



Findon

Dec 2020
Jan 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
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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 Shop.

Closing Date for Next Publication : 20th January 2021

Findon Village Candle of Hope

Gill Gostick



What a memorable year 2020 has been? As Christmas approaches and many of our usual festive village events are cancelled, how can we still celebrate as a community, share our Christmas messages and hope for the future with each other?

During 2020 the rainbow became a symbol of support for people wanting to show their thanks to NHS workers, and rainbows appeared throughout the village. With this idea in mind I am asking people to show their support for the fantastic community we live in by putting "A Candle of Hope" and/or Christmas message in their windows. It could be candles from recycled materials, a drawing, picture, painting, Christmas message or message of

hope, child's picture (a selection of colouring sheets will be available at Dee Dee's from Tuesday 1st December), We have a lot to be both thankful for, and hopeful about living in Findon, let's share the hope and Christmas cheer and brighten up the village with our Christmas/candle themed window displays.

Young and old- everyone can get involved

Thank you.

Gill Gostick 01903 873955

Please take care if lighting actual candles. Electric or battery operated candles and lights are far safer.

View Findon News on the Findon Village website www.findonvillage.org

■ Residential sales ■ Lettings ■ New homes ■ Land and development ■ Commercial



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From the Rectory

It was a joy to see almost 70 people (including several children and some dogs) respectfully giving thanks and remembering at Findon War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. Wreaths were laid representing the villages, Findon Parish Council, Arun District Council and West Sussex County Council. Colin and I recorded a Service in church, with contributions from Evelyn Stanford and Ian Hollyhomes, with Tessa McCormick reading the poem 'The Soldier' and Ian Swales reading the list of the fallen from the three villages as usual, enabling many others to remember with us from their own homes.

Like much of this past year, it is unclear as I write just what lies ahead of us as we approach Christmas and the new year, but looking back over 2020, I think we have much to be thankful for, and much to be proud of as village communities. While we are hopeful that there will be some form of public worship in our churches over Christmas, we cannot at this stage be certain what form this will take. There will still be online worship available for those unable to get to church, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped to contribute to our weekly recorded Services over the months of lockdown, and most particularly to thank Colin Cox, our talented Assistant Priest here, for his IT expertise and creative gifts in putting the whole thing together on our Parish Facebook page and sending it to Liz Henderson for our website.

The Nativity performances and Carol Concerts and sing-alongs, we so enjoy in our schools and churches, will sadly not be taking place this year, nor will our Walking Nativity, but we do plan to sing carols around Findon in set locations on 3 evenings. (see pg 13 for details!)

Another new venture is the 'Candle in the Window' initiative (see front page) and this fits perfectly with



the concept of Advent as a time of waiting in the build up to Christmas Day. Many of us are familiar with the Advent Wreath, where a new candle is lit each Sunday of Advent, gradually increasing the brightness of the light, culminating in lighting a central white candle to show that Christ, the Light of the World has been born. Be creative, I'm really looking forward to seeing what you put in your window as I walk round the village with Tilly!

The four weeks of Advent have traditional themes. The people of God, whose stories we read in the Old Testament speak of hope in troubled times through following God's Law, the prophets call us to a new way of living, ending with John the Baptist's call to repent and turn back to God, the final candle being to remember Mary whose humility and obedience enabled the birth of Jesus when she said 'Yes' to God's call through an angel. This year, let us also travel through Advent prayerfully, remembering those we love

► continued on page 5

Rev. Helena Buqué, Priest in Charge and Colin Cox, Curate:
c/o The Rectory, School Hill, Findon, BN14 0TR. Tel: 873601
findoncrectory@gmail.com www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com

Michael
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& Curtis

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**St John the Baptist CofE Primary School PTA
PLEASE FOLLOW CURRENT SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES**

► *From the Rectory continued from page 3*

but may be unable to meet in person, those across our world for whom daily life is such a struggle, and giving thanks for all those who have helped us in our lives, and especially in this past year, when there has been so much to challenge our individual well-being.

Certainly, whatever the Government decides, Christmas celebrations will be different for everyone this year, but what is (or should be) at the centre of these celebrations doesn't change; the reason for Christmas is our awe and wonder that God chose to be born in human flesh, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Jesus was born in poverty to a very ordinary, yet quite extraordinary couple, far from their own home at the behest of the ruling foreign power (Rome) and subject to the whims of a power-hungry puppet leader (Herod). We are so fortunate, living in a democracy, with the associated freedoms, but many people in our world are not so lucky, living in fear, often lacking the basic necessities of life we take for granted here. Sad as it is not to be able to join with extended family members at Christmas this year, we can look ahead to better times. In remembering others less fortunate than we are, wouldn't it be wonderful if we all contributed what we would have spent on excess food, drink and (often unwanted) gifts for one

another to a charity supporting the homeless in this country, or the persecuted or displaced across the world, or those who are struggling to rebuild lives after natural disaster. The list could go on....

If we are able to have a Crib Service on Christmas Eve, could each child bring a picture of an angel



they have drawn, coloured and cut out, to stick on a poster to give thanks for our 'Guardian Angels' who keep us safe. This can then be displayed in the church until the end of January, when hopefully we might have some idea of when Messy Church might be able to meet again. Any adults who want to join in and bring an angel are also welcome of course.

Remember, I am here for you all (not as some think just for those who 'go to church'!) and don't hesitate to get in touch if I can do anything for you.

May God bless you all this Christmas and through January, as together we look forward to longer days and better times.

With love in Christ, Helena

OUR CHURCHES ARE NOW OPEN

Come Along and Join us

Songs of Praise

Sunday 6th December, at 10.00am at Findon Church
with The Monarchs Way Singers and hymns chosen by
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Findon Village Store News

Jo O'Dell, Vice Chair

We now have some lovely Christmas items in the shop. These include: festive flavoured instant coffee (these are delicious) traditional liqueur chocolates and for those who like a liqueur we have some flavoured varieties this year, chocolate orange vodka liqueur or Christmas pudding rum liqueur which would make nice gifts.

Alongside the regular Christmas condiment staples we have a Christmas marmalade, Christmas chutney and Christmas jam all hand-made from Thursday Cottage, which was originally started in a Somerset kitchen in 1963. All their products are hand-made, in small batches, and are only available in small retailers like our shop.

We have some lovely Christmas cards in the store, including some which will raise funds to benefit our local church.

If you fancy treating yourself to a fine sparkling wine at Christmas we are a stockist for the award-winning Wiston sparkling wine. We are now the cheapest retailer of this product in the local area purchasing direct from Wiston!

We are hoping to stock our usual selection of Christmas wreaths and table centres from a local supplier. These should be available to purchase from the beginning of December.

Our Christmas tree outside the store has been very kindly donated by Steve at the Camelia Botnar foundation garden centre in Cowfold, an organisation supporting local youngsters on their journey to a skilled profession.

As we near the end of a most peculiar and difficult year we wish to thank all our loyal customers for your support in 2020 and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

We will of course be closed for Christmas day, our opening times for the festive period are as follows:

Thursday, 24th	Christmas Eve 7.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday, 26th	Boxing Day 7.00am – 12.30pm
Monday, 28th	Bank Holiday 7.00am – 12.30pm
Thursday, 31st	New Years Eve 7.00am - 7.00pm
Friday, 1st	New Years Day 7.00am – 12.30pm

John Hammond

It is sadly reported that John Hammond, a long time member of Findon Church, has passed away in Worthing Hospital on 17th November. He will be greatly missed.

There will be a full acknowledgement in the next issue of Findon News.

— THE —
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Cinnamon Trust Christmas Sale

The Cinnamon Trust Christmas Sale will take place on Saturday 5th December from 9.00am till early afternoon outside the Village Store. Closing time will depend on the weather. Gazebos kindly donated by Richie Lines from Findon Gardens Association.

We will be having a raffle for a lovely Christmas hamper kindly donated by Gay Holmes. Prize can be delivered in village.

Pre-ordered Christmas cakes, made by Lorna Bolger and myself, will be available for collection.

Gifts, cards and pet goods on sale including homemade cheesy dog treats. Space will mean less on sale than usual but we hope to have a lovely display including a really great assortment of knitted toys and gifts by Mary Childs and Jan Churchfield.

Please respect social distancing and wear face coverings at the sale.

I will continue to have a supply of gifts, cards and wrapping paper on sale in my porch at 13 The Willows.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and to thank everyone who has supported the Cinnamon Trust through this strange and difficult year. Let us hope that 2021 will see us all enjoying better times.

Best regards from the Cinnamon Trust Team.

Maggie Martin
07544 572702 / 01903 874173

(Please contact the Trust direct on 01736 757900 if you wish to consider pet fostering or volunteering or if you need assistance with your pet)



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Afternoon tea deliveries raise over £1,340 for Children in Need appeal!

Ann Hollyhomes

Well, it might be my age but what could have been a more pleasing sight than the four Amazonian volunteers enlisted to deliver our Afternoon Teas. Here they are, dressed and masked in their finery, eat your heart out 007!



Following on from the success of last year's Children in Need appeal, when Gay and Gerald Hibbs introduced the idea of a 'pop-up' tearoom in their home, offering an exquisite afternoon tea experience, this year that was never going to happen. With the latest emergency restrictions, any form of activity became just too difficult to safely organise. That is, unless you have the gritty determination of Mrs Hibbs, who simply said 'if they can't come to us, we will go to them!' And so with 2 weeks to go, the posters went up, boxes, pots and ribbons were sought out and, inspired by the Great British Bake Off which is currently being streamed, we got cooking. Gay Hibbs, Ann Hollyhomes and Gay Holmes were allocated vital roles, and the delivery chaps were interviewed. We were especially lucky to have two retired financial wizards who spent some time calculating (and recalculating) the exact

number of sandwich triangles needed (truly!)

Champion sandwich maker Gay Holmes



It was a great deal of fun for those of us involved this year, but more importantly a tremendous day for Pudsy. The good people of Findon, Clapham and Patching were extraordinarily generous, giving over and above the required price of the tea. In total £1,340 was banked at the Findon Village Stores on Saturday morning. Thank you to everyone who donated and to all the helpers. The suits can go back in the bags now chaps.

And once again thank you Mrs Hibbs for all the good ideas – and start planning for next year.



Afternoon Tea organisers -Gay Hibbs and Ann Hollyhomes

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Carol Singing Around the Village *If regulations allow*

The Monarchs Way Singers would like to organise Carol Singing around the village if it safe to do so, on 3 evenings to wish residents " A Very happy Christmas".

Here is the proposed plan starting at 6.00pm each evening:-

Wed 16th Dec - Nepcote/Nepfield close junction - Bottom of Nepfield - Top of Steep Lane/service road - Top of Soldiers Field - Centre of Convent Gardens by the small green.

Fri 18th Dec - The Willows - The Square (Outside the Gun, Village house and Greypoint) - The Black Horse garden - Steep Close middle junction - Sycamore gated close. The pubs will be contacted to confirm we can sing.)

Mon 21st Dec - The Oval - Nightingales - Homewood, Top of Downview Road - Beech Road/Elm Rise/Horseshoe Close junction - Downland Close.

Unfortunately we cannot sing everywhere in the village so have tried to organise as many areas as possible.

Posters when erected at areas stated, will be the confirmation that these evenings will go ahead...



Christmas in Findon Now and Then

Gladys Lambourne

Over the years the style of Christmas has changed from remembering the birth of Jesus in a stable and singing carols to being a big spending spree on food and presents. Knowing Christmas 2020 will be like no other, I hope acts of kindness to each other will take the place of what money can buy.

I will never forget my happiest Christmas, even though it was at a low point in my life, about fifty years ago. Two months before Christmas my husband had an accident at work, injuring his spine which was encased in a plaster jacket for three months. I have never forgotten the kindness of friends and neighbours. Finding offerings left on my doorstep of food, coal for the fire

and even a Christmas tree. Staff at the then doctors' surgery had a collection resulting in a box of groceries left on the doorstep and books for our children.

My husband and I made the children presents from old clothes in our rag bag. I particularly remember a crocodile glove puppet and a Cinderella doll.

I trust the same spirit will be around for those in need this Christmas.

May the start of 2021 show a little light at the end of the tunnel and give everyone strength to carry on.

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Tuesday	9AM - 4PM
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Thursday	9AM - 4PM
Friday	9AM - 4PM
Saturday	9AM - 3PM
Sunday	CLOSED

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St John the Baptist CofE Primary School's PTA NEWS

All we can say is WOW!!!

More than 500 children took part in our first Findon Village Pumpkin Trail!

Hundreds of families enjoyed the adventure around the village finding the pumpkin letters, enjoying the haunted decorations, working out the secret words and enjoying the spooky goody bags!

It brought a huge increase in footfall to the village whilst following government guidelines and subsequently increased sales at local businesses.

A huge thank you to all those who took part, those who hosted letters, everyone who helped market online, The Findon Village Store for their nonstop selling, Michael Jones and Curtis Estate Agents for their sponsorship and The Gun Inn for their generous prize donation for the Halloween Fancy Dress Competition!

With a second lockdown and further restrictions, it has been incredibly challenging for so many and yet has shown how much love and support there is within our community as we help our fellow neighbours. We are so proud to be a part of our village.

We are in a position like so many other charities currently with little or no income. Nevertheless, we as volunteers will adapt and work together as a community to help support our village school during their own funding crisis

With this in mind, we will be hosting the Findon Village Elf Trail from the

afternoon of Friday, 18th December when school finishes until Christmas Eve at 4pm. Families will be able to buy special cypher trail maps

from the Village Store, which come with festive goody bags filled with sweets and treats. Simply find all the naughty elves, their clues and special codes whilst enjoying your festive goody bag! Spell out the winning phrase and pop your answers back into The Village Store to be entered into a prize draw. The winner will be drawn at 4pm on Christmas Eve and will receive a fantastic Christmas Family Hamper bundle sourced from our wonderful local suppliers and delivered by a very special person!!

Maps are only £2 with all funds raised going directly to our village school.

Children's Surprise Christmas Eve Boxes will also be on sale from The Findon Village Store. Over-loaded with luxury festive traditions and treats, these exclusive boxes are limited editions and only £7.50 each so do purchase them before they're gone.

Both the Christmas Eve Boxes and the Findon Village Elf Trail maps will be on sale in advance from the beginning of December.

The trail maps and goody bags will be on sale right up until Christmas Eve to avoid crowding. Please do follow the social distancing guidelines



► *continued on page 17*

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CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR GIVING
especially on Fridays and Saturdays



Outside our Village Store on Fridays and Saturdays, in the run up to Christmas, there will be a nativity crib in which to put any much-needed items for Turning Tides.

Friday 4 December
Friday 11 December
Friday 18 December

Saturday 5 December
Saturday 12 December
Saturday 19 December

Turning Tides is the largest provider of support for homeless men and women in West Sussex. Findon Parish Church sent all your harvest festival donations there and the charity sent their grateful thanks.

Below is their Wish List....

YES PLEASE TO:

SQUASH - - - SUGAR - - - SMALL JUICES - - - TINNED MEATS
CORNER BEEF - - - TINNED RICE PUDDING - - - PEANUT BUTTER
SANDWICH SPREAD - - - INSTANT NOODLES - - - MAYONNAISE
CEREAL BARS - - - MICROWAVE RICE - - - TINNED CUSTARD
JAM - - - INSTANT MASH - - - CRISPS - - - SWEETS
MENS BOXERS (S & MED) - - - LADIES KNICKERS (S & MED)
JOGGING BOTTOMS (MED) - - - SMALL WAIST JEANS

NO THANK YOU TO:

BEANS - - - SOUPS - - - PASTA

Many thanks...

► **St John the Baptist PTA News...continued from page 15**

We hope our festive treats will give your families a chance to enjoy a safe and happy Christmas adventure!

We wish everyone well and could not be prouder of our school and community

For any further information please do feel free to contact us.

Sadie Rockliffe

Chairman

St John the Baptist CofE Primary
School PTA

sadierockliffe@outlook.com

Village House Hotel
The Square
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Village House

**Exciting new deals for Autumn
Starting in September**

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have planned**

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**Tuesday & Saturday Village House
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Please see article on front page

200 Club Grand Draw

Alan Wadhams

We held the not so very Grand 200 Club Major Draw. Our lucky winners were :

Sean Smith (no 122), Mike Solomon (no 3), Helen Doyle (no 95) - each winning £25.

Maggie Martin (no 16) and Findon Village WI (no 163) - won £50 each.

Jill Schiller (no 184) and Julie Dunmore (no 31) - won £100 each.

Peter Green (no 107) and Mike Glanfield (no 98) - won £200 each.

The big winners were Chris Blacker (no 174) and Wendy Hegerty (no 60) - each winning £500.

The £20 renewal for December & 2021 is now due please pay by bank transfer or via your collectors. If anyone wishes to drop out please let me know so that those numbers can be filled.

Available numbers

We have some numbers available, Should anyone like to become members, they should contact me either by:

Telephone on 01903 911836 or email: alanwadhams49@gmail.com

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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Attendees must book their place by calling 01903 340489

Or emailing

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(social media and walk in are also accepted)

we will be offering a set menu weekly for over 60's

from lasagne and salad to soup and a fresh roll plus a hot or cold drink

for just £7.00 per person.

Dee Dee's Findon, 01903 340489, 5

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The year 2020 will be remembered through the lens of the COVID pandemic, a difficult and trying time for us all. Despite the restrictions Findon Parish Council (FPC) has continued to meet and manage business via virtual full Council and Planning Meetings using the Teams platform.

It is a good time of the year to look at those FPC achievements in 2020, some of which are complete and some still in progress. It is appropriate to emphasise that all parish councillors have contributed to this work.

* Findon Parish Council : For the first time in a number of years FPC is at its designated number of Councillors - this is great news since these increased numbers should mean we can achieve more in 2021.

* COVID Support : With the first COVID lockdown FPC leafleted the village offering support to villagers. A range of activities from shopping, pharmacy collections to direction and advice was undertaken during this period as villagers contacted FPC through its website.

* Tree Management : Trees have undergone an expert assessment, particularly those on Nepcote Green and north of the Glebeland. Sadly, a number of trees have had to be removed as a result of ash dieback . FPC has planted and maintains a nursery of varied saplings with a view to replacement and extension of our trees.

* South Downs National Park Area (SDNPA) proposed Nepcote

Conservation Area : The intent to create a new conservation area on the downlands adjacent to Findon was launched and following FPC and individual input progressed with an intended mid year 2020 target following the public consultation. This would be the SDNPA's first new Conservation Area designation, however the project has now been put on hold by the SDNPA until the COVID restrictions are lifted.

* New Housing Development : FPC continued to pursue alternative locations for new housing in Findon rather than those imposed upon the village by SDNPA. A working group was created and investigated alternatives, creating a proposal that was put to the village via ballot. This alternative proposal was strongly favoured in this ballot whilst the SDNPA version was least popular. Nevertheless SDNPA refused to amend its proposal, notwithstanding the clear view expressed by the villagers. As a result FPC was faced with the risk that both proposals would proceed, creating double the new houses in Findon. FPC therefore was compelled to withdraw its application.

* Operation Watershed : This project is now complete adding protection, via increased drainage and soakaways to Findon from the risk of flooding via Nepcote Lane.

* Nepcote Green : Fencing around Nepcote Green has been fully replaced, partly with the help of Findon Sheep Fair. In addition, the process of returning Nepcote Pond to its previous

► *continued on page 22*

Richard and Judy Stutchbury

After 34 very happy years living in our lovely home in Findon we have been drawn by a lifelong pull to live by the sea. We have found a small house close to the estuary waters of the River Exe in Devon, where we will enjoy our new challenge and exploring the neighbourhood.

Over the years in Findon we have known a great many people and so are therefore taking this opportunity to say goodbye, as it isn't possible, during these days of Coronavirus, to speak to everyone. When we come back to visit we hope to see as many old friends as possible – please look out for us.

► **Findon Parish Council...continued from page**

filled state is underway and FPC is seeking support to that end from other local government bodies.

* Open Spaces : Our volunteer Working Group continues, subject to COVID guidelines, to clear leaves and debris from various roads and footpaths to ensure safe access for users.

* Homewood Play Area : FPC has successfully achieved a grant from the SDNPA for the renovation/redesign of this facility. A Working Group has undertaken the process of gaining and subsequently evaluating tenders for the work, with a view to a 2021 completion.

* Village Pre-School : Support work to repair the village pre-school roof has been undertaken.

* Traffic and Parking : Multiple concerns from villagers regarding increasing parking and speeding risk has led to the establishment of a Working Group on this subject. We look forward to their impact in 2021.

* Allotment Gardens : The various lockdowns have had the impact of making these allotments look better than ever, credit to the plot holders.

FPC would like to thank Findon Village Store for the chair and plaque outside the store, noting Peter Goldsworthy for his role in ensuring the survival of our village shop. Peter's contribution to the shop and the village in general is significant and we would endorse those thanks.

Finally, FPC would like to wish all residents a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

Findon Parish Council Website

www.findonparishcouncil.gov.uk

MUSTARD SEED RELIEF MISSIONS SHOE BOX APPEAL – 2020



Although it's only the beginning of December, for me the first Christmas activity is complete and over with for this year. The shoeboxes for the Love in a Box scheme have been collected and have begun the next stage in their journey to their final recipients. In the photo you can see our boxes being loaded into the collection van.

We collected a magnificent 121 boxes, brimming with goodies for the children in Moldova, the poorest country in Europe. Thank you to all those of you who filled and created a box (or even more than one in many cases). Thank you too to the many of you who knitted extra hats, scarves and gloves, bought additional goods for boxes, made cash donations or supplied spare empty boxes.

The boxes will undoubtedly be enjoyed by those who receive them and I recommend a visit to the Mustard Seed

website where you can read their most up-to-date news and see a video of children receiving their boxes. (www.msrm.org.uk)

We'll be participating in the scheme again next year and hopefully you will join us. Why not start collecting goods for your box throughout the coming year, especially after Christmas when so much in the shops is reduced.



A Good Home Wanted

Is there anyone in Findon who was at St John's College Cambridge? Alternatively knows of someone who was up there? I have several large books about the college and many old copies of the college magazine. I would love to find them a good home.

Please ring: 01903 873414

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Paws Animal Sanctuary

We might be in lock down but we are still as busy as ever, with injured birds, stray and unwanted cats. The phone never stops ringing. Thankfully we have reliable volunteers here every day. Today we had a call from another guinea-pig rescue in Haywards Heath, telling us a guinea-pig breeder in Chichester has died and there are hundreds of guinea-pigs needing to be rescued immediately. Mainly females all with babies. I quickly discussed it with the volunteers and we agreed we could take 50 mums with all their babies. The girls started getting the cages ready looking for drinking water bottles making sure we have enough guinea-pig food and hay. They are looking forward to giving them all names. I also sent a message out to all the other animal rescues in the area to see if they could also help.

All the cats are reserved this week except for two. A lady looking for two cats is coming tomorrow to see them. They are two brothers and so friendly I know she will love them.

A lady, moving to a flat without a garden, brought in a bald hen called Nancy. I tried putting Nancy in with our hens but they all bullied her, so I quickly rescued her and took her to live inside in the warm. Most of her feathers have grown and today she laid her first egg. Nancy goes anywhere she wants and will jump up on tables and work surfaces and help herself to cat food, and she loves cucumber and lettuce. She follows volunteers in and out and

around the garden and has no fear of cats or dogs.

Almost every week there are animals needing to visit the vets. So many of the cats need neutering before they can go to a new home. People reserve them and have to wait until they are better after their operations before they can go.

All the cats look forward to their Dreamies each night. They all have electric beds and night lights. It gets dark so early they go to bed much earlier in the winter.

It will soon be Christmas and luckily for us many of our volunteers are single and have promised to come in and feed the animals over the holiday.

Wishing you all a lovely Christmas.
from Stacey.

Paws Animal Sanctuary Findon
15 The Oval
Findon Village
West Sussex
BN14 0TN

01903 872 734 / 0790 447 6819
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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). 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://findon.arun.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:

Internal alterations

1 Rose Cottages Horsham Road
Findon BN14 0UY

Findon Village WI

Following on from our successful first Zoom meeting in October, we held another Zoom meeting for our November meeting with even more members joining in.

Neil Sadler gave a very interesting and informative talk about life living on a boat on the canals in England. He described, with the help of lots of photographs, how he and his wife navigate the beautiful waterways which crisscross the country from Littlehampton to Skipton in Yorkshire.

For our December meeting we will welcome Gilly Halcrow with a talk entitled 'Our Christmas Traditions – a Box of Christmas Delights'. Gilly will examine the derivation of Yuletide

traditions, from carols to mince pies and cards, Also, the first Royal Christmas broadcasts. We are looking forward to some humorous, festive entertainment and will be asking the members to wear a Christmas jumper and a Christmas hat!

The Zoom presentation will be 7.30pm Thursday 10th December. Visitors very welcome so if you would like an invitation email me at the address below.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas in these difficult times.

Paddy Winter
Findon Village WI President
Findonvillagewi@hotmail.co.uk

FINDON DOWNS WI

Jill Schiller

In 1955, Findon Downs WI commenced meeting in our Village Hall in the afternoon once per month. Ladies of this WI wished to present to the Hall something of interest to the local people as well as visitors. So, members who were interested in making a lasting gift to our Hall commenced work on designing and sewing by hand, the picture of our Hall and surrounding houses etc., and it still hangs on the wall today. Sadly, some of the ladies who were involved creating this lovely item have either passed away or moved away. Here we are in 2020 and after meeting every month for 65 years, it is time for me to say "Good Bye" and to thank all the ladies for their support to past Presidents and myself. Our Committee members have been exceptional in their contribution and dedication ensuring that our WI has continued to function for as long as it has. This year, we have only hosted 3 meetings due to the Covid Virus, closure of the hall and our membership falling.

Therefore I am obliged to place this WI into suspension for three years, allowing another party to open up a new afternoon WI.

I would like to say "Thank You" from all of us to James, Tina, Tomas, Jan, and all the people involved with the running of our Village Hall and, of course, taking care of the hall bookings for us each month. I cannot forget the wonderful support from our Secretary, Evelyn Stanford, Treasurer, Betty Sieler, Enid Kendrick,

for her help in selling our tickets for various functions and always remembering to send a card to a member who may need cheering up, Jan Bartlett, for her fabulous posies presented to the birthday girl each month and to Hilary, Sue, Christine, Maria, who have worked so hard selling raffle tickets, making tea and generally keeping us all fed and watered when required and Jacqui Grand who has run the raffle for many years and I believe she was involved with the creation of our wall hanging. I would also like to mention the tremendous input and personal help I have received from past Presidents, Mrs Pauline Roberts, Mrs Pat Canavan, and all those members who have contributed to the meetings we have enjoyed for so many years. One special lady who has been a member of our WI since 1955 is Gladys Lambourne who has contributed so much historical information to all of us living in the village and no doubt you have read her articles posted from time to time in the Findon News.

It is time for me to close, and make space for others to write their articles. I just wish to say, it has been an honour for me to have been elected President of this lovely afternoon WI and I wish the future person who may replace me one day, all the very best of luck for the future.

With Best Wishes for a very Happy Christmas and Safe New Year,

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Have you seen this sign before?

It was uncovered by the hard-working Wednesday Volunteers recently when they were clearing overgrowth from a footpath in the village. But, where was that footpath??

The answer will be in the next issue of Findon News (February).

Letter to Findon News

Well done to the organisers of the October half term Pumpkin Trail. The village came alive with hundreds of children, many in fancy dress, who braved the weather searching for pumpkin letters: such fun! I hope this becomes an annual Halloween event.

Paddy Winter





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The Littlest Christmas Tree

The littlest Christmas tree
lived in a meadow of green
among a family
of tall evergreens.

He learned how to whisper
the evergreen song
with the slightest of wind
that came gently along.

He watched as the birds
made a home out of twigs
and couldn't wait till
he, too, was big.

For all of the trees
offered a home,
the maple, the pine, and
the oak,
who's so strong.

"I hate being little,"
the little tree said,
"I can't even turn colours
like the maple turns red.
I can't help the animals
like the mighty old oak.
He shelters them all
in his wide mighty cloak."

The older tree said,
"Why, little tree, you don't
know?
The story of a mighty king
from the land with no
snow?"

Little tree questioned,
"A land with no snow?"
"Yes!" said old tree,
"A very old story,
from so long ago."

"A star appeared,
giving great light
over a manger
on long winter's night.
A baby was born,
a king of all kings,
and with him comes love
over all things."

"He lived in a country
all covered in sand,
and laid down his life
to save all of man."

Little tree thought of the gift
given by him,
then the big tree said with
the happiest grin,

"We're not just trees,
but a reminder of that day.
There's a much bigger part
of a role that we play!"

"For on Christmas Eve,
my life I'll lay down,
in exchange for a happier,
loving ground.

And as I stand dying,
they'll adorn me in trim.
This all will be done
in memory of him."

"Among a warm fire,
with family and friends,
in the sweet songs of
Christmas,
I'll find my great end.
Then ever so gently,
He'll come down to see
and take me to heaven,
Jesus and me."

"So you see, little tree,
we are not like the oak
who shelters all things
beneath his great cloak.
Nor are we like the maple
in fall,
whose colours leave many
standing in awe."

"The gift that we give
is ourselves, limb for limb,
the greatest of honour,
in memory of him."

Amy Petersen

The little tree bowed
his head down and cried
and thought of the king
who willingly died.

For what kind of gift
can anyone give
than to lay down your life
when you wanted to live?

A swelling of pride
came over the tree.
Can all of this happen
Because of just me?
Can I really bring honour?
By adorning a home?
By reminding mankind
that he's never alone?

With this thought, little tree
began singing with glee.
Happy and proud
to be a true Christmas tree.

You can still hear them
singing
even the smallest in height,
singing of Christmas
and that one holy night.



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PARISH OF FINDON, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING

DECEMBER 2020

www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com



Parish of Findon, Clapham and Patching

December and Christmas Services

(if allowed by Government!)

Churches are still open for private prayer, with social distancing.

Please continue to look at the website and Facebook page for any updates.

Sunday 6 th December	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Findon Church
Second Sunday of Advent	10.00am	Worship and Praise Service in Findon Church
	10.00am	Said Eucharist in Clapham Church
Sunday 13 th December	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Patching Church
Third Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Said Eucharist in Findon Church
Sunday 20 th December	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Findon Church
Fourth Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Said Eucharist in Findon Church
	10.00am	Said Eucharist in Patching Church
Sunday 27 th December	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Clapham Church
John, Apostle and Evangelist	9.30am	Said Eucharist in Findon Church



Additional Christmas Services



Sunday 20 th December	4.00pm	Candlelit Carols in Findon Church
Thursday 24 th December	3.00pm	Crib Service in Findon Church
Christmas Eve	11.30pm	Midnight Mass of the Nativity in Findon Church
Friday 25 th December	8.00am	BCP Communion in Patching Church
Christmas Day	10.00am	Family Communion in Findon Church
	10.00am	Eucharist in Clapham Church

Advent

Advent Online from the Diocese of Chichester is a huge library of resources, including music, art, video, prayer, etc. - <https://adventonline.faith/>

Nine Lessons and Carols - Join Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell daily for Nine Lessons and Carols between Christmas Day and 2 January at <https://churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy>

Stay well and remember to care for vulnerable neighbours.

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

c/o The Rectory, School Hill, Findon BN14 0TR. Tel: 873601, findoncprectory@gmail.com



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PARISH OF FINDON, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING

January 2021

www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com



Parish of Findon, Clapham and Patching

January Services

(if allowed by Government!)

Churches are still open for private prayer, with social distancing.

Please continue to look at the website and Facebook page for any updates.

Sunday 3 rd January	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Findon Church
Second Sunday of Christmas	10.00am	Worship and Praise Service in Findon Church
	10.00am	Said Eucharist in Clapham Church
Sunday 10 th January	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Patching Church
1 st Sunday after Epiphany	9.30am	Said Eucharist in Findon Church
Baptism of Christ		
Sunday 17 th January	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Findon Church
2 nd Sunday of Epiphany	9.30am	Said Eucharist in Findon Church
	10.00am	Said Eucharist in Patching Church
Sunday 24 th January	8.00am	Traditional Communion in Clapham Church
3 rd Sunday of Epiphany	9.30am	Said Eucharist in Findon Church
Sunday 31 st January	9.30am	Said Eucharist in Findon Church
4 th Sunday of Epiphany		

Stay well and remember to care for vulnerable neighbours.

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

c/o The Rectory, School Hill, Findon BN14 0TR. Tel: 873601, findoncrectory@gmail.com

Church Service Times:

The result of a recent ballot of churchgoers in Findon about the time of the Sunday Service resulted in 100% in favour of keeping the Service time in Findon to 9.30 am. Reasons given included being able to spend more time with family as the earlier time enabled travel to arrive by lunchtime. So I look forward to welcoming you back to St John the Baptist at 9.30am as soon as we are given permission to worship together again. The 1st Sunday Worship and Praise continues to be at 10am, as does the Eucharist at

Clapham and Patching churches (see 'menu' at back of magazine for details) Covid permitting, on Christmas morning, there will be an 8am Communion Service (BCP) in Patching Church, a 10am Family Communion (Common Worship) in Findon Church (thus allowing me time for a coffee to warm up between services!) and a 10am Eucharist in Clapham Church taken by Colin. We hope to see some of you then, to wish you a Happy Christmas in person!

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