

Lindfield *Life*

The background of the magazine cover is a photograph of a park-like setting. In the foreground, there is a large, dark tree on the left and a field of bright yellow daffodils in the center and right. The background shows more trees and a clear sky. The title 'Lindfield Life' is overlaid on the top left, with 'Lindfield' in a bold sans-serif font and 'Life' in a white script font.

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by the village

Mar. 2017 Issue #98

Free

Stories from the toy shop

page 32

Brian Tester remembered

page 16

What can you do in the garden?

page 20

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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

It doesn't always happen but this month we have lots of great content from a few of our local schools. Just over the page, Blackthorns secretary **Angela Day** gets the recognition she deserves for having only recently left the school after 25 years service! **Lindfield Primary Academy** is on the lookout for lunchtime supervisors on **page 18**. And Oathall Community College student **Kate Garwood** has written a book review on **43**, along with **Jess** and **Cavan** too. Plus, on **page 6**, there is a request for anyone who feel they could provide a service to the community on the school crossing patrol force.

Away from education in general, on **page 20** Lindfield's **Heather Martin** takes us into the garden and shares what's on locally and also what we can all be doing if we fancy a spot of gardening this early in the season.

Sharon Coulbeck brings us up to speed on the local Scouts on **page 23** – and it looks like they are seeking opportunities to be helpful so do have a read.

I am very pleased to introduce a new contributor to our pages in the form of Lindfield resident **Joe Wayte** who, on **page 32**, shares his meeting with toy extraordinaire **Kieron James**, in the first in a series which we hope will lift the lid on the folk who run our Lindfield shops. Thanks Joe and Kieron for being our 'guinea pigs'!

Talking of guinea pigs, **Jennie Powell** is the first to take the stand in another new regular feature – **5 Minutes With**. Turn to **page 29** to see if you recognise her! If you'd like to take part then we'd love to hear from you. Email your own answers to the questions to editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk along with a photo please.

Lastly, and sadly, we have a couple of tribute articles this month. One to **Charis Diamond** on **page 28**, and another, on **page 16**, to celebrate the life of **Brian Tester** and all that he brought to village life here.

Enjoy the spring as it develops!

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David Tingley
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NEWS

We 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

Booking opens for Village Run

Runners across Sussex and beyond are invited to book their place for the renowned Lindfield Village Run, which takes place on Bank Holiday Monday 29th May and is generously sponsored by Lindfield businesses Potential Personal Training and Six Physio.

Online booking opened last month, so now is a great time to reserve your place and set yourself a challenge!

The route goes cross country around the village and runners see some beautiful Sussex views on the way, while raising money for Lindfield's King Edward Hall, a registered charity.

Experienced runners can pre-book online (www.kingedwardhall.org.uk) onto the 10k run (£10 per entry), or there is a 5k option for families and 'fun' runners (£5). Refreshments will be available for both runners and supporters.

Everyone who finishes gets a medal and the times are recorded and published on the Hall's website.



A Red Nose Day idea

Later this month Red Nose Day makes a welcome return not only to our screens, but also in shops and schools as many folk do their best to help raise money for children and families in need here in the UK and in Africa.

Comic Relief this year is on Friday 24th March and the organisers are hoping that the South East will lead the charge again, as the area raised a staggering £1.3m last Red Nose Day.

If you fancy organising a bake sale there are loads of resources and recipes from rednoseday.com/recipes – so why not get involved and do something amazing?

We would love to showcase any fundraising events that have taken place in Lindfield or Scaynes Hill in the next available issue, so do please send in your photos as well as how much you raised to editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk - before Tuesday 11th April.

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Angela's big day!

On 7th January 1992, Angela Day arrived at Blackthorns Community Primary School to begin work in the school office. In January this year the whole school community celebrated Angela's 25 years of dedication and commitment to the school.

During her time at Blackthorns she has worked for four Headteachers and seen over 1,000 children come through the school. She has always been very much involved in all aspects of school life, serving on the PTA for many years and also as a school governor.

The children and staff prepared a special assembly in her honour, which involved each class preparing poems, songs and films to mark this very special achievement and to say thank you to Mrs Day for everything she does for the school, staff and families. A collection took place amongst the staff and families at the school, which raised over £400, which has been spent on a mini-break for Mrs Day and her husband. She was also presented with gifts from the academy's governing body and the University of Brighton Academies Trust.

In a thank you message to the families of the school, Mrs Day said: "I just want to say thank you so much to everyone for the very generous gift I received on the occasion of my 25 years at Blackthorns - I have been overwhelmed by everyone's kind words and generosity. My husband and I are looking forward to a mini break in the spring.



"My 'special assembly' was brilliant and the children were amazing. They made me some beautiful cards which I will treasure forever. Some of the things they wrote made me cry but others made me smile!

"I feel very privileged to be able to play a small part in your children's lives as they make their journey through primary school and onto the next step in their education. Thank you once again."



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West Sussex County Council are currently looking for a school crossing patrol to assist the community in crossing the busy roads around Lindfield during school start and finish times.

According to Louise Bishop: "We are happy for anyone in this role to share morning and/or afternoon duties to make the job flexible where possible."

The exact hours required are still to be confirmed, but it would be approximately two hours per day. Full on-site training will be given along with summer and winter uniforms. Term time only with a salary of £7.20 p/hour.

If you are interested please contact: louise.bishop@westsussex.gov.uk or call her on 0330 222 6744.



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Popsteps second anniversary



Lindfield's Becky Stevens is keen to celebrate the second anniversary of Popsteps – a kids' dance and fitness programme which appeals to all.

Becky took the plunge and started the business when she moved back to Lindfield, and she's not looked back since. "Last year was a really great year for Popsteps," she commented. "We participated in and organised many charity events including a great day in the Orchards Shopping Centre in June where the Popsteps children danced and raised just over £800 for Great Ormond Street Hospital!" Something the children are due to repeat again this May.

"We also held our second Popsteps Christmas party/ Danceathon at Clair Hall in aid of CLIC Sargent children's cancer charity raising just over £400. Many local business donated some fabulous raffle prizes for this including Lindfield's Toll House, Bliss and The Red Lion – which we are really grateful for."

In September last year Popsteps enjoyed performing at Lindfield Arts Festival and they hope to be back there again this year.

Popsteps also won the MORE Radio Best New Business Award 2016! "Now we are the 'award winning' Popsteps!" the very proud Becky explained.



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Don't let the Blues get you down

By Iain MacLean, Chairman Mid Sussex Blues

When half-a-dozen football fans began to meet regularly back in late 2001 under the watchful eye of former Irish soccer international Gerry Ryan - then the landlord of The Witch Inn, Lindfield - they could hardly have anticipated that 15 years later they would form the core of the Mid Sussex Blues, which is a branch of the Official Manchester City Supporters Club.

Perhaps surprisingly, 2001/02 proved to be a launching pad for Man City, especially considering they had just been demoted to the second tier of English football at the end of the previous season. But after scoring a record equalling 108 goals and notching up 99 points, setting a new record at the time, City ran away with the Division 1 championship by a 10 point margin and propelled the Blues back in to the top flight once again.

These were exciting time for the devoted Man City fans in exile 'down south' and as the team's success gathered pace so the word spread about what was going on at The Witch. Pretty soon the original stalwarts were being joined by a dozen or so other ex-pat Mancunians plus some with looser Manchester connections and, of course, a love for City.

By 2005 The Witch had become the unofficial HQ for the newly formed Mid Sussex Blues (MSBs) with 22 members, and Gerry Ryan having been installed as honorary president. At their first formal meeting the MSBs elected Pete Dutson as its Chairman (a role he only relinquished last year), John Joyce became Secretary (now succeeded by his wife, Julie) and ever-present Roderick Cummins took on the role of Treasurer.

Now with membership approaching the 100 mark the MSBs have switched their preferred venue for watching City games to the St. Francis Social & Sports Club in the grounds of the Princess Royal Hospital, after The Witch effectively became a restaurant following Gerry's retirement.

Our hosts at St Francis have made us very welcome and there are excellent facilities, including giant TV screens. We also hold our regular branch meeting there in an informal atmosphere. Any Man City fan who would like more details of our activities or would like to join the MSBs should contact our Social Secretary, Daryn Buckley, on 07758 557729.

Towards the end of each season we organise a major social event based around a 'legends night' which gives MSBs the opportunity to get close-up and personal with any trophies City has won in the previous 12 months and to meet and talk to City stars of the recent past. That means the MSBs have twice been custodians of the Premier League Trophy and the FA Cup plus the League Cup and the Charity Shield.

Some of the City stars that have joined the faithful for the 'legends nights' in the past have included Tommy Booth, Rodney Marsh, Shaun Goater and Dave Watson.



This year's event will take place on 14th April at the St Francis Club, tickets are £15 (including supper) and with a brilliant evening guaranteed it will be a great opportunity for any lonely City fans out there to meet up with fellow sufferers! We look forward to meeting you.



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Families invited to sports fun at Great Walstead

Local charity Time 4 Children is collaborating with a local business to host a Family Sports event at Great Walstead School this month.

Tiny Tekkers is a multi-sports coaching service for children with parties, one-to-one tuition and after school clubs. According to director Jordan Badger Tiny Tekkers is on a mission to develop children's good sporting habits from a young age.

Time 4 Children is a small local charity which aims to increase the emotional wellbeing, self-confidence and self-esteem of emotionally vulnerable children between the ages of 4 and 12 in Mid Sussex and surrounding areas. It provides weekly sessions for children to explore their worries, fears, anxieties or experiences with trained volunteer practitioners.

The event will take place at Great Walstead School where Jordan and his team will organise a range of sports activities inside the hall for all the family to enjoy between 1-3pm on Sunday 12th March. Time 4 Children will run a food and drink stall selling refreshments and cakes/biscuits, with all proceeds going to Time 4 Children. There will also

be a raffle/tombola with some great prizes to be won – all donated by local businesses. Families are asked to donate as a form of entry – with a suggested £10 per family.

Victoria Keen, a volunteer at Time 4 Children, comments:

"Both of my sons have been going to Jordan's brilliant multi-sports classes and half term soccer camps for many years and I saw this as a great opportunity to combine forces with him. Together we can bring families together to do something that promotes health and wellbeing whilst doing some valuable fundraising."

For more information on the event email jordan@tinytekkers.com or call 07702 433227.



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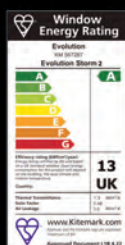
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The Power of Light

HOMEFRONT



By Jacqui Smith, interior designer

Lighting: one of the most important parts of interior design yet something which can often be left as an afterthought. Lighting can make or break a scheme for many reasons. A single source of light, for instance down lights or a simple pendant will provide a very flat one dimensional light. A pendant will leave you with dark spots in the room and neither will add anything by way of texture or mood nor support any tasks carried out in the space. For a scheme that works you need a variety of types of light; general, mood, task and less essentially (yet often desirable) decorative.

The wrong type of light can have an enormous impact on a scheme and greatly affect the colour rendering of a scheme and also how people feel in a space. I see many care homes fitted with LED lights on the correct assumption that after the initial outlay, maintenance would be minimal, yet the fitting is a cool blue light LED which renders any furniture or finishes with warm red tones, a far from uplifting muddy brown. We have all looked at an item of clothing in store and found ourselves wandering to the closest source of natural light, risking the security buzzers, to check the true colour. So you get my point, the colour temperature of a light fitting plays a key role in an interior scheme.

Lighting can also affect our body clock. This has been really hammered home to me through our work in healthcare design. Different colours of light have varied wavelengths which the human body responds to in different ways. The cool blue light of the morning kick starts our body clock; the presence of sunlight stimulates the brain to secrete cortisol which promotes a state of alertness, preparing us for the day. As the light changes through the day and then fades to the warm yellow of dusk, we receive the cue to start thinking about winding down and ultimately falling asleep. The science behind this cue is the hormone melatonin which the brain releases towards the end of the day, which causes us to feel drowsy. White and blue based lights will inhibit

the secretion of melatonin which will consequently interrupt our body clock, upsetting our usual sleep pattern. So a cool blue light in a care home dining room at the end of the day is not conducive to a relaxed and restful evening for residents. Difficulties regulating the body clock are common in old age and particularly significant for people with dementia so getting the lighting right is essential.

I have read stories of even the smallest blue light on an electrical item in a bedroom, altering people's sleep patterns. Surprisingly nightlights in nurseries can often be a cool light. Melatonin is necessary for children not only to go to sleep but to stay asleep for longer – what every parent wants! On reading this, it got me thinking about blue light and young children.

When Cameron was a baby and we were living in Dorking, in a quest to lull him in to his 4.30pm Gina Ford nap I would take him out into town. The motion of the pushchair had him nodding off in minutes, I could shop and he would snooze away quite happily. Yet there was one shop which seemed to cause a problem. No sooner had the wheels of the pushchair touched the coconut matting of the entrance to Sussex Stationers, Cameron's eyes would open and he would start squawking. The second we left the shop he was fine. Initially I did not see a pattern but after subsequent trips with the same response I realised that there was something about this shop which bothered him. Recently reading about light wavelengths and the human response, I now understand that babies and young children really struggle with blue light. Looking back to the stationery shop, it did always feel uninviting and coolly lit so that, after all these years, explains everything. Whilst red light does not promote sleep, it is the only light which does not interfere with the release of melatonin so for a night light would be the best choice.

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"A man who
loved Lindfield
and who
Lindfield loved."



Brian Tester Remembered - 1942-2016

OBITUARY

Brian was born on 21st February 1942, the only child of Minnie and Mervin Tester who lived on Hickmans Lane and his family's roots were embedded in Sussex. His paternal grandfather, Edward was once the landlord of The Green Man in Horsted Keynes and his uncle Scan was a notable folk musician who played the local pubs and even The Royal Festival Hall.

Brian attended Lindfield Primary School, where he later served as a School Governor, and was accepted to continue his education at Brighton and Hove Grammar School, leaving in 1958 to join the London Quantity Surveying practice of AE Thornton-Firkin and Partners initially as a student then as trainee/junior QS. He studied part time at the Regent Street Polytechnic, completing his Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) examinations and becoming Chartered in 1965.

In 1963 he joined AL Smith & Partners, then based in offices in Victoria Street until they opened an office in Haywards Heath in 1974, and Brian became the resident partner in 1975.

Brian began his active life with the RICS as a member of the Sussex Branch Junior Organisation, serving as Chair in 1971. He became a committee member of Sussex Branch in 1977 and was Chairman in the Centenary Year (1988/1989). He was also Chair of the QS Division on more than one occasion. At national level, he was a member of the Quantity Surveyors Divisional Council from 1990.

Outside of RICS, he was a member of the Sussex Local Joint Consultative Committee for Building from 1980. Among other affiliations he was Chair of the Consultant Quantity Surveyors Association in 1993/1994.

Brian met Sue at the Haywards Heath Golf Club where they were both having lessons and their romance blossomed when they would see each other again at the Sussex 20s Club. They married at All Saints Church, Lindfield in 1971 and moved to Croxton Lane. In 1973 their daughter Alison was born followed by a son, Jonathan, in 1976. Alison married Mark in 1997 and they have two children Hannah & Nathan and Jonathan married Sushi in 2013.

They continued to attend All Saints until 1982, when they joined the United Reformed Church and both took a very active role within the fellowship. Brian would often take part in the service, reading the lesson with his distinctive tone or even acting in dramas. As Alison and Jonathan joined The Girls' and Boys' Brigade, Brian took to coaching the BB Football Team and reprised his role as a referee, something he had done for the Mid Sussex Leagues. Alongside supporting Brighton & Hove Albion, Brian was an ardent follower of Sussex Cricket. He was passionate about cricket and had been a player for Lindfield Cricket Club and was also a member of the MCC. He loved the history of the game and was an avid collector of books on the sport and would often recount the story of Fred & Maurice Tate who both played for Sussex and England.

This love of history was a major part of Brian's life and he became something of a local historian. He enjoyed giving lectures and talks and indeed his last one was only in November 2016 on 'Memories of Lindfield' to the U3A History Group. He also owned an extensive postcard collection, the majority of which were of Lindfield. This culminated in the publication of the book 'Lindfield Remembered', which Brian co-authored with Gwyn Mansfield and Peter Duncan, and featured many of his personal collection with all proceeds going to the King Edward Hall.

Brian was a member of the team that founded the Lindfield Village Day celebrations, after they organised a fête for the 1977 Jubilee and its success led to it being an annual event and a staple of Lindfield life.

Throughout his life he was supported every step of the way by his beloved wife Sue who helped him prepare for his talks, attended postcard fairs and prepared picnics for their frequent cricket matches. His life has left a lasting legacy for those all who knew him, especially his children and grandchildren and he was even immortalised in music by his son's band and their song Big Bri In The Sky!

A man who loved Lindfield and who Lindfield loved.

A personal viewpoint

By Jonathan Tester

Dad died on the morning of 21st December 2016 and throughout the previous night my mum, sister and I had been present and were able to say goodbye and let him know that it was OK to leave and be at peace. As we knew he would not see Christmas we all went into the bedroom and had one last glass of Baileys together. I poured one for Dad and we left it by his bedside. Throughout these final hours we had the most amazing support from the hospice nurses who visited to make sure he wasn't in pain and their gentle manner and professional care provided great comfort, which we will never forget.

Dad knew the severity of his situation and therefore was able to plan a large part of his service. The choice of hymns and readings were all his and both he and mum chose Highland Cathedral as the last piece of music. My sister gave a very funny, yet moving, tribute and the service was led by my brother-in-law, Mark who had recently been ordained. We were overwhelmed by the attendance and to see the church over-flowing was a testament to the man Dad was. He was right to insist we ordered a lot of food for afterwards!

We will never be able to thank everyone enough for all the cards, flowers, hugs and messages of support. Each one has been a stitch to help mend our hearts.



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School seeks lunch time staff

Ever wondered what it's like trying to feed 550 hungry children in one hour? Well at Lindfield Primary Academy that is the daily challenge for the team of lunch time staff who are tasked with ensuring all children get fed, small tummies satisfied, tables cleared and outdoor playtimes enjoyed. Central to this task are the team of midday meals assistants who supervise the children both inside the lunch hall and outside in the playground, encouraging play, physical activity and most importantly helping to create a calm, happy and friendly lunch time for all pupils.

With more children than ever enjoying a hot lunch at school following the introduction of Universal Free Infant

School Meals back in 2014, for all key stage one children, Lindfield Primary's lunch time service needs you!

If you are interested in becoming a midday meal supervisor or simply hearing more about what the role has to offer, please contact the Lindfield Primary Academy office on 01444 482524. There are roles available Monday to Friday, term time, from a little as one hour per week up to five hours. No previous experience needed, just a desire and enthusiasm to work with children and help them enjoy a happy, safe and friendly lunch break.

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Battle of the Bands comes to Lindfield and it needs bands!

All Saints Church will play host to the Haywards Heath Battle of the Bands competition next month.

The contest, run by a group of youthworkers from the local area, is to take place in the church where the majority of the pews were recently removed as part of its reordering plans. "The new space is perfect for events like this, where flexibility of setup is key," commented Chris Steynor, pastor to the Under 30s at the church.

The competition is open to all young people in school or college from Year 9 and above in the area. Anyone interested should search HH Battle of the Bands 2017 on Facebook for more information. Or, to enter your band, email botbbhheath@hotmail.com - but it must be before Friday 10th March.

The main event will take place on Friday 7th April at 7.45pm at All Saints Church, Lindfield.

RBL hold talk at KEH

The Lindfield Branch of the Royal British Legion is holding a Tea & Talk meeting at the King Edward Hall later this month.

The talk, by Matt Taylor and Linda Grace from Mid Sussex RED, will be entitled: 'Passchendaele 100 & El Alamein 75, Lindfield Remembers...'

Doors open at 2pm, with the talk starting at 2.30pm, on Saturday 25th March. A tea of sandwiches, cakes and hot/cold drinks will be provided between 3.30 and 5pm, with all guests invited to view a topic related mini exhibition.

All profits donated to local, county and national Royal British Legion fundraising / charity initiatives.

Tickets (£8) are available from Jane (01444 454846), Pauline (01444 482672) or Kath (01444 483171).



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Spring is in the air!

IN THE GARDEN



By Heather Martin, garden designer

March has always held a special place in the horticultural calendar for me, having spent my early years in Wales where St. David's Day (1st March) heralded the coming of spring, with cheery daffodils a-plenty. The most eagle-eyed among you will have spotted the early-flowering daffodils in bloom since the end of January outside the King Edward Hall, a variety called Narcissus 'Rijnveld's Early Sensation'.

While the days are slowly becoming longer and a little warmer, even with the Vernal Equinox on 20th March the nights can still get very cold, so don't be tempted to plant tender annuals outside too soon - they will need another month or two of protection before being taken outside and carefully hardened off before planting out. But, if you can't stay away from the garden centre, you'll be able to pick up pots of colourful bulbs and spring bedding plants to add some ready-made colour to your borders that should be happy whatever the weather.

Talking of spring colour, my plant of the month is Chaenomeles 'Crimson and Gold' - this deciduous wall-shrub looks great grown tight up against a fence or wall, so it's a good choice to add interest along a solid boundary. It flowers on bare stems from late winter into spring, the red flowers giving way to a crop of yellow fruit which provide a lovely autumn-winter display and are perfect for making quince jelly.



To do in the garden this month

It's time to cut back the remains of last year's growth on herbaceous perennials, which may have been left on over winter to show off their attractive seed heads in the winter frosts, making way for the new season's growth. If they've grown too big for their spot it's a good moment to split these plants and a perfect opportunity to get into the borders and move things about before there is too much leafy growth and while you can see where you're treading without damaging your precious perennials.

Planning ahead, you can begin to sow the seeds of hardy annuals including Cosmos, Nicotiana and one of my favourites, Ammi majus. March heralds the height of the vegetable sowing season too, so if you'd like to grow your own food, now's the time to put your plans into action!

Out and about

Sue Greig will be talking about the revival of the Arts & Crafts garden at Standen at the Lindfield Horticultural Society's meeting on 8th March (see inside back page for details) and Nick Schroder is taking guided 'Camellia Heritage' tours around the historic camellia collection at Borde Hill Garden on 26th March (see their website for details www.bordehill.co.uk). Watch this space for details of Lindfield in Bloom's first project in next month's issue.

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Can our Scouts help you?

By Sharon Coulbeck

We have 34 Scouts, aged 11 to 14, ready and waiting to help you with your community work or project. Ideally the work the Scouts carry out will not only help YOU but will help our Scouts to grow as people themselves. The work/project does not have to be of a size to involve all of our Scouts, it maybe you only need help from a small number of volunteers and the times we can be available to help can be flexible. Our two Scout troops meet on a Monday or Wednesday evening but we can also be available at weekends subject to Scouts and Leader availability.

Why are we offering our services?

Well, apart from wanting our Scouts to grow up as good citizens who take pride in themselves and their local community, by helping out on community projects the Scouts are earning elements of a valuable 'World Challenge' badge which is one of nine challenge badges which contribute towards the highest accolade a Scout can earn, the Chief Scouts Gold Award.

We can be creative and adaptable as to what help our Scouts can provide you with. Any help we provide will include the appropriate Leader/Adult to Scout ratio so you will not be expected to directly supervise the Scouts, just tell us what you need and watch us go!

If you think your community project could do with some Scoutpower, please get in touch with us by emailing sl@lindfieldscouts.org and we can arrange to have an informal chat to get the ball rolling.

Know a fab kid?

The search is on for secondary school children who have gone the extra mile and deserve to be awarded for their achievement.

South Link Logistics is looking for nominations for its newly launched GEM Awards which aim to recognise these unsung heroes.

Schools, family members and friends are being asked to nominate a young person who has done something great in their local community such as organising an event to raise money for charity, or dedicating their spare time to volunteering. Each GEM winner will be presented with a Samsung Galaxy Tablet.

Rob Sutherland, Associate Director at South Link Logistics, commented: "Sometimes young people don't get the best press, but there are some amazing youngsters in the local area."

South Link will also be giving a further two GEM Awards to students who have displayed great sporting talent and shown fantastic school spirit.

Nominations can be emailed to SouthLink@pmwcom.co.uk. The deadline for nominations is midnight on Friday 24th March. All entries should include both the nominator and nominee's names and contact telephone numbers, the age of the nominee, the name of their school and why they deserve to be rewarded.

Celebrating musical talent

HAYWARDS HEATH MUSIC SOCIETY

An organisation which has been at the heart of music performance in Mid Sussex for decades providing inspiration and a platform for many aspiring young musicians, is currently celebrating a special anniversary.

For more than 75 years, the Haywards Heath Music Society has been responsible for hundreds of live music performances in the area, covering a wide range of musical styles, and displaying the talents of artists from gifted young amateurs to established names.

As the 75th season comes to a close this Spring, we look back on the history of the Society and its role in entertaining audiences and nurturing talent in Mid Sussex.

By Claire Cooper

The Haywards Heath Music Society was founded in 1941 by Gertrude Lampson 'to promote the presentation of public concerts and recitals'.

"During the war years, people avoided going out in the evenings, so concerts were always held in the afternoons," said member and former Chairman Gwyneth Paine, from Lindfield. "With concerts held in public halls and schools in Haywards Heath, Lindfield and Cuckfield, the Society filled a real need for live music performances."

In 1974, concerts moved to the newly built Clair Hall. By this time the society had built up a reputation for excellence with its programme of six evening concerts and recitals each season, many featuring leading international musicians.

Over the years performers have included Gerald Moore, Evelyn Rothwell, James Blades, and more recently Anthony Rolfe Johnson, Steven Osborne, Emma Johnson, Julian Lloyd Webber, Cleo Laine and Dame Evelyn Glennie.

In 1991 the society celebrated its Golden Anniversary with events including a Chamber Concert given by pupils from the Yehudi Menuhin School.

Organising such events is a huge task which requires months of careful planning and hard work and the ability to keep calm when things don't go to plan!

"I remember meeting Evelyn Glennie at Haywards Heath station and finding that her pianist had been taken ill and couldn't perform," said Gwyneth. "She came home with me and worked all afternoon to change her whole programme."

"On another occasion we had to find a last minute stand in when pianist Richard Rodney Bennett, who was due to fly in from New York, broke his arm and couldn't play. Luckily we were able to get Marian Montgomery, with pianist Laurie Holloway."

She added that in winter, she's been called upon to massage cold hands for musicians, and has become an expert 'page turner'!

Away from the concert halls, members have enjoyed lectures, discussions and musical evenings listening to recordings.

The society has always been passionate about encouraging young people to play, enjoy and appreciate music. In 1996 around 40 children enjoyed a percussion workshop at St Wilfrid's Church. "I remember it well,"



said Gwyneth. "The youngsters practised all day using 25 dustbins!"

But by the evening, the youngsters, many who had never played an instrument before, were performing on full sized professional timpani, xylophones, marimbas and other instruments!

Over the years, the society has not only built a reputation for promoting concerts and recitals by leading international musicians, it has also been active in helping the careers of young, local talented musicians by promoting recital concerts for them.

This includes the Young Musicians Showcase (formerly known as the Young Musicians Concert when it started in 1949).

The showcase sees dozens of youngsters of various ages and abilities, (from Grade 1 to 8,) take to the stage to perform. Applications are invited for youngsters from ages four upwards, either individually, as duos or in small ensembles. All instruments are welcome as well as singers.



"The showcase isn't a competition," explained Gwyneth. "It's an opportunity for young musicians to experience auditions and to perform in front of an audience. They learn how to behave on stage – how to walk on and off, smile and respond to the audience. These can be among the hardest things to learn."

"It's wonderful to see and experience the wealth of musical talent, and to hear the comments of the audience afterwards. So many of them are surprised by the quality of what they have seen. It also reflects the high quality of our local music teachers."

Many Showcase performers have gone on to become professional musicians, including Alexis White who now teaches at the Yehudi Menuhin School and at St Paul's in London, and cellist Pavlos Carvalho from Ensemble Reza. There's also Christopher Willis who lives and works in the USA writing music for The Walt Disney Organisation. "They like to use British orchestras to record the music," said Gwyneth.

Gwyneth's daughter Caroline, who took over running the Showcase three years ago, has also performed in previous concerts, as has granddaughter Sarah.

"In this year's Showcase we are aiming to incorporate 75 years of the Music Society by featuring music from different eras," said Caroline. "We are also hoping to welcome pianist Fiona Fawssett who performed in the very first Showcase and has been on the Society committee for many years."

This year's Young Musicians Showcase is at 2.30pm on 11th March at St Wilfrid's Church in Haywards Heath. Tickets cost £3.

The remaining two Music Society concerts are on 18th March when top Syrian concert pianist Riyad Nicolas from Aleppo will give a recital while on 8th April a concert will be given by 2012 BBC Young Musician of the Year, cellist Laura van der Heijden, accompanied by top British pianist Tom Poster.

Both concerts are at St Wilfrid's Church in Haywards Heath starting at 7.45pm.

Tickets for all concerts are available from Carousel Music in Haywards Heath.

Looking to the future, members of the Music Society Committee would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in continuing to support and promote live professional music in Mid Sussex.

For more information, visit their website www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk



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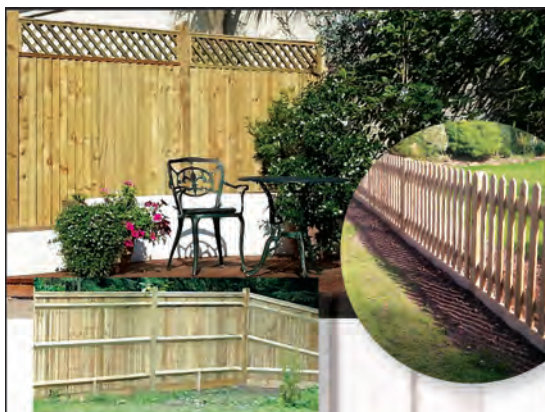
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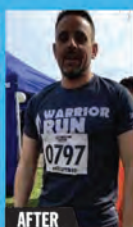
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Tribute to Charis Diamond

13.01.1943 – 31.12.2016

By Carol Rieley

I have always enjoyed the series 'Village People', finding out about the qualities, background and life experiences of Lindfield residents. It was when I was at my friend Charis Diamond's funeral on 17th January that I regretted not having nominated her to the Editor so that the village would know more of this truly inspirational person. Her name comes from the Greek meaning grace, kindness and life and she certainly lived up to her name.

Charis had lived in the village several years when she joined our Speech and Language service working just one day a week as a mature but newly qualified therapist. She worked for several different authorities in various children's clinics as far away as Rye, so her working week was quite fragmented. She was determined to get experience and this weekly regime would have been exhausting for anyone in a challenging new job but Charis was a determined disabled person. Having had polio as a six year old, she spent considerable time in an iron lung and had numerous operations on her back and legs when older. Yet, despite missing chunks of time from school, she passed the 11 plus and attended Lewes Grammar School for Girls before going on to attain an external BSc from Oxford Brookes and began teaching at Lewes High School for Girls, eventually becoming the Head Mistress. When the school became co-educational she decided that maybe life would be too challenging for her as Headteacher, especially dealing with strapping Sixth Form boys.

It was time for a change and she decided to take a post graduate degree at City University in Speech and Language Therapy completing it in two years of intense study and many practical clinical placements throughout Sussex and London.

Charis was a sensitive, creative, dedicated and caring therapist whose upward path mirrored that of her teaching career as she worked hard to become Team Leader for schools, managing many therapists across Horsham, Crawley and Mid Sussex. She whizzed around in her adapted car and was the most able disabled person I have ever known.



Retirement opened another door. As a committed Christian she was called to study at St John's Theological College after which she became a volunteer counsellor and chaplain at our two local hospices, firstly at St Catherine's and then at St Peter and St James. Her spiritual work carried over at All Saints Church where she had been a loyal member for over 40 years, was in the choir and led prayers at some services. She was part of the pastoral team with special responsibility for the bereaved and was instrumental in organising the service of thanksgiving to remember lost loved ones.

She had many interests, including theatre and opera, and was widely travelled, never letting her disability get in the way of having wonderful experiences such as a helicopter trip over glaciers in New Zealand. She was a strong member of a book group always finding time to read each book despite being incredibly busy. Her home and garden gave her great pleasure and I was often encouraged to take some of the vegetables grown in the very productive raised beds.

Sadly we shall no longer see her in her electric wheelchair and wearing bright colours whilst shopping in the High Street. Always smiling despite the increasing pain of Post Polio Syndrome, she was courageous and a delight to know. As a Girl Guide Charis was awarded a certificate for 'Fortitude', a word that epitomised her life right to the end. She will be remembered as an amazing person by her large loving family, all her friends, colleagues, past pupils and patients.

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5 MINUTES WITH...

Jennie Powell

Jennie and her husband moved to Sussex in 1975 and has worked for, among others, Columbia Films, Flowercraft and the Education Office when it was in Beckworth House, Lindfield. For the last five years she has run the King Edward Hall cinema shows and she's also the lady who organises the prizes for the raffle on Village Day.

How long have you lived in Lindfield?

35 years.

What's the best thing about being here?

The friendliness of the people who live here.

Favorite ice cream flavour?

Vanilla, as it goes with anything, even other ice creams!

Favourite holiday destination?

Devon, Cornwall and the New Forest.

How many houses have you lived in?

Four.

Your most enjoyable event in the village?

Village Day as there is always a lovely big family feel.

Who do you share a house with?

My husband Richard.

Song you play the most?

I have a wide variety of music from pop to classical.

Mac or PC?

PC.

Your most frequented village shop?

I suppose I visit Tufnells more than any other shop.

What's your proudest moment?

My daughter's wedding day / birth of our granddaughter.

Coke, juice or water?

Water.

Your advice for life?

Never worry about "what if". Just deal with a situation when and if it arises.

If you would like to provide your own answers for 5 Minutes With, simply email them to editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk along with a photo of yourself, or do please encourage a friend to send their answers in!

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"I had never tried yoga before, and couldn't understand what all the fuss was about. I was uncoordinated, with zero flexibility and the thought of attending a class with a room full of people who looked like they knew what they were doing was very unappealing. Then I went to India. I was out there to help my son get better from his arthritis. I had Sciatica myself and could barely walk, the last thing I wanted to do was a 'fitness class'. But Louie needed to attend yoga sessions as part of his healing programme, so I thought I would try this yoga thing too and join him in class.

Shine Babu was the yoga instructor at the Ayurvedic hospital we were at. His yoga truly is a therapy in itself! Within days both myself and my son were feeling much better, we were in less pain and within just a couple of weeks we were both able to walk properly again. Shine's understanding of each and every person and their limitations, in his studio is incredible. He doesn't just 'run' a class, he keeps a watchful eye, he tutors, he ensures

accurate postures to minimise injury, and adapts postures to encourage healing of old injuries to every single participant, all whilst keeping a natural flow to the class.



People choose to practice yoga for so many reasons from getting fit, toning up, gaining mental clarity, attaining flexibility, healing physical disorders to achieving a sense of peace. Every person has a different goal, and that is why yoga is for everyone."

Melissa Toleman - Founder of the Centre

Shine is also a Naturopathic Doctor, an Acupuncturist, a Physiotherapist, and an Ayurvedic Therapist. His knowledge of the human body is astounding combined with his kind, gentle heart makes him a true healer. He runs several classes at The Alternative Healthcare in Haywards Heath, of all levels each day at the centre from Beginners Hatha, Traditional Hatha, Restorative Hatha, Dynamic Hatha and even a Hatha Backcare class to focus on the back if there are back issues.

Shine also runs **1-2-1 Yoga Therapy** sessions for those who would benefit from more concentrated guidance and support. For those who have a specific goal, who feel a class is too daunting or perhaps think they would feel out of place in a class. His sessions run for 60 or 90 minutes.

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BEHIND THE COUNTER

"When a new product comes onto the market, it's always fun to watch it develop."



Photo: James Winspear - www.jameswinspearphotography.co.uk

We're often influenced by those around us who appear to be successful: be it celebrities, colleagues, friends or even family. And that's exactly where nearly three decades of selling happiness began for our first interviewee in this Behind the Counter series as Joe Wayte talks to the owner of Kieron James Toys.



By Joe Wayte

As a young boy, Kieron James was always interested in construction and dreamed of being an architect. However, at 16 a spinal injury left him wheelchair bound and career choices became restricted. After experiencing life in the world of accountancy and deciding it wasn't for him, Kieron took a leaf out of his parents' book and decided to set up his own business, a gift shop in Ditchling. "It seemed like the best thing to do. And there's nothing like being self-employed," Kieron explained.

With approval from the Bank Manager for a loan, Kieron was off! When I asked him why he chose toys and gifts, as it seemed a long way away from architecture and finance, Kieron answered: "The gift business is naturally about happy occasions and things that are positive. Along with a passion for soft toys and an interest in the manufacturing process, why wouldn't you want to spend your life giving happiness?"

As we talked in the toy-crammed shop (which relocated to Lindfield 20 years ago), a young boy came in to buy Pokémon cards – a game I used to play as a young boy nearly 20 years ago. "You never know when things are going to come back into fashion, or if things are going to be collectible," said Kieron, and, as it turns out, the toys you buy as boy can help you find love as a man.

One long-standing customer of the shop bought some small toy soldiers which he collected over a number of years and treasured. As he approached the end of his teens he decided to sell the toy soldiers. By this point, the items had become very popular, and the sale paid for a trip around the world. On his return from travelling, the boy, who had now become a man, popped back in to see Kieron. He shared his experiences, realised what he wanted to do for a career, and had even found a lovely lady - his future partner.

Buying toys could also help you move up the career ladder: "I once sold a puppet mouse to someone who worked in catering on a cruise ship. He was desperate to achieve fame as an actor," Kieron explained. Having cut a hole in the middle of his serving tray, this purchaser would walk around the restaurant entertaining guests between courses by offering diners a chance to feed the mouse cheese! In response he'd put on funny accents and was always dressed-up to accompany the drama. I asked Kieron whether the puppeteering was successful. "I can't remember," he said, "but I do hope he did break out of the kitchen eventually!"

Here are few quick-fire questions to help you get to know Kieron better:

Q: What's your favourite toy?

A: A Jaguar E-Type Tonka Toy which came with a remote control – I'll always remember that as my childhood favourite.

Q: If you could sell a toy to anyone – past, present or future - who would it be?

A: I've already had a few celebrities in here. Sally Gunnell used to often buy toys for her children.

Q: If this wasn't a toy shop, what would it be?

A: A nice coffee shop or tea room. Straightforward tea and coffee surely can't go too wrong.

Q: What's left on your to-do list?

A: See more of the world and its landmarks as I have never taken a holiday. You see all these films with beautiful sun sets and sun rises. I'd like to see them in person: the Grand Canyon, the clear waters of the Caribbean, Rome and its historical past... somewhere nice.

A lot of Kieron's toy suppliers have an educational ambition or aim to be kind to the environment. It's both these and the locally made games and toys that catch Kieron's attention the most.

"One person came up with a pair of dice that helps you remember your times table; a local teacher in Sussex developed a game called History Heroes which is currently being marketed focussing on figures from both past and present; and another company makes toys in sync with the life-cycle of a rubber tree – they've now achieved 'Carbon Neutral' status.

"When a new product comes onto the market, it's always fun to watch it develop. One of the most amazing recently is colouring technology – you can paint with water on paper, it makes all sorts of colours, and when it dries the sheet returns to white. When you see the finished articles, it can be quite amazing."

If by this point you're inspired to start your own business, Kieron's advice is: "Get your finances in order. That's the most important thing. The only other boring task you have complete is paperwork – even with computers it still takes a while. The rest is endlessly fulfilling.

"The toy market never stands still, it's constantly evolving, and everything goes forward in different ways."

Though there's one thing that doesn't change. My last question to Kieron: "What's your best-selling product?" Without thinking he replied: "That's easy. For girls, a pink princess, and for boys, the dinosaur!"

What an amazing place to live!

PROPERTY PAGE

By Mathew Gurr, Move Revolution

Welcome to our first market report of 2017. Christmas and New Year have gone by in a flash, and soon we'll be talking of Easter!

A question Estate Agents are always asked is 'what is the market doing and is it a good time to sell?'. Now, we know Lindfield is beautiful all year round, but from a property transaction point of view, it really comes alive in spring time. From a marketing perspective, whatever style and size of home you have, the demand will certainly be there. Prices remain strong and we see that continuing for certainly the next six months at least.

A great example are two homes we have agreed sales on this year within walking distance of The Witch. Both sets of buyers are not only buying a home that exactly fits what they are looking for, but they have also fallen in love with the village, which isn't a surprise with the fantastic array of independent shops and fabulous places to eat and enjoy amazing coffee!

We always talk about how Move Revolution is different. Following a recent very successful sale in Lindfield, we wanted to share this independent raterAgent review from one of our many happy clients:

"Matthew and Mark did a superb job selling our property in Lindfield. We had 13 viewings in the first week, and an asking price offer within a fortnight! The professional photos they took of our home were simply fantastic - much better than anything else we'd seen from other agents. We just wanted our lovely home to be viewed in the best way possible. We were really pleased with our online listing. We also had a number of viewings (which they always undertook) which made full use of their 7 days a week service."

What the review doesn't tell you is that rather than answer questions by email on a Sunday morning that the sellers had about their move, we went to see them



at 8pm that evening. We chatted through their thoughts face to face with an agreed action plan for the coming week.

We recognise that our industry really is 24/7, and that for many clients, it is far easier to talk in the evenings and at weekends than it is during the day. Our approach to estate agency really is different, the above review demonstrates this and our personal approach. If you are thinking of moving or letting out your property, please give us a call on 01444 657657. I would love the opportunity to visit you, value your home and support you with your next house move.

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move revolution

Wonderful Woodlands

All images © RBG Kew, Jeff Eddy / Jim Hogg

Imagine taking a unique journey through the peaceful and tranquil woodlands of the world – you have space to breathe – you feel relaxed – worries seem a million miles away.

Beyond Wakehurst's world famous botanic gardens and Millennium Seed Bank lies an enchanted world of woodlands – in fact more than 500 acres of both native and managed woods, including the Loder Valley nature reserve – just waiting for you to discover.

In the year of the 30th anniversary of The Great Storm, Wakehurst is celebrating a year of wonderful woodlands. More than 20,000 trees were lost during the storm which seemed devastating at the time but after rigorous replanting the landscape has been completely rejuvenated.

In the managed arboreta, trees are planted out according to the country they are native to. This careful arrangement means you can go on an adventure through the temperate woodlands of the world without having to dust off your passport.

Closer to home, a new woodland trail will wind through one of Wakehurst's

most beautiful oak woodlands. From charcoal burning and bodging to coppicing and dormice, the trail will help to unlock the woodland's secrets and reveal its hidden charms. Combining elements of sculpture, play, art, music and science.

Wakehurst's woodland highlights*

Woodland secrets Easter egg trail, 8 – 17 April.

Stunning bluebell displays from late April to mid-May.

Guided woodland walks, 26 and 29 April.

Friends of Wakehurst evening opening with exclusive access to behind the scenes woodland activities, 28 April.

Wild Wood festival. An action packed bank holiday weekend for all the family, 27 – 29 May.

Summer holiday woodland fun. Weekly activities including: bush craft, wild cooking, tree climbing and mini beast hunts.

Adult day tickets: £12.50.

Children: FREE (16 and under).

Friends of Wakehurst annual membership from £25.



*some activities incur extra cost

Wakehurst

Wakehurst is located between Ardingly and Turners Hill on the B2028
For details visit kew.org/wakehurst

Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew

Back to basics

SIMPLY GOOD FOOD

Pesto

Classic Pesto uses basil leaves and pinenuts but this time of the year try 115g each of roughly chopped parsley (including thicker stems) and chives. Place a knob of cheese (about 50g – this can be Parmesan or Pecorino or even a dry piece of Cheddar)) into the processor/blender and briefly buzz to rough chunks. Toast 50g broken walnuts in a dry frypan until golden, cool then tip into a processor/blender. with crushed garlic (to taste), the herbs, 75ml rapeseed or olive oil and 2tbs white wine vinegar. Buzz just to a chunky texture, season and spoon into a jar. Top with a thin layer of oil (preserves the colour) and store in the fridge. I have very successfully frozen pesto – a good idea when using up herbs at the end of the growing season.

Rice-in-a-bag

Make your own... cooked rice of any type, either plain or cooked in stock, tomato juice or other flavoured liquid, with or without vegetables or herbs (but not meat or fish) can be packed in portion-sized amounts in freezer bags and popped in the freezer. To reheat prick bag with a knife and microwave for 2-3 min (depending on size) until piping hot.

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There are so many conflicting opinions as to how our lives will change as no longer a member of the EU, a discussion I avoid if possible. However one disturbing change has quietly crept into our everyday lives and that is the rising cost of food. Apart from the current news about the scarcity of Spanish vegetables, homegrown English taste much better in any case, perhaps we should take a closer look at just what we have in our cupboards. Take a look at the labels – many 'convenience' foods contain unfamiliar ingredients such as dextrose monohydrate, stabilisers, dried whey, emulsifiers and stabilisers. Should we really be eating these? I am as guilty as anyone having some packets and jars of 'quick to use' items in my larder but I am turning over a new leaf – here are some of my ideas you might like to try.

Stir-fry sauces

In a small bowl combine 2tsp clear honey or maple syrup, 3tbs soy or tamari sauce, 1tbs grated root ginger, 1tbs balsamic vinegar and 2tbs dry sherry or vegetable stock. Add to the wok after cooking the other ingredients and cook, stirring, until piping hot.

Passata

This can be made in the microwave or on the hob. To make ahead, spoon into freezer bags, label and freeze. To use, defrost/reheat in the microwave or a pan of hot water. Instead of herbs stir 2-3tbs pesto into the cooked sauce.

Place 1 large finely chopped onion and 3 well crushed cloves of garlic in the pan/casserole with 1tbs oil. Cook just until softened but not browned. Stir in 400g can chopped tomatoes, 2tbs tomato puree, 1tbs each of herbs such as basil, oregano and thyme (fresh or frozen, preferably not dried), 150ml meat or vegetable stock and a pinch of red pepper flakes (optional). Bring just to the boil, cover and cook until well thickened. Makes about 500g.

Low fat salad dressing

Using a screw-topped jar, a hand-held blender or a processor measure in 150ml apple juice, 50ml olive or rapeseed oil, a crushed garlic clove, 1tbs clear honey or maple syrup, and 1tbs whole grain mustard. Shake well or buzz until thoroughly combined. Season to taste and store in the fridge. Makes about 160ml.



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Important news

FROM SOUTH EAST WATER

News from South East Water

Lindfield residents and businesses are being warned of major roadworks when South East Water returns to the village to complete the installation of a new water main.

Work to connect the new pipeline, which guarantees the future supply of drinking water to the village and surrounding area, was put on hold in early 2014 because the original installation overran due to the difficulties encountered in laying the new pipeline in High Street, Lindfield.

Now Chris Love, South East Water's Delivery Manager, is writing to householders and shopkeepers to detail the next phase of work both to test and commission the new water main, which is already in the ground but not yet fully connected to the supply network, and to install more new pipework to the north of the village.

This will require the closure of the B2028 High Street at Lindfield Place for approximately four weeks, closing the road to through traffic. This will be followed by a further two weeks of two way traffic control between All Saints Church and Church House.

While the road is closed at Lindfield Place, separate work will be underway at Buxshalls Hill, near the Park Lane junction north of the village, where 100 metres of new water main will be laid under two way traffic lights controlling traffic flowing to and from the northernmost part of High Street as far as the closed roadworks area.

A further 20 metres of new water main will then be laid in Park Lane with traffic lights controlling the Park Lane and Ardingly Road junction.

Planned completion date for the project is Tuesday 6 June, before the South of England Show at Ardingly. A subsequent phase, not yet finalised, will involve extending the new water main further along Park Lane and across private land to Stonecross Lane.

Chris Love said: "This project was interrupted after it overran in 2013 due to the difficulties of excavating through solid rock and dealing with the many other utility pipes and cables in the road.

"Although the new large diameter water main was successfully located in the ground, we were unable to connect it to our network at that time and a temporary road closure is now required to complete this work.

"The carriageway is too narrow to enable both construction and through traffic and closing the road is for the safety of road users and construction workers.

"A diversion route will be signposted and bus services will continue to operate subject to their own road diversion.

"Access to homes and businesses will be maintained throughout the programme and our contractors will work closely with residents to minimise inconvenience.

"On behalf of South East Water, may I thank local people in advance for their patience and co-operation during the completion of a very important project."

Drop-in session

A team of engineers from South East Water and contractor Clancy Docwra will be on hand to answer any questions local people may have at a drop-in session taking place at King Edward Hall, 24 High Street, Lindfield, between 6.45 - 8.15 pm on Tuesday 21 March.






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Playing a ball from below your feet

TEEING OFF



By James Verrall, Head PGA Professional

The ball below the feet is certainly one of the trickier awkward lies in golf. If you set up the same as you would on a flat lie then you are only destined for failure. Keep reading to find out how to overcome this awkward lie.

When you set up place your feet wider apart at set up to allow yourself to get lower to the ground. Then you must put a little bit more weight back onto your heels, this will stop you falling forward with the hill when you swing the club back.

Next bend the knees more and tilt over more from the hips to make sure you can reach the bottom of the ball when you swing. Try to keep the angle of the spine straight and avoid slouching over.

Lift your hands slightly higher at address; this will help to swing more upright.

The most common thing to see is the ball curving to the right from this lie. Allow for this by aiming a little more to the left of your target.

The backswing needs to be much more upright to avoid hitting the slop first. To make this happen you will need to swing the club back more vertically and not really turn your body on the backswing.

Finally swing through all the way trying to keep your weight back on the heels. If you don't you will fall forward and likely hit the dreaded shank!

Put this into practice next time you come to see us at Haywards Heath Golf Club, especially on our 5th hole!!

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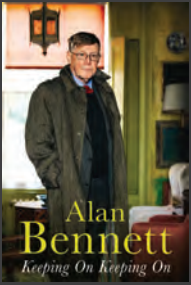
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Keeping on keeping on by Alan Bennett

BOOK REVIEW

By Cavan Wood

The term 'National Treasure' is bandied about but Bennett is. I think he has got this as his self-effacing wit is so central to his personality. When the radio correspondent of *The Independent* says that he would like to hear less of Alan Bennett, the author's reply is: "I wonder how he thinks I feel." Most of this selection is the collection of diaries he wrote for the *London Review of Books* from 2005 to 2015. There are a couple of plays, some introductions and other literary pieces. It is the unique voice that Bennett has – growing older, but growing more radical about culture and politics. The non-believer trying to stop church re-ordering yet revelling in writing more about sex is quite a set of paradoxes. What he has, above all, is charm, which make up for any faults.

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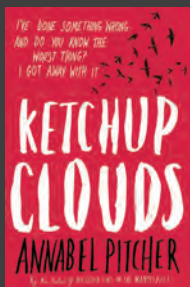
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Ketchup Clouds by Annabel Pitcher

BOOK REVIEW

By Kate Garwood, Year 9, Oathall Community College

In this book Zoe has a dark and terrible secret that she dares confess to no one, until she hears of a criminal on death row. Desperate to confide in someone, Zoe picks up a pen. Her letters make up this book.

I loved the heart-breaking storyline in 'Ketchup Clouds' as it evokes positive but also negative emotions towards each of the characters. My personal favourite character was Dot as she is so bubbly throughout the book even without her hearing. I was intrigued how the main character slowly reveals personal information throughout the story at the same time as she is scared about what would happen if her secret came out. The tension present throughout the story sharpens the seemingly normal situation with a sinister twist.

I enjoyed how the book is made up of a selection of letters sent to a poetic prisoner on Death Row: it means that you can imagine that you are next to her in the dark shed where she writes them and also in each of the events she describes. I wished for her to be able to live a normal life, but with the weight of what she had done, I think it would soon have been impossible for her to do so without causing misery for others. I think this book is suitable for older teens who love mystery and crime.



The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell

BOOK REVIEW

By Jess Tingley, aged 10

The Wolf Wilder is a great book for people who are into mystery and love a bit of tension. I loved this book and could never put it down, I wanted to read it all through the night. It is about a girl called Feodora and her mother who are wolf wilders. They untame wolves and look after them, their three wolves are white, black and grey. General Ravok doesn't want them wilding the wolves and he wants Feo and her mum to kill the wolves. However, that's NOT what Feo wants. When a new wolf gets delivered, Feo has to work harder than ever not to let the army find out that they are hiding four wolves. Find out what will happen to Feo and the wolves when Ravok and his men attack their house. Where will Feo go? What will she do?

Are you aware of ovarian cancer?

This March is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and this year research charity Ovarian Cancer Action has chosen the theme Listen In!

Ovarian cancer isn't as well-known as some other female cancers, yet it is the sixth most common - with more than 7,000 diagnoses in the UK each year. The UK has one of the lowest survival rates in Western Europe.

Ovarian Cancer Action says one of the reasons for the UK's poor survival rate is that the disease is often spotted too late. The charity's Chief Executive, Katherine Taylor, says: "Ovarian cancer is particularly difficult to diagnose yet early diagnosis is crucial. When women are diagnosed in the early stages of ovarian cancer they have a 90% chance of surviving for more than five years but this reduces to 22% when diagnosed in the later stages."

One obstacle to making the all-important early diagnosis is a lack of symptoms awareness. Ovarian cancer is often referred to as the silent killer due to a belief that it's symptomless. This, however, is not true. The four main signs of ovarian cancer are persistent stomach pain, persistent bloating or increased stomach size, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, and needing to pee more frequently.

Detecting ovarian cancer can be difficult due to the fact that these symptoms are vague and easily confused with other ailments.



Have you been affected by ovarian cancer? Would you like to raise awareness in your community? Become a Voice for Ovarian Cancer Action!

Voices are women, men, family members, friends and carers who have been affected by ovarian cancer. Voices raise awareness in a number of ways, from sharing their own stories and writing blog posts to talking in their local communities. Email Ross Little at Ross@ovarian.org.uk to find out more.

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Lindfield couple organise Royal Albert Hall comedy night

Husband and wife musical powerhouse James Morgan and Juliette Pochin are using their connections in the entertainment industry to create a special night of music and laughter at London's Royal Albert Hall next month.

Symfunny No 2 will see the likes of Katie Melua, Collabro and Josh Widdicombe head the bill of the event which will be hosted by Parkinson's UK.

Lindfield resident James was diagnosed Young Onset Parkinson's in 2012 and the pair organised the first fundraising and awareness event – Symfunny – in 2014 with comedian Al Murray hosting. This time they will be curating the event with Parkinson's UK president Jane Asher and Paul Mayhew-Archer, best known for his work with Mrs Brown's Boys and the Vicar of Dibley.

Having conducted Katie Melua in Denmark, James asked her to take part in Symfunny No 2. Katie said: "Working with James is a joy and inspiration, so when he asked if I could perform at Symfunny No 2 it was an instant 'yes'. I'm thrilled to be a part of such a great night of entertainment and to support such a worthwhile charity."

Steve Ford, chief executive at Parkinson's UK commented: "Living with Parkinson's can be immensely challenging, especially for those, like James, who are diagnosed at an early age. Symfunny No 2 (on 19th April) will help to fund much needed research into new and better treatments, so we are looking forward to raising the roof at the Royal Albert Hall and raising lots of money on the night."

For tickets and further information visit:
www.parkinsons.org.uk/symfunny

Juliette and James, who work together known as Morgan Pochin, have also just completed production of a special album celebrating Dame Vera Lynn's 100th birthday. The work, released on her birthday – 20th March – features old recordings of hers onto which they have added new orchestral parts and duets from the likes of Alexander Armstrong and Aled Jones.

Year end coming up soon?



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A little bit of gospel in Lindfield

COMMUNITY

By David Tingley

I think it's fair to say that the gospel tradition isn't typically associated with this leafy, rural part of England. Certainly, for me personally, the concept of spontaneous clapping and cheering and loud outbursts of 'Amen' when the preacher is speaking has never come naturally!

But just when we thought the bleak mid-winter blues had really set in for good, internationally acclaimed gospel tutor Karen Gibson came and brought sunshine to All Saints Church as 120 enthusiastic locals arrived to be part of a gospel choir for one day only.

I admit that I've had a little flutter with gospel music over the years; I do have one or two Kirk Franklin (a favourite of Karen's I later found out) albums in my collection. But what would it feel like for me, a white boy who grew up right here in Lindfield, to actually have a go at gospel myself?

Karen, who led community choir Lewes Sings Gospel to win the BBC Gospel Choir of the Year award in 2014, assured us from the outset: "Many who come to gospel for the first time are really scared that they won't get it, or that they won't fit in, or that they're not authentic enough, but the really important thing about gospel music is its inclusivity. This is its very nature and essence – it's for everybody."

The day started with tea (well, it is Lindfield!) in The Tiger and those of us on the male side of the gene pool immediately clung to each other as we realised our low ratio in the room! Folk had come from all over the local area and for a variety of reasons. Some had sung in choirs before, some had no experience whatsoever. Some came from church backgrounds but many just wanted to sing out loud and join in the fun.



By the time we got our first coffee break I'm reliably informed that we'd already clocked-up over 4,500 steps with all that movement while we were learning our first number. And it sounded fab – we were already doing three-part harmonies! Karen's warm but assertive style of leadership had got us all into shape right away.

During the day we learnt more of her own journey to choir leader extraordinaire, and how that intersected with Chris Steynor – our accompanist for the day on keyboard. Chris is currently overseeing the musical life at All Saints and is an exceptionally gifted musician. He was basically playing something at all times during day – even in the background as Karen spoke and explained the next thing to get our heads round. The duo were ably assisted by Chris' wife Ali and Lewes Sings Gospel choir member Jo Marshall-Fraser who demonstrated to each section the part to sing with Karen.

Talking to others at the lunch break it was clear that I wasn't the only one having fun! One person said: "The experience was fun, inspiring and kept us on our toes! It was good to meet new people and old friends. Everyone was made to feel welcome and part of it. An experience I would like to repeat!" Another exclaimed: "Lindfield and Gospel is a match made in heaven!" Whilst someone else commented on the day saying: "If you want a day to forget the world and it's problems and get some great 'feel good factor' – this is it!"

The day ended with a short performance to the friends and family of the choir. A good few of our number made the brave move to sing solo here – and did an amazing job! I can't have been the only one who felt like



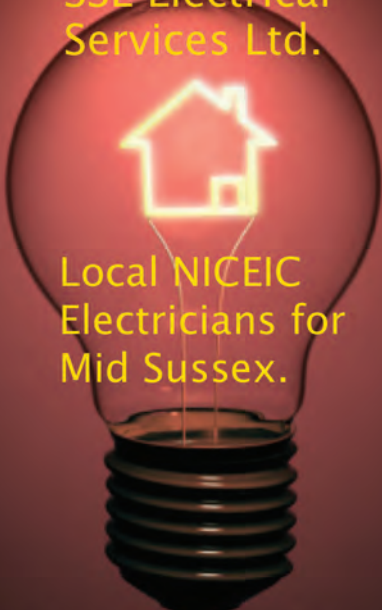
Photos: Paul Simmonds, Sereniti Photography

I'd forgotten exactly which part I was supposed to be singing by the time the concert came – but I had good fun singing something at least! And that, according to Karen, was how it was supposed to be. 'Gospel music,' she told us, "was about singing from the heart." Well I

think we all did that and brought warmth to a very cold day in January.

Another Gospel Day with Karen Gibson is already planned for 10th June at All Saints Church. So keep your eyes peeled for more information nearer the time.

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Absolute Carnage at Festival

By Mike Steer, LAF director

If you are up for playing games, like using recycled materials and have family and friends to join you, you might want to think about joining the Robot Relay Workshop on 9th September at the Lindfield Arts Festival (LAF). Okay, so it's still a few months away, but it's bound to be well subscribed.

The programme is gradually coming together, and once again the LAF team have thought up some new ideas to generate some creative activities and other interests over the weekend.

The Comedy Night will be one of the first events of the Festival. If you are a budding comedian and fancy entertaining the crowds, let us know. Local stand-up comics will be most welcomed alongside some potential circuit names.

Lindfield Arts Festival is run by volunteers and is dependent on the support of the local community. Sponsorship for the event and weekend is always very much welcomed. If you, or your business, would like to contribute and benefit from the advance marketing and publicity, let us know. We have some special sponsorship packages available.

Email enquires@lindfieldartsfestival.com or call Stix on 07868 879084 for more information.

Appeal for volunteers

If you enjoy working outdoors, have time to spare and would like to make a real contribution to conservation in Sussex, then why not become one of the growing number of South Downs National Trust volunteers?

The group, which carries out work on behalf of the National Trust, was founded in 1988 by several volunteers who were already working with other conservation groups.

The first work party gathered at Highdown Hill near Worthing, to clear damaged trees following the great storm of 1987. Since then, the group has grown but new recruits are always needed to help conserve the precious countryside.

Members of the South Downs National Trust volunteers come from all walks of life, and mainly work on alternate Sundays, and the occasional Saturday. There are also full weekend tasks, once or twice a year. Travel costs are reimbursed.

Volunteers can log their hours over the year on a '50 hour volunteer card' which, when complete, entitles them to free entry at National Trust properties, and discounts in their shops and restaurants. The group also runs social events for members.

The group welcomes students from Plumpton and various other colleges, and young people working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Described as



'a friendly bunch' the volunteers guarantee new recruits with warm welcome and, of course, tea and biscuits!

The National Trust relies upon both contributions and donations from members, and the work of volunteers to help maintain its properties and land. If you think you would like to become a volunteer, or would like to find out more please visit <https://southdownsntv.org.uk>



Lindfield Rural Parish Council Newsletter

MARCH 2017

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

Budget 2017/2018

At the Parish Council Meeting on the 9th January the budget for the coming financial year was discussed and agreed. It was resolved to set the precept at £52,323, an increase on the current year from £51,565. However, based on information from Mid Sussex District Council that due to changes in the tax base this should result in most households paying the same as 2016/2017 and even a small decrease for lower band properties.

Annual Parish Meeting - Monday 24th April 2017

Taking place at the Millennium Village Centre, Scaynes Hill at 8pm. This meeting will afford residents the opportunity to meet the Councillors who will report on this year's business. There will be guest speakers and an opportunity for residents to raise any questions. A glass of wine will be offered from 7.45pm and all residents are welcome.

Vacancy for Parish Councillor

Can you make a difference to your local community?

Have you ever thought about becoming a Parish Councillor?

Lindfield Rural Parish Council has a vacancy for a new member to be co-opted to the Council.

Councillors represent the interests of the whole community and Government is more than ever looking to communities and local councils to respond to very local needs and priorities. Lindfield Rural Parish Council is looking for community-minded, proactive and practical people able to deal effectively with a range of issues. Councillors are required to attend monthly evening meetings. Also important is the ability to communicate and to work as part of a team with other Councillors.

As a Parish Councillor, you will be influential in local projects and plans, and take responsibility for decisions made that will have a real impact on the future of the community.

Councillors must be over 18 and be a British National or a qualifying citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Community. They must also live or work or own land within the Parish or within three miles of its boundaries. Please note that this is an unpaid voluntary position.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Council, please write to the Council setting out why you would like to be a Councillor and what qualities you would bring to this role. This should be sent to Vera Grainger, Clerk to the Council, Lindfield Rural Parish Council, Millennium Village Centre, Lewes Road, Scaynes Hill, West Sussex, RH17 7PG.

Allotments available

The Parish Council are pleased to inform that the waiting list for allotments is now open and that applications are welcome from both within and outside the parish. Please contact Cllr. John Dumbleton (482633) or the Parish Office (831499) if you are interested.

Dog Bins

Those of you who spend time wandering the highways and byways in the Parish, will have noticed that the Parish Council have arranged the provision of some new dog waste bins (Clearwater Lane, Hillcrest Lane and Ham Lane in Scaynes Hill and Lyoth Lane in Lindfield). If your walk includes a dog, please make use of these bins as necessary.

MOBILE CIVIC AMENITY COLLECTIONS

The Parish Council provides a refuse freighter for a **FREE COLLECTION** of Household and Garden Waste on the following dates:

Sunday 11th June 2017
Sunday 17th September 2017
Sunday 3rd December 2017
Sunday 11th February 2018

Between 10am and 12noon at the North End, Scaynes Hill Common.

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

Your Parish Councillors:

John Dumbleton (Chair)
Ray Jones (Vice Chair)
Brian Bunt
Chris Hersey
Margaret Hersey

Tel: 482633
Tel: 453868
Tel: 484661
Tel: 482270
Tel: 482270

Keith Martin
Steve Minter
Andy Spooner
Parish Clerk: Vera Grainger
Assistant: Irene Nicholas
Finance Officer: Sarah Anderson

Tel: 831431
Tel: 831786
Tel: 831602
Tel: 831499
Tel: 831499
Tel: 831499

Lindfield Rural Parish Council Office is open to the public on Tuesdays 12.30 to 13.30 and Thursdays 10.00 to 11.00

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Litter Picking morning - Sat 25th March 10am - to clean up Scaynes Hill

The Scaynes Hill Sustainability Group are organising a litter-picking morning on Saturday 25th March and we would like as many volunteers as possible to come and join us to clear up the streets, lanes and footpaths around the village. We want to make it an enjoyable and sociable experience so bring along your friends or family.

Start: 10am from the Scaynes Hill Millennium Centre car park (please park elsewhere). Latecomers welcome.

Equipment provided but wear appropriate clothes, footwear and gloves.

Free refreshments from 12noon in the Church Annexe.

Advance notice if possible to Mark (831162) or Graeme (831364) - but if not just turn up!

Check the Scaynes Hill website for further details nearer the time: <http://scayneshill.webplus.net/>

Bus Service 31 continues with Compass

We are pleased to report that Service 31 has continued unchanged since 6th February this year. The service will continue to be operated by Compass with financial support from West Sussex and East Sussex County Councils.

The timetable for service 31 can be found at:
www.compass-travel.co.uk/download/west-sussex-bus-services/031-from-9.1.17.pdf

Advance warning - beware

We have been advised by SE Water that the B2028 (Buxshalls Hill) is to be completely closed from All Saints Church to Park Lane from 24th April 2017 for approximately four weeks to enable a new water main to be installed. Major, lengthy diversions will be in operation but Lindfield High Street will continue to be 'open for business' as usual. Please be prepared to warn any delivery drivers of likely access problems. Watch out for the relevant notices confirming dates etc (see page 38).

A petition you might consider voting for

This petition calls for a parliamentary debate on government Housing and Planning policy over building on greenfield land and seeks community right of appeal on planning decisions and the removal of the presumption in favour of sustainable development. To vote go to:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/177333>

Council meetings coming up

2017

We would like to remind residents of our Council meeting dates as follows:

Monday 10th April
Monday 24th April
Monday 15th May

King Edward Hall, Lindfield
Annual Parish Meeting, Meeting of Electorates, Scaynes Hill Millennium Village Centre
Annual Meeting of the Council, King Edward Hall, Lindfield

All meetings commence at 8pm



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Dementia training event in Scaynes Hill

By Regina Choudhury

The word dementia describes a set of symptoms that may include memory loss and difficulties with thinking, problem-solving or language. These changes are often small to start with, but for someone with dementia they have become severe enough to affect daily life. A person with dementia may also experience changes in their mood or behaviour.

Mid Sussex District Council aims to ensure that all residents living with dementia and their carers are respected and able to enjoy living their lives in their own community as well as possible and for long as possible.

Our three local towns have set up Dementia Action Alliances formed of members who are local residents and professionals. The Alliances aim

to help people with dementia feel part of the wider community, raise awareness of dementia and improve the quality of life for those living with dementia and their carers.

As part of our aim to engage with rural communities, Mid Sussex District Council, in partnership with Action in Rural Sussex are offering a free dementia training and awareness session. The event on Monday 6th March from 10am until 1pm at Scaynes Hill Millennium Centre is an opportunity to find out more about dementia, learn about the services available and build networks. Attendees can also become a Dementia Friend by taking part in the Dementia Friends training. A Dementia Friend learns a little about what it's like to live with dementia and then turns that understanding into action. This



could be helping someone find the right bus or being patient in a till queue if someone with dementia is taking longer to pay. Every action counts.

The event is open to parish councils, community groups, village halls, resident associations and anyone living and working in rural communities. For more information call 01444 477495.

Council grant to help businesses grow

Mid Sussex District Council is encouraging micro businesses in Mid Sussex to apply for grant funding of up to £2,000 to help their business grow.

The funding has been provided by West Sussex County Council as part of a £500,000 investment across the whole of West Sussex. The money comes from local Business Rates and each District and Borough is being provided with £83,000 to reinvest back into the local business community.

The grants of up to £2,000 are available to any Mid Sussex business that has less than 10 employees and an idea for a project that will help their business grow. Up to £1,500 is also available to help micro businesses take on an apprentice.

"The Council is committed to supporting local businesses and sustainable economic growth in the district and this funding could really help you to take your business to the next level," said Councillor Jonathan Ash-Edwards, Mid Sussex District Council Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Economic Growth.

For more information or to apply online visit www.midsussex.gov.uk/businessgrants.

Wellbeing centre hosts dance workshop

The Koorana Centre, in nearby Ardingly, will hold a special inspirational dance workshop in celebration of the World Peace Flame later this month.

The World Peace Flame has been burning since July 1999, when seven flames, lit by eminent peacemakers on five continents, were flown by military and commercial aircraft to the United Kingdom. It is a symbol of peace, unity, freedom and celebration and is actively working to spread its light through practical projects to support people and the environment.

On Saturday 18th March the Koorana Centre's Dru Yoga teacher Anita Sebre will lead an inspiring new dance workshop from 10am until 1pm. Places must be reserved in advance.

'Becoming the Flame' dance was inspired by the Dru charity project, the World Peace Flame. This dance awakens the feeling of light in the body, illuminating physical, emotional and mental awareness and is a great new way to explore the warrior-based postures with flow and dynamism.

Participants will enjoy a deep relaxation and finish with a 'flame meditation' so they reach place of deep stillness. 10% of all incomes from the workshop will be donated to the World Peace Flame organisation. Places cost £25 per person and can be booked through Anita Sebre by email (anitasebre@yahoo.co.uk).

The Great British Dog Walk 2017

Our dog-loving nation is set to go barking mad for this year's Great British Dog Walk.

20 fun-filled countryside walks being held between March and June to ensure more hearing dogs can be trained to bring life-transforming benefits to deaf children and adults. They include a walk at Sheffield Park and Garden on 18th March.

Now firmly established as one of the UK's favourite series of dog walks, around 4,000 people and over 500 dogs of all shapes and sizes are expected to take part in this year's fun-filled events up and down the country.

There will be two different routes to choose from at each venue, many of which include National Trust properties, making The Great British Dog Walk an ideal event for dog-lovers, families, couples, independent walkers and organised walking groups alike.

Each venue will have refreshments and entertainment on offer and participants can also bring a picnic to enjoy after the walk.

There is a free limited-edition Great British Dog Walk bandana for your dog and an opportunity to be entered into a prize draw to win a luxury Forest Holidays getaway with every event booking.

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People's Chief Executive Michele Jennings says: "The Charity is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year and is very proud to have had such a positive impact on thousands of lives. But we couldn't have achieved what we have without the help of our wonderful supporters taking part in events such as The Great British Dog Walk and the dedication of all our volunteers. Following the success of last year's events, I hope the 2017 walks in our great British countryside get tails wagging and faces smiling all over the UK."

Tickets to each event are £10 in advance for adults online at www.greatbritishdogwalk.org or £12 on the day. Children under 16 are free. Shorter routes are suitable for parents with buggies. The Great British Dog Walk is kindly supported by MedicAnimal.

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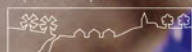
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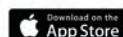
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Tackling elder exploitation in our communities

Katy Bourne, the Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex, has made tackling elder exploitation one of her top priorities in a bid to protect older people in the county from financial abuse.

She says: "We know that fraud against our older and more vulnerable residents is a growing issue as our population ages and criminals see that fraud is more profitable and less risky than other crimes. In Sussex, fraud has robbed some older people of their entire life savings and left others destitute.

"I have been lobbying the Government to take account of demographics when calculating the amount of funding that is allocated to each police force and to acknowledge the rise in crimes against our elderly.

"The operational response from Sussex Police has also been excellent. They have developed Operation Signature to help protect and support those most at risk of fraud, and the model has been nationally recognised and is being adopted by other police forces.

"The problem is that many people don't realise that they've been a victim of fraud – they think it's just a

scam, or they feel foolish and don't want to tell anyone. But scams are fraud and fraud is a crime so I really would urge anyone who's affected by doorstep crime, postal fraud or nuisance calls to report it."

You can call the police on 101 or report fraud by speaking directly to the advisers at Action Fraud, the national fraud reporting centre, by phoning 0300 123 2040. They will also be able to give you help and advice about fraud and you can remain anonymous if you prefer.

UK-wide charity Action on Elder Abuse operates a confidential helpline on 080 8808 8141 which offers advice and support on all aspects of elder abuse.

Trading Standards also want to know about online fraud or mobile phone scams; any information you share may help them shut down fraudsters before others fall victim to them. You can report incidents, whether you're a victim or have just been targeted, via the Citizen's Advice Consumer Helpline on 0345 404 05 06.

You can sign up for Katy Bourne's weekly newsletter at www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/spcc-newsletter/



Oathall College Farm Open Day

Sunday 30 April 11am - 3pm

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Appledore Gardens, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 2AQ
www.oathall.org - 01444 414001 - office@oathall.org

Take a leap of faith for vulnerable local children

Local family support charity Home-Start CHAMS are offering people the chance to join an experience of a lifetime by taking on a 10,000ft tandem skydive this July. It's the perfect opportunity to mark a significant celebration or even for just thrill seekers looking to take on an exciting challenge.

"We've had some great celebrations marked in previous years with our Skydive challenge", said Aneliese Whittaker, the charity's community fundraiser. "People have jumped to mark their 40th, 60th and even 70th birthdays! Although the Skydive really is open to anyone willing to take a leap of faith."

Home-Start supports hundreds of local children each year, with their team of trained Home Visiting volunteers. They work with families across Crawley, Horsham and Mid Sussex, helping parents who are struggling to cope for a variety of reasons, including isolation, disability, poverty, as well as multiple births.



"Community support with fundraising events like this is vital for us to be able to continue offering our services to the local families that need us", added Aneliese. "We would welcome any individuals or groups interested in joining our Skydive team to get in touch today. They could all make a real difference in our work with local families".

The Home-Start Skydive takes place on Saturday 15th July at GoSkydive. To register your interest and to find out more, call them on 01293 or visit www.homestartchams.org.uk/events.

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8th Apr 2017: Laura van der Heijden (cello) and Tom Poster (piano)

 Laura was awarded the title of BBC Young Musician 2012; she has also won many other prizes and awards, and toured extensively. She will be accompanied by the highly-regarded pianist Tom Poster.

Their programme will include works by Schumann, Debussy, Martinu and Fauré.

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

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

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

Useful reader feedback, thanks

By David Tingley, editor

In the January issue of Lindfield Life, we asked readers for their thoughts about the magazine in order to see how we are doing – and to see where we can improve in the future.

I was delighted that we received over 60 completed surveys back by post and via the website.

It was certainly interesting to note that 85% of you read the magazine cover to cover in one sitting – although a couple of you noted that its not always possible to have enough time to get through it in one session!

It is great to hear that 31% of the respondents would make Lindfield Life the first port of call to find a business or service you needed. And everyone said that the magazine would form part of their research. This is superb news as our advertisers do literally make this happen – and they rely on getting responses from their ads. Nearly 80% of readers have called an advertiser at some point. Fantastic, so thank you all!

In the comments field, Catherine said: “Keep them coming!”, Ian thought some articles were more pertinent than others (fair enough) and asked about a readers column – presumably like a letters to the editor. If we have any, we will certainly consider this in the future (editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk)! Helen asked for more local

sports news, so we’ll look into that. We have already responded to a request to make the Sudoku larger – so I hope that helps. A few of you suggested local walks to be covered – maybe there’s a volunteer who is a keen walker who might like to contribute such material?

The Village People features are very popular – so we’ll keep them coming, also mentioned by name were the regular Homefront and Recipes pages too. David suggested we cover more local events like the Horticultural Show, for example, and we will certainly aim to do this. And Leesa had a great idea to include a guest young editor page too – so I will look into how this might work, and potentially try and partner up with another organisation to make this work.

This magazine started as a community project taken on by my wife, Emma, and myself back in 2009. At the time we weren’t at all sure how we’d find enough to write about but nearly eight years later – this village and it’s amazing residents keep coming up trumps!

I know I speak for my fantastic team when I say we all really love our jobs – putting Lindfield Life together on a regular basis. Thank you for making it possible. Any other comments and suggestions do please email us at editor@lindfieldlife.co.uk

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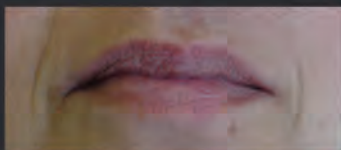
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Sudoku #8

2			4					7
		4					1	9
5					9			
				8			5	
	4	7	9	6				8
				7	2	3		
		8	2	5		4		
								1
			7				6	

Find the solution to #8 in next month's magazine

#7 Solution

3	5	8	7	9	2	4	1	6
9	1	2	5	6	4	8	3	7
6	7	4	8	3	1	2	9	5
2	6	7	1	8	9	3	5	4
4	9	5	3	2	6	7	8	1
8	3	1	4	5	7	9	6	2
5	4	6	9	7	3	1	2	8
1	8	3	2	4	5	6	7	9
7	2	9	6	1	8	5	4	3

Courtesy of <http://andrews-sudoku.blogspot.co.uk>

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What's on in March

AT KING EDWARD HALL

AND ELSEWHERE

March

- 2nd **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
(Sheila Hobbs 01444 483396)
- 7th **Lindfield Afternoon WI** – 2.15-4.15pm
(la16wi@gmail.com or Jacquie on 01444 454816)
- 8th **Lindfield Horticultural Society** – 8pm
TALK: 'The Revival of an Arts & Crafts Garden at Standen'. Lindfield Horticultural Society is delighted to welcome Sue Greig to talk about the highs and lows of the five year project to reinstate the garden at Standen back to its former glory of the 1920s. The garden team together with a small army of volunteers have undertaken the transformation of planting schemes, revealed hidden gems and reinstated structures in the garden 'rooms' of this Arts & Crafts family home. (Entry £1 members, £2 visitors. All welcome. Membership enquiries: 01444 456409 www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk)
- 9th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
- 11th **Jumble Sale** – 12noon-2pm
Haywards Heath Lions Club. Donations welcome on the day from 9am. (07711 018479)
- 14th **Lindfield Preservation Society** – 2.30pm
An illustrated talk on Bonsai Trees by Ken and Ann Norman. The meaning of Bonsai and the origins of Bonsai trees will be discussed. The types of trees which can be Bonsaid; the method of Potting, Shaping, Wiring and Feeding; the seasons of a Bonsai and general care will be explained. All welcome, entry free. (Meeting and Membership information from John Chapman 01444 484470).
- 16th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
- 20th **King Edward Hall** – Annual General Meeting
(Rupert Ayton 01444 483716)
- 23rd **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am
- 23rd **Film Show: 'LaLa Land'** 12A (Tickets, £6, from Tufnells. Jennie Powell 01444 483431)
- 25th **Royal British Legion** – Talk and Afternoon Tea
Matt Taylor will be speaking on 'Passchendaele 100 years, El-Alamein 75 years, Lindfield Remembers'. Raffle included. Doors open at 2pm. (Tickets priced £8: Jane 01444 454846, Pauline 01444 482672 or Kath 01444 483171)
- 28th **Lindfield Flower Club** – 2.30pm
Margaret Williams will demonstrate and talk
- 30th **Lindfield Country Market** – 10-11am

March

- 5th **Mid Sussex Blues** – 3pm
St Francis Social & Sports Club, Grounds of Princess Royal Hospital. Official Man City Supporters Club Meeting. All City fans welcome (01444 482303)
- 6th **Dementia Training Day** – 10am-1pm
Millennium Centre, Scaynes Hill (p.53)
- 7th **NHS Retirement Fellowship Mid Sussex** – 10.15am, Franklands Village Hall
'Physical & Geographical Environment' by Bill Avenell.
- 11th **Young Musicians Showcase** – 2.30pm
St Wilfred's Church, Haywards Heath
- 11th **Vitality Day** – 11am-4pm
Koorana Centre, Ardingly
Low cost taster therapies, free health and wellbeing talks and an opportunity to meet the centre's therapists and teachers (www.thekooranacentre.com)
- 12th **Family Sports Event** – 1-3pm
Great Walstead School (p.11)
- 25th **Litter Picking Morning** – 10am
Millennium Centre, Scaynes Hill
- 25th **Spring Sale** – 10am-12noon
Haywards Heath United Reformed Church
Gifts, cake stall, toiletries, raffle, bargain books & lots more. Tea coffee & hot cross buns served. Proceeds in aid of Church Funds.
- 27th **Heat for Health Conference** – 9.30am-2.30pm
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath
Includes an information marketplace, workshops and lunch. Do you work (as a professional, or as a volunteer) with Mid Sussex people aged 65+ or families with children under 5? (01444 242760 or email katja@msopc.org.uk)

April

- 2nd **Ardingly Choral Society Centenary Concert** – 7.30pm, Flecker Hall, Ardingly College
Mid Sussex Sinfonia conducted by Robert Hammersley: Verdi Requiem
(Book at www.ardinglychoralsociety.org.uk)
- 5th **Mid-Sussex Franco-British Society** – 8-10pm
Function Suite, Clair Hall, Haywards Heath
A French film by Anne Fontaine: GEMMA BOVERY starring Gemma Arterton and Fabrice Luchini (English subtitles - Certificate 15)
(Barbara Stevens 01444 452385)

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Health/Lifestyle

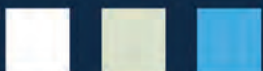
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