



Findon

March
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 March 2021

A Date for your Diary

We are planning to organise the biennial Findon Church **Christmas Tree Festival** over the weekend of Saturday **4th/Sunday 5th Dec 2021**. In 2019 we had just under 1,000 people attending.

If you would like to help or are new to the village and would like more details, please contact

Graham at fishponds185@tiscali.co.uk

Polling Station

Forthcoming Local Council Election – 6th May 2021

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING

As a result of the intervention of Debbie Urquart (West Sussex County Councillor) and Roger Stone (Arundel &

South Downs Conservative Association), Findon Village Hall **will be open** to enable voting to take place on 6th May 2021.

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



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From the Rectory

This is now the 2nd week of Lent, traditionally for the church a 40 day season of self-examination, penitence and fasting. After a year of Covid restrictions, I'm sure that is the last thing any of us, Christian or not, need! Prolonged periods of lock-down have allowed us all enforced time alone to ponder the meaning of life, and our own place in the great scheme of things. Nonetheless, this is still a time we can try to refocus on what is important in our lives, with perhaps a particular emphasis on healthy and sustainable eating (especially if, like me, enforced time at home has encouraged to bake, then eat, extra cakes and biscuits!)

As indeed last year, Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday have passed us by with meeting anyone outside our own household forbidden. No carnival, parades or parties for Mardi Gras – 'Fat Tuesday' – when in olden days all the rich food was used up before the abstinence of the Lenten weeks. Somehow pancakes on my own didn't have the appeal of watching the queue in Findon church, with Chris at the crêpe maker, as I waited till the end hoping there would be one left for me! Hopefully next year.... Unable to offer 'ashing' as a symbol of repentance and turning back to Christ, pebbles marked with a cross were available at the lych gate of each of our three churches. I hope these help you as a focus for prayer during Lent. Historically, candidates were given instruction in the weeks before Easter,

in preparation for their baptism on Easter Sunday in a glorious Service of light and joy. Congregation members would join in this preparation by themselves undertaking study (the reason we hold Lent Study Groups today) and repentance over a period of 40 days, recalling the time Jesus spent alone in the desert after his baptism by his cousin John, fasting and overcoming temptation in the wilderness by Satan with scripture references. Our Diocesan Bishops will be holding Services of Baptism and Confirmation at various venues after Easter, so if anyone is interested in this, please contact me at the Rectory!

Again, traditionally, the question is posed, 'What have you given up for Lent this year?' Year-long restrictions have meant we have all given up so much of what we enjoy already, so my suggestion is that we all try to do something more during Lent this year. This could be as simple as getting up a little earlier every day and using that 5-10 minutes to reflect or pray, thinking of all who are dear to you but for the time being you are unable to meet up with, and wishing them well. In our villages we have so much to be thankful for – good neighbours, our local shops, our health service – and allowing a few minutes just to be thankful instead of starting the day feeling negative can make a huge difference to each day.

As I write, we are still unable to promise what we will be allowed to

Continued on page 5 ►

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offer in the way of live Services in our churches this month, but we have resumed our 8am Traditional Service alternating between Clapham and Findon churches, and the main mid-morning Services will start again in all three churches from March 7th, now that many people have had the first vaccination and infection numbers are falling. I am hopeful that there will be the opportunity to rejoice together with thanksgiving on Easter Sunday, April 4th, as we give thanks that Jesus Christ is risen, death is defeated and we all have the promise of eternal life through following Christ. Thankfully many people have had the first dose of

vaccine and as hospital admissions continue to fall, restrictions will gradually be lifted. We must all remain mindful of what we have learnt through this past year, namely the necessity to consider the welfare and well-being of others before our own wants! As long as everyone everywhere is able to do this, then I believe we will gradually see a welcome return to the social side of life, with hospitality venues being able to open once again.

Every blessing, *Helena*

Rev. Helena Buqué, Priest in Charge and Colin Cox, Curate:
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Findon Village Store News

If you are a regular visitor to our shop - and we certainly hope you are – you are probably well aware of the enormous range we carry. There are literally thousands of different items from daily essentials to baking ingredients, frozen and chilled foods, special sweets, cakes, biscuits and treats, cards and gifts and a surprising variety of practical items. Only last week a customer commented “I needed a fuse and couldn’t believe it when I saw them on the shelf!” We are especially grateful to Becky Fagan, our buyer and display guru, who has ensured we are fully stocked with cards and gifts for Mother’s Day on 14th March. Both Becky and Deputy Manager Helen Morris have sourced tempting chocolate eggs, unusual novelties and cards for Easter. Some of the decorative items will be sold for Charity, as they were at Christmas. On top of this, Becky supplies all the plants that lend such a bright and colourful approach to the shop. Even on a normal basis, the amount of stock means that our poor old shed is often crammed to bursting! It is showing signs of age, leaks occasionally and could do with an upgrade. Any suggestions gratefully received!

Steve Smith, our Chairman, reports that the long awaited shop awning should hopefully be installed this month, ready for longer days and warmer weather. He also informs us that our new online ordering service is currently being piloted in the hope that it will be up and running later in March. There will be

more information about this in Steve’s monthly bulletin to shareholders so do look out for that; the service has taken a huge amount of time and effort to set up and deserves to be very popular.

Given the toll of the pandemic, it may not come as a surprise to learn that alcohol sales in January, normally a quieter month, were significantly increased this year. We all share a sense of relief that the vaccination programme is allowing us finally to look forward with hope to the summer and know how much our regular volunteers and indeed customers are looking forward to returning. Meanwhile, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to all those who have taken on extra shifts to see us through, particularly to our new recruits who learned the ropes incredibly quickly and have contributed so much of their time. We are always delighted to hear from villagers who may be considering joining the band of volunteers, so don’t hesitate to approach any shop staff if you are interested.

Annie Whitchurch
Volunteer Trainer



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Memories of D Day

May I first wish fellow residents of Findon a happy new year, be it a strange one. I also thank friends and neighbours for the get well wishes when I spent a month in hospital before Christmas with a broken hip due to an unlucky fall. I was home for Christmas then, in the new year, I reached my 92nd birthday. Once again I thank friends and family for making it a special day in spite of lockdown. I even had my request of the day for a McDonald's happy meal with toy!

We are now in lockdown again and I thought of a lockdown of sorts Findon had in the 1940s. Weeks before D Day thousands of troops were gathered in our corner of Sussex. Non-residents were not supposed to enter the area. For some reason my mother lent my identity card to a soldier's wife who wanted to return here from London. This she did, but she lost my card. I was given a replacement, which was blue instead of beige. My old number was ENMA3 and the new one was YENN1067819. I have no idea why I still remember those numbers today.

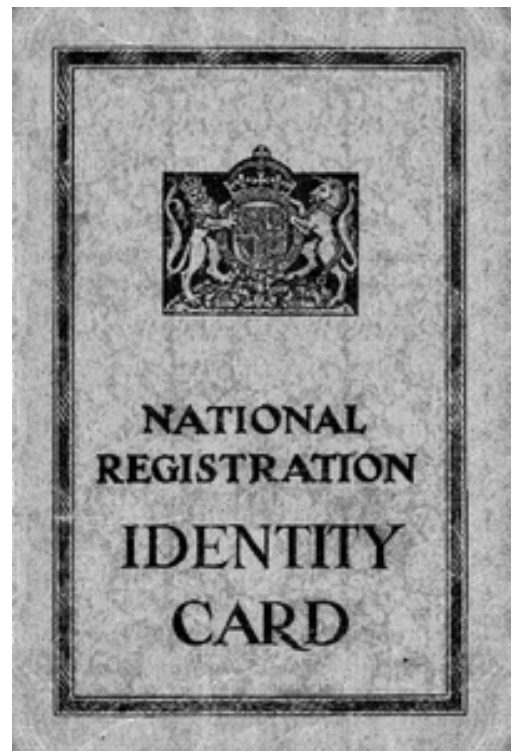
On D Day all the soldiers and tanks were gone but Findon was left with a

Gladys Lambourne

number of damaged walls where the tanks had little space to get through the lanes and narrow roads.

Note

Apparently, the colour of identity cards issued to adults changed from beige to blue in 1943. They had previously been the same colour for both adults and children. People were required to carry identity cards until 21 February 1952. The National Registration Act of 1939 was repealed on 22 May 1952. Editor



200 Club

December winner was 156 - T. Brimyard

January winner was 86 - M. Bowen

February winner was 64 - R. Pratt

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Findon Parish Council

Findon Parish Council (FPC) is close to completing stage 2 of its tree felling and management program and many of you will have noticed the sad loss of a number of trees. Up to 20% of deciduous trees in West Sussex are ash and up to 80% of these may suffer from ash dieback. It is our aim to remove those clearly infected and limit spread.

This naturally leaves several glaring gaps but FPC has moved quickly creating a nursery of some 300 saplings of varieties including beech, field maple, oak and rowan. So far, 30 trees have been planted at various locations across Findon.

Findon Village Hall will act as a polling station in the upcoming May 2021 elections following some work and assessment. It is good to see the hall begin to resume its role as a central part of our village.

Repairs to the road surface in Nepcote have been completed by West Sussex

County Council and whilst there have been comments as to the patch work nature of those repairs, conditions for driving are markedly improved.

FPC continues to make progress with proposed Homewood Play Area renovation and is now in discussion with Arun District Council who own the land, to move forward.

FPC has agreed the Precept requirement for the financial year 2021/22 and submitted this to Arun District Council. Our aim was to cover all requirements within current budget limits for 2021 and we are delighted that this is the case. The Precept remains at £47k which equates to an amount of £48.16 per annum for a Band D equivalent.

Cllr Sean Smith
Chairman, Findon Parish Council

Race Horses Crossing

Having been born in Findon I am always interested in the Findon News. I know the horse crossing sign on the A24, which was featured last month. Alan and Dinah Alton had a racing stable at The Vale and when Alan died his son David took over. The horses would

M Langridge

cross the A24 at the south end of The Vale. They made a walk way between the footpath and the field between the trees, walking north and they came out at the bottom of Nepcote. At the time there was a gate at the north end of the track. I hope this is some help.

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Regrettably the committee has, with heavy heart, had to cancel this year's Spring Flower Show once again. Restrictions on meetings will not be eased any time soon and the village hall remains closed for the immediate future.

Life at the moment seems to be horribly like Groundhog Day, but spring is on its way and we will be able to get out in our gardens and make plans for the summer. We remain hopeful that monthly meetings can resume in the not

too distant future and that we will be able to hold the Summer Show in August.

PS I was gardening recently and heard a very familiar sound. Yes, he's back – my little winged tormentor! The blackbird that does an impression of an ambulance siren is at it again. I think I may have to resort to earplugs in the garden.



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Findon Sheep Fair

Graham Langford

To All Findon Residents

The Findon Sheep Fair committee have been meeting since January looking at how we can hold a show on the 11th September 2021 which will follow Government guidelines and be approved by WSCC's events Covid assessment team. We will also seek to obtain a "Good To Go" accreditation.

The idea being proposed for one year only, is to hold a much smaller show with sheep judging, and socially distanced craft stalls. There will also be one or two refreshment outlets along with some small side shows, together with a limited number of attractions.

We have decided not to have a marquee or events which would attract people to congregate in a small area, for example, the Friday & Saturday night bands, the normal arena, the Dancing Sheep Show. Although not certain, Harris's Fun Fair are also unlikely to attend.

We are looking at a managed, timed, "Advance ticket only" entry via the sheep fair website for 1500 people

which will also provide us with the ability to record for track and trace system purposes. For this exceptional year, a small fee of £2.50 is being considered to offset the losses that will be incurred due to additional Covid-19 costs and the much-reduced income from the event. All further costs, which have been estimated to excess £2,000, will be taken from our reserve funds or covered by further sponsorship. The ticket would also serve as an entry into a Sheep Fair Raffle.

Marketing the Findon Sheep Fair as a smaller event will be a key aspect in the publicity for this year's show.

We very much value the views of the residents of Findon and would like your feedback.

Please fill in this slip below by **Monday 8th March** and either return to a "Findon Sheep Fair Box" in the Village Shop

OR

Visit the Findon Sheep Fair web site www.findonsheepfair.co.uk and fill in the voting slip online by **Monday 8th March**

Mark for the attention of the Findon Sheep Fair Chairman by Monday 8th March

If you **ARE in favour** of the Sheep fair being planned to go ahead on Sat 11th Sept as described, please put a tick in the Box

If you **ARE NOT in favour of the Sheep fair being planned to go ahead on Sat 11th Sept as described, please put a tick in the Box**

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Findon Village WI

Our WI continues to hold monthly meetings via Zoom. Our February meeting was a presentation about the work of the Trussell Trust and the Worthing Food Bank

The Trussell Trust oversees and supports the work of over 1200 Food Banks around the country which provide emergency food to people in crisis. Their clients are referred by local agencies such as Social Workers, Debt Advice Services, Citizen's Advice Bureaux and Health Visitors. In these very challenging times the Trussell Trust Food Banks have been a lifeline to more families than ever before. Last year Worthing Food Bank provided 2184 people with emergency food for 3 days and in January 2021 they provided emergency food to 273 people. This monthly number was only exceeded in May 2020 when they provided food to 326 people. The Food Banks rely on donations from supermarkets and monetary donations from individuals with a team of volunteers fulfilling roles within the service such as befrienders, who help and speak to clients when they arrive at the centre; and bag packers who put together food and toiletry packages. During these difficult times Food Banks have had to operate very differently, using volunteer drivers to ensure food and toiletries are delivered safely. Worthing Food Bank works with local



schools and organisations to raise awareness and organise collections of food and toiletries to support people referred to them in times of crisis.

If you would like to donate toiletries please leave them in the box outside my house (7 The Chase). Washing up liquid, shaving foam, toothpaste and toothbrushes, shower gel and toilet rolls all welcome

Our March Zoom meeting is a quiz -
Thursday 11th March 7.30pm

As the case numbers fall and the vaccination numbers rise we have reason to be hopeful for some easing of restrictions this Spring with more sunshine and less rain!

Paddy Winter
Findon Village WI President
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The Cinnamon Trust

I am sorry to say that Covid-19 restrictions will prevent us from going ahead with our planned Easter Sale on Saturday 27th March in the Willows Car Park in aid of Cinnamon Trust funds.

Meanwhile a delightful collection of Easter bunnies and ducks each containing a Cadbury Creme egg are for sale in my porch at 13 The Willows for £1 each. Thank you Mary Childs for making these.

Also pre-ordered Easter cakes will be ready for collection from 27th March onwards. (Can be delivered locally) I will be taking orders for these until 6th March. They are £6 each.



Many thanks for your continued support. We look forward to a summer of delightful events as the restrictions are hopefully lifted. Best regards and stay safe.

Maggie Martin

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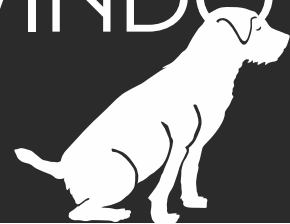
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Findon Village Hall Trust

The Village Hall, of course, remains closed for the moment but that does not mean that nothing is going on! I hope you have all received a leaflet highlighting our need to recruit two new committee members to cover the secretary and booking secretary roles and I am delighted to report that the campaign was successful and two new members will be joining in the over the next few weeks. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the retiring members James Heasman (acting chair then acting secretary, Tina Bedford (secretary) and Tomas Heasman (booking secretary). Their work is much appreciated.

Some of you will be aware that there has been some animated discussion in the village about the forecast costs for finishing the hall extension. This is much too complex a topic to cover in the limited space available here – involving as it does both the Village hall Trust and the Parish Council. Therefore, a comprehensive statement has been prepared and can be found on the Village Hall homepage -

<https://www.findonvillagehall.com> I should also mention that the highest numbers being discussed are architect's worst case estimates and include (of course) a contingency allowance.

We have also had some issues with wet rot under the floor of the foyer area and this has been addressed at minimal cost. There will be a temporary (but perfectly useable) floor for a few months so that we can lift it and confirm that the water source has been correctly identified too. That done, we need only lay the vinyl layer to finish the floor.

There was some surprise, not least among the Hall committee, when the arrangements for the May elections were announced, to find that the Village Hall was not being used as a polling station this time and Findon residents would be expected to travel to the Clapham and Patching polling station in order to vote. After some fairly intensive communications we were delighted to achieve the re-instatement of our Village Hall onto the polling station list and Findon residents WILL be able to vote in the Village Hall on May 6th.

Of course, the question we all love to be able to answer is WHEN can we re-open the Hall? At the time of writing, it looks like the earliest date might be May 17th (if I have interpreted the PM's announcement correctly!) and this is subject to all the caveats the government has outlined. Whether this might be a partial or a full re-opening remains to be seen and, in any case, the committee would reserve the right to proceed cautiously, should that seem wise.

In the meantime, we will continue working with the Parish Council to try and resolve the issues with the Hall extension; to prepare for the re-opening so that we can make the smoothest, fastest progress possible, given that the target could still be moving; initiate the process of updating the structure of the Findon Village Hall Trust into the updated Charity Commission preferred arrangement; and, of course, to get on with the other things that still have to be done regardless of whether the hall is open or not.

Roger Stone
Chairman

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Wednesday 9am - 3pm

Saturday 9am - 3pm

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5 The Parade Nepcote Lane, Findon, Worthing BN14 0SE
Mobile: 0190 334 0489

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.

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:

Removal of overhanging branches on Lime Trees

2 Summerfields Findon West Sussex BN14 0TU

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00827/TPO

Variation of conditions 5 (Use) and 8 (Hours of Use) on SDNP/16/03661/FUL.

Wiston Vineyard Findon Park Road Findon West Sussex

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00600/CND

Conservatory (Retrospective). Use of open space to side of property as

residential garden and construction of boundary wall

Honeysuckle Cottage Horsham Road Findon BN14 0UY

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00622/HOUS

Two storey rear extension to existing bungalow

4 Beech Close Findon BN14 0UT

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00372/HOUS

First floor extension, Roof alterations, new entrance hall, garage conversion, external alterations and new integral garage

Seven Beeches 23 School Hill Findon BN14 0TR

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00282/HOUS |

Erection of timber triple garage in front of house.

Mayland Findon Bypass Findon Worthing West Sussex BN14 0TP

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00284/PRE

Agricultural building

Tolmare Farm Long Furlong Findon West Sussex

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00128/FUL

Conversion of garage into habitable space and recladding front and part of side elevation.

Cranford Horsham Road Findon BN14 0UY

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00446/HOUS

Two storey side extension to create accommodation for family dependent.

5 Ash Close Findon BN14 0UW

Ref. No: SDNP/21/00482/HOUS



Double ensuite rooms from £35/night single occupancy or £45 double. Discounted for 2 night mid-week breaks and 3 nights+.

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South Lodge Cottage, Rogers Lane, Findon, BN14 0RE

Tel: Sue 07879 686112 / Steve 07855 846963

Email: susan_gamble@btinternet.com

steve_winterberg@btinternet.com

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South Lodge Cottage, Rogers Lane, Findon, BN14 0RE

Tel: Sue 07879 686112 / Steve 07855 846963

Email: susan_gamble@btinternet.com

steve_winterberg@btinternet.com



Nanny Sue's Best Eggs

www.Facebook.com/NannySuesBestEggs

Findon Free Range Eggs

South Lodge Cottage, Rogers Lane, Findon, BN140RE

Tel: 01903 873007, **Mob: 07855 846963**

Dog friendly Holiday Home in Findon

The Haven is a modern 2 bedroom bungalow in Findon village that sleeps up to 4 people and is ideally situated for family, friends (and their dogs) visiting relatives, attending weddings, parties or for a weekend break or holiday. It is available on a self-catering basis from a minimum 3 night stay. We are rated 'Excellent' on Trip Advisor and AirBNB and are strictly following all Covid 19 cleaning advice.

Visit our website -www.thehavenfindon.uk for more details or phone Steve Willis on 07590533892

Paws Animal Sanctuary

Every one of our cat pens is occupied and we have 12 cats in all. For three days in a row a cat has arrived. The first cat's owner moved leaving the cat behind, the next one is poorly and the owner cannot manage to give it the 14 pills a day that it needs. The last one arrived yesterday because the owner is 93 years old and extremely ill and has been admitted to Worthing Hospital.

Giving medication is time-consuming and hard work. Two hens have coughs and have medicine night and morning, a guinea-pig has almost recovered after twice daily antibiotics and pain killers. I make a cocktail of all the seven pills the cat with kidney problems needs in a pipette twice a day, he has had all the tests and a scan. He hates the food the Vet recommends and he will not eat it. Also, our Pony Elvis is limping badly again. He is having four painkillers every morning and four every night. I have to crush them and hide them with Polo mints in his food. Elvis is having another x-ray this coming Monday morning. Having a plate put in his shoulder was not a successful operation and weekly acupuncture has not seen an improvement. After finishing giving all the animals their medication this morning we then discovered four of the hens have scaly legs and all needed their legs sprayed. They were not very happy! Last week we had two more hamsters in and the next day two gerbils; kids soon tire of them. I always tell the parents "Don't get them a pony!"

Even though I turn off the water to the Sanctuary every night a few mornings

the pipes have been frozen, which meant going back and forth to the house for water. Then we had a burst pipe in the staff toilet, which was flooded. The next day my upstairs toilet cistern was dripping needing a washer, the carpet and underlay was floating and I am still trying to dry it out. I hope the weather forecast isn't true, my newspaper reported that the whole country is going to have a week of snow first week in March! I hope not - we all need sunshine.

Stacey

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

01903 872 734 / 0790 447 6819

email: pawsanimals@hotmail.co.uk.

We never use an ansaphone so keep trying someone is always around. 24hrs. 7days a week. Not open to visitors at present.

www.pawsanimalsanctuaryfindon.co.uk

Registered Charity 1096231



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Steyning Branch

☎ 01903 816428

Findon Branch

☎ 01903 877325

crosswaysvets.co.uk

Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne, in partnership with the Association of Police & Crime Commissioners (APCC) has launched today a national survey, designed to understand public perception of dog theft, enforcement and the prosecution of offenders.

The Home Secretary is currently reviewing the issue of pet theft and what future enforcement may look like with potentially tougher penalties for perpetrators.

The responses to this survey will help inform the discussions that PCCs will have on this issue nationally and allow police forces to better understand the public's views on this crime and how they might improve their response to those concerns.

Demand for dogs as pets has increased during the Coronavirus pandemic. The cost of some puppies, on Pets4Homes, is currently as high as £3,000, making them a valuable commodity to criminals.

According to Dog Lost, the UK's largest lost and found dog service, it is estimated thefts have risen by 250 per cent, with criminal gangs involved.

Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne is spearheading the first national conversation with the public on this issue as public perception and fear is growing to an all-time high. She says:

“Pet theft, dog theft in particular, is a growing concern for the public and their fear has been perpetuated over the last

couple of weeks with shocking reports in the media of more dogs being snatched by criminals.

“I am incredibly eager to get more detail around this issue and understand residents' views and if they feel more could be done to respond to their concerns or for more preventative measures to be put in place to better protect their pets.

“I'm pleased to see the Home Secretary recognising the devastating impact of this crime and I hope that the results of this survey will give the Government the evidence it needs to take more robust action against perpetrators.”

Sussex Police recorded 31 dog thefts in 2020 but at least 12 of those were disputes over dog ownership between known parties.

Inspector Andrea Leahy from the Sussex Police Rural Crime Team said: “We support this national survey and the team are working tirelessly to collate information and intelligence on this worrying crime. We have dedicated officers covering the county who review every report that comes into us. We would like to encourage the public to report all suspicious circumstances and read our crime prevention advice on our website. We are dedicated to keeping your pets safe and target any persons believed to be involved in this distressing crime.”

The 60-second survey will be open until 17:00 on Friday 12th March.

HAVE YOUR SAY TODAY:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/dogtheft>

Easter Garden

Our **Holy Week Easter services** are such an important part of the Church calendar. While we hope Services will be as usual for Easter Sunday, this will be confirmed in the next Findon News and any updates will be on the website.

There will, however, be a small Easter garden set up by the flower team. It will be by the lych gate at **Findon Parish**

Church from 28th March - Passion Sunday - when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey - until Easter Monday.

Do come and see it if you're out walking on Church Hill. It would be lovely if children brought a small jam jar of flowers or plant (about 4" tall) in a pot, or even a pebble to help decorate it.



Welcome Back to Church

Sunday 7th March at Findon Church
Worship and Praise service - 10 am

We welcome the group
Canticle from Broadwater
to lead the music and the singing.

All are very welcome

The Big Freeze

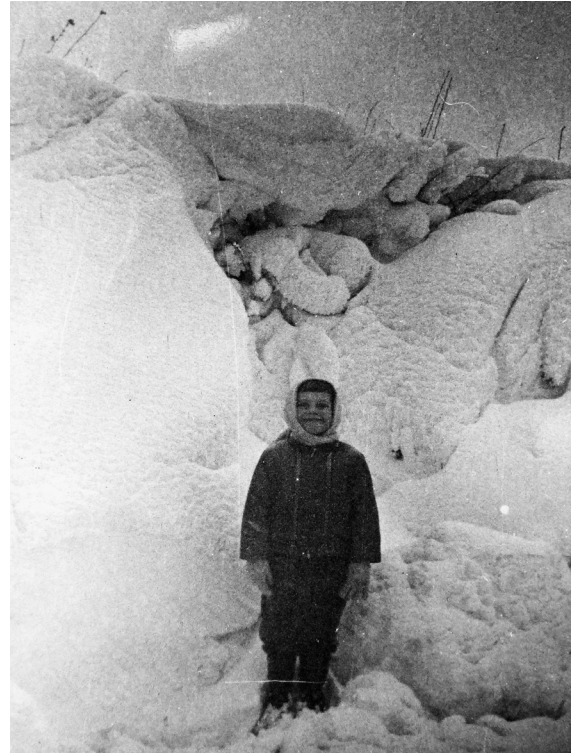
Sally Evans

The recent cold snap, combined with a trawl through some old family photographs, brought the winter of 1962/63 back to mind. The Big Freeze, as it was known, was one of the coldest winters on record in the UK and officially the coldest for 200 years. It started on Christmas Eve 1962, when it snowed in Scotland and by Boxing Day it had spread to the rest of the country, leaving 30cm of snow over many parts. A blizzard followed on 29 and 30 December across Wales and south-west England, causing snowdrifts up to 6 metres deep. Roads and railways were blocked, telephone lines brought down, and some villages were left cut off for several days. The snow lasted for two months and many areas were covered until early March. Mean maximum temperatures were below 0°C in many places during the whole of January. Rivers, lakes and even the sea froze in some areas.

I grew up in a village just outside Cardiff and the photo shows me and the extent of the snow in that area. I remember the lanes leading to the village being full of snow and nothing coming into or out of the village.

I can't remember how long the village school was closed for, but I think it was several weeks. The closure was due to not only the difficulty of teachers and pupils getting to school, but also the fact that the school only had outside toilets and they were completely frozen. This being before the digital age, our education during those weeks consisted of learning how to clear snow; where the best places to go sledging were; and

how to make the best snowballs and snowmen.



I also found evidence of our parents' strategy for entertaining children in the 1960s - give them an old inner tube and plonk them on a hill. We used to spend hours seeing who could roll furthest before falling out. (Not very far if I remember correctly!)



Nepcote - Then and Now

Many of you will remember David Ockenden's memories of his family and Nepcote last month. Here we have photographs of then and now.



PARISH OF FINDON, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING MARCH 2021

Currently all three Churches are open daily for private prayer.
Social distancing regulations and the wearing of face coverings continue.

There is a 10.00am said Eucharist in Findon Church every Tuesday.
An online service is available every Sunday on Facebook and the Parish website
Please continue to look at the website and Facebook page for any changes.

Donations to Parish funds can now be made on the Parish website under
Easyfundraising

Sunday 7 th March Third Sunday of Lent	8.00am 10.00am 10.00am	Traditional Communion at Findon Worship and Praise at Findon Said Eucharist at Clapham
Sunday 14 th March Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday	8.00am 9.30am	Traditional Communion at Patching Said Eucharist at Findon
Sunday 21 st March Fifth Sunday of Lent	8.00am 10.00am	Traditional Communion at Findon Said Eucharist at Patching
Sunday 28 th March Palm Sunday	8.00am 9.30am	Traditional Communion at Clapham Said Eucharist at Findon

February Funerals: 11th Graham Ingram; 23rd Gladys Clarke

The Diocese of Chichester website has a huge range of 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:
c/o The Rectory, School Hill, Findon BN14 0TR.
t: 01903 873601 | e: findoncprectory@gmail.com

Facebook: Parish of Findon, Clapham and Patching | Website: www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com

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Guide Price £475,000

Findon Office 01903 872949 156 Findon Road, Findon Valley BN14 0EL www.michaeljones.co.uk

Offices in Worthing, Lancing, Goring, Findon, Broadwater and Rustington

