



# Findon

Oct 2021

Community newsletter for  
Findon, West Sussex  
Including the Church Parish of  
Findon, Clapham & Patching

# News

*Findon News is published monthly and is available free of charge from various outlets throughout Findon and can be viewed on the Findon Community website - [www.findonvillage.org](http://www.findonvillage.org)  
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Articles for publication (**maximum 650 words**) can be submitted by email to [findonvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:findonvillagenews@gmail.com), or via the 'Findon News Box' in the Village Shop.

**Closing Date for Next Publication : 20th Oct 2021**

## Christmas Tree Festival



The planning is going well for this year's Christmas Tree Festival which is being held over the weekend of 4th/5th December at Findon Church. If you would like to enter a tree from a Business, Organisation a Family or Individual, please request an entry form from Graham on [fishponds185@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fishponds185@tiscali.co.uk).

**Entries close on  
Monday 11th October**

If you are a jam or chutney maker and have a few spare jars, we are looking for more to sell on the stalls. Also raffle prizes would be welcome

If you would like to help during the weekend at this very special event, please do contact us on [fishponds185@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fishponds185@tiscali.co.uk)

## Cinnamon Trust Maggie Martin



It doesn't seem possible but here we are talking about Christmas! Our next scheduled Cinnamon Trust event is the Christmas Fair in our lovely Parish Church on Saturday, 27th November. Time will be 10.00am till 1.00pm and, provided restrictions do not return, we will have our lovely, "Christmas Cafe" with lots of home made seasonal goodies and coffees/teas. There will also be plenty of gifts, cards, pet goods etc to buy and a very special raffle. Keep the date free if you can.

On the subject of Christmas I will be taking orders for my small Christmas cakes from now onwards. Price £6 each.

Orders please to  
07544 572702/01903 874173  
or [maggiemartin8@gmail.com](mailto:maggiemartin8@gmail.com)  
I also have a selection of  
Christmas cards for sale in my porch  
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Michael  
**Jones  
& Curtis**



Worthing ■ Lancing ■ Goring ■ Findon ■ Rustington ■ Ferring

## From The Rectory

It is wonderful that events are starting up again in the villages, after well over a year of restrictions. Findon Village Hall Team put on a film evening in mid September and it was lovely to be back there again to enjoy a relaxed evening with drinks and a burger, with ice cream in the interval, and David Gear entertaining us with popular melodies before watching 'Military Wives'. The film really brought home the challenges of being married to a serving member of our armed forces, and the real life families certainly all need our ongoing prayers. We had a tantalising glimpse of the October film and other titles to look forward to between now and Christmas.

Light Lunch at 1 is also back – how we have all missed this opportunity to chat with friends over delicious soup and puddings, all home made. Thank you to Dorothy Barber and her team for all their cooking! If you haven't been before, give it a try – see you in Findon Village Hall on the last Tuesday of the month; £5 is excellent value.

Messy Church also resumes this month, meeting in Findon Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month, 3.30-5.30pm with activities this month around the theme of **One World; let's care for it!** All welcome, but remember that children must be accompanied by a parent/carer who is responsible for them at all times. We ask for a minimum contribution of £3 per head to offset the cost of art materials and the meal we provide for everyone to share at the end of the session. Don't forget to let us know on arrival if you or your child have any food intolerances.

Sadly, we have had to take the decision to close the weekly Youth Club due to the lack of response from both young people

and volunteers to help to supervise their activities. We are sad that the 3-4 regular youngsters no longer have this available, but I still hope we might be in a position to offer a weekly club again in the future if there is sufficient demand. Meanwhile, I hope to liaise with the Village Hall Team to put on a Family Afternoon 3-4 times a year; watch this space, and keep an eye on the Findon Village Hall and Parish Churches websites!

Our first Parish Family Walk will have taken place when you read this and has hopefully been enjoyed and well supported. A pilgrimage has been a central part of many faiths throughout the centuries, and this is no accident. Barriers come down as people walk together, enjoying the countryside and chatting, and friendships can form and deepen, as well as having the time simply to appreciate this beautiful part of Sussex where we live, giving thanks to God for his abundant provision.

It doesn't seem possible, but it is now 3 years since we held our first Findon Worship and Praise Service! This has continued to grow in popularity, with visiting groups of musicians eager to return to help lead our worship again – thanks to Graham Langford for co-ordinating this. If you haven't been before, do join us at 10.00am on the first Sunday of each month to see what we do. The projector and screen we bought, thanks to the generosity of some of our congregation, is also used to good effect in our Communion Services now. Looking up instead of down at a hymnbook really improves the quality of singing!

Every blessing, Helena

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## Bob Eastabrook 1938 – 2021

Bob was very well known around the village and with his easy-going nature and sense of humour he made many friends. He loved living in Findon and loved and embraced the friendly community life here and was active in many local events including the Sheep Fair, Stoolball, Fetes, Flower shows, Christmas Tree festivals, etc.

After leaving Worthing Chess Club he went on to start a chess club in Findon which just about survives each Monday in the Village House. He also engendered a love for the game in his grandchildren and spent many an hour playing them.

After his retirement the first thing he joined was the Village Hall Maintenance team which involved keeping the grounds and hall in good order. He continued this for many years until he found it too onerous.

He took up woodwork in a big way making several pieces of furniture around the house including a dresser, coffee tables and a set of 6 beautiful Windsor chairs.

Also, he got interested in wood turning and became an active member of West Sussex Wood Turners where he won many awards. He became an accomplished wood turner and many family, friends and villagers have one of his lovely turned items. He volunteered at the Amberley Industrial Museum where children of all ages can have a go at wood turning.

He joined the Worthing Men-in-Sheds which he thoroughly enjoyed. His first visit involved delving into skips to rummage around for wood to recycle into toys, shelves and all sorts of

things! A few years ago he helped set up the Findon Men-in-Sheds which is finally allowed to reopen after a Covid break. They help around the village mending seats, notice boards and anything else that needs doing.

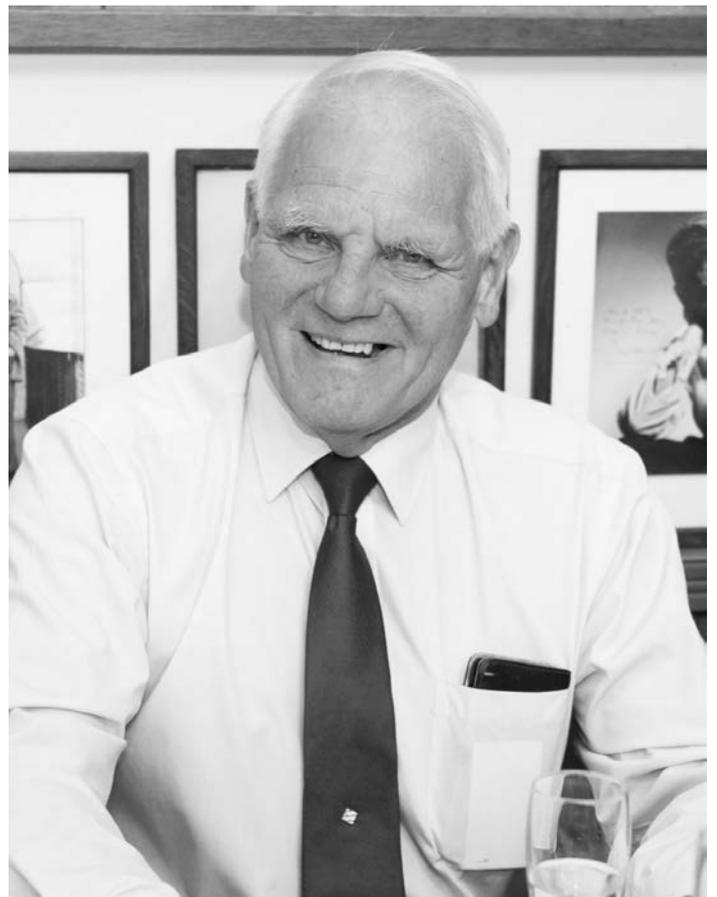
He took over as secretary of the 200 Club which raises money for the Findon Village Hall, and enjoyed organising the quiz nights.

When the community Village Store was purchased he became involved in fitting it out and later helping at the counter.

Unfortunately, as his health deteriorated, he had to gradually give up all his interests, and over the last few months life became very difficult for him but he never complained.

Living in such a friendly village has been a great support for me and I would like to thank everybody for their many kind messages of sympathy.

I know he will be greatly missed.



October Half Term

Findon Village presents

Michael  
**Jones**  
& Company

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# The Spooky Trail



**FOLLOW THE MAP - FIND THE CLUES - SOLVE THE PUZZLE**

23rd to 31st October

Pick up your £2 Map and Goody Bag  
from the Findon Village Store

**GOOD LUCK AND HAVE A SPOOKTACULAR TIME**

St John The Baptist CofE Primary School PTA  
Charity No 1062912

# AROUND THE VILLAGE



by Richard Bell

**FISH  
AND  
CHIPS**

**Findon Friends of St. Barnabas Hospice  
are delighted to confirm  
that we shall be holding our**

**FISH  
AND  
CHIPS**

## **Annual Fish & Chip & Quiz Evening**

**on ~Thursday 28th October  
at the Village House Pub, Findon Square.**

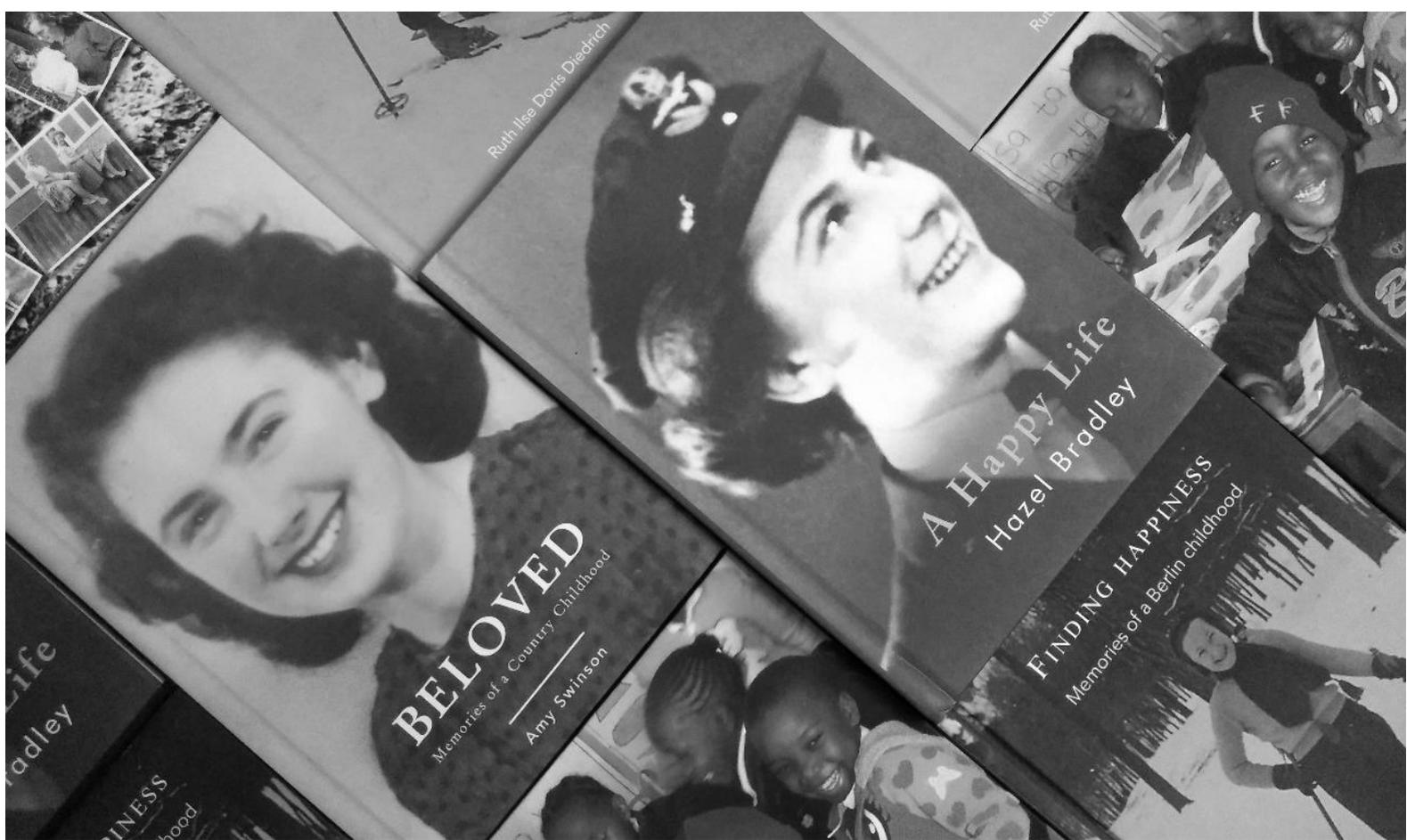
You will have a great Fish and Chip supper and a fun Quiz!  
Tables of 6.

There will also be a Raffle and 'Guess the Weight'  
of a delicious Home-made Cake

Tickets are £15.00 each. - to be purchased in advance.  
Tickets are limited - so get yours early!

**NO TICKETS at the Door!!!**

For tickets please phone  
Charlotte on 01903 877227 or Paddy on 01903 366147.



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## Findon Village WI

It was so good to see so many ladies, resplendent in red white and blue, for our Evening at the Proms. It turned out to be not quite the evening we had planned as, due to a family medical emergency, our speaker had to cancel. However, we still managed to sing Jerusalem and Land of Hope and Glory with Union Jacks waving enthusiastically! Plan B was a Beetle Drive which was great fun followed by tea, coffee and cake; it's so good to be back in the hall with a little bit of normality

Our next meeting is :  
Thursday 14th October 7.30pm.  
Carol Ball will be giving a talk entitled 'A Stroll round Arundel Castle' which should be very interesting.  
We have also restarted our monthly coffee mornings at Dee Dee's – next one Wednesday 20th October, 10.30 am.

Visitors very welcome - we look forward to seeing you

Paddy Winter - President

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## Findon Village WI Book Group Welcomes Local Author

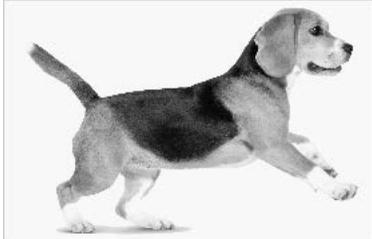
In September we were lucky to host a meeting with L.C Tyler an author who used to live in the village. We met in the garden of the Gun on a sunny afternoon to talk about his book The Herring Sellers Apprentice, the first in his series of comic crime books which follow the adventures of Ethelred Herring, a writer and amateur sleuth and his agent Elsie. Our members greatly enjoyed the book which features many local landmarks, including the village itself and a grisly murder on Cissbury Hill.

Len read from the book, fielded a question and answer session and also read from his most recent book: Farewell My Herring. Not only did we learn more about the world of Ethelred and Elsie but Len also gave us an insight into his life as a published writer.

Having the author present brought both the book and the art of writing to life.

Hilary Ward





## Bring Your Pets to Church !!

We are holding our annual

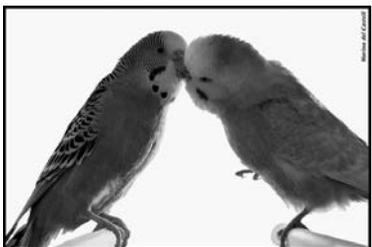
### Pet Service

at Findon Church  
on 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 3.00pm

All pets are welcome

Followed by  
A Sausage Sizzle  
In the Churchyard

*Come and Join Us*



**BREAST  
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& care charity

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and this year I will be raising money for **Breast Cancer Now** by walking 100 miles in October. If you wish to donate please visit my Just Giving Page:

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/christina-bedford1](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/christina-bedford1)

Thank you - Tina Bedford



### Messy Church

Restarts on  
Tuesday 5th October  
at 3.30pm In the Village Hall

*(And the first Tuesday of each month)*

All welcome, but children must be accompanied by a parent/carer who is responsible for them.

*For more information,  
please ring The Rectory on 873601*



# Opening/Closing Ceremony of the 2021 Findon Sheep

The weather was kind on Saturday 11th September as many villagers came together to witness the Opening/Closing ceremony on Nepcote Green to ensure the charter is maintained. This is the second year when the Fair has been cancelled due to Covid 19 and we have held this ceremony. Many people said it was really good meeting again and talking about the future.

The ceremony was conducted by Robert Harris, from the Harris Fun Fair based at Ashington, and the Chairman of the Sheep Fair Committee, Simon Stace.

The Friends of Findon Church kindly supplied refreshments, which were very welcome, and £196.00 was raised for church funds from the sale of coffee, tea and cakes.

The committee were taking names of those who would like to volunteer at next years show which will be held on Saturday 10th September. (It is always on the second Saturday in September.) We need over 100 volunteers to assist the committee each year, if you were unable to come to the Opening/Closing ceremony but would like to be part of the volunteer team please e-mail your details to [findonsheepfair@gmail.com](mailto:findonsheepfair@gmail.com)

Also on the green were four Southdown lambs from the Nepcote Flock and a number of children had the opportunity to walk a lamb around the pen.

Pictures of the morning were supplied by Richard Bell.

Thank you,  
Findon Sheep Fair committee





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# SHOEBOX APPEAL 2021



## Fill a Shoebox with small gifts

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Suggestions for box fillers can be found on the leaflet (see below).  
It's requested, if possible, that each box have a hat, scarf, gloves,  
soap, flannel, toothpaste and toothbrush, basic stationery  
and other small gifts of your choice.

The boxes are collected by us on behalf of a small charity based in Eastbourne.

### **MUSTARD SEED RELIEF MISSIONS**

Last year the boxes were driven across Europe to Moldova, the poorest European country & distributed to underprivileged children in orphanages, schools and hospitals. It is likely these boxes were the only presents they received.

Wrap your box in cheerful Christmas wrapping paper, (please wrap the lid and box separately), place the contents inside and, if you wish, include a donation for its delivery, which is very costly.  
*(Instructions on leaflet)*

Unfortunately, this year we are unable to fill boxes on behalf of those not able to participate. However, if you would like to make a donation we would be very happy to pass it on.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Mustard Seed Website [www.msrm.org.uk](http://www.msrm.org.uk) to see a video of children receiving their boxes.

## LOVE IN A BOX LEAFLETS

Look out for the leaflets in local shops,  
Churches or the Rectory  
*Instructions for where to deliver your box  
(approximately by 5th November—date not yet confirmed)  
in Findon News, October issue*



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### Be Safe - Be seen

Don't forget to carry a torch or wear reflective clothing during these dark dreary winter afternoons and evenings.

You cannot be seen by motorists if you are wearing dark clothing in unlit areas.

# Findon Village Store News - October 2021

In any organisation it is always fascinating to learn something of what goes on behind the scenes. For those of us involved with our village store, the middle of last month brought even more excitement than usual, not just behind the scenes but behind the shop. A noble band of brothers, led by the intrepid Richie Lines, gathered at dawn (well almost) and proceeded to remove all the stock from our leaky old shed, strip out the electrics including the fridge/freezer, dismantle the building and remove it from the premises on a handcart. They worked tirelessly, bolstered only by bacon butties provided so thoughtfully by Sue Lines. The same mighty men – Richie, Richard, Chris, Chris, John, John and Iain - were back the next day to set up our beautiful new weatherproof shed. They all deserve a huge vote of thanks – even though it was Sue who was declared the hero of the hour. Well done everyone, and thank you so much.

The Mayor of Worthing is temporarily living in Findon and called in to our shop last month. Angus reports that he was very impressed by the friendliness of the staff and by the appearance and range of stock we carry. We are always happy to hear customers' opinions and appreciate suggestions they may make, and in the case of His Worship we have to say we fully agree!

Now I hesitate to write this, but one of our most loyal customers has suggested that we should all be thinking about Christmas! She has often bought gifts for friends and family, whether they live in the village or further away, who really appreciate

receiving things that bear the Findon Village logo such as biscuits, preserves and chocolates. It is true that all retailers are currently very busy preparing for Christmas especially given the current concerns caused by the shortage of HGV drivers, meaning it may take longer for some items to be sourced. So, do please take this opportunity to let us know if you have any special requests.

Our Volunteers' Meeting and Celebration will have taken place by the time you read this and is sure to have been a great social occasion as well as a purposeful one. A full report will follow next month but meanwhile if you are feeling energetic and have time on your hands do contact Margaret on 07917 124119 to find out more about becoming a Volunteer. You will be warmly welcomed to a genuinely helpful, dedicated and enthusiastic group of people.

Finally, Sally Coote, one of our Post Office Staff, sadly left the team last month. We are so grateful for all she contributed during her time with us and know she will be missed. Many thanks to Jo O'Dell for kindly providing emergency cover and to Fiona Thomas who has agreed to increase her hours to cover Sally's shifts.

So now it only remains for me to wish you a very happy Autumn, to look forward to seeing all shareholders at our AGM at Cissbury Barns on Wednesday, 13th October – oh, and to encourage you to get those Christmas lists started!

Annie Whitchurch

# DEE DEE'S



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## Flower Arrangers Wanted

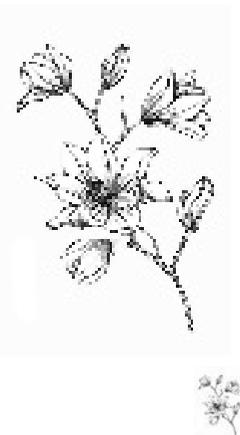
Wendy Callister

Are there any Findon residents who like arranging flowers & would offer to help decorate our lovely parish church? There are only 3 of us at the moment and we'd love some more help.

It would involve doing an arrangement no more than every 8 weeks (there are no flowers during Advent or Lent) and helping at Harvest Festival, Christmas

and Easter. We all help each other out so you won't feel unsupported.

Please contact me if you want to find out more on 07940 891449 or speak to Helena the vicar.



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## Seat at North End



Two residents at North End have very kindly donated an excellent new wooden seat to the Village. This has been installed next to the southbound carriageway of the A24 on the concrete slab at North End, which previously housed the Bus Shelter which was transferred by the Parish Council's Working Party (the Findon Village Volunteers) to its present site next to Homewood, following the permanent suspension of the Bus Stop along the A24.

This new seat (as photographed) will make for a welcome resting place for walkers (or cyclists) coming off the Downs on their way home .



### Light Lunch @ 1

Time 1.00pm  
(not Midday - as we don't want our visitors to arrive too early whilst we are setting up)

Everyone welcome from 12.45pm



Village House Hotel  
The Square  
Findon Village  
BN14 0TE

# Village House



## DEALS OF THE WEEK

**TUESDAY EVE - "BURGER & BEER"  
BUY ANY BURGER AND GET £2 OFF  
SELECTED BOTTLED BEERS.**

**WEDNESDAY EVE - "PIZZA NIGHT"  
BUY ANY PIZZA AND GET £2 OFF ANY  
ALCOHOLIC DRINK OR A FREE SOFT  
DRINK**

**ABOVE DEALS NOT AVAILABLE FOR  
TAKE-AWAYS.**

**THURSDAY EVE - "THAI NIGHT" TWO  
COURSE THAI DEAL - STARTER &  
MAIN £16.95**



Your stories



Close Friends

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Once again,  
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your continued  
support.

*Paul, Amy,  
Oliver, Tony and  
all the Village  
House Team*

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## Shepherding at the start of Autumn

September is a generally a busy month locally, with firstly the Findon Sheep Fair (which was cancelled this year) followed by the Sheep Auctions at Ardingly and lastly the West Grinstead ploughing match at Partridge Green. Attending the agricultural shows is a day off for the farmers and shepherds and a chance for them to meet and exchange news.

The sheep auctions moved from Findon to the show ground at Ardingly in the year 2001 and this year 5,500 sheep were sold there in one day. Sheep are brought from Kent, Surrey, Hampshire and Sussex. The picture below is taken at this year's sale in the Southdown section where the sheep were sold in their pens.

It was very good to attend the Edenbridge and Oxted show for the first time at the end of August, where we met a number of sheep farmers

who have said they will be coming back to the Findon sheep fair in 2022.

At the West Grinstead Ploughing Match, 150 years of the meeting was being celebrated. Again, it was good seeing people who come to the Sheep Fair and many friends who visit this show. As well as the ploughing, there is hedge laying, terrier racing, cattle and sheep judging and much more.

Graham and Hilary Langford



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## News from Findon Place

As the autumn fast approaches us we are going to be holding a series of different events at the house - we hope there will be something for everyone and that you'll find something you'd like.

We'll be hosting some wonderful courses with local craftspeople in and out of the house - pruning, basketweaving, Lino printing, calligraphy to name a few but also there will be supper clubs, chef's dinners and a wonderful murder mystery 1920s style.

All the events will be available on our website [www.findonplace.com/theseasonal](http://www.findonplace.com/theseasonal) and if you follow us on Facebook or Instagram you'll be able to find out more about what we are doing here at Findon Place and we look forward to seeing you.



### **JOSHUA THE GARDENER**

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Want to know more? or register your interest contact Yvonne Wilson at [fvpscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:fvpscommittee@gmail.com)



**WE APPRECIATE EVERY HELPING HAND WE CAN GET!**

Your time, effort, and presence as a volunteer will make a world of a difference in the lives of the children

## Findon Film Night on 22nd October

This time we will be showing the film

### “The Good Liar”

starring Helen Mirren, Ian McKellen and Russell Tovey

\* \* \* \*

Consummate con man Roy Courtney has set his sights on his latest mark: the recently widowed Betty McLeish, worth millions. But this time, what should have been a simple swindle escalates into a cat-and-mouse game with the ultimate stakes

\* \* \* \*

Village Hall Doors open at 6:30 for Burgers and drinks

Film starts 7:30

Tickets 5.00 on the door look out for posters around the village

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# Film Review by Carrie Morrison

“The Way” - Directed by Emilio Estevez

With a heart-wrenching story such as this one, it is difficult to not be at least spiritually touched by this film. Adapted from the short stories in Jack Hitt's book, *Off the Road: A Modern-Day Walk Down the Pilgrim's Route into Spain*, Martin Sheen stars as Thomas Avery, an optometrist whose son tragically dies whilst walking through the Camino de Santiago, a traditional pilgrimage also known as The Way of St. James. To fulfil his son's wishes to cross the Camino, Thomas takes his son's rucksack and begins a life-changing journey, meeting interesting characters along the way.

The film is technically subdued to make space for the charming essence that comes from the journey through the Camino. The cinematography, by Juan Miguel Azpiroz, honour's the stunning views pilgrims get to see on their walk, that almost spiritually captures you in its beauty. Its soundtrack is gentle and not overpowering, especially during its walking sequences to allow emotional breaks between scenes. It makes *The Way* a moving yet calming viewing for viewers.

You are enamoured by the sheer sense of community that locals have as they welcome travellers into their homes. The way the main cast interact with each other is an interesting dynamic, as their contrasting stories make for intriguing conversations. There were aspects to the story that make it dated to a certain extent like its depiction of the Roma community in Spain. A part of me wishes that Martin Sheen's character was allowed to be more vulnerable, and less emotionally stilted,

as the viewer could have felt a deeper attachment to him. James Nesbitt, as writer Jack Stanton, is belligerently loud and affectionate, though the character definitely feels like an obvious shoe-in for Jack Witt, the author of the original novel. To the point where Jack's interactions with Thomas feel callous, as the audience knows post-film Thomas's story is shared with the world.

Criticisms aside, this is an emotional film that I am sure many people can connect with. I cannot possibly comprehend the idea of losing a child, so it feels disingenuous to give a verdict on whether the film gives a just view of its subject matter. What I can say, however, is that this film soared through a splendid part of the world that people should know more about.



Starring James Nesbitt and Martin Sheen

## Findon Parish Church

Presents

### “The Way”

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm  
At St John the Baptist Church, Findon

Free admission - complimentary  
tea/coffee at intermission

(The PCC would like to record their  
thanks to Carrie Morrison  
for her film review)

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For more information visit our website - [www.thehavenfindon.uk](http://www.thehavenfindon.uk),  
email [thehavenfindon@gmail.com](mailto:thehavenfindon@gmail.com) or phone Steve Willis on 07590533892

I think we can now say the Village Hall is back up and running with its pre-pandemic level of activities. The barbeque last month was a great success – the weather decided (in the end) to be more than kind to us, we had a great turnout and it seemed like everyone was having a great time – many thanks to the Events Team who made it all possible.

We also had the first of this year's film nights which I confess I missed because I was away on holiday myself. I understand that this was a slightly more modest success possibly because of some confusion arising because the originally planned film had to be substituted by another. However, the whole thing meant that a completely new kitchen crew could learn the ropes without being totally overwhelmed! The next film night will return to a Friday, the film will be "Good Liar" starring Helen Mirren and Ian McKellen – so the 22nd October is a date for the diaries – see you then.

The new CCTV system has now been completed with the erection of a post at the rear of the hall and additional high level cameras giving us a good view of the entire area at the back including the pre-school and the basket ball court. A great job by IPS and at a price rather generous to us.

The car park barrier has been adjusted by increasing the degree of counterbalance which makes it easier to raise and less inclined to crash back down – I hope the users who need to pen and close the barrier find this an improvement. Thanks to "Men in Sheds" for this.

We have also started the process of modernizing the legal arrangements for the trust, transferring the responsibility for holding the title of the land and buildings from the existing holding trust to the Charity Commission's "official Custodian". This is a cheaper and more up to date arrangement for charities of our type. We should thank the current Holding Trustees and especially Pat Canavan and Robin Carr for their many years supporting us in those roles.

Needless to say, we continue working with Findon Parish Council on the plan for the extension and hope that there will be new developments for debate soon.

We have not been able to staff Lambs Tails properly and consequently, it will not be running until further notice. There has also been such demand for "slots" that we have not been able to protect its traditional timeslot. Nevertheless, if people are interested, please do let us know.

The new website [www.findonvillagehall.net](http://www.findonvillagehall.net) is running and shows what will be the new "Hallmaster" booking system. We have not switched over to it yet as we do still have some issues – especially with displaying linked documents but we feel rather better having found a storm of protest in the Googlesphere about the changes they have imposed which cause the problem! We can only hope to have a resolution soon. Meanwhile, you are very welcome to check it out and all comments and suggestions are welcome.

That is all for this month, take care, see you in the hall soon.

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# Working as a Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages

I have worked in the Registration Service for over forty years, firstly in North London and since 1988 in West Sussex, based in offices at Haywards Heath, Horsham and Worthing. For me it has been the perfect job, as I have always thought of myself as a 'people person' and so to have had the chance to support people during the occasions which are such key milestones in life, has been very fulfilling.

Performing a marriage ceremony is probably the most publicly familiar task and is certainly one of the most enjoyable. I must have married hundreds of couples over the years and have more than once been greeted with 'you married me last time as well!'. When I was in North London we might do fifteen weddings on a Saturday morning and I can honestly say every wedding was made personal and unique. I have had the pleasure of conducting ceremonies for a number of village couples and even had the privilege of officiating at my own daughter's wedding - which was the very first to take place at Cissbury Barns - although embarrassingly, she was an hour late!

The Registrar's work starts well before the ceremony of course and includes ensuring that people are legally entitled to marry. That has led to interesting situations over the years - such as helping a young woman to escape an arranged marriage; exposing couples who had clearly never met each other before their wedding day and preventing one potential bigamist from marrying his own wife's sister.

Registering deaths can be very stressful as people are understandably at their most vulnerable. Worthing is one of the busiest offices in the country for deaths and in winter months my working day might involve registering up to thirteen deaths. I did my best to make sure the task never became routine and being as sympathetic as possible whilst maintaining the necessary professional distance. Registering a Stillbirth is always particularly sad - we used to have a room set aside at some hospitals so that we could see the mother together with her newborn child. On one occasion the mum asked would I like to hold her baby and of course I answered, 'yes please'.

Registering births has probably been my favourite aspect of the job, and getting to hold the babies a delightful bonus. I was able to register my own daughter and grandchildren (which leads to an unusual certificate) - and my very final registration before retirement a year ago, was my youngest grandson, Max.

Most Registrars stay in the job for many years and become skilled at working with the public during difficult and emotional times. When a large inquest took place in 2015 at the Royal Courts of Justice, for fifteen British people killed during a terrorist attack in Armenia, Registrars from West Sussex were called in to act as ushers to support the bereaved families. Commuting to the Holborn courtroom every day and working alongside eminent coroners, barristers and

# 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](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk)). Findon Parish Council (FPC) Planning Committee meetings are scheduled monthly to consult on planning applications received from the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA). Parish Consultation Letters (PCL) received from the SDNPA are displayed on the Notice Boards outside the newsagents and the Village Hall, and published on the FPC website (<http://findonparishcouncil.gov.uk>) along with the schedule of Committee meeting dates.

Please note that due to Findon News publication deadlines, some applications may have already been placed before the Committee. Residents should check the Notice Boards and FPC website regularly to view notices and meeting details.

Any enquiries should be address to the FPC Clerk - 01903 877225.

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

## **Conversion of existing barn to form detached three bedroom dwelling**

North End House Horsham Road  
Findon BN14 0RQ

Ref. No: SDNP/21/04748/PRE

## **Discharge of Conditions 9 (Construction Management Plan), 10 (External Lighting), 12 (Arboriculture Method Statement), and 13 (Cycle Storage) relating to planning approval SDNP/20/03322/FUL and Condition 3 (Vent Details) relating to Listed Building Constent SDNP/20/03323/LIS**

Findon Place Horsham Road Findon  
BN14 0RF

Ref. No: SDNP/21/04683/DCOND |

## **Part retrospective application for the refurbishment of existing buildings and replacement of multi-use buildings for equestrian and well-being and social care Open for comment icon**

1 Ivy Cottage Horsham Road Findon  
BN14 0RQ

Ref. No: SDNP/21/04530/FUL

## **Loft conversion with hip to gable-end, rear ground floor extension, on-site vehicle parking and vehicle crossover to existing highway access. Open for comment icon**

51 High Street Findon BN14 0ST

Ref. No: SDNP/21/04493/HOUS

## **Rear single storey extension Open for comment icon**

33 Steep Lane Findon BN14 0UE

Ref. No: SDNP/21/04344/LDP |



counter-terrorism police officers was an exciting experience and a real insight into the legal process.

Since my retirement the role of Registrar has changed dramatically. Recent COVID restrictions mean that face to face interviews had to be largely replaced by telephone calls and the

process of digitally storing records was escalated. I am happy to remember the beautiful, heavy, leather bound books in which I handwrote with a fountain pen filled with official permanent ink.

Jan Mackerell

---

## **Findon Parish Council**

The Findon Sheep Fair Committee ran a limited event on Nepcote Green on 11 September 2021, since the Fair is not being held in this year. This is an attempt to maintain the history of the Fair in Findon. A formal opening and closing ceremony with a number of village supporters continued that tradition and ensured that relevant bye laws were obeyed. All are looking forward to a full 2022 event with great anticipation.

Yvonne Wilson, the new Chair for Findon Pre-School, attended a recent Council meeting and talked with great enthusiasm regarding the future of this village asset and how we can develop and broaden the advantages that the Pre-School can bring to Findon.

Following the strong public response to the traffic and speeding survey (350 responses) circulated by Findon Parish Council, collation of opinion is well underway. Initial examination has shown the need for a number of Council sub-groups focussed on turning these thoughts into appropriate action plans. These plans will subsequently be communicated to villagers and progress

reported at future Parish Council meetings.

Continuing with traffic and roads, sourcing of village entry signs, to signify entry into the village, is underway. The thinking here is very much in line with that expressed during the survey. These signs are intended to lower traffic signage and enhance the village look and feel whilst acting as a traffic calming service.

October should see the long pursued changes to A24 speed limit installed. This will involve lowering the speed restriction from 50mph to 40mph leading to Findon Valley, and should certainly make exit from the village safer and particularly so for residents of the Quadrangle. Since Findon Parish Council has councillor representation from this part of the village it has given clear focus and engagement.

West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) is currently evaluating the results of the survey on plans to create a cycle path from Findon to Findon Valley.

Cllr Sean Smith  
Chairman, Findon Parish Council

## **Paws Animal Sanctuary**

Now that people are returning to work, they find their dogs don't like being left on their own all day, they bark or howl and rip up furniture and carpets. I have had so many phone calls from dog owners asking me to take their dogs. Luckily, I have a waiting list and found homes for three dogs in the last week.

All our cat pens are full, we have cats of every colour, except tabby. So, it's Murphy's Law that everyone who rings looking for a cat only wants a tabby. One lady said, "I want a tabby or I might consider a black cat". Usually, black cats are difficult to rehome as some people think they are bad luck. We do have a black cat, but she is a little stray and after a visit to the Vet we discovered she is pregnant. We have two ginger cats that we cannot tell apart until you pick up a cat brush then Milo is up on the table wanting to be brushed.

One of our Volunteers is an Author (David Irons) and he has written lots of books. One book is called Graveyard Billy, about a cat. There is a picture of his own cat on the front cover. Every Christmas I give all our hard working Volunteers a present, so

this year I ordered enough copies of his book to give to everyone. Last week David signed every copy. Volunteer Joxena from our office is now busily wrapping them all up. We always have lots of Guinea-pigs, with another five coming in tomorrow. The family thought they bought two girls, but one was a boy, and the girl promptly produced three babies. Now back at school the children have lost interest.

Stay safe everyone, keep wearing the masks and using the sanitisers.  
from Stacey.

\* \* \* \*

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## **200 Supporters Club**

Village Hall 200 supporters club November Grand draw  
being held at the hall on November 6th @ 7pm.

This is open to all 200 club members only.

We will be having a licensed bar, but as usual bring your own food,  
or pay £3 entrance fee on the night.

If possible please let me know if you intend to come.

Alan Wadhams 074832 67608 or 01903 911836

## A Letter of Thanks from Spain

Almost exactly one year ago I packed my spotty handkerchief and set out from Findon Village, my home for over 25 years, on my big Spanish adventure; irksome COVID restrictions notwithstanding it has, thus far, surpassed all my expectations!

My first thank you is to my dear friends Christopher and Alan who, between them, convinced me 'to go for it' – or forever regret an opportunity missed. Cheers lads!

On my house hunting trip in July 2020 I was fortunate to have been introduced by two pals (more of them later) to a Spanish speaking British solicitor who was to guide me expertly through the administrative maze of buying a house, making a will, obtaining Spanish residency, registering with the local Town Hall, registering with a GP, obtaining a driving licence as well as arranging contracts for water & electricity supply, mobile phone and internet etc. ... so a big thank you to Shayne!

The aforementioned pals, Ed and Thea – who I have known for 60 and 52 years respectively - moved to Spain from France over 5 years ago. They researched the property market on my behalf, inspected potential homes, prepared a short list and, subsequently in September 2020, provided full board for 2 weeks whilst I completed on the purchase of my property. Since moving in I have had the benefit of their 5 plus years of research into the sourcing of the best markets, shops, supermarkets, bars and restaurants, nurseries etc. as well as recommendations, and

introductions to, builders, gardeners, plumbers, electricians and, most importantly, to Lucy! Lucy (Luz Perez Lobelle) is a Spanish lady, fluent in Dutch and English, who provides an invaluable service enabling non-Spanish speaking ex-pats to access the services of – the Town Hall, the doctor, the pharmacy, the local health centre and hospital - she also ensured I was 'in the system' for getting my 2 Pfizer jabs ... muchas gracias a Ed, Thea and Lucy!

I don't think I would have ever been able to move out of my flat were it not for the help of my son Tom, his girlfriend Andrea and my dear friends Lorraine and Sue. A massive thank you to the four of you for – clearing and cleaning, goodness knows how many trips to the tip and to the local charity shops, storing and selling (eBay) so much 'stuff', for organising me, sorting my belongings ready for the movers, and, most of all, for just 'being there' when I needed help and support.

Finally, it would be remiss of me to finish this letter without passing on my heartfelt thanks to those friends who had the foresight and perspicacity to vote to leave the EU. Without Brexit it is quite possible that I would have prevaricated, succumbed to inertia and elected to be a 'remainer' – their prediction of a brighter happier post-Brexit future has come to pass, at least for me – muchas gracias a los dos! "... la aventura continua"

David Lee



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# Village Hall Diary October 2021

For all booking enquiries please email Elaine Dibben, Booking Secretary on [bookingsecretary@findonvillagehall.net](mailto:bookingsecretary@findonvillagehall.net)

Please contact organisers direct for further information about activities/classes—their details are available on the Village Hall website - [www.findonvillagehall.com](http://www.findonvillagehall.com).

Weekly	Day	Time
Just Yoga	Monday	10:30am
Carpet Bowls	Monday	14.30pm
You Yoga	Tuesday	18.00pm
Line Dancing	Wednesday	10.00am
Paracise	Wednesday	14.00pm
Strictly Dancing with Lisa	Wednesday	19.00pm
Pilates	Thursday	09.30am / 10.30am / 11.45am
Tai Chi	Friday	10:00am

Monthly	Date	Time
Messy Church	5th October	15.30pm
Art Class	9th October	09.00am
Danceholics	10th October	18.30pm
Findon Village WI	14th October	19.30pm
Bead Magicians	19th October	10.00am – 3.00pm
Meditation	21st October	19.30pm
Light Lunch	26th October	12.00pm
Findon Garden Association	29th October	18.30pm
Tastevin	4th November	19.00pm

## Future Events and Dates for your Diary

Friday 22nd October – FVHT Film Night – 06.30pm

Sunday 7th November – Abigail's Party by Black Box Theatre 07.00pm  
ticket available from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/blackbox>

Friday 12th November – FVHT Film Night – } Doors open at 06.30pm and

Friday 10th December – FVHT Film Night – } Films start at 07.30pm

**(See page 21 for information about October film)**

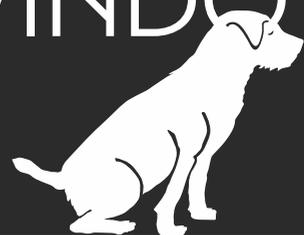
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# PARISH OF FINDON, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING - October 2021

All three Churches are open daily for private prayer.

Social distancing regulations and the wearing of face coverings is highly recommended.

There is a 10.00am Said Eucharist in Findon Church every Tuesday,  
and Morning Prayer every Wednesday and Friday at 9.00am

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00am 10.00am 10.00am  03.00pm	Traditional Communion at Findon Eucharist at Patching Worship and Praise at Findon Harvest Service at Findon Pet Service at Findon followed by Sausage Sizzle
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08.00am 09.30am	Traditional Communion at Clapham Eucharist at Findon
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	08:00am 09.30am 10.00am	Traditional Communion at Findon Eucharist at Findon Harvest Service at Clapham
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> October The last Sunday after Trinity	08.00am 09.30am	Traditional Communion at Patching Eucharist at Findon
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday before Advent	10:00am	Parish Eucharist at Patching

## September Baptisms:

12<sup>th</sup> - Isabella Suzanne-Jane Bolding  
26<sup>th</sup> - Archibald Fitzroy Aubrey Somerset  
26<sup>th</sup> - Theodore George Brittan

## September Funerals:

29<sup>th</sup> - Anna Louise Davison  
30<sup>th</sup> - Sarah Jane Knights

Rev. Helena Buqué, Vicar, and Rev. Colin Cox, Associate Vicar:

c/o The Rectory, School Hill, Findon BN14 0TR.

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[www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com](http://www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com)

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## Be Safe - Be seen

Don't forget to carry a torch or wear reflective clothing during these  
dark dreary winter afternoons and evenings.

You cannot be seen by motorists if you are  
wearing dark clothing in unlit areas.

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