

Cuckfield Life

Inc. Brook St, Ansty, Staplefield & Bolnore Village

Local village talk,
by the village

Issue #36 : Oct/Nov '15

Free

A large bonfire at night, with bright yellow and orange flames rising into the dark sky. In the foreground, the silhouettes of a crowd of people are visible, some holding umbrellas, suggesting it might be raining or has recently rained. The scene is illuminated by the intense light of the fire.

Cuckfield Bonfire – 7th Nov

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EDITORIAL

By David Tingley, Editor

Just a glimpse up into the trees tells us that autumn is well and truly with us now. But, before we long for warm sunshine again, let us not forget the various joys that come along with the season!

Firstly, and most immediately, is the **Mayoral Election** which takes place on Friday 16th October, with the awesome **Mayor's Procession** through the village following on Saturday 17th. Details of both events can be found on **page 4**.

But then, only shortly afterwards, we are to be treated to **Cuckfield Bonfire and Fireworks** - as always held at Cuckfield Park (courtesy of the Mayou family) - on Saturday 7th November. Maxim Rickard gives us all the necessary details of this year's event on **page 6** as well as a little history of bonfire celebrations in the village.

Dare I even mention the **Christmas Festival Night** organised by the Parish Council on 11th December? Too early, perhaps!

Amongst the pages in this issue it is a pleasure to read the story of **Richard Butler** who recently cycled from London to Paris in memory of his father - who he lost to Dementia. His fundraising efforts have already been rewarded greatly, but there is still time to add to it! Thanks **Georgia Lambert** for writing the article on **page 12**.

The **Cuckfield Museum** opened a special exhibition earlier this month which showcases the various changes to Holy Trinity Church. **Claire Cooper** gives us an introduction into the subject on **page 24** which I am sure will lead many to visit the museum in the coming weeks to see more.

Featured on **page 16** is a resident who knows a thing or two about old and new buildings. **Sarah Breeze's** story of child to qualified architect is a joy to share.

Before I sign off, just time to plug the **Classified** section. We welcome lineage ads for jobs, items for sale or giveaway - it's FREE. Email to our special address: classified@cuckfieldlife.co.uk before 28th.

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 James Miller
Crowds at the
Cuckfield Bonfire

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NEWS

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

Historic 'Land Girls' talk at Queens Hall

Cuckfield Museum is pleased to announce what promises to be a fascinating talk entitled 'The Women's Land Army' by historian Ian Everest.

Ian's mother was one of 80,000 Land Girls during WWII and his will talk include some of her personal memories and a history of the role of women on Sussex farms during two world wars. This illustrated presentation will show what a debt our country owes to these 'Cinderellas of the Fields', with their vital contribution in feeding our country, only gaining official recognition many years later after their disbanding in 1950.

The talk will take place on Tuesday 10th November at 2.30pm in the Council Chamber, The Queens Hall. As usual, anyone wishing to book must ring Mike Nicholson on 01444 457448.

All about the Mayor

The Independent State of Cuckfield Mayor's Election will take place on Friday 16th October at The Wheatsheaf from 8.30pm. Come along and vote for the next Mayor of Cuckfield. Details of all candidates were published in last month's magazine.

The next day (17th Oct) the village will be treated to Mayor's Procession which leaves Warden Park Academy at 2.30pm (procession entries to arrive from 1:00pm, pre-registration is not needed), with the Ceremony of The Keys at The Talbot at approximately 3.30pm. Come and see the new Mayor in the procession around the roads of Cuckfield.

The procession will include many decorated floats and vehicles, with some organisations choosing to walk around in costume or fancy dress. A cash prize will be awarded to the organisations judged to be 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Best Entry competition, and all the participating organisations will receive a donation from the Independent State of Cuckfield.

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Party on the streets

Residents in Woodhall Close enjoyed an impromptu street party last month.

The idea came from Rob and Maddy Hammersley who slipped notes through letterboxes inviting neighbours to join them on the small green and bring something to eat and drink.

The pair strung up bunting between young hawthorns (which had been planted by neighbours about three years ago) and put up camping tables.

By 4 pm the tables were full of food and drink and the party was in full swing!

"As we nibbled, drank and talked, it was a wonderful chance to meet people we had not seen before, as well as those we were familiar with already," said resident Helena Carter. "Several youngsters set up a picnic

blanket and a creche, and we had the most interesting task of finding out about each other. Among our numbers were: a pair of bell-ringers, two geo-physicists, several musicians, a headmaster, various teachers including one from Chailey Heritage and a rugby player.

"There were people who helped with different groups in the village, and others who had lived in the road since the houses were built 40 years ago. One late arrival had been taking part in a triathlon at Petworth, and another one who didn't make it, was umpiring a cricket match at Sheffield Park. What a rich assortment!

"Such a very pleasant way to pass an afternoon with good neighbours. Thanks so much, Rob and Maddy. We look forward to the next one!"



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29 years and counting?

CUCKFIELD BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

By Maxim Rickard

The Cuckfield Bonfire and Fireworks - this year to be held Saturday 7th November - is in its 29th year. Or is it?

The bonfire event as we know it today was established after the great storm of 1987. However, it seems the village has a bonfire history dating back to the 1800s. We are grateful to Cuckfield resident and local historian Andy Revell who has unearthed some newspaper clippings that tell of earlier celebrations on a grand scale

Hastings and St Leonards Observer - Saturday 11th November 1876

CUCKFIELD – The Fifth of November was celebrated here on Monday by the Bonfire Club, the town being crowded with visitors from all parts, it being calculated that not less than 2000 persons were present. The main procession started from the Rose and Crown, the Bonfire Boys' head quarters, soon after 8 pm. There was a capital display of fireworks during the evening, and the proceedings were conducted with strict propriety and decorum, the members of the club, which is well supported, acting as special constables to keep order, and everything passed off quietly.

Agricultural Express - Friday 7th November 1890

CUCKFIELD GUY FAWKES DAY – Guy Fawkes Day was not by any means forgotten, the Cuckfield Bonfire Society carrying out a very successful demonstration.

Shortly after seven the first procession was formed at the Rose and Crown. Headed by the Burgess Hill Fire Brigade and the Cuckfield Town Band the processionists, completely disguised in the most fanciful of costumes, carrying torches and accompanied by blazing tar-barrels, paraded the streets.

The costumes were of the most varied character—policemen, soldiers and sailors, Highlanders, Zulus His Satanic Majesty, King Charles and Henry VIII's.

The procession marched to the King's Head Hotel and the White Hart Inn, and after brief rest, retraced its way back to the Rose and Crown. In a meadow close by the head quarters a bonfire was lit, and amid general rejoicing, much cheering, and display of fireworks, Guy Fawkes was consigned to the flames.

More recently what started in 1987 as a response to a natural disaster has since developed into one of the village's major annual fundraising events.

An enthusiastic committee plan the event - a huge task given today's complex health and safety, insurance and public order needs - with the aim to run a safe, spectacular and fun evening and raise money for good causes.

Written into the constitution of the Cuckfield Bonfire Society is that all funds raised, after costs, go to young people in education locally. Over the years, many thousands of pounds have been raised for Holy Trinity Primary School, Cuckfield; Woodlands Meed Special School; Kangaroos in Haywards Heath; Cuckfield Playgroup; and the Cuckfield Museum.

The event has grown to the point where we can be hosting upwards of 6,000 people who require access to the site, viewing areas and a wide range of refreshment choices - all safely and efficiently delivered. We couldn't do this without some 45 additional volunteers who help with car parking, site security and marshalling the firework and bonfire areas. This year's event will be held on Saturday 7th November with gates opening 6pm, bonfire lit 6.45pm and fireworks to music at 7.30pm. The event is being held in the beautiful grounds of Cuckfield Park, courtesy of the Mayou family.

Visitors can expect the usual HUGE bonfire decorated with many Guys made by the children of Holy Trinity Primary. Bright FM's roadshow gets things swinging until the bonfire is lit - by tradition by the newly elected Mayor of Cuckfield - followed by a professionally run firework display, choreographed to music.

There will be a host of food and drink stands raising money for the stallholders' own good causes and, as you would expect at a family event, strictly no alcohol.

A fantastic evening in prospect for all the family and, with such a rich history and worthy causes to benefit, this is surely a village tradition worth supporting.

www.cuckfieldbonfire.co.uk

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Rose & Crown wins Best Eatery

Last month Cuckfield restaurant The Rose & Crown won the coveted Best Eatery award at the Bright Awards 2015.

Father and son business owners Mark and Simon Dennis picked up the award at the ceremony organised by local radio station Bright FM.

Paul Williams, who presented the award, commented: The Rose & Crown was praised for its relaxed and comfortable atmosphere, its cleanliness and its varied, ever-changing menu. Nominations gushed about the wonderful Sunday lunches, the monthly steak nights and the incredible attention to detail provided on all dishes. The fact they welcome walkers muddy boots and their dogs also went down well."

Interior design showroom open

After many successful years in Tunbridge Wells, Lisa Evans, owner of Ensor Interior Design is delighted to be opening a new showroom in Cuckfield.

The inspiring new space in the centre of the village is imaginatively stocked with a wide range of wonderful fabrics, wallpapers, furniture, curtains, blinds, lighting and homewares – and offers a bespoke, made-to-measure design and production service for curtains, blinds and upholstery, from traditional to contemporary in style.

Announcing the opening of the new showroom, Lisa said: "For many years we have designed homes for individual clients in West Sussex. Opening a new showroom in Cuckfield means we can provide a much better service to the county."

The new Ensor showroom is open 10 am to 4pm, Monday to Saturday.

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Remembrance Concert

For nearly twenty years the Mid-Sussex Remembrance Concert has been promoted by Ardingly Choral Society and this year it will take place in the Dolphin Centre on Sunday 8th November at 7.30pm in conjunction with Ardingly Prep School Choir and Mid-Sussex Sinfonia. The soloists will be tenor Lawrence Olsworth-Peter, baritone Mike Christie and soprano Olivia Bell. All have strong associations with the area and may well be known to many in Cuckfield.

The concert always starts with Robert Hammersley's moving Remembrance in which the children's choir plays an emotionally powerful role. Robert will, as usual, conduct the concert which features the children (under their director Stephen Smith) performing a selection of varied songs.

This is followed by Beethoven's Seventh Symphony Slow Movement to which Robert has added Siegfried Sassoon's uplifting poem Everyone Sang. There follows Panis Angelicus in which all the choral forces will perform and, after that, Verdi's exuberant Brindisi to lift everyone's spirits for a combined performance of Parry's Jerusalem to round off the first part of the concert before the performance of Puccini's Gloria.

Tickets (£14, concessions £12) will be available from Carousel Music, from Michael Kershaw (01825 791241) and on the door.



Great GCSE results

Students and staff at Warden Park Secondary Academy have been celebrating excellent GCSE results.

84% of students achieved an A*-C grade in English, 79% achieved A*-C grade in Maths and 78% of students achieved 2 A*-C grades in Science.

Headteacher Jonathan Morris said: "These results are truly excellent, and in spite of recent Government changes to the grade boundaries and degrees of difficulty in GCSEs, are the best ever results in this successful school's history." He also praised staff and students for their dedication and commitment which resulted in such positive outcomes.

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Christmas Craft and Gift Fair coming up at The Old School

The 4th Christmas Craft and Gift Fair will be held at The Old School on Saturday 21st November between 10am and 2.30pm.

There will be more than 40 stalls selling home produced cupcakes, knitted items, handbags, jewellery, candles, greetings cards, Christmas decorations, homeware, photo prints, books and many more gift ideas.

In the refreshment area, homemade soup, cakes, tea and coffee will be available throughout the day at very reasonable prices for visitors and stallholders.

Why not call in for a coffee, lunch or tea and resolve the annual problem of what to give your favourite Auntie for Christmas? Admission to the fair is free.



Golden Annivers-e-tree half term kids fun

Continuing the 2015 celebrations of Kew being at Wakehurst for 50 'golden' years, children are invited to participate in various Golden Annivers-e-tree activities during half term.

From 26th-30th October children can follow the golden leaf tree trail to find three fantastic trees and learn some fun facts about them.

Following the 'tree' theme, children will also be invited to dress up as a seed, scientist or gardener and pose with their newspaper pot! Or they can complete the other half of a Symme-tree and colour it in.

Events take place at Wakehurst Place, Ardingly from 10.30am-3.30pm and cost £2 per child.
<http://bit.ly/1KkDzwr>



Village Hall now open

Cuckfield resident, three times Mayor of the village and long-standing parish councillor Ken Gregory had the pleasure of officially renaming and opening the new Cuckfield Village Hall last month.

Cuckfield Parish Council secured a loan to buy the property in 2014, and the building came into its ownership in February this year.

Nigel Page, chair of the Parish Council, thanked a number of people in his speech at the event. Firstly he thanked the users of the hall for working to ensure continuation of use. Also noted were Annette Jones, Nicky Sage, Frances Jones and Piers Harrison. There were also representatives from Building Heroes who worked on the repairs and also a number of people from the local community who gave up their time to give the hall a spring clean before the start of the new term.

Cuckfield Village Hall is now operated by the Parish Council. Enquiries for hire bookings should be directed to 01444 451610.



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Agent gets on his bike

VILLAGE PEOPLE



By Georgia Lambert

I was in awe when speaking to Cuckfield estate agent, Richard Butler, director at Mansell McTaggart, about his truly commendable fundraiser in aid of the charity Parkinson's UK. Armed with his kit, energy tablets and a mental inventory of some questionable French phrases, he set off on his mammoth cycle ride from London to Paris. On 5th September, Richard cycled his last leg towards the Eiffel Tower, where a great big pat on the back and an ice cold beer awaited him. With the ultimate goal of raising as much money as possible for the charity, Richard managed to raise an impressive £4,200 so far.

Richard decided to support the charity after seeing the worsening symptoms of his father since he was diagnosed with the condition in 2007. "It takes its toll on the whole family, the need for extended support is crucial," Richard said. He also explained that although the medication helped to keep most of the discomfort at bay. Unfortunately they each have their own array of unpleasant side effects that became a monotonous part of his day. Parkinson's UK works to maintain a positive outlook for sufferers and their loved ones, with support groups and organised fundraisers held all year round. Moreover, with donations they are able to fund vital medical research and self-management programmes called 'A Path through Parkinson's'.

Last year Richard decided to fundraise actively. "There is a lot of general negativity around and I thought it would be nice to take part in a challenge to raise morale," he explained. "I wanted to channel my thoughts into the prospect and reach personal goals like getting fitter, while raising money for a good cause." So he started a disciplined training regime for twelve months in order to get fit and build up a cycling stamina. "I would wake up

and go to the local gym every day, carry out sessions of indoor cycling and, when the weather was good, I would cycle for long distances in the English countryside with like-minded riders by my side." he said. Being a Cuckfield resident, Richard would find himself cycling past local businesses in the High Street, to local countryside and outside of the village. His prime motivation was his father. His secondary motivation was a long playlist full of high tempo, lively songs!

The ride itself sounded immense. Richard rode from London to Dover, with a welcomed break on the ferry into Calais, only to have to mount his bike and ride to Paris. When asked if he preferred riding in England or in France, Richard replied: "France, definitely. In England we're all living on top of each other, with crowded roads and pot holes everywhere! France on the other hand, has a nicer atmosphere. It's an absolute pleasure cycling abroad, I would definitely like to cycle back on the continent again." With its quiet country lanes, respectable drivers and quiet, rural villages - sorry England - the ride from Calais sounded a lot more pleasing! With long stretches of serene countryside there were plenty of moments to enjoy and take in, particularly around the Somme Memorial which was very poignant to his journey.

However breathtaking the surroundings were, the challenge was still present. Both in rainy England and sunny France, Richard had to complete a substantial 80 miles a day. "The hardest aspect was getting used to doing the mileage one day and then getting out of bed and repeating that distance the next day and building endurance was particularly difficult when getting used to riding up hilly terrain." He explained how difficult it was to get his head around cycling for nine hours each day;

"A moment I shall never forget is being one of 140 riders cycling down the Champs Élysées to cheering crowds."

however the self-sacrificial misery didn't last long because Richard was simply determined to finish the challenge. I can imagine it would be very easy to lose morale and spirit when cycling up a never-ending hill in the rain. However that was not the case for Richard. Instead of over-thinking the challenge and, becoming overwhelmed, he sustained his morale by thinking objectively about the journey in bite sized chunks.

In addition to this, he spoke about his fellow fundraisers riding with him and the rapport and friendships that were built. Out of the 140 riders the majority were fundraising for Parkinson's UK and a few riders were also sufferers of the condition. The truth that anyone can fundraise if they put their mind to it really resonated with me. Richard spoke admirably about one particular sufferer, an older man who wanted to raise awareness of the condition. It was clear he was struggling with the challenge, however he tried and he completed the challenge with the support of his peer riders. The outstanding spirit of the challenge spurred Richard on to ultimately finish the ride. "A moment I shall never forget is being one of the 140 riders, cycling down the Champs Élysées, around the Arc de Triomphe and finally arriving at the Eiffel Tower to cheering crowds," Richard recalled.

When asked if he would consider taking part in more challenges and cycling routes, he said: "I'd ultimately love to complete the Land's End to John o' Groats journey on my bike but maybe Paris to Geneva first." Evidently the London to Paris cycle ride has turned Richard into a major cycling enthusiast!

Richard's story is a prime example how charitable work can unite people. He explained that by experiencing this amazing journey with other like-minded people, a community was formed. Richard started this challenge alone in London and finished alongside friends in Paris.

This is an incredible achievement that has raised an equally incredible amount of money. Richard exclaimed: "I am so pleased I have done it! A massive thanks to everyone for all their messages of support and kind donations."

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Using your space right

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If you are considering building work in your home, or have done in the past, the chances are that you have researched local architects and tried to work out who might work with you best to achieve your dream. In this article we showcase Cuckfield resident Sarah Breeze, a qualified architect since 2005, and one who's had an interesting journey to arrive in the village.

Sarah grew up in this area and went to school at Ardingly College with a music scholarship. However she was to choose a career path which joined her love of art and mathematics. Architecture was the obvious choice and she went to study at Oxford Brookes University.

During her first four years Sarah took the opportunity to take a year out working in Australia for a practice in Sydney. There she worked on a project converting a heritage dockyard into luxury apartments; it was a baptism of fire! "Suddenly I was 7,000 miles away from home and working on a real project," Sarah explained.

But that wasn't the only time she took herself out of her comfort zone while at university. During her architectural post-graduate diploma Sarah took an extra diploma in urban design and was part of a group of 12 students who put it into practice in a regeneration project in Lima, Peru. And in 2002 she chose to spend her last year in an exchange programme studying at Virginia Technical College in Washington, USA.

While in the United States Sarah got a job working part time for HOK International, the largest US-based architectural practice. This, in turn, happily secured Sarah's path into work after she graduated when she was offered a job in the London office.

In this role she was the principal architect on a security zone being created at Windsor Castle for the Police. "I was just 25 and immediately thrown into running site meetings with security services and administering building contracts. I learnt a lot on that project, not least about the delicacy of listed buildings and conservation," Sarah says. This project was the perfect training ground

for achieving her qualification with the Architectural Association. "Once in a job it is necessary for trainee architects to obtain the last part of their licence to practice by working on a real world scheme. Windsor Castle contained all the necessary elements including contracts, planning and historical significance," she commented.

In her next position, Sarah spent three years as the project architect on a luxury high-end development in Knightsbridge. The six new build apartments and underground parking were behind a listed retained façade. It was during this project that she knew she wanted to focus on residential design. The various details of someone's new home are all part of the appeal for Sarah.

Her next step was to be head-hunted to join a small practice of just 10 in Battersea, where she worked on a number of beautiful homes in Chelsea and Mayfair. As Jones Lambell was a much smaller firm it meant Sarah learnt how to run the business of an architects practice too; from fee proposals to invoices.

During this time she got married to Ed and they soon had their first son Max and then Benjamin. For Sarah the plan had always been to move out of London and down to Sussex when she had children. The call of family nearby and great schools on the doorstep were all part of the allure. So it wasn't long before their consideration turned into action and they moved away from town.

So, two and a half years ago, they bought their family home in Cuckfield, and haven't looked back since. "It's a good size village," Sarah comments, "with great commuter links for Ed and also enables me to still be connected to London too."

Sarah started her own practice as soon as they moved and now enjoys specialising in listed buildings and work in conservation areas. She's very proud to note that she has submitted more than 100 planning applications in her career to date and has a 100% track record for approval.



Many of her clients are homeowners from Cuckfield and the surrounding local villages wishing to extend as their needs change, a position which she is all too familiar with.

Laura, one satisfied client, put it like this: "Sarah entered our home as the consummate professional as well as an empathetic mum. This combination made for a great working relationship as we designed an open plan living space for our growing family. She inspired me, as a new mum, that being a part time professional was indeed possible... and that service level and efficiency don't have to be compromised!"

Another client, Gemma from Lindfield, comments: "Working with Sarah was great. Her designs are in keeping with modern family living and her honest approach to time management and budgets are very refreshing."

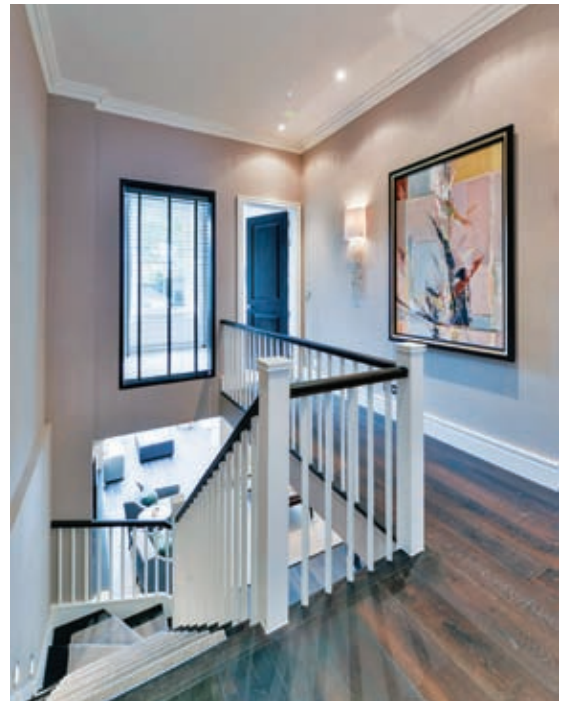
As well as typical extensions and renovations Sarah is increasingly being commissioned to go on a second viewing of a property with clients in order to give her professional opinion on what could be undertaken in order to make it the house they want.

Sarah is also pleased to have a number of builders, engineers and surveyors in her armory. "It's always useful to have local professionals and tradesmen who I know can be trusted so that I can share this with clients in the area."

Above all, her role within your project will be one that's flexible. She goes on: "Some clients have the time and inclination to manage each stage of the development themselves, whereas others are more than happy to let me arrange and keep the various trades in check and on time!"

If you'd like to discuss your own project with Sarah, she'd love to talk to you. Call Sarah Breeze on 07920 520 360 or email sarah@breezechitect.com

"Together we designed an open plan living space for our growing family"





Cuckfield PARISH COUNCIL

News from
Cuckfield Parish
Council

Autumn 2015

Official Open Day and naming of Cuckfield Village Hall (formerly Cuckfield Youth Club)

On Friday 18th September the official opening and naming of the recently acquired community building took place. Formerly known as the Cuckfield Youth Club in London Lane, the building is now called Cuckfield Village Hall. To mark the occasion an open afternoon was held and residents and local groups were invited along to celebrate the parish's second community hall. Former long serving councillor, Ken Gregory was asked to unveil the new name plaque and officially open the building. Many people came along to share in this achievement, to look at the hall, displays from existing hirers and enjoy refreshments and cake! The Parish Council wishes to thank everyone who came along.

Don't forget... Cuckfield Village Hall in London Lane is available for hire through the Parish Office on 01444 451610.



Roads & Traffic

Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) in the High Street and London Lane

As reported in our last newsletter, HGVs travelling through the village continue to be a problem. Concerned about this issue, the Parish Council took a request to the County Local Committee (CLC) to consider approval of a 7.5 tonne weight limit on the whole of the High Street and London Lane. Unfortunately, the request is in abeyance whilst West Sussex County Council reviews its Traffic Regulation Order process which is not expected until the end of the year. On the same issue, at a recent Council meeting, members also supported a proposal put forward by the Lindfield Preservation Society, for a Traffic Regulation Order to regulate the routes of HGVs around the greater part of Central and North Mid Sussex. Whilst this proposal also gained much support from surrounding villages it appears an area wide restriction would not be supported by the Police. We are still monitoring the situation. In the meantime, we are writing to local hauliers requesting they use the main 'A' roads around the village in order to reduce the impact of these large vehicles on our residents and roads.

Community Speedwatch – the Council has requested information from the Police on its new Speedwatch scheme being introduced. Speedwatch is a locally driven initiative where active members of the community join together with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. Further information can be obtained from visiting the following website: <https://www.communityspeedwatch.co.uk>. Further details will be provided when available but if you are interested please contact the Parish Office so information can be sent to you.

Reporting Anti-Social Driving

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

High Street Pavement – Whilst some minor work was carried out by the Highways department and larger notices erected, the condition of the pavement between Leyton Lea and the entrance to the Recreation Ground remains unsatisfactory. The Council is to meet with West Sussex County Council Highways Department and the County Councillor to try and resolve the matter and seek a longer term solution.

Diary Dates

Christmas Street Festival:
High Street, Cuckfield
Friday 11th December 2015, 6-8pm

Rain or Shine Theatre present:
A Christmas Carol
at The Queen's Hall, on Tues 22nd December 2015

Planning

Two planning appeals for the "Land Parcel East of Broad Street" (references APP/D3830/W/15/3038217 and APP/D3830/W/15/3129329), have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate against refusal of a proposed housing development of 20 dwellings and 4 dwellings, respectively. The Parish Council has informed the Inspectorate it wishes to act as an Interested Party at the Hearings, currently scheduled for January 2016. The Parish Council's purpose is to support the District Council's decision to refuse housing development on the land in question. The planning applications are in conflict with a number of Cuckfield Neighbourhood Plan policies; in particular the land in question being outside the Built Up Area Boundary and its effect on coalescence and views by reducing the remaining open gap between Cuckfield and Haywards Heath.

Dog Fouling

Dog fouling along the pavements and footpaths, especially along walk to school routes, is once again on the increase. This behaviour on the part of dog owners is both anti-social and irresponsible. Don't forget that, not only is this very unpleasant but, particularly where children are concerned, this can lead to toxocarasis. This is an infection caused by parasitic roundworms found in the intestines of dogs and cats. Toxocara infections can cause an eye disease that occurs when a microscopic worm enters the eye; each year more than 700 people infected with toxocara experience permanent or a partial loss of vision.

There are plenty of special dog bins around the village where the mess can be disposed of in a hygienic manner, please use them.

Parish Council meetings

OCTOBER - DECEMBER

15th October	Planning	7.30pm
29th October	Environment	7.30pm
	Community Bldg.	8.15pm
5th November	Planning	7.30pm
	Roads & Traffic	8.15pm
19th November	Queen's Hall	8pm
26th November	Planning	7.30pm
	Finance	8.15pm
10th December	Planning	7.30pm
	Full Council	8.15pm



YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

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nigel.page@nlp-one.com

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www.thequeenshall.co.uk

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

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

More dates for your diary...

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

Jack and Jill Carers & Toddlers

Cuckfield Baptist Church

Polestub Lane, Cuckfield, RH17 5GP

Tuesdays in term time 9.30-11.15am

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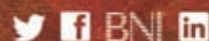
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Hallways

DESIGN AT HOME

By **Fiona Evans**, interior designer

Oozing with original features, loaded with personality, minimal, quirky, tidy or messy the hall is the first glimpse that visitors see of your home. With a little bit of encouragement an uplift will make it welcoming and add the 'wow factor'. The hall can easily become a bit of a dumping ground especially if there's not enough storage.

Here are a few ideas to make the best use of the space, transforming the hall into a feature. As always the first step is to de-clutter and de-clutter again, tackling the huge task of sorting through the paraphernalia in the cupboard under the stairs, if you have one.

Decoration: Enhance original features to emphasise character. Lighten the space with white or tranquil neutrals. Use bold colours or wallpaper on one wall to emphasise shape if the space can take it.

Flooring: The floor is bound to get wet/muddy from time to time helped along by children's wellies and man's best friend. If you are having a new hard wearing floor laid such as wooden boards, tiles or carpet, then a door mat cut into the new flooring is less of a trip hazard and also creates a smooth flowing surface. In a small hall choose a rug with a small repeating design as a large design will make the space look smaller. A small hall could benefit by opening up the area under the stairs and fitting the same pale flooring through the entire space.

Heating: Insulate the front door to eliminate those pesky cold draughts. Consider encasing the radiator with a cover to create a feature and increase storage by adding shelves above. By painting the cover and shelves the same as the wall behind they will appear to melt into the wall and widen the area. A patterned radiator grille will appear as a texture when painted.

Lighting: Sufficient, attractive lighting enhances any interior. Natural daylight will flow through a glazed front door but in the evening consider a statement pendant light such as a chandelier if you have high ceilings, creating a focal point. A welcoming lamp on a console table will add cosiness and lighting under an open staircase will enhance the size of the space. In a small hall a mirror will bounce light all the more and wallpaper with a bit of sparkle will make the area look larger.

Storage: Unless the cupboard under the stairs is now a downstairs loo, micro office or utility area it remains a valuable storage space for essentials that ideally need to live in the hall such as coats, shoes, umbrellas and wellies. Reorganise the cupboard to accommodate hangers, hooks and drawers and maybe your vacuum cleaner and mop. There are some very clever ways that you can transform the space into nifty storage areas, including drawers that fit into each stair riser so that the understairs area becomes a fitted, bespoke unit.

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What a show

CUCKFIELD VILLAGE SHOW

It was a spectacularly glorious September afternoon when The Cuckfield Society opened the gates to Cuckfield Park and the annual Village Show.

As the sun shon the WI served tea and cakes, the Mid Sussex Brass Band played, the Cuckfield Archers instructed newbies on technique and the beverages flowed from the beer tent.

The marquee was packed with hundreds of entries from Cuckfield residents who had tried their hand at the wide variety of categories from growing potatoes and a covered cushion to a limerick about childhood and an item in wood. It was an amazing display of creative talent.

There was plenty of interest from the younger generation too again this year with Niamh Flynn taking first prize for her hedgerow in a jam jar. Hermione Boyle made a tree from the contents of her recycling bin and Jamie Heron-Smith won the #selfie class.

- The main results are as follows from this year's event:
- Best in Horticultural Section: David Forth
 - Best in Floral Art Section: Margaret Hamson
 - Best in Food & Drink Section: Emma Gosling
 - Best in Crafts Section: Lisa Humphrey
 - Best in Arts & Photography Section: Jo Roche
 - Best in Show Junior: Jessica Eaton
 - The Aileen Craigen Cup for Best Preserve: Alisa Burton
 - The Katie Stewart Cup: Elaine Baty
 - Best in Show: 1st George Baty, 2nd Jo Roche, 3rd Gorden Peters

More information see www.cuckfield.org or watch our short video of the event on YouTube see: <https://youtu.be/RL5Xpgu46nl>







Ringing the changes

LOCAL HISTORY

By Claire Cooper

Holy Trinity Church takes centre stage at Cuckfield Museum this season as the village celebrates the 200th anniversary of the Waterloo Bells.

A new display 'Ringing the Changes,' looks at the history of the church bells, and follows the story of Holy Trinity over the past two centuries.

The exhibition, which includes stunning photographs, was suggested by Holy Trinity vicar Michael Maine – himself a recent addition to the historical village church!

Originally there were six bells dating from 1633 but in 1815 they were recast and two more added in as part of the celebrations after the battle of Waterloo. As a result, the two new ones were named the Waterloo Bells.

As part of the anniversary celebrations, visitors were recently invited to venture into the bell tower, meet the ringers and see the bells for themselves.

The exhibition also explores the first re-ordering of the church in the mid 19th century. This included removing much of the dark wood which would have filled the church including the old triple decker pulpit, the high box pews and the gallery around the side of the church.

The stained glass designer C. E. Kempe painted the walls and ceiling of the chancel and later the ceiling of the nave, and the museum display includes some of his paintbrushes which were found on high ledges in the nave during conservation work in 2002.

"The church certainly had a very different feeling after 1886 when the work was complete," said Phillippa Malins from the museum. "It glowed with colour and was much less dark and congested."

The exterior of the church has also changed over the years - in particular the finial and the weathercock on the top of the spire. The original bird was replaced in 1818 with a cockerel made by a local plumber, Thomas Knowles.

Knowles' bird was made in memory of a Church Warden, William Clutton. The exhibition includes a postcard dating from 1912 when the cockerel was taken

down for re-gilding. The picture shows the steeplejack who would later put the bird back in its place.

"This bird sat atop a cross shaped finial until the tragic events of 1st May 1980 when the spire mysteriously caught fire," said Phillippa. "No satisfactory explanation for the fire has ever been found although there was one theory that a jackdaw carried a lighted cigarette in through an air vent and the dry medieval timbers caught immediately."

She added that the fire started at about 6.20pm and by 6.55pm, most of the tower had collapsed into the churchyard, fortunately not into the tower itself.

Another photo shows the moment when the cross and the weathercock crashed to the ground. "Amazingly, the vicar, the Rev Eric Hayden managed to retrieve them both," said Phillippa. "The cockerel was straightened out by pupils at Warden Park School in their metalwork class, sent away for re-gilding and now sits on top of the new steel framed tower."

The finial was repaired and usually hangs inside the bell tower but has been kindly loaned to the museum for the exhibition.

The recent re-ordering in 2012 saw the mid Victorian bench pews replaced by individual carved wooden seats which can be moved according to the occasion. The old wooden floor was taken up and a new underfloor heating system installed.

As the work was carried out, visitors enjoyed viewing the works and the barrel vaulted tombs which were found under the floor. Thought to date from the early 17th century, none of the tombs could be disturbed and, although the church has a list of likely names for the burials, none could be identified.

Although some of the objects on display are from the Museum's collection, most have been kindly loaned by the Holy Trinity bell ringers, the Churchwardens and Rev Michael Maine.

The exhibition runs until 12th December 2015.




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Baptist Church building progresses


Following the start of the project earlier in the year, Cuckfield Baptist Church is nearing the completion of the new build at the end of Polestub Lane.

The building will feature one large hall and a smaller hall too, as well as offices, kitchen facilities and a number of meeting rooms. The contractor's schedule is running to time and the church hopes it may have access to the building as early as next month. However there is already planned an official opening weekend on 23rd/24th January – when everything will be completed.

David Sprouse, pastor, commented: "We are really excited by the new space. As a church we are looking forward to be able to do new things that simply weren't possible in our current chapel."

Photo (right): Pastor David Sprouse with church member Andrew Symonds standing in the new large hall.





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Bolnore residents celebrate phase 4a completion!

By Sophia Barlow

It was August Bank Holiday weekend, so obviously it rained. Plans were delayed, cakes were iced.... slowly, the paella simmered gently, the pulled pork, well hadn't we all had enough pulled pork already this summer anyway? Then out of the drizzle some stoical Europeans stepped up, and lent in. Suddenly the bunting was hung, the gazebos were up, the BBQ was lit, the tables were out and it was time for our street party. At last. Because the street party meant 'bye-bye' diggers, hello Jo, Paul, Harrison, Andrea, Kevin, Grace and Sarah and all our lovely new neighbours. No more site managers, no more 7am deliveries or Saturday snagging. The only snags in fact were on the BBQ, and very nice they were too! Hooray for the houses in phase 4a in Bolnore Village finally being completed, and marked by street party number 1!



Club welcomes England netball pro

Fresh from securing a Netball World Cup bronze medal in Sydney this summer, England Goal Defence Eboni Beckford-Chambers took time out of her busy schedule to run a coaching session at recently established Woodside Netball Club based at Bolnore Village.

Surrey resident Eboni started her career playing for Netball Superleague giants Team Bath moving quickly through the ranks to gain her first England cap in 2008. Now with an impressive 70 caps to her name, Eboni has been playing in the world class ANZ championships in Australia-New Zealand for four years but will now relocate back to England to perform again in the British domestic competition.

Eboni spent two hours putting 15 players of mixed ability through their paces. After the session, club chairman Alison Armstrong said: "Having Eboni train the girls this evening was enormously motivating for them all. Eboni has promised to come back and we would be delighted to welcome her! I hope her attendance here in Haywards Heath tonight will spur others on to pick up netball. Come and join us!"

Netball is a rapidly growing sport, with just under 100,000 members affiliated to England Netball and playing in local and regional leagues all over the country.

Woodside Netball Club holds adult 'back to netball' sessions on Sundays from 5.30-7pm on the outdoor court at The Woodside, Bolnore Village Haywards Heath. Junior sessions started last month at 4-5.15pm on Sundays.

Anyone interested in joining the club or finding out more should contact them via Facebook 'Woodside Netball Club'. Players of all standard are welcome.



Congrats to staff at Bolnore's The Style Lounge who raised £194 for Macmillan at the Coffee Morning held last month.

The urban challenge

VILLAGE GREEN

By Margaret Tyzack More, Cuckfield Local

The sun is warm as I sit by a sea reflecting the great storm in the night. Thunder, lightening and torrential rain broke our dreams but all is different now. Hens peck in the sand around my feet. Ducks are enjoying the puddles in the grass under the lemon and pomegranate trees. Remembering that Cuckfield thinks global, acts local, this month's Village Green comes to you from Turkey.

Reading the in-flight magazine between Gatwick and Istanbul two articles jumped out at me which have interest for us in Cuckfield. The first told me of an urban honey industry unfolding in Copenhagen. The project owner, Oliver Maxwell, holds the view that 'the challenge of our time is to find a way to be productive in urban areas that also helps the environment'. This is a win win project. There are beehives on roofs and in parks each tended the whole season by a City Bee Employee. These are people who are on the fringes of the employment market, the marginalised and refugees. In this way the project benefits the local environment and people at the same time as raising awareness of the natural world and our place in it. The appropriate flowers, bushes and trees are grown in parks and gardens Good to know that others share our Cuckfield Local Bee Friendly to Pollinators Campaign intent.

The next article brought me back to 2015 International Year of Soil that I mentioned earlier this year. In October, Turkey is hosting the United Nations Conference on Desertification. This is a great problem around the world where soils are being disturbed by inappropriate farming methods and climate change. Erosion causes loss of productivity and people are being forced from their homes following drought and land loss. 110 countries are affected. The UN Conference will report to the Climate Change Conference in Paris in November. Turkey has planted 3.2 billion trees in the last ten years reducing land fertility loss by a large percentage. We saw several new plantations as we drove between the ancient sites of South Eastern Turkey and there were smaller groups of trees in many places too. The Cuckfield link for me was the large areas of land we are loosing around us, not from climate change or drought but from estate after estate of new houses being built on green fields.

One of the places we visited is Gobeklipe which dates back at least ten thousand years. Only discovered in 1994 it was particularly interesting to see animals carved in relief on the T-shaped stones. Bulls, foxes, lions and others are beautifully depicted and the archaeologists call it the first sculptural workshop.

Returning to Sussex, we have small packs of wild flower seeds available on our table at the Cuckfield Local Food Market to support our own pollinators. The next Market is at The Talbot on 14th November from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Lastly, please check your BONFIRE for HIBERNATING HEDGEHOGS before lighting!

Dave 'G'

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Wednesday	9 am	Beginner - Improver
	11 am	Absolute Beginner / Back to Basics
Friday	9.30 am	Beginner - Improver
	10.45 am	Improver - Intermediate

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What's on this month

AT QUEEN'S HALL

AND ELSEWHERE

Regular weekly classes (many are drop-in classes):

Monday

- 9.30am **Fluid Physio** (Pilates)
- 11am **Weigh In – Work Out**
- 1.30pm **Join the Line**
- 7.30pm **Haywards Heath & District Canine Society** – Ring Craft

Tuesday

- 9am **Tiny Soccerstars**
- 9.30am **Tinkerbells** - music classes for children
- 3pm **Codanza**
- 6.30pm **Haywards Heath & District Canine Society** – Obedience Class
- 7pm **Pilates**

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**
- 10am **Pilates**
- 7.30pm **Social Ballroom and Latin American Dance**

Friday

- 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.

October

- 15th **Cuckfield Museum talk** – 8pm
'Longcase Clocks of Sussex' by Stephen Doerr, Antiquarian Horologist
(Tickets: 01444 457448)
- 30th/ **Cuckfield Dramatic Society 'Silhouette'**
31st (Tickets from Mansell McTaggart & Wealden Stores)

November

- 10th **Cuckfield Museum talk** – 2.30pm
The Council Chamber – 'The Women's Land Army' by Ian Everest, historian.
(Tickets: Mike Nicholson on 01444 457448)
- 13th **Evening Flower Club** – Floral Imagination by Jean Plaskett
- 27th- **The Attic Club Art Fair**
29th Admission free with donations to charity.

October

- 17th **Wellbeing Event** – The Woodside, Bolnore Village from 12noon
- 20th **Cuckfield Evening WI** – 8pm, The Old School Annual General Meeting
- 24th- **Halloween Week** – Borde Hill Garden
1st Childrens Activities 11am-3pm
- 28th **The Royal British Legion Women's Section**
10.30am-12noon, The Old School, Cuckfield Annual General Meeting
- 30th **Quiz Night** – The Woodside, Bolnore Village, 7.30pm (www.bolnorewoodside.org.uk)

November

- 3rd **NHS Retirement Fellowship Mid-Sussex Branch**
10.15am, Franklands Village Hall
'Route 66' by Neil Sadler
- 6th **Sussex Mineral and Lapidary Society** – 7.30pm
Redwood Centre, Perrymount Road, HH
Illustrated talk by Walter Veldsman
'Tsumeb Mineral Collection' – All welcome.
(Free admission 01444 483041 www.smls.org.uk)
- 7th **Cuckfield Bonfire & Fireworks** – Cuckfield Park
Gates open at 6pm, bonfire lit at 6.45pm, fireworks to music starts at 7.30pm
(More info p.6 or www.cuckfieldbonfire.co.uk)
- 14th **Beer Festival** – 3-8pm, The Woodside, Bolnore Village
- 14th **Sussex Mineral Show** – 10am to 4.30pm, Clair Hall and the Redwood Centre, HH.
Something for everyone, every age. Talks, children's workshops, over 30 dealers, equipment, books, gems, fossils, refreshments, bar, tombola (adults £2.50, children 50p)
- 20th **Quiz Night** – 7.30pm, Cuckfield Golf Centre
£12 per person – Maximum of 6 players per team.
To include food and prizes. (01444 459999)
- 28th **Christmas Fayre** – 10.30am-2.30pm, Ansty Village Hall, Deaks Lane.
Do come for that last minute present.
Refreshments available - Admission free and no parking charges. (All enquiries Maureen 01444 413061. Tables to hire £10 - must be pre-booked)

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November Food Market
Sat 14th Talbot Courtyard
9:30 am-12:30pm

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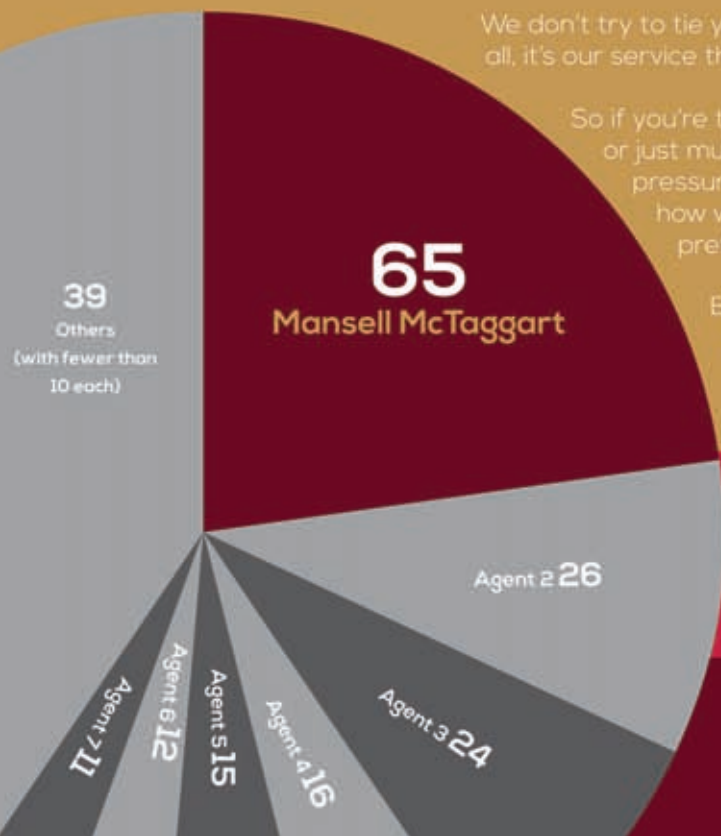
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Best wishes

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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