we don't hit the ground first. But what this will cause is a left to right ball flight. Make sure you allow for this by aiming left of your target.

Try this next time you find a downhill lie and see how you find the strike.

On the 20th May we have a PGA south region event where 26 top local pro's will do battle on the course. Spectators are welcome. We also have some great chances for any local businesses to sponsor some of the holes and further advertising with us, please call me on 01444 414866 to find out more.

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What's on in May

AT KING EDWARD HALL

AND ELSEWHERE

- 7th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10am to 11.15am
(Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 7th **Polling Station** in respect of the UK General and Local Elections
- 9th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – Coffee morning
(Mrs Alison Elliott 01444 483039)
- 9th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – Coffee Morning and Plant Sale 10 am - 12 noon. All Welcome. Entry £1 (Alison Elliott 01444-483039)
- 9th **Sale of Teak Garden Furniture**
- 13th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – A talk by Peter Lovett on 'The Natural Year in Focus', looking in particular at the months from July to December. All Welcome. Entry £1 members, £2 visitors. (www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk Alison Elliott 01444-483039)
- 13th **Mid-Sussex Death & Living Now Café**
(Joanna Warrington 07769 674347)
- 14th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10am to 11.15am
- 21st **Lindfield Country Market** – 10am to 11.15am
- 22nd& **Lindfield Dramatic Club:** 'Chuckles and Chips'
23rd 8.00pm (Rex Cooper 01444 831512)
- 26th **Lindfield Flower Club** 2.30pm. Christine Nash will demonstrate and her talk is called 'Travelling Light' (Norma Smith 01444 414562 or normasmith1@btinternet.com)
- 28th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10am to 11.15am
- 28th **Film Show Evening** – The Theory of Everything (Certificate 12A). Tickets will go on sale at Tufnells on 28th April (Jennie Powell 01444 483431)
- 30th **Lindfield Village Day**
(villageday@kingedwardhall.org.uk)

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

- 3rd **The Mid Sussex Marathon – Haywards Heath**
10 mile. Part of Marathon Weekend.
www.midsussexmarathonweekend.co.uk
- 5th **NHS Retirement Fellowship AGM** – Franklands Village Hall 10.15am
- 9th **Open Gardens in aid of Macmillan**
Birchanger Gardens
- 9th **VE Day Celebrations**
Lindfield Common, organised by the Royal British Legion. Parade starts at 11.30am.
- 10th **Open Garden in aid of St Catherine's Hospice**
Birchanger Gardens, Handcross 2–5.30pm.
Entrance £4, children free (Marian Erritt 413391)
- 13th **Mid-Sussex Franco-British Society** – the Function Suite, Clair Hall 8–10 pm. Film showing of Les Grimaldi – Princes de Monaco présenté par Stéphane Bern. All members and visitors are most welcome (Mrs Barbara Stevens 01444 452385)
- 16th **Spring plant and cake sale** – Compton House, Compton Road, Lindfield 10am – 12 noon. All proceeds will be shared equally between Compton House Nursing Home and St Peter & St James Hospice
- 20th **Mid-Sussex Decorative and Fine Arts Society Lecture** – Clair Hall 10.15 for 10.45am. 'The Turner Prize: Its History and Controversies' by Barry Venning (www.mid-sussexdfas.org.uk)
- 24th **Broadway Sound** – Street music festival held at The Broadway, Haywards Heath. 11am–10pm
www.itsmagic.co.uk
- 25th **Lindfield 10k Village Run (10.45am) & 5k Family Fun Run (10.30am)**. Booking and registration opens on site at 9am
(www.kingedwardhall.org.uk)
- 26th **Mid Sussex Local History Group** – Franklands Village Hall 10am. Lecture on 'The Crop Circle Mystery'. New members welcome, we meet on 4th Tuesday of each month (Joan Corless 01444 470108)
- 30th **Lindfield Village Day**
Caribbean procession down High Street starts at 12.30pm from Hickmans Lane Playing Fields. Stalls and events on the common from 1pm.

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