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Local village talk,
by the village

Issue #33 : Jul/Aug '15

Free

Cuckfield Parish Council newsletter

page 21

Who's behind the bells?

page 16

Plus lots of Cuckfield news

page 4

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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Welcome to the summer issue! Hopefully some of you are thinking of holidays ahead, and some hoping to enjoy the warm weather here at home.

Talking of travel, our friends at the **Cuckfield European Association** appear on **page 26** to bring news of their various events, past and forthcoming. They have even been giving a talk on Cuckfield's historic link to dinosaurs.

Everything that is going on locally should be listed on **page 30** – your regular place to head for the Cuckfield social scene! And don't forget to let us know anything that you know is coming up. A quick email to editor@cuckfieldlife.co.uk is the best way to get your event listed for free.

In business news we are sad to hear that **Philip and Seb** are hoping to sell their craft shop in the High Street. Read why on **page 4**, and see who to contact if you've ever fancied running a shop! Also, on **page 5**, we celebrate with **Natalie and Lin** as they held the opening of their new eyewear showroom and workshop – a little further up the road. Those of you who were there last month will have done your own celebrity spotting!

Cuckfield Parish Council bring us up to speed with what they have been doing recently on **page 21**.

Fiona Evans shares her knowledge of the design industry on **page 8**. This month she talks about how to bring summer into your house with style.

Our cover shot, courtesy of Robert Norris, shows a unique view from the church spire looking over Cuckfield. And on **page 16** Claire Cooper catches up with the bell ringing team at Holy Trinity to get a glimpse behind the scenes of such a public village tradition.

Elsewhere in this issue we bring you news of the recent **Scarecrow Festival (page 14)**, the **Glebe Road Fun Day (page 9)** and a fantastic **charity tea day at Ockenden Manor (page 12)**.

Have a fabulous summer!

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We'd love to hear from groups, organisations and individuals about what's happening locally. Include a photo if you can. Email your stories to editor@cuckfieldlife.co.uk

Craft business up for sale

The popular village craft shop – Sussex Crafts – is now up for sale following a decision by its owners to have a complete change in lifestyle.

Philip Turner and Seb Labeyrie have owned the High Street business since 2004 but have decided that they would like to sell up and move to Bargemon, France; the town where Seb is from. The pair are looking for anyone who is interested in running the business as a going concern.

"In a sense we are continuing the chain before us, as we bought the business from Marjorie who had herself run the craft shop for six years before, who had bought it from another owner who had done the same. We believe there has been a craft shop here for nearly 30 years!" Philip commented.

Anyone who would like to chat to Philip and Seb should contact them on 01444 455611.



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Celebrating a new premises

After two and a half years Cuckfield i Wear has relocated to new premises further up Cuckfield's High Street.

Natalie and Lin have taken the opportunity to expand the business in the unit which was formerly Windowscene at 8 High Street.

The opening event was held last month when celebrities Christopher Biggins and Lesley Joseph attended to cut the ceremonial ribbon.

Lesley told the story that her friend, Sue Clarke who lives in the village, demanded she came down to the shop when it first opened because it had such a great selection of frames! Since then the association has continued. "I think local shops are so important," Lesley commented. "Shops around my home in South London are being forced out by extortionate rent on a regular basis. Some units in Wandsworth are charging more than Knightsbridge!"

After a short speech by Christopher Biggins celebrating the opening of Lin and Natalie's new shop he cut the ribbon with Lesley in front of a tightly-packed audience.

Cuckfield i Wear is open Tuesday-Friday 10.30am-4pm, and Saturdays 10.30am-2pm.



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WI triumph at South of England Show

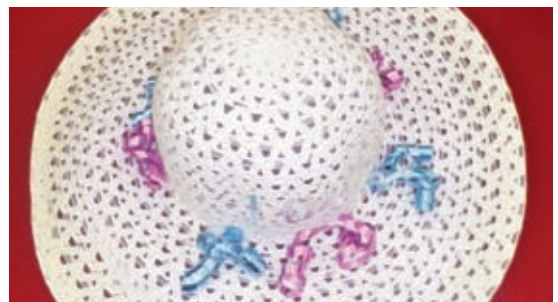
By Claire Cooper

Talented WI members ensured that Cuckfield was well represented at this year's South of England Show.

Entries from the Cuckfield Evening WI could be found in many of classes in the annual competition which attracts entries from all over Sussex. From a spiced parsnip and raisin cake to a decorated hat, the members impressed the judges with their work.

A joint entry, created by three members, which celebrated the work of popular author JK Rowling with biscuits, flowers and a decorated photo frame, was a particular hit with visitors to the WI Marquee. Other WI members could be found among the many volunteer stewards over the three day show.

Picture shows, from left: Barbara Fairs, Anne Upton, Carol Grossman, Janine Watts, Doreen Gregory (hat) and Marion Davison.



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Sunny space for summer

DESIGN AT HOME

By Fiona Evans, Limited Editions

Summer has arrived with its long daylight hours which hopefully stretch across uplifting sun-filled days. Making the most of the summer feel good factor inspires ideas for the home by bringing the sunshine, shadows and colours inside.

Here are some ideas to bring summer into your home:

Natural white daylight which contains all colours plays a part in creating a summer space. South facing interiors receive daylight all day and will look good decorated in any colour. A north facing room has a more bluish light sometimes feeling cold and could be warmed up with yellows and oranges. East facing receives a slightly bluish light and is brighter in the morning, West is brighter in the afternoon. Pale colours are best for 'summery' feel.

Having an indoor space that leads to the outside is ideal to make the most of summer living. A living room or kitchen with doors opening onto a patio, garden or a small balcony can easily be accessorised to encourage a 'summery' feel indoors. The simplest step is to be creative by bringing in elements from the outside space to the inside. Take the colours and structures from nature such as beautiful flower blooms, leaf shapes and patterns, wildlife, textures or structural forms. Sharing colour and styles of indoor/outdoor furnishings will help the inside space flow outside welcoming in that summer glow. Living in a high rise block with a window but no balcony? A quick fix is to use 'summer style' cushions which have bright and cheerful designs such as poppies on a white background.

Creating a summer look by linking a living area to even the smallest of outdoor spaces such as a balcony can work well. Painting the balcony rails in the same colour as the interior walls or accent wall will drag the living space outside. Summer flowers or architectural botanical plants in a pot add to the calmness of the balcony while accessories inspired by summer colours used inside and out could be reflected in a large mirror.

An interior that opens onto a patio or garden, however small, can be dressed to welcome the sunshine inside. As with the balcony railings, painting a garden fence the same colour as an interior wall will stretch the living space into the sunshine and floral prints and complementary soft furnishings used inside and out will do the same. Garden mirrors add another dimension reflecting features back into the house.

A summer house is a fantastic addition to a garden with permanent decoration for the summer months, its style flowing out to the lawn or patio and into the home. The summer house could be themed with summer detail such as 'beachhut' 'boathouse' or a 'floral look'.

Decent lighting is so important and as the day fades into evening consider the choices for merging the inside with outside. Fairy lights to add a bit of magic, LEDs to emphasise structure, lanterns for emphasising space inside and out.

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There's ain't no party like a Glebe Road party!

Families from Glebe Road enjoyed a successful street party last month, opening the event to the whole village!

The party followed the success of last year's celebration, providing an opportunity for neighbours to get together for an afternoon of fun and entertainment. And with circus acts, a live jazz band, bouncy castle and barbeque, there was certainly enough to keep everyone occupied.

Much of the entertainment was provided by the residents themselves with Sarah and her All Stars 'Trad Jazz' band performing all afternoon. Artist Cameron Bennett was also kept busy capturing children, adults and even pets in caricature!

Families from Cuckfield Pre-School playgroup did a roaring trade selling cakes and refreshments, while children were given lessons in juggling, diablo and spinning plates from Dodgers Circus.

The idea for a street party came when Glebe Road resident Sheila Gilbert won an Affinity Sutton 'Shine' Good Neighbour Award, after being nominated by a fellow resident.

"I won £1,000 which had to be used for the benefit of the community," said Sheila. "My first idea was to buy a bench, but then we came up with the idea of a street party." The event was such a success that Sheila, and friends June, Sarah and Jo, soon decided to organise a second event this summer.

"We were delighted to get generous donations from Affinity Sutton and Stirland builders which enabled us to stage the event this year," said Sheila. "We also had some wonderful raffle prizes from village businesses including Cuckfield Golf Centre, JoJo Boutique, Cuckfield Pet & Country Store and the Wheatsheaf. I'm sure it won't be long before we're busy planning and fund raising for next year's event!"



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Tea at Ockendon Manor

A tea party at Ockendon Manor was enjoyed by members of the Mid Sussex Breast Cancer Support Group last month.

"This is one of many social occasions the group have and I must praise Ockendon Manor staff who put on a lovely spread and really looked after us all extremely well," said member Ginny Rogers.

The group meets every second Monday of the month at the Old School in Cuckfield where members enjoy a 'cuppa and chat' with like-minded ladies. Guest speakers have included nutritionists, dieticians, make-over artists and doctors.

The social side, which is run by Ginny, is very popular with the ladies with events taking place every two months. "The next event is a trip to the Grosvenor House Hotel, London, to watch the Breast Cancer Care Annual Fashion Show - a star-studded occasion with a champagne reception, a cabaret, and lots more," said Ginny. "All the models are breast cancer patients, which makes it just that bit more special."

Anyone locally who has been touched by breast cancer is most welcome to come along and join in. For more information call Ginny on 01444 211639.

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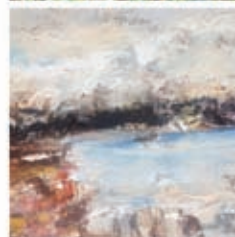
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FROM THE MAYOR'S TABLE

By Rob Helliwell

The Independent State of Cuckfield committee members gathered at The White Harte on the evening of 9th June. The agenda for the meeting was full and varied; reflecting on past events and planning for the year to come. The many donations made by the Independent State in this, my year as Mayor, are beginning to 'bear fruit'. It is great to know that Orchard House will soon have a second birds nest swing in the garden, providing fun and excitement for all the children, and that the Friends of Warden Park are closer to buying a new minibus to take students to sporting and other events. Cuckfield Museum can now expand their educational projects and the popular playground in the Recreation Ground will be refurbished. Medical research at the Royal Marsden Hospital, family, patient support and public awareness of the Guillain-Barre syndrome have all been helped thanks to your generosity in supporting the Mayoral candidates this year.

In the light of this please consider standing for Mayor with your organisation, charity, club or pub in October.

News also emerged at the meeting that Cuckfield will feature in the second series of the Channel 4's Hidden Villages programme. This is presented by Penelope Keith and is described on their website as: 'Penelope Keith takes to the road to explore our changing relationship with that most quintessential of British institutions, the village.'

The producer of the programme had been motivated when research uncovered information about the Cuckfield Donkey Races and The Independent State. If you are interested look here: <http://bit.ly/1GNRS8K>. You will find a wonderful clip of the Donkey Races in 1957 at Whitemans Green, starring not only Cuckfield residents, both human and donkey, but three beautiful young ladies from the Windmill Theatre! We never closed! (modified to 'We never clothed' - only those around in the 50's and the 60's will appreciate the humour of this!)

Well the film crew arrived plus Penelope Keith, filmed at Whitemans Green and my pub. Martin Ingebretson and I were interviewed, and Penelope Keith even brought her passport with her!

Watch this space for more information because I would hate you to miss it!

In the meantime we continue to fight the lorries as they pound, empty and full, up the High Street and down London Lane, managing to create chaos and damage our beautiful village. Last month a small group of feisty Cuckfield protestors attended a meeting of the County Local Committee in Lindfield. Our plea was to start the process towards a weight restriction order on the High Street and London Lane. The wheels of bureaucracy ground slowly on and no decisions were made.

Support is needed if we are to move forward.

Come on Cuckfield. Officialdom hates numbers. Read your history books!



3rd Annual Scarecrow Festival

Last month Holy Trinity Primary School held it's third Scarecrow Festival, which was a great success.

More than 200 visitors enjoyed walking the grounds, completing the children's nature trail and admiring nearly 40 scarecrows. On display this year were Captain Jack Sparrow, Elmo, Gertie Golfer, Woody, R2D2, a Co-op worker and Paul Hollywood – along with other amazing creations! The winning scarecrow was voted as Punch, made by Hazel class. The school would like to thank all the local businesses, charities and families who participated by making a scarecrow and donating raffle prizes.

Holy Trinity Church and Cuckfield Pre-School Playgroup served delicious refreshments over the weekend too. In total over £500 was raised, which will benefit the school, the church and the playgroup



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Platinum and customer's own sapphire inverse spiky trilogy ring (left)
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Cuckfield bell ringers

For hundreds of years church bells have been ringing out over Cuckfield village marking many memorable occasions and events. Housed in the church steeple, the eight bells cast in bell metal are an impressive sight, but equally impressive are the team of dedicated ringers, who bring the mighty bells to life. Claire Cooper visited the Church to find out about the history of the bells and meet some of the volunteers who are keeping this British tradition alive.

By Claire Cooper

This year sees the 200th anniversary of the bells in the tower of Holy Trinity Church in Cuckfield. Originally there were six bells dating from 1633 but in 1815 they were re-cast and two more added to give the set that still ring out today. "The original bells were probably cast in the church yard by itinerant bell founders who were paid according to the weight of the bells," said Tower Captain David Wilson.

"As the cost was based on weight and there was no way of checking it, I suspect it may have been quite profitable for them if they decided to cheat!"

The new bells however were weighed – the lightest coming in at 5 hundredweight (250 kilos) and the heaviest 15 hundredweight (750 kilos), about the same as small car.

The cost of the work was met by public subscription with 63 villagers and benefactors contributing £297 - 4 shillings. The two highest donations were 23 guineas (£24.15p) and the two smallest were 10 shillings (50p).

A board in the bell tower commemorates the donors – including some families with descendants still living in the village today.

"The casting of the bells was undertaken by Mr J. Mears Bell Foundry of London which still exists under the name of The Whitechapel Bell Foundry," said David. "This is the same foundry that cast Big Ben." A new frame made of oak to mount the bells was also installed.

"Everything was completed in time for the new peel

to be rung on 4th September 1815 and was no doubt a significant event and achievement for the parishioners," David added.

Since then no major work has been necessary, however on 1st May 1980, fire broke out in the spire.

"The spire was completely destroyed but, due to the skill of the fire fighters, the bells survived although some of the wooden fittings were damaged.

"The bells could quite easily have cracked due to intense heat or cooling too quickly by being sprayed with water," David explained. "The frame was saved but one piece has a metal plate fitted to restore its strength."

In keeping with tradition, the bells are rung every Sunday before the morning service, weddings and on special occasions such as VE Day and the induction of the new vicar.

"During the war the bells stayed silent, to be rung only in an emergency and as a warning – but that didn't deter the bell ringers.

"The ringers still practiced, but with the clappers tied," said David. Restrictions weren't lifted until 1943.

On other occasions the bells are muffled. "Bells can be muffled by covering the clappers with a leather hood," David explained. "They are half-muffled on Remembrance Sunday but only fully muffled on the death of the monarch or at the funeral of a bell ringer."

Bells are rung by 'method' or changes (never say 'tunes' to a bell ringer!)



"The first 'methods' were created in the 1600s and since then hundreds more have been added. "New methods are being created all the time – the introduction of computers has made it much easier," said David. "It works rather like a binary system with each bell moving up and down a sequence one place at a time with each pull.

"A full peal has 5,040 unique changes and takes over three hours to complete. It's a bit like a marathon for bell ringers."

Bell ringing requires a high level of concentration. "That's where the skill lies," said David. "You have to commit the methods to memory – one mistake can throw the whole method out of sequence."

Experienced bell ringers can ring any of the 8 bells – the Number 1 bell, the treble is the lightest. The pull of the bell is approximately four times its weight.

"As beginners Ladies are generally better than men as they have a lighter touch," said David. "Men tend to think it's all about strength!"

"Rope control is crucial. It's possible to break a stay or, if you fail to let go, get dragged up higher than you would like!"

The furry colourful bit of the rope is called the Sally ("Why is lost in the mists of time" said David) the end is the tail. The Sally and the tail are pulled alternately.

The Holy Trinity team enjoy visiting other churches to ring bells and have travelled to parishes in the Isle of

Wight, Kent and Norfolk. In August they will welcome a group from Bath to ring at Holy Trinity.

Member Libby Shead recently rang the Jubilee bells in London as part of a tour which also included ringing bells at Smithfield Market and at the 12 bell tower at London Bridge.

The newest member of the team is Julie who joined in January. "I came to the Christmas tree festival and took the opportunity to visit the bell tower and watch the bell ringing," she recalled. "I thought to myself 'I could do that.' Six months later – I am still learning! It's not as easy as it looks."

Fellow bell ringer Tessa Brown agreed: "It's harder than you think but everyone here is really helpful and I look forward to our weekly practices."

Tower Captain David started bell ringing in a village church in Suffolk when he was a boy. His son Nich is now keeping up the family tradition and has been elected to join the prestigious Ancient Society of College Youths (founded 1637 with only 8200 members since then) who ring the bells at major London towers including St Paul's Cathedral and Southwark Cathedral.

"I didn't teach Nich," said David. "Bell ringing is a bit like learning to drive – it's never a good idea to try and teach a member of the family!"

Anyone interested in visiting the tower to see the bells, is welcome any Friday evening between 7.45pm and 9pm or by arrangement. Beginners are also always very welcome.

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Cuckfield

PARISH COUNCIL

News from
Cuckfield Parish
Council

Summer 2015

Chairman's Message

I am pleased to announce the new Parish Council is settling in and, having been re-elected as Chairman, I look forward to leading the Council for this new term of office. I would like to thank returning members who continue to contribute so much of their time and energy to the community and I am also extremely grateful to those new members who came forward for co-option, filling the four vacant seats. We said "goodbye" to some members who served on the Council for a number of years, the longest of those being Ken Gregory. Ken, after 21 years on the Council, decided to step down as councillor and vice-chairman to focus on his hobbies, other village societies and a well-earned rest! I am delighted to say Martin Sambrook was elected as our new Vice-Chairman; further details of your Parish Council and its Committees can be found at the end of this newsletter.

The previous Council completed a number of significant projects including, producing the Cuckfield Neighbourhood Plan - the first 'made' Neighbourhood Plan in the District, implementing highways improvements and safeguarding the Youth Club building in London Lane by purchasing it as a new community asset. We have nearly reached a six month milestone operating the building under the Councils control and rising to the challenges that it brings. In parallel to carrying out some short term maintenance projects, we are starting to consider the potential longer term vision for a new purpose built facility. The aim is to involve the community in these projects i.e. fund raising, available skills and offers of help. If you would like to become involved then please contact the Parish Clerk to register your interest.

In conjunction with activities carried forward from the previous council, we will be considering new projects to look at over the next four years at the next Full Council meeting in September.

There have been a number of highways issues recently which, whilst we cannot directly control these as they come under West Sussex County Council Highways, Councillor Colin Mercer (Chairman of Roads and Traffic Committee) has been working hard with our County Councillors and Highways to address the issues. You will find an update below.

Wishing you all a good summer.

Nigel Page, Chairman of Cuckfield Parish Council

Roads & Traffic

Ardingly Road Zebra Crossings

As part of the Parish Council's traffic calming measures, we are very pleased to announce that the long awaited crossing points in Ardingly Road, one near to Bylanes Close and the other at Longacre Crescent, have arrived! After numerous drawing changes and legal hurdles to overcome, the Zebra Crossings are installed and working. The crossings are paid for through Section 106 funds, money that came from housing developments in Cuckfield. Training in the correct use of the crossings has been carried out by the Safer Routes to School Team from West Sussex County Council for children at Holy Trinity Primary School.



Photo: One of the new Zebra Crossings (Bylanes Close / Ruthven Close shown)

High Street Pavement - Due to the dangerous condition of the pavement running from Leyton Lea down to the entrance of the Recreation Ground, West Sussex County Council Highways Department have (at the time of writing) taken the decision to close this section and informed us barriers are to be erected. Pedestrian access to the village will be via the pavement on the opposite side.

Roads & Traffic cont.

Lorries in the High Street and London Lane - Cuckfield is currently experiencing a high volume of heavy lorries using the village as a short cut instead of using the bypass. This is causing great concern as they are using two narrow roads causing damage to the infrastructure and is a potential safety risk to pedestrians. The Parish Council is extremely concerned about this issue and has asked the County Local Committee (CLC) to consider approval of a 7.5 tonne weight limit on the whole of the High Street and London Lane. Following a lengthy discussion at the CLC meeting on the 23rd June, the Chair of the Committee was mandated to write to the Cabinet Member to express the deep concern over the impact of HGVs on villages, in particular Cuckfield and Lindfield, and seeking a policy or strategy to mitigate this. The Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation and strive to find a suitable solution to the problem.

If residents observe traffic infringements or anti-social driving these can be reported via Operation Crackdown, details of which are below.

Reporting Anti-Social Driving – Operation Crackdown is the online reporting tool for members of the public to report incidents of anti-social driving. The website is: www.operationcrackdown.org.

There is also a Sussex Safer Roads Partnership website which allows people to see what anti-social driving is being reported in their area, visit: <http://dashboard.sussexsrp.org.uk/>

Planning

Planning continues to be a key activity for the Parish Council. Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) are consulting the public, until 24th July, on their latest Pre-Submission Draft District Plan. This critical document will have a major influence on the area for many years. When approved, a District Plan will be the main planning document used when considering planning applications. It will cover the period to 2031 and includes the strategy, proposed level of development and a number of planning policies. To view and submit your comments on the draft District Plan please see the planning section of www.midsussex.gov.uk/planning/8264.htm

News in brief...

- Another planning application, for Reserved Matters, was submitted for development on the MSDC owned plot of land at the end of Courtmead Road;
- An Appeal has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate against refusal of proposed housing development in the field along Broad Street;

- We understand Martin Grant Homes Limited is making good progress on the Ardingly Road development. Landscaping, on what is to become the parish's new Public Open Space area, should be carried out by the autumn;

- Horsgate House was recently sold at auction by the owners, Affinity Sutton. The Parish Council submitted a request for the site to be considered as an Asset of Community Value but it was unsuccessful. Building Heroes (on the adjacent site) attempted to purchase Horsgate House, to provide accommodation for their students, but was also unsuccessful.

- The Parish Council recently received a request from Spire Healthcare to present their proposals for development of the field adjacent to Horsgate House in Hanlye Lane, to build a specialist Cancer Treatment Centre;

- We continue to see a considerable rise in planning applications for extensions and modifications;

- Monitoring of Neighbourhood Plan targets is ongoing and important to show if Plan policies are being achieved.

Environment

Village Floral Displays - You may have been wondering why Cuckfield High Street and London Road are not decorated with hanging baskets this year. In fact the flowers were ordered and delivered to the usual timescale and should have been in place well before now. Unfortunately, delays have occurred with the company contracted to replace the old-style street lighting. Part of the agreement was that brackets and baskets would be replaced on the new columns but, being smaller than the originals posts, the existing brackets did not fit. It has taken some persistence to get the new size brackets ordered but we are told this has now been done. We hope that they will arrive in time for the baskets to be reinstated before the end of summer and we can enjoy our usual floral displays.

Cuckfield Royal Observer Corps Nuclear Bunker - On a more positive note, the parish council's Royal Observer Corps Post bunker in the Observer Field had a very successful first 2015 open weekend in early June. Ed Combes and Mark Russell, the two enthusiasts who have restored the bunker, welcomed 94 visitors over the two days. The next opportunities to visit are the weekends of 18th/19th July and 15th/16th August. The bunker will be open 11am-5:00pm on Saturdays and 10am-1:00pm on Sundays. There is no need to book but these open days are always popular and there might be a short wait so that there aren't too many people underground at the same time. More information via www.facebook.com/cuckfieldnuclearbunker or from Cuckfield Museum www.cuckfieldmuseum.org.uk.



YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

The following committees operate within the Parish Council:

Community Building Committee (Youth Centre)

Chair: Nigel Page, Vice-Chair: Sean Ryan. Members*: Marie Dormer, Paul Mantripp, Co-opt: Mary Crouch, Jane Revell, June Seale. Roles include: Managing, maintaining and hiring the Youth Centre facility.

Environment – Chair: Sue Burgess Vice-Chair: Marie Dormer. Members*: Andrea King, David Mortimer, Sean Ryan. Roles include: Oversee the running of the various village assets, including allotment gardens, Public Toilets, Churchyard, Cemetery and the village clock.

Finance & General Purposes – Chair: Martin Sambrook, Vice-Chair: Nigel Page. Members*: Sue Burgess, Andy Burton, Andrea King, Colin Mercer. Roles include: Monitor income and expenditure and make recommendations to the Council, recommend an annual budget and precept to Council.

Planning – Chair: Andy Burton, Vice-Chair: Martin Sambrook. Members: Paul Mantripp, Colin Mercer, Sean Ryan. Roles include: Comments on planning applications in the parish - Mid Sussex District Council then makes final decisions, taking into account Parish Council views, monitoring the Neighbourhood Plan.

Roads & Traffic – Chair: Colin Mercer, Vice-Chair: Andy Burton. Members*: Paul Mantripp, Martin Sambrook. Roles include: Monitor and liaise on traffic issues and traffic calming projects, manage lighting maintenance on parish owned lights.

Queen's Hall – Chair: Andrea King, Vice-Chair: Sue Burgess. Members*: David Mortimer, Sean Ryan, Martin Sambrook. Roles include: Managing, maintaining and hiring the Queen's Hall.

*The Chair and Vice-Chair of Full Council are ex-officio members across all committees.

Parish Council meetings

July - September

9th July	Planning	7.30pm
	Environment	8.30pm
30th July	Planning	7.30pm
	Youth Centre (Community Bldg.)	8.15pm
20th August	Planning	7.30pm
	Roads & Traffic	8.15pm
3rd September	Planning	7.30pm
	Queen's Hall	8.15pm
10th September	Full Council	8pm
24th September	Planning	7.30pm
	Finance & General Purposes	8.15pm

Chairman

Nigel Page: 474720
nigel.page@nlp-one.com

Vice-Chairman

Martin Sambrook: 458999
mr.sambrook@btopenworld.com

Other Council members

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Andrea King: 413172
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Paul Mantripp: 07977 539759
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Colin Mercer: 414995
colin.mercer1@gmail.com

David Mortimer: 443337
djm@dmort.plus.com

Sean Ryan: 417216
seanryan7216@gmail.com

Parish Clerk

Annette Jones: 451610
cuckfielddpc@btconnect.com

www.cuckfield.gov.uk
www.thequeenshall.co.uk

The Parish Council Office in the Queen's Hall is open from 10 am – 4 pm each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Other times by appointment.

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.

More dates for your diary...

MOBILE CIVIC AMENITY COLLECTIONS
The following collections have been arranged at Broad Street Car Park, Cuckfield:
10am-12noon on Sundays
6th September 2015, 6th December 2015,
13th March 2016

Busy bees

VILLAGE GREEN

By Margaret Tyzack More, Cuckfield Local

"Summertime and the livin' is easy." For most of us in this area it is, good homes, good food and much else besides. If my garden is anything to go by it's getting easier for some of the bees too, bumble bees in particular. I have a moment of joy seeing their little furry bottoms disappearing into a pink fox glove bell. No honey bees to speak of though. Good to know that so many of us have bee friendly plants and flowers and to see more front lawns rich with buttercups and daisies and all abuzz. A fascinating fact about bees I heard recently is that the olfactory glands of bees are able to detect tuberculosis on the breath of a sufferer. It seems that bees are being trained to do this which could cut down the cost and waiting time of traditional tests.

I mentioned in February that 2015 is International Year of Soil. Imagine my delight, listening to The Archers the other evening, to hear one farmer putting forward the case for soil. Words such as "we can't go on farming in this way much longer. The soil is dying from the use of artificial fertilisers and intensive crop production." The Archers was first broadcast in 1951 and "...has for decades been systematically educating its audience on agricultural matters." Infotainment at it's best.

Another aspect of intensive farming is the destruction of habitat for all our wildlife. Great to hear then of a farmer who is creating habitat on his farm to revive birds that once were common in our fields and hedgerows but are now on the Red List of endangered species. The Grey Partridge is close to extinction also lapwing and corn bunting. He goes much further than just field margins planted for nature and has managed to make his farming pay as well. A real hero for biodiversity.

The third week of June found me on a small island off Lewes in the Outer Hebrides. I was shocked to be told that mink, rescued by animal rights activists years ago, have been found there. The island seemed to be almost off the edge of the world but mink are there doing their thing. However, a truly amazing thing followed. On the little island exploring some menhirs connected to the great neolithic standing stones of Callanish, loud and clear across the water came the call of a cuckoo. "Who'd a thought it!" Very few trees, beautiful wild flowers, otters around the shore and there was a cuckoo! I heard it several times and sent a thought that it send some friends to Cuckfield next year.

The next Cuckfield Local Food Market is on 8th August in the courtyard of The Talbot Inn. It runs from 9.30am to 12.30pm and we look forward to seeing you and having a chat.

Are you single and aged 45+?

Are you looking for activities and events in your area?



The Group, a club for single men and women, may be exactly right for you. We meet in Burgess Hill, Lewes, Horsham and Brighton, and there are always things to do.

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The Group is not a dating agency - but it is an opportunity to meet new people, doing the things you enjoy.

The Group

Take a look at the website:
www.thegroup.org.uk



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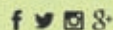
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CUCKFIELD EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015

www.cuckfield.org



The CEA sees one of its most important roles as the stimulation of friendships across national boundaries and cultures. Here are a couple of examples. We would always be pleased to hear of our members doing the same thing...

Another enjoyable visit by Karlstadt to Cuckfield

By Sheila and Christian Grele

The Cuckfield European Association welcomed a group of 38 Germans from the twin town of Karlstadt, Bavaria. They arrived on Thursday 21st May having travelled through the night and suffered a mechanical breakdown in France. However there was a warm welcome for all including the five teenagers in the group who had been given time off school to come.

On the Friday, some chose to go to Brighton, where one brave chap had a swim! Others had a walk around Cuckfield, followed by a visit and a game of croquet at Nymans Gardens. Later an official planting ceremony of a quince tree by the Mayor of Karlstadt took place. We all adjourned to the Talbot for a dinner of roast beef and Yorkshire pudding. We were entertained delightfully by the Singing Allsorts and a great solo by Jane Haughton in

German. Much food, drink and jollity was had by all.

Cuckfield had a rest on Saturday while the visitors went to London for the day.

On Sunday we went to Bentley Wildfowl Trust. We enjoyed wandering among the ducks, vintage cars, the house and craft workshops ending up with cream tea. In the evening many hosts joined together with their visitors for a multi-lingual shared meal and much pleasure.

All too soon it was time for the farewell brunch at Cuckfield Golf Centre on Monday morning. Many photos were taken and before the coach left, our guests sang to us with words in English of a reworked song by Abba "Thank you for the....." We waved goodbye after a very happy visit, having welcomed old friends and made new ones.



Sound like fun? Join CEA today....

If you like the sound of what we get up to, why not join us? We'd love to hear from you. Membership is just £10 per year. Contact Janine Watts by email at janine.watts@gmail.com. Or visit the website: www.cuckfield.org



Top left: Singing Allsorts in good voice at The Talbot.

Top right: Karlstadt visitors find out about Cuckfield dinosaurs

Below: Tree planting by Dr Paul Kruck, mayor Karlstadt, and Beatrix von Vanrooy at the junction of London Road and Polestub Lane



Dates for your diary

3rd October: Boules competition

At Marshalls starting at 11.30am and including a ploughmans lunch. Cost €6 a head, under 16s half price. Register your intention to Andrew Symonds by 21st September.

28th November: Novemberfest


At The Old School 12 to 2pm cost £12 each, under 16 half price. Hope to welcome our friends from Aumale.

10th–12th December: visit to Karlstadt

For Christmas market and local festival. More details to come.

19th December: Christmas party

At 7.30pm, cost £16 per head. Venue to be confirmed.

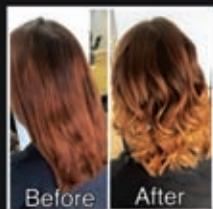


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What's on this month

AT QUEEN'S HALL

Some regular hall activities will take a break during the school holidays starting Wednesday 22nd July:

- Fluid Physio** – Monday mornings
- Codanza** – Tuesday & Wednesday afternoon
- Craft Fair** – next one is on Friday 11th September
- Tinkerbells** – Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday morning
- Tiny Soccerstars** – will possibly run on 28th July, 4th and 11th August 10am-12noon TBC
- Tumbletots** – Thursday mornings

These activities start again week commencing Monday 7th September 2015.

Other activities will run as usual.

There is now a list of regular activities and classes on the Notice Board that includes contact details.

Aug

- 14th **Cuckfield Flower Club:** Simple Pleasures by Christina Payne 7.30pm

AND ELSEWHERE

July

- 15th **Singing Allsorts Summer Concert**
Holy Trinity Church, 7.30–10pm. Local amateur, 50 voice, choir present their annual summer concert (raising funds for local charity Kerwin Court and Alzheimer's research). Tickets: £8 pre-booked or £10 on the door
- 18th–**Cuckfield Nuclear Bunker Open Days**
19th 11am-5pm on Saturday and 10am-1pm on Sunday (www.rocremembered.com)
- 21st **Cuckfield Evening WI** – The Old School 8pm.
Birthday Dinner
- 22nd **Royal British Legion Women's Section Lunch**
the Hassocks Hotel
- 25th–**The Adventurers' Art Club Annual Exhibition**
2nd King Edward Hall, Lindfield RH16 2HH.
Sat 25th July – Sat 1st August 10am-7pm
Sun 2nd August 10am-3.45pm
- 26th **Mike Piggott 'Hot Club' Jazz band**
The Jolly Tanners, Staplefield, 4pm

August

- 6th **Haywards Heath and District U3A** – Enrolment & Information Afternoon: Clair Hall, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath 2–4.30 pm (annual subscription is £14)
- 7th **The Tempest** – Cuckfield Recreation Ground 6.30pm. Bring along low-backed seating or rugs, and a picnic to the al fresco performances (tickets: 01444 451610, from the Parish Office at Queen's Hall, or www.rainorshine.co.uk)
- 8th **Cuckfield Local Monthly Food Market**
The Talbot 9.30am–12.30pm
- 13th **Summer Evening Stroll around Cuckfield** with Museum Guide, Richard Constable, 6.30pm. Enjoy an evening walk in our beautiful village and learn about its fascinating history (booking required, Phillipa Malins 01444 452307)
- 15th–**Cuckfield Nuclear Bunker Open Days**
16th 11am-5pm on Saturday and 10am-1pm on Sunday (www.rocremembered.com)
- 28th **Haywards Heath Golf Club Charity Golf Day** (supporting Ken Gregory's Mayoral Campaign) 12pm. Coffee & bacon roll, 18 holes of golf then dinner at the Rose and Crown, Cuckfield. Charity raffle and auction. £50 per player. Additional guests welcome for dinner at £20 per head (Ken 01444 457547 / 07702 110742 or ken.gregory47@btinternet.com)



NSPCC Open Gardens success

Cuckfield NSPCC held their Open Gardens day at the end of June. It was a lovely afternoon in the village with lots of visitors enjoying the 11 open gardens and sampling delicious teas. A fantastic £2,000 was raised to add to the £1,500 from the Plant Sale in May. The committee would like to thank everyone who supported these two events and in particular those who generously opened their gardens to visitors.

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The Talbot Cuckfield	19
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