

Cuckfield Life

Inc. Brook St, Ansty, Staplefield & Bolnore Village

Local village talk,
by the village

Issue #46: Aug/Sep '16

Free



Village People: Val Fabb

page 16

A place to think with...

page 25

What's On in Cuckfield & Bolnore

page 30



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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

It's mid summer and we've actually seen some **sunshine** here in the village! Hooray! I hope those of you who are off work and/or school are enjoying the break from the norm. Grab a drink and take the weight off for a few minutes...

Summertime is, of course, a key indicator that the **Cuckfield Village Show** will shortly be upon us. Taking place in the grounds of Cuckfield Park house you can find out more **over the page** - including any last minute entries that can be made! A full list of categories is available on our blog at www.cuckfieldlife.co.uk - do get involved and come along on **10th September**.

Warden Park Academy has a great reputation for sports education in the area, and we celebrate with the school as they begun work recently on their new **all-weather pitch** on **page 7**. A facility that will also be available for use by the wider community too.

I was personally fascinated by the article on **page 13** - thanks **Rebecca Skimming** - which reawakened my thought of the **dinosaur fossil discovery** in Cuckfield. If history is your thing, there's also a note about how you could become involved in the **Cuckfield Museum** on the same page too.

Claire Cooper met with Cuckfield resident **Val Fabb** and the article on **page 16** is the result. It's a moving account of the tragic loss of her daughter at just eight years old, and then how she vowed to make something positive come out of it.

If you know someone living in Cuckfield or Bolnore whose **interesting story we could tell** - we would love to hear from you. Please email editor@cuckfieldlife.co.uk in the first instance.

Lastly I wanted to mention the article by **Fiona Evans** on **page 28** - where she tells us about **Turner-designed houses** here in Sussex. Something else I didn't know!

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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

Annual Village Show coming soon

Preparations are well underway for this year's Village Show on Saturday 10th September, but if you haven't already submitted your entry, don't worry - there's still time to get involved and enter one of the many classes.

The event will be held at Cuckfield Park from 2pm.

This year's classes offer something for everyone, regardless of age and ability – not just the horticulturalists in the village!

Members of the Cuckfield Society, who organise the annual event, are keen to attract people who grow fruit and vegetables to eat, flowers for their homes, bake for pleasure, and enjoy flower arranging, photography, painting and handicrafts.

As well as the unusual classes for fruit and vegetables, there are prizes for the heaviest pumpkin, marrow and courgette, posy of herbs and the most amusing vegetable! The floral art section invites flower arrangers to capture the 'Rio Carnival', and 'Gone Fishing' (for men only!)

Cooks have a chance to win prizes for their cakes, quiches, jams and homemade wine, while the Katie Stewart Cup will be awarded for the tastiest version of Katie's Chocolate Pecan Crumb Cake.

The crafts section, to be judged by Sarah Freeman, the new owner of Sussex Crafts, is looking for entries made from pottery, wood and home made bath bombs, while the art and photography sections will include portraits, landscapes and 'bubbles!'

Children's entries always attract some imaginative entries and this year's categories provide plenty of scope, ranging from a customised pair of flip flops to book covers, wind chimes and a robot made from recycling.

This year's show, the 11th event to be hosted by Bryan and Sue Mayou, from Cuckfield Park, is supported by many local businesses, and will also include a raffle, refreshments, an auction and music from the Mid Sussex Brass Band.

Entry forms must be submitted at Wealden Stores, Cuckfield Candy Store, Anne Morrison at Covert, Broad Street or Trish Denyer at Holy Trinity School by 3pm on 7th September.

For more information visit: www.cuckfield.org

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www.cuckfieldlocal.wordpress.com

Balcombe charity walk

By Joan Moon

Renowned for its tasty teas and scrummy cakes, the annual Balcombe Walk will put on its famous spread again this year - on Sunday 11th September. And you can have some! The one small proviso is that you first of all enjoy a wonderful country walk and raise sponsorship or make a donation to support St Catherine's Hospice.

For the 26th year, the Haywards Heath Support Group for St Catherine's Hospice is proud to present the Balcombe Fundraising Walk, at Victory Hall, Stockcroft Road, Balcombe.

The Walk takes in some of the very best of the wonderful Sussex countryside, with fabulous views. You may want to take on the challenge of the full 12.5 mile circular route or you may set yourself a gentler target of 4, 6 or 9 miles; if you do that, we'll send a chauffeur to get you back to Balcombe! Whatever your choice, you set your own pace and we'll welcome your support. Afterwards you will have take and cake, and a certificate to mark your achievement on behalf of St Catherine's.

If you've joined the Walk before, you'll know what a great day you can have. If you haven't, the charity is keen to show you. Take your family, your friends, your dogs on leads, and have a great day out.

Sign up today at www.stch.org.uk/balcombewalk or call the Events Team on 01293 447355. You can also sign up on the day itself - just turn up.

Are you having problems sending emails?

Are you having problems getting on to the internet or sending emails? Then a local volunteer-run service may be able to help.

From simple advice to specific training on a one to one basis, the volunteers can help on most aspects of computers and software. Bring your computer, smartphone or tablet with you (if possible).

If you have a particular problem let the volunteers look. If they can't fix it they can advise on the best course of action.

Don't worry if you are completely new to computing, the volunteers will take you through the steps you need to take to online.

The Walk-In Help Desk is set up at the Spire Café, St John's Church, Burgess Hill every Thursday between 11am and 1pm. There is no charge - though you might like to buy a drink while you are there.

The group of volunteers have been 'checked out' by corporate supporter Affinity Sutton as having the technical expertise and personal qualities to provide this service. The help desk has been given free use of space and wifi in the Spire Café by St John's Church and is also supported by Mid Sussex Older People's Council.

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Work starts on school pitch

By Claire Cooper

International rugby star Lawrence Dallaglio has kick started work on the eagerly awaited 3G multi use sports pitch at Warden Park Academy.

The former England captain and member of the 2003 World Cup winning team, visited the school following an invitation from his friend and former Warden Park student Jon Ball.

Watched by crowd of students and staff, Lawrence cut the first turf to mark the beginning of work to build the £500,000 sports facility.

Much of the deposit to start work on the pitch has been raised by students through sponsored events, and the funds have been boosted with a £60,000 donation from Jon's company Fairfax Properties.

"I am delighted to be able to help my old school provide a world class sports facility for both students and the local community," said Jon. "My nephew and daughter both attend the school, the third generation of my family to do so, so it's nice to know that they will be among those benefitting along with their fellow students."

The pitch, which is due to open in November, is being built by O'Brien Sports in collaboration with Notts Sports.

Steve Hillman, general manager at O'Brien Sports said: "The new pitch will provide students and the local community with the opportunity to participate in frequent sports activities; building confidence, self-esteem, character building, but also give them a platform to realise their sporting goals and ambitions."

For the past 60 years, Warden Park has boasted proud sporting traditions being well represented in the District and County, whilst building a national reputation for sporting excellence.

Warden Park Academy CEO Jonathan Morris said: "The academy rightly has an outstanding reputation for its sports. The new addition to the school facilities will give our PE department the opportunity to further develop the depth and breadth of its offering.

"With the current restricted funding for schools it has been important for us to ensure that it places no drain on our resources and we are very grateful to local businesses for their support.

"We look forward to being able to offer it for use to outside organisations and are confident that it will be a useful resource in the community.

"The legacy of this project will bring joy to every student at Warden Park as well as the local community for generations to come."

Jon added: "Fairfax is delighted to support Warden Park and Mid Sussex sport with this donation. As a sign of our ongoing commitment to the local community, once the capital investment of the pitch is recouped, all registered sports clubs in the school's catchment area will benefit from a 25% discount in hiring fees outside of school hours."

New houses all sold out

Housing developer Martin Grant Homes has announced that its Arbor Walk development, off Ardingly Road, Cuckfield, has now completely sold out. The collection of 14 two, three and four bedroom homes, represents one of the only new-build developments in Cuckfield.

Chris Hamilton, Managing Director of Martin Grant Homes, says: "Cuckfield is one of West Sussex's most sought-after villages, as has been shown by the sales success at Arbor Walk."



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You could become a Cuckfield Woodlander

By Stephen Holroyd, Chairman New England Wood Trust
If you go down in the woods on a Monday morning, instead of a teddy bears' picnic you'll find New England Wood Trust volunteers working on paths or clearing glades. Don't worry – they are harmless, but may be grumpy on a cold wet winter's day!

The 27 acre New England Wood includes surviving ancient woodland that once covered the whole Sussex Weald. Prior to the Trust purchase, it was on the fringe of a deer park and had been in the same ownership for four centuries. During world war two there were selective fellings and the wood suffered major damage during the 1987 storm. In all, it is a fascinating record of natural history and human intervention.

Back in 1980 the wood, along with adjoining land, was threatened with development. Cuckfield residents raised funds to purchase it and the New England Wood Trust was formed to 'improve, protect and conserve New England Wood for the public benefit and as a broad-leaved woodland'. Since then the Trust has relied on occasional donations and volunteers' efforts to meet those objectives. But conservation work, such as all-weather footpaths, fencing, planting and clearance, requires continuous resources. A community project, Cuckfield Woodlanders, is supporting this work to ensure that the wood continues as a beautiful nature reserve for the people of Cuckfield.



If you enjoy New England Wood and value its contribution to the quality of life in this community, please become a Cuckfield Woodlander now and pledge a donation of £1 per month at cuckfieldwoodlanders.com. Your contribution will be gratefully received and we will be inviting you to an annual Woodlanders gathering and guided tour of the wood to reveal its hidden plant and animal life.

Please join us in conserving this precious resource. Welcome to Cuckfield Woodlanders! See our website www.cuckfieldwoodlanders.com for more information.

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Cuckfield-born Olympic captain

As Britain's elite athletes battle for medals in this year's Olympic Games in Rio, Cuckfield residents have been has an extra special reason to cheer on the Rugby Sevens team.

Team captain Tom Mitchell was born in the village, and grew up in Sussex attending Worth School near Crawley and starting his rugby career at East Grinstead when he was 8 years old. His rugby career flourished while he was studying at Bristol University. Not only did Tom get selected for the England team, he also obtained a BA in English and Philosophy!

Tom went on to study History at Oxford in 2012 while also representing England in the World Series.

He was part of the squad which reached the 2013 RWC Sevens final in Moscow, took third place at the Gold Coast tournament in October 2013 and fourth place in Dubai the following month.

Tom led England for the first time when they won the Plate in the Las Vegas event in January 2014 and he was the tournament's second highest points-scorer with 44 behind Cameron Clark, of Australia.

This is the first time Rugby Sevens has been included as an Olympic sport. The game, which started as preparation of the fifteen-a-side game, is played all over the world with teams competing in 10 major tournaments. The games is fast, quick scoring and easy to follow.

Before leaving for Rio, Tom was confident of success for his team which he said were confident and well prepared with great coaches, with the main threat coming from teams from Fiji, New Zealand and South Africa.

And if you haven't been following the rugby, then the chances are you've still spotted Tom – he is one of the five athletes featured on the Team GB poster, alongside diver Tom Daley.





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In order to bring the authenticity, knowledge and wisdom of Ayurveda to the centre, we are incredibly excited to announce that notable Ayurveda specialist Dr Shijoe Mathew has joined the centre this month. Mathew is an **Ayurvedic Doctor** and has been the chief clinician for the past 4 years at the world renowned Ananda Spa in the Himalayas, treating highly prestigious and celebrity clientele. He has resigned from his post at Ananda to reside at The Alternative Healthcare. His vast knowledge and experience in treating such disorders as arthritis, fibromyalgia, depression, stress, anxiety, eczema, asthma, IBS, colitis and many more will be a huge asset to the centre. Mathew's decision to leave Ananda to bring Ayurveda to the UK and help enlighten as many people as possible to the healing science is testament to his passionate belief in the system. His diary

has now opened, with his impressive credentials, wisdom on the subject and logical manner in treating and explaining disease and disorders, space may be limited. Please call the centre on 01444 474447 to make your appointment.

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Visitors explore Cuckfield's dinosaur heritage

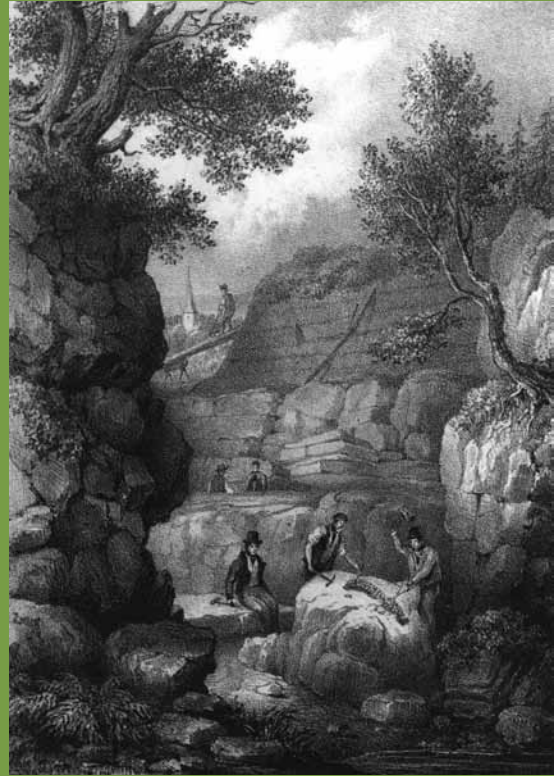
By Rebecca Skiming, Cuckfield Museum

For those of you who don't know, Cuckfield was once the site of some very significant dinosaur fossil finds. Two hundred years later and Whitemans Green is still attracting people to see the place where some of the first fossils to be recognised as dinosaurs were found.

Last month a group of 96 from the Skeptics Society, based in California, visited Whitemans Green and the Mantell Monument for just this reason. Their visit was one stop on a grand geological and scientific tour of Great Britain that included national museums, the birthplaces and homes of famous scientists and iconic geological landscapes.

The museum had organised to meet the group as a surprise with examples of the local stone and replicas of the finds (the genuine fossils being too precious and fragile to make the journey up the hill). We also had copies of the frontispieces from Gideon Mantell's 1827, 1833 and 1857 publications and a sketch of the quarry made in 1872 (right) so that they could line up the view with the church spire and imagine themselves in a nineteenth century landscape. For those wanting to see the view, the best position is just past the pavilion on the bend of the athletics track.

Thankfully the weather was fine and it was a pleasure to meet such an enthusiastic group.



Are you interested in the history of Cuckfield?

If so, come to Cuckfield Museum on 24th September between 10am-1pm and find out more about how the Museum works and how you could get involved. The stewards would be delighted to see you.

For more information ring Phillipa Malins 01444 452307 or go to www.cuckfieldmuseum.org

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Scattered Flea Market a success

By Dan Weaver

One could argue that it was a social experiment to help put community into a village, or an elaborate way to teach a group of students how to brand, promote and produce an event with nothing, based on an idea posted on social media... or was it simply an opportunity for us to cleanse our garages and relinquish once loved possession, basically... get rid of our tat?

The fact is it was all of these.

Bolnore's Scattered Flea Market, was a garage sale on mass that had well over 70 homes participating. The opportunity to find a bargain was easy, buyers from as far as Worthing, Brighton, Seaford, Lewes and Hastings as well as residents and buyers from more local areas, just wandered around the village looking to find their treasure. As they say 'one man's trash is another man's treasure' and, from the results of the day, there was much found!

Having the chance to sit in the sun, chat to your neighbours, new and old, emptying lofts, cupboards and garages with things you know longer need and then being able to spend the money you make on a new bike for your daughter, a couple of beers and a takeaway for my family, what could be better?

Now that the dust has settled and the garage looks better, we can look back on the day and remember how good the event turned out to be. A simple idea

posted on social media, spiralled into a fun and large-scale community event. Wouldn't it be great to see neighbouring villages mirroring the event?

With such positive feedback, it will return next year for those who participated and for those who missed out!

So, please get your diaries out and pencil in these proposed dates now: Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th July 2017 for Bolnore's Second Scattered Flea Market!

Hope to see you then.

Summer Drinks at Woodies

Although many regular activities won't be functioning during the school holidays Woodies Bar will remain open on Friday and Saturday evenings, 7-11pm.

The next quiz nights are 27th August and 24th September (bar open at 7pm, quiz from 8pm).

Val Fabb

VILLAGE PEOPLE



A charity set up in memory of an eight year old Cuckfield girl who died from a rare form of cancer reaches a milestone this year.

For the past 40 years The Gillian Fabb Memorial Fund has been close to the hearts of Cuckfield residents, as Gilly's mum Val has worked tirelessly to raise funds for research into child cancer and to ensure that some good came from her daughter's tragic death.

With support from her family, friends and generations of Cuckfield residents, Val has raised thousands of pounds to provide vital equipment for children's hospitals.

As the charity marks its 40th anniversary, Val shares Gilly's story, and tells how fund raising helped the family cope with their loss and how she hopes to top the magic £200,000 mark by the end of the year.

By Claire Cooper

Gillian Fabb was born in Cuckfield Hospital in 1968, the first child for proud parents Val and Tony. She grew into a bright, healthy and happy little girl and was delighted when little sister Judy came along in 1971.

But in September 1976, Val noticed a change in her lively little girl. "We felt something wasn't quite right when Gilly went back to Harlands School after the summer holidays," said Val. "She just wasn't herself, but we put it down to being over tired after our camping holiday."

But when Gilly returned home exhausted from a school trip it was clear something was wrong. "Her friends said all she wanted to do was to sit down which was very unlike her," Val recalled.

Bloods tests showed that Gilly had jaundice, possibly hepatitis, and she was admitted to Cuckfield Hospital as a day patient for observation and more tests. "I was teaching full time at Imberhorne School, in East Grinstead so would drop her off in the morning and pick her up on my way home," said Val. "One day I was told the doctor wanted to talk to me and would phone me in the evening. That's when I knew it was serious."

The doctor suspected that there was a problem with Gilly's kidneys and referred her to the Royal Alex

in Brighton for x-rays. Although the x-rays came back clear, Gilly was taken to Great Ormond Street for further investigation.

"I went in the ambulance with her and stayed for two weeks while tests were carried out," said Val. During that time Gilly was sent to University College Hospital where a scan revealed that her liver was greatly enlarged with cancer.

"The doctors said it was extremely rare and that they had never come across a tumour of that nature in a child before," said Val.

Gilly died on 4th November 1976 - just six weeks after being taken ill.

"I never believed she was going to die," said Val. "I couldn't let myself believe it. I would look at her and think: 'she looks better today', and she very often did.

"While Gilly was ill, I asked myself what I could do to help others in similar situations and set myself a target to raise £1,000 for when she got better."

After Gilly died, Val became even more determined to raise funds for research into child cancer.

Gilly's funeral was held at Holy Trinity Church. "The service was taken by family friend Peter Louis, curate at East Grinstead and Father Keating from Staplefield,"



said Val, who had worked at St Paul's School in Haywards Heath before Gilly was born. "I don't remember much about the funeral apart from Peter standing there clutching a bunch of violets."

Keen to start fund raising in Gilly's memory, Val asked friends for donations rather than flowers. "Gilly's godfather, Gordon Steptoe, manager of Barclays Bank in Brighton, set up an account and the Gillian Fabb Memorial Fund was born."

Events were organised and donations started to flood in. One of the first was £200 from Harlands School Christmas Carol Concert.

By June 1977 Val had raised £1,100. "I thought to myself – if we can do this in eight months, let's carry on!"

"Gordon suggested we become a registered charity which he set up with the help of lawyer friend."

Val soon found herself picking up cheques from fund raising events, from sponsored walks, concerts, dances, swims and slims, to a bar billiards contest and even brass rubbing, as support for the charity grew. "Two of the local masonic lodges adopted us and raised a great deal of money for us," said Val.

At the same time, Val's family was also growing as two more daughters arrived - Philippa, in 1978 and Helen in 1981. "When I'm asked I never say I have three daughters – I always say I have four, but one has died," said Val.

For the Fabb girls, fund raising became a way of life. "There was always something happening," said Val. "I remember Helen taking part in a sponsored walk when she was just a toddler!"

"One of our friends, Terry Bohanna, was an air steward and started a coin collection on inbound flights.

"He would turn up on the doorstep with carrier bags full of coins and we would spend the evening counting them on the kitchen table. My girls learnt how to count pesetas and drachma before they learnt to count sterling!"

"Every year we had a big raffle and a Christmas Bazaar, held at my friend Val King's house in Cuckfield for over 15 years and later in the Old School, before moving to my friend Chris Musgraves' house," said Val who has fund raised annually through the Miller catalogues (now Webb Ivory). "One year I was one of their top fund raiser and was invited to a celebration event," she recalled.

In the early days, money was donated to the Institute of Child Health Laboratories, attached to Great Ormond Street Hospital. "We bought a machine which carried out vital tests following biopsies, as the staff had been using one at the Royal Marsden and desperately needed their own," said Val, who worked closely with Dr John Pritchard, Senior Oncology Consultant. "We were in contact with him all the time. It was very important to us

that the money wasn't going into a big pot and that we knew exactly how it was being spent."

However, when a merger of cancer departments resulted in the closure of the research laboratory, the fundraising took a new direction.

"I read an article in the Times about the work of the paediatric department of the Royal Marsden, so I wrote and asked how we could help," said Val who was immediately invited to meet Professor Kathy Pritchard-Jones and Dr Chris Jones. "They explained that what they did was very similar to the Institute of Child Health," she said. "It seemed right that we should support them."

The fundraising continued and, in 2006, Edward King, Chairman of Mid Sussex District Council chose the Gillian Fabb Memorial Fund as his charity for the year. "He had lost a son to cancer so the charity meant a lot to him," said Val. During the year Edward raised £9,000 with events including a civic dinner and a golf tournament

Over the years the charity has received thousands of pounds from the Independent State of Cuckfield, following the Mayor's election campaigns and Val has rarely missed taking part in the procession. She has also been a regular stallholder at the Cuckoo Fair and earlier this year could be found selling cakes made by family and friends, and bird boxes made by local Duke of Edinburgh student Joshua Walker. And, of course, there's always a Gillian Fabb Christmas tree in the annual Church festival.

As they grew older, Gilly sister's embarked on their own fund raising challenges. Philippa, who is now a Consultant Anaesthetist, completed the Three Peaks Challenge with three university friends, scaling Ben Nevis, Scafell peak and Mount Snowdon and raising £2,600. Earlier this year, Helen's father in law Steve Harrington ran the Brighton Marathon, and his employer HSBC bank doubled some of his sponsor money. In September Helen's husband Rob Harrington will undertake the South Downs Bike Ride.

As her daughters grew up, Val went back to studying, taking an Open University Degree in Natural Sciences with Biology in 1999 gaining a 2:1. She also joined the Sussex Chorus (formerly Ditching Choral Society) and was a member for 23 years.

Val now splits her time between homes in Cuckfield and Dorset, with her partner Keith - after romance blossomed following a 55 year friendship! "We've known each other forever, and Keith is Judy's godfather," said Val.

As she approaches the anniversary of Gilly's death, Val has one wish - to raise the £3,283.09 needed to reach £200,000 mark. "It would be fantastic if we could achieve this in Gilly's 40th anniversary year," she said.

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/RobHarrington>



Dazzling festival marks charity's 21st anniversary

FESTIVAL 21 FEATURE

Friends of Sussex Hospices comes of age on Saturday 3rd September, with a dazzling day and evening of thrilling family entertainment marking the charity's 21st anniversary.

Festival 21 will include a spectacular Son et Lumière and laser light show, air show with replica First World War fighter planes, vintage fun fair, massive classic car display and historic battle re-enactments. There will be a big top circus, strolling jesters, medieval musicians and children's entertainers, plus delicious food and drink, a licensed bar and tea and cake served in a giant 'hospicetality' marquee. Enjoy live music from the Swingtime Sweethearts and local bands. Festival 21 even welcomes the 100-strong Pendyrus Male Choir, coming all the way from Wales to perform in a concert with a repertoire that includes 'Sussex by the Sea'!

The festival will be held in the grounds of Danny House, a splendid Elizabethan manor beneath the South Downs near Hurstpierpoint. In the evening the sound and light show will project colourful images on to the historic façade of the house, telling the story of Sussex from ancient times to modern days. Look out for Roman legionnaires, Saxons, Norman conquerors, great galleons of the Spanish Armada, scenes from the English Civil War, First World War and the Battle of Britain.

The invaluable work of the 12 Sussex hospice care providers will be celebrated during the evening and a moment of reflection will see 3000 lights twinkle in the night sky as we remember friends and loved ones. The evening's finale is a spectacular laser light show.

Friends of Sussex Hospices chair Kathy Gore said: "This is the 21st birthday year of FSH and we want to mark it with a brilliant event where there will be a host of attractions for the whole family to enjoy. All 12 Sussex hospice care providers have been involved in planning Festival 21, which will celebrate the work they do and the care they give to young and old across East and West Sussex."

Tickets are £22 per adult if booked in advance or £25 on the day. Children under 16 go free if accompanied by pre-booked adults or £5 on the day.

Friends of Sussex Hospices is run entirely by volunteers and since 1995 has distributed £1.6 million to assist with hospice running costs. In June the charity was given The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest honour that can be given to a voluntary organisation and the equivalent of an MBE.

Photo below: Supporters and Committee members, Friends of Sussex Hospices Courtesy of Graham Franks (www.grahamfrankspics.co.uk)



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Just child's play

FROM THE MAYOR'S TABLE



By Ken Gregory

With the school holidays fast approaching, Holy Trinity Primary School held its annual Summer Fair on 2nd July which I was invited to open. The weather was changeable but did not deter the many helpers, children and families from enjoying the afternoon. I was especially thrilled to see the children's acrobatic display and the magic show and even tried my hand at a few circus skills! I drew the raffle prizes at the end of the day and hope that a lot of money was raised.

Everyone has been telling me about the display in the Museum to celebrate our Queen's 90th birthday, so I went along to see for myself. And I quite agree - it is wonderful! The display will remain for the summer, so if you have some free time drop in and have a look, you are sure to get a warm welcome.

The annual Cuckfield Show is coming up on the 10th September where exhibits from everyone's hard work goes on display. If you would like to put anything in this year, the entry forms are available throughout the village or from the Cuckfield Society.

Next up after that, of course, will be the Election of the new Mayor on the 21st of October. I am told that we now have 48 candidates with many already raising funds, so please support them - we want to make this year one to remember. We would like to reach our target of 50 candidates, and there's still time to put your name forward. You don't have to raise a huge amount - every penny counts. Please contact me if you are interested in standing and I will add you to the list. The following day, Saturday 22nd, will see the procession starting at Warden Park School and ending up at the Talbot, for the key ceremony to officially welcome our new Mayor. More information on these events will be included in the next edition of Cuckfield Life.

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Charity seeks help for October Fashion Show

The West Sussex North Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association is to hold a Fashion Show in the village in October to raise funds to support local people living with the progressive neurological disease and to promote awareness of its debilitating effects on individuals and their families.

The clothes for the show are being supplied by Jo Dennis of JoJo Boutique. However, in the run-up to the event, the branch committee is seeking support from other local businesses to help maximise the funds raised.

Branch vice-chair, Chris Sheridan, said: "We think this is a great opportunity for local companies to associate themselves with a charity which has come very much to the fore in the past two years after the Ice Bucket Challenge and the Oscar-winning film The Theory of Everything about the impact of motor neurone disease (MND) on the life of Professor Stephen Hawking. In particular, we are looking for companies which might help us with drinks, raffle prizes, background music and stylist/beauticians for the five models.

"It's crucial that people have a better understanding of the reality of what an MND diagnosis means," says Andy Spriggs (pictured with Chris Sheridan) who lives with the incurable disease. "Stephen Hawking's story is very inspiring but the harsh truth is that more than half of people with MND die less than two years after they're diagnosed and, younger people, often with young families can also be affected. I am extremely grateful for the fantastic work that our local branch does for those living with the disease and their families."

The event is being held at the Queens Hall Cuckfield on the evening of Thursday 20th October. Tickets, priced at £10 including a welcome drink and canapés, can be obtained by emailing julie@mndwestsussexnorth.com or from Jo Jo Boutique in the village.



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Vicar: Rev Michael Maine More information: www.holytrinitycuckfield.org

Our regular activities start soon

Dear friends,

The summer holidays are upon us and with them a chance to take a break from our normal routines, recharge our batteries a little and hopefully enjoy some sunshine! In a couple of weeks' time schools will be starting back and with them the wealth of activities for children and young people that go on in our locality.

Many of you are already involved with the exciting activities on offer for children at Holy Trinity Church. But some of you may be new to the area so we thought we'd take the opportunity to let you know all that is going on!

Sunday's Cool meets every Sunday (apart from the first Sunday in the month when we have our 9.45am Family Service) with five groups for children of all ages including our vibrant crèche, Noah's Ark for under threes. We have a great team of leaders and helpers who make finding out about God's love fun and exciting!

Once a month there is a Little Ones Service. Held in the church on the second Tuesday of the month it is a lovely relaxed time for pre-school children and parents. Enjoy a story, song, prayer and refreshments!

Inspire Youth Club meets every Friday at 7pm. It's always a fun-packed programme of events with anything happening from Indoor Olympics, Smoothie night, juggling, Poi, Big Games Night, barbeque. In addition to this there's always tuck, fun and lots of laughs.

Contact details for all the above are on the church website or in the Parish magazine.

Little Ones starts back on Tuesday 6th September at 11am. Sunday's Cool restarts on Sunday 11th September 9.45am.

Turn up to any of these activities and be sure of a very warm welcome!

With all best wishes,

Hilary Turner-King (on behalf of Rev Michael Maine)

Dates for the diary ...

Vocal Workshop and Concert

Holy Trinity Church Saturday 24th September, Concert 7.30pm. More details on p.29

Barn Dance with Bring and Share Supper

Holy Trinity Church
Saturday 1st October
6 – 9.30pm

A fun evening guaranteed for EVERYONE!! Dances for all ages and abilities. Live Band. Come along and enjoy! Drinks available.

Family Ticket £20 | Adult ticket £6

Concessions and Child ticket £5 | (under 3s free)

Tickets from Hilary (400087), Nicky (473753), church office (456461) and Wealden Stores from beginning of September.

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Keeping it in the family

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

James Verrall always wanted to run a family business. His grandfather and father together owned the restaurant Beech Hurst Gardens in Haywards Heath for many years and he'd seen first-hand the benefits of that experience. Now newly married James & Carla are creating a business of their own at Haywards Heath Golf Club.

The story starts right at the beginning, with the pair being born just four days apart in the former Cuckfield Hospital. They were introduced by a mutual friend in 2011 and James told his friends the next day: "I've met my wife!". James and Carla were married in Barcombe last year.

Carla went to school in West Sussex and is a beauty therapist by trade, but has also worked as a carer and most recently an estate agent.

James went to Warden Park school and played both football and cricket in Cuckfield. Nine year old James was introduced to golf by his grandfather and he soon had to choose which sport to focus on. He began working for a local golf club as a teenager on Saturdays but it became clear that professional golf was all he wanted to do.

James completed his PGA (Professional Golf Association) degree from the PGA National Golf Academy at The Belfry at the age of 24, and he took up the position as head professional at Haywards Heath Golf Club (HHGC) nearly three years ago.

However, in January the couple made a brave move; they decided to work together to own and run the golf pro shop at HHGC.

"This is James' dream," Carla commented. "It's what he's always wanted to do." Since January much has changed in the pro shop, including a total refurbishment (inside and out) and major refresh of the stock carried. James says: "For me it's about making every customer feeling valued and taking pride in my work. That means the little things as well as the big ones." For instance, there's always a tube of sun cream freely available in the shop to golfers who've forgotten their own. Little things that make a big difference.

The shop is one of the largest golf retailers in the area,

and they have many customers from across Sussex, not just Lindfield where the shop is based. Carla has brought in new clothing lines to the store, and they now boast an impressive range of both men's and ladies' golf wear. The couple's goal is to become the destination for golfers across the south who want great choice and superb customer service.

The pro shop is very much a partnership with Haywards Heath Golf Club itself, with James being just the fifth golf pro in the club's 94 year history. "The members have been so welcoming since I joined, and we both really feel like part of a larger family here," Carla said.

The couple will continue to improve the reach and remit of the pro shop, which, of course, also boasts an excellent golf coaching programme for all ages and abilities. They work with nine schools currently including Brantridge School in Staplefield and Warden Park from next month. James is joined by fellow pros Jack Martin and Dan Croucher and assisted by the Junior Vice Captain from the club Harry Tyler.

A new website has recently been launched - www.jamesverrallgolf.com, and the new autumn/winter range of golf fashion will be in store next month.

Pop down to the shop (open 7.30am-6pm every day) or call 01444 414866 or email james@haywardsheathgolfclub.co.uk to ask about golf teaching or their newly opened custom club facility. There will certainly be a warm, family welcome in store!



Taking time to think

VILLAGE GREEN

By Margaret Tyzack More, Cuckfield Local

'Summer Time and the livin' is easy. Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high'. So goes the song from Cole Porter's musical Porgy and Bess. A picture caught in a moment in time.

Summer holidays past are held in memory, some golden and joyous and some rain-filled yet unforgettable.

I had a happy holiday afternoon at the Railway Land Wildlife Trust Festival in early July. One of the rangers had cut a labyrinth in the grasses and wild flowers creating a magical place. A friend and I were there to tell people about labyrinths and suggesting how one might be walked. The theme of the Festival was 'Places to Think With'. Of course, me being me, I immediately thought Places to Think IN but no, a place to get you thinking, which a labyrinth could well do.

There was also a walk with a lovely man who knew more than a thing or two about trees. 'Why do some of the trees have a blue or red ribbon tied round them today?' was a question. The blue ribbons indicated trees that will be gone in 30 years time if Climate Change proceeds at the current rate. The red ribbons were on trees that are likely to be seen no more in our area in

within 50 years. That certainly got me thinking.

I heard rangers and wildlife specialists responding to people reporting that they were seeing fewer specific butterflies, insects and birds recently, swifts and house martins being mentioned. It seems that people living further north are observing more of these same species. Could it be that Climate Change is showing signs of a migration that is quite different from the human migrations we are hearing about. Habitat loss is also happening on a greater and greater scale as we know.

I sat in my garden as a Place to Think With. Is it my joy and delight, my sanctuary, my burden? Why did starlings eat ravenously at the bird feeder for several weeks earlier in the year only to disappear not to be seen of heard since? I could go on. Still thinking.

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has launched Greening Grey Britain. You can find out more at its site: www.rhs.org.uk. Basically you can promise to turn a grey area green by planting a tree, shrub, flower bed, climber or a window box perhaps in your garden or in a grey, unloved space near where you live.

There is also a photographic competition on Greening Grey Britain until February 2017 so come on all you Cuckfield amateur photographers. We know just how good you are from the photos entered for our Be Friendly to Pollinators calendar a couple of years or so ago.

The next monthly Food Market is Saturday 10th September 9.30am-12.30pm at The Talbot.

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Our County Flower



The 'Pride of Sussex', the round-headed Rampion (*Phyteuma Tenerum*), is the County flower of Sussex. You can see it in most of the unimproved grasslands of our Sussex Downs at this time of year, which means, in practice, the National Trust nature reserves.

It is from the Bellflower family, which includes the Nettle-leaved Bellflower, *Campanula trachelium* also flowering now and common in the roadsides and shady areas of the Downs.

Cuckfield resident Peter Lovett's photos were used in a recent BBC2 episode of the coverage of The Hampton Court Flower Show. "These beautiful flowers," Peter states, "are quite easy flowers to see and enjoy." If a group would welcome a guided walk to see our County flower however, then please see www.peterlovettwalks.eu, or view this website just for inspiration of the wonderful places to explore yourself in Sussex.

Photo by Peter Lovett

One life.

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How far can we go?

At Cuckfield Life, we'd love to see our magazines going with readers to their holiday destinations. How far can you make the magazine go?

Why not sneak a copy into your suitcase and bring it out for a photo by the pool, in front of the town's 'welcome to...' sign or as a selfie next to a national tourist destination!

Whether it's home or abroad - we think it would be fun to see the magazine breaking past the West Sussex borders.

Share the photos with us on Twitter or Facebook (mention @CuckfieldLife), or email in your snap to photos@cuckfieldlife.co.uk

Sudoku #2

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

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

<< #1 Solution

Find the solution to #2 in next month's magazine

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



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By Fiona Evans, Cuckfield Interiors

Having been recently asked for interior design ideas for two Turner houses I was curious to find out more about them and how an original Turner interior could have looked compared to one of today.

Working as an architect in Haywards Heath, Harold Turner designed houses in the 1930s, 40s and 50s which remain popular with families across mid Sussex today. The most popular styles of architecture in the 30s was Art Deco and Mock Tudor. Turner designed Mock Tudor homes, like sparkling jewels across the landscape with their Arts and Crafts detailing, exposed timbers, leaded light windows and his signature curly gutter brackets, they appeal to many.

In contrast to the geometry and black and white décor of an Art Deco home, how would these iconic mock Tudor homes be furnished and decorated in the 30s? Turners original interiors boasted a wealth of oak beams, oak panelling and oak flooring sometimes parquet flooring and perhaps a stunning oak staircase. Window cills were tiled in terracotta beneath leaded light windows in diamond or square shapes which were supported by metal Crittall window frames.

In contrast to the corner sofa of today, a 30s living room would have the newly invented three piece suite, each armchair and sofa upholstered in the same fabric such as moquette, a fluffy woollen velvet. There could have been a brown leather armchair in front of the fireplace, the brick fireplace being a dominant feature of a Turner home and the focal point of the space, the leather armchair sitting on top of an unfitted patterned carpet. Today we might have a log burner in the fireplace, expose the oak floor and add a rug or even fitted carpet. Lighting came in the form of tall wooden standard lamps stretching up between the sofa and armchair supporting a large fringed lamp shade. Pendant lamp shades were made of opaque, frosted, coloured or moulded glass. Pictures would hang on hooks hung from the picture rail, the painted picture rail a feature in it's own right, walls that were not papered were painted in pale tones or beige.

Compared to the open plan living of today where the kitchen is the heart of the home kitchens in this period had a more cosy feel about them but were working areas and not social spaces. They became more fitted with painted wooden cabinets and plain metal handles, a stand alone painted wooden dresser on legs with exposed hinges, cupboards and the top cupboard with a glass window either in ridged or stained glass. Compared to today's fantastic choice of flooring the 1930 kitchen floor would have had lino.

Homes reflect the lifestyle of their inhabitants, availability and choice of furnishings.

It's interesting to reflect just how much life has changed since the birth of suburbia in the 1930s to the high demand for new homes now.



Fun in the sun this summer

With the long summer holidays in full swing, parents will be delighted to know that a variety of magical entertainment for both children and adults is on hand at Borde Hill Garden.

On different days of the week, activities for children include a petting zoo, Sublime Science and entertainment with clown and Tomfoolery. If they want to let off steam, the adventure playground features a zip wire, balance beams, swings, slides and climbing frames. There are also outdoor games and plenty of space in the park for ball games and kite flying. If they fancy a few quiet minutes, the children's Sculpture Quiz will keep them amused.

Borde Hill's popular Musical Sundays return every Sunday in August from 1-3pm. A variety of musicians will play the cello, viola or harp, performing everything from classical to jazz music, while on other weekends a whole band will perform. The sessions will take place on the South Lawn with the Elizabethan mansion house as a backdrop. The Little Ritz Vintage Tea Café will be serving refreshments and guests are also invited to bring a picnic and enjoy the music with their family and friends.

Entertainment for all the family includes woodland walks, which are a great opportunity to learn more about nature. From the award-winning flora in the Gardens to the numerous species of birds and animals that live in the peaceful woodland areas, there is something for all ages to discover.

August is also a great time to explore the Garden while its herbaceous borders and gold standard roses are in full bloom. The Paradise Walk has been replanted with salvias, geraniums and asters to provide late summer colour, and the tranquil Italian Garden is an August delight with its terracotta pots full of agapanthus and pelargoniums.

Cuckfield *Life*

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Enjoy singing? Workshop in Cuckfield next month

A vocal workshop will take place in Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield on Saturday 24th September, followed by a concert in the evening.

The concert will start at 7.30 pm and admission will be free. The first part of the concert will be given by the soloists, who will all sing songs of their own choice, with probably a couple of duets too. The soloists will be Olivia Bell – soprano, Jane Haughton – mezzo soprano, Neil Jenkins – tenor and Rodney Earl Clarke – bass baritone.

The director of the workshop and concert conductor will be Rob Hammersley and the accompanist will be the vicar at Holy Trinity Church – Michael Maine.

Both the workshop and concert are in aid of church funds. For further information please contact Rosemary Pardey by email rosemary.pardey@sky.com

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What's on this month

AT QUEEN'S HALL

AND ELSEWHERE

NOTE: Regular classes may not be meeting during the school summer holidays - please check.

Monday

- 9.30am **Fluid Physio** (Pilates)
10.30am **Fluid Physio** for Injured/Beginners/Improvers
11am **Weigh In - Work Out**
7.30pm **Haywards Heath & District Canine Society** - Ring Craft

Tuesday

- 9am **Tiny Soccerstars**
9.30am **Tinkerbells** - music classes for children
1.30pm **Yoga with Annie**
3pm **Codanza**
6.30pm **Haywards Heath & District Canine Society** - Obedience Class

Wednesday

- 9.30am **Tinkerbells**
10am **Stroke Communications Group**
12.30pm **Zumba Dance Fitness**
1.30pm **Modern Line Dancing**
4pm **Codanza**
8pm **Best of Ballroom Cuckfield Dance Club**

Thursday

- 9.30am **Tumbletots**
9.30am **Tinkerbells**
7.30pm **Social Ballroom and Latin American Dance**

Friday

- 9.30am **Rebound Fitness Class**
7.30pm **Historic Vehicle Trust** (1st Friday/month)
7.30pm **Evening Flower Club** (2nd Friday/month)

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

September

- 14 **Cuckfield Museum Talk** - 8pm
Council Chamber, Queen's Hall
'1066 And All That' An illustrated talk by author David Mortimer. In commemoration of the 950th anniversary of Sussex's most famous battle, David discusses what really happened at Hastings in 1066, and how recent research suggests England's most famous battle might not have been where we thought it was and how Harold's end may not have been so clear cut. (Please book a place via Mike Nicholson, 01444 457448 or events@cuckfieldmuseum.org)

August

- 12th **'Stay and Play'** - 9.30-11.00am
The Woodside, Bolnore Village
Haywards Heath Children & Family Centre event for accompanied under 5s
- 21st **Musical Sundays** - 1-3pm
Borde Hill Garden
Featuring Hannah Summers (soloist)
- 27th **Woodies Quiz Night** - from 7pm
The Woodside, Bolnore Village
- 27th **Bring & Buy Horse Book Sale** - 2.30-5pm
The Adastra Hall, Keymer Road, Hassocks
New & second hand horse book sale for adults & children and enjoy a cream tea (01444 456145)
- 28th **Musical Sundays** - 1-3pm
Borde Hill Garden
Featuring Pavlos (Greek duet)

September

- 6th **NHS Retirement Fellowship Mid Sussex Branch**
10.15am, Franklands Village Hall
'Send a Cow' by Rosemary Grindle
- 6th **Lindfield Afternoon WI** - 2.30pm
King Edward Hall, Lindfield
- 10th **Cuckfield Local Food Market** - 9.30am-12.30pm
The Talbot Courtyard
- 17th/18th **Lindfield Arts Festival**
(www.lindfieldartsfestival.com)
- 17th -25th **Hurstpierpoint Open Studios** - 10am-5pm
Artists open houses over two weekends
(www.hurstpierpointopenstudios.co.uk)
- 18th **175th Anniversary of HH Railway celebrations**
Various events at HH Station and Victoria Park
- 21st **Mid Sussex Decorative & Fine Arts Society**
Clair Hall, 10.15am. Lecture by Jane Gardiner on the Golden Age of Venetian Glass. Non members welcome £7 on the door
- 24th **Cuckfield Museum Open Day** - 10am-1pm
Find out more about how the museum works and how you could get involved
(www.cuckfieldmuseum.org)
- 24th **Vocal Workshop & Concert**
Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield
(Rosemary Pardey: rosemary.pardey@sky.com)

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The Style Lounge	25

Out & About

Cuckfield Local Food Market.....	4
Festival 21	19
Cuckfield Baptist Church.....	26
Cuckfield Golf Centre	29
Hurstpierpoint Open Studios	31

Education/Childcare

Norto5 Kidz (pre-school).....	3
Kiddi Caru (day care)	5
Codanza (dance)	6
Gielgud Academy.....	8

Health/Lifestyle

Action for Deafness.....	11
The Alternative Healthcare.....	12
Talk for Change (therapy)	21
The Pennington Clinic.....	23

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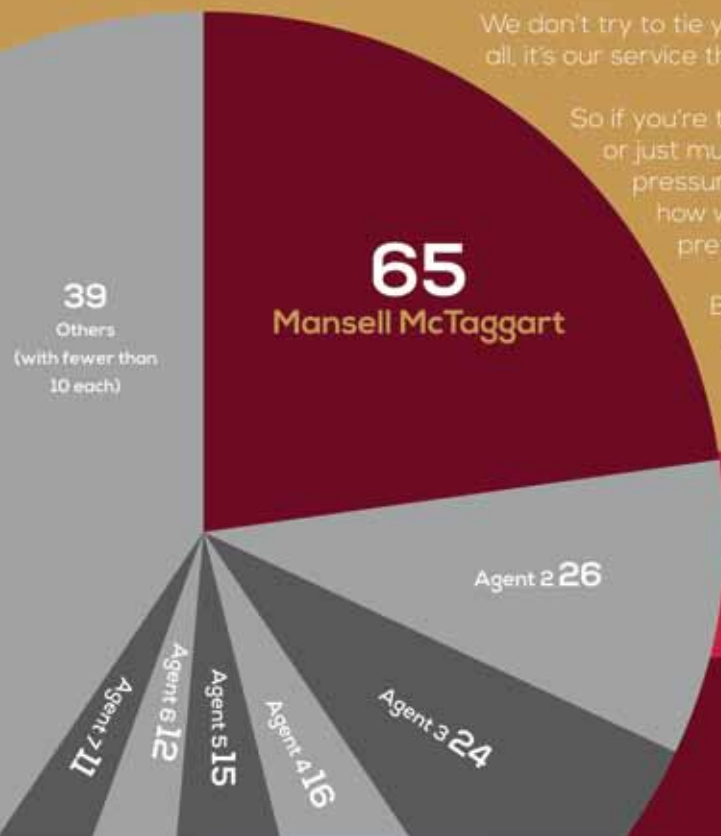
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Best wishes

Richard, Mel and Michael

*Source: rightmove.co.uk, all residential sales agreed in RH17 in the year to 16 Sep 2015



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