



Findon

April
2016

The community newsletter
For Findon,
West Sussex

Editor: Nick Gore

News

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Articles for publication (**maximum 650 words**) can be submitted by email to findonnews@zoho.com, or via the 'Findon News Box' in the Village Newsagents.

Closing Date For Next Publication: 20th April 2016

Traffic, Enhancement, People

The Consultation Continues See Page 16

Please Respond

Your input is vital so complete the survey at
Findon Parish Council Website.

<http://findon.arun.gov.uk>

Findon Village Gardens Association

Spring Flower Show

Saturday April 2nd

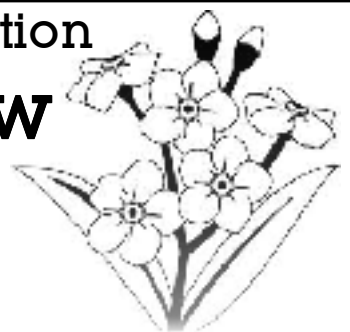
Findon Village Hall

from 2pm

"something to suit every garden size and pocket"



Free
entry



Findon Parish Council Report – March 2016

Volunteers are becoming more and more valuable in helping us with all the projects that we take on as the village progresses. That was brought home to me very forcefully on March 7th following the TEP (Traffic, Environment & People) presentation.

Steve Flitton chaired the meeting and David Hutchison presented a first initial draft of some of the ideas he and the rest of the group had discussed, so that Findon could be made both safer and a more visually attractive place for all of to live in. Over 100+ villagers attended and I believe were really impressed with the amount of work and effort that underpinned the thinking.

During the FPC meeting that followed, Richard Bell demonstrated the first draft of the new Findon Village Community Website, and then Ed Wain outlined his vision for a major improvement, restoration and refurbishment of the Homewood Play Area.

Not one of these co-opted volunteers are Parish Councillors, but all give their time and skills very willingly and without any remuneration, just as the 11 Parish Councillors give their time to attending Planning, Finance, Open Spaces, Pre-School and Sheep Fair committees.

The Neighbourhood Plan would not have reached its final submission stages without a huge input from about 20 co-opted volunteers over a 2 year period, nor would Findon News be published without the continuous editorial effort from Nick and Meg Gore.

Do we need more volunteers? Yes! Cllrs Robin Carr and Del Henty spend at least a day per week on tidying the village spaces, and have worked wonders along the north verge of the A24 clearing it of mud and overgrown grass to make it passable for walkers, and cyclists.

Coincidentally they are also clearing the Glebe Land of the jungle, with admittedly a lot of help from Community Service 'volunteers' under Probation Service supervision.

Annual Parish Meeting

May 19th at 7pm

The Guest Speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting is Tony Steer, Chairman of Bolney Parish Council, who has created a team of 60+ volunteers to totally transform Bolney, as you will hear and see if you are able to attend.

Richard Bell will also be presenting an initial view of the Findon Village Community Website, and may well need a few qualified volunteers to help his small team monitor and control the website as time moves on.

How to help? Just register with our Parish Clerk on

findonvillagecouncil@gmail.com giving your preferred contact details, any skills you believe would be useful, whether they be physical or technical, so we can build a list of villagers who we could call on when a project needs help. This could be planting bulbs, trees, clearing undergrowth and pathways, hedge trimming etc., volunteering for stewardship duties for the Sheep Fair ►

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(Sept.10th) or being co-opted onto small working groups or committees tasked with a project that needs input like the emerging TEP project that so impressed the 100+ villagers attending the recent meeting.

Other News

The Planning Committee has become increasingly concerned at some of the decisions made by the South Downs National Park Authority Planning Directorate over the last 2 years. As a consequence we shall be asking for a dialogue with their senior management

to better understand why several of our recommendations on a number of planning decisions have either been ignored, or overturned without a satisfactory explanation.

The restoration of the outer walls of the Pre-School should commence later this month, which we hope will weatherproof the building for a few more years while the Pre-School management search for a new building.

Peter Goldsworthy
Chairman, FPC

South Downs National Park Urges Dog Owners To Be Aware and Take The Lead

Many people visit the South Downs National Park (SDNP) because it is a great place to walk your dog. There's plenty of space to let your dog off the lead and there's lots for them to explore within the boundaries of a National Park. Responsible dog walkers are very welcome in the South Downs

Taking responsibility for your dog is especially important in spring when young livestock are particularly vulnerable. Apart from livestock the South Downs is also home to many ground-nesting birds - any disturbance while the hen is sitting on eggs can end the chances of a successful brood. If you see signs asking you to keep your dog on the lead then please do so.

"We have been shocked to hear about the attack on a flock of sheep at West Dean," says Phil Belden, Director of Operations at the South Downs National Park Authority. "We know how devastating these events are for farmers – not just financially but also in having to deal with the aftermath. Our ranger teams work closely with the farmers in the South Downs to ensure that farming,

wildlife and people enjoying the National Park can happily co-exist....and ask dog owners to be aware of where their dogs are when out and about and when at home, and to keep them under close control whether you live in or are visiting the National Park."

Remember: as well as seeking compensation farmers can legally shoot a dog caught chasing livestock.

The National Park Authority has been running a 'Take the Lead' campaign for three years to raise awareness of the importance of keeping dogs under control so that owners and dogs can enjoy the National Park whilst respecting its wildlife, farmers and their livestock.

If you see a sheep attack please call the police immediately on 101.

A new campaign called SheepWatch UK has been set up to try and encourage the general public to help keep sheep safe across the nation. For more details see SheepWatch UK on Facebook Know the rules! Visit www.nationalsheep.org.uk and look under the "Dog Owners" section for more information.

Love in a Box 2015

It's nearly five months since the 161 shoe boxes filled with small gifts by our Parish and destined for Moldova, the poorest country in Europe, were collected from my home in November. Mustard Seed (the organising charity of Love in a Box) have sent us a Certificate of Appreciation, a Letter of Thanks and their up-to-date Newsletter. I have arranged for copies of each to be placed in each of our parish Churches so please do seek them out and see photos

of the children in receipt of their boxes and read more about the venture. Alternatively, try the Mustard Seed website at www.msrm.org.uk or contact me and I will email you copies.

Have you thought about starting your collection to fill a box for 2016 now? It is such a fun and fulfilling activity to find exciting small gifts to give pleasure to a child with so little. Please do contact me on 872324 if you would like further information.

Hilary Langford

Findon Village Carpet Bowls Group

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National Garden Scheme Snowdrop Festival.

Cissbury were delighted to be part of the recent National Garden Scheme Snowdrop Festival.

We enjoyed an amazing two days welcoming over 790 visitors to our gardens. We are delighted to have helped raise £3,100 in ticket sales and with additional donations still to be added from the sale of tea and cakes on

the day we were all overwhelmed with how much money was raised.

It was lovely to meet so many local people and we could not believe how many came from much further afield.

Thank you for all your wonderful feedback and such positive comments.

Etta Wyatt

Findon Village Gardens Association

Spring is with us officially and with the clocks going forward now is the time to enjoy time outside and in the garden.

Saturday April 2nd is the date for Findon Village Gardens Association Spring Flower show at the Village Hall from 2pm onwards, entry is free.

The show will be bigger and better this year with even more classes to enjoy, ranging from narcissi and tulips to hellebores and primroses not forgetting leeks and rhubarb on route. There will be the usual flower arrangers section including the petite exhibit entitled 'Storm in a tea cup',

then there are the cookery classes and last but not least the photography classes which include black and white photographs with the title 'A Ruin' and the novelty section under the guise of 'Knockers'.

Do come and join us we will have the afternoon refreshments, a cake stall, the ever popular raffle and the plant stall to provide inspiration for your own garden. Whether 10 acres of parkland or a miniature window box there will be something to suit your garden size and pocket.

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Spring Show

Saturday 2nd April 2pm

C&P Village Hall

Adults £1

Children & Members free of charge

Plants & Produce Raffle Tea Room
Books Bric-a-brac Cakes Lamb Corner

Entries 6-8pm, Friday 1st April

My beloved Ian

By Mary Short

My husband Ian "Titch" as he was often known, was born in School Hill, on 22nd November 1926.

The youngest child of Kathleen and Ernest Short; his older brother was named Anthony, but always called Sam. Both boys attended the Village School and helped on their Grandfather's farm. Ian's Grandfather, Albert Junior, owned Findon Farm and had a dairy herd so Ian used to deliver the milk all around the Village.

Sadly in 1938, at the age of 38, Ian's father Ernest died unexpectedly which had a huge impact on the family. Ian often spoke about this time, he was eleven and had to run down to fetch the doctor when his father was suddenly taken ill. Sam and Ian continued helping on the farm along with their Aunt Nellie,

she would churn the butter in the parlour.

When war broke out Ian was a Scout and would help find homes for the evacuees coming to Findon. Sam enlisted, and when Ian was 15 (pretending to be 16) he signed up with his best mate Fred Long..."the Long & the Short"!!

By the time Ian was de-mobbed and returned to Findon everything had changed. His Grandfather had died and Aunt Nellie, being sole heir to Findon Farm had put it up for sale, keeping only a cowman's cottage - Elder Cottage in Nephcote - to where she had moved. Ian's mother, Kathleen, had re-married and was now living in Pulborough with her husband - "old Riddell" as Ian would say.

Sam decided to leave Findon after the war and he emigrated to Canada. ►



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Ian had no home in Findon so Fred Long's mother insisted Ian lodged with them in The Oval, which he did and he had a great time there.

Ian got a job at Caffyns in Worthing. Ian was always very straight forward and down to earth – he said “I want your money and you want my services” and the Manager at Caffyns took him on. Later Ian became Service Manager at Anca Garage in Findon Valley and we met during this time.

Ian had three children, Richard and Alison from his first marriage and Maria from his second marriage. I am wife number three and was lucky enough to have 40 wonderful years with Ian. He was cheeky and had a great sense of humour – always making me laugh.

We bought a small holding near Chichester and spent four happy years there living the “Good Life”. In 1982 we moved to Slave Lake, Alberta and Ian worked for his brother Sam at Alpine Pumpjack Services. Ian's son Richard and wife Carole had moved there the year before and now Ian, Sam and Richard worked together. It was a great time. We used to go to the Legion on

Saturday nights and became known as “Fred & Ginger” because we were always the first couple on the dance floor. We had a caravan and toured around the Rockies and enjoyed a different way of living.

On our return to England in 1986 we settled back in Findon Village, moving several times in the Village (never ones to let the grass get too long underfoot!) including living at Aunt Nellie's Elder Cottage in Nephcote. Ian took up wood carving and always had his “workshop” where ever we moved. Ian's decoy ducks and walking sticks have been sent all over the world and up until very recently he was repairing sticks for Arundel walking stick shop.

Ian loved Findon, and especially enjoyed seeing the race horses about the Village and would avidly watch the racing on TV and follow the local trainers.

I have so many lovely memories. It's been an amazing journey with Ian and we are blessed to have so many great friends and family locally and in Canada. I miss him terribly but feel so lucky to have shared so much and enjoyed all of our life together.

The Cissbury Players

The Cissbury Players next Production is a comedy from the pen of Alan Ayckbourn entitled ‘Improbable Fiction’ Six aspiring authors meet on a winter's evening to discuss their work and the chairman, Arnold, attempts to persuade the group to collaborate on a piece of writing, an idea that is quickly dismissed. However as the writers wend their way home after the meeting there is a violent thunderstorm, a black-out and what happens next could only come from the imagination and pen of Ayckbourn. Zany, witty & entertaining. Do not miss this one.

The Players will open the doors of **Findon Village Hall** on **Thursday April 21st, Friday April 22nd & Saturday April 23rd** at 7.15pm, curtain up at 7.45pm.

Tickets priced at £9.00, are available from Peckhams the Butchers in Findon, on the door on performance nights or can be reserved for collection on the night by ringing 01903 240660.

Hope to see you in the audience.

More details about the Cissbury Players can be found on www.cissburyplayers.net

Property FOR SALE in your area.....



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michael
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Lunch @ 1

Lunch @ 1 was started, by members of St John the Baptist Church, to fill the gap left when the Friendship Club was disbanded. It is held in Findon Village Hall on the last Tuesday of each month, at 1pm! Any profits going towards church funds.

It is an excellent opportunity to enjoy a delicious lunch of soup and a pudding, in a friendly relaxed atmosphere in the company of friends old and new, all for the princely sum of £4.

There is always a choice of two soups, served with bread, and four puddings, examples of which can be seen on the sample menu [top right]. Seconds are often available, at no extra cost.

The food is freshly prepared and cooked by Dorothy Barber, Mary Childs and Barbara Stibbs. It is extremely tasty as I can verify having sampled many of the culinary delights on offer.

The meal is followed by tea or coffee for which a small donation is suggested. There is also a chance to take part in the raffle.

A new initiative is to sell surplus food, ready packed in a lidded container, for only £1 so you could have something for supper too.

If you haven't been along before please come and give it a try. It is open to everyone and you will be most welcome.

Next Lunch @ 1 Tuesday 26th April

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– Puddings –

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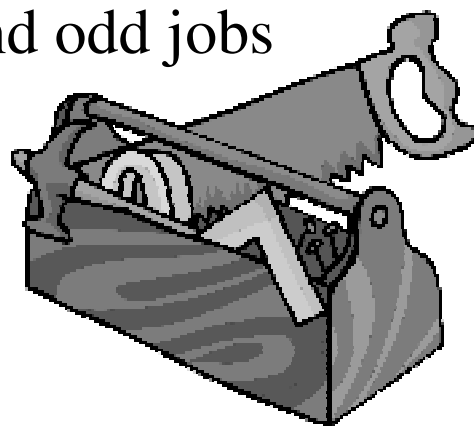
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A Gardener's View

Our episode of Monty Don's 'Big Dreams Small Spaces' finally aired on the 24th of March and what a relief it was. It had taken a whole year from Monty's first visit right around to myself and Emma sitting down and nervously awaiting what was about to unfold in front of our eyes ...and what unfolded was superb.

We couldn't of been happier with both how the garden came across and how the subject of Down's syndrome was dealt with. Our little boy Noah was unrecognisable in the episode as he has grown so much over the past six months. The garden has helped him in ways we couldn't of even hoped for. Also I thought the shots of Findon village really highlighted just how beautiful a surrounding we live in so I think we can call it a complete success!

The garden was planted with mainly herbaceous perennials and annuals so at this time of year it really doesn't have much to show for itself. Apart from a handful of bulbs I stuck in last autumn in order to keep it looking it's best I will be sowing plenty more cosmos this year.

Cosmos played a big part in the garden as it is easy to grow, flowers

forever (with regular dead heading) and can grow to a large plant all in the one season.

We will also be growing lots more Sunflowers in the garden. Last year we grew cut flower varieties as this gave us plenty of flowers from the one plant and they look great both in vase and in the garden.

Meanwhile out in the front garden I have the new vegetable beds to play with so I will erecting climbing supports and planting a variety of peas and beans this month as well as sowing beetroot, carrots, Swiss chard, summer cauliflower, lettuce, leeks, radish, turnip, spring and pickling onions. In the greenhouse I shall sow marrows, courgette's, pumpkins and squash, as well as sweet peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, aubergines, celery, celeriac, salads and globe artichokes. It's all kicking off now that the nights are getting lighter and the days are much warmer.

Thank you everyone for all the kind messages about me, my family and our garden. We very much enjoyed our thirty minutes of fame.

Joshua (the Gardener)



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The photograph (show right) was printed on the front page of last months edition of Findon News.

Findon News would like to thank Valerie Martin and Geoffrey Godden who kindly provided some details to the picture.

Mr Godden informs us that the photograph appears as a popular picture postcard (No. 209) by AW Wardell - a Brighton based producer of picture postcards during the early 1900's. The caption on the postcard reads, "Long Furlong, on the way to Findon Fair, Sussex". Mr Godden also has a note to go with his postcard that states that one of the male figure pictured is "Jack Boolmer, Road Keeper"



Valerie Martin has provided the following details to expand the story behind this picture.....

Oscar Pyle's Sheep

By Valerie Martin

The photograph on the cover of the March Findon News was looking westwards and depicted ye olde shepherds of the 1930s progressing over Long Furlong.

The sheep belonged to Oscar Edward Pyle of Avenals Farm (some called it Southdown Farm). The flock were being driven from Angmering and they are meandering over Long Furlong on their way to the Findon Sheep Fair on 14th September 1935.....

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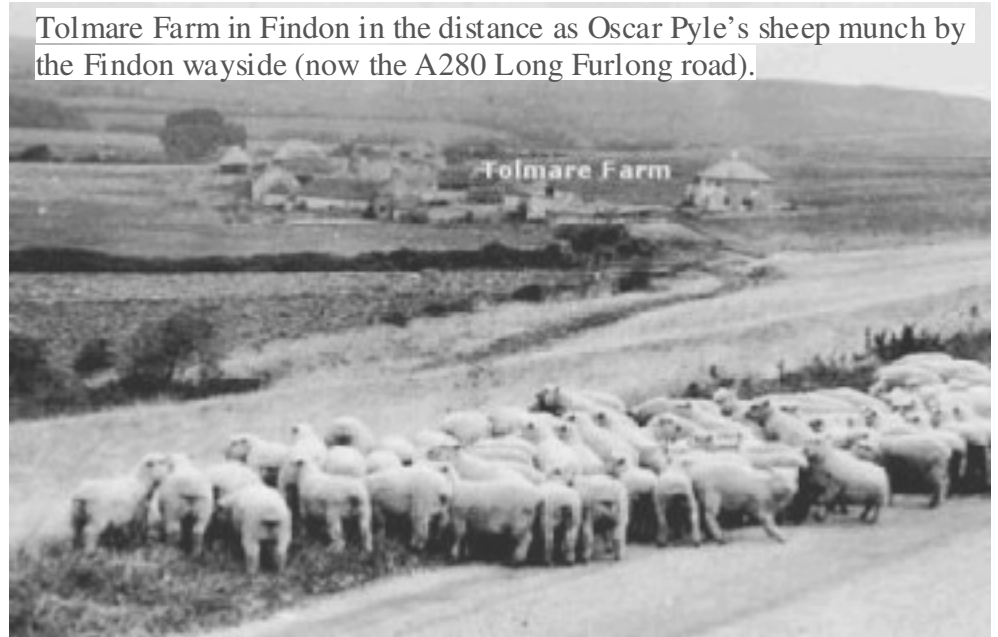
In July 2004 I met Wendy Gregory and she told me that her Grandfather was the shepherd, Albert Reed (known as Bert) in the photograph [right]. She said that Bert was “the one with his back to the camera and wearing a cap!” Take your pick!



Looking eastwards over Long Furlong.
An Austin pulls up to let Oscar Pyle’s flock pass.

During his working life, Bert was also employed as a shepherd by the Wyatt family on the Cissbury Estate at Nepcote, Findon. He was quite a character and in 1929 he went to Crystal Palace to do a talk show on shepherding for television.

Oscar Pyle owned a famous Southdown flock and had many winners at the Findon Sheep Fair. He was also the Angmering Church Warden in the 1930s.



Tolmare Farm in Findon in the distance as Oscar Pyle’s sheep munch by the Findon wayside (now the A280 Long Furlong road).

Matthew Bartlett

We wish to thank all our family and friends or all the cards flowers and expressions of sympathy and support following the sad loss of our dear son Matthew.

Jim & Jan Bartlett
Summerfields

NEXT DATES FOR MESSY CHURCH

Tuesday 3 May (not April)

3.30 - 5.45pm, Findon Village Hall



Come and enjoy a fun time of crafts, activities and celebration based on a story Jesus told - followed by a delicious hot meal for all. Every child needs to be accompanied by an adult, please. No charge, but a donation towards costs helps us to keep going. More information from Helena at the Rectory (01903 873601)

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Findon Planning Applications

Planning applications for Findon are under the authority of South Downs National Park and listed on the SDNPA website (www.southdowns.gov.uk).

Since the last issue of Findon News the following Planning Applications have been posted on the SDNPA website:

Fitting of wooden up and over garage doors to existing undercroft garage for security purposes

Wintons The Square Findon BN14 0TE - Ref. No: SDNP/16/01164/PRE

Erection of replacement Conservatory Open for Comment

The Coach House 2 School Hill Findon BN14 0TR - Ref. No: SDNP/16/00682/HOUS

Findon Parish Council Planning Committee meetings are scheduled monthly to consider planning applications received from the South Downs National Park Authority. The Parish Council is a statutory consultee on such matters. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings, and take part in the Public Question Time item. Planning Committee Agendas are displayed on the Parish Council Notice Boards outside the newsagents and the Village Hall and published on the web site (<http://findon.arun.gov.uk>) 3 working days before each meeting. Residents are asked to check the Notice Boards and web site regularly to view scheduled/additional/cancelled meeting details and Agendas.

Findon Parish Council Planning Committee Meetings are held in Findon Village Hall at 7.30pm. The next two meetings are:

28 April - **Committee Room**
26 May - **Main Hall**

Please Note:

Meetings may be cancelled if there is no business to transact.

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TEP (Traffic Environment People) - the latest....

Well it certainly was an excellent turnout at the Village Hall on 7th March. Many people who arrived just in time for the start had no option but to stand at the back and down the sides, as the Hall had filled up by 6:20pm. Nevertheless, everyone listened intently to David Hutchison who presented some of the ideas from the TEP group on possible ways in which Findon could be made safer and visually more attractive – particularly in the Square. David's presentation was very thoughtful with excellent photographs and sketches and there was deserved applause at the end.

So where do they go from here? Cllr John Havenhand of the TEP group is clear that a lot more feedback and discussion is needed.

“There was not enough time at the recent presentation for everyone to make suggestions ask questions, or for answers to be given” John said.

“However, there is a very simple survey form on the Findon Parish Council Website - <http://findon.arun.gov.uk> - as well as the full suite of drawings and plans which we hope people will look at carefully. The online survey is also available on Survey Monkey at <http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Findontraffic> or people can write or email Findon Parish Council directly if they prefer”.

John says that so far comments are generally supportive of the proposal to have a 20mph zone, to enhance the Square and to create a pathway up School Hill.

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But other ideas are not so clear cut with some for and some against. Road narrowing is one of these, which may create difficulties as approval for a 20mph zone (rather than 20mph limits and lots of signs) may be predicated on narrowing roads with some build outs.

The TEP group are proposing to hold a workshop in early May in order that ideas can be explored more fully. What they are looking for are participants who have taken a detailed look at the proposals to date and have discussed with their immediate neighbours the pros and cons. This will obviate the need to start from scratch and for David to do another presentation. The intention is that it will facilitate more focused and meaningful deliberations.

200 CLUB
 Winners of the £25 draw
February
Ticket 005 – R Bolger
March
Ticket 079 – C Blakeman

There is also the hope that the group will be able to arrange short weekly “drop in” clinics in Julia’s kitchen. More info will be in the next edition of Findon News. But in the meantime if you live on School Hill, Horsham Road or the High Street look out for a leaflet in your door, and contact Findon Parish Council if you would like to attend the workshop in May, and if you are able to give the time to knock on a few doors to find out what your immediate neighbours think.

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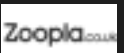
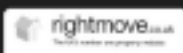


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How Shopping Used To Be

It was the salt that started it! While in the supermarket buying salt in a carton, I remembered how shopping used to be. For example: Salt came in a large block, and had to be chopped, crushed & rolled and put into jars. Woe betide you if you had a small cut on either hand!

Another "un favourite" job was the vegetable shopping. A special bag was kept for this, no carrier bags in those days. The potatoes went in first, then the carrots, Swede etc. Cabbage and lettuce came last. These always contained lots of "creepy crawlies". Root vegetables were never washed as they are today. We always grew our own tomatoes & runner beans and eggs came from Granny's chickens. Fruit we only bought at Christmas, or if someone was ill. I can't remember much about the meat shopping, but the

Butcher had a red face and a big purple nose!!

We lived near a Bakehouse, so it was quite usual in an evening to be given 6d (2 1/2 pence) and sent to knock on the back door where the Baker would sell me a hot loaf of bread.

At the grocers the butter came in a large lump, this would be cut off and shaped with a pair of wooden butter pats. Cheese came in large drum like shapes with thick rind. These stood on the floor! Tea, sugar, pepper etc. was often sold loose, and put into blue paper cones. A chair was always provided for the customer.

My great uncle Bill (Carn) worked in Wintons Circa 1910.

No doubt he would be astounded at how today's shopping is done.

Mrs Sheila Steere
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Findon Downs WI

The Rev. Helena Buque: My Peruvian Adventure

Helena joined a party of eight plus a guide on a ten day track in Peru beginning at Lima, travelling by plane, bus and then on foot, with 13 mules, 11 of which took baggage, tents and cooking requirements. Two were "hospital mules". Debilitating altitude sickness affected some. The oldest of many Inca settlements seen dated from the 16th century. The local people who believed in "work, study and knowledge" cultivated corn and potatoes, and kept livestock, were of a very happy disposition. There were silver mines in

the mountains and spectacular flights of Condors at lower levels. It was a wonderful, enjoyable journey. Though hot and exhausting at times.

Helena was thanked for taking us to a country which would never be seen by most of us.

Social time proved very puzzling and highly amusing, with very few pairing up photographs of parents with members in the hall.

Next meeting Tuesday 12th April 2.30pm
Findon Village Hall

Speaker : Jan Mackerell "My work as a Parish Councillor"

Please bring a picture of Findon and tell us about it.

Visitors very welcome

~~~~~

### Family Favourites

#### Sussex Stew

- 1 Large onion chopped
- 2 Tablespoons lentils
- 1 Level tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 Pint stock (approx)
- 4 Lamb chops
- Curry powder
- Small whole uncooked potatoes
- Salt & pepper

Cover the base of a casserole with the onions, lentils & brown sugar, sprinkle with salt. Trim fat from chops, then press each chop into the curry powder, then place on top of the onions.

Cover with the small whole potatoes & pour over the stock.

Cover the casserole & cook 350F. Reg 4. for 3 hours. Remove lid to brown the potatoes for the last 20 min.



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# Crime Watch

There was no report submitted for this edition but just prior to going to print the following item was reported.



## Grave marking stones deliberately put on the A24 Findon

Police are appealing for witnesses after granite stones used to mark graves were left in the southbound carriageway of the A24 at Findon. The stones were stolen from Findon village cemetery sometime between 10pm and 10.15pm on Monday (21 March) and were then placed in the road and covered with leaves and branches.

A vehicle travelling on the southbound carriageway hit the stones causing a punctured tyre and damage to the paintwork of the vehicle. The driver was not hurt. PC Paul Waltho said: "This was a senseless act of vandalism and there maybe other drivers whose vehicles may have been damaged who have not come forward. If anyone has any information about this incident, please contact us." Email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or ring 101 quoting serial 1601 of 21/03.

Please check the FPC web site for recent events or latest alerts at <http://findon.arun.gov.uk>

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## "Dear Findon News"

Readers' letters & emails.....

### Rubbish

I regularly collect discarded rubbish while walking down the Cissbury road in the morning. My picture shows two bags full of bottles and drink tins collected since my trip the previous morning.

Shame on the people who think it acceptable to litter such a beautiful country lane.

Meg Gore  
Cross Lane



---

## New after-school service

3rd Tuesday of month

All families are invited to a short monthly, informal, Worship Service at Findon Church at 3.40pm, every 3rd Tuesday of the month (19 April) including drink & snack.

All ages are welcome  
Hope to see you there.

Helena



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## News from PAWS Animal Sanctuary

We recently took photographs of all the new cats that have arrived. We used to put photos on posters saying cats needing homes and took the posters around the pet shops to put in their windows. But now we put the photos on the PAWS Animal Sanctuary facebook page - within minutes hundreds of people see the photos.

We have so many visitors on Sunday afternoons because of the photos, and luckily the cats soon find new homes.

With the increase in Vet bills we seem to also have an increase in strays needing neutering together with many older cats needing dental treatment. Lots of the cats that arrive cannot eat hard food, and they quickly lose weight and become miserable. The problem seems to be that people cannot afford to pay to get their cats teeth removed. Prices now start at £300 and up to £1,000 for veterinary dentistry. Cats usually have lots of teeth problems when they get older - usually around the age of 18.

Owners insure their cats year after year and then when they reach old age the insurance companies put the premiums up - some refusing to insure cats over 15 years and some won't cover dental work.

Our highest Vet bills are always elderly cats teeth. Some Vets now have a scheme you can pay in to for regular health checks and treatment which is such a good idea. Like an NHS for pets.

One emaciated, terribly thin almost bald tabby cat was given to us. When the cats owner died a year before the cat was left to the owners son who closed up the house and went off to work in Wales for a year. When he left he couldn't find the cat, and his friends spent four days in vain searching.

When the son's contract ended a year later he returned home to find the cat still living in the garden, It was covered in fleas and only just alive.

It will be sometime before we will be able to rehome him, but he is the nicest, friendliest, dear little cat.

We've never had so many Guinea-pigs and rabbits, and more hamsters.

The hens have eaten all the grass, so we have decided to have a long run built for them to stop them turning everything into mud. So now we can have the lawns re-turfed without the hens interference.

Stacey

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## Veterinary Advice

You may have come across news about dogs in Essex becoming very ill due to a tick borne disease called Babesiosis - sadly one of the dogs died as a result.

### What Is Babesiosis?

Babesiosis in dogs is an infection caused by the single-celled parasite Babesia. This parasite infects red blood cells, both directly damaging the cells but also causing the body's own immune cells to attack red blood cells. This leads to an anaemia which can be life threatening.

### How Could My Dog Get Babesiosis?

The main mode of transmission is through tick bites. A tick typically needs to be attached to a dog for 24-48 hours to successfully transmit the disease. Until recently, ticks in the UK were very unlikely to carry Babesia, but following the introduction of pet passports pet travel has increased and the risks may now be higher.

### Symptoms

The main symptoms include: - lethargy, fever, weakness, pale gums, jaundice (yellow skin and membranes), red/brown urine.

Diagnosis is made by examining the blood under the microscope or using specialised genetic tests to detect the parasite's presence.

### Treatment

Treatment is focused on killing the parasite and stopping the body's immune system from destroying more red blood cells. Dogs may need to be hospitalised to give them supportive care and close monitoring. In severe cases a blood transfusions may be necessary.

***If left untreated this disease can be fatal***

## Prevention

There are currently no vaccines for Babesia available in the UK. Prevention is based on routine use of anti-tick medication and being vigilant and removing ticks from the coat as soon as they are seen - particularly important if your dog travels outside of the UK.

The concern with this outbreak is that some of the affected dogs have not left the country therefore the disease must have been spread by ticks in this country.

Be aware that cats can also contract babesiosis so its worth making sure your feline friends are protected too.

### **Because this winter has been mild there have been more cases of fleas and ticks!**

Preventative treatment is important! Fleas can cause anaemia in young animals, cause severe itchiness if the animal is allergic to the saliva and can transmit tapeworms in cats and dogs and myxomatosis in rabbits.

Ticks cause discomfort while they are attached and can also transmit Lyme disease- a serious bacterial infection difficult to diagnose but symptoms include fever, lethargy and intermittent lameness.



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Commonly animals are brought into the surgery when the owner has tried to pull the tick off with tweezers, or covered it in Vaseline, and even gin and vodka in an attempt at removal! The problem with these tactics is that mouthparts of the tick may be left embedded in the skin causing a local tissue reaction, which then may require surgery to fix. The tick may also regurgitate the blood it has engorged and therefore increase the risk of transmission of any disease they may be carrying.

[www.itsajungle.co.uk](http://www.itsajungle.co.uk) is an excellent website which explains about parasites in the UK.

Our nurses are happy to answer any questions you may have and to give advice on how to remove ticks safely and to discuss suitable parasite protection best suited for your pets

This month Crossways have discounts and loyalty schemes running for anti-tick

medication - tablets or collars. Please speak to the nurses at the Crossways clinics to discuss which tick treatment best suits your pet to keep them safe.

### **Alabama Rot Update**

Unfortunately there have been confirmed cases in Littlehampton and Angmering. Although it is very worrying to think our dogs are at risk please still enjoy your walks and remain vigilant for any signs of non healing lesions on your dogs feet, legs and muzzle or if they become lethargic. See your vet if you are at all concerned.

Tania Parsons BVSc MRCVS  
Crossways Veterinary Group  
Findon Practice Tel. 01903 877325  
*Emergency cover is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Out of hours call the phone number and follow the instructions given.*

---

### **Findon Village WI**

Our meeting on Thursday 10th March was very sweet!!!! We were given a demonstration from Kim, who is Pure chocolate Truffles on how to make chocolates - we all got to try some, Yum Yum. It's chocolate to die for.

Our next meeting is "The working life of

a search dog" with Bob Crawford, it will be a very interesting evening. The date is Thursday 14th April, 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All visitors welcome to come along.

Enquiries to [findonvillagewi@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:findonvillagewi@hotmail.co.uk) Find us on Facebook...[findonvillagewi](https://www.facebook.com/findonvillagewi)

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### **Findon Community Website Update**

Having secured a grant from West Sussex County Council's "Community Initiative Funding" the costs for the initial design and hosting charges are now covered.

Over the past months the Steering Group have been designing the web pages, and the initial content. These will be uploaded to a 'test' website during

April with the aim to present and demonstrate the 'test' version at the Annual Findon Parish Council meeting on May 19th.

It is hoped to officially launch the website within a few weeks of this meeting.

Richard Bell

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## Readers' Dogs Meet Obi!

Obi belongs to Gill and Graham Gostick.

“Obi is a three year old Sprocker Spaniel, and we have had him since a puppy of 12 weeks old. As it was Gill who wanted to get a dog the compromise was that Graham named him, so as a Star Wars fan his full title is Obi One Kenobi, but other dog owners probably know him as “Obi it’s not yours!” as he chases and 'borrows' other dogs balls on Nepcote Green.

Living in Findon we are spoiled for choice of places to walk him and he is a familiar figure walking up on The Gallops, Cissbury etc clocking up several miles a day. He also enjoys occasional visits to both The Gun and The Village House – what a chore having to go with him!



Don't forget to submit a picture of your dog to feature in “Readers' Dogs”.

Photographs must include a background that is recognisable as having been taken in Findon.

Pictures and a short résumé about your canine friend should be sent through to the Findon News email address -

findonnews@zoho.com - or hardcopy via the “Findon News” box in the Findon newsagency.

*When emailing please submit photos as a separate high resolution JPEG file.*

If we get enough entries we'll aim to publish a 2017 calendar to raise funds for the Findon PAWS Animal Sanctuary.



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## St. John the Baptist Church, Findon ... Everyone Welcome

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|                                     |                   |                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>  | 8.00am<br>10.00am | Eucharist, Findon Church<br>Family Service at Village Hall<br><i>+ breakfast from 9.15am</i> |
| <b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April</b> | 9.30am            | Sung Eucharist, Findon Church<br><i>+ Messy Sunday in the Den</i>                            |
| <b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b> | 8.00am<br>9.30am  | Eucharist, Findon Church<br>Family Communion, Findon Church                                  |
| <b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April</b> | 9.30am            | Sung Eucharist <i>followed by the<br/>Annual Parochial Church Meeting.</i>                   |
| <b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>    | 8.00am<br>10.00am | Eucharist, Findon Church<br>Family Service at Village Hall<br><i>+ breakfast from 9.15am</i> |

- ◆ Monday 9.00am & Tues-Friday 9.15am, Morning Prayer
- ◆ Tuesdays 10.00am, Holy Eucharist Service at Findon Church
- ◆ Wednesdays 10.30am-12.00pm Quiet Time at Findon Church
- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of month, 9.15am breakfast and 10.00am Family Service in Findon Village Hall
- ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, Messy Sunday in the Den for children aged 3+ during the 9.30am service. There is also a Children's Corner in Findon Church for quiet play with puzzles, books & colouring.
- ◆ 1st Tuesday of month during term time, 3.30-5.45pm, Messy Church in Findon Village Hall.
- ◆ NEW 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month during term time, 3.40pm, a short informal After-School Service, with drink/snack, at Findon Church.
- ◆ Last Tuesday of month, Light Lunch @ 1pm, Findon Village Hall. Soup & a pudding with friends for £4.00.
- ◆ First Monday of month, 7.30pm Ladies' Curry Night, Tajdar.
- ◆ Last Thursday of month, 7.30pm Men's Curry Night, Tajdar.

Priest-in-Charge; Rev. Helena Buqué, c/o The Rectory, School Hill, Findon  
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# Village Hall April 2006

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| <b>Weekly</b>          | <b>Day</b> | <b>Time</b>   |
|------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Carpet Bowls           | Monday     | 14:30         |
| Cissbury Players       | Wednesday  | 20:00 – 22:00 |
| Lambstails (Term Time) | Thursday   | 10:00 – 12:00 |
| Line Dancing           | Wednesday  | 09:45         |
| Danceaholics           | Sunday     | 20:00         |
| Yoga                   | Monday     | 11:00         |

| <b>Fortnightly</b> | <b>Date</b>                               | <b>Time</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Circle Dancing     | Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> | 19:10       |

| <b>Monthly</b>        | <b>Date</b>                               | <b>Time</b>                            |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Art Class             | Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup>                 | 09:00                                  |
| Auction               | Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>                  | 18:00                                  |
|                       | (goods 2–4pm, viewing 4–6pm, Auction 6pm) |                                        |
| Bead Magicians        | Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>                  | 09:00                                  |
| Canasta Club          | Last Tuesday                              | 15:00                                  |
| Downs WI              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday                   | 14:30                                  |
| Family Church Service | 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday                    | 09:30                                  |
| Film Evening          | Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>                    | 18:30 door open<br>(Film starts 19:30) |
| Gardens Association   | Last Friday                               | 19:00                                  |
| Light Lunch           | Last Tuesday                              | 13:00                                  |
| Meditation            | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>                   | 19:30                                  |
| Messy Church          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday                   | 15:30                                  |
| Village WI            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday                  | 19:30                                  |

| <b>Committee Room</b> | <b>Date</b>                                 | <b>Time</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Rummikub              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday | 14:00       |
| Village WI Darts      | Mondays                                     | 14:00       |

| <b>Other Events</b> | <b>Date</b>           | <b>Time</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Flower Show         | 2 <sup>nd</sup> April | 2-4pm       |

The Village Hall website provides contact and booking details  
as well as listings of forthcoming events

**[www.findonvillagehall.com](http://www.findonvillagehall.com)**



# What's your property worth?

Even if you're not planning to sell or let your home and would just like to know its value, contact your local office today to arrange your free, no obligation valuation

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