



# Findon

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

February  
2021

# 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 [findonnews@zoho.com](mailto:findonnews@zoho.com), or via the 'Findon News Box' in the Village Shop.

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

## AROUND THE VILLAGE



Please note that  
**Findon, Clapham & Patching  
Churches**  
**are now to be closed  
for the current time.**

Rev. Colin Cox's son and  
daughter-in-law have tested  
positive for Covid so the closing  
of the Churches is a  
precautionary measure.

We send prayers and best  
wishes to Colin and his family.

For more information: -  
t: 01903 873601  
e: [findoncprectory@gmail.com](mailto:findoncprectory@gmail.com)  
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**Stay home, take care and stay safe**

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## From the Rectory

Here we are in 2021, still in 'lock-down' but with the rollout of vaccines there is at last light at the end of the tunnel! Last year around this time, I wrote about the significance of the year 2020 as perhaps a year to clarify our vision. Although the year didn't turn out as any of us would have anticipated or hoped, my prayer is that you, I and each person on our planet has re-evaluated what life actually means, what is important. With this in mind, since live worship is (at the time of writing) still permitted, Colin and I made the decision to keep some Services going as long as people felt safe to attend (up-to-date details on our website). All 3 churches remain open daily for private prayer, and I would ask you to respect everyone's safety when using the buildings by wearing your face mask, logging in/signing in, using hand sanitiser and maintaining a safe distance from anyone else outside your household whilst in or around the church.

Alongside the Coronavirus Pandemic, there has been the constant backdrop of the environmental crisis the world is facing, with the positive impact of the enforced minimal travel (particularly air travel) on the pollution levels. Whilst I have every sympathy with the many who have lost their livelihoods in the travel and tourism industry, my hope is that as life slowly begins to resume a more 'normal' pattern, we will continue to consider the potential environmental impact of each journey we make. We can and must learn from this time we are living through, growing in respect and gratitude for what we have, rather than greedily grasping for more, appreciating being part of a community and playing

our part to benefit that community. This is as important within our immediate family and social circle as it is on a global scale. One thing that has come out of this Pandemic is the need for and value of kindness. Christian teaching is to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves: being kind is free, but its value is priceless.

To love your neighbour as yourself means 'loving' – that is, accepting and caring about – yourself as you are. In a society that has actively promoted self-criticism and dissatisfaction with who we are and what we own, loving self might seem an alien concept. It certainly doesn't mean narcissism, but acceptance of who we each are, as beloved children of a God who loves us JUST AS WE ARE! This doesn't mean we don't need to change what we are like over time, but it gives us a positive base to effect change from. Isolation can often have a marked negative effect on mental well-being; my prayer is for all who are feeling down or anxious at this time, and I think especially of our young people whose lives have been altered so drastically over the past year. Please get in touch if you know of anyone who is really struggling at the moment.

Hard as lock-down isolation can seem, it can give us time for reflection, enabling each of us to discover a sense of gratitude for what we have been given, and possibly also see new ways in which we can use this for the benefit of the community, whether locally, nationally, or globally. Food for thought....

A happy and healthy new year to you all!

Every blessing, Helena



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# Findon Village Hall Trust

Well, despite all the problems “yes, we can partially open - oh, no we can’t” nature of things recently things are active and changing at the Village Hall.

As a relative newcomer to Findon and having joined the Village Hall Committee only in September, I was more than a little apprehensive to find that, as of the 26<sup>th</sup> November, I am the new Chairman. I will waste no time before mentioning that we also need both a new Secretary and a Bookings Secretary – volunteers will be most welcome and we really could do with having someone in place for the Secretary role in particular before the end of February.

First of all it may be a good idea to introduce myself and to offer some thanks. Firstly I would like to thank James Heasman who has held the fort as interim Chair since Judith Davies resigned and who has done a great job in difficult times whilst also working full time in an especially busy NHS! He has also been very supportive since the moment I started as indeed have the whole committee. We should also thank Tina Bedford for all the work she has put in as the secretary and who has decided that now is time for her to step back and also Tomas Heasman who has covered bookings and the website but now has to cope with being a student during the pandemic. Personally, I would also like to thank the many people from the village who have offered support - I am very impressed by the village grapevine...

Sue and I moved to Findon just a couple of years ago and have loved it since Day 1 – I thought I would miss “Sunny Brighton” but – I don’t. We have especially enjoyed the Village Hall events and I am privileged to now have an opportunity to help with the hall.

Covid has forced change and instability on practically every aspect of our lives and the Village Hall is no exception. Of course, this comes on top of what was already difficult time as a result of the problems with the extension. I look forward to working with the Parish Council to try and resolve those difficulties at least. The task is rather larger than perhaps had been bargained for but the thorough and disciplined approach taken by the Parish Council, which includes everything required to complete the extension and its fitting out does inspire confidence. This also gives me the opportunity to welcome Cathrine Gear as the new Parish Council rep on the committee – and to thank the outgoing rep John Barnet for his earlier support.

There are other things that need to be done too – times have changed and the old, charitable trust status of the Village Hall is no longer in line with modern practice. Therefore the committee is supporting work begun by Graham Gostick to change the existing trust into a CIO – or Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Similarly, like it or not, we are obliged to update our Data Protection procedures as we have no intention of seeing our funds used to pay fines!

One issue which has come up recently is, sadly, fly tipping – someone dumped a roll of old carpet and unwanted cushions in the pile of hardcore that will be used for backfilling trenches related to the extension. The uprated CCTV **will** allow us to identify anyone doing this in future.

To sum up – we do have those vacancies for a new Secretary and Booking Secretary which we really need to fill and I think I can speak for all the committee members, old and new in saying that we hope to come back in style once the pandemic allows!

*Roger Stone Chairman*

# Thank You

Storm Bella raced through the village on Sunday 27th December and brought down the top of a tree in the drive up to the church and blocked the drive.

Caroline and Helena are very grateful to the villagers who helped clear the debris. Caroline from Findon Place brought out welcome coffee and cake for refreshments.

We are so lucky to have people who will help out at a moment's notice – what a team!



## Thank you to Maggie Martin

for her painting that was used on our Christmas Card this year, raising much needed funds for Findon Church (we need a new boiler!)

There will be an Easter Card available later this month, again grateful thanks to Maggie for her support.

## Church Services during Covid restrictions

There will be **NO** Worship and Praise Service at Findon Church on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February**.

We hope to be able to hold a celebratory Worship Service on **March 7<sup>th</sup>**, restrictions permitting.

Sadly, no Pancake Party in Findon Church again this year on Shrove Tuesday (**February 16<sup>th</sup>**)

Helena is waiting to see what (if anything!) is allowed for Ash Wednesday.

Stay safe and well!

## Findon Village Store News

As we enter 2021 we find the rates of covid-19 increasing, especially in our local area. The committee response to the emerging increase in infection rates has been to continue with a robust system of monitoring and cleaning. With a continuing view of actioning any improved practices as and when we see fit. We do feel that we are already taking all the precautions to protect our staff, volunteers and customers who wish to visit our store and that we remain as safe an environment to be in as possible. We still continue trading on that basis but will monitor the situation closely and take whatever action is required to maintain that position. To that end we have introduced the UK.GOV track and trace option for those visiting the store and who need to use it.

The new year also brings a new trading arrangement with the EU which will no doubt provide us with challenges in the supply chain, as well

as the possibility of increased pricing. I am hopeful that one good thing to come out of the UK exiting the EU will be a shift of buying habits to support our local suppliers and producers more. We do not expect to experience any shortages in the product lines we stock but will need to take a careful look at the cost to us of imported general grocery goods (mostly canned and packaged goods).

We hope the shop is a welcoming place that people want to visit. For those customers unable to we are continuing our free local delivery service. We are currently investing in improving the service and during January we will be setting up our online shopping system, with a view to trialling in early February before making it available to the community at large. This should make ordering for delivery or collection much more like a supermarket experience.

*Jo O'Dell Committee vice chair*



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## Findon Parish Council

We find ourselves now in the third lockdown and it is natural for us to remember those who have lost their lives in this awful pandemic.

Findon Parish Council ( FPC ) continues to meet virtually during the continuing restrictions and our next meeting is 1 February 2021. As always, an agenda is available on the council website and both Parish Council noticeboards three clear working days before each meeting. and if members of the public wish to attend remotely and speak on a relevant village topic, space is available on that agenda as are details of access to the meeting. Councillors would be delighted to field any questions or comment on relevant topics. The following remote meeting of FPC will be held on 15 March 2021

FPC is delighted to report that Findon Village Hall Trust ( FVHT ) has a new Chairman, Roger Stone, and councillors are looking forward to working with Roger and his team with a view to taking the Hall to the next phase. You will hear more on this matter in the next weeks.

FPC is in regular contact with West Sussex County Council ( WSCC ) to ensure that blocked drains and gullies are cleared on a regular basis and should you see any blockages please contact the Clerk with details ([clerk@findonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@findonparishcouncil.gov.uk) or 01903 877225). Naturally with seasonal storms this is a pressing matter and we continually chase WSCC to respond. One positive note is the beginning of the

return to pond status for Nepcote Green Pond. There has been significant effort to widen and clear access for rainwater to the pond and it is gratifying to see it start to return to its more scenic appearance. Nepcote Green has now had a complete replacement of all fencing with new and securely installed fencing likely to serve us well over the coming years.

We are currently developing the 2021/22 village precept which covers the funding for FPC to undertake its role. It is good to see a number of projects funded for next year (COVID permitting). These include renovation of the Homewood Play Area, a village parking and speeding initiative, as well as all the regular activities that FPC undertake. With a full complement of Councillors FPC has the capacity of doing more in the next 12 months.

We are fortunate to live in a village where businesses continue to service demand and allow us to shop locally to endeavour to limit our movement. It also gratifying to see businesses which cannot open fully, supply takeaway services to help village life continue, we are indebted to them all.

Sadly hairdressers are closed but from personal experience during the first lockdown, please resist doing it yourself!

FPC sends our best wishes to all for a safe and healthy 2021

*Cllr Sean Smith*, Chairman, Findon Parish Council



## **My Memories of Findon**     *by David Ockenden*

On visiting some friends of ours who have recently moved to Nepcote and telling them about my memories of the area as a youth they suggested I wrote an item for the Findon News. I'm Dave Ockenden and my grandfather, William, ran a timber yard and building business in Nepcote where the new housing development was built next to Nepfield Close. The business was acquired by his father Charles in 1875. After doing his apprenticeship as a wheelwright in Barns Green my grandfather came back to Findon to work with his father and eventually took over the business, living in a cottage in the yard.

My grandfather had ten children, seven boys and three girls. The oldest was also called William and the youngest was my father Ronald. Six of William's sons worked for him in the family business, all of them learning a trade. One of the girls, my Aunt Rose, did not marry but helped with running the household and eventually looked after her parents in their old age. In 1892 the cottage in the yard was destroyed by fire. The family were able to move across the road opposite the yard to a house now called Jasmine Cottage. However years later in 1915 fire struck again destroying most of the woodyard. The heat was so intense that they feared for the cottages close by. My father remembered being taken to the top of the garden and propped up against the flint wall adjoining Cissbury Park. Fortunately William had a good insurance and over the coming years built up a successful business.

During the following years right up to the second world war they built

numerous houses, usually of individual design, in and around the village, as well as blacksmithing, shoeing horses, sawing timber, painting and decorating, coffin making and undertaking.

I was born in the Quadrangle in 1941 and can remember the massive concrete blocks that stretched from the A24 right across to where the allotments were. I always remember thinking how clever Derek Tickner was jumping from block to block. We actually had a tank trap not too far from our front gate and one day Mr Rose the baker left the gate open only for me to run out and fall in. Needless to say Mr Rose came to my rescue. At this particular time I believe there were emergency measures for us all to hastily retreat should an invasion have taken place. One day my mother was out pushing me in the pram along Cross Lane when an aerial dog fight started and I gather we rapidly took refuge in the house that I remember as Sandena Nursing Home.

During the war years the yard was busy, employing many of my uncles, some of whom were too old to serve in the second World War although they did serve in the first. Most of them had reserved occupations and were considered to be working for the war effort as was the case with my father who was in the Auxiliary Fire Brigade.

In 1947 we moved up to Nepcote and lived in what was then called Nepfield Close. It seemed to me that every other cottage was occupied by an Ockenden.

► *continued on page 11*

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The postman sometimes got us mixed up and letters were opened in error much to the annoyance of my mother.

Findon Football Club used to have a pitch in Cissbury Park behind the flint wall next to Nepcote Green. After one particular game the opposing team complained about the state of the pitch as cattle had been grazing on it in previous days. I clearly remember we had to appear before the Worthing and District League to explain ourselves.

The timber yard was an ideal playground for me and my friends when we could get away with it. One of my tricks was to hide in a coffin and then jump out and give them a fright.

Every year we had a sheep fair which in those days took place on 14<sup>th</sup> September. One morning following the fair we were

woken up very early to find a flock of sheep bleating and wandering around the woodyard. They had apparently escaped from the green and somebody quickly saw that as an overnight solution.

My grandfather died in 1948 aged 87 and my grandmother died in 1950. The house had been rented and my Aunt Rose who had looked after them had to find alternative accommodation. Following the war years the family business continued although some of my Dad's brothers were now nearing retirement and as the workforce dwindled so did the output which made it uneconomical to run as a going concern. Sadly the yard closed in the mid seventies and was sold to developers.

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## Christmas Hampers - A heartfelt thank you from Margaret Bamford ...

We all know that our community shop is not just about operating a commercial profitable enterprise – although that is what it does – but it is also about supporting our local community. We purchase locally wherever possible, we deliver to people who are housebound or unable to carry their shopping home, we're an informal social centre (socially distanced outside of course!), and advice service. We offer social housing through our flat above the shop, and we actually care about each other. Our volunteers are a great team with a rich variety of life and professional skills willingly shared for the benefit of us all.

This year our wonderful shop has done even more. No-one can be unaware of Marcus Rashford's appeals for food for families in need during the pandemic. This year our wonderful shop did their bit too! We contributed food for a staggering 110 well stocked Christmas hampers for children and families in need. The scheme was organised by St Michael's Church, Hayling Rise which, for some years has always provided some hampers but in very modest numbers. In the weeks before Christmas appeals were made to fund the purchase of essential food items and seasonal treats. Individual volunteers offered to bulk purchase specific items at the cheapest possible price from local supermarkets, which were then stored securely in spare bedrooms, garages, and sheds until being transported to the Church Hall for sorting and packing for distribution to individual households. Doing my bit to research the most cost effective options for my allocated products I approached our Chairman, Steve Smith, somewhat tentatively, to see if it would be possible to bulk purchase from our

Cash and Carry. He asked what was needed and the next thing I knew, the management committee had offered to donate a substantial proportion of all that was required! A fabulously generous offer. Not only a very generous donation but all the humping and hauling that went with it – the purchasing transporting and stacking and storing of huge quantities of bulk purchases in my garage!

Everyone is familiar with the context to the need, especially this year, but for any who are still in doubt, the demand has risen exponentially. From the early days when it was just a few (between 10 or 20 hampers) this year has been the most enormous challenge. More and more families have found themselves in need. I cannot emphasise enough how much the help of so many people especially in our Village shop is appreciated. We are so lucky that we live in an area that is so very generous with both their time and their money. Sadly, food poverty is a real issue within our community and we cannot begin to deal without help. I cannot thank everyone enough for their generosity. Steve, with characteristic understatement said, that as a community collective, the shop was proud to contribute and it was what 'being for the community by the community' was all about.

As the shop's volunteer co-ordinator I am so so proud to be involved in everything the shop does and do thank all our volunteers for making it the outstanding success it is. I wish everyone a very happy COVID – free New Year

*Margaret Bamford Volunteer Co-ordinator*



[The hamper project is undertaken under the auspices of the charity St. Vincent de Paul, which offers material and emotional support to people in need, For more information visit <https://www.svp.org.uk/> ]



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## Tree Planting

Along with all other activities tree planting has been affected by the Covid outbreak. We did manage to get together when the rule of 6 allowed just before Christmas. Twenty young trees were put in around Nepcote Green including Oak, Rowan and Birch. They are from the nursery we have established at the rear of the village hall and are two to three years old. Being small is an advantage when it comes to them getting established, they need less aftercare and growth tends to be rapid. They can catch older trees up within ten years which are slower to get going. We have also replaced the Oak which was damaged by a freak wind back in May on Pond Green and planted a row of trees and Hazel bushes near the basketball court beside the village hall.

We have put simple guards of wire netting around the saplings to protect them from accidental damage. It also helps to keep a clear circle of bare soil around them to aid establishment.

We hope to clear brambles behind the pre school building when we can get together again and plant trees here. There are some large Ash which are unsafe due to Ash dieback disease.

Owing to their proximity to the buildings they are due to be felled or greatly reduced. Opening up things here means that we can plant up and hopefully create an attractive area which can extend right around the rear of the village hall.

While attention has necessarily been on the pandemic, we really want to keep up our programme of tree and shrub planting which is a great way of showing faith in better times to come.

*Matthew Ward, Findon Village Tree Warden, January 2021*



The 5 people pictured (from left to right) are Matthew Ward, Stewart Hilton, Tom Wolstenholme, Robin Carr and Cheryl English.

## Lighting up The Square

The Christmas Lights Committee hope that you enjoyed the most recent display and would like to sincerely thank Gez Parton and all the volunteers who helped make it happen. Particular thanks go to *Southern Crane and Access* for their generous loan of the cherry picker and to the Parish Council for their ongoing support.

*Corrine Ball and Jan Mackerell*

*Ed. Thanks to all. They were a bright spot in the grey days and I'm sure provided much needed cheer*



# Village House

## TAKE AWAYS ARE BACK

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# The Mystery of the Findon High Street Pump and Well

Archaeologists are always interested in the position and locational contexts of sites. Right here in Findon we have an unusual survival of a probable early Victorian or even Georgian hand pump and well, contained within a well-preserved cover house.

Substantial as the structure is it would be easy to miss. The well abuts the north side of Pebble Cottage accessed through a small gate just two steps away from the High Street's pavement. The pump house structure, which is Grade II listed, together with the pump and well appear to straddle the former boundary between the Averys complex adjacent to The Avenue/Monarch's Way and Grey Walls to the north. These two houses are respectively recorded as 18th and early 19th century. The well site is in the ownership of Findon Parish Council.

The hand pump is comprised of what is described as a single throw flywheel connecting to cogs, which when turned, drives a rod down to the water table where a pumping chamber is located. Under pressure the water is then forced from the chamber into a small diameter pipe and the water rises to the surface. So it is purely mechanical. At ground level the delivery pipe is missing but all the existing components are made of iron. The well is likely to be somewhere in the region of 140 feet deep.

The iron frame informs us that the manufacturer is Hayward Tyler and Co, London. It has been difficult to ascertain



the exact date of the pump site. However, the well house itself is recorded as 19<sup>th</sup> c., 1815 or later but pre 1871. Nevertheless it is odd that the well is not shown on the 1st and 2nd edition 6in OS maps of 1875 and 1897 - which they often are. Furthermore, the pump house structure is in remarkably good condition for a freestanding building of more than 150 years so it is probable that the Well House

has been subjected to considerable refurbishment and repair over the years.

The 1839 Tithe Map of Findon potentially provides some contextual information regarding our inquiries into the date and perhaps the rationale for this elaborate well complex. Plot 189 on the Tithe Map shows The Averys, ie the main house. The location of the smaller Pebble Cottage fronts the High Street. The well, which is not shown, is adjacent, as mentioned, to the north side of the latter building. Behind this building is an L-shaped structure. The fact that these 3 buildings are all in the same plot (ie 189) in 1839 suggests that Pebble Cottage and the L-shaped building were ancillary to the main house at this time. It is possible, though not proven by the author that Pebble Cottage was then a coach house, and its configuration today might suggest this. Furthermore, it is possible that the L-shaped building was a stable block. So the position of an elaborate well and water pump producing greater quantities of water would be an important requirement in such circumstances.

►continued on page 19



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Additional to this the Tithe Apportionment indicates that in 1839 the Rev. Alfred Lyall curate at St John the Baptist, Findon (from 1829) lived at The Averys.

Alfred came from a distinguished Victorian family and was an inveterate author and traveller at home and abroad. His elder brother George was an MP for the City of London and two of Alfred's sons were knighted for services to India. The family also lived at Grey Point House in The Square around this time opposite where the old village pump, no longer extant, was situated. The perambulations of Victorian clergy are well known and the need for horses and stabling would have been paramount for this family.

Findon High Street of course lies along the route of the lowest part of the chalk dry valley. So this line would be where the least depths to the chalk aquifer would occur. Due to the north-south gradient the greater depths would be to the north. Although over 70 wells have been recorded along this line between North End and the Quadrangle to the south the actual number of wells is said to be relatively scarce. This is because the water table is at some depth and lies approximately between 140-180 feet below ground with some recorded at greater depths. The cost of digging and boring wells and the labour of drawing water would preclude many from attempting to dig a well. Furthermore, in the 1890's two well wardens were appointed for Findon and it was their job to ensure that all wells were being properly maintained. Therefore, only the better off are likely to have had their own wells. Mains water did not come to Findon until 1928 so reliance on communal wells before this date, like the

one in The Square or to the rear of The Gun Inn, would have been a vital resource for the local community.

Much of the above is of course conjectural. However, if the timelines stated are correct then it is entirely feasible that a very well connected Victorian family with political and colonial associations would have had the need and the means for ensuring they had the availability of a reliable and abundant water source. This would be particularly relevant if a stabling yard as mooted, was located at the premises. Coming from such a family the Rev Alfred Lyall might also have seen it as incumbent on him to provide an essential resource to the parishioners. Its ease of access to the High Street would certainly facilitate this. There are of course a number of other explanations for the siting and elaborate nature of this well complex and therein lies the mystery. Nevertheless, the author would be grateful to hear of other views or knowledge regarding this important part of Findon's heritage.

*Dr David Dunkin (Retired Archaeologist)*

*Acknowledgements: I am grateful to Robin Carr of the Findon Parish Council for asking me to investigate the background to The Findon Pump and Well House. Thanks must also go to John Mills, W. Sussex County Archaeologist for providing map and heritage information regarding the site. Also thanks to Martin Snow of the Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society for discussions regarding the workings of the pump.*

*The Findon Pump and Well House  
The Findon Tithe Map of 1839  
(The Averys Complex: Plot 189)*

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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](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://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: -

Erection of timber triple garage in front of house. Mayland Findon Bypass Findon Worthing West Sussex BN14 0TP

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00284/PRE

Remove Bay tree.

Findon Place Horsham Road Findon Worthing West Sussex BN14 0RF

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00072/DDDT

Demolition of existing buildings at Findon Court and Vale House and erection of (Use Class C2) two storey elderly care facility with associated gardens and car-parking

Land at Findon Court & Vale House  
Findon Road Findon BN14 0RA  
Ref. No: SDNP/20/05540/PRE

Discharge of Conditions 5 (Site Management Plan), 7 (Landscaping), 8 (Biodiversity Enhancements), 9 (External Lighting) and 10 (Dark Night Skies) of Planning Consent SDNP/20/02194/FUL for the change of use of agricultural land for 2No timber camping pods and 1No shepherds hut for year round holiday accommodation Gallops Farm, Barnfield Stable Lane Findon BN14 0RP  
Ref. No: SDNP/20/05438/DCOND

Intention to fell 1 No. Horse Chestnut Tree (Pink Flowering)  
Findon Place Horsham Road Findon Worthing West Sussex BN14 0RF  
Ref. No: SDNP/20/05328/DDDT

T1 - Beech - Reduce and reshape by 3 metres, T2 - Cherry - Reduce and reshape by 1.5 metres, T3 - Cherry - Reduce and reshape by 2 metres, G4 - Birch x2 - Reduce and reshape by 2 metres. Remove or cut back low branches to give 3 metre clearance from ground level, T5 - Cherry - Lightly reduce to shape.

27 Convent Gardens Findon BN14 0RZ  
Ref. No: SDNP/20/05118/TPO

Single storey extension, detached garage in rear garden and widening of existing vehicular crossover access  
10 The Oval Findon BN14 0TN  
Ref. No: SDNP/20/04921/HOUS

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## Paws Animal Sanctuary

I have never had so many phone calls from people wanting dogs and cats.

Also as soon as the guinea-pigs come in they get rehomed as we have a long waiting list for them. Cats too. I always take in the stray and unwanted cats.

There seems to be a shortage of dogs. I give people the Dog Wardens number because everyone tells me none of the rescue centres have any dogs.

The Dog Warden is so helpful. If an owner dies or there are unclaimed lost or abandoned dogs Russ always knows about it first.

We get calls from all over the country. A man rang yesterday from London, he is going to Germany to live and work in a month's time, so could we take his 9 year old Bengal Cat. I agreed if he could bring it in. One of the Volunteers offered to go and get it as he didn't drive. He was dithering because he wants us to keep the cat here as a resident cat.

Two Hamsters arrived but the owner didn't want to come in. She had a mask on and said she was panicking because of the coronavirus so she just handed the cage to me. I had to ask her their names and ages and quickly fill in a form for her and she fled.

I am lucky to have had my Vaccine two weeks ago, but I still try to keep well away from everyone and I wear a visor. We have bottles of sanitiser everywhere. We need the volunteers every day to clean out and feed all the animals. No one likes doing the poultry as they are afraid of Henry the cockerel who chases them and bites their ankles. He spends all day protecting the eight silkie hens. In the big chicken run we have 20 hens and Mary a very old Turkey. She wouldn't

hurt a fly but she is so old, she can get up on a perch at night but

cannot get down again in the morning. No one wants to lift her down. She is too heavy for me so I go in and stroke her and talk her down.

My Daughter does all my shopping and a very good friend who has a poultry farm brings in hay, straw, sacks of hen food, guinea pig food, fish food, carrots and greens twice a week so I never have to go out. As far as I ever go is to the Vets or to our Village Shop and Post Office.

I really don't mind staying at home. I make cupcakes every week for the Volunteers' tea break. I try to feed and put all the animals to bed every night before it gets too dark, so I can get indoors to watch Tipping Point and The Chase.

I go down at ten to make sure all the cats are on their heated electric beds, night lights are on, the horse and donkey safely in their stables with deep straw. And make sure I have closed all the flaps on the chickens. We have heaters on at night in the barn where the rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters and indoor poorly chickens are.

We have a field mouse problem at the moment. Two resident cats just watch them and can't be bothered to chase them and do nothing. The dogs go crazy looking for them but are so clumsy when they find one they all bump into one another trying to catch them and the mice always escape.

As soon as the nice weather comes we will have to rotovate our whole lawn.

► *continued on page 25.....*

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*continued from page 23.....*

The moles have so many tunnels you cannot walk across the lawn any longer without sinking up to your ankles. There are still mole hills everywhere but they have left the main lawn and are in every other lawn and strip of lawn around the garden.

Our waterfall on the fishpond has broken and is leaking badly. I have to top up the pond every day. Hopefully it is going to be resealed soon.

The chicken runs are thick mud everywhere, we need new sheets of rigid plastic all over the runs but it will have to wait until the weather improves.

Not long now and we can get out in the garden. All my bulbs are coming through, another week and I think we will have Daffodils. I hope everyone follows Boris's advice to stay home and stay safe.

from Stacey.

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## Cinnamon Trust

A huge thank you to all who supported our Cinnamon Trust Christmas sale in December. Despite hailstorms and high wind we raised over £750 on the morning and with sales of cakes, cards and donations I was able to send the grand sum of £1280 to the Cinnamon Trust. In the circumstances I think this was amazing and it is thanks to all the wonderful helpers and the generous people of Findon and surrounds!



It is very difficult to make definite plans at the moment but we hope to do a similar event around Easter time in the same place in The Willows. I am pencilling in Saturday 27th March but this may change!

We have also been invited to have a stall at the Church event on Saturday 17th April. Again provided this is allowed by then. Watch this space!

I still have some lovely warm knitted hats and gloves which you can buy from my porch at 13 The Willows. Also dog coats and other goods. Just call me and I will put them out for you to see.

Anyone who would like to order an iced fruit cake, like the Christmas ones we did, please place your order as soon as possible. If we are able to do our sale on 27th March they can be collected then and we will decorate them for Easter. Otherwise they can be collected from me or delivered locally. Same price £6 each.

We really hope that by Spring and Summer we will be able to hold proper sociable events with tea and cake again!!!

Thanks again for your continued support for this amazing and much needed charity for people and pets.

Stay safe!

*Maggie Martin* 01903 874173/07544 572702 [maggiemartin8@gmail.com](mailto:maggiemartin8@gmail.com)

# **Lt Cdr John Edgecombe Hammond OBE, CStJ, SRN Royal Navy**

**17<sup>th</sup> February 1930 - 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Where to begin...? Despite a wide base of practical and academic knowledge (reflected in his accolades above) John remained a self-effacing and modest man, keeping most of himself to himself, whilst always interested in everything and everyone. Speaking to his nephew Philip it became clear that this is who John was, compartmentalising his many spheres of interest, experience and friendship and thus sharing small but different parts of himself in each circle. What follows is a distillation of memories, observations and anecdotes shared by many people across the Parish, plus from a few long-standing friends, all of whom loved, respected and valued our friend John.

One of 4 children, survived by siblings Margaret and Brian, his nephews Philip and Christopher have fond memories of John taking them on day trips and holidays to interesting places -the envy of schoolfriends for visiting naval vessels! When home he would stay with the family, enjoying meals together, eventually buying the house next door when he retired from the Navy. Great uncle to Alisha, John was also godfather and honorary uncle to longstanding family friends' children, always interested in what they were doing, regularly visiting and keeping in touch. Becoming an SRN while in the Navy, John was later in a leadership role with St John's Ambulance Brigade in their London headquarters, awarded the Order of St John – an award from the Monarch for services to strengthen the spirit of mankind and to encourage and promote humanitarian and charitable work, aiding those in sickness, suffering

and/or danger. John travelled widely, both in his time serving as a Naval Officer and afterwards – he was still talking of one final trip to Hong Kong and Australia at the beginning of 2020! He spoke to me of enjoying the vineyards of family in Australia, sharing stories of wine tasting.

John thoroughly enjoyed entertaining, and often took a friend or two out for a pub meal, or to a Chinese restaurant, selecting a good wine to accompany the meal. He is remembered for being very supportive when friends were in poor health, offering to sit and chat so the 'carer' could pop out for a while. Invited to a friend's home for tea and cake in the garden in the summer when Covid restrictions were lifted sufficiently, John's characteristic reply was, "Oh, I'll bring a nicely chilled bottle of wine for us to drink" – Needless to say, the kettle wasn't needed after all on that occasion! I'm told that the late Gwen Heath, longstanding Churchwarden at Clapham, used to refer to John as her 'boyfriend'! He would always bring an unusual hostess gift when invited to dinner – not your standard bunch of flowers or box of chocolates.

John befriended and supported many young Chinese students who came to study locally, encouraging them, and often bringing them to church with him on a Sunday. He continued to stay in touch with them, always pleased to share how they were doing in later life during our conversations.

John was an integral part of our church community in the 3 villages, a

► *continued on page 27.....*

longstanding and valued member of the Parochial Church Council, also serving on Deanery Synod, and was Churchwarden at Findon for many years. The Toilet and kitchenette there is named 'The Hammond Suite' because of his vision, tenacity and expertise in finally getting the plans passed and overseeing the work. Later Churchwardens really valued his wisdom and experience when planning work on the ancient building, and his comment was always, "Anything I can do to help?" His wisdom and humour will be so very much missed at our meetings. John loved Bible Study, and was a keen member of any study group, expertly leading and guiding the study on many occasions. He loved to play 'devil's advocate', always with a twinkle in his eye, encouraging healthy debate! He led a great session at the Rectory on prayer only a few weeks before his death. He was very supportive of new initiatives for mission in the Parish, delighted to hear we were going to instal a screen and projector in Findon Church, and there are few 90 year olds who embrace technology to the extent of being able to use a smart phone while leading intercessions. John enjoyed getting to know our German visitors when they made a Link visit here. On one occasion, after enjoying a splendid buffet with a fair quantity of good wine, we were all concerned about his driving home – John was adamant he'd only had one glass – characteristically, he would not accept a lift, so one of us followed him discreetly, to ensure he got back safely along the A24!

John was always immaculately dressed so you can understand his discomfort

when I unexpectedly popped over to visit one morning (just to check on his health after an earlier hospital stay) and he was without a jacket, in shirtsleeves and braces, doing (his words) some essential cleaning and tidying! We knew how ill he was when he was unable to attend the Remembrance Day Service – something of deep meaning to him, where he would always read the closing words at the memorial, as well as for many years organising a bugler for the Last Post.

To us all, John was the embodiment of the committed Christian, whose faith was the cornerstone of his approach to life. As such he was a wonderful example, without any trace of a 'holier than thou' attitude. He was a true gentleman, treating everyone with courtesy and respect, making them feel welcome and comfortable. He had a wicked sense of humour and was a keen observer of life, never shying away from criticism (often of the hierarchy of the Church of England!) but with that twinkle in his eye. As a keen reader of the Telegraph, my phone would often ping, with a message from John and reference to an interesting article he'd just read. Another friend wrote, 'If there is a fast-track to heaven, John will surely be offered a place, but being a modest man, he will politely refuse and insist on waiting like everyone else'.

Thank you to everyone who sent memories to contribute to this tribute. Never has the expression 'much missed' been more appropriate than to John's memory. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. It was a joy to have known him.

Helena Buqué

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I can reveal that the sign in question is located on the southbound A24 opposite Vale Cottage.

*Cathrine Gear*

## **MUSTARD SEED RELIEF MISSIONS SHOE BOX APPEAL - 2020**

Despite 2020 being a difficult and unusual year, Mustard Seed managed nevertheless to send 15,000 shoeboxes to Moldova.

This is despite their usual volunteers at headquarters being unable to help and them relying on supporters at the collection points. However, this figure sadly is less than they would normally be able to send but, it should be remembered that each box sent makes a difference to a child who we will never know but who values their Christmas gift from us.



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## **Findon Village WI**

Our WI continues to hold monthly meetings via Zoom.

For our December meeting we welcomed Gilly Halcrow with a talk entitled 'Our Christmas Traditions – a Box of Christmas Delights'. Gilly examined the derivation of Yuletide traditions, from carols to mince pies and cards to the first Royal Christmas broadcasts. It was lovely to see so many ladies in their Christmas jumpers and festive headwear.

In January Jonathan Cann give us a fascinating insight into the role of a TV and film extra. Jonathan has been an extra in many well-known films including Mary Poppins Returns and Skyfall and, more recently, a role in the BBC's Black Lives Mater short films. Being a film extra is not an easy job involving a lot of hanging around but, on the plus side, the catering is very good!

Our February meeting is a presentation by Richard and Wendy Marshall from the Trussell Trust. In these very challenging times the Trussell Trust foodbanks have been a lifeline to even more families than ever before.

The Zoom presentation will be 7.30pm Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Visitors very welcome so if you would like an invitation please email me at the address below.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy 2021

Paddy Winter, Findon Village WI President

Findonvillagewi@hotmail.co.uk



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**PARISH OF FINDON, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING**  
**FEBRUARY 2021**

All Village groups / activities are still cancelled.

**\* please note that all three Churches \*  
\* are now to be closed for the current time. \***

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

**Social distancing regulations and the wearing of face coverings continue.**

<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	8.00am	Traditional Communion at Findon
Second Sunday before Lent	10.00am	Said Eucharist at Clapham
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	8.00am	Traditional Communion at Clapham
The Sunday Next before Lent	9.30am	Said Eucharist at Findon
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	8.00am	Traditional Communion at Findon
The First Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Said Eucharist at Findon
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	8.00am	Traditional Communion at Clapham
The Second Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Said Eucharist at Findon

December & January Funerals: 4<sup>th</sup> December Olive Donoghue;  
11<sup>th</sup> December LCDR John Hammond; 30<sup>th</sup> December Brian Chaplain;  
14<sup>th</sup> January Douglas Watson; 18<sup>th</sup> January Ann Currer-Briggs

There will be a Lent course advertised on the pew sheet, website and Facebook.  
The **Diocese of Chichester** continues to support us all;  
please check their website for shared resources -  
<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/resources-for-worship-at-home/>

This provides links for Worship at Home, Family Worship, and also links for children for free audio storytelling and daily activities and videos.

Stay well and remember to care for vulnerable neighbours  
Rev. Helena Buqué, Vicar, and Rev. Colin Cox, Curate:  
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