

Cuckfield Life

Inc. Brook St, Ansty, Staplefield & Bolnore Village

Local village talk,
by the village

Issue #66 : April 2018

Free



Cuckfield Parish Council report

page 49

Walking Race photo round-up

page 30

AFC Bolnore flying high

page 16

Including...

Bolnore
VILLAGE

7 PAGE SECTION



ROHAN
SOLICITORS

**We are ready for
your next move...**



Contact our Property team to find out how we can help you

01444 450 901

www.rohansolicitors.co.uk

EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Welcome to the April issue of Cuckfield Life, and it's a bumper one!

Simon Yeend went along to the village's annual **Walking Race** at the beginning of the month – and it's a pleasure to give the highlights and photos on our centre spread, at **page 30**.

We have news from the High Street with **JoJo Boutique** on **page 5**, and **Artologie** celebrating its first anniversary in May (**page 9**).

Talking of streets, a team in Bolnore is organising a huge **Street Party** and Evening Reception on the day of **Harry and Megan's Royal Wedding** on **19th May**. See **page 14** for more info, with the Bolnore pages starting on **page 10**.

Chris Bunting gets us up to speed with changes at **Cuckfield Cricket Club** on **page 20**. The club has recently signed a great international player to join the team!

On our pages we love to celebrate local success, and on **page 25** we are delighted to tell the story of **Cuckfield Preschool** – which celebrates existing for 50 years this coming month. It seems almost impossible to imagine a world where mums/dads don't have the range of children's groups and childcare options available to us today. But 50 years ago society was very different.

On **page 37 Rev Michael Maine** shares his thought for the month alongside events taking place at **Holy Trinity Church**. On **page 38 Caroline Young** encourages us to think about a menu with no meat on. And, on **page 41**, we introduce a new column where a local solicitor can answer your **legal questions** on a monthly basis.

Warden Park Academy is well known for its sporting achievements, so it's great to be able to take note of not one but three brilliant bits of news from the school on our doorstep. See **page 43** for the write-up.

Enjoy seeing the springtime arrive!



Issue #66 – April 2018 –
3,500 copies printed

Next magazine copydate:
1st May 2018

Next magazine published:
15th May 2018

Cuckfield Life

The Barn, Hurstwood Grange,
Hurstwood Lane, RH17 7QX

Telephone 01444 884115
www.cuckfieldlife.co.uk

Editor: David Tingley
Assistant: Simon Yeend
editor@cuckfieldlife.co.uk

Advertising: Emily Billson
ads@cuckfieldlife.co.uk

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed within the magazine are of the individual authors and not necessarily those of the editors. Whilst the editors welcome contributions & photographs, this is on the understanding that there is no obligation to include them and that the item may be edited & that there is no breach of copyright. Neither the editors nor the publisher accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement.

Cuckfield Life
Published by Kipper



David Tingley
The junction of Broad
Street in the spring sun

nortos[®]
kidz

Pre-school
Daycare
Nursery

0845 004 5226
www.nortoskidz.com

Come and see us today at...

Lindfield Lodge Lindfield
Barn Cottage Haywards Heath
West End Farm Burgess Hill
Kidz Academy Cuckfield

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@cuckfieldlife.co.uk

Goodbye to a long-serving woodland champion

By Jean Lyle, New England Wood Trust

New England Wood was bought by the residents of Cuckfield and in 1981 the Trust was set up 'To improve, protect and conserve the New England Wood, Cuckfield for the public benefit and as broadleaved woodland. To establish, form, maintain and manage for the public benefit a nature reserve...'

Remarkably, one Trustee, Stephen Holroyd, has been involved right from the beginning of the village campaign to buy the wood, and has only just stepped down. He also served as secretary for seven years and as Chairman for the last six. At the 35th Annual Public Meeting in the Queen's Hall last month Stephen was presented with a wooden bowl.

It was made especially for him from Silver Birch from the wood.

Stephen reflected on the changes to the wood since it was acquired almost 40 years ago. "In 1987 the Great Storm caused enormous damage and felled some of the magnificent beech trees. In winter the footpaths were so deep in mud they were impassable and became ever wider. It is interesting to see how the wood has



developed from a tangled and almost impenetrable mass of brambles and rhododendrons to having established footpaths, steps, bridges, squeeze gates and fencing whilst still being a delightful and unspoilt place of peace that increasing numbers of Cuckfield people of all ages and others from neighbouring towns and villages can safely enjoy. Badgers and other wildlife also approve because their numbers are increasing!"

Every Monday morning the volunteers meet to work at a variety of tasks including coppicing and producing pea and bean sticks for sale, clearing glades and maintenance of footpaths. Stephen is noted for barrowing huge quantities of wood chippings from one end of the wood to the other for surfacing the paths!

As Trustee and Chairman, Stephen will be greatly missed, but as he is staying on as a volunteer his knowledge and experience of the wood and the Trust will still be available. New England Wood owes an enormous amount to all those who have given their time and energy to developing it and Stephen has given more than anyone.

Leading the way in quality care



ELITE CHOICE
HOME CARE

An independent provider of superior quality home care based in Mid Sussex

Our highly experienced team of carers can deliver a comprehensive range of care services to people within our local community and surrounding areas.

Our services include:

- Personal Care
- Administration of Medication
- Companionship
- Shopping and meal preparation
- Laundry and light domestic duties

All our Carers are DBS checked and insured and either hold or are working towards a recognised care qualification.

To discuss how we can provide the very best care, tailored to your individual needs, please phone us on 01273 840625 or make an appointment to pop in and meet us.



Unit 4, Cobbs Mill Units, Mill Lane, Sayers Common, BN6 9HN

Tel: 01273 840625 E-mail: admin@elitechoicehomecare.co.uk



SOWSussex
GARDEN CARE

All your garden needs

We offer all the usual things you'd expect from your gardener, like hedge trimming, lawn care, weeding and pruning.

Or perhaps you have something more specific in mind, like building vegetable beds or compost bins, or making your garden look its best for property viewings.

01444 657140

info@sowsussex.com

Find out more at **sowsussex.com**



JoJo opens new space

After an official opening last month, Jo Dennis is celebrating her new shop being up and running at 45 High Street, after the move from number 2 after more than nine years.

The premises is considerably bigger and offers a different space layout. Jo can now showcase more than 80 styles of shoes as well as knitting together the Web Shop and boutique showroom. "We are really pleased with our new contemporary look which is spacious and light, giving customers the opportunity to explore the boutique which has a modern and urban feel to it," Jo explains.

"It has been a terrific team effort from all of the staff (Sarah, Rachel, Geraldine, Mary and Gemma). We have had an army of others who have made it happen. So I personally would like to thank Rachel and Ian for their

artistic interpretation and support, Tom, Lee (Small Building Works), John Berterelli and the team from Helme & Hallett, and Phil, who flew in from Singapore to lay the floor!"

Customers have described the boutique as 'elegant' and 'giving space for the clothes and shoes to be seen'. The staff have had so many positive comments saying how much they prefer it.

Jo and the team look forward to being able to host preview evenings and other events at the shop in the future. JoJo Boutique is one of the main stockists for Oui, InWear, PartTwo, PaulGreen shoes and YaYa in Sussex, with collections arriving every week, and is available online or in store, which is open six days a week and welcomes dogs and children in tow.

NEW ROOFS OR REPAIRS • LEADWORK • GUTTERING • CHIMNEYS • FLAT ROOFS



Leadwork & roofing

We are a family run business and, over the last 30+ years, we have undertaken all kinds of roofing works, from domestic properties to commercial buildings and we've recently been working in Cuckfield. Whatever your personal requirements, you can rest assured that White and Sons Ltd have the project experience to ensure you a quality reliable service.

Call us on **01444 810510**

Or visit the website for more info: www.whiteandsonsltd.co.uk

TRUSTED & ACCREDITED



White & Sons Ltd
LEADWORK & ROOFING SERVICES

Get your garden ready for spring and support hospice



The New Horizons Appeal, in aid of St Catherine's Hospice, is inviting the local community to one of the prettiest gardening events in Sussex - its annual Garden and Produce Fair.

Returning to the exclusive grounds of Cuckfield Park, on Thursday 17th May, the prestigious fair is often referred to as West Sussex's mini Chelsea and is the perfect way to prepare your garden for spring.

Bringing together a range of established traders selling quality products including specialist plants, gardening products and produced food, the event is a favourite in many people's calendars, with many traders returning year after year.

As well as gardening and food gifts, home-made cakes and lunches will be available, and if you really fancy indulging you can buy advance bubbly breakfast tickets, which also give you a sneak preview of stalls ahead of general public entrance.

Run by St Catherine's voluntary New Horizons Appeal Committee, last year the Garden and Produce Fair had more than 50 stalls, attracted more than 600 visitors and raised more than £13,000 for the hospice.

The New Horizons Appeal is a long-standing

supporter of St Catherine's and has been raising money for the local hospice since 1989. Each year local people enjoy the committee's array of events, which also include a lunch club, charity golf day and Autumn Gift Fair.

Sarah Bray, New Horizons Chairperson, said: "By supporting our Garden and Produce Fair, you're helping us raise vital funds so St Catherine's can be there to provide local terminally ill people with expert end of life care. We're really proud of our fair and are looking forward to welcoming the community to enjoy the fantastic stalls and food on offer. We'd also like to thank Thakeham Homes and Strutt and Parker for their support in helping us host this brilliant spring day out."

Advance tickets for the Garden and Produce Fair's special bubbly breakfast and stall preview, from 9am to 10.30am, are just £15. General public entry will be £5 per person with the fair open from 10.30am to 3.30pm.

For more details and to book bubbly breakfast tickets please visit: www.stch.org.uk/newhorizons, contact Suzanne Connor, New Horizons Appeal Coordinator on: 01293 447367 or email newhorizons@stch.org.uk.

ODD JOB MAN

Friendly, Fair Priced Service, Any D.I.Y. or Home Improvements.
Ever just needed a Curtain Rail put up, or Shelf made or a Picture hung?

We offer an initial chat with Free Expert advice. so call us on:

07769 683614

Email:
warnerengineers@yahoo.co.uk





RENAISSANCE · RETIREMENT ·

SELLING
FAST!

80%
SOLD



FLOOR SPACES UP TO 1,625 SQ FT

RETHINK YOUR EXPECTATIONS THE BIGGEST & BEST RETIREMENT APARTMENTS IN HAYWARDS HEATH

Renaissance Retirement is now selling one and two bedroom superior retirement apartments in the heart of Haywards Heath, only a five minute walk from the town centre. The range of apartments, which are known as Fleur-de-Lis, have been designed for independent living. Some of the larger apartments boast stylish dual level living spaces and en-suites.

Fleur-de-Lis Haywards Heath Offers The Following

- Large 1 & 2 bedroom apartments
- Dual level living spaces
- Secure on-site car parking
- Landscaped garden areas
- Concierge on-site Monday to Friday
- 24 hour emergency call system
- Guest Suite for visiting family and friends
- **Free** national moving service
- Owners' Drawing Room
- Central location close to amenities
- Lift to all floors
- Pre-installed security features



★ ★ ★ LOWER PRICES ANNOUNCED FOR 2018 ★ ★ ★

1 Bedroom Second Floor
NOW £290,000

1 Bedroom First Floor
NOW £320,000

2 Bedroom &
Mezzanine Gallery
NOW £450,000

2 Bedroom, Dining Room
& Mezzanine Gallery
NOW £500,000

To Request A Brochure Or To View The Show Apartments

Phone: 01444 455699

Please Quote HAYAD17



Address: Fleur-de-Lis Haywards Heath, Bolnore Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 4WH

Email: haywardsheath@renaissancergroup.co.uk / Visit: www.renaissanceretirement.co.uk

Renaissance Retirement: Compliant With The Consumer Code For New Homes



Ann supports donkeys

Cuckfield resident Geoffrey Dennis travelled to Mauritania in north-west Africa last month with Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad ambassador Ann Widdecombe to witness the charity's work in the country.

Geoffrey is Chief Executive of international animal charity SPANA and was on hand to see the work his charity does to help the 70,000 working donkeys in the capital Nouakchott, which has no running water and relies on the animals to deliver it instead.

A further 30,000 donkeys are responsible for transporting food, firewood, construction materials and even rubbish.

Yet, despite the vital role they carry out, these animals endure punishing conditions and their welfare is often neglected. They work 12-hour days in temperatures that exceed 40 degrees.

Since 2001, Spana has provided free veterinary treatment to the working animals of Mauritania, and last year provided more than 34,800 treatments.

For more information, please visit www.spana.org

Church lead appeal to help children

For the month of April until 20th May, the Outreach Committee at Holy Trinity Church in Cuckfield is asking for NEW items to fill bags for children in the war-torn areas of the Middle East.

Organised by Samara's Aid there is a list of the items needed in the church porch. Donors are asked to kindly print their name next to any of these which you are able to buy and then leave the items in the marked box in the church tower. Ros Thunder commented: "Thank you very much – your gift will mean so much."

For more information contact Ros on 01444 457585.



Mortgages –
why pick your own
when we can find you
the cream of the crop?

Whole-of-market mortgage advice for:-

- First-time buyers
- Purchase mortgage
 - Re-mortgage
 - Buy-to-let
 - Let-to-buy
- Second homes
- Holiday homes
 - Commercial
 - Self builds

Strawberry Finance

www.strawberryfinance.co.uk

Tel: 01444 414142

7 Muster Green, Haywards Heath
West Sussex RH16 4AP

Strawberry Finance is a trading name of The Finance Planning Group Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The Finance Planning Group Limited, registered in England and Wales, 3894404. Registered office: Hurstwood Grange, Hurstwood Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 7QX. Telephone 01444 449200. Fax 01444 449209.

Cuckfield's art gallery turns one next month!

Artologie owner and village resident Wendy Rowark is planning a special anniversary open evening event on 11th May – when she will also be unveiling works by featured artist Jessica Ford. "Jessica Ford's large bright block colour abstract paintings have been arresting in the windows throughout the year and are very popular," Wendy commented.

"It has been a busy, wonderful and varied year as the shop has developed and established its place on the High Street. One of the first through my door was local artist and resident Don Cranefield, who is still enjoying painting at 93!"

Wendy has transformed 18 High Street from the original old butcher's shop into a boutique gallery, but there are still a number of features retained from its former use, including tiles and hooks.

As well as featuring local artists such as Grant Dejonge and Oliver Pyle, she also invites artists into the gallery to hold workshops. On 24th April Melanie Hodge will be demonstrating the art of reverse glass painting at Artologie.

To find out more about these events pop into the shop, or call 01444 708380.



Care at Home

"Home is where the heart is"

Assistance with all aspects of personal care can be provided including:

- Live in care services available
- 24 hour care
- Night sitting or sleep over service
- Getting up or putting to bed service
- Hospital discharge co-ordination
- Shopping, Laundry, Bathing assistance
- Meal preparation / provision
- Outings, Special Events & Holiday escorting services and companionship
- Liaison with social workers, district nurses, family and friends.

Support for all the above is provided by professional, fully qualified and experienced health and social care workers. If you would like to discuss your own personal care requirements or for a member of your family or friend, please do not hesitate to contact your local Everycare regional office.

We are committed to employing top quality carers. If you have a kind and caring nature and would be interested in joining the Everycare team, please contact the office with your details.



**Recruiting Now,
No previous experience required
Good rates of Pay and hours to suit**

EVERYCARE MID SUSSEX

68 Victoria Road, Burgess Hill RH15 9LH

Tel. 01444 244770

Email: midsussex@everycare.co.uk
www.everycare.co.uk



April Update

BOLNORE CIC

By Chris Belton

As part of our landscaping work, a number of trees and shrubs have been 'coppiced'. As a non-gardener, this was a term I had heard but not fully understood until I saw the outcome from the work this time last year.

It did look as if the trees and shrubs had been reduced to just a few stubs and looked all set to die off. But come the spring and early summer they were beginning to grow.

The Royal Horticultural Society, who must be the experts in the matter, define coppicing as 'a pruning technique where a tree or shrub is cut to ground level, resulting in regeneration of new stems from the base. It is commonly used for rejuvenating and renovating old shrubs'. This is, of course, exactly what happened.

The outcome from this year's activity is much the same and, after several years of neglect by FirstPort, our trees and shrubs will begin to look a lot stronger and sturdier than they have in the past. This can only benefit the plants and at the same time improve the Village.

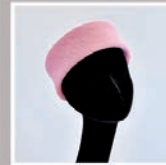
Whilst on the subject of plants, it is disappointing to see cultivated areas of the Village being ruined by drivers mounting kerbs and planted areas in order to make progress. There is a cost associated with these actions which will fall to residents to cover as our contractors have to make good these areas. I know the streets are not wide and that there are many 90-degree junctions. Is it really that difficult or time consuming to give a little ground and stop the destruction of the Village?

Our regular Residents' Surgeries continue to generate interest with a number of people attending each session. It is an opportunity to discuss specific issues with Pembroke or to ask general questions about the village with the Community Interest Company Directors. The next session is scheduled for 18th June in the evening in order to facilitate meetings with those who cannot make other times.

If you live in the Village and would like to become a Director of the Community Interest Company please email estate@bolnore.org.uk for more details.



Abi Gurney Hat Hire
By appointment only...



www.abigurneyhathire.co.uk
01825 713448
abigurneyhathire@gmail.com

HILARY MAY (BA HONS) GARDEN DESIGNER



Design schemes/planting plans
to suit all gardens - large or small



*Bring your garden to life with
colour, form and fragrance*

Tel: 01444 414674
Email: maygardens@icloud.com
www.hilarymaygardens.co.uk



25 days YOGA for £25

Try our new Yoga classes - UNLIMITED membership for 25 days, only £25*

- Atmospheric Yoga studio
- Different styles of yoga (vinyasa, restorative, yin/yang)
- Personal Yoga classes
- Special Yoga Events
- 5 mins from Cuckfield
- 5 minutes from HH Station
- Free parking
- No contract | No joining fee
- Flexible membership

Sign up before the 30th April 2018. Call Sarah on 01444 473421 or email: sarah@linearfitness.com

*** OFFER VALID FOR ALL OUR CLASSES:
PILATES | YOGA | CARDIO 30 | LBT | INDOOR CYCLING
CONDITIONING | KETTLEBELLS | BOOTCAMP
RUNNING CLUB | BOXING CIRCUITS**

LINEAR
HEALTH & FITNESS



Fundraising quiz raises £600

The big day looms closer for Bolnore couple Chris and Sarah Webb as they complete their preparations for running the London Marathon.

The pair are running to raise money for Action for Conservation and held a hugely successful quiz night at the Woodside at the end of last month.

More than 65 people turned up, raising over £600 on the night from both the quiz and the raffle. "We had some great prizes," said Chris, "including signed books donated by Sir Alan Sugar (my best friend won The Apprentice a few years ago!) and award-winning children's author Robert Macfarlane, who is a trustee of the charity we are running for."

The quiz master was former Mastermind contestant Nick Flindall, who featured in last month's Village People slot, and he pitched the questions perfectly as Chris explains:

"Two teams were tied going into the last round and it was in fact the final question which was the decider, and perhaps ironically the question was: 'Which battle took place in 490BC between citizens of Athens and a Persian force?'. The answer, of course, is 'Marathon!'"

As for training, the couple are building up gradually to the race on 22nd April.



"We did 19 miles at Easter weekend and that was the last 'Big One'," says Chris. "Our legs hurt. A lot! Strangely we haven't lost any weight – probably because we seem to be making rather too much of the opportunity to eat whatever we want at the moment!"

"My wife and I run at around the same speed, and it certainly helps having each other as neither of us wants to be the first to give up. So we'll be running together all the way round on the day. It's not about doing it in a certain time – rather focusing on helping each other to just make it round!"

This is the link to Chris and Sarah's fundraising page:
<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-portal/fundraiserPage?pagelid=852176>



SUNDAY SPECIAL

Including any starter any main any side dish any rice or any nan you can choose from the main menu.
(King prawn mixed grill salmon fish £2.95 extra)

4 COURSE MEAL for £11.95 pp



Tel: 01444 441 373 or 01444 451 123
Spice Village, 1 Ockenden Lane, Cuckfield, West Sussex RH17 5LD

Open 7 days a week 5.30-10.30pm
www.spicevillagecuckfield.co.uk * Takeaway available *

Take the stress of I.T. away

Do you struggle with computers?

For all your PC, Mac, tablet & smartphone problems, training, recovery & spring cleans.

Email emma@theitgirl.co.uk or call her on **07938 838861**



save this number

HH Mayor helps out

The mayor of Haywards Heath, James Knight, made a surprise visit to Bolnore last month to help out on a litter pick.

Despite the wet weather, there was a good turnout to help clean up litter from the village and Ashenground and Bolnore Woods.

The mayor was joined by his deputy Alistair McPherson and councillor Matt Jeffers (pictured left alongside the mayor).

Matt said: "We've had a great response from people in the village to come and help make the place nicer. A big thank you to all who took the time to get involved."

Alistair McPherson commented: "Thanks to the Town Council for coordinating the event, MSDC for providing equipment and everyone for turning up and collecting so much rubbish."



The Kitchen People

As seen in Real Homes Magazine and winner of Second Nature's Real Kitchen of the Year Award.



Call us now to arrange your free design consultation...
Celebrating our 10 year anniversary on Lindfield High Street

61 High Street, Lindfield, RH16 2HN www.kitchenpeople.co.uk
Tel: 01444 484868 Email: info@kitchenpeople.co.uk Facebook: [facebook.com/thekitchenpeople](https://www.facebook.com/thekitchenpeople)



**The Royal
Wedding Street
Party and Evening
Reception**

19th May 2018
2.30pm - 5 pm

Children £2 Adults £3

An afternoon of fun with
childrens entertainer, raffle
and of course afternoon tea
with sandwiches, cakes and
cream tea.

All profits will go to
Well Child, a charity
Prince Harry is
patron of.

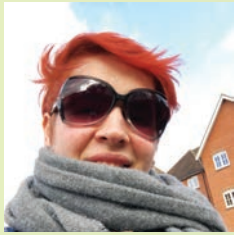
**Evening event 8pm - Close
(Adults Only)**

Theme: Top Hats and Tiaras

**Entry £2.50 per person.
Cash Bar**

**To buy tickets please email:
alison.events@bolnore.org.uk**

 **Woodside**



5 MINUTES WITH...

Emilia Laska

Emilia has worked for the last three years at the preschool in the village. She loves camping with her family and friends. Emilia also enjoys time together with her six-year-old daughter.

How long have you lived in Bolnore?
Eight years

What's the best thing about being here?
The community; lots of friendly people live in Bolnore

Favourite ice cream flavour?
Bubblegum

How many houses have you lived in?
Five

What would you like to see in Bolnore that isn't here?
A restaurant or a coffee shop

Favourite holiday destination?
Italy, I love the food, the people are so friendly, and I'd also love to go to Greece because I'm fascinated by the myths and legends

Song you play the most?
Rockabye by Clean Bandit

What would you do if you won £1million?
Set up a rehabilitation centre for disabled children

What was the last present you gave someone?
A toy owl

Strangest thing you've ever eaten?
Mussels - the texture put me off, it just felt funny

What would you rather give up for a month – TV or music? TV

Which App on your phone do you use the most?
WhatsApp.

What's your proudest moment?
When my daughter was born

Your advice for life?
Smile and enjoy every moment

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

SPB Plumbing & Heating Ltd

01444 483511

07798 636887

All plumbing & heating works
Full bathroom design &
installation
Over 25 years local service



Vaillant Advance
Boiler
Installer



Grant G-One
Boiler
Installer

spb.plumbing.heating@hotmail.co.uk

74 High Street, Lindfield



NOW AT NO. 2



BRING
THIS
ADVERT

20% OFF
YOUR NEXT PAIR OF SPEX

*excludes sales advice

CUCKFIELD i WEAR

2 High Street, Cuckfield RH17 5EN
Tel: 01444 459412 info@cuckfieldiwear.co.uk



Bolnore football team back in play

AFC Bolnore made a rare visit to Cuckfield last month to ensure they could actually play a game of football after managing to start only one fixture in almost three months.

AFC Bolnore had to turn to Warden Park Academy to end their enforced winter hibernation. The weather was again wretched on the day with freezing temperatures and a snow storm and although Warden Park's 3G pitch was a little icy the game was able to go ahead.

Unfortunately for Bolnore, it proved to be a disappointing day as they lost a cup game 4-1 to Crawley Panthers.

The following weekend AFC Bolnore bounced back in style with a 4-1 victory against Handcross Village in their first league fixture since November.

Manager Lewis Claxton admits the long breaks between games has been frustrating and is preparing his team for the massive fixture pile-up until the end of the season.

He said: "This season has been the worst by far in our short four-season history in terms of the weather

affecting our fixtures. We have played only two competitive games since November and now have a fixture backlog meaning we will need to play 12 games in six weeks.

"This will test our squad to the maximum, having to play weekend and midweek games. That said, we have a large squad, with a good balance of experience and young talent.

And AFC Bolnore got April off to a flying start – following another postponement on 31st March – with a 6-2 victory over Ansty Sports and Social II, with the game played at Victoria Park, Haywards Heath, because Bolnore Rec was still waterlogged. The win took them back to the top of the table, and Lewis added: "We will do our best to bring the league title to Bolnore, and, as ever, the more supporters we get along to cheer on the lads the better. Everyone is welcome. Look out for our fixtures on the AFC Bolnore Facebook site."

Woods suffering from wet weather

No, not a picture of the Okefenokee Swamp. This is Ashenground and Bolnore Woods this month following the installation of a new water pipe to drain water from the adjacent railway line.

The incredibly wet spring has left many parts of our region under water, but this area of the woods appears to be particularly badly hit, as it normally has puddles in winter but not water coverage on this scale.

The site is being monitored because of the presence of newts – a protected species – in the woods, which, as well as ponds, also need dry areas to live and find food.

Cuckfield Life understands that if the site were to remain excessively wet in the summer months, then the pipe may be redirected to carry water directly into the stream that feeds the nearby River Adur.



Talk to your personal solicitor

At home or in the office, including out of hours service

Caring and professional advice when you need it the most...

- Probate
- Wills
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Equity release
- Matrimonial



Claire Nash is a local solicitor providing expert and friendly advice to residents of Cuckfield and Bolnore, and across West Sussex.

Call: 01444 417944
www.clairenashsolicitors.co.uk
info@clairenashsolicitors.co.uk

Call Claire today for your free and confidential initial consultation on 01444 417944



Claire Nash Solicitors is the trading name of Claire Nash Solicitors Ltd. Company Number 10958514. Claire Nash Solicitors Ltd is regulated by the SRA in England and Wales (SRA number 643261). VAT Number 285 1524 95. Registered Address: Summer Cottage, Blackness Road, Crowborough TN6 2NA.



**SPRING
LIVE!**



THE

Perfect

DAY OUT

6 & 7 MAY

LIVE MUSIC STAGE * OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES * GARDENING
ANIMAL BARN * FOOD & DRINK * MAYPOLE DANCING
ACRES OF SHOPPING * DONKEY RIDES * FAIRGROUND

JOIN US THIS SPRING

BOOK TICKETS TODAY seas.org.uk/booking

South of England Showground, Ardingly, West Sussex RH17 6TL

Under 16s **FREE** with paying adult * Dogs welcome

seas.org.uk * 01444 892700

   @SouthEngShows



BOOK ONLINE
TO SAVE

10%

ENDS MIDNIGHT
5 MAY

All profits from Spring Live! are donated to The South of England Agricultural Society, a charity that funds and supports agricultural education and countryside learning. Registered Charity Number 227033.



Inside Ardingly Showground

THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

We are no doubt all aware of the showground in Ardingly, and many of us will have attended events there over the years, but you may not know that the stunning 150-acre site is home to The South of England Agricultural Society; a registered charity that funds and supports agricultural education and countryside learning. Last year marked the 50th birthday of the Society, which was founded in 1967 from a consolidation of agricultural societies going back to the 1830s.

Iain Nicol, CEO of the South of England Agricultural Society, explains: "The Society plays a significant role in introducing young people to the countryside and is passionate about raising awareness and understanding of the countryside, food and farming.

"We strive to showcase agriculture, horticulture and the countryside through our four annual shows which raise funds to help us serve the community through the provision of education, grants, awards, bursaries and scholarships for people with an interest or involvement in agriculture, horticulture and land-based industries."

Thousands of young people have benefitted from these initiatives over the last 50 years, and millions of people have been brought closer to the countryside at the Society's shows which, for 2018, include: Spring Live!, The South of England Show, the Autumn Show & Game Fair and Winter Fair.

Spring Live! on 6th and 7th May will offer a perfect family day out celebrating all aspects of the great outdoors. Friends and families can enjoy plenty of outdoor pursuits and interactive entertainment including a new live music stage, survival skills workshops, 'meet the animals' zones, maypole dancing, a fairground and inspiring creative zones.

Said Iain: "We have a very committed and dynamic team, as well as an army of volunteers, who work incredibly hard at making our shows as appealing as possible to people of all ages, building in exciting new elements each year. We opened up the accessibility to

the shows hugely two years ago when we introduced free entry for under 16s when accompanied by a paying adult so that young families, single parents and grandparents with grandchildren, for example, could enjoy a fantastic day out."

The South of England Show (7th-9th June 2018) has welcomed over 3.5 million visitors over the last five decades! Hundreds of students from schools and colleges across the region are involved in competitions, exhibits and demonstrations, including Young Farmers Clubs competitions and the prestigious Young Craftsman of the Year exhibition, which has seen over 3,500 student entries over the past 31 years and helped dozens of winners go on to achieve successful careers.

The charity funds also go towards the annual 'Connect with the Countryside' event which since 2006 has hosted 25,000 schoolchildren at the South of England Showground, offering pupils an engaging and interactive opportunity to learn all about food, farming, countryside and the environment.

Said Iain: "As well as our four main shows, we are very proud to welcome a huge variety of events to the Event Centre here in Ardingly. The flexible and unique facilities and wide range of buildings, combined with our expert events team, offer the ideal venue to hire for exhibitions, trade shows, concerts, conferences, business meetings, parties and special occasions.

"Visitors attending South of England Agricultural Society and Event Centre shows directly help to fund the initiatives and projects that we run as a charity to support agricultural education and countryside learning – so thank you."

Buy tickets for Spring Live! online now to beat the queues and enjoy a discount on gate prices. Children under 16 go free, parking is also free and dogs are welcome! Visit www.seas.org.uk for more information.



Looking forward to another successful season

CUCKFIELD CRICKET CLUB

Cuckfield Cricket Club has landed another high-profile Overseas Signing for the new season with the acquisition of Sam Whiteman, who is being tipped to be the next Australia wicketkeeper.

Whiteman was born in Yorkshire, but moved to Western Australia at the age of three. The left-hander has been hugely successful for Western Australia and Perth Scorchers since his first-class debut early in the 2012/13 season, with an average of 35 runs. He made his first first-class century when he scored 174 for Australia A against India A in 2014.

He has only recently returned to action after a year out with a finger injury, and is targeting a return to form and fitness with Cuckfield. Whiteman follows current Test players Jeet Raval and Keshav Maharaj who have played at Cuckfield.

Cuckfield Captain Josh Hayward said: "I am very excited to be welcoming another great overseas player to the Cuckfield family this summer. Sam will be an incredible addition to our squad and to our coaching staff."

Cuckfield Cricket Club is looking to build on the successes of 2017 this season. It fielded four competitive league sides on a Saturday during the 2017 season.

The 1st XI finished a very creditable 3rd in the Sussex Premier Cricket League. The 2nd XI finished 6th, the 3rd XI finished 3rd and the 4th XI finished 4th in their respective leagues.

The Cuckfield under-19 team were runners up in the Sussex 20/20 competition. There were also some notable individual achievements; Joe Ludlow was awarded the Sussex Premier Cricket league Young Player of the Year Award, and Jeet Raval, the 2017 Cuckfield overseas player, was the leading run scorer in the league with 750 runs. Jeet made a significant contribution to the club, both on and off the field, and his wife provided excellent curries. Jeet is currently representing his country by opening the batting for the New Zealand Test team.

The Cuckfield Academy continued to grow in strength and produced teams in all age groups from 9 to 15 and girls and ladies teams.

The Cuckfield Golden Oldies, the over 40 mid-week side, also had a full and rewarding season.

The ECB introduced an initiative named All Stars in 2017 to attract younger players into the game. Cuckfield Academy signed up to the programme and became

the second most successful participating club in the South of England. Cuckfield attracted around 80 five to eight year old boys and girls to the Friday evening coaching sessions, and one of the organisers, Alan Carroll, won a national award from All Stars for his significant contribution to the programme.

The Cuckfield Cricket Club ground and facilities looked especially good during the 2017 season thanks to the hard work of the Head Groundsman, Nigel Reid, and the group of volunteers who maintain the ground. Cuckfield is one of those special grounds that visiting teams love to play and look forward to returning.

For further information regarding participation, playing or volunteering, please contact Chris Bunning, Secretary, chris.bunning@btclick.com



Poor water pressure?

The frustration of slow filling baths and showers that just about pour water over you can be a thing of the past.

At Matthews Plumbing, we can find the best solution to suit your needs be it an entire house boost or individual showers that need some attention.

Contact us now for a free quotation.



Matthews
plumbing
Maintenance - Heating - Bathrooms

Call / text or email now
07791045606

Enquiry@matthews-plumbing.co.uk

All plumbing work carried out
Radiators - Taps - Heating - Bathrooms



Gray Hooper Holt LLP

Solicitors

(Authorised and Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority)

Your **local** solicitor for all your legal needs.

6 Boltro Road, Haywards Heath

Call us on 01444411333

Visit us at www.grayhooperholt.co.uk

Client car parking

Home visits Out of hours appointments

Dog friendly office

Time to get SUMMER-ready

Laser Hair Removal and
Skin Rejuvenation from a
private clinic in Cuckfield



Kirsty Bishopp
Registered Nurse &
Qualified ITEC Laser Technician

Please contact Kirsty for more information or to book:
07783 888 989 or 01444 616 925 Email: lookinggoodskin@outlook.com

NORSAT

Est 1992

Aerials • Satellite TV • Security



Home & Business Security

- CCTV
- Intruder Alarm Systems
- Door Entry
- Installations
- Upgrades
- Maintenance
- Service



Satellite TV & Aerials

- Satellite TV For Sky, Freesat & European Channels - French, German, Italian, Spanish & More
- TV & Radio Aerials
- Aerials for Freeview, BT TV & YouView
- Extra TV, Satellite, Internet Points
- Tv Wall Mounting Service
- Multi Point Systems



FREE
survey for
new
systems

**Realign
Service
Repairs**

**Installation
Upgrades
Maintenance**



01444 316056

www.norsat.co.uk

www.norsatsecurity.co.uk





Wine runs in the blood

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Sacred Cellar is the brand new independent wine merchant and boutique off-licence in the heart of Cuckfield.

Founded by a local family of passionate enthusiasts, Sacred Cellar has just one simple aim: To offer the very best products at every price point.

Whether it's the fine wine, artisan spirits, craft beer or unique cider, a dedication to quality ensures that more than 90% of the Sacred Cellar range has won an award or major commendation around the world. And a painstaking commitment to matching this quality means Sacred Cellar's two floors of retail space in the heart of Cuckfield offer the ideal place for enthusiasts and novices alike to indulge their passion.

Always innovating within the store and across its fully-secure and mobile optimised website, Sacred Cellar enables customers to discover exclusive products completely aligned to their own unique tastes.

Founder and Managing Director

Andrew Jenks has a lifelong passion for fine drinks, cultivated over years of 'being dragged around vineyards' by his father when on family holidays as a child! "Ever since then," he explained, "it's been in my blood. I have lived near Cuckfield my whole life and now live here with my wife, Hannah. We love everything about the village, so I am very excited to have fulfilled a lifelong ambition and opened Sacred Cellar."



To date Andrew's career has been spent in the premium marketing industry, working for brands such as McLaren Automotive and Aon.

"I've spent my professional life building brands, creating new platforms and retail experiences alongside building close relationships with clients and I hope to continue this through Sacred Cellar. Ensuring our customers can enjoy the best of the best at each price

point, as easily as possible, is my principal goal."

True to this aim, Sacred Cellar offers a range of organic and gluten-free products as well as a selection that is entirely suitable for vegans. So whether you are looking for the very best organic wine or seeking the latest gluten-free beers, Sacred Cellar can cater for your needs. As Andrew states: "Across our two floors we offer wines from £7.50 to upwards of £300, and from every major wine region in the world as well as the latest and greatest artisan spirits and craft beer. With our in-store product cards and the wealth of information offered on our website, I want to make sure our customers can always find the right product for their individual tastes and requirements."

Working directly with specialist producers as well as alongside premium suppliers, Sacred Cellar's product ranges will be constantly evolving.

On top of this, Sacred Cellar also offers a range of bespoke services to ensure customers have the perfect products for any given occasion. Able to cater weddings, parties and corporate functions, as well as curating wine lists to complement dinner party menus, it's clear Sacred Cellar is committed to looking after its customers at all times.

To maximise convenience even further, free same day delivery of online orders is also on offer to those living within Cuckfield and the surrounding areas.

As a final point Andrew adds: "We are committed to preserving the quality of our products at all times. Therefore, often we have our blinds down to make sure sunlight and heat are kept away from our products. So if you see the blinds down during our opening hours - don't walk away!"

Sacred Cellar is open Tuesday – Sunday from 11am at Loriner House on Broad Street. Or you can call the shop on 01444 456354, or order online at the website: www.sacredcellar.co.uk



QUALITY COMPOST PRODUCTS



GIVE YOUR GARDEN AN EXTRA BOOST

Produced locally in Sussex, KPS make organic fine compost and blended top soil from recycled green waste

MADE TO BRITISH STANDARDS
SOLD IN CUBIC METER BAGS OR LOOSE LOADS
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR

**Our range of
landscaping products:**

**FINE COMPOST • BLENDED TOP SOIL
WOODLAND MULCH • PINE BARK
MUSHROOM COMPOST**

Visit our website for more product information or give us a call

kps.uk.com

01444 831 010

AN ESTABLISHED FAMILY BUSINESS FOR OVER 40 YEARS

Preschool turns 50

By Ann Ball, Diane Stenning and Mary Crouch

Cuckfield Playgroup is 50 years old this year – this is a brief history of how a group of young mothers set it up and how the group has continued to thrive.

Fifty years ago many young mothers did not work and a lack of nursery provision meant they could be very isolated at home with the clinic being the only place to meet.

A local district nurse knew of the first preschool in the area (The Albemarle in Haywards Heath) and she approached the young wives group in the village, who quickly agreed to open a preschool group.

Fundraising was a major challenge, there was no government funding for many years apart from free milk. All equipment had to be bought, and children even had to kneel on adult chairs to reach table-top activities until money was available to buy child-sized furniture. Second-hand equipment was acquired where possible, with necessary repairs being carried out by willing parents.

Fundraising events such as jumble sales all helped (some things never change!).

The preschool booked the Church Hall – being close to the primary school to make it easier for parents. Three staff were employed on very low wages with a rota of parents to help each morning.



Initially the fees were 2/6 (12 1/2p) per session. Many of the activities the children enjoyed were similar to today. Messy play, often not possible at home, gave children the opportunity to play with paint, clay, water and sand as well as develop the skills they would need for early numeracy and writing.

Unlike the present, administration was kept to a minimum with a register, contact details of the children and a waiting list. It would be many years before records were kept to show the progress of individual children.

Cuckfield Playgroup quickly became very popular in the village. An afternoon session was set up for children soon to go to school, with links to Reception class, and a mother and toddler group for younger children.



Until 1991 Playgroup continued to run in the old church hall. When the new Holy Trinity school opened in Glebe Road, the parents' committee realised that proximity to the school was important, and Playgroup moved to the current hall.

Playgroup has always been a charity not a profit-making organisation, and the parents' committee has needed to work hard organising events to help balance the books and purchase extra equipment.

This was even more important before government funding was introduced around 1998 – the importance of keeping the fees as low as possible to enable families to afford good quality care and education has always been at the heart of what Playgroup does.

The committee also ensures Playgroup is part of the local community, joining in the Mayor's procession, the Cuckoo Fair and Summer and Christmas fairs at Holy Trinity School.

Thanks to a strong staff team, the last three Ofsted inspections have all produced an 'Outstanding' rating – a remarkable achievement.

The most recent change for the group was in 2015 when the hall, no longer required by West Sussex for a Youth Club, was bought by the Parish Council. They recognised the value of Playgroup to the village and how it has benefited families over many years. The decoration and improvements since they took over have made a big difference.

Parental involvement in the running of the group and the part it plays in the community are just as important now as when eight young mums started it all those years ago – they did something very special!

As Cuckfield Preschool celebrates, the team is organising a special party. The event, on Friday 11th May at 8pm in The Queen's Hall, will be British Icons' themed night. Email: socialsecretary@cuckfieldpreschool.co.uk for tickets.





GIELGUD
ACADEMY
OF PERFORMING ARTS



RAD & ISTD Ballet
Tap, Modern, Jazz
Contemporary Dance
Drama, Screen Acting
and Musical Theatre
for children age 3 - 18

Classes held in Lindfield and Haywards Heath
on weekday evenings and all day Saturday

To book free taster day
admin@gielgudacademy.co.uk
01444 848656

GAPA Office
John de Mierre House
20 Bridge Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex, RH16 1UA



www.gielgud.com



Cuckoo Fayre: this year Monday 7th May

The Independent State of Cuckfield's annual village event takes place in just a few week's time.

The Cuckoo Fayre will yet again feature dozens of stalls and various entertainment at the Rec, behind The Queen's Hall , on Bank Holiday Monday 7th May.

Children's entertainer Tomfoolery will be doing a show, in addition to a dance performance in the arena, Irish folk band The Straw Dogs will be playing live and, of course the fun Dog Show will be as popular as ever.

The event starts from midday but will be officially opened by Cuckfield Mayor Evelyn Stenning when she arrives in style at 1pm.

More people flocking to Wakehurst

Wakehurst is officially in the top 100 attractions in the UK, after visitor numbers increased 18 per cent last year, according to figures published by the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions.



Wakehurst jumped eight places to 96th, overtaking Nymans Gardens, with almost 35,000 people visiting the garden last year, its best performance for five years.

Tony Sweeney, Director of Wakehurst, said: "We are delighted. We are constantly striving for excellence and have invested in new areas. Recently we opened up Westwood Valley, increased our wild play areas for children with the installation of Tree Trunk Trek and introduced exhibitions such as Secret Structures – inside the story of plants and fungi.

"And a newly designed Winter Garden is in the final stages of being planted with 33,000 plants that will begin to flourish later this year."

Wild Wood Festival will take place 26th – 28th May and The Kew Science Festival at Wakehurst will be held 21st – 22nd July.

C A F É
e
ELVIRA

Café Elvira at Borde Hill – a great space for a party!

At Café Elvira we love hosting birthday parties, anniversaries, receptions and special occasions. We'll work with you on detail and food, all freshly made and scrumptious. (Minimum of 30 guests for exclusive evening use.)

Please call Vera or Natalie on **01444 458845** or email info@cafe-elvira.co.uk

Afternoon tea...

As well as breakfasts, lunches and cakes, we now do complete afternoon teas (pre-booked, min four people). An indulgent treat, or the perfect present.

£17.50 per person or £25.50 with a glass of Prosecco, £27.50 with a glass of Champagne.

www.jeremysrestaurant.co.uk/cafe-elvira/



Jeremy's restaurant

The world on your plate, in the heart of Sussex. Fine food, warm service, garden, terrace, family celebrations, corporate events, wonderful weddings...

Borde Hill Garden, Haywards Heath, West Sussex
Tel: 01444 441102 • www.jeremysrestaurant.com
reservations@jeremysrestaurant.com



Incorporating
Sussex Mole Control & The Wasp Man
Qualified & Insured

Domestic, Commercial, Agricultural
Bee swarm removal by a Beekeeper

01444-420031

Family Woods

Open Day

Saturday 28th April

**Bring your wellies for Tractor Rides,
Farm Fun and Campfire Lunch**

10:30am – 1:30pm

ALL WELCOME!

Call our Registrar on 01444 483528 to book, just turn
up or visit www.greatwalstead.co.uk to learn more!



GREAT WALSTEAD
SCHOOL

76th Season. Saturday 28th April 2018

St Wilfrid's Church, Haywards Heath at 7.45pm



The National Youth Jazz Orchestra Ambassadors

Six members of the UK's premier young professional jazz orchestra will perform a selection of well-loved jazz classics from The Great American Songbook and swing-era jazz standards

Tickets: £12 for members; £15 non-members. Family rate: 2 adults half price with under-18 (£3)
For further information, telephone 01444-456227, or visit: www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk



Some hope for college future

Sir Nicholas Soames welcomed Greg Clark, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, to Mid Sussex last month in a bid to try to get the Harlands Road campus reopened as a sixth-form college for the area.

The Secretary of State visited the campus in Haywards Heath. This former Central Sussex College site was closed last year, despite being significantly refurbished in 2011.

Sir Nicholas, the District and County Councils and the Local Enterprise Partnership are working together to try to build consensus locally to bring the site back into educational use.

Councillor Garry Wall, Leader of Mid Sussex District Council, said: "Sir Nicholas has been working very hard within Government to reopen the Harlands Road site.

"Mid Sussex is going to grow hugely over the next 10 years and must have its own college. There is a great opportunity here if we can just cut through the red tape."



2 YEAR WARRANTY AS STANDARD* 4 YEAR WARRANTY on Z122R†
* Conditions apply to the 2nd year. † Z122R has a 4 year, 300 hour warranty. See your Kubota dealer for details.

Cash in *this Spring*

This Spring make sure your lawn gets off to the right start with a Kubota ride-on mower. With unmatched performance, excellent fuel economy, legendary reliability - and now with up to £300 cashback* - it's never been more affordable to upgrade to a Kubota ride-on mower.

OFFER OPEN UNTIL 30th JUNE 2018

www.kubota.co.uk

ROD GASKIN LTD

Rod Gaskin Ltd, Holmsted Farm, Staplefield Road, Cuckfield, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. RH17 5JF
Telephone: 01444 229429 Email: tom@rodgaskin.co.uk



CLAIM UP TO
£300
CASHBACK*

KUBOTA RIDE-ON MOWERS

* Terms and conditions apply. See website or contact your local dealer for details.

Cuckfield Walking Race



Despite the forecast of rain, 31 hardy souls took on the challenge of the annual five-mile Cuckfield Walking Race on Easter Monday.

This year the race started at Haywards Heath Rugby Club at Whitemans Green, going through the village, past the cricket club, up to Ansty, down and up Deaks Lane and back to the pavilion, where hot drinks and biscuits awaited.

The conditions stayed cool but dry for most of the race, the rain arriving late and soaking those competitors bringing up the rear.

Numerous Cups were awarded by the Mayor, Evelyn Stenning, in a variety of categories. George Baty was first man home, while Gary Atkinson was again fastest man with a time of 51 minutes, 55 seconds. Jennie Meadows was the first lady resident to finish, with Leanne Knapman taking the cup for fastest lady resident in a time of 60.38.

George Baty said: "It was pretty damp, a lot of mini-rivers running down Deaks Lane. I was expecting to be overtaken, I didn't look round, I just kept going. I thought I'd see Gary Atkinson shooting along, but I held on."

"I was going to wear waterproof golf trousers but thought they might restrict my movement, so I went for the shorts and they were great. My hat blew off once when a lorry went past me on the road up to Ansty."

Carly O'Prey was the fastest non-resident lady, while her partner Rob Helliwell took the title for fastest non-resident man. The pair run the Wheatsheaf pub, which also took both the men's and women's team titles. Carly laughed off the suggestion that they had trained for the event: "Being a mum of a two-year-old? Erm no! This was my third time and although it was drizzly and a bit slippery in places it was great conditions, not too hot."

Gary Atkinson said he honestly couldn't remember how many times he has won the title in the past and again proved invincible. "You'd have to look at the trophy, it's something I started doing 100 years ago and I'm still doing it now. Training? Well I was in the Wheatsheaf all

day yesterday for my nephew's birthday, so maybe it's something in the beer."

Runner-up James Mark said: "I like getting out in the fresh air, it was nice and cool on the face today. I'm a keen marathon runner and always listen to music when I run and I did the same for the walk – the louder the better, it keeps me going."





'A Charmed Life' at museum

By Sue Burgess

Following a slight reorganisation of our display cases, we have started a collection of small personal keepsakes and curios treasured by their owners for bringing good luck or, in some cases, warding off evil.

Many sayings, superstitions and symbols are familiar: fingers crossed, four-leaved clover, lucky horseshoes and pennies, black cats, white rabbits, touch wood, thumbs up, white heather sprigs etc, and our display has references to all of these, but there are, of course, very many more.

Most of the items already loaned by local residents have been passed down through families and have immense sentimental value. They include a 17th century 'witch bottle' bellarmine, Victorian Christmas pudding dolls and coins, a silver WWI 'Fums Up' figure on its original card, blue glass beads, a much-travelled 'worry doll', bees in a bag, a dashboard St Christopher, a very odd ceramic Scottie dog in a bath, vintage good luck cards and a solar-powered black kitten waving good fortune to whoever it faces.

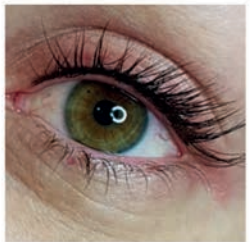
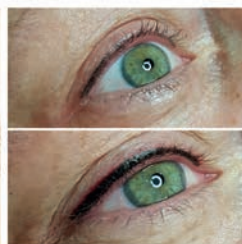
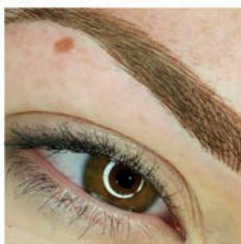
If you have a small item that you feel has been a lucky mascot and would be prepared to lend it to the museum over the summer, do let us know. We'd love to see it and hear its story.

We've also now added Cuckfield artist Don Cranefield's charming colour prints to our shop shelves.



The various village scenes are priced at £10 each and his panoramic drawings of some of our streets at £20. All are wrapped, mounted and ready for framing. The museum will keep 25% of the sale price, so we are hoping they will prove popular with both local residents and with visitors who would like a souvenir of Cuckfield.

Double
award-winning
permanent
makeup
specialist based
in Sussex.



Areas treated:
Eyebrows
Eyeliner
Lips
Medical Areola
tattooing
Skin Needling



Call 07920 032 353
today to find out more
or to book your treatment

www.amypackerpermanentmakeup.co.uk



Amy Packer Permanent Makeup

Cuckfield Food Market



CUT ME OUT
AND KEEP



Dates for your diary 2018:

JAN: WE TAKE A BREAK! * FEB: SAT 10TH * MAR: SAT 10TH
* APR: SAT 14TH * MAY: SAT 12TH * JUNE: SAT 9TH

The Talbot Inn Courtyard, High Street

Get creative...

bespoke rings
as unique as you are



**PRUDEN
& SMITH**

2 SOUTH STREET
DITCHLING BN6 8UQ
01273 846338

**JEWELLERY
GALLERY**

**DESIGN &
REMAKING**

WORKSHOP TOURS
GOLD SCRAPPAGE
ENGRAVING & REPAIRS

WWW.PRUDENANDSMITH.COM INFO@PRUDENANDSMITH.COM



Come along and sing

The Mid Sussex Choir is an amateur community choir and registered charity drawing its members from across Mid Sussex. It's a friendly choir and is always looking for new members (aged 18 or above). It presents two main concerts each year, in December and April, and also sings at a small number of charity and other events. In recent years it has performed a wide range of works and music styles ably led by its Musical Director, Andrew Sutton, and accompanist Phillip Sear. The choir rehearses for two hours on Wednesday evenings at 7.45pm at the Methodist Church, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, between September and June each year. The next concert is on 28th April at 7.30pm, also at the Methodist Church, and features songs from musicals including selections from Gilbert and Sullivan, Rogers and Hammerstein, Gershwin, Lerner and Loewe, and Andrew Lloyd Webber.



The choir was formed in 1946 when Hilary Preston was asked to assemble a group of singers to provide incidental music to 'The Amber Gate', a pageant play staged by Mid Sussex Guides, Brownies, Cubs and Scouts. The pageant, advertised in the Mid Sussex Times as 'a treat for all ages', proved a memorable experience for all taking part. Tickets were 2/6d. The choir entered the annual Lewes Music Festival the following year and in 1954 won the silver cup. 1961 saw a new departure for the Choir with the singers in costume providing the chorus for 'Don Pasquale' sung by a group of young soloists from Glyndebourne. In 2016 it celebrated its 70th anniversary with a concert at St Wilfrid's Church, Haywards Heath, including works by Vivaldi and Puccini to orchestral accompaniment.

Why join the Choir? Many join simply because they enjoy singing and it's much easier to do that with other people. Finding your voice (literally) can be liberating – it really doesn't matter that you're never going to be the next Alfie Boe or Katherine Jenkins. Singing offers other benefits too: it helps breathing, exercises the vocal muscles and absorbs your attention. And learning to read music is a great way of exercising the brain! Cuckfield resident Valerie Stevenson has been a member of Mid Sussex Choir for many years: "When I first joined I had not sung since school days, but I was made very welcome

and soon felt part of the group. Over the years we have sung a wide variety of different styles of music - it is always good to try out new things! We always put on a lovely concert at Christmas time with many well known Christmas carols as well as less well known Christmas songs. Our Spring concert this year will be songs from the shows which I am really enjoying. I always look forward to our Wednesday evenings choir practice - our choir master Andrew Sutton makes it such fun!"

If you'd like to give the choir a try you're welcome to come to any rehearsal. In addition, special taster sessions have been arranged on 6th, 13th and 20th June - an ideal time to see if singing with the choir is for you. For more information phone David Waterhouse on 07710 442289 or email contact@midssussexchoir.org.uk or see the website: www.midssussexchoir.org.uk

Therapy with Ania

- Warm Manner
- Safe Environment
- Evidenced Therapies
- Long NHS Experience



Lindfield High St, at Abbott's Pharmacy

Call Ania on 01444 617 226

Or visit www.talkforchange.co.uk

Call in, fill up & save!

MRH
Driving Retail

Welcome to MRH Cuckfield & Jeremys Corner


Hursts Cuckfield, open 6am to 10pm daily, offers an extensive range of convenience food, an off-licence, cash machine and Costa Express, it's the perfect place to pick up a little bit of everything!

Hursts Grab & Go at Jeremys Corner, is open 24 hours and offers an extensive range of convenience food, a 24 hour off-licence, cash machine, PayPoint and Costa Express. Jeremys Corner is also home to Stone Willy's Kitchen, where you can pick from a range of delicious, freshly prepared hot food. You can grab anything from wraps to shakes, fries to fried chicken, and tasty pizzas baked in under two minutes!


Call in today and make use of the discount vouchers below. We hope to see you soon.

Hursts
A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING

Cuckfield
Whitemans Green,
Cuckfield Haywards Heath,
West Sussex RH17 5DA




B2115
WHITEMANS GREEN
BRAINSMEAD CL




Hursts
GRAB & GO

Jeremys Corner
London Road,
Bolney Haywards Heath,
West Sussex RH17 5QD



JEREMY'S LN
LONDON RD
A23



MRH
Driving Retail

**3p off per litre of fuel* OR
£1 off a £5 spend in store****

Redeemable at MRH Cuckfield or
MRH Jeremys Corner

Terms & Conditions: *3p off per litre when £30.00 or more spent on fuel. **Excludes Lottery and tobacco products. Not to be used in conjunction with any other promotion, Key Fuels, Bunker, Fleet and Routex Cards are not an acceptable form of payment when using these vouchers. Valid for one purchase made until 31/12/2018. Voucher must be presented at time of purchase.
One voucher per transaction.

MRH
Driving Retail

**3p off per litre of fuel* OR
£1 off a £5 spend in store****

Redeemable at MRH Cuckfield or
MRH Jeremys Corner

Terms & Conditions: *3p off per litre when £30.00 or more spent on fuel. **Excludes Lottery and tobacco products. Not to be used in conjunction with any other promotion, Key Fuels, Bunker, Fleet and Routex Cards are not an acceptable form of payment when using these vouchers. Valid for one purchase made until 31/12/2018. Voucher must be presented at time of purchase.
One voucher per transaction.

MRH
Driving Retail

**3p off per litre of fuel* OR
£1 off a £5 spend in store****

Redeemable at MRH Cuckfield or
MRH Jeremys Corner

Terms & Conditions: *3p off per litre when £30.00 or more spent on fuel. **Excludes Lottery and tobacco products. Not to be used in conjunction with any other promotion, Key Fuels, Bunker, Fleet and Routex Cards are not an acceptable form of payment when using these vouchers. Valid for one purchase made until 31/12/2018. Voucher must be presented at time of purchase.
One voucher per transaction.

Are you thinking of a
new website?



Rebecca Jabbar from Strategic Marcomms looks after every element of website creation, with minimal time required from the business owner. With 20+ years' marketing and communications experience, Rebecca can help your business stand out from the competition.

01444 301 302

rebecca.jabbar@strategicmarcomms.com



Need a Regular WINDOW CLEANER?



Price Guide 2017

Property Type	2 Weekly / Monthly	2 Monthly
Park Home (Single / Twin Size)	£7.00/£10.00	£10.00/£12.00
2 Bed Bungalow (Ground Floor Only)	£12.00	£14.00
3 Bedroom Semi-Detached	£15.00	£19.00
3 Bedroom Detached	£16.00	£20.00
4 Bedroom Detached	£19.00	£22.00
Extras		
Conservatory Windows(Roof Not Inc)	£6.00	£8.00
Extension - Small	£3.00	£4.00
First Clean Subject To Additional Cost If Particularly Dirty		
Properties Larger Than Average Size Or Unusual Design, Please Call For Quotation		

- ✓ Residential & Commercial
- ✓ Fully Insured
- ✓ Regular Year Round Service
- ✓ Lead Windows Cleaned at No Extra Cost
- ✓ Frames & Windows Cleaned Every Time



Call: **01273 580569** Text: **07941 048704**
 Email: sales@southernwindowcleaningltd.co.uk
www.southernwindowcleaning.co.uk





Holy Trinity Church Cuckfield, West Sussex RH17 5JZ Tel: 01444 456461
Vicar: Rev Michael Maine More information: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

I live my daydreams in music.
I see my life in terms of music.



Dear Friends,

Is this true of you? For many people music will form an essential part of life, experienced in a huge variety of ways, from early Western music, that from different cultures, through the great symphonies by classical composers to the most up to date popular music - grunge, art-punk or Shoegaze (I have NO idea what the latter is!).

The quote is from Albert Einstein, for whom music was fundamental to his journey through life. Some within the community will know that this is true for me also – indeed, probably my sole link with Einstein! Very few things gladden my heart more than hearing or participating in music. I shall never forget playing the largest working pipe organ in the world - the Wanamaker Organ in Macy's, Philadelphia – yes, in a shop! Singing, too, is incredibly important to me.

Music allows us to enter a different part of our interiority. It is, as Jordan Peterson the Canadian clinical psychologist comments: "A genuine mystery – one of the experiential phenomena we all have access to. It's like looking into the night sky or at the Grand Canyon. It seems to speak about things that are beyond the mundane."

At Holy Trinity we are thrilled that we enable children and young people to participate in one of the enrichments of life found in singing. With our great Lunchtime Recital programme and regular concerts, together with music within worship, we seek to heed the word of the Psalmist, who enjoined us (writing some 3,000 years ago) to *'Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn – shout for joy before the Lord, the King. Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.'* (Psalm 98: 4-7).

With all best wishes,
Michael (Vicar)

What's on:

Lunchtime Recitals on the first Friday of every month at 1pm. Admission free, refreshments available. Details of these and other concerts may be found on the website.

Inspire Choir Club The weekly choir club at Holy Trinity Church for ages 8-14.

Meets in the Old School on Fridays during term time 6.30-8pm, singing, games, activities and refreshments. Contact: Helen Swift (07590 595992 or helenswift94@yahoo.co.uk) or the Director of Music, Richard Jenkinson (r.jenkinson00@gmail.com) for more details.

Holy Trinity Church Choir For adults with a passion for singing. Practicing weekly during term time on a Friday evening. For more details contact Richard Jenkinson.

Holy Trinity Church Ensemble The ensemble plays for the Family Service on the first Sunday of the month and welcomes instrumentalists of any age. All we ask is that new members are able to read music and to play to an equivalent of grade 3. If you are interested, please come and have a chat with Michele Branscombe after a family service or email us at htmusicgroup@yahoo.com

Fresh vegetables every time

SIMPLY GOOD FOOD



Gnocchi, spinach and tomato bake (Serves 2)

Heat 1tbs oil in a large frypan, add 1 onion and 1 red pepper (I use the skinned variety in a jar), both finely chopped. Add a crushed garlic clove and 400g can of chopped tomatoes. Bring to a simmer and stir in 500g pack fresh gnocchi and a small bag of washed spinach. Gently cook for about 10 min or until the gnocchi is soft, stirring once or twice. Preheat the grill. Add some finely chopped fresh basil (or the frozen variety), season and tip into a hot ovenproof dish. Top with a handful of mozzarella pearls (or sliced mozzarella), pop under the grill until golden brown then serve.

Creamy lentils and leek (Serves 2)

Gently cook 2 slim sliced leeks in a little oil until soft then stir in some garlic, 1tbs Dijon mustard, the zest and juice of 1 unwaxed lemon, 4 chopped sundried tomatoes (the version packed in oil) and a drained 400g can of green lentils. Poach 2 eggs. Stir 4tbs crème fraiche into the lentils, gently heat to serving temperature, season to taste and serve topped with eggs.

Cuckfield Baptist Church

We are a Bible-teaching, all-age friendly church in Cuckfield, seeking to know Jesus and make Him known in Mid-Sussex.

We meet at 10:30am every Sunday morning, and **everyone is welcome - whether or not you'd call yourself a Christian.**



To find out more about us and what we do, visit our website:

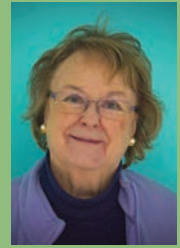
www.cuckfieldbaptistchurch.co.uk

Church Office:
01444 473531
cuckfieldbaptistchurch@gmail.com



By Caroline Young

If you read my column every month you will rapidly realise I am a great fan of vegetables, often making them the star of a recipe and the meat, fish or chicken almost a garnish. I am not a vegetarian but just like eating lots of fresh vegetables – hope you agree with me!



Broccoli casserole (Serves 4)

If you must have some meat, this goes well with baked ham!

Preheat oven to 160°. Lightly cook a head of broccoli, cut into bite-sized florets, until JUST tender. Drain thoroughly and tip into a shallow buttered baking dish. Gently cook a diced large onion and 2-3 cloves crushed garlic in 50g butter, stirring often, until soft and translucent. Sprinkle over 2tbs plain flour then gradually add 600ml hot chicken or vegetable stock, cooking, stirring, until thickened. Stir in 150g cream cheese (low-fat if preferred) - add a little more hot stock if sauce is too thick. Pour over the broccoli. Top with a generous layer of coarse buttered breadcrumbs and a handful of grated cheddar. Bake until golden brown and bubbling around the edges – about 25 min.

Madison Avenue salad (Serves 2)

I first ate this salad in the 70s in New York (hence the name) when I thought it very strange to eat raw spinach – which was unheard of in England. One thing is very important – be sure to use well washed and dried baby spinach leaves such as those ready-to-eat packs in the salad section.

Put 6 finely chopped spring onions, 1 ripe peeled and diced avocado and 225g spinach leaves into a salad bowl. Tip 100g chopped smoked back bacon into a hot frypan and cook until beginning to brown. Stir in a handful of bread cubes and continue to cook, stirring, until crisp and brown. Remove bacon and bread and keep hot. Add 2tbs olive oil to the pan with some crushed garlic, 1tbs red wine vinegar, 1tsp wholegrain mustard and 1tsp sugar. Bring to the boil and season to taste. Add bacon and bread cubes to the salad bowl, pour over the hot dressing and toss to combine. Eat immediately.

P & S GALLAGHER

Family Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons

Now at brand
NEW premises

Fraser House
20 Sussex Road
Haywards Heath
RH16 4EA

01444 451166



Weald House
111 Lower Church Road
Burgess Hill
RH15 9AA

01444 239869

Pat, Sandy and Matthew Gallagher, formerly of Cuckfield

Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



www.pandsgallagher.co.uk





Another day of ceremony

FROM THE MAYOR'S TABLE

By Evelyn Stenning

This last month has been full of surprises. Snow closing roads, transport decreased, schools and clubs forced to shut their doors.

Then we had burst water pipes, which caused water shortages for three days. Warden Park Academy had to send all the pupils home one morning after the water supply problems caused such a drop in pressure that their water tanks were unable to refill once they began operation. Quite quickly the tanks were drained and that made the safe and hygienic operation of the school impossible.

Shops ran out of bottled water and eventually the Water Company supplied villagers with some free bottles of water.

We must be very grateful and say a big THANK YOU to some of the people of Cuckfield that helped their neighbours young and old at this time.

Now we have lighter evenings maybe we will be able to tidy our gardens and enjoy them this spring

By the time you read this Easter will have come and gone I hope you had plenty of rest, days out, enjoyed your Easter eggs and whatever you gave up for Lent.

I would have seen some of you on Easter Monday at The Rugby Club when the ISOC held their Annual Walking Race and the Easter Egg Hunt. I hope you have now recovered and are pleased with the race times you made and the cups and awards.

April is going to be a busy month for me visiting various young people as Mayor of Cuckfield.

Finally, don't forget that the Cuckoo Fayre is on Monday 7th May in the Worsley Memorial Recreation Ground, so come and enjoy yourselves. I will be there to open it at 1pm. If you wish to have a stall and raise funds for a charity or group contact ISOC.

Looking forward to springtime?



Spring flowers



Mowing the grass



VAT Return done?

Whatever the season PRB can help your company with all accounting needs including VAT Returns! We also do payroll, tax planning, bookkeeping and personal accounts and Tax Returns.

For further information or to arrange a **FREE** chat with Chris about your own needs, call 01444 458252 today.



 **PRB accountants**
the accountants you can count on

WEB
www.prbmp.com

TEL
01444 458252

Kingfisher House, Hurstwood Grange, Hurstwood Lane
Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH17 7QX



heather martin
garden design

Heather offers a fully bespoke service for all styles & sizes of garden. From the initial design sketches to completed landscaping, planting & special finishing touches, she creates beautiful & functional outdoor spaces tailored to suit your lifestyle.

☎ 07738 323082
✉ heather@heathermartin.co.uk
📱 HeatherMartinGardenDesign

www.heathermartin.co.uk

Mortgage and Protection Adviser
Tara Fraser

- Mortgages
- Remortgages
- Buy to Let
- Help to Buy
- Life Insurance / Protection

For whole of market Mortgage and Protection advice call Tara:
07714 459022
01444 443410
tarafrazer_mortgageadviser@yahoo.com

Think carefully before securing debts against your home. Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage or any other debt secured on it.

JULIAN HARRIS
Tara Fraser is a Mortgage Adviser with Julian Harris Mortgages Ltd, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority No. 304155, Co No. 5927189. Registered office: Julian Harris House, Muggrove, Ashford, Kent TN23 7UN.

Shared driveway

LEGAL EAGLE

This is the first in a new series of Q&As offering practical legal advice to our readers. Martyn Gooch is a West Sussex resident and partner at Rohan Solicitors. If you have a legal question email editor@cuckfieldlife.co.uk and you may see it answered in a future issue.

By Martyn Gooch, partner Rohan Solicitors

Question: The house we are looking at buying has a driveway that is shared by a neighbour. What should we look out for?

Answer: It is not uncommon for properties to share a driveway or perhaps a path for accessing a garden. In these cases, typically one property owner will own the land on which the shared access lies and the other will have a legal right over that land, usually for a specific purpose (such as accessing the main road). That right is referred to in legal terms as an 'easement'. There are several ways an easement can be created, and before committing to the purchase of a property affected by a right of way it is important to establish how that right impacts you.

Usually the deeds to the property will identify the extent and scope of the easement, and these deeds should be checked carefully by your solicitor during the conveyancing process. Most easements will 'run with the land' meaning they will legally bind all subsequent owners. However, that may not always be the case, so it is important to seek professional advice on how the right of way specifically operates.

There are many ways that an easement may be established. Although the majority are formally recorded in a deed it is not uncommon for a right to be created through the prolonged and unopposed use of a piece of land. It is vital for your solicitor to make the relevant enquiries of the seller's solicitor when there is a question mark over whether a right over neighbouring land exists.

As the potential new owner of a property and driveway with shared access you are likely to be responsible for keeping that driveway in a good condition for the benefit of you and your neighbour. If the driveway is in a poor condition you may be required to repair it, and usually the associated costs would be shared with your neighbour, so it is essential that you obtain information from the seller regarding any anticipated repairs and expected costs.

You must also ensure your neighbour can easily exercise their right to use the driveway. For example, if the driveway is not wide enough for two cars to pass you are unlikely to be able to park on it as that would obstruct your neighbour's right of way.

The law surrounding rights of way can be complicated, so seeking accurate legal advice is crucial to ensure you understand the implications of purchasing a property with a shared driveway.

Martyn specialises in litigation, including property related litigation, and dispute resolution and can be contacted by email: mgooch@rohansolicitors.co.uk or by telephone: 01444 450901.

Prostate cancer

DOCTOR, DOCTOR

By Dr Sarah Steely

Prostate cancer has hit the headlines with several celebrities sharing their experiences and, for the first time in the UK, deaths from prostate cancer have overtaken those from breast cancer. This month I want to highlight some of the complex issues around testing for prostate cancer.

The prostate is a gland that sits inside the pelvis around the urethra (the tube that conveys urine from the bladder to the outside world via the penis). As a result, any problems with the prostate can cause a number of symptoms related to the passing of urine. In most men these symptoms are usually down to a very common and non-cancerous condition, but it is still a good idea to get checked out by a GP.

Unlike breast, bowel or cancer of the cervix, there is not a national programme for screening. This is because there is currently no single, reliable test that can be used. At the moment, if you have symptoms you can expect your GP to ask questions and then discuss further testing if necessary. This may include a physical examination of the prostate via the rectum, a urine sample and possibly a blood test called prostate specific antigen (PSA). If you do have the blood test there are a few practicalities around the timing of the blood sample and your GP will give you this information or you can find it in the articles below (see web links). Sometimes men may be referred to a specialist and a biopsy taken (a surgical removal of some tissue from the prostate which is then looked at under a microscope).

In those without symptoms, it is important to carefully consider the advantages and disadvantages of doing the blood test, especially for those who are otherwise at low risk (i.e. under 50 or without a family history of prostate cancer). Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men; one in eight men will get it in their lifetime. Despite this, only about one in 25 die from it, meaning more men die with prostate cancer than because of it. To be clear, some of the prostate cancers diagnosed will never cause harm during the man's lifetime.

Although early detection is vital in any cancer, there is also a potential risk of harm involved in testing which all patients should understand. PSA testing can lead to a diagnosis that would not necessarily have caused any bother, yet has wide reaching and potentially negative effects on an individual and their family and future. Biopsies and the treatments for prostate cancer also carry risks, such as difficulty controlling urination or the inability to get and maintain an erection, which can dramatically affect quality of life. As the arguments for and against testing are complex it can be difficult to cover fully within a standard GP appointment. For further information, please visit the websites below as they will help you to make an informed decision.

Overall, do not ignore any changes you have noticed. www.patient.co.uk and watch the following video <https://youtu.be/bTgS0DuhaUU>

Are your locks giving you a headache?

Do you get stressed when they're not working as they should?

Are your keys testing your patience?

It could take just one application of **Lock Assist** to give fast acting, long term relief from all your security headaches.

Cures sticking locks, catchy keys and difficult doors.



Call us now to make an appointment on **01444 244 344**



help@lockassist.co.uk

SUSSEX WEALTH MANAGEMENT LIMITED

WEALTH MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS



A wealth of expertise on your doorstep

We provide an experienced wealth management service and offer specialist advice in a wide range of areas including:

- Investment planning
- Retirement planning
- Inheritance Tax planning

For further details contact Michele or Ross on:

Tel: 01444 458197

Michele Mobile: 07984 448526

Ross Mobile: 07985 911364

Email: sussexwm@sjpgp.co.uk

Website: www.sussexwealthmanagement.com

Sporting greats out of Cuckfield

WARDEN PARK ACADEMY

Warden Park has a British Schools Champion in its ranks after Year 7 pupil Aidan won the under-34kg judo title in Sheffield last month.

Aidan took gold in the regionals in January, and this time was up against the best in the whole of Great Britain.

Mr Gentry, director of PE and Sport at Warden Park, said: "There were 16 boys competing in Aidan's category. Aidan used his skill, strength and determination to win all of his competitions, taking the gold medal for Warden Park and being declared the British Schools <34kg champion for school Year 6/7. We are all incredibly proud."

The Cuckfield school also has double netball champions. The Under-12s won the Mid and North Sussex end of season tournament at Downlands, beating Imberhorne, Burgess Hill Academy and Sackville and the final match against Downlands, which they won 2-0 to take the title.

The team will now go on to represent Mid Sussex in the forthcoming Sussex School Games Championships in June.



Aidan takes gold



Under 12s

The under-14s, meanwhile, were also crowned North and Mid Sussex Netball Champions, following a hard-fought tournament hosted by Burgess Hill Academy.

Miss Finley, Deputy Director of PE and Sport, said: "In the group stages the team were finding their feet, after a last-minute change to the team due to injury. In the group stage they beat Oathall 5-4 and Burgess Hill Academy 7-2. This resulted in Warden Park winning their group and progressing to the finals where they met Millais and St Pauls.

"From here the team really rose to the occasion and played some excellent netball. The first game against Millais could have gone either way with Warden Park

winning with a tight scoreline of 8-7. This meant that with a win against St Pauls, Warden Park would be crowned Champions.

"Despite fatigue, the team changed up a gear with some really consistent shooting and went on to take the title beating St Pauls 6-2. This team has excellent potential, so watch this space. Well done girls!"



Under 14s



Community Orchestra concert coming up

Ensemble Reza's Community Orchestra will be performing at Warden Park Secondary Academy from 3-5pm on Sunday 6th May.

This concert will bring together a fantastic selection of music, including stomping trolls from In the Hall of the Mountain King by Grieg to dancing cowgirls/boys in Hoe Down from Copland's magical Rodeo and, in contrast, the magical Nimrod from Elgar's Enigma Variations and much more. Professional musicians Ensemble Reza will also perform alongside trumpeter Martijn Van Galen and clarinetist Steve Dummer adding a different dimension to the afternoon.

The Ensemble Reza Community Orchestra was set up in 2015 and now has more than 80 musicians ranging in

age from four to 81.

Hannah Carter, Managing Director, explained: "These concerts are always very popular and a great way to introduce children to classical music in a fun, friendly and informal setting. The interval featuring home-made cakes is also an added bonus!"

Tickets: £8 for adults and £3 for children and are available from Pepperbox in Cuckfield, Carousel Music and online from www.ensemblereza.com

Please contact hannah.carter@ensemblereza.com if you would like to learn more about our Community Orchestra or would like to take part in our future rehearsals starting from September 2018.

Ginkgo Garden Solutions
Landscape Garden Design & Maintenance
07941 798145
mark@ginkgogardensolutions.co.uk

GinkgoGardenSolutions
@gardenginkgo

Illustration by creativeflorence.co.uk

C&G Plumbers
Your local plumbing experts

Godfrey
Mobile: 07833 726 411

T: 01444 454 969
E: candgplumbers@gmail.com
W: www.candgplumbers.co.uk

- ✓ Emergency repairs
- ✓ Fast response
- ✓ Central Heating
- ✓ Shower cubicles
- ✓ New bathrooms
- ✓ Outside & Kitchen taps
- ✓ Available 24 hours

OAP discount

Call Godfrey now on: 01444 454 969 or 07833 726 411

www.candgplumbers.co.uk Cheekatrade.com eSlingPeople.com



PROMEDICA24
Live-in companionship & care



Enjoy quality live-in care in your own home

Our expert care workers live with you as a companion and friend

If living at home is becoming a struggle, Promedica24's live-in care service can ensure you can remain in the home you love, cared for every minute of the day by a carefully chosen and trained care worker.

Our care workers live in the home which is much better than having a stream of different people coming in and out of the home through the week, or moving out to a residential home.

Our carefully chosen care workers build strong relationships with their clients and soon understand just what makes them happy.

We can care for couples and those with Dementia and other conditions. We also offer respite care to give home carers a well earned break.

- ♥ Stay in the home you love
- ♥ Short and long term care available
- ♥ Affordable person centred care
- ♥ Stay close to loved ones and pets
- ♥ Advanced care needs supported
- ♥ Care can be quickly provided
- ♥ Tailored to your individual needs

*80% of Doctors surveyed would recommend being cared for in your home**

*The National Institutes of Health

Our live-in companionship and care packages start from £695 p/w



Call Lesley on **07388 326 686** or **01273 257 465**
or visit www.promedica24.co.uk/brightonandmidsussex



Promote your business here every month...

Be in front of thousands of local readers as they find out more about their community

Cuckfield Life

Call Emily today on 01444 884115 or email your name, address and phone number to ads@cuckfieldlife.co.uk

Diagnosis, Treatment, Rehabilitation

Introducing our brand new Physiotherapist: Marcin Laska who will be working Saturday mornings

SPECIAL OFFER

Your first physiotherapy full consultation for ONLY £40

Book your appointment today:
Call **01444 257555** or info@falcon-health.com
66a Church Walk, Burgess Hill, RH15 9AS



Falcon Health

Chiropractic . Physiotherapy . Gym

Let's make Cuckfield a wildflower heaven!

By Mike Jourdain

It is that time of year when we need to start the process of turning as many pockets of Cuckfield into wildflower sanctuaries. This magazine kindly ran a piece last year (September 2017) about the benefits of having more wildflower areas in the village.

I'm not an expert gardener or anything, so if I can do it, anyone can! I simply cleared out a patch of about 12 square metres, put some top soil on it, planted the seeds, watered regularly and waited.

You also do not need a large area to make a big difference. It is something everyone can do - elderly people may need help - but we could have a drive to create wildflower gardens all over Cuckfield. I would happily spearhead a campaign and help anyone who needs it.

As such I have negotiated a discount code from the supplier that I have used in the past. Pictorial Meadows (www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk or call 0114 2677 635) have agreed to offer an incentive to this initiative. Quote the reference Cuck18 to get a 10% discount on any orders.

Last year I used the Annual seed selection packs - mixing all the seeds together.

I have put together a 'how-to' seed-sowing guide



online and you can find it on the Cuckfield Life blog via this link: <https://bit.ly/2EiUtNd>

If you would like any more help or have further queries then please email me mikejourdain@hotmail.co.uk - good luck!

Dave 'G'

Painting & Decorating
Carpentry & Joinery
Gardening
Shed Re-Felting
Tiling and more...

Mob: 07719358174
Home: 01444 246538
Email: dgasson3@aol.com

Quality Workmanship
Experienced, Reliable & Friendly Service
Fully Insured
Free Estimates



Vehicle servicing

Any make, any model, any car, any van

AirCon Regas £35

Any make, any model, any car, any van



MDR AUTOMOTIVE

Call Mark on **07584 096406**

The Barn, Haywards Heath RH17 5JS
(Next to 4front Car Sales, off A23)



Another way to welcome bees



The path above, in Peter Lovett's Cuckfield garden, was boring before wild garlic seeds were added. "Ramsons, or wild garlic (*Allium ursinum*), has lovely white flowers at this time of year," says Peter. "Add a few raw flower florets to a bowl of vegetable soup and the explosion of taste is spectacular - if you like garlic."

But Peter gives a warning: The leaves are attractive, yet beware - the plant is invasive. To check its spread, he runs a rotary lawn mower over the flowers before final seed set and composts the leaves in a wild part of the garden.

The photo here was taken on a chilly April day. The

temperature was less than 10C and *Osmia bicornis*, a Red Mason bee, was feeding on the flowers.

Red Mason bees fly March to July and are economically important as a pollinator of fruit trees and oilseed rape.

The extraordinary lives of wild bees and the important role of gardeners in their survival is one of Peter's illustrated talks. Please see his website for more info: www.peterlovetttalks.co.uk/page15.html



Local Builders in Mid Sussex



Telephone 01444 454776

www.helmeandhallett.co.uk

Constructing solutions for our clients with care



Members of the National Federation
of Builders

Helme & Hallett Ltd

We specialise in the alteration, refurbishment and extension of domestic properties of a mature age, matching materials and style of 50 - 500 years.

Great looking Alliums

FLOWER TIPS

By Belinda Campopiano

Continuing our feature on flower arranging tips and ideas from *Chez Fleur*. This month: How to make the most of easy to grow garden Alliums.

I first saw Alliums displayed in a similar style to this at Guildford Cathedral flower festival. It was on a huge scale, but what I loved was the way there was so much movement and space created with so few flowers! Paula Pryke OBE was the designer and I have, with her permission, recreated similar arrangements many times, sometimes using really huge allium heads! It's super easy to make this stylish design that looks stunning on a mantelpiece or down the centre of a long dining table. Get planting those allium bulbs now!

What you will need*

- Selection of tank vases
- 5-7 (keep the numbers 'odd' not even) garden grown Alliums
- Handful of flexigrass or steel grass – any flexible material to connect the design
- Scissors – we recommend carbon blade florist scissors

*all items available from *Chez Fleur*, contact Belinda for details

Tip: When cutting flowers from the garden don't immediately arrange them in a vase, put them in a cool place in a bucket of water and let them recover for at least a couple of hours – this is called 'conditioning', and it makes a real difference

How to make:

- Decide where you want to display the Alliums as you will need to make this design in situ
- Make sure the vases are all sparkling clean with no water splashes inside or out.
- Add water almost to the top of each of the tank vases.
- Cut the alliums at a sharp angle and at different lengths to suit your space
- Carefully balance the stems in the tank vases so that the ends are just under the water level
- Place each stem so that they create different angles for added interest
- Link the tank vases with the flexi grass to give rhythm and bring the design together
- To prevent the water going cloudy you may find a splash of bleach in each tank vase will help to keep the water clear



Swan Press Printers



For your Personal & Business Print

- Stationery
- Flyers - Leaflets
- Brochures
- Magazines - Newsletters
- Folders
- Posters
- Office/Seminar Documents - Wire Bound

And anything else in between...

We meet your deadlines and budgets with a personal service.

Delivery FOC

Phone for free estimate

01273 467346

claire@swanpress.co.uk

www.swanpress.co.uk

Promote your business here every month...

Be in front of thousands of local readers as they find out more about their community

Cuckfield Life

Call Emily today on 01444 884115 or email your name, address and phone number to ads@cuckfieldlife.co.uk



Chairman's Annual Report: 2017/18

By Nigel Page, Chairman

Introduction

I am pleased to submit my Chairman's report for this year as we complete our third year of a four-year term. This report will be published at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 1st March 2018 and in our regular newsletter which is published in Cuckfield Life and our website, www.Cuckfield.gov.uk.

The coming year will be the final year of the Council before new elections for Parish Councillors in May 2019. The Parish Council is formed of ten locally elected residents (non-political) who give their time voluntarily to ensure we can run a Parish Council, and the Committees which enact our statutory responsibilities, as the first tier of local government.

Our primary focus is to serve the interests of the Cuckfield area and Community. The Parish Council is part of a hierarchy of government and is tiered as below. I mention this for clarity to show who has responsibility and how decisions are made. Where the Parish Council is not a decision maker it acts as a consultee to represent the community in key decisions.

- Central Government defines national policies and statutory law, which are cascaded down to the County Council, District Council and lastly the Parish Council. Sir Nicholas Soames is the MP for Mid Sussex.
- West Sussex County Council is responsible for services such as Education, Highways, Social and Healthcare services. Your current elected representative is Peter Bradbury.
- Mid Sussex District Council, with whom we work closely, along with the three Town Councils and Parish Councils form the rest of the Mid Sussex District. They are responsible for planning decisions, housing provision and local amenities such as parks and recreation. Cllr Robert Salisbury and Cllr Peter Bradbury are the elected ward councillors representing Cuckfield in Mid Sussex.
- The Parish Council runs committees for Planning, Highways, Community Buildings, Finance, Environment and Estates. The core activity for the year will be summarised in the remainder of my report.

This Annual Report and the Annual Parish Meeting is our opportunity each year to share the efforts for the previous year and to look forward. We have worked to



continually improve the Annual Parish Meeting and to make it relevant to the community, with guest speakers who reflect the interest and feedback we have received during the year.

This year we are delighted to welcome two guest speakers. Firstly, the leader of Mid Sussex District Council, Cllr Garry Wall, who will provide a summary and update on behalf of the District Council.

Secondly, we are delighted to welcome Mark Trimmer from the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership.

I will summarise each committee shortly, but the focus has been on Highways safety improvements, running both the Queen's and Village Halls, ensuring we provide services for burials in the churchyard and investing in our allotments. We have also been working to transfer two land parcels which are being transferred to the Parish as public open space.

A major focus for this year has been working towards making Cuckfield's roads safer. Along with highways safety improvements, we have managed to successfully set up a Community Speedwatch programme which is underway with trained volunteers and will be formally launched at the APM. In conjunction with Sussex Police, the programme is staffed with local community volunteers who will monitor and report speeding vehicles to Sussex Police who will then decide on what action to take.

We have also updated our fee structure and contracts for burial plots, allotment holders and hire charges for both community buildings. The Council has managed its costs and expenditure within our means and budgets, but these were necessary changes to ensure we can provide the right services to the Community.

The Parish Council does raise the majority of its income through the precept (Council Tax, collected by Mid Sussex District Council). To ensure we can deliver

the projects and run the services described further in my report, the Parish Council has agreed to make an increase to the precept which equates to a £0.29p per week increase for the average band D property. We believe this represents good value for money, given the additional work the Parish is undertaking.

I was also pleased to host, jointly with Ansty and Staplefield Parish Council, the public meeting to raise community concern and objection to the proposal for inert landfill to remodel Cuckfield Golf Club. Whilst outside our boundary, the impact would have been very high on residents. The attendance and response to the public meeting was a credit to the community. We understand the application has since been withdrawn, but we continue to monitor the situation.

In general matters I would like to welcome Steve Oversby-Powell who joined as a Parish Councillor this year. You can find a list and contact details of Councillors on the Parish Web Site www.cuckfield.gov.uk and in the regular newsletter. I am also delighted to welcome our new Assistant Clerk, Caroline Hansen, who joined us in January to complement the team in the office.

I should also add that this will be my last term as Councillor and I will be stepping down from the Council at the end of April, due to a work relocation outside the UK. I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their support during my seven years as Councillor and Chairman. The Council will elect a new Chairman at the start of the Council term in May 2018.

Summary of Committees

I am pleased to summarise the activity of our committees for 2017- 2018.

Planning Committee – Cllr Burton

This year has been a slightly quieter year on the planning front than the previous few years. Whilst the business of the committee has continued to grow in the number of applications considered with responses to Mid Sussex, who are the Local Planning Authority, there have been no new applications that would significantly erode the distinctiveness of Cuckfield.

However, a number of applications came to fruition, or were on the boundary of the parish, which had wider implications for the area. Notably:

- Broad Street, which is nearing construction completion now. Four large dwellings on the last remaining gap towards Haywards Heath within the parish. CPC objected at the Appeal to the proposal and you can read the Planning Inspector's comments if you wish. Unfortunately, he did not place as much weight on the importance of the gap as the council and the appeal was allowed.
- Penland Farm, at the end of Hanlye Lane where 210 dwellings are currently being constructed. Again, CPC objected to this, but the local housing requirement

arguments once again trumped any concerns over the environment and the coalescence gap. We await to see what impact this has on the village, at least by way of further traffic increase.

- Burgess Hill Northern Arc. With 3,500 new houses, this is the lynchpin of the District Plan and is starting to gather pace, with the first of the applications being approved. The District Council is planning to upgrade the link road to the A23, but we suspect that traffic increases from such a large development are likely to have a major impact on Cuckfield going forward.

District Plan

More than a decade on now, and Mid Sussex District Council continues to face challenges with its attempts to adopt the District Plan. It is clear the plan examination Inspector is motivated by 'higher' in terms of future housing numbers for the District, with figures recently determined as wholly unsustainable by the Council now being agreed. The Parish Council has significant concerns on the further amendments to the Plan and, in the autumn of 2017, submitted a report to the Inspector on the implications of these as part of the formal consultation.

Part of the work MSDC has been required to undertake is another review of potential housing sites. A Working Party is reviewing the long list of some 292 sites submitted for consideration, as well as checking this list against previously offered sites. We await to see the outcome of this, which is unlikely to be available until 2019, and whether this will have additional impact on the Cuckfield Neighbourhood Plan. MSDC should refer back to Cuckfield's Neighbourhood Plan when assessing any potential sites within the Parish.

Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring

In view of the potential District Plan revisions, the Parish Council has undertaken a monitoring review of the Neighbourhood Plan, by our planning consultant Tony Fullwood. This was intended to evaluate the progress being made towards delivering the Plan's spatial vision and assess the extent to which the policies are being implemented. Most policies have Monitoring Indicators and Targets to provide examples of the council's intentions and enable some measurement of outcomes. These can be anything from the number of trees, hedges, ponds affected by development; to impact on listed buildings; to the loss of strategic views out of the village, as well as number and location of properties built. Records are being kept that we can review over time and action taken if targets are not being met.

His review concluded that the Plan was holding up well, and in particular the Parish was meeting its commitments on housing numbers. However, there have been some disappointments, with further loss of the coalescence gap, largely as a result of the District not having that all-important five-year housing supply, which renders many of the NP policies 'out-of-date' in planning terms. He did not recommend any changes to

the targets. Monitoring of infrastructure improvements has been undertaken against the Plan assessment and highlights that we are doing well. Still more work to do, and this has informed the three-year business priority planning.

Current Developments

At Buttinghill Drive, a number of discussions between the developer, Mid Sussex and residents over the drainage pond that has been in a failed state for four years, led to MSDC issuing an enforcement notice last year. Taylor Wimpey assures us that they wish to see the issue resolved and have undertaken a further survey which they say resolves the matter. However, the banks are still in the collapsed state they have been for the last few years.

The dates for the land transfer of this open space is three years after final occupation, which means in the next couple of months, so this issue must be resolved imminently.

As mentioned, we have seen the Penland Farm development at the end of Hanlye Lane proceeding this year. The HGV impact has been high on Cuckfield at an increasing rate through the village, but there is very little we can do about this. We have tried but a lack of any planning conditions means there is no constraints on the route they take. It has been disappointing to see such a wide scale loss of trees and such environmental degradation in that area, and we know the local residents there have had major issues with the developers – particularly on lack of drainage and water run-off.

Extensions

The number of applications for conversions and extensions has increased a little this year to 49 (last year was 41), as highlighted in the Neighbourhood Plan monitoring. Those we see are generally of good quality, design and construction and aim to retain the character and distinctiveness of the village.

Planning Decisions and Appeals

The parish planning committee recommendations have differed to the final decision made by Mid Sussex planning authority by a decreased amount (seven, against 12 last year).

Highways Committee – Cllr Mercer

Highways are always a source of public concern and generate the majority of comments to the Parish Council. We take those very seriously. The majority of the issues are the responsibility of West Sussex Highways with whom we work very closely, but we do own and influence certain projects which we prioritise.

We are currently working with West Sussex Highways to provide a new scheme to improve the safety of London Lane. The scheme, once approved, is due to be built in 2018 /19.

The portable Speed Indicator Device (SID), which records the number of vehicles, type and speed which we purchased last year, is still being moved around the

village. The data it provides will help us in considering future safety improvements.

We now have a community speed watch group set up. Their first outing was last week. Any vehicles recorded breaking the speed limit will be reported to the police for action.

Community Buildings Committee – Cllr King

Village Hall

This year at the Village Hall has been a year of consolidation. The initial decoration and refurbishment projects have been completed as far as possible at the moment, and the Council has been watching the annual costs and deciding on a way forward to ensure that in future the hall runs within a set budget. The Preschool continues to use it during term time and we are encouraging other usage as much as possible. The hall is already becoming known as a suitable venue for children's parties and other functions, and we hope to continue to promote these bookings.

Queen's Hall

This has been a relatively quiet year at the Queen's Hall after the major external redecoration and new hall floor last year. However, as with any old building, there are constant problems with the fabric and regular essential maintenance projects. Have you spotted the new flag?

The garden has been a major focus and we now have planning permission to erect a gazebo so that we can offer outdoor wedding ceremonies as part of our marriage licence. This will entail installing external lighting and garden furniture but it promises to make us a very attractive proposition in the wedding market. You will find some lovely photographs from recent weddings in the hall on our website.

The office staff are very busy dealing with potential hirers and our new booking system is proving very helpful in that regard.

Environment Committee – Cllr Dormer

The Environment Committee is focused on the environment and well-being for the Parish.

Cemetery

The Committee has worked hard to ensure the Churchyard and Cemetery is well maintained and provides a beautiful and tranquil environment for all visitors. We had introduced a new mowing regime last year in certain areas, with longer grass to encourage more wildlife and insects, and this will continue but only in the new part of the churchyard. At present we have only one full-time groundsman, and we are currently recruiting for a part-time groundsman to replace Brian Smith who retired recently after many years' service.

Observer Field

Next to the churchyard is the Observer Field (Newbury Lane). This will remain a natural zone for wildlife and ecology. To ensure the ongoing security of the Field we have kept the high hedge and a new gate will be placed at the entrance. We will continue to support the volunteers who have renovated and manage the Royal Observer Corps Nuclear Bunker within the Observer Field. This is an important historic asset which attracts many visitors at weekends during the summer months.

Christmas Street Festival

Last December the committee organised a successful Christmas Street Festival. Despite the cold weather many people attended and raised money for our local charities. The event marks the start of the Christmas celebration in Cuckfield and coincides with the Tree Festival in Holy Trinity Church. We plan to run it again this year but do require the community and traders to get involved, and it is an example of supporting your community with this family fun event.

Allotments

Cuckfield has two allotment sites, one at Courtmead Road and the other at Whiteman's Green. A management and maintenance report was presented to Council, providing background to the allotment provision, making suggestions and recommendations for future management and maintenance. This was done to ensure the future viability and sustainability of both allotment sites. At present the allotment service is subsidised, and Council wanted to look at ways of reducing internal and external expenditure and increase income, possibly by regular rent increases over the next three years, and to review the automatic seniors' discount rate. The report also proposed other ways to administer the allotment service and revise the allotment agreement, and led to the creation of a rules and regulation booklet in order to add background information and clarity for allotment holders. This has been done in consultation with the current allotment holders and we believe we have concluded a satisfactory outcome to both the council and allotment holders. Please contact the office if you would be interested in an allotment.

Other Community Assets

The committee also has a responsibility to look after the public toilets and the village clock in the High Street and the Mantell Memorial at Whiteman's Green, which are seen as important assets to the village.

The Skate Park is a very popular at Whiteman's Green but does need regular repair for Health and Safety reasons. However, it is a worthy investment and attraction.

Bus Services

Lastly, throughout the year the Council has been exploring the idea of a community bus service as Metro Bus and Compass Travel are not proposing to change

the current service. Handcross Bus Company might be able to offer a once a week return service to and from the village on one of their routes. The company is manned by volunteers, so this is only viable if there are enough people to use this service regularly. An article has been placed in Cuckfield Life with contact details for anyone interested in this service.

Estates Committee – Cllr Mantripp

The Estates Committee is responsible for overseeing the transfer into Parish Council ownership and the later management of land parcels associated with recent construction. There are currently two such sites. Both land parcels are classified as amenity land for the use of the general public.

Ardingly Road

As the name implies this land abuts Ardingly Road, its incorporation into the fabric of our village is a good example of how a robust planning process can serve the local community. The original application for this site was for a large development and, if allowed to proceed on the original basis, would have led to significant loss of character and open space. After a hard-fought series of planning applications, with the Neighbourhood Plan playing an important role, a far smaller development was approved with the additional space transferred into Parish Council ownership in December 2017 as part of the planning conditions. It will be maintained by the Parish Council.

The land consists of a pond, paths, dell and areas of mown and wild grasses; there are also hedgerows and a stream. A landscape management plan is in place and a ROSPA report has been commissioned in order that the work necessary for safety on amenity land is understood. The land will be managed with a light touch in order to develop the ecology of the meadow that predated the construction. However, there are several areas where fairly major works are required and these are planned to commence shortly. The pond requires de-silting and the dell needs to be made safe by clearing the lower areas of debris, dead/unstable trees and to improve sightlines.

Buttinghill (Bylanes Close)

Buttinghill is a large area consisting of two meadows to the north of the Buttinghill development and forms part of the High Weald AONB. It remains in the ownership of the developer whilst issues concerning the development drainage are addressed. Mid Sussex District Council is leading this activity with enforcement action on the original planning conditions. It is not yet known when these issues will be concluded, but it is hoped that it will be soon.

Finance and General Purpose Committee – Cllr Page

The overall finances remain positive for the Council with respect to cash flow and reserves. The accounts will be available to the public after they have been audited by our internal and external auditors.


Expenditure in the committee projects discussed above has been within budget but to progress investment in our committees Council has agreed a circa 15% increase in our precept (collected through Council Tax). This may seem high but is relative to the amount we collect, the average cost for a band D property will be £123.28.

Looking Forward and Getting Involved

The focus for the next year is to conclude the projects discussed in this year's report in conjunction with our business plan. We are always grateful for assistance with our projects and it is a great way to be more involved in your community. We are always looking for people willing to take part. Everyone has a skill we can use, and we would like to hear from you. For example, the Christmas Street Festival was only possible due to volunteers coming forward to run the event. Please do get in touch if you would like to see what you can do to help.

I hope this report is helpful to you to summarise the work of the Parish Council and please do get in touch if you would like to get involved in the Community and the work of the Parish Council.

CUCKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
Queen's Hall, High Street, Cuckfield, RH17 8EL



NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of Councillor Jo Notaras a vacancy has occurred among the Members of the Parish Council.

Any person willing to fill this vacancy should apply to the Clerk in writing, on or before the **30th April 2018**.

For further details, including eligibility criteria, please contact:

Sam Heynes
 Clerk to the Parish Council
 Cuckfield Parish Council
 The Queen's Hall
 High Street
 Cuckfield
 West Sussex RH17 5EL

clerk@cuckfield.gov.uk

01444 451610
 26th March 2018

Hanlye Lane

Following the report of a number of accidents along Hanlye Lane and Colin Mercer's question at the Central and Southern County Local Committee (20th Feb 2018) a joint inspection of Hanlye Lane was undertaken.

Date/time of inspection	21st March 2018, 12noon
Type of inspection	Driven (both ways multiple times)
Weather and local conditions	Dry and bright
Those involved	R. Speller and C. Mercer

Background

Hanlye Lane is approximately 1.5Km long and runs east – west linking the northern parts of Haywards Heath and Cuckfield. It is a 'C' class road (NSG 25600660) with a derestricted speed limit (national limit). It's a single carriageway road approximately 6m wide. There is no street lighting system and the Penland Farm development is in progress at the eastern end.

Observations

Like many semi-rural roads of this nature, Hanlye Lane has a number of bends which may represent a hazard if not approached at an appropriate speed.

A number of road markings and signs have been provided to warn road users of the various hazards.

One can only assume that the recent accidents were as a result of the road users failing to drive to the conditions (this could include failing to take account of mud, water or other substances on the road surface), failing to react to the road markings and signs, or there were external influences (drink, drugs, inexperience, enthusiastic driving, inappropriate speed, mechanical defects etc.).

There seems little advantage in providing additional road markings and signs. Additional road markings and signs would only add to the street clutter and may reduce the impact of the existing warnings.

Highway Authority (inspection regime)

West Sussex County Council as the Highway Authority operates a maintenance regime called Safety Plus which incorporates regular inspections and repairs based on the road's hierarchy.

Hanlye Lane is inspected every three months. At the last inspection on the 22nd Jan 2018 no actionable defects were observed.

Highway Authority (safety improvements regime)

Generally, interventions are data led. The details of all injury accidents that occur on the roads in West Sussex that are reported to the police are recorded and shared with West Sussex County Council. The Council's accident data base contains records of all reported injury accidents from 1983 to August 2017. The data are used in many ways to help inform and direct road safety

educational campaigns, maintenance priorities and transportation studies. However, its primary use is the development of road safety engineering programmes aimed at reducing road casualties. In West Sussex there are two main road safety engineering initiatives, the Local Safety Schemes (LSS) programme, which looks to identify specific sites with higher than expected collision rates (commonly referred to as black spots) and the Route Safety Speed Management Strategy (RSSMS) programme that monitors the A and B road network and looks to intervene on routes that are expressing a higher than average casualty rate.

I am sure you will appreciate that a problem has to be identified before an engineering solution can be developed, that is to say a location has to have a number of collisions that express a pattern that can be treated.

Primarily our road safety interventions are based on studies of all the reported injury collisions over a given period. Remedial measures may be installed if we can identify a pattern or trend that can be targeted. WSCC current intervention levels at specific locations is eight collisions in five years (or five collisions in three years). In order for effective interventions to be determined a pattern or trend of collision types has to be identified. This would not be feasible if we considered fewer collisions than our current intervention levels. These intervention levels also ensure that we prioritise our road safety intervention to the areas with greatest risk.

Recommendations

I am satisfied that there are sufficient road markings and signs to provide adequate warning of the potential hazards and that no additional warnings are required. The frequency of the Safety Plus inspection is appropriate. The accident data provided by Sussex Police should be monitored for Hanlye Lane and should a trend be identified appropriate remedial measures would be implemented.

It is unlikely that a Community Highway Scheme application would score sufficient points to be taken to moderation.

The Highway Authority is unlikely to support a 'crowdfunding' approach for the reasons stated above. (street clutter and reduce the impact of the existing warnings).



YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman

Vacancy

Vice-Chairman

Vacancy

Other Council members

Andy Burton: 443306

andy.burton@cuckfield.gov.uk

Marie Dormer: 441889

marie.dormer@cuckfield.gov.uk

Andrea King: 413172

andrea.king@cuckfield.gov.uk

Frances Laing: 443337

frances.laing@cuckfield.gov.uk

Paul Mantripp: 07977 539759

paul.mantripp@cuckfield.gov.uk

Colin Mercer: 414995

colin.mercer@cuckfield.gov.uk

Steve Oversby-Powell 07930 116504

steve.oversby-powell@cuckfield.gov.uk

Martin Sambrook: 458999

martin.sambrook@cuckfield.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Samantha Heynes: 451610

sam.heynes@cuckfield.gov.uk

Assistant Clerk

Caroline Hansen: 454276

Caroline.hansen@cuckfield.gov.uk

Admin Assistant (Bookings/Allotments)

Jane Forester: 454276

jane.forester@cuckfield.gov.uk

www.cuckfield.gov.uk

www.facebook.com/CuckfieldParishCouncil

Parish Council Office opening hours:

Monday – Friday 10am – 3pm

This newsletter is published independently by Kipper Creative Ltd for Cuckfield Parish Council. The Parish Council does not guarantee or endorse any of the services or products advertised in this publication.

Holiday snaps

As ever, Cuckfield Life readers have taken their copy of the magazine away with them. Do send yours in to photos@cuckfieldlife.co.uk



Kenneth Hood on holiday via the Orient Express



Carol Grossman at Pelican Point, Bunbury, Western Australia

G&S Roofing Ltd

PROTECTING YOUR ROOF

The Confederation of Roofing Contractors stands for **INTEGRITY, RELIABILITY & CUSTOMER PROTECTION.**

All members of the CORC can offer customers the benefit of a fully insured 10 and 20 year back up guarantee



Our successful business has expanded into Sussex



We Specialise in...

New Roofs • Flat Roofs • Tile & Slate Roofs • Re-pointing Chimney Stacks
Leadwork • Valleys Renewed & Repaired • All Roof Repairs
New PVC Fascias & Gutters • External Painting • Moss Removal

Free Estimates No Obligation Pay No Deposit

ALL WORK FULLY GUARANTEED!

OFFICE: 01403 560172 / 01483 378511

MOBILE: 07425 396324 EMAIL: gandsroofinglimited@gmail.com

Rated People mybuilder.com

Trusted Member 

Sudoku #22

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

Find the solution to #22 in next month's magazine

#21 Solution

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

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



Your Feet in Caring Hands.

Painful feet? Embarrassing feet? Difficult to reach feet?

Thorough, honest treatments for all foot conditions. Professional registered podiatrists (chiroprodists).

01444 454944

feetbyflo.co.uk

enquires@feetbyflo.co.uk

70b High Street, Lindfield. RH16 2HL



TOBY&FLY

MOBILE DOG & CAT GROOMING



At Toby&Fly we'll take care of your dog and cat's every grooming need in our luxuriously customised climate controlled mobile grooming parlour.

07555 277139 • hello@tobyandfly.uk

Visit our website for more information:
www.tobyandfly.uk



What's on this month

ELSEWHERE

April

18th **The Arts Society Mid Sussex** – 10.15am
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - Lecture by Simon Inglis (Non members welcome: £7)

26th **Still Walking (U)** – 7.30pm
Players Theatre, Hurstpierpoint
(www.hurstfilms.com)

May

6th **10 mile run** – 10.30am
Start from Victoria Park, Haywards Heath
(www.midsussexmarathon.co.uk)

6th **Community Orchestra** – 3pm
Warden Park Academy, Cuckfield – Ensemble Reza's Community Orchestra of more than 80 musicians (Tickets £8/£3 from Pepperbox)

6th-7th **Spring Live!** – South of England Showground, Ardingly – Live music, food/drink, animals and more (www.seas.org.uk)

7th **Cuckoo Fayre** – 1pm
The Rec - stalls, dog show and arena events for this annual Cuckfield event

10th **Haywards Heath Ceramics Group**
Clair Hall - Talk on 'Bow 1747-1767 and 'A' Mark' by Peter White (Tickets £8 call 01444 483372/414477)

16th **The Arts Society Mid Sussex** – 10.15am
Clair Hall – 'The Role of the Arts in the Cycle of Crime, Prison and Reoffending' lecture by Angela Findlay (Non members welcome: £7)

16th **Garden talk and walk** – 10.30am
Borde Hill Garden – 'The Edwardian Garden, Golden and Delicious' by Caroline Holmes (Tickets: £24 RHS Members/Friends of Borde Hill or £30 non-member)

17th **Garden and Produce Fair** – 10.30am-3.30pm
Cuckfield Park – Charity fundraiser for St Catherine's Hospice (£5 entry)

23rd **My Garden is my Sanctuary** – 10.30am-2.30pm
Borde Hill Garden - One-day course to improve self-awareness and confidence skills

26th **Plant Sale** – 10.30am-12.30pm
Village Hall, Deaks Lane, Ansty – Coffee, Teas, Home-made cakes, tombola, plants etc (01444 413061)

26th-28th **Wild Wood Festival**
Wakehurst Place – (<https://bit.ly/2q5w61e>)

28th **Lindfield Village Run** – morning
Starting at Hickmans Lane, Lindfield - 5k family run and 10k village run (pre-register at www.kingedwardhall.org.uk)



Whether you want a stunning bespoke Conservatory, a traditional Entrance Door or a set of replacement windows, Everest has the answer

- uPVC, Aluminium and Amdega timber windows
- Front & Back, Patio, French and Bi-Fold Doors
- Conservatories and Orangeries
- Garage Doors
- Roofline
- Driveways and Patios
- Greener Grass®

Call Russell
your local
Everest design
consultant



Russell Everitt 0800 211 8440
russell.everitt@everest.co.uk

What's on this month

AT THE QUEEN'S HALL

Monday

- 9.30am **Pilates** (intermediate)
- 9.45am **Yoga Boutique** (Term time only)
- 11.15am **Yoga Boutique** (Term time only)
- 10.30am **Pilates** (beginners)
- 1.30pm **Dance Classes for Children**
- 3.45pm **Dance Classes for Children**
- 7.30pm **Dog Training**

Tuesday

- 9.30am **Preschool Football**
- 1.30pm **Yoga**
- 3.45pm **Dance Classes for Children**
- 7.30pm **Dog Training**

Wednesday

- 10.30am **Preschool Singing**
- 10am **Stroke Support Activities**
- 12.30pm **Zumba Dance Class**
- 1.30pm **Line Dancing Class**
- 3.30pm **Dance Classes for Children**
- 7.30pm **Yoga**
- 7.45pm **Ballroom Dance Club**

Thursday

- 9.15am **Yoga**
- 9.30am **Preschool Dance Class**
- 6pm **Dance Classes for Children**
- 7.30pm **Wedding Dance Class**

Friday

- 9.30am **Preschool Singing**
- 7pm **Evening Flower Club** (2nd Friday/month)
- 7.30pm **Historic Vehicle Trust** (1st Friday/month)

Changes may occur to the above details, especially during the summer, when some events don't take place. Please note contact details for all regular classes/activities are available on the Notice Board at The Queen's Hall.

May

- 11th **Preschool Theme Night** – 8pm
Cuckfield Preschool Celebrates 50 years with a British Icon's themed night. (For tickets email: socialsecretary@cuckfieldpreschool.co.uk)

STOP PRESS: Babies bench gets go ahead

Cuckfield Parish Council has been granted £3,000 for a special commemorative bench. The money comes from the Mid Sussex District Council Cabinet Grants Panel, which met on 14th March.

The village cemetery has an unmarked area where stillborn babies delivered at the old Cuckfield Hospital were laid to rest. A feathered bench designed by Sussex sculptor Christian Funnell will provide grieving parents with a focal point when they visit the cemetery.

AT WOODSIDE

Monday

- 9.45am **Sing & Sign (3 sessions)**
- 4.30pm **Hayley Beeson School of Dance**
- 7pm **DDMX Dance Fitness**
- 8pm **Kickboxing**

Tuesday

- 9.30am **Pilates**
- 5pm **Beavers/Cubs**
- 7pm **Pole Fit**

Wednesday

- 9am **Falcon Health Chiropractors**
- 9.45am **Yoga**
- 5pm **Hayley Beeson School of Dance**
- 7.15pm **Scouts**

Thursday

- 10.30am **Creation Station**
- 5pm **Beavers**
- 7pm **Bounce & Burn**
- 8.15pm **Bounce & Burn**

Friday

- 9.30am **Saplings**
- 3.45pm **Happy Souls Yoga**
- 7pm **Woodies Bar** (subject to private hire)
- 7pm **Pole Fit**

Saturday

- 9am **Hayley Beeson School of Dance**
- 2pm **AFC Bolnore**
- 4pm **Post-football Bar** (matchdays)

Sunday

- 9.30am **Happy Souls Yoga**
- 4pm **Grace Church**
- 4pm **Messy Church** (last Sunday/month)
- 4pm **Woodside Netball Club**
- 7.30pm **Zumba**

Note: The Hub (out of school club) runs every weekday between 7.30-9am and 3.30-6.30pm. Bolnore Village Preschool is open every weekday starting at 9am (term time only).

April

- 28th **Quiz Night** – 8pm

May

- 19th **Royal Wedding Street Party** – 2.30pm
An afternoon of fun for all the family (Tickets £3/£2 alison.events@bolnore.org.uk)
- 19th **Evening Reception** – 8pm
Top hats and tiaras theme night (£2.50 adults only)

Our advertisers

CALL THEM!

Services

Abi Gurney Hat Hire	10
C&G Plumbers	44
Claire Nash Solicitors	17
Cuckfield Pest Control	27
Dave G (decorator)	46
Elite Choice Home Care.....	4
Everest Home Improvements.....	57
Ginkgo Garden Solutions.....	44
Gray Hooper Holt (solicitors).....	21
G&S Roofing	55
Heather Martin Garden Design	41
Helme & Hallett (builders)	47
Hilary May (garden design)	10
Lock Assist (locksmiths)	42
Mansell Mc Taggart (estate agents).....	B
Matthews Plumbing & Maintenance	20
MDR Automotive.....	46
nicenstripy (gardening services).....	3
Norsat (TV, satellite)	22
Odd Job Man	6
PRB Accountants	40
P&S Gallagher (funeral directors)	39
Rohan Solicitors.....	2
Southern Window Cleaning	36
Sow Sussex Garden Care.....	4
SPB Plumbing & Heating	15
Strategic Marcomms (websites)	36
Strawberry Finance	8
Sussex Wealth Management.....	42
Swan Press.....	48
Tara Fraser (mortgage adviser)	41
The IT Girl	12
The Kitchen People.....	13
Toby&Fly (mobile pet grooming)	57
White & Sons (roofing)	5

Retail

Cuckfield i Wear	15
kps (compost).....	24
MRH Driving Retail	35
Pruden & Smith (bespoke jewellers)	33
Rod Gaskin Ltd (lawnmowers)	29
Sacred Cellar.....	23

Out & About

Cuckfield Baptist Church	
Cuckfield Local Food Market	33
Haywards Heath Music Society.....	29
Jeremy's restaurant.....	27
South of England Agricultural Society	18
Spice Village	12

Education/Childcare

Gielgud Academy	26
Great Walstead School	28
Norto5 Kidz (daycare)	3

Health/Lifestyle

Amy Packer Permanent Makeup.....	32
Everycare	9
Falcon Health Chiropractic	45
Flo Paul (podiatrist)	56
Linear Fitness	11
Looking Good Skin	22
Promedica24	45
Renaissance Retirement.....	7
Talk for Change.....	34

Selling? So are we...

PROPERTIES CURRENTLY FOR SALE IN AND AROUND CUCKFIELD



FOR SALE

Tylers Green,
CUCKFIELD

£1,050,000



FOR SALE

Ledgers Meadow,
CUCKFIELD

**OIEO
£950,000**

FOR SALE

The Street,
BOLNEY

**OIEO
£850,000**



FOR SALE

Bylanes Crescent,
CUCKFIELD

£480,000



If you're thinking about selling - whether seriously or mulling it over - please call us for a no-pressure discussion about your property and how we can help.

Richard and Mike

☎ 01444 417600 ✉ cf@mansellmctaggart.co.uk 🏠 The Nook, High St, Cuckfield RH17 5JX
🌐 mansellmctaggart.co.uk 📷 mansellmctaggartcuckfield 📘 @mansellscuckfield 🐦 @mansellcuck



**MANSELL
McTAGGART**