

Cuckfield Life

Inc. Brook St, Ansty, Staplefield & Bolnore Village

Local village talk,
by the village

Issue #85 : Nov. 2019

Free

Welcome Claire the new Mayor

page 30

Bolnore's new headteacher

page 48

Lest we forget: Peggy's war effort

page 16

Including...

Bolnore
VILLAGE

8 PAGE SECTION

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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

What a packed magazine we have for you this month!



There is much to come back on: We introduce you to the **new Mayor** of the Independent State of Cuckfield, **Claire Bellamy**, on **page 30**. **Sheila Mortimer** summarises CuckFest on **page 22**, and we revisit the fun of **Halloween dress-up** in Bolnore on **page 51**.

It is our joy to plug the forthcoming **Christmas Tree Festival** on **page 6**. We also give mention to a beginners course at **Cuckfield Archers** on **page 7** and on **page 8** there's news of the official grand opening of **Cuckfish** on 20th November where money will not only be raised for ISOC, but residents who possess an Independent State of Cuckfield 'Passport' will grab free chips on the day too!

Only a matter of days since we formally remembered those who have fought for our country, on **page 16** we are delighted to be able to tell the story of the late **Peggy Swain** and her connection to the Forces. Huge thanks go to her daughter **Jane Swain** for assisting us in putting together this feature, which tells of a life dominated by the community of Cuckfield over many years.

It's always great to hear from local schools and in this issue we learn about **Holy Trinity School** developing its outdoor space on **page 32**, but also students from **Warden Park** have submitted **book reviews** on **page 36 and 37**. If you've read a book recently which you'd like to share, feel free to email over a short review to editor@cuckfieldlife.co.uk.

I must mention Bolnore School's new Headteacher **Tracy Taylor** who **Jacqueline Elmore** had the pleasure of meeting and talking to last month. Her story is found on **page 48**.

Finally, you'll find a **wordsearch** on **page 54**, **sudoku** on **page 55** and a bumper **What's On** guide on **pages 57-58**.

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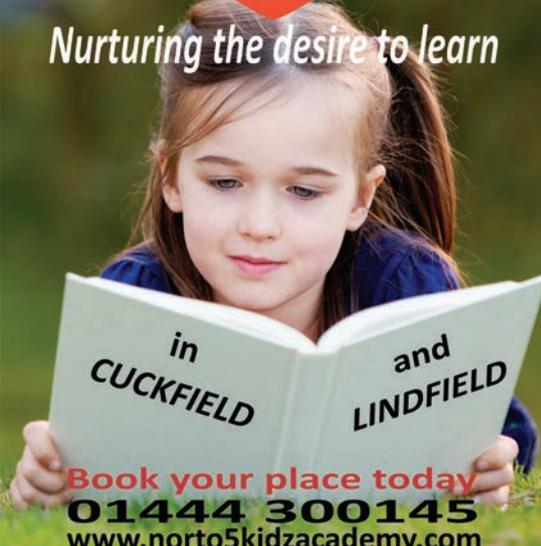


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Purrfect postage

By Kirsty Warren

Beautiful, humorous, or downright adorable, Christmas cards are a lovely way to show someone you're thinking of them at this time of year. They shuffle through the letterbox with a handwritten address and maybe, if you're lucky, a good ol' special, festive stamp in the corner. It's not just the card that's a treasure, it's the stamp too! That little, sticky square could make all the difference to a rescued cat. How?

The Cats Protection League collect used postage stamps and turn them into much needed money to help all the cats in their care. Collection organiser Stella Law (aka 'Stella the Stamp') said: 'The response from your magazines was amazing last year, I had large parcels! I would like to say a big thank you to all the people who sent stamps in and still continue to do so.'

All stamps are welcome; ordinary, festive, commemorative or foreign, but it is important that they are not damaged. Leaving them on a square of envelope is best, with a margin around the edge. Your local stamp donation point is: Cuckfield Cattery, Deaks Lane, Cuckfield, RH17 5JB.

Whoever you're sending cards to this year, send it with a stamp and help make 2019 purrfect!



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Wigs for kids, courtesy of Cuckfield teenager

By Islay Leeming

My name is Islay and I am 13. When I was little, I always wanted to have long hair and felt it was a way to show my personality.

I grew my hair for seven years and said I would never cut it, but when I heard about Little Princess Trust, I began to think again. What it would be like to lose all your hair to cancer treatment? It must be devastating. When I understood that it is a reality for some people, I made my final decision to donate my hair. Little Princess Trust hand-makes wigs from real hair. It was a very nerve-wracking experience but it felt really good to know I could make a difference to someone.

In the future I am hoping to grow my hair again and then cut it all to enable me to support another child who has been affected by cancer.

You can support too. Find out more at: www.littleprincesses.org.uk



17th Tree Festival opens next month

Firm favourite in the Cuckfield calendar, the Christmas Tree Festival (CTF) once again comes to Holy Trinity Church next month.

Starting, as always, on the evening of the Christmas Street Festival on Friday 6th December, CTF will continue in the church until its culmination, a carol service at 6pm on Sunday 8th December.

Organiser Paul Goldfinch explained: "This is our 17th year and to date CTF has raised over £76,000 for various charities. We are proud to have Alzheimer's Society as our charity partner in 2019 as it celebrates its 40th anniversary."

Until a cure is found, the Society's mission is to transform the landscape of dementia - they want everyone affected by dementia to know that, whatever they are going through, wherever and whoever they are, they can turn to Alzheimer's Society for support, help and advice. Each and every penny raised at this year's Tree Festival will make a huge difference to people living locally with dementia and their carers.

The Christmas Tree Festival opens every day at 11.30am and will feature over 60 trees decorated by groups, organisations and businesses from within the community. Admission will cost £5 for adults, children are free. Refreshments and live music will be running throughout the weekend.

Year end coming up soon?



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Now's a great time to 'have a go' at archery

Every year around 60,000 people participate in archery in the UK. Historically, archery was used for hunting but now it's mainly a competitive sport. Today, both male and female archery teams are preparing for the Olympics which will take place in Tokyo in 2020.

The Archers Club in Cuckfield was established in 2012 and it now has 50 members ranging from the age of ten to 70. The club has a mixed membership of both men and women which also includes whole families and people with disabilities.

The team meet most Sunday afternoons at Warden Park Academy and the group organises a beginners course, which covers everything from range safety, overview of equipment, assembling a bow, technique and how to score. The first session will be on Sunday 24th November.

Course fees are £60 (with a £25 discount on membership if you decide to join). The minimum age for anyone wishing to take part is ten and under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.

Alison who is now a regular club member says:



"I'm very pleased I chose Cuckfield Archers. It is well organised and the skills developed follow the pace of the individual in a warm and friendly atmosphere."

For further information please contact cuckfield.archers@gmail.com or you can visit www.cuckfieldarchers.org.uk


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Grand opening planned at Cuckfield's Fish Bar

Whilst Cuckfield's newest food retailer has actually been open for a month or so, owner Mustafa Dilek is planning a special event in November to celebrate its opening in style.

The Grand Opening will take place on Wednesday 20th November and starts with new Mayor Claire Bellamy officially cutting the ribbon at midday.

Mustafa, who has been keen to be part of the village community from the beginning, will also give 20% of the day's takings to the Mayor's fund at the Independent State of Cuckfield (ISOC) - which gets distributed to various good causes during the year.

In addition to this, residents who hold an official ISOC 'Cuckfield Passport' will be entitled to a free portion of Fish 'n' Chips for one day only - they must simply present it at the till.

Mustafa explained: "We have been delighted with the response from Cuckfield since we opened the doors. It's been very busy and feedback from customers has been great." Cuckfish is on Facebook and Instagram, and Mustafa also keeps an eye on 'Cuckfield Gossip' online, to see what customers are saying, as he knows that reputation is important locally.

Cuckfish is open six days a week at Unit 3, The Clockhouse on the High Street. And those who have an intolerance or preference will be happy to hear that every Monday is 'Gluten Free Day' as the team seeks to



cater for dietary requirements.

With allergy free vegetable oil and fresh fish delivered daily from a supplier in Scotland, Mustafa is keen to make sure the customer experience is right every time.

They are also available to cater for events and parties - to find out more call 01444 414 414. A website for Cuckfish is currently under construction.

In the meantime, don't forget if you sample Cuckfish's menu on 20th November, you'll also be contributing to Cuckfield's Independent State's fund - which does lots of good in the village throughout the year.

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Racquets at the ready

Last month Cuckfield Tennis Club enjoyed an afternoon of sun and fun as they played their penultimate social tournament of the year. It was a healthy competition which saw some great camaraderie on court. Carolyn Ford and Derek Burgoyne emerged as the top scorers (pictured) and everyone enjoyed a delicious homemade tea after the match closed.

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True to her New England roots, Mandy's design principles are grounded in practicality and function. Clapboard-clad houses and clean lines influence her creative sensibilities, which are also fueled with an enthusiastic, ever-evolving curiosity. After running a boutique design firm on the picturesque coast of Maine, Mandy and her English husband rocked the proverbial boat in 2012 by selling their house and possessions to fund an adventure for their family of five that spanned the globe. Mountains, rivers, jungles and long, windy roads eventually led the family back to the UK, settling in West Sussex. With an aspiration to maximise her professional potential, Mandy returned to formal education, attending London's acclaimed InChbald School of Design and earning her degree in Architectural Interior Design. Subsequently recruited as a core member of Maybourne Hotel Group's award-winning design team, she continued to hone her skills designing luxury suites at Claridge's and the Berkeley for the international five-star set. Since her resignation last spring to establish Mandy Cuss Interior Design, Mandy's latest endeavor has been created with a vision for excellence. Providing expertise through a service that adds great value to the lives of others while doing work that is meaningful and fulfilling is Mandy's guiding principle.

While investing in interior design services may be unfamiliar territory for most homeowners, Mandy encourages those who have the desire to enhance their homes but don't have the time, know-how, or inclination to do it themselves to consider enlisting the expertise of a designer. Designers plan, research, develop, liaise,

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source, price, streamline, oversee, install and often help to mitigate costly mistakes. And then there's the 'magic'. Designers specialise in making the normal special through the telling of a story, the creating of emotion and the consideration of the small moments in our everyday lives - think Friday nights around a crackling fire with family or retreating to the serenity of your bedroom at the end of a long day to rest and recharge. Good design often looks and feels effortless, but it takes creative resolve, dedication, foresight, collaboration, organisation, problem-solving and a foundation of processes.

Able to assist with large projects and small, Mandy Cuss Interior Design offers a ladder of services respective of lifestyle and budget, each beginning with a free Discovery Call. The Discovery Call is a 20-minute telephone conversation for you to discuss the main touch points of your project. A Creative Consultation can then be booked, which consists of a two-hour onsite meeting during which you explain in detail how you live within your space, its functionality, your aesthetic preferences and your thoughts for the home's look and feel. As well as being the first phase of any larger project, the Creative Consultation is a definitive service in and of itself, delivering value in actionable design recommendations and guidance. Depending upon the scope of work determined and the level of service desired, Mandy makes her recommendations as to how to best proceed. A written summary and a Design Proposal follow, as appropriate. The fee for the Creative Consultation is £425.

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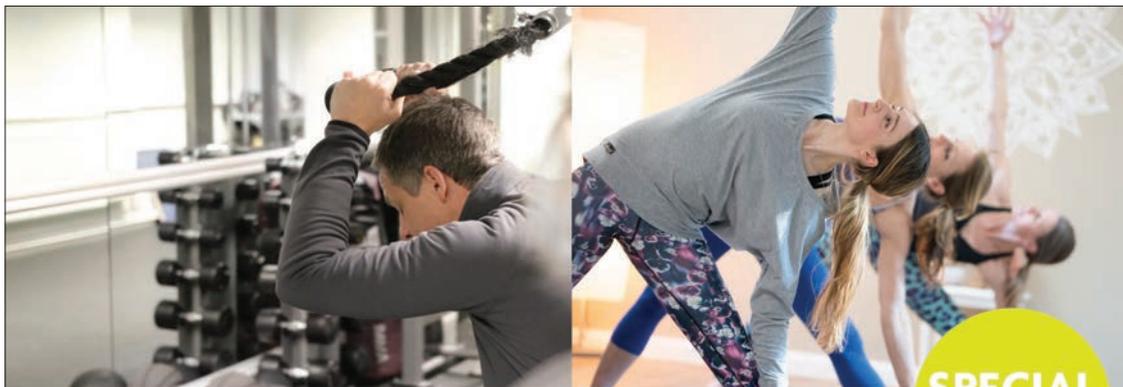
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Lest we forget

REMEMBERING PEGGY SWAIN



Every year in November, the nation marks the wars that have scarred the brave men and women who fought in them; and not just those who fought, but what they fought for.

This November, we remember Cuckfield resident Margaret Swain (nee Stuchbury) also known as Peggy or Peg who served as a Wren and Armourer throughout the Second World War loading the guns of 'Seafire' planes.

Peggy lived in Cuckfield most of her life until she died last year at the age of 93.

Her daughter, Jane, looks back on Peggy's life in Cuckfield.

"Mum was a feisty lady. To the outside world she always appeared very positive and cheerful but that wasn't always the case. Mum's generation were tough so they were all about keeping a stiff upper lip.

"Mum's childhood, and that of her friends, was probably quite frugal but happy and healthy. When talking about her early days in Cuckfield, she said most of what they ate was homegrown, with some neighbours keeping pigs at the time. My Grandad's motorbike and sidecar was the envy of Mum's friends! Mostly she walked or biked everywhere."

Peggy was born in 1924 in Southsea, Portsmouth. In 1928, when her father came out of the Navy, the family moved to 3 Inholmes in Cuckfield, where they lived for two years before moving to the Old Courthouse in Ockenden lane. The large Georgian house had previously been the workhouse and had a row of outside toilets – or earth closets – all shared by the neighbours.

Jane continues: "I remember Mum telling me that the inside of the house had big flagstone floors and a soup kitchen. Mum and her brother John used to hang out of the upstairs bedroom window to pick the plums off the tree in the garden. She wondered how they didn't fall out!"

Peggy's dad, Ernest worked as a baliff for a firm of solicitors in Haywards Heath, collecting debts (a job he disliked) until in the early 1930s he took over the licence at the White Harte pub where they stayed until the mid 1960s.

"Mum was about seven years old when they moved to the pub. The White Harte was the hub for the cricket and football clubs, Grandad being very involved with both. Mum

would be sent off on her bike on a Saturday morning to rally players for the afternoon's match. Another job was filling the bath in the 'club room' at the pub for the referee.

Peggy attended the old school until 1938 when she went to work at Hoadleys Stores (now Nisa), a proper grocers shop where they ground the coffee and used a bacon slicer and a cheese wire. She was involved with almost everything going on in Cuckfield! She swam at Cuckfield bathing pool, belonged to the tennis club and played stoolball too!

"Mum was very popular, particularly being the Landlord's daughter, and during the early war years I think she had a quite a good social life. There were regular dances at The Queen's Hall for the troops stationed in Cuckfield. She particularly remembered the 56th Heavy Regiment RA with fondness."

In 1941 Peggy's father was recalled to the Navy leaving the family behind in Cuckfield.

"Mum was desperate to join the Wrens but she couldn't sign up until she was 17½. John and Peggy were finally allowed to join up in 1942 but that left her mum Daisy to run the pub on her own. Mum always said that her mum worked harder in the pub than the rest of the family away in the Navy but she never complained. She was a very well respected landlady."

Peggy was 18 when she became a wren and was initially stationed in Portsmouth. She also spent time at Henstridge where she met her husband, Jack, a Geordie and a footballer; great news for her father. They married in 1944 at Holy Trinity Church in Cuckfield. Peggy was posted to Ireland and Jack to Australia soon after they married.

When the war ended it was a little while before Jack returned to the UK so Peggy returned to the White Harte. In 1947 Peggy had her first child, Jim, and in 1949 Jane was born. It wasn't long after that they moved out of the pub and into their first house in London Lane.

"That's when Mum became very involved in Cuckfield life. Things like the PTA, the church, cricket and football and also still helping out her parents at the White Harte. She scored for the cricket club into her 80s."

Peggy was also very involved in the British Legion which led on from when she was a Wren and for a period of time was president of the Cuckfield Branch of the Women's British Legion. In addition she was a member of the Cuckfield European Association, a Museum Steward and, having worked as a nurse at Cuckfield Hospital and the Princess Royal for many years, she also belonged to the NHS Retirement Fellowship. Both Peggy and Jack and for that matter Jim and Jane, were very active in the Independent State of Cuckfield (ISOC) over the years. Jack and Jim having both been mayors.

Jane now lives in her mother's old house and, much like Peggy, is very much immersed in community life in the village. Although she moved away for several years, she now feels the strength of her roots in Cuckfield.

Sadly Peggy outlived the men in her life, having lost her brother in 1975, her husband in 1995 and her son in 2015, but she continued to forge on as always. Peggy was a popular figure in Cuckfield. The attendance at her funeral paid testament to this. In the many letters and messages of condolence were these quotes: 'Peggy was a remarkable lady', 'She was one of a kind', 'The rock of utter dependence; she personified her era and anything was possible when she was around', 'She was an institution, an inspiration and an icon'.

Finally Jane sums up thoughts about her mum, Peggy: "Mum was a no nonsense woman of great integrity, hard working, last to bed at night, first up in the morning and always devoted to her whole family (and other waifs and strays)."



December Food Market
Sat 7th 09:30 - 12:30
Cuckfield High Street

We've moved the date to coincide with the Christmas Tree Festival weekend – see you there!

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Exciting times ahead for Golf Centre

By Niki Smyth

After a few turbulent months and a fair amount of opposition, we are pleased to announce that we have been granted Planning Permission which will help us improve the facilities at Cuckfield Golf Centre.

I'm sure many can imagine, we can't wait to see the back of that ugly marquee and build what will be a beautiful 'Room with a View'. This will be beneficial to our members and the general public alike as they can enjoy our stunning view, log burner and fantastic food and drink 364 days a year. If you don't know our Room with a View already, it's certainly worth a visit, arguably one of the best views in Sussex.

Once the work is done, our chefs will no longer struggle to create fantastic dishes in such a small kitchen. The new kitchen will be up to the highest standard and up to eight times the size. We will be able to offer Sunday Roasts, meals in the evenings and create a much more exciting menu!

The ladies upstairs in the office will enjoy natural light,



rather than a small box-room office up in the roof of the current clubhouse, creating a much better working environment!

Golfers, both members and visitors, will be able to enjoy a warm shower after their round, bringing our club in line with others in Sussex, by simply increasing the facilities.

Our already buzzing friendly golf club, venue and café will become something to be very proud of and we can't wait for the improvements to begin!

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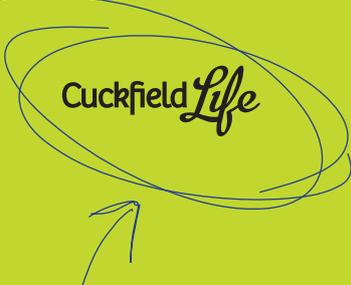
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Year three done!

CUCKFIELD BOOK FESTIVAL

By Sheila Mortimer

The third Cuckfield Book Festival began on Thursday 3rd October with a tour of Borde Hill Garden in the company of the head gardener. The weather, which had been wet and grey, suddenly improved and the sun appeared, enhancing the glories of that stunning garden. After canapés and prosecco in the house, Vanessa Berridge discussed her book, *Great British Gardeners*, with Andrew John Stephenson Clarke whose great grandfather created the garden.

The literary quiz, compiled by local enthusiasts, had sold out within days and the Hayloft at The Talbot was packed with eager competitors. On Friday night the now customary supper at Ockenden Manor had the wonderful Robin Ince (arriving just in time by train from Stoke) entertaining the diners and he appeared again on the Saturday morning with a wonderfully chaotic session (Robin was particularly taken with the graveyard at Holy Trinity Church).

Other authors included: Adrian Tinniswood, whose book *Behind the Throne* is an intimate look at the private lives of monarchs, James Hanratty with a fascinating and disturbing account of the immigration problems facing Europe today, and local author Ed Halliwell talking about mindfulness. On Saturday evening, actor Simon Williams had the audience laughing loudly at his account of an actor's life. No. 1 Broad Street offered delicious complementary canapés in a crowded Queen's Hall to round off the first day of Cuckfield Bookfest.

While these events were taking place at The Queen's Hall, the young people had their own activities at the Old Church and the place rang with laughter as several children's authors entertained them.

On Sunday, Andrew Lownie, a loyal supporter of the book festival who has been coming for three years, revealed how he'd unearthed so many details of the lives of Louis and Edwina Mountbatten, and Tim Waterstone gave a disarmingly frank and honest account of his life and how he came to found the eponymous chain of book stores. Penelope Lively, the renowned fiction author, talked about the importance of gardening to her creativity and Greta Scacchi read her favourite prose and poetry to a delighted audience, with elegant afternoon tea at Ockenden Manor.

In addition to this wonderfully varied selection, Jenni Murray and Clare Clark talked about famous women and art forgeries while Peter Guttridge ran an absorbing crime-writing workshop. The Guardian's political sketch writer, John Crace, brought politics in this frenzied climate to life.

The number of attendees was considerably higher this year – 1,800 – surely a reflection of the much wider distribution of programmes and the growing awareness of the Festival. A cheerful team of volunteers kept visitors supplied with delicious cake and sandwiches and judging from feedback received from both authors and ticket holders, people are already looking forward to a fourth festival in 2020.

If you already have a diary for 2020, why not pencil in the dates now – 12th-15th November? This later date is because The Queen's Hall is not available for the early October date and Cuckfield is such a busy place in the autumn with the Mayor's Procession, the CDS production and Bonfire Night that we have fixed on mid-November. It will be the perfect opportunity for selecting Christmas books.



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Get involved in the 2020 Flower Festival

Plans are beginning to take shape for Cuckfield's own Flower Festival next year.

Twenty locals showed up for the inaugural planning meeting recently – but its not too late to get involved, according to organiser and Cuckfield resident Belinda Campopiano. "We were delighted at the response and turnout at our first get-together in September, but there is plenty of capacity for more people to take part or help put the event on."

The Flower Festival will be a fundraiser for Holy Trinity Church and will take place on 13th/14th June next year.

The next planning meeting – to which all interested are invited to – will be on Wednesday 11th December in the Old School at 7pm.



Photo: Natasha Merchant

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Wreath Workshop for charity

Cuckfield NSPCC will be holding a Christmas Wreath Workshop on Saturday 14th December between 10am and 12.30pm at The Village Hall on London Lane.

The children's charity fundraiser will include a demonstration and all materials provided. The cost is £20 per person, to include refreshments. To book a place or for further information please ring 01444 831602 (places limited, so don't delay!).

Sussex Butcher of the Year

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The changing of the seasons brings an array of new delights to the butcher's shop window of 40 High Street in nearby Lindfield.

Cottenham's of Lindfield - Craft Butcher is a huge advocate of eating good meat seasonally which is produced from local animals of known provenance. John Cottenham took over the business in 2016 and he and his highly skilled team are passionate about their craft and thoroughly deserve their Sussex Butcher of the Year Award. The judges declared that: 'If you haven't been to this shop then you should pop in to say hello as it's a really fabulous food experience... they really are pushing the boundaries in what can be achieved in butchery. They are just doing everything right! A truly superb butchers shop'.

John Cottenham learned his craft from old master butchers at a time when you learned it thoroughly. Knowing how to breakdown a whole carcass carefully, understanding how to make the most of everything, out of respect for the animal, its environment and for the farming folk involved. Cottenham's of Lindfield work with local farmers they know and trust who have the highest standards of animal welfare and whose farms and animals they are familiar with. These partnerships are an essential part of Cottenham's story and the reason you can have absolute confidence in the provenance and quality of their meat.

It is this passion for the local environment that captivated John's interest in deer stalking. Being a knowledgeable and qualified stalker, John provides a unique link in championing this wonderfully wild, sustainable food source. He is hugely passionate about protecting the wild herds he is fortunate enough to manage. Natural, wild venison is abundant in the fields and forests around us and John personally selects all animals ensuring his customers can have absolute faith



in the virtue of the product and the correct way it was harvested. "We've introduced a lot of customers to this versatile meat which is very lean and healthy," he explains. "From field to butchery, we are completely in control and our venison can be transferred from where it was sourced and in our cold store within an hour."

Similarly, you'll find videos of their free range Christmas turkeys on their website www.cottenhams.com/christmas. The turkeys are from a small, local family farm with over 30 years' experience of rearing birds slowly, in the traditional way. Both white and bronze turkeys have a vast amount of space to roam and socialise, along with bales and branches for natural roosting behaviour.

John also makes a bold statement regarding eating less meat: "Better to enjoy good quality, well produced meat a little less frequently than bland and textureless mass produced meat of unknown source. Remember a more economical cut from a well-bred animal that's led stress-free life and eaten a good natural diet will always be better than a prime cut from a poor animal."

Cottenham's of Lindfield also pride themselves on good old-fashioned personal service. They have a free local delivery round used by customers young and old for orders big and small. John explains: "The best bit about Cottenham's of Lindfield is being a part of such a vibrant rural community with a lively, well-supported High Street, with customers who care and back what we are doing. We love spotting our Cottenham's bags for life all over Sussex (so far we have given out several thousand) and we encourage folk to bring in their reusable food storage containers for transporting their meat home in a convenient and sustainable way. Good food connects people and puts a smile on their faces. We are proud to support the local schools and bonfire society as we are passionate about the local kids understanding and respecting where their food has come from and the tradition, care and craft that has brought it to them."

Cottenham's of Lindfield - Craft Butcher are taking Christmas orders now – please order early by calling 01444 483303 or email: orders@cottenhams.com.

There's also an exciting opportunity for an apprentice to join the Cottenham's team. Get in touch!

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Hearses go hybrid as funeral director responds to climate crisis

Normally considered one of the most traditional businesses, a local funeral director is embracing the eco revolution and has replaced his old gas-guzzling cars with a hybrid hearse and limousine.

Well known in Cuckfield, Matthew Gallagher, of P&S Gallagher, is now urging other county firms and local authorities to do their bit to reduce carbon emissions too.

Inspired by Extinction Rebellion and the school Climate Strikes, Matthew says everyone needs to help tackle the climate crisis: "We've been incredibly impressed by Greta Thunberg and the growing global movement for action on climate change, so when it

came to replacing some of our vehicles this year we decided there was no alternative but to look at low emissions models."

He added that the cars would offer bereaved families the same level of comfort for their loved one's final journeys as a traditional hearse but with the added benefit of being better for the planet.

The cars are powered by a 1.4kWh electric motor, backed up by a 2.0 litre petrol engine, which kicks in when the battery charge runs low. A regenerative braking system also charges the battery by capturing up to 90% of the energy normally lost when braking.



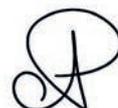
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Mayor's Election and Procession success

ISOC



By Mike Schlup

The third Friday in October saw another thrilling election night followed by the wonderful Mayor's procession on Saturday. Claire Bellamy (The Talbot) was duly elected as the new Mayor of the Independent State of Cuckfield (ISOC) at a rowdy event hosted by The Wheatsheaf. With every penny raised by the candidates counting as a vote, Claire polled over 500,000 votes, with runner up James Clark (The Rose & Crown) polling over 300,000 votes. That means over £8,000 was raised to be distributed to a whole variety of worthy causes in and around Cuckfield, including all the groups who took part in the Mayor's Procession. Well done to the candidates for their fundraising efforts and watch the Mayor's future columns for more news about how the funds will be distributed.

The day of the procession dawned with some very welcome sunshine and maybe a few sore heads from the election celebrations. All the amazing floats set off from Warden Park School accompanied by marching bands, a steam engine and, of course, the new Mayor. The procession was cheered around the streets by the townsfolk, keen to get a glimpse of their new Mayor, who was then presented with the keys to Cuckfield by the Sheriff of Cuckfield outside The Talbot Inn (who also kindly provided a welcome drink to all the marshalls and volunteers!). Meanwhile there was entertainment for the children as everyone soaked up the sunshine and the atmosphere in the High Street.

Campaigning has already begun for the 2020 election. Email info@cuckfieldstate.org to find out more.





Schoolchildren and parents get outdoors

Cuckfield's Holy Trinity Church of England School recently received a grant of nearly £6,000 from the Sussex Lund to help improve the natural habitats within the school grounds.

The six acres of school grounds include a mixed ancient woodland with hazel, field maple and oak.

The aim is that this pioneering project (led by Mrs Gaby Dobson - school teacher and Outdoor Learning Co-ordinator and the PTA school grounds committee), becomes an inspirational model for other schools and for a new generation of young naturalists.

This funding, along with previous contributions from Cuckfield Local, will go towards projects to establish a wildflower and butterfly meadow as well as to create and support two additional ponds and carefully restore some hazel coppice areas. While the funding covers all the materials and expert guidance, much of the hard work will be done by the volunteers.



The fun (and hard work!) started in September when we started the build of our Butterfly Meadow with over 50 very enthusiastic adults and children preparing the ground for sowing. The work involved the manual removal of the majority of turf over our new meadow area which extends to around 500m². This turf was piled into banks to make further habitats for bees and grass snakes. As we're only a short distance from Paiges Meadow, we would like to attract the typical Sussex meadow butterflies including marbled whites, skippers and blues.

More recently, on a damp Monday after school, we were delighted to welcome the newly appointed Mayor, Claire Bellamy, to help us sow the first wildflower seeds for the meadow. Claire was joined by representatives from the school's pupils, parents, PTA, staff and governors and it was a wonderful first milestone of this habitat restoration project.

The seed mixture includes around 60 different locally sourced plant species – many specially selected for butterflies by one of our PTA members, Oliver Whaley, a scientist and research associate from the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and Edinburgh, who has been supporting us throughout the project

Next spring we will be planting additional wildflower plugs to speed the restoration process. These species

are being specially propagated for us by the Millennium Seed Bank at Kew's Wakehurst Place.

At next year's school summer fair the meadow will be in flower and visitors be able to see for themselves our grounds in all their natural glory. Watch this space for details.

Since September we have been carrying out biodiversity surveys of flora and fauna in our school grounds. To our surprise and wonder we found evidence of a small population of Hazel dormice – a priority species for conservation in Sussex.

The Sussex Lund grant has funded dormouse nesting boxes, and enables us to set up a survey programme with a licenced dormice specialist - Laurie Jackson of Sussex Wildlife Trust.

We hope that these pioneering projects will become a model for other schools and community groups as well as inspiring a new generation of young naturalists. We look forward to sharing the progress with you in future editions of this magazine.

If you would like to know more or take part in the landscape restoration activities, please get in touch! We would be delighted to have your help. Contact Sharon or Paulina from the PTA grounds team: sharon_howe@hotmail.co.uk or phechenleitner@rbge.org.uk.

The Sussex Lund grants programme of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin support small-scale, practical projects that improve the landscape of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).



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Festive fun at Winter Fair

The South of England Agricultural Society is delighted to announce that its Winter Fair weekend will return to the South of England Showground in Ardingly this month.

Running from 9am - 5pm on Saturday 23rd and 9am - 4pm on Sunday 24th November, the Winter Fair will be a shoppers' paradise providing the perfect opportunity to get the Christmas preparations sorted whilst enjoying a festive family day out.

The Winter Fair also provides the perfect day out to keep the whole family entertained. Featuring a variety of feel-good Christmassy entertainment and activities, families are sure to enjoy the giant snow globe that they can step inside to capture the perfect Christmas-card-worthy family picture.

With the Winter Fair taking place inside and undercover or in heated marquees, there's no need to be worried about the unpredictable British weather.

Tickets cost £5.85 and £4.95 for seniors/students (inclusive of a 10% online discount which ends at midnight 22nd November at www.seas.org.uk).



Christmas Concert for all the family

Join the Reza Community Orchestra of over 80 musicians at Warden Park Secondary Academy in Cuckfield next month.

The afternoon will include a programme of popular classics including music from The Pirates of the Caribbean, Winter from the Four Seasons and a selection of Christmas Carols. Virtuoso musicians Ensemble Reza will also perform some lively arrangements for string quartet, clarinet and trumpet!

The concert takes place on Sunday 8th December from 3-5pm. Tickets cost £10 for adults and £5 for under 18's and are available from Pepperbox or online.

Originally set-up in 2015, the Reza Community Orchestra is aimed at players of all ages and abilities. To join you just need to have a passion for performing and be able to read music!

Rehearsals for the spring term start again in January. If you would like to take part visit: www.ensemblereza.com

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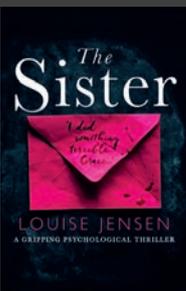
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The Sister by Louise Jensen

BOOK REVIEW

By Bethany Dann, Year 8

This book is about a young adult, Grace, who lost her best friend at a young age; she is determined to find out more about what happened to Charlie and sets out on a dangerous path. She quickly realises that the main key is finding Charlie's dad. But along this journey comes an even bigger surprise... Charlie's sister, Anna. But is she everything she says she is? Or is Anna hiding something that she doesn't want Grace to know? With her boyfriend Danny acting strangely, Grace receiving unexplainable and anonymous threats, and near death accidents, we are left wondering whether Grace will get out alive!

The Sister is a really good drama/thriller book. In my opinion, it would be aimed at ages 13-20 as it has mature content and language. It has many twists and turns that you will never see coming. It's definitely one of Louise Jensen's greatest stories!

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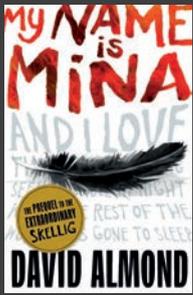


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My Name is Mina by David Almond

BOOK REVIEW

By a Year 9 Warden Park student

My name is Mina is the sequel to the book 'Skellig'. It is about a young girl who doesn't fit in at school and needs to be homeschooled. She writes a diary that contains all of her inner thoughts and feelings.

The book covers many themes such as death, love, school, fitting in, and growing up.

The book is captivating and eye-opening. It really makes you wonder about the small things in life. Highlighting the beautiful details in our world, which most people fail to notice, it encourages readers to be observant. Furthermore, Mina has a really unique character that you can't help but agree with. Overall, David Almond writes in a way which is magical and enchanting.

I would recommend the book to young children, mainly teens and pre-teens. The book has some advanced vocabulary, but usually gives the definition of tricky words.



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Having a boules!

Cuckfield Boules Club were greeted with sunshine when they played their annual 'End of Summer Boules' competition within the grounds of Stephen and Judy Cockburn's enchanted garden at Marshall's Manor last month.

Congratulations to the winners Roy and Rosemary Gooderham, who beat Kenneth Hood and Peter Cheesmur. The Wooden spoons were 'won' by Andy and Jane Harrison.

Members play at Beechurst Gardens on the first and third Monday of every month. During winter months the team plays from 2.30pm to 4pm and afterwards they enjoy a warming cup of tea at the Harvester restaurant.

For further information on the club, contact Candy Hood on 07756 870754.



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RECYCLE THIS...

Colin McFarlin is a Volunteer Waste Prevention Advisor with WSCC.



Thank you for all your individual enquiries about your recycling. By the time you read this I will have replied individually to all your emails to the Editor on recycling. Do keep the questions coming...

Compostable bags

My mailbag has been busy this month with correspondence from readers who have received mail through the post in 'Compostable Bags'.

With the outcry against plastic many organisations, such as National Trust and WI, have quickly moved away from plastic wrappers for their mailings and moved to biodegradable wrappers.

The information they put on the wrapper is not accurate. They suggest putting them into your home compost bin. However, not everyone has a home compost bin, also they will not compost in a

home compost bin as your bin will not reach a sufficient temperature for the wrapper to break down. There are going to be lots of disappointed National Trust and WI members emptying their compost bins in a year's time and finding this wrapper intact!

Councils will not accept this in their garden waste bin, and we, along with many other councils do not have a food waste collection service.

So where can you put it? You are left with your black top rubbish bin.

This new idea is in fact a lot worse than the original plastic wrapper; that can be recycled in major supermarkets with plastic carrier bags.

Put it in your black top rubbish bin and I do hope you will write to anyone who sends you correspondence in a Compostable Bag and point out the problems they are causing in West Sussex - and other counties!

Would you like me to give a talk to your local group on recycling? Do you have an individual question on specific items you are not sure how to recycle? One email to the Editor, with a picture if possible, and I can let you know.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Keep recycling!





"I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people." Luke 2:10 (The Bible)

You would be welcome to join us for one of our
Christmas Services at
Cuckfield Baptist Church

All-age Family Nativity Service

22nd December, 4pm

'Carols by Candlelight' Service

24th December, 6:30pm

Christmas Day Service

25th December, 10:30am

www.cuckfieldbaptistchurch.co.uk

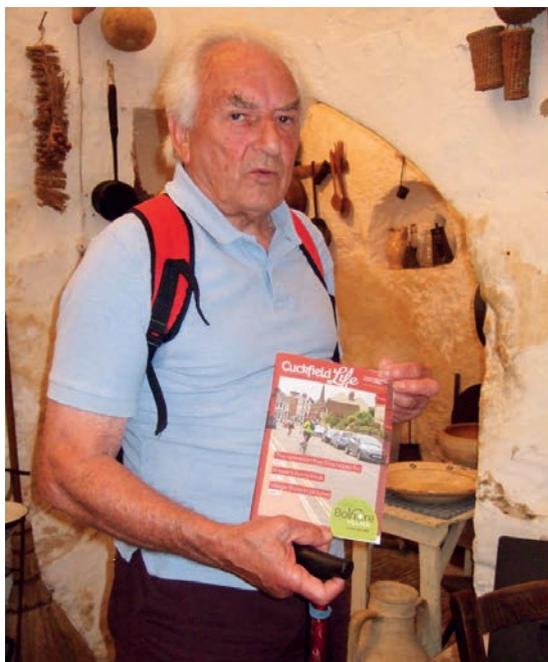
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Holiday snaps

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



Den and Bill Jordan in the Outer Hebrides this September



Terry Boyer Inside cave dwelling Matera, Southern Italy

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Soup, bread and cake...

SIMPLY GOOD FOOD

Leek and Potato Soup

(Serves 4 as a main dish)

Finely shred the green tops of 3 leeks and set aside. Thinly slice the rest of them and put into a pan with 2 sliced medium-sized onions, a good knob of butter (garlic if you have it or 1-2 garlic cloves), 1 large peeled and sliced baking potato and a pinch of nutmeg. Gently cook for 5 min then stir in 900ml hot vegetable stock, cover and cook over medium heat for about 10 min or until the vegetables are soft. Cool slightly then buzz in the processor until smooth. Return to the pan, stir in 150ml single cream and season to taste. Meanwhile gently fry the leek tops with 3-4 finely chopped streaky bacon rashers until crisp. Spoon on top of the bowls of soup.

Soda Bread

Preheat oven 200C. Sift 450g plain flour, 1tbs baking powder, 1tsp bicarbonate soda and a pinch salt into a bowl. Rub in 50g butter. Combine 150ml plain yogurt with 300ml water and add to the other ingredients to make a soft dough. On a floured surface knead lightly to make a smooth shape. Place on a floured baking tray and make a deep cross on the top with the back of a knife. Bake for about 25 min or until the bread sounds hollow when tapped on the bottom. Break into four portions and serve freshly baked or toasted.



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By Caroline Young

Come November I often have a desire to hibernate, batten down the hatches and sleep until spring! However, reality kicks in and I compensate by making batches of delicious soup, baking the odd loaf of bread or a cake and trying variations on favourite recipes. Do try these...



Triple Cheese Lasagne

(4 generous portions)

Preheat oven to 180C. Finely chop 1 large onion, 4 carrots, 4 sticks of celery and 2 crushed garlic cloves and gently fry with 250g bacon lardons until soft. Combine 4tbs tomato puree, 3tbs dry vermouth, 1tsp fennel seeds and 150ml vegetable stock. Add to the pan, cover and simmer for 10 min. Season to taste. Make a cheese sauce with 300ml milk, 25g butter, 3tbs plain flour and 75g grated Cheddar cheese. Stir 4tbs chopped chives into 225g ricotta or curd cheese.

Spoon half the vegetables into a large shallow baking dish, top with three chilled lasagne sheets, spread the ricotta on top, then another layer of pasta, remaining vegetables, another layer of pasta and finally the cheese sauce. Combine 25g soft breadcrumbs and 25g grated Parmesan and sprinkle over the top. (May be made ahead and chilled for an hour). Bake 30-40 min or until a rich golden brown. Leave to stand for 5 min for easier cutting and serving.

Mincemeat Fruit Cake

Preheat oven 160C. Tip 225g sr flour, 115g soft butter, 115g soft brown sugar, 2 beaten eggs, 411g jar mincemeat and a generous spoonful of marmalade into a large bowl and mix with a wooden spoon until well combined. Spoon into a buttered and lined 900g loaf tin. Bake for 1¼-1½ hours or until the cake tests cooked. Cool before removing from the tin.

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Get your wreath on for Eliza

Local fundraiser Sophie Crichton is offering local residents (and beyond) the chance to take part in a wreath making workshop in aid of Eliza Jones, age 7, who suffers from Cerebral Palsy.

Sophie has been making her own Christmas wreaths for a long time and with the help of her mum, who always used to make her own, she managed to pick up some useful tips on how to create some lovely festive wreaths.

Sophie explains: "Florist bought ones can be so expensive and there's something really nice about the act of making something around Christmas at a time when we spend so much time shopping."

Sophie has organised the workshop in support of her friend, Stacey Jones, to try and raise funds for Stacey's daughter Eliza, who will be undergoing a major operation later this year to correct her spine which will help give her the tools to walk again.

The evening is expected to be a lot of fun where people can enjoy a natter, a glass of mulled wine, a mince pie or two and a possibly a Christmas bop.

Sophie's wreath making workshop will take place at Woodside, on Friday 13th December at 8pm.

At the time of going to print there were only a few spaces left, so please book your place soon by contacting: mail@sophiecrichton.co.uk.



5 MINUTES WITH...

Alison Armstrong

Alison has previously worked as a project manager, sports development manager and an events manager. Until recently she was the events manager and licensee for the Woodside but has given this up to concentrate on her passion - Woodside Netball Club.

How long have you lived in Bolnore? 15 years

What's the best thing about being here?
The peace and quiet

Favourite ice cream flavour? Coffee

How many houses have you lived in? 11

What would you like to see in Bolnore that isn't here?
An outdoor gym and another netball court

Favourite holiday destination?
Tenerife

Song you play the most?
It's Raining Men (Spice Girls version)

What would you do if you won £1million?
Pay off mortgage and make sure my daughters had money towards a house (a million doesn't go far these days!)

What was the last present you gave someone?
A bottle of Poo Pourri

Strangest thing you've ever eaten? Escargot

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

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

What's your proudest moment?
Apart from giving birth to my daughters it has to be setting up Woodside Netball Club and making a success of it.

Your advice for life?
Treat people how you would like to be treated, don't buy into idle gossip!

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



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Bolnore kids enjoy Halloween Disco at Woodside



Photos: Kelly Robinson



The wind and rain didn't stop the children of Bolnore and beyond enjoying an evening of party games and dancing at the annual Woodside Halloween Disco on 26th October.

Over 100 children and their adults attended, dressed as spooky clowns, werewolves, witches and the like. The disco and entertainment were provided by Gemma and Kate from Off The Wall Entertainment, who did a fantastic job of getting everyone involved. Prizes were given for best costumes and adults were kept refreshed at the bar.

All proceeds of the evening will help support and maintain the Woodside.



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New chair of BVCP announced

At the recent AGM of the Bolnore Village Community Partnership (BVCP), Alastair McPherson, local resident and Mayor of Haywards Heath, announced his resignation as Chair. Alastair was one of the original team of Bolnore volunteers who formed The BVCP in 2013, a charitable organisation established



to oversee running of The Woodside for the benefit of the community in Bolnore, wider Haywards Heath and beyond. With a growing number of commitments following his appointment as Mayor earlier this year, Alastair has now handed the baton on to Bob Bannister.

An existing Trustee and also a Bolnore resident, Bob said; "The Woodside has become such an important part of Bolnore life over its' short history and I very much look forward to continuing the good work of the Trustees as I chair the next chapter of our community building."

The BVCP would like to extend their thanks to Alastair for his tireless work in taking The Woodside from an idea to the success it is today, providing a home to a range of community groups and clubs.

Neighbourhood Watch

By Chris Belton

'Engaging the community to become the best place to live in the Heart of Sussex' has been the mission statement of Bolnore CIC for the past three years.

Living up to that mission recently were around 25 residents who came together at The Woodside for a meeting hosted by the Bolnore Village Community Interest Company. This was the second such meeting and the objective was to discuss how best to keep the village safe following a recent article in the Mid Sussex Times which drew attention to incidents of anti-social behaviour within the village.

I think it's fair to say that the village is by no means alone in trying to address anti-social behaviour. We are reaching out to anyone who might have suggestions or ideas that might help.

One suggestion discussed was to reinvigorate the Neighbourhood Watch (NW) scheme. Many of the attendees said they would welcome this initiative and have made a commitment to investigate further. Contact has already been made with the Sussex Neighbourhood Watch Federation.

It's work in progress and we shall see where it leads but we are determined to strive towards our mission statement.

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That most important work

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By Jacqueline Elmore

Headteachers can be inspirational and transformational. A good headteacher will create a safe and encouraging environment that strives for inclusivity and continuous development, with the students' current and future needs at the core. Although the scope and weight of responsibility can often seem overwhelming, the role can also be immensely rewarding, as new Headteacher of Bolnore Primary School, Tracy Taylor explains: "I have always held a strong child-centered approach where consistency, praise and nurture, balanced with challenge, are the key to each child's success. I believe that all children are amazing learners and have a unique potential waiting to be unlocked."

Tracy Taylor was awarded the role of Headteacher at Bolnore Primary School in June of this year and took on the post in September. Sharon Allen, who had been the previous (and original) Head, had been in the job for ten years before moving on to pastures new earlier this year.

There are currently 414 children attending the school. Their ages range from 5 to 11, at which point they will then transfer to secondary school. Most of the children attending live within the catchment area.

"Bolnore School feels very personal to me even though it's quite a large school. I know some of the children's names already but still have a way to go. My aim is to know all of their names by Christmas."

Tracy's Mum is Welsh and her father is English. As a child of the Forces she travelled to many different parts of the world and switched schools and home on a regular basis. At ten months old, Tracy moved to Malaya (now part of Malaysia) where she spent a number of years growing up in a Malayan community.

"I was born in Wales and was part of a mining family. Most of my family went into education – most are now headteachers, teachers or educational advisors. That's where I get it from. They were my inspiration I guess."

Tracy recalls going from an Army School in Germany to a school in Northern Ireland where the education system was very different to anything she had experienced before.

"As a child, it was a real eye opener. The teaching was very different. Life was certainly more boundaried back then which definitely helped to build my resilience. I do remember travelling lots with my family and enjoying that part of my life, it was a happy time."

Tracy now lives in Brighton with her husband Tom and travels inland to Bolnore every day. She particularly enjoys her drive into the 'office' because it allows her time to think, refocus and look forward to the day ahead.

One of Tracy's biggest achievements, before her previous Headship at Bramber Primary school, was being class teacher at Hassocks Infant School where she taught for 14 years.

"I absolutely loved that school and I was heartbroken when I left, I'd been there for such a long time. The community of Hassocks was just wonderful and I really felt a sense of belonging and the children loved attending the school. It was a wonderful experience. It was so idyllic and as sad as it was to leave, I knew that it was time to move on."

Tracy has always been interested in education. One of her first roles was, whilst at school herself, was on work experience in a small special needs school in Chichester. Unlike some of us, Tracy knew early on that she wanted to work with children and in particular, education. She spent four years studying for a degree on the subject.

"Education was always the thing I was passionate about. I got distinctions for all of my teaching practices and was awarded a first class honours degree at Brighton University. I have always believed in continual professional development and last year I even did a post graduate qualification in Special Educational Needs whilst I was a Headteacher."

Bolnore Primary School recently underwent an Ofsted inspection for which they received a 'good school' report. The report proceeded to describe the school as a hive of activity where pupils work hard, are proud of their work and have fun. The most important part for Tracy was that pupils of all ages enjoy learning.

The subject of mental health is something that Tracy feels very strongly about, especially with the rise of social media today and the affect it can have on young people.

"It is essential that children get moments of peace and of mindfulness because they are bombarded with information for most of the day. It's not like it was when I was a child because they don't or can't get bored! Making sure that they take time out away from their phones, iPads and in some cases, 'do nothing' is incredibly important."

They do say that happiness in schools starts with the Headteacher and that a positive and upbeat environment can create a ripple effect leading to a happier community.

Tracy's pedagogy and philosophy are simple ones; that school should be a memorable experience, children need to feel safe and secure and above all they need to feel a sense of belonging.

"The true source of happiness is making a difference. Helping others and giving something back. I didn't want to commit to something that I wasn't passionate about. My absolute passion in life is about nurturing children so that they can thrive, feel safe and secure and be the best version of themselves that they can be."

That is what drew Tracy to Bolnore; the fact that the village itself plays a role in raising every child within the community.

"The concept of the local community aiding in the upbringing of children is something that really rings true for me. Everyone should feel in some way responsible for the children in their community."

Dr John Trainer once said 'Children are not a distraction from more important work, they are the most important work'. I am sure that Tracy, those that work at Bolnore Primary School and the wider Bolnore community, will agree with this statement whole heartedly. Thank you to all of you for doing that 'most important work'.

Cubs retain position as national champions

By Amanda Saunders

Bolnore Cubs are once again triumphant after winning the 2019 Supreme Box Kart Championship for the second year running!

Eleven Cubs entered into the national competition at Goodwood Motor Circuit, battling it out against 40 other teams from 13 counties from across the UK, from as far afield as Wales and Northern Ireland. The reigning champions were delighted to win for the second year in a row, and are also the current West Sussex Masters Box Kart Champions.

The Cubs are excited to return again next year to try to retain their title for another year!



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Spooky goings-on in Bolnore

Once again the good folk of Bolnore Village donned their ghoulish costumes, replenished their supply of fake blood and cleared the shelves of cotton wool!

Yes, Halloween was celebrated last month and many residents took to the streets of Bolnore in search of pumpkin-displaying properties with treats.

With thanks to Elaine and Nick Goodwin, here we feature a number of the decorated houses and spooky strollers.





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Hail gladdening light

Dear friends,

The church building will be closed during November while the lighting is renewed. Fortunately we don't have to rewire, and our carbon footprint will be substantially reduced once the new scheme is finished. Sunday worship will continue as normal in church, but the weekday services will take place in the Old School.

It is the usual story. Everything now seems to come with a built-in obsolescent after a few years! However, after seeing the church get darker and darker over the past couple of years, I can't wait to see the result of the renewal, and we are so grateful to all who have enabled this to be accomplished.

As the November days get shorter and shorter, I always remember the words of Jesus: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' (John 8: 12) In the prologue to his Gospel, John speaks of 'the true light, which enlightens everyone.' (John 1: 9) Here is a message which never becomes obsolescent - it is the light which overcomes any darkness.

Wherever your journey leads you, may you know true light and peace.

With all best wishes,

Michael (Vicar)



Some forthcoming events:

Service of Thanksgiving and Commemoration

A warm welcome to any who wish to remember departed loved ones, takes place on **Sunday 17th November @ 4pm** in church, followed by tea in the Old School.

Our **Advent Light Service** will take place on **Saturday 30th November at 8.30am** followed by a full English breakfast! Not to be missed, and a great way to start Advent. Tickets (£5 adults, children free) from Gill in the church office, Old School

On **Advent Sunday (1st December)** we invite people to present new children's toys for Family Support Work at the **9.45 Family Service**. In the evening, the choir will be leading us through a very lovely **Sequence of Readings and Music for Advent 'From Darkness to Light' @ 6pm**

The Christmas Tree Festival takes place from **Friday 6th – Sunday 8th** with the **Trees Carol Service @ 6pm on Sunday** – partner charity: The Alzheimer Society

Family Nativity will take place on **Sunday 22nd December @ 9.45** together with the **Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols @ 6pm**

The Cuckfield Walking Nativity This great event when we walk with the Holy Family on their journey (we might have a lama this year as well as donkeys and sheep!) will be held on **Thursday 19th December @ 6pm**

Wordsearch

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E W C A N A M L A W F R
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C F I R L H T T W A E E
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Q U K I E O T I A T A I
J X T A N B J A S A U D
O Y W A S I O U C S R T
J D R M Y B I O W X U D
B Y P D C N G W K R S B

Can you find ten types of reference book hidden in this wordsearch?

The answers can be found running backwards or forwards, horizontal, vertical or diagonal.

1. Almanac
2. Atlas
3. Bibliography
4. Catalogue
5. Dictionary
6. Directory
7. Guidebook
8. Journal
9. Manual
10. Thesaurus



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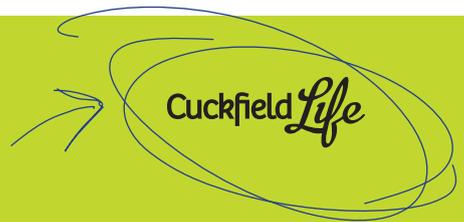
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		9			5			1
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					2			
3					9			7
		7	8			4		
9			6			8		
		1	7	6				2
							3	
	6	8						4

Find the solution to #41 in next month's magazine

#40 Solution

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

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

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Xmas Fair & Grotto

Sunday 8 December

10 am – 3pm

The National Cat Adoption Centre is holding its first Xmas Fair with a variety of stalls, if you are looking for that original gift this year. The Mid Sussex Choir will also be in attendance. There will be magical sleigh rides to visit Santa for £5 with a present. Hot food and refreshments will be available in our warming cafe.

For further information please contact:
T: 01825 741331
E: cattery.reception@cats.org.uk
W: www.ncac.cats.org.uk
fb: National Cat Adoption Centre

Reg Charity 203644 (England and Wales) and SC037711 (Scotland)



What's on...

ELSEWHERE

November

- 13th **Mid Sussex Franco-British Society** – 8pm
Clair Hall - An illustrated talk in French by Rene Gimpel (Barbara Stevens 01444 452385)
- 14th **Mid Sussex National Trust** – 2.30pm
Clair Hall - AGM of The Trust followed by short talks by speakers from local National Trust properties (David Waite, 01444 453954)
- 14th **Haywards Heath Ceramics Group** – 10am
Clair Hall - Suzanne Higgott will give a talk on Italian Renaissance Maiolica (01444 483372)
- 16th **Sussex Mineral & Fossil Show** – 10am-4.30pm
Clair Hall - Stunning displays of minerals and fossils, ultraviolet minerals room. Activities for children and illustrated talks (tickets £3/£1)
- 16th **RNLI Quiz Night** – doors 7pm
Village Centre, Hurstpierpoint - Enjoy a Ploughman's Supper with this annual charity quiz which starts at 7.30pm (tickets £12 from Mishon Mackay or from Committee members - 01273 832819)
- 16th **Christmas Craft & Gift Fair** – 10am-2.30pm
Old School, Cuckfield - Over 40 stalls selling hand-made scarves, jewellery, candles, greetings cards, Christmas decorations, books and lots more gift ideas. Father Christmas will be attending with a small gift for every child. Refreshments include home-made soup, cakes and tea and coffee.
- 16th **HH Music Soc. Concert** – 7.30pm
HH Methodist Church - Andrew Lebedev - guitarist and Iosif Purits - accordion (£15/£5)
- 19th **Cuckfield Evening WI** – 7.30pm
The Baptist Church, Polestub Lane - 'The Commonwealth War Graves' by Ian Everest
- 20th **The Arts Society Mid Sussex** – 10am
Clair Hall - Talk on the British Colonial Buildings of India by Anthony Peers (£7 on the door)
- 20th- **Private Lives** – 8pm
- 23rd Ditchling Village Hall - Noel Coward play by Ditchling Players
- 23rd- **SEAS Winter Fair** – 9am-5pm
- 24th South of England Showground, Ardingly (tickets £5.85/£4.95 www.seas.org.uk)
- 23rd **Candlelit Concert** – 7pm
Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield – Ensemble Reza
- 27th **Ansty Garden Club** – 7.45pm
Ansty Village Hall, Deaks Lane - Barry Newnham, Show Bench (Derry 01444 474660)
- 30th **Concert by Brighton Consort** – 7.30pm,
Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint - Music for Advent, Christmas and Candlemas (01273 833746)

December

- 1st- **The Nativity** – 7.30pm
- 5th Wivelsfield Parish Church - drama by Angela Black, not suitable for under 12s (£10 www.ticketsource.co.uk/wlt)
- 5th **Dementia Café** – 2-4pm
Court Bushes Community Hub, Hurst
- 5th **Mid Sussex National Trust** – 2.30pm
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath - 'Christmas Past in West Sussex' By Dr Caroline Adams
- 6th **Christmas Street Festival - 6-8pm**
Cuckfield High Street - Late night shopping, stalls and Christmas fun. South High Street road closed
- 6th- **Cuckfield Christmas Tree Festival**
- 8th Holy Trinity Church - Decorated trees, open from 11.30am across the weekend (£5 adults, kids free)
- 7th **Cuckfield Local Food Market** – 9.30am-12.30pm
Outside The Talbot
- 8th **Christmas Concert** – 3-5pm
Warden Park Academy, Cuckfield - Popular and festive classics from Ensemble Reza and the community orchestra (£10/£5 from Pepperbox or www.ensemblereza.com)
- 9th **Wreath-Making Workshop** – 9.30am
The Talbot, Cuckfield - By Chez Fleur (£50pp, call 07811 892644)
- 11th **Flower Festival Planning** – 7pm
The Old School, Cuckfield - Come along to be part of next year's event
- 11th **Ansty Garden Club** – 7.45pm
Ansty Village Hall - Christmas Party
- 13th **Christmas Carol Concert** – 3.30pm
Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield - Organised by Alzheimer's Society
- 13th **Cuckfield Evening Flower Club** – 7.30pm
HH Methodist Church, Perrymount Road - Gill Homer: Christmas Sparkle
- 14th **Cuckfield Local Food Market** – 9.30am-12.30pm
High Street – Seasonal produce
- 14th **Christmas Wreath Workshop** – 10am-12.30pm
The Village Hall, London Lane, Cuckfield - Fundraiser for NSPCC Cuckfield. Demo and all materials provided (£20pp, book: 01444 831602)
- 15th & **Sussex Chorus Carols** – 6.30pm
- 22nd The Coach House, Sheffield Park & Gardens (TN22 3QX) - Christmas music and carols (tickets: www.nationaltrust.org.uk)
- 17th **Advent Carol Concert** – 8pm
Ardingly College Chapel (free entry)
- 17th **Cuckfield Evening WI** – 7.30pm
The Baptist Church, Polestub Lane - Christmas Party featuring magician Roy Plumridge

What's on this month

AT THE QUEEN'S HALL

Monday

- 9.30am **Pilates for Intermediates**
- 10.30am **Pilates for Beginners**
- 9.30am **Yoga**
- 2pm **Preschool Dance**
- 3.45pm **Dance School**
- 7.30pm **Yoga**
- 7.30pm **Dog Training**

Tuesday

- 9.30am **Preschool Sports**
- 1.30pm **Yoga**
- 3.45pm **Dance School**
- 7.30pm **Dog Training**

Wednesday

- 10am **Stroke Association Club**
- 1.30pm **Line Dancing**
- 3pm **Dance School**
- 7.30pm **Ballroom Dance**
- 7.30pm **Yoga**

Thursday

- 9.15am **Yoga**
- 9.30am **Preschool Dance**
- 7.30pm **Yoga**

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

November

- 29th **Craft & Vintage Market** – 9.30am-1pm
Array of stalls including home produce, children's books, cards and dog accessories. Café open for tea and cake (Free admission)

December

- 10th **Wreath-Making Workshop** – 7pm
By Chez Fleur (£50pp, call 07811 892644)

January

- 17th **The Wind in the Willows** – doors 6.30pm
Rain or Shine Theatre present its fast-paced comic retelling of the classic tale (Tickets from Parish Office £10/£7)

AT WOODSIDE

Monday

- 9.45am **Sing & Sign (3 sessions)**
- 4.30pm **Hayley Beeson School of Dance**
- 7pm **Becca Lee Youth Yoga and Mentoring**
(term time)
- 7pm **Tai Chi**
- 8pm **Kickboxing**
- 8.15pm **Becca Lee Yoga**

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

- 9am **Falcon Health Chiropractors**
- 10am **Make A Mess**
- 1pm **Pilates**
- 5pm **Hayley Beeson School of Dance**
- 7.15pm **Scouts**

Thursday

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

Friday

- 9.30am **Saplings**
- 7pm **Wellbeing Group**

Saturday

- 9am **Hayley Beeson School of Dance**

Sunday

- 10am **Burgess Hill Town Juniors**
- 3pm **Messy Church** (last Sunday/month)
- 4pm **Grace Church**
- 4pm **Woodside Netball Club**

December

- 15th **Carols by Candlelight** – 4pm
A classic service of readings and carols, with a creche and a Christmas party for primary aged children. Followed by festive refreshments.
- 17th **Bolnore Residents Open Surgery** – 7.30-8.30pm
Hosted by Pembroke and Bolnore Community Interest Company
- 24th **Christmas Eve** – 4pm
A short family Christingle service. A fun child-focused service to kick off Christmas.
- 25th **Christmas Day** – 10am
An all age Christmas Day celebration, to celebrate the big day.

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deadline:*

**26th
Nov.**

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& Mike*

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