

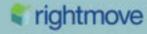




Jane Todd

As part of our "Ethical Agency Initiative" not only will we market your property beautifully, get you the very best price and provide our usual exemplary service, but this month we'd like to provide additional support to worthy causes within our local community.

Offer valid for instructions taken throughout October - quote Lindfield Life when you book your free valuation. Free professional photographs provided as standard.









EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Have you started your Christmas shopping yet? I hope not, because we've got a great selection of ideas lined up for you starting on page 16 in our Christmas Gifts feature. Do have a look and go and browse the vendors - don't forget to tell them where you saw them listed though!

As usual we've packed plenty of Christmas news and information into this December issue of Lindfield Life.

There's a travelling nativity scene making its way round Scaynes Hill - see page 11.

From page 21 the churches in Lindfield share with you all that is going on in each of their buildings. So there's plenty to choose from!

And everything else that is happening in and around the village is listed in its usual spot on page 42.

The Lindfield Rural Parish Council quarterly newsletter is to be found on page 34, James Verrall's golf tip column is on page 38 and Caroline Young's fabulous recipes are shown on page 26.

In our Village People feature this month we sent Claire Cooper to talk to a lady who has opened her Lindfield home as a music exam centre for over 30 years. Meet Gwyneth Paine on page 14 - I know that many readers will recognise her from their or their children's music tuition days. Gwyneth is still going strong; I was there myself with my daughter earlier this year!

Elsewhere in the magazine we highlight a new shop which opened on the High Street last month (p.13), some great news about a fundraising night in the village (p.7) and a story about a family who are helping others this Christmas (p.40).

Jason Lainchbury provides the snowy cover photo - clearly not from the last couple of years, but I feel sure Lindfield Parish Council would want me to say that if you like the idea of moving heavy snow (should it happen this year) they'd love to hear from you!

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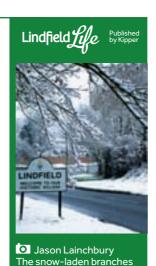
Lindfield Life

The Barn, Hurstwood Grange, Haywards Heath RH17 7QX Telephone 01444 884115 www.lindfieldlife.co.uk Editor: David Tingley Assistant: Claire Cooper <editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk> Advertising: David Tingley <ads@lindfieldlife.co.uk> Disclaimer: The opinions expressed within the magazine are of the individual authors and not necessarily those of the editors. Whilst the editors welcome contributions & photographs, this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to include them and that the item may be edited & that

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of a wintery Lindfield







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

Ania's Award



Local therapist, Ania Tylunas, has had a cause for celebration.

She has just been awarded an accreditation status as EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing) Europe Practitioner. This means she is now recommended by EMDR UK and Ireland as a therapist meeting their exacting standards and is featured on their national register.

"I am absolutely delighted to be receiving this recognition," said Ania. "I am passionate about EMDR helping people overcome their difficulties and so it makes me very happy for my work in the field to be recognised by the EMDR Accreditation Board."

EMDR is an effective treatment for trauma, anxiety, depression, phobias, panic attacks, low self esteem and many other issues.

"I am very grateful to all my clients who generously agreed for our work to help demonstrate my EMDR expertise and whose bravery in overcoming life's adversities is a continuous inspiration to me," Ania added.

The award means Ania is the only therapist in the Lindfield area accredited in EMDR by the national governing body.

To find out more about EMDR therapy, visit the national website www.emdrassociation.org.uk or contact Ania on 01444 617 226.



Bonfire Night goes off with a bang!

By Mark Tampion-Lacey

Lindfield Bonfire Society members wish to say a massive thank you to everyone who braved the weather to attend 5th November Celebration. The weather did affect attendance, which we estimate to have been around 8,000 people, which is down from previous years. We were delighted to again be joined in our procession by members of Chailey, Burgess Hill and Edenbridge Bonfire Societies, Burgess Hill Marching Youth and our fancy dress competition entrants.

The constant rain during the day and evening certainly made it one of the more difficult celebrations for us to set up and manage, with many of our team spending a rather wet day despite their waterproofs.

A key challenge on the day for our firing team was keeping the display fireworks as dry as possible once set up on the Common. As a result there was considerably more prep work for the team immediately before our display as they had to uncover and complete some fusing prior to the display start. This meant our intended display start time slipped. Dampness also contributed to a number of fireworks not detonating during the display. These were subsequently discarded after the display for safety reasons.

The rain and dampness also affected our procession torches, making some difficult to light which resulted in

a delay in our entrance to the High Street. A similar issue affected our 'Good Night' sign, which despite being covered also became damp; a situation exacerbated when it was blown over during the procession and needing to be reset prior to the display commencing.

Lindfield Bonfire Society hopes the delay did not spoil the evening for those attending, and that when started the firework display was well worth the wait! Certainly feedback to us on the display itself has been very positive, with many saying it was the best they have seen us put on.

Members of the committee at Lindfield Bonfire Society wishes to say thanks to everyone who helped make our celebration happen. LBS wishes to say special thanks to: Sussex Police, Haywards Heath Fire & Rescue Service, Mid Sussex District Council, SERCO, The Red Cross, The Rotary Club, Mid Sussex Trident Scouts, Riding for the Disabled, Phoenix Security, Sussex 4x4 Response, Burgess Hill Marching Youth Band, Chailey Bonfire Society and their Fire Team, Burgess Hill Bonfire Society, Edenbridge Bonfire Society, The Tail End Charlie Team, Lindfield and Chailey Bonfire Society Firer Teams, Aurora Fireworks and all who volunteered to collect and marshall on the night. Plus those who provided support before during and after our event. And of course the Lindfield Bonfire Boys and Girls!



Poppy display

Kathleen Rusby (pictured) of the Lindfield Branch of the Royal British Legion was delighted with the commemorative window decorated by Flowercraft owners last month.

The window, which included a Roll of Honour for all those who died in WWI and WWII, had listed on it not only Kathleen's uncle, Jack Caplin, but also Sidney F. Smith – whose parents owned and ran the very shop where the flower shop now operates from.

Flowercraft owners
Charlotte and Richard Woolley
commented: "This year we
were privileged to have been
given the Roll of Honour for the
Royal British Legion Lindfield
Branch and decided to have a lit
candle in memory of those that
sacrificed themselves for who
country."







The Gift FM back for 2015

For twelve days this Christmas Lindfield United Reformed Church (URC) will have its very own radio station The Gift FM. From 7am on Sunday 13th December through to midday on Christmas Day The Gift FM will broadcast on 87.9FM from studios at the church on the High Street.

Broadcasting a festive mix of modern and classic Christmas music, The Gift is a joint venture between the three village churches and will feature live carol concerts, music performances from local artists and church services broadcast from the URC and All Saints Church.

The radio station can be heard on 87.9FM in Lindfield, Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill, Cuckfield and the surrounding area. Online the station is available across the UK by visiting www.thegiftfm.com

Behind the scenes The Gift trains young people from local church youth groups and schools who will have the opportunity to feature as presenters, producers or newsreaders for the hourly 'news of great joy' bulletins featuring exclusively good news! You will also hear performances from local schools, choirs and musicians and a number of celebrity quests and festive interviews.

During the busy festive period tuning to the gift on 87.9FM will keep you informed, entertained, feeling



festive and is a great place for all ages to find out about the life of the village, get last minute gift ideas or just relax and listen to the midnight service from the parish church while wearing your pyjamas. Station organiser and mastermind Dan McQuillin said: "The station is centred on the gift at the heart of the first Christmas, because the greatest gift you will ever receive has already been given."



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There may have been 'no room at the inn' in Bethlehem but in Scaynes Hill families all over the village be opening their doors to welcome a very special nativity this Christmas.

A Travelling Nativity (or Posada) made up of knitted characters, complete with a flock of sheep, will be making its way around the village during Advent before taking pride of place in St Augustine's Church on Christmas Eve.

The event is being organised by Emily Ludgate, children and youth worker at St Augustine's Church.

"The Posada is related to a South American and Mexican tradition, where children dress up as Mary and Joseph and travel around the village visiting homes and asking if there's any room," Emily explained. "We knew of several churches that have had a Travelling Nativity and we thought it would be nice to have our own travelling nativity here in Scaynes Hill."

The idea took shape when Church Warden Audrey Hawes donated a set of nativity characters which had been knitted by a friend in Scotland.

The idea is that 24 different families will welcome the nativity into their homes for one night during Advent. "Their homes will become inns for Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus," said Emily, who has also designed an activity pack for participating families. Each family will be responsible for ensuring the Nativity safely reaches its next home.

Emily hopes to eventually gather 24 sheep so that each family can keep one, bringing it to church for the crib service on Christmas Eve to be reunited with the nativity scene and the rest of the flock!

"Lots of people have said they think it's a lovely idea and would like to be involved but there are still opportunities to join in," added Emily. "We hope people will enjoy it and it will become an annual tradition in the village."

You are invited to see The Travelling Nativity start its journey during St Augustine's Church 10am Morning Service on Sunday 29th November and to celebrate the journey's finish at the 5pm Crib Service on Christmas Eve. Contact Emily Ludgate for more information on 07925235907 or youth.sash@gmail.com



December 2015 11

LINDFIELD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL NIGHT

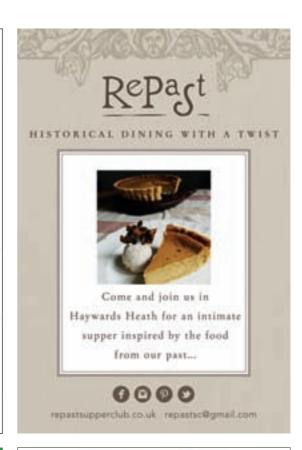


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New barber shop opens

Most residents will have seen changes being made to the former Post Office on the High Street over the last month or so. Lindfield resident Penny Hoyle opened her barber's shop at the end of October, after having a desire to run a business in the village for years.

Penny lives in Lindfield with her husband Craig and son Henry. She grew up in the village at The Bent Arms (which her parents still own) and her brother, Adrian Hoyle, undertook all the refurbishment of the property which had been a Post Office for over 30 years.

"I've been delighted with the welcome we have received from locals," Penny said. The shop - called The Penny Black Barber Shop - features a small model car as one of the barber positions. "Many of our gentlemen customers are quite envious that the children get to sit in the car and get their hair cut!"

The Penny Black Barber Shop is open six days a week, until 7pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and Craig offers wet shaves by appointment too.



Appeal for info after cash machine burglary at Co-op

Police are investigating a burglary at the Co-op Store in Lindfield High Street.

Shortly after 3am on Sunday 15th November the front window was smashed and a cash machine containing a substantial amount of money was dragged from inside by a rope attached to large green two door 4x4 Landrover Discovery which contained two men.

The vehicle had been stolen earlier in the night from Crawley. Shortly before 6pm on Sunday a member of the public reported seeing it abandoned in Barcombe Mills Road, Barcombe. The cash machine was inside and was empty.

Detective Sergeant Alex Lowe said: "We would like to hear from anyone else who saw what happened or saw

the Land Rover in the area before, at the time or after the burglary.

"The full registration number is K377 DHJ and we are keen to hear only from anyone who saw it between about 6pm on Saturday evening, when it was last seen by its owner parked in Baylis Walk, Crawley, and about 10am on Sunday morning when it was first seen abandoned in Barcombe."

Please contact 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or call 101, quoting serial 191 of 15/11 if you can help. You can also contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org



December 2015 13



By Claire Cooper

When Derek Paine told his young wife Gwyneth that he had been offered a job in Canada, she had one important question: "Can we take the piano?"

Luckily the answer was yes, as, for music teacher Gwyneth, there was no question of going anywhere without it!

The piano has been at the heart of Gwyneth's home for more than 40 years and dozens of young pianists have pulled up a stool to play their first notes and begin the journey to becoming accomplished musicians.

For many others Gwyneth's piano has been key to their exam success as, three times a year, her living room becomes a centre for national music exams.

Gwyneth explained how music has come to play such a huge part in her life and how her work with young musicians has led to local and national acclaim.

"I grew up in Hove and always wanted to teach music, but my father encouraged me to become a domestic science teacher as jobs in music were scarce," said Gwyneth. "On leaving university I taught Domestic Science at Deepdene School."

After meeting and marrying Derek, the pair continued to live in Hove where their daughter Louise was born.

When Louise was 18 months old Derek was offered a job in Canada and, after ensuring she could take her beloved piano, Gwyneth agreed to the move. "I was actually very pleased as I had quite a thing for the Mounties!" she said. "I had also assumed it would be easy as everyone spoke English – but when I arrived I didn't understand a single word!"

The family lived halfway between Toronto and Niagara falls. "It was a very different way of life but a really enjoyable experience, although the winters were desperately cold," Gwyneth recalled. "Our second daughter, Caroline, was born in Canada. She is very proud of her Canadian passport!"

On arrival in Canada Gwyneth was surprised to discover there were very few opportunities to learn and play music. "They were just getting up to 100 years of being a community and there was very little in the way of art and music," she said. "We found that very few of our friends had other musical instruments but a lot had pianos."

Gwyneth began giving music lessons and taught for seven years before the family returned to England. "We were sad to leave as we had made many close friends who remain part of our extended family," said Gwyneth. "When our daughters got engaged, they both took their fiancés to Canada to make sure our friends approved!"

On arrival back in England, the family began looking for houses in Cuckfield. "My parents had moved to Cuckfield while we were away," Gwyneth explained. "I wanted to live close to them so that the girls could get to know their grandparents."

After three failed attempts to buy property in Cuckfield – "We were gazumped every time" - and spending eight months living with her parents, Gwyneth heard of a property in Meadow Lane, Lindfield. "We were lucky as it was a private sale, so it all went through smoothly."

With the girls settled in at Blackthorns School, it wasn't long before word reached the Head Teacher that Gwyneth was a talented pianist and she was soon playing a key role in school productions. This led to requests from parents for lessons and before long the first pupils began arriving at Meadow Lane.

When the school decided to set up a recorder club, Gwyneth came to the rescue, even though she had never played! "I took lessons with top recorder teacher Carl Dolmetch so I could set up a recorder group in my home."

Keen to support youth music in the area, Gywneth joined the local Music Society and was soon running the annual show for young musicians.

With music playing such a huge part in the Paine family life, it was perhaps inevitable that Gwyneth would be asked to host local music exams.

"The first thing I had to learn was how to set the room up," she said. "We bring in a table for the examiner and alter the furniture to improve access. We also set up a waiting room with puzzles to keep nervous children (and parents) occupied."

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Another important addition is a child's rocking chair with a teddy bear and a rabbit in it which sits beside the piano. "It helps the young children to settle," Gwyneth explained.

Exams are held three times a year - Feb /March, June/ July and November. "You never know how long they are going to be but it's normally around a week," said Gwyneth. "There's always a few changes as the date draws near."

Around 25 children arrive each day, taking exams for a variety of different instruments. "We've had everything from a piccolo to a double bass and even a harp!" said Gwyneth. "But we get more piano than anything else."

The first exam is at 9am. "Everything has to be silent – we can't switch on the washing machine or hoover the floors!"

At 1pm the examiner takes a break." I often suggest they walk into the village to clear their heads," said Gwyneth. "The examiners love coming to Lindfield and exploring the village or just sitting on the common."

The afternoon sessions run until 6pm, with exams lasting from 10 minutes for grades 1 and 2, to 45 minutes for grade 8.

Gwyneth keeps the examiners supplied with tea and coffee during breaks and enjoys a chat. "But we never discuss the exams or the candidates."

The examiners arrive from all over the country, so it's unlikely they will recognise any of the candidates.

"I've had them from Dorset, Somerset, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales," said Gwyneth. "Last year I had one who flew in from the South of France!

"It's very rare that we get the same examiner twice. They work in a circuit, so you're not likely to see the same examiner for at least 7 years!"

However, the music teachers are much more familiar to Gwyneth and it's rare that she doesn't recognise a name. "But one year we had a grade 8 piano student and I was surprised that the name of the teacher meant nothing to me," she recalled.

Gwyneth was even more surprised when the candidate turned up driving a very flash sports car and announced that he had flown in from Brazil! "We got chatting and he explained that he had problems getting his piano tuned because of the humidity. He flew into London once a month for lessons! He was an extremely good pianist so it obviously worked!"

Gwyneth's vast experience means most exams run

smoothly, but she still has to expect the unexpected.

"I take the candidates into the room and announce them. The young children I take right to the piano or music stand and help them set up. Then I leave the room. It's a matter of using common sense and getting a feel for each child," said Gwyneth.

It's very important to make sure that the piano stool is at the right height. "I help the little ones but the older children usually do it themselves.

"On one occasion there was an unusually long silence and I knew something wasn't right. When I went back in I found the candidate had bent down to adjust the stool and, on standing up, had hit his head on the piano and knocked himself out!

"When he finally came round he went back, took the exam and passed!"

Gwyneth's own grandchildren have taken exams in her living room and daughter Caroline often provides piano accompaniment. Gwyneth also finds time to lead the handbell group at All Saints Church.

In 2002 Gwyneth's contribution to youth music was recognised when she was chosen to carry the Queen's baton in the run up to the Commonwealth Games in Diamond Jubilee year. "It was a huge surprise and at first I thought somebody was winding me up!" she said.

"I was given a uniform and advised to practise by walking up and down the road holding a bag of flour in the air!"

Gwyneth picked up the baton in Midhurst and ran for around half a mile, cheered on by her proud family. "It was a wonderful experience and I was so proud to have run all the way," she said.

It was an equally proud moment for many of Gwyneth's students, who often treat her like part of the family.

"If you work with a child from 8 to 18 you become a big part of their life and you build up a rapport with them, rather like an aunt," said Gwyneth. "I can't go round Sainsbury's without bumping into someone I know and in Marks and Spencer's I've been hugged twice by young men who I didn't recognise but had taught as children! I am now seeing children whose parents took exams with me."

Looking to the future, Gwyneth is set to welcome many more exam candidates into her home. "I'm very happy to carry on doing it - I have a routine now, I know what I'm doing."

And there's no doubt that as far as the exam board is concerned, Gwyneth passes with distinction every time!

December 2015 15

Christmas shopping starts here!

Here's a range of products which are available from local businesses.

Great inspiration to kickstart any Christmas shopping list!

Artwork



Private commissions. Personalised hand printed illustrations. Over 30 designs. Contact for details and 15% Christmas discount.

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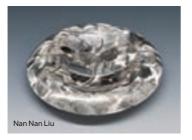
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Walstead resident concerned about more houses

By Emily Lomax

We moved to Walstead, just outside Lindfield, last December. The area already feels very different to the one we fell in love with when we first came looking for a family home. Exploding housing developments mean lorries thundering past our house and the green fields we were looking forward to exploring are now housing estates.

In July we received a note from Wates informing of their intention to build another 200 houses – this time in the field directly next to our house. We have recently had an official planning notification too.

I have realised that not many people are aware of this proposal – a plan which would dramatically change the landscape of our local community, not only for Walstead but also for Lindfield and the surrounding area. An estimated 1,800 more car movements a day and an additional burden for already stretched local services are just two things we can look forward to if it gets agreed. I can't begin to imagine how bad the congestion would be at the main Lindfield junctions – it can already take me several minutes to turn out in rush hour.

The council is developing a local plan which would rule this area to be within the rural boundary and would recommend that no more large-scale developments are approved. This plan is the result of considerable local consultation and yet there is a risk that local views will not count if the development goes ahead.

If you care about maintaining our services and community and want to ensure that local voices are heard, please have your say through the correct channels. You can view the application online at www.midsussex.gov.uk/planningregister - enter the application no: DM/15/4457. Closing date for comments is 11th December.





www.lindfieldlife.co.uk

Prepare Him room

Each Christmas time we give and receive hundreds of thousands of unwanted presents; novelty pens, comedy ties, socks - of course - and other bits and pieces which invariably find their way to the charity shop or on to eBay.

Sometimes it's the uninvited people who spoil Christmas for us; the awkward relative, the demanding neighbour or the quarrelsome sibling. After all, Christmas is a special time; we don't want anyone intruding on our festive cheer!

At the first Christmas day, the Bible tells us, there was no room for Jesus and his parents in Bethlehem. St John writes in his gospel: "He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him." Yet for many of us the same is true today, Jesus has become the unwelcome guest at Christmas, bearing unwanted gifts - after all what has Jesus got to do with Christmas – why is he crashing my turkey dinner?!

Christmas, of course, belongs to Jesus. It has been noted that CHRISTmas starts with Christ, it's his party and he's the one who brings the best present of all. St John continues in his gospel: "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." Jesus offers a unique present, one that no one else can - a chance to know God personally.

Will Jesus be another uninvited guest this Christmas, or will you prepare him room? Please join us at any of our services this Christmas to discover more.

Keith Morrison
Mervyn Weeks
Lisa Barnett
James Clarke
Hugh Bourne
Stuart Silk
(Lindfield United Reformed Church)
(Lindfield Evangelical Free Church)
(St Augustine's, Scaynes Hill)
(All Saints Church, Lindfield)
(All Saints Church, Lindfield)

Turn over for full listing of all local Christmas services

Evangelical Church, Lindfield

Sunday 20th December, 4pm

Carols by candlelight followed by Tea.

Christmas Day, 10.30am

Morning Celebration Service

Sunday 27th December, 10.30am

Morning service (No evening service on the 27th)

Sunday 3rd January

10.30am Morning service 6.30pm New Year's 'Watch Night' Service of Holy Communion

United Reformed Church, Lindfield

Rev Keith Morrison 01444 484791, Danny Goodall 07443 438970 Youth Pastor Sue Waller 01444 455047 Church Secretary

Thursday 17th December, 7pm

Traditional Christmas Concert - Peter Swann

Sunday 20th December

9.30am Family Service 11.15am Morning Worship 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve, 4pm

Crib Service - For all ages, come and play a part in the Christmas story $\,$

Christmas Day, 10am

Family Service - Don't be afraid to put on your Christmas jumper as we celebrate the greatest gift ever seen

Sunday 27th December

10.30am Family Service including Communion (No evening service)

New Year's Day, 10am – 12noon

The Church is open for prayer

St Augustine's Church, Scaynes Hill

More details from Revd Lisa Barnett: 01444 831827 or Jenny Cattermole: 01444 831949

Sunday 6th December, 5pm

Carol singing and turning on the Christmas tree lights, followed by mulled wine & mince pies

Sunday 13th December, 5pm

Christingle service for all the family

Sunday 20th December

10am All Age Communion service, with nativity play 6pm Carols by candlelight, followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Christmas Eve

5pm Children's Crib service 11.15pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day, 10am

Christmas Communion, for all the family

All Saints Church, Lindfield

www.allsaintslindfield.org | 01444 482405 | Email: allsaints@lindfield.info

Friday 11th December, 9.30am

Daytime Tiger at Christmas — A relaxed and informal meeting for parents, carers and their babies and toddlers from the community to enjoy toys, craft and mince pies together.

Tuesday 15th December, 10am

 $\label{thm:continuous} \emph{Tiger} \ \textcircled{a} \emph{Ten Carols} - \emph{Carol service for over 55s, followed} \\ \emph{by coffee and cake} \\$

Sunday 20th December

8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.30am service – A Nativity to remember!
A short, informal family-friendly service with children's nativity as a main feature. Enjoy refreshments before the service from 10am.

4.30pm A service of Lessons and Carols (1)

6.30pm A service of Lessons and Carols (2)

Christmas Eve

3pm Christingle Service (1) 4.15pm Christingle Service (2) 5.30pm Christingle Service (3) 11.15pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

8am Christmas Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 9.30am All-age Christmas Day Celebration 11.00am Christmas Communion

Sunday 27th December

10.30am Morning Communion with children's activities in the Tiger
6.30pm Cornerstone Unplugged

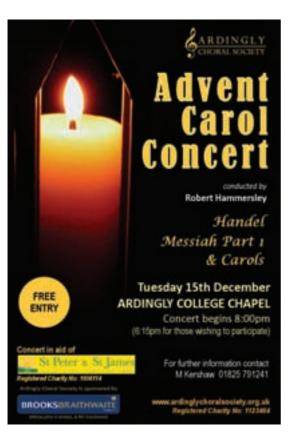
the **Hope**the **Story**the **Meaning**the **Gift** fm 87.9

Unwrap the Gift For twelve days of Christmas December 13th~25th

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Snowball Cookies

Beat together 225g soft butter and 175g caster sugar until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in 280g plain flour. Shape into a ball, wrap in clingfilm and chill for about 2 hours or until firm. Preheat oven 180°. Shape into small balls (about the size of a small egg) around a chocolate drop, making sure they are completely encased. Place on ungreased cookie sheets and bake for 10-12 min or until just firm but not browned. Cool slightly on a wire rack, then toss with sifted icing sugar to completely coat.

Almond Truffles

Buzz 8 trifle sponges to crumbs in the processor and tip into a large bowl. Stir in 115g ground almonds. Warm 4tbs apricot jam (remove any large pieces of fruit first) until runny and add to the bowl with 2tbs rum or brandy (or orange juice for non-alcoholic truffles). Mix together until you have a smooth mixture. Shape walnut-sized pieces into balls, arrange on a plate and chill for several hours to dry the surface. Roll each truffle in cocoa, drinking chocolate or sifted icing sugar. Alternatively dip each truffle into melted chocolate. They look very pretty set in tiny paper cases. Store in a cool place.



26 www.lindfieldlife.co.uk

By Caroline Young

Christmas is the time for treats and if they are home-made they are even more special. These recipes are just a sample of those which mean Christmas to me and my family. Some are easy enough for small cooks to make and they all would make very special presents to be found under the tree. Enjoy!

Pot, cover and store these delicious sauces in the refrigerator. Warm gently (LOW) before serving.

Rum Butter Sauce

Put 175g golden syrup, 75g soft brown sugar and 50g butter into a bowl and microwave on MED. HIGH (750 watt oven) for about 2 min, stirring once, or until butter and sugar have melted. Stir in 75ml single cream, 2tbs lemon juice and 3tbs dark rum.

Orange Chocolate Sauce

Break 150g plain chocolate into squares into a bowl. Add 25g butter, 6tbs single cream, 3tbs golden syrup and the finely grated rind of 1 orange. Microwave MED. HIGH for about 2 min, whisking frequently, until the chocolate has melted and the sauce is smooth. Cool slightly then stir in 2tbs orange liqueur.

Cranberry and Raspberry Relish

Put 1 small finely chopped onion and 2tbs red wine vinegar into a bowl, cover and microwave HIGH 30 sec or until soft. Stir in 4tbs orange marmalade, 2tsp grated fresh ginger, 250g fresh or frozen cranberries and 250g frozen raspberries (not thawed). Cover and cook MED.HIGH 6 min, stirring once, or until fruit has softened and mixture has thickened. Store in the refrigerator.



December 2015 27

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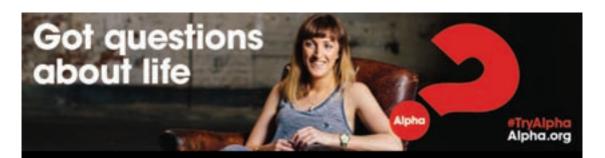
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The sessions will run on Tuesday evenings. Why not come along to our first evening in The Tiger Lounge, High Street, Lindfield on Tuesday 12th January at 7.30pm. The evening will include a free two course meal, a short talk entitled; 'Is there more to life than this'? by way of introduction to Alpha and further details of the course.

For more information or to book your place please call All Saints Lindfield Church Office on 01444 482405 or email: allsaints@lindfield.info

(Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements)





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Local brides enjoy charity Fashion Show

Last month Lindfield bridalwear retailer Mathilda Rose held the first ever Mathilda Rose Fashion Show took place Hendall Manor Barns. More than 50 brides came along with their guests and were welcomed with a glass or two of fizz, canapés and live music from harpist Ellen Smith. The atmosphere was so exciting and there was a definite buzz in the air!

Following the reception guests were invited through to a dream dress catwalk where the 17th century barn had been transformed into a fashionable extravaganza! Opulent gold eucalptus floral displays created by Flowerbug Designs adorned the candle lit catwalk whilst from the ceiling hung an abundance of pretty white paper lanterns.

The staging and lighting had been professionally custom designed for the event to compliment the barn's lovely rough sandstone walls and the tall vaulted roof.

The models shimmied down the catwalk in beautiful classic favourites along with sneaky peeks at new 2016 collections from Maggie Sottero, Johanna Hehir and Stephanie Allin. All choreographed by Lindfield's own award-winning Piers Gielgud from The Gielgud Academy of Performing Arts. Hair and make up was breathtakingly beautiful by TWIA national winner Kirsty McCall and perfectly complimented the custom headpieces designed especially for the event by Lomax & Skinner.

During the fashion shows guests were given the opportunity to bid for some absolutely amazing prizes in an auction of promises! All proceeds from the auction were donated to local hospice; St Peter and St James the final figure expected to be close to £4,000!!



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By Jacqui Smith, interior designer

The Sunday night before a show home install week is never a carefree one. No amount of Downton Abbey escapism or wine will quell the 'will everyone do as they have promised?' demons.

The first week in November was always going to be busy. Work was progressing on-site on a few projects, we were attending the Care Show at the NEC and the latest show home was being installed. At the same time the furnishings specification for a six storey dementia home in Poole was being finalised. A hectic week but all very do-able. The show home install began on Monday. Apart from some muddy footprints on one of the papered walls (don't ask!) the house was relatively ready for us to furnish. Cue supplier bombshell number one: delivery of eight chairs, two of which were completely the wrong colour.

We then discovered items which had arrived on-site in pieces and we also had a table supplied without legs. As all this was happening I was in the office, having to stay back at HQ to meet with a supplier. I had been asked to reselect an entire care home's worth of fabric and furniture since the client's build costs have been higher than expected so savings needed to be made elsewhere. This task requires focus and, ideally, no interruptions. The team are on-site. The phones predictably go bananas. Cue sub-contractor bombshell: having been given an electrical plan for a care home lounge in Petworth, detailing position and specification of pendants and downlights and also having been handed accompanying chandeliers to fit, an electrician on-site fits six hideous fittings instead (think multi-storey car park stairwell). The client is understandably concerned and asking me why he would do that. Why would he do that? I could not answer; only reassure her that we would sort it immediately, which we did.

Later that afternoon I am with my supplier knee deep in fabrics in an intense yet happily productive meeting.

Cue unusually diabolical behaviour from fighting boys in adjacent living room. Thankfully the supplier is a mother of boys and, rather than casting judgement, she told me that she was pleased that it was not just her boys who do that sort of thing! I love this lady. At the end of Monday night I feel like we have completed a week's work and I have exhausted a month's worth of adrenalin.

On Tuesday morning, after a quick site visit, we head up the M40 to the NEC. Within minutes of being in the car we learn that a fabric we had ordered for a pre-Christmas sofa which the supplier had already processed incorrectly, causing us delay, is now ready but our 38m is now only 35.6m as it has shrunk during the fire retardant treatment and the problem is rather astonishingly left at our door! Not happy. If I order 38m of treated fabric, that is exactly what I expect to get. More adrenalin and a few calls later we resolve the problem and will meet our lovely client's pre-Christmas sofa delivery. We drive back from the NEC on Wednesday via a wholesaler for some replacement pieces for the show home which had arrived from various suppliers either damaged or substandard quality, and then head down to site for 3pm to take delivery of the show home sofas. At 3.30pm we get a call from our storage company. The supplier had made a mistake and had delivered the sofas there. The MD of Barratts is due on site the next morning to look at the show home; we need those sofas on-site. Quick regroup and Jenna's fiancé comes to the rescue with his van and he and David then transport the sofas to site. AND breathe.

As I complete this article it's only Wednesday evening and I am exhausted yet have that glorious sense of achievement you get when you have overcome so many challenges in such a short space of time. Early tomorrow I plan to place cushions and accessories at the show home ahead of the MD's visit; the very small but most enjoyable element of an interior designer's job.

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Support for first time mums and dads

Rainbow is the only group in Lindfield specifically for first time mums, dads and their babies. It means that everyone is in the same boat, experiencing the dramas and joys of life with a newborn. "That makes it a unique place to meet new friends," says Ali Steynor who recently joined the group with her baby son Samuel.

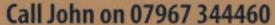
Rainbow meets on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 - 3.30pm in the Tiger building next door to All Saints church. There is one room for the babies and, as they grow and start to walk, a different room for the toddlers.

"There is no charge and everyone is welcome, so if you are a new mum or dad (though it is mainly mums who come) it would be great to see you," comments organiser Julia Storer. Call Julia for more info: 01444 482956.



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Could you spare a few hours a week?

By Anita Wright

Are you older with a wealth of experience and knowledge? Would you like to help a local charity help older people living in Mid Sussex?

If so, there's never been a better time to volunteer for Mid Sussex Older People's Council (MSOPC). Unique in that it was set up and is managed and run by older people - starting just as a group, now 11 years on a registered charity and limited liability company. Unique also in providing an independent voice and information network for older people living in Mid Sussex. It has no premises and no staff, though it does buy in professional help where it's needed and it has funding available to do so.

We are currently looking for more volunteers: Management Committee members - ideally people living in Mid Sussex who enjoy working together to plan and deliver MSOPC's strategy and operation.

Individuals who might like to make use of their media and communications experience or minute-taking or who have a knowledge of Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency would be particularly welcome, as would aspiring 'officers'.

In addition, we are always on the look out for those volunteers to driver minibuses or be event stewards.

If you think you might like to volunteer for MSOPC call 01444 242760 or email: anita@msopc.org.uk



32 www.lindfieldlife.co.uk



The Paper Sky by El Gruer

BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

So here is a first for the book review – we have never done poetry.

El Gruer is married to a Lindfield ex resident, Steve Mansell, and they are currently based in Brighton. She is a thoughtful and new voice, being able to write poems of real wit.

Verses with topics like Alzheimer's and the trafficking of children are powerful and show an empathy and a humanity about the suffering people go through. Yet El can also produce a poem about addiction to breakfast cereals which is full of delightful puns, fun and yet able to look at the reality of the problems addicts face. There is a lyrical beauty in many places which recalls the celtic poets like Dylan Thomas, showing the fragility of life.

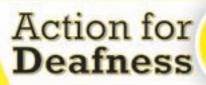
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Lindfield Rural Parish Council Newsletter

December 2015

Millennium Village Centre, Lewes Road, Scaynes Hill, West Sussex RH17 7PG Tel: 01444 831499 email: lindfieldrural.parishcouncil@virgin.net www.lindfieldrural-pc.org.uk

Autumn Statement - 2015

Well, if it is good enough for the Chancellor of the Exchequer then an 'autumn statement' is good enough for a Parish Council. It was felt an excellent opportunity to relate how your Parish Council had been involved over the past months.

Residents may remember the researches and subsequent exhibitions that have taken place over the past year to fulfil our role with the Neighbourhood Plan. Both Lindfield Councils and residents have laboured over that period and it is hoped that we can now move to a referendum with the residents early next year. We hope to have more information in the next newsletter.

The housing at Heathwood Park is under construction at the moment and will be for a long period to come (at least another two years to completion). Councillors attend regular liaison meetings held by the developer (Barratt's/Wates), so if any resident has any questions for the developer please contact our Clerk, Mrs Di Morgan.

Another element of public concern is the number of potholes that have accumulated over the year. WSCC Highways have an 'intervention level' to determine impact and action repairs. Potholes must be a minimum of 40mm deep and at least 150mm wide in all directions. so there are a number not reaching the level where action can be taken. Erosion of road edges is also a concern, but again there is a minimum intervention level of 100mm deep within 300mm of the left-hand edge of the carriageway or left of the edge solid white line. WSCC Highways are currently investigating some of our rural roads which became eroded (e.g. Blackbrook Lane, Scaynes Hill) last winter. Please keep reporting problems with location, measurements and photographs if possible but ensure it is safe to gather this information before accessing the road! Reports can be made directly to WSCC using the Love West Sussex website or by downloading an app for your phone from here: http://love.westsussex.gov.uk/reports/home You can also report problems to the Parish Office in person, by phone or by email.

The Council has also requested that WSCC takes proactive work to avoid areas of flooding within the

Parish that occurred last winter. Most of the trouble spots (e.g. East Mascalls Lane and Town Hill) resulted from drains blocked by mud and debris. We shall continue to target those areas but in the meantime please report where drains are blocked, particularly where there is a flood risk.

The rents for the Gravelye Lane Allotments became due on 1st October and several residents have decided to relinquish their plots. We would like to encourage more residents to apply, including those living in Heathwood Park. There was previously a waiting list for non-residents but because of demand within the Parish this was discontinued several years ago. It has now been decided to reopen the waiting list, although priority will still be given to residents within the Parish. Applications should be made to the Parish Office.

Civic Amenity Collections

A refuse freighter for free collection of household and garden waste will be provided on Sunday 29th November 2015 Sunday 14th February 2016 Between 10am and midday at the north end, Scaynes Hill Common.

Please do not leave rubbish in the absence of the refuse freighter. No trade or builders' waste will be accepted.

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Your Parish Councillors

John Dumbleton (Chair)	Tel: 482633	Keith Martin	Tel: 831431
Ray Jones (Vice Chair)	Tel: 453868	Steve Minter	Tel: 831786
Brian Bunt	Tel: 484661	Andy Spooner	Tel: 831602
Richard Cox	Tel: 484070	Parish Clerk: Di Morgan	Tel: 831499
Chris Hersey	Tel: 482270	Finance Officer: Vera Grainger	Tel: 831499
Margaret Hersey	Tel: 482270	Assistant: Irene Nicholas	Tel: 831499

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Council meetings coming up

Monday 30th November	Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre
Monday 11th January	King Edward Hall, Lindfield

Monday 22th February	Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre

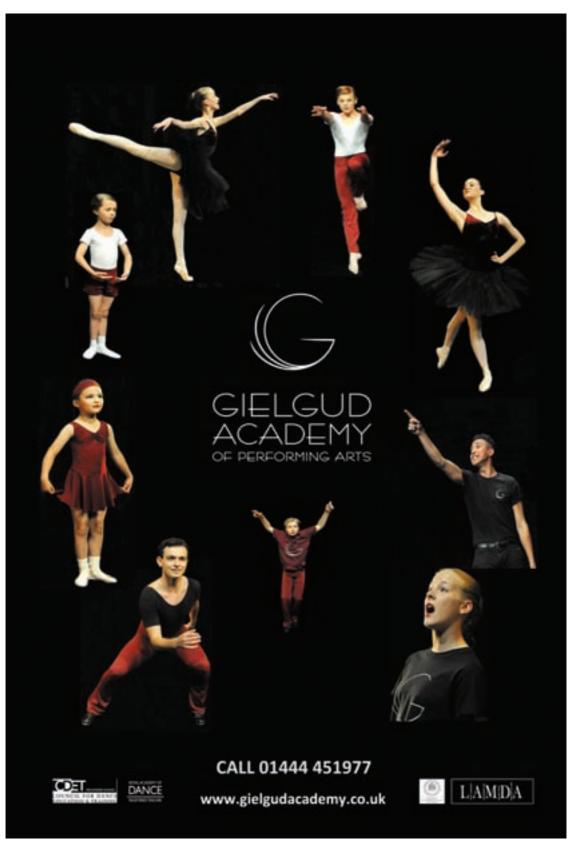
Monday 11th April

King Edward Hall, Lindfield

King Edward Hall, Lindfield

	Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre
Monday 16th May	Annual Meeting of the Council

December 2015 35



36 www.lindfieldlife.co.uk

The Jackson legend lives on

By David Tingley

I must confess to being something of a closet fan of the late, controversial and bizarre musical genius that was Michael Jackson. I wasn't lucky enough to have seen him in concert back in the day – and I had assumed I had missed it. Until, that is, a friend recommended the tribute show Jackson Live in Concert. I looked them up and, as luck would have it, they were about to play The Martlets Hall in Burgess Hill. I was booked!

The show, which consisted of six band members and three dancers, opened with an incredibly powerful rendition of Gotta Be Starting Something. The band was tight and sounded great from the off. The first thing that struck me about the show in that opening number was how much of a show it was. Clearly MJ always brought a huge show when he was performing in stadiums and arenas, but I had imagined that this would simply be a band playing the hits. The in-sync dancers, the lighting changes right on cue, the false endings on songs; all made a fantastic live show.

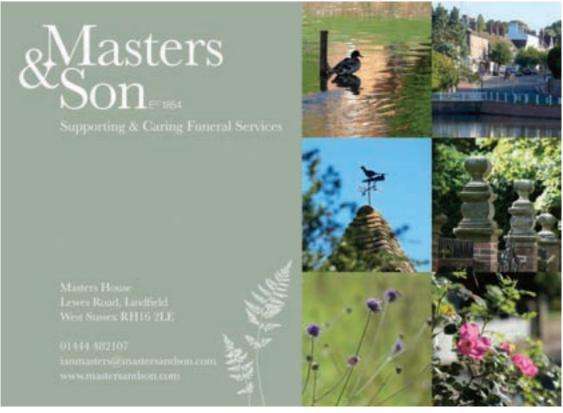
The professional musicians all played their part in the imitation. The mysteriously mono-named 'Ben' has been a Jackson tribute artist for ten years and he really takes the role seriously, complete with 'hee-hee', 'shamon' and some very odd facial expressions which I could easily imagine Jacko doing! In Earth Song he donned the legendary white shirt and took on MJ's somewhat

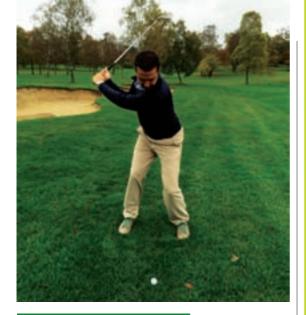


misguided saviour position for the chorus. And the lead guitarist too; for Black or White he performed the solo triumphantly and walked amongst the audience with MJ while excited onlookers grabbed selfies while they could.

The dancers really added to the production, whether it was the start of The Way You Make Me Feel and seductive slow moves by one in a sparkly blue dress, suited for Smooth Criminal or jumping off the stage as ghosts in Thriller for the second half.

It was especially great to see an almost packed house of a local theatre on a Saturday night in 'X Factor season' – sadly almost unheard of these days. The reputation of this formidable tribute show went before it and the crowd came in droves, shouting 'we love you Michael' as they did!





Ball striking

TEEING OFF

By James Verrall, Head Golf Professional

One of the biggest struggles in golf is to consistently make good contact with the golf ball. Things like topped shots or hitting the ground fat can have a devastating effect on your score. This month we will focus on how you can consistently make good contact when out on the course.

The most common reason golfers miss strike the ball is because of too much body movement. Moving sideways or up and down is detrimental and can never be consistent.

To help stop any sideways movement (swaying) on the backswing, make sure you keep your back knee flexed and as still as possible. This will give you good stability and help you make a good strike on the ball.

A less common but still destructive move is sliding through the ball; this is sideways movement forward on the downswing. To make sure you don't slide, your back knee should never go past the front knee when you finish. The ideal finish position is to have your knees pinched together at the end.

To eliminate any vertical movement off the ball, try to keep your upper body on one level. Moving up and down can cause all sorts of ball striking problems. Often you don't realise that you are moving your head until someone tells you. Try and get someone to watch your head when you hit a shot and ask them if it moves. Alternatively, make some swings in front of a mirror and see if you keep your head still.

Keep the sideways and vertical movements to a minimum and watch your ball striking improve. However, don't forget you still need to turn!!!

Finally, we all here at Haywards Heath Golf Club wish you a Happy Christmas. Come in and see us in January as we will have a complete new shop refit, new brands and massive savings on golf lessons.....

Lindfield Life

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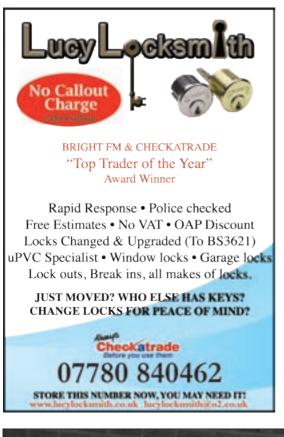
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Aiden's Christmas Dinner Project

Local parents Lucy and Simon Pond have teamed up with Rockinghorse Children's Charity to provide young patients and their families at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital (the Alex) with a Christmas dinner kit for the big day.

In memory of their son Aidan, Lucy and Simon, from Haywards Heath, set up the Christmas Dinner Project in the summer of 2014 having met with staff from Rockinghorse and the Alex about the idea, which was born from their own experience of spending Christmas at the children's hospital in Brighton the previous year.

Aidan Pond was tragically diagnosed with a rare genetic disease called mitochondrial disease at just one year old. Sadly there is no treatment or cure for the disease and Aidan passed away at the Alex on 1st March 2014. As part of a legacy for Aidan, Lucy and Simon's determination and support from Rockinghorse has seen them raise over £6,000 to date towards the Christmas Dinner Project for the 50 or so families who spend Christmas each year in the hospital. Hampers are also going to be given to parents with babies being treated at the Trevor Mann Baby Unit (TMBU).

Louise Bartha, Individuals and Campaigns Manager at Rockinghorse, said: "We have loved working with Lucy and Simon, and Middle Farm, on this project in memory of Aidan. Last year it was fantastic to see first-hand how pleased families were to receive their Dinner Kits on Christmas Eve, and Rockinghorse is committed to helping to provide these kits every year as part of our Christmas celebrations for the Alex and TMBU. In fact Lucy and Simon's project has been so successful we have made it an official part of our Christmas campaign along with the Toy Box appeal."

For more information on the project please go via: http://on.fb.me/1078hdR Donations can be made towards this year's Christmas Dinner Project. Visit www.justgiving.com/aidanschristmasdinnerproject to pledge your support.







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December 2015 41

What's on in December

AT KING EDWARD HALL

2nd Hickory & Lindfield Montessory Nursery – Nativity Play

(Jackie Pickett 01444 473311)

3rd **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am (Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)

5th Mid Sussex Older People's Council – Christmas Event – 2pm

Tea with entertainment provided by St Pauls Young Musicians (For further information contact 01444 242760 or email anita@msopc.org.uk)

8th Christmas Festival Night

10th Lindfield Country Market - 10am-11am

12th Lindfield Christmas Party

Including Fish & Chip Supper with Festive Disco. All profit to be donated to The Royal British Legion (for further information or tickets contact Sara Harding on 07966 039740 or lindfieldxmasparty@hotmail.com)



17th Lindfield Country Market – 10-11am

24th Lindfield Country Market – 10-11am

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

AND ELSEWHERE

28th Scaynes Hill WI Christmas Market – 11am-4pm Nov Millennium Hall. Stalls include crafts, bric a brac, charity goods and Chinese freshwater pearls Refreshments and cakes available

7th NHS Retirement Fellowship Mid Sussex Branch 11am Christmas Lunch, Barnsgate Manor

8th Mid Sussex Local History Group AGM followed by a Christmas Magic Lantern Show, 9.45am at Franklands Village Hall New members welcome, we usually meet on 4th Tuesday of each month (contact Joan Corless on

8th Christmas Festival Night – 6-9pm Lindfield High Street and Lindfield United Reformed Church. Father Christmas arrives at 6pm (High Street closed to traffic between 5.30pm-9.30pm)

01444 470108 for details)

9th **Tiger Arts lunchtime concert** 1pm Lindfield URC. Concert with Oathall Community College Music Students. Concert starts at 1pm, light lunches from 12.15pm

10th Mid Sussex Association of the National Trust 2.30pm at Clair Hall, Haywards Heath A Celebratory History of Christmas by Andy Thomas

11th Cuckfield Christmas Tree Festival

13th (Opening times see www.cuckfieldctf.org.uk Tickets £4 adults, U16s free)

13th **The Gift FM** begins broadcasting on 87.9FM from 7am today, until midday Christmas Day (p.7) (listen online at www.theqiftfm.com)

21st Sussex Chorus Family Carol Concert
6.30pm, Kings Church, Burgess Hill
Family friendly Christmas favourites (with
audience participation too!)
Tickets £12, students/children under 16 £3
(Available from: www.sussexchorus.org and
Carousel Music 01444 417654)

For Christmas Church Services information see the centre pages of this magazine

42 www.lindfieldlife.co.uk

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Jill Latter	16
John Higgins Contemporary Silver	17
Tufnells	18
Harmony at Home	18
RTFJ (bespoke jewellery)	19
Mathilda Rose	19
Field & Forrest (deli)	19
The Swedish Horse Company	20
The Green Tree Gallery	20
The Leaping Hare Boutique	38

Out & About

Lindfield Festival Night	12
Repast Supper Club	12
Ardingly Choral Centre	25
Tiger Arts	25
The Fig Tree (restaurant)	27
All Saints Church (alpha)	28

Health/Lifestyle

Six Physio	9
Potential Personal Training	10
La Touche	16
Jakki Todd (beautician)	19
Penny Black Barber Shop	26
Talk for Change	28
Action for Deafness	33
Lindfield Chiropractic Centre	41

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