

ISFIELD PARISH NEWSLETTER

Editors Note:

Readers of local media may have noticed the results of the BML2 feasibility study on a new train line between Brighton, Uckfield and London that included reinstating the line through the village, but not connecting Isfield to Lewes, nor retaining the opening for a level crossing. Those of us at the eastern end of the village are no doubt relieved that the report concluded that there was not sufficient benefit to warrant the cost of the project. The fact that it would have had to bypass Lewes by cutting through the South Downs National Park, no doubt also played its part. Given the dramatic effect that having a high speed train line running through the village would have had, we are fortunate that this conclusion was reached.

We have lots of events coming up in the village, the range of activities is remarkable and includes Tai Chi classes, dance clubs, woodblock printing courses, wine tasting evenings, art groups, cricket nets and of course the weekly pizza nights at the farm shop. There is simply no excuse not to get involved in at least one of the enthusiastically organised activities in the village hall and beyond, either that or you could go to the pub, some manage both!

Bev Ashford: ashfordbj@gmail.com

750456

Jason Kennedy: jtbkennedy@gmail.com

750769

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

Our local Community First Responder Team has had a busy period, attending over 230 calls during the winter months from December to February. In Uckfield there have been a large number of cardiac arrests amongst the callouts, regularly seeing Community First Responders arriving first at scene and commencing life saving cardiopulmonary resuscitation. With that in mind it is an appropriate time to mention that a public access defibrillator is now available in the Laughing Fish and will shortly be mounted in a box on the wall inside the front porch. This is available for any member of the public to use in a cardiac emergency and is always UNLOCKED, despite the presence of a keypad on the front of the door. A demonstration of this equipment will be arranged and anyone who is interested please leave your name and contact number with Andy or Linda Brooks in the Laughing Fish or myself on the number below.

Community First Responders are entirely voluntary and are equipped through local fundraising, grants, bequests and so on, with life support training being provided by South East Coast Ambulance Service and CFR Associate Trainers. CFRs book on duty with central ambulance despatch and can be mobilised to any incident allowed by their training protocols and can also elect to be available for cold calls outside those logged on hours for any Red 1 emergencies covering immediately life threatening situations. Obviously the more CFRs that are available, the greater the coverage that can be given to the Local Community, and anybody in the village who is over 18 years old with a car at their disposal and a real interest in helping those in need is very welcome to join the Team.

Derek Smith

01825 750519

SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

Tackling Elder Exploitation in our Communities

Katy Bourne, the Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex, has made tackling elder exploitation one of her top priorities in a bid to protect older people in the county from financial abuse.

She says: "We know that fraud against our older and more vulnerable residents is a growing issue as our population ages and criminals see that fraud is more profitable and less risky than other crimes. In Sussex, fraud has robbed some older people of their entire life savings and left others destitute.

"I have been lobbying the Government to take account of demographics when calculating the amount of funding that is allocated to each police force and to acknowledge the rise in crimes against our elderly.

"The operational response from Sussex Police has also been excellent. They have developed Operation Signature to help protect and support those most at risk of fraud, and the model has been nationally recognised and is being adopted by other police forces.

"The problem is that many people don't realise that they've been a victim of fraud - they think it's just a scam, or they feel foolish and don't want to tell anyone. But scams are fraud and fraud is a crime so I really would urge anyone who's affected by doorstep crime, postal fraud or nuisance calls to report it."

You can call the police on 101 or report fraud by speaking directly to the advisers at Action Fraud, the national fraud reporting centre, by phoning 0300 123 2040. They will also be able to give you help and advice about fraud and you can remain anonymous if you prefer.

UK-wide charity Action on Elder Abuse operates a confidential helpline on 080 8808 8141 which offers advice and support on all aspects of elder abuse.

Trading Standards also want to know about online fraud or mobile phone scams; any information you share may help them shut

down fraudsters before others fall victim to them. You can report incidents, whether you're a victim or have just been targeted, via the Citizen's Advice Consumer Helpline on 0345 404 05 06.

You can sign up for Katy Bourne's weekly newsletter at www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/spcc-newsletter/

Ellie Evans

ISFIELD ART GROUP

We get together every Thursday afternoon at 2pm at Isfield Village Hall and over a 10 week course we will experiment in watercolour, acrylic, and pastel. No experience needed as I give personal tuition on a range of subjects. Everyone works at their own pace and at their own level.

To discover your artistic self or just have a bit of fun for a couple of hours.

Contact: steve@remingtons.co.uk

Or phone: 01892 723596 for more information

Stephen Pierce-Smith

MILLWOOD AID IMPROVEMENTS TO ISFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Award-winning developer Millwood Designer Homes was proud to present a cheque of five thousand pounds to the Chairman of Isfield Village Hall, Keith Taylor and Trustee, Peter Holmes on Thursday 9th March 2017.

Millwood's five thousand pound donation will aid the improvements to kitchen facilities and the extension to Isfield Village Hall, creating an additional event room, storage and disabled toilet. Benefitting the local community, the village hall improvements will help the demand for more space at regular community events such as; Bonfire Quiz, Dancing Club, Flower Show and Race nights and the Pre- School opening hours can be extended.

Peter Holmes, Trustee of Isfield Village Hall, said: "We hold a lot of different types of events all year round at Isfield Village Hall, which residents use as a social hub and meeting place. The kitchen is approximately forty years old, Millwood's donation is very generous and will help us improve our facilities. We have invited Millwood along to our open day in two weeks, where they will have a stall and welcome all the new residents to the Village Hall."

Peter continues: "I've worked along-side Millwood for the past seven months as they are building at the end of my road. It has been great to witness the Lavender Fields development flourish. Isfield is a fairly small village, so this is a major development which has been great for increasing the population. Millwood obviously put a lot of thought into the design and layout as the houses have blended in extremely well with the local area. The way the development is laid out is like a village in itself, with a mock Tudor house, a Grand Manor House and a Dairy House. There's a real mix of homes, and what is great is that they are all individually designed, which makes the development very attractive. It's a pleasure to work with such high-quality builders."

Philip Brown, Sales Director at Millwood Designer Homes, comments: "We were delighted to help the local community in Isfield by improving their local village hall, which will be used by the current and future residents at Lavender Fields. We care about the communities we develop in and designed Lavender Fields carefully to blend seamlessly with the rest of the village and bring much needed new family homes to the local area. We hope our donation will help continue the fantastic community spirit and help work towards making Isfield a better place for all of its residents."

Shannen Bulley
Oracle Group for Millwood Homes

ISFIELD WEDNESDAY CLUB

Our new programme started in February this year. Our first speaker was Ann Dunmore who gave a spirited talk on her early life as an actress on the P&O Lines and, in particular, her work in the famous open air theatre in Cornwall - The Minack.

Next, we met the truly wonderful "Treacle" a medical detection dog and his owner Moira Harrison who explained how the dogs were trained and how they alerted their owners to potentially life threatening conditions such as an oncoming diabetic episode.

On the 1st of March we had an inspiring and very accomplished presentation by Ian Gledhill on the Gilbert and Sullivan story. A feast of images and music.

Our meetings have diverse and interesting talks. Still to come during the year we have the following topics: original wind-up talking machines, cruising in Central America, origins of jazz, aviation, top secret Sussex, a roam around Rome and, finally, shepherds of the Sussex Downs. We also have a tea at the Lavender Line in July.

Each meeting concludes with a fine tea with home-made cakes.

Please put a date in your diary for the annual Flower Show hosted by The Wednesday Club. This year it will be in the Village Hall on 12th August.

For our full programme, please see the diary dates at the back of this booklet. Details can also be found on the village notice boards, in The Laughing Fish and on the Isfield Parish website.

Meetings are held every other Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. in Isfield Village Hall. Do join us. Everybody welcome.

For more information, contact Liz Fine 01825 750658 or Wendy Chandler 01825 750517.

Liz Fine
Secretary Wednesday Club

UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL MP

I am fortunate to represent a rural constituency that is home to some of the finest British produce. I take great pleasure in being able to sample, share and celebrate the myriad of food and drink made in Wealden. I am particularly proud of our many local vineyards, which have gone from strength to strength.

Agriculture plays a pivotal role in this country's economy, landscape and health; a flourishing agricultural sector translates to a flourishing Great Britain. As such, I support the Government in standing firmly on the side of farmers and producers.

This is set in the wider context of helping to counter volatility in the global market and working to expand our nation's skills base through apprenticeships and training schemes - I was delighted to recently be appointed as Chair of the Government's Apprenticeship Diversity Champions Network, a fantastic opportunity to spread the benefits of apprenticeship programmes.

Apprenticeships in the agriculture industry have helped exports of British food and drink grow by over 10 per cent since 2010, to a record figure of more than £20 billion.

In order to further build Britain's reputation as a great food nation, the Government has set up the Great British Food Unit, which will work to further boost exports and support more British companies to export overseas, potentially generating an additional 5,000 jobs in food and drink manufacturing.

In Parliament, I recently tabled a Bill to promote British wine in our embassies and consulates abroad. This is a great opportunity for embassies and consulates, who regularly host receptions, to champion our fantastic produce and I will, of course, be doing all I can to promote wine from Wealden.

I am therefore calling on the Government to take steps to ensure that wine from our shores is served at official receptions. It offers an easy opportunity for the Government to support British produce in a practical and patriotic way, and not least the amazing vineyards we are proud to have here in Wealden.

Nus Ghani MP

TWIG

December's meeting was a repeat of our popular DIY Christmas wreaths evening. Much fun, some scrumptious food and two hours later everyone left having accomplished the task of hand making their own Christmas door wreath. Thanks as ever, go to Ruth Zlatinger for her generous help and guidance.

January saw us meeting up in the Laughing Fish for a social get together and brain storming evening to plan our years' meetings. Everyone attending enjoyed a drink paid for from funds and the evening was very successful with members

providing some great ideas and topics and we are well underway filling up the years' dates. Thanks go to Andy and Linda and staff in the Fish.

February was a huge giggle as the ladies moved in time to the music and instructions from Emma Nailer who came to instruct us all in the art of ZUMBA! Emma runs fitness and Zumba classes in the area and is also a personal fitness instructor. Emma was great fun and made out that we were all experts by the time the class ended - she was very kind!! Thanks go to Nina for organising this event.

March was a very tasty affair as we hosted the very knowledgeable Martin from CHEESE ETC, the new cheese-mongers and delicatessen on the High Street, Uckfield. Martin brought along a selection of local cheese and talked about the history of cheese and how its made, he also talked us through the tasting of the cheeses which was really enjoyed by us all - the mystery cheese was my favourite!
CHEESE ETC... is well worth checking out next time you are in town. www.cheeseetc.uk

April's meeting is on the 5th and subs will be due for those ladies wishing to renew or to join. Plans are underway to host a quiz and I'm sure there will be some nibbles and a little drink along the way too.

See the diary pages for further details for future meetings. All ladies welcome.

Sues Crawford

ISFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Renovations and Maintenance

As custodians of a beautiful early 20th century building that needs constant attention, the Village Hall management committee will carry out much needed major renovation and maintenance work during the August school holiday period this year; kitchen, toilets, full internal and external decorating, curtains repaired and rehung, new kitchen windows. The hall will be closed from 13th August to 2nd September inclusive. We would not have been able to meet the cost of this work (over £17,000) without a very generous donation from **Millwood Designer Homes** who presented a cheque for £5,000 to Keith Taylor, Chairman of the Village Hall, and Peter Homes, Secretary, at a special ceremony held at the Lavender Fields show house on 9th March. We thank Millwood Homes most sincerely for this donation. The balance of the cost will be met from our own fund raising events over the last few years, and we are in the process of applying for other funding sources.

Recent Events

On a wet and windy autumn night last October, the Village Hall hosted a professionally run and very enjoyable **Race Night** fund raiser which was magnificently supported. The price per person of £12.50 included 8 races, a £1 bet on the first race, a delicious buffet supper and a glass of wine. As everyone had a really great time, we plan to hold another Race Night on **21st October** this year. If you enjoy the thrills of racing, don't miss this event and bring your family, friends and teams along.

On November 27th we hosted a spectacular **Frost Fair** where local artists, crafts people and suppliers ran imaginative and very attractive stalls offering unique, locally produced gifts (knits, ceramics, artworks, prints, jewellery, aromatic soaps and toiletries, candles, plants, bird feeders & nest boxes, hampers, French macarons, Free trade raffia handbags & hats, handcrafted wooden toys, gardening gifts, etc.) and Christmas fare (cards, Christmas wreaths & table centres, Christmas tree ornaments, cheeses, specialist charcuterie, chutneys & jams, mustards, Christmas cakes & puddings, gift packs etc.). The fair was a great success thanks to our wonderful stall holders and volunteers donating cakes and raffle prizes, offering teas and cakes, and running the raffle. The exhibitors are keen to participate at our next fair, with some new stands, and we are already planning to hold one on **Sunday 26th November**.

The Village Hall hosted another **Open Day** at the Village Hall on March 18th to showcase the organisations, clubs and societies that regularly use the hall, and also to introduce new activities that are now run at the hall, or will be if there is sufficient interest, such as Tai Chi, Charleston classes and Pilates. We are very grateful for our many supporters, who donated home-made cakes and raffle prizes, helped in the kitchen and organised the raffle, and for the superb support from the Isfield

organisations, clubs and societies who have exhibited at this event for the past three years, and helped to publicize it widely: ICE, I.L.H.B.S., Isfield Wine Club, Isfield Parish Council, Isfield Art Group, Isfield Pre School, **St Margaret of Antioch, parish church of Isfield**, The Women's Isfield Group (TWIG), The Wednesday Club, Isfield Dancing Club, Blackbird Arts, Flowers and Daughters. Details of all these organisations, clubs and activities are on our website www.isfieldvillagehall.org.uk - see the Uses and Users page.

Upcoming Events:

The focus for this Spring newsletter's upcoming information is two-fold: exercise classes of various kinds, and arts and crafts workshops/classes.

Andrea Kocache a listed instructor with the **Tai Chi** Union of Great Britain, is running Monday afternoon sessions, 2-3pm. Andrea is happy for anyone to start Tai Chi with her at any time, integration guaranteed; there is no 'course' start date. Andrea informs us that Tai Chi is an internal art rooted in the healing, meditative and martial traditions of China which integrates relaxation, meditation, breathing and postural techniques, improves coordination skill and stimulates the mind. Please register your interest by contacting Andrea on 01892 654585.

Helen of Brighton Boogie ('Fun vintage dance lessons and events') is running a new 5 week **Charleston** course on Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm to 8.30pm, starting on March 7th. The first two courses were very popular and a great way to get fit. Contact Helen at dance@brightonboogie.com

Isfield **Dancing Club** holds regular twice a month Wednesday evening sessions, 8-10pm, at the Village Hall, with occasional special event nights. This is a very enjoyable, relaxed evening and a great opportunity to learn and display your dancing skills. For more details please contact Ron Levett on 01825 750404.

We are very hopeful that **Pilates** classes will come to Isfield Village Hall in September if there is sufficient interest. Medeana Finley, a qualified Pilates instructor, attended the recent Village Hall Open Day and generated a lot of interest. To register your own interest contact Medeana by email on medeanapilates@gmail.com

Isfield Art Group extend a very warm welcome to anyone who would like to join them and attend Steve Pierce-Smith's classes on Thursdays, 2pm to 4pm. The group use watercolour, acrylics, pastels and charcoal, and cover a wide variety of subject matter including life, landscape, pop art, portrait etc. All levels from beginners to experienced artists will find Steve's classes, and the group's support, stimulating and very enjoyable. Contact Steve on 01892 723596.

Blackbird Arts are running two workshops over the summer:

Mosaic workshop with Hannah Griffiths on 17th June, suitable for beginners and those with some experience. Materials are provided but bring your own broken tiles and crockery to 'upcycle.' Cost is £90.

Woodblock printing workshop with Adele Scantlebury and Martin Brockman on 15th July, 10am to 5pm, to teach the basic techniques using a wooden spoon; design, carve and print from your own woodblock. Cost is £75. Places are limited so booking in advance is advised by contacting Adele on 07968 119479.

Jane Will, from **Flowers and Daughters** of Rotherfield, is running a half-day workshop on 'Summer Flower Arrangements' on Saturday July 22nd, 9.30am to 1pm. Jane brings a huge selection of wonderfully scented foliage and trimmings to the workshop for everyone to create their own colour schemes and structure. The choice has to be seen to be believed. All materials are included, as is instruction and guidance, as well as delicious nibbles and tea/coffee, at a cost of £48 per person. Contact Jane on 01892 852189.

For details of all these events, and others as they appear, and for the contact details of the instructors/facilitators, please see the News and Events page on our website www.isfieldvillagehall.org.uk

Bookings

To book the Village Hall for your receptions, parties and other activities call Brenda Reynolds on 01825 749778 or email bookings@isfieldvillagehall.org.uk or provisionally book online on www.isfieldvillagehall.org.uk (Booking and Hiring page) and Brenda will get back to you to confirm the details of your booking.

Keith Taylor

Chairman Village Hall Committee

ISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

As the winter draws to a close, so the state of the roads through the village becomes ever more apparent. The inadequacy of the way potholes and road edge damage is handled is a subject we have in common with our surrounding parishes. We regularly raise the problem with District and County Councillors, who point - equally regularly - to the funding difficulties all local authorities are currently facing. This is sadly a fact of current life. However, our Vice-Chairman, Jim Smith, will be meeting the Highways department in an attempt to agree some realistic schedule to deal with the worst of the problem in the village.

Another area where central funding seems to be strained is in the cutting of verges, both in rural and urban parishes in the District. While this could be regarded as purely an aesthetic matter, the Parish Council are conscious that appearance is an integral part of the overall environment in which we live, and therefore we are exploring the possibility of engaging contractors to increase the frequency of cutting to maintain the appearance of the village. This would be financed out of the Council's reserves and/or existing precept - in other words, with no further cost to parishioners.

I have previously alluded to the delays in the publication of the Wealden Local Plan and the potential problems that raises while uncertainty rules. The Plan is emerging slowly, with a reduced number of dwellings to be built. However, it's difficult not to draw the conclusion that road damage and speeding through the village - which are probably the two issues raised with us most frequently - are a symptom of the overcrowded nature of the road network. Housing development and infrastructure are issues which cannot be separated; development potential within Isfield is limited, but we are not immune to what takes place elsewhere.

Finally, I would urge as many residents as possible to attend Parish Council meetings; that's when you have the opportunity to address your concerns to the Council (and to ask them what they are doing about them).

Geoff Sambrook
Chair Parish Council

ISFIELD WINE CLUB

Isfield Wine Club continues to attract new members to what is always a fun, enjoyable and informative evening tasting, discussing and learning about wines from around the world. We meet in the Village Hall on the third Friday of alternate months and the dates for the rest of 2017 are as follows: 19th, July 21st, September 15th and November 17th. The subject for the evening are chosen by members and in the past have included from Italy and South Africa, Old world v New world, same different country and Rioja.

For further information about these entertaining evenings in good company please call Keith on 749778.

Keith Taylor

ISFIELD STOOLBALL

We are all very much looking forward to the forthcoming stoolball season. Last season we finished a very respectful 3rd in the Mid division league earning us a place in the playoffs at Seaford. This season we are hoping to beat that - and finish in the top 2!

For those new to the village the stoolball club is a friendly group of ladies who meet on a Tues and /or a Thursday evening to play league matches running from early May through to the end of July. We then play in the August league usually finishing beginning of September.

Our AGM is Tues 28/03 at 7pm in the Laughing Fish - if you fancy finding out more or are keen to join us please feel free to attend this meeting .

For further queries please contact Carla our captain on 07824 556832

Charlotte Das

ISFIELD DANCING CLUB

We have had a good start to the year with most members attending the club evenings. The mild winter has helped with no snow to speak of and not much frost or ice keeping members at home.

Our next buffet dance is on the 26th of April, with two more later in the year,

We are always looking for new members would welcome anyone who would like to come and join us on a Wednesday evening; all for £2 per evening.

Ron Levett

Chairman

01825 750404

ISFIELD PRE-SCHOOL

Quality Education Learning Through Play'

Registered Charity Number: 1031867

Tel: 01825 750245

Hello, I would like to introduce myself as the chair of Isfield Pre-School my name is Tabitha. My role within the setting is to over see the legal and financial running of the provision. Julie and her nurturing team manage the day to day running of the setting with regard to the children's safeguarding, safety, care and individual learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

On that note we must congratulate Julie who at the end of last year completed her level 5 Diploma in Leadership for the Children and Young people workforce Early Years.

The children have been the most wonderfully creative and imaginative in their play and learning based all around their interest of the well-loved children's book 'We're going on a bear hunt'. They have particularly been exploring our surroundings in relation to this story as they change through the seasons.

Following the very successful Autumn Sponsored Walk we used the money raised to purchase some fabulous resources that continue to be enjoyed by all. In February we held the hugely fun and longstanding tradition of pancake racing and of course eating. Huge skill, and hand eye coordination was shown by all the children as they ran whilst tossing a pancake. There were several parent races too, so everyone joined in. The first of our Open day messy play sessions was held in March to welcome new children and their parents/carers, more of these will be held through the summer term. We will be strolling to the park to look at the bulbs we plant and add to every year. To mark the end of term we will be having an Easter egg hunt and bonnet parade.

The village setting of Isfield Pre-School continues to create a real centre for local parents and children to get together and create some wonderful friendships that last for years. With social get-together's continuing on outside Pre-School creating a real community feel.

The children continue to thrive and explore their own interests in this long standing creative play based setting with wonderful staff to guide them with over 20 years experience. The site has ample parking with a large indoor and outdoor play space. There are still some spaces on all days for children from 2 years old. Should you wish to come and take a look or know someone who is looking at pre-schools please pass our name to them. To arrange a visit call 01825 750245 or email preschoolisfield@gmail.com. See us on Facebook.

15 hours EYEE = 4 Free sessions with us.

Opening times Monday - Friday
9.30am - 1.15pm

Tabitha Hobson
Chair Pre-School

LITTLE HORSTED CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

Mrs Cottrell

It is with great sadness that I am informing you that Mrs Cottrell is unable, due to her current illness, to return to teach Rabbit Class for the rest of this academic year. Mrs Cottrell has informed the governors that she will now be retiring from teaching at the school on the 30th April 2017.

As a school, we are all going to miss Mrs Cottrell enormously. Her contribution to the school over twenty-five years has been immense and she is extremely proud of the achievements and successes of all the pupils she has taught throughout this time.

If you would like to contribute to a leaving gift for Mrs Cottrell, please could you send this to Mrs Gillard in the school office.

I will inform the community in due course with further information regarding the arrangements and events we are organising to mark Mrs Cottrell's retirement.

Deputy Headteacher:

I am delighted to inform you all that the Governors appointed Mr John Barnes to the position of Deputy Headteacher at Little Horsted School following Mrs Cottrell's retirement from teaching. They unanimously agreed at their meeting recently that Mr Barnes should begin his position as Deputy Headteacher of the school from 1st June 2017, which is at the beginning of Term 6. I am delighted to congratulate Mr Barnes on this well-deserved promotion. The school is fortunate indeed to have such a well-qualified, innovative and forward-looking teacher in this pivotal position on the school staffing team.

The Early Years Village including our Nursery at Little Horsted C.E. School

Our Early Years Village continues to flourish with our number of children attending each Foundation 1 session increasing all the time. We are able to offer up to 15 places to children in Foundation Stage 1 (age 3 to 4 year olds) for the following session each week.

Mon -Fri	8.45 - 11.45 Half-day AM
	8.45 - 12.25 Half-day AM with lunch
	11.45 - 12.25 Lunchtime
	12.25 - 3.25 Half-day PM
	8.45 - 3.25 All day

Nursery children may start in the Early years Village in the term before they are three years old. They can also attend our Breakfast Club from 7.55 a.m. Please contact the school or look at the website to find out more information.

School, PTFA and community events

The children have enjoyed many school and community events this term including a Bollywood dance afternoon which the children all thoroughly enjoyed as they danced for the parents in the playground at the end of the day. The children, as a result of a vote held by the School Council, have supported fund raising for Taylor Made Dreams (a Crowborough based charity) and Red Nose Day this term.

The older children in Mrs Pepper and Mrs Levy's Owl Class have enjoyed learning about Bangladesh and other countries in this part of the world. Some of the older children performed in a production called 'Move It' at the end of Term 4. The production was organised by Mrs Pepper during her drama club at the school.

The children in Mr Barnes' Badgers Class (Yr 3 and 4) have loved their learning journey focus on India in Term 3 and All Aboard the Titanic in Term 4. Meanwhile the Hedgehog Class have been finding out about dinosaurs in Term 3 and a strange creature which came out of a golden egg in Term 4. They organised and ran an amazing Hedgehog Class Dinosaur Museum for the parents to discover how much they had learned about dinosaurs at the end of Term 3. They have also enjoyed a visit to Bodiam Castle to find out more about castles and dragons!

In Mrs Cottrell's absence, Rabbit Class have been taught by Mrs Hooper, Mrs Dainty-Woodham and Mrs Pepper. They recently enjoyed a visit to see the lambs at South Brockwell farm. It is always an enjoyable occasion and adventure for the children to walk across the golf course and visit the farm.

The PTFA organised a very well attended Curry and Quiz Night at the school. They have also organised a film night and a disco night for the children this term. Their next event is the Isfield and Barcombe fun Run on Sunday 14 May at 10.00 a.m. at the Isfield Recreation ground. They will also be providing the BBQ at the Isfield Fete on Sunday 25 June. The PTFA kindly raise funds to support the resources available to the children in school. Recently, they have raised funds for ICT, PE mats, scissors and art covers for the tables in the classrooms.

Father John and Father Mitch have led many enjoyable Wednesday morning assemblies and our special Easter church service which was held in St Michael and All Angels Church on Friday 31 March. The children presented the story of the Three Trees to the congregation. St Michael and all Angels Church have organised a 'Sheep Racing' event at South Brockwell Farm on Sunday 21st May between 12.00 and 3.00. The children will be encouraged to bring their teddies along to the event to ride on the sheep in each race.

For more information about the school, please visit www.littlehorsted.e-sussex.sch.uk or telephone us on 01825 750380.

Dr Michael Davies
Headteacher

ISFIELD & LITTLE HORSTED PTFA

A great year so far for Little Horsted Parents, Teachers and Friends Association, with some successful events enjoyed by children and parents alike. To the continued generosity of our small community, we are raising more than for our school, whilst having a lot of fun!

All our fundraising is focussed on our children's learning and play. This term we were delighted to complete the upgrade and refurbishment of the school's fantastic ICT Suite. The full set of new computer chairs, funded by the school bake sale was the icing on the cake! We have replaced all the school's old gym mats which are used across all years for indoor PE, Drama and a host of other activities in the Hall. Our major fundraiser - the Little Horsted, Isfield & Barcombe Fun Run on 14th May will fund our planned extension to the much-loved 'Trim Trail' timber play equipment on the school field, which is looking wonderful with all the children's spring bulbs now in bloom!

We believe that the PTFA is also about friends, families and colleagues coming together as a vibrant, supportive and inclusive community. February's ever-popular Quiz & Curry night was certainly a perfect example of this! Combining a delicious homemade supper with the brilliant quiz-master talent of our teachers Mr Barnes & Mrs Greenwood, this hilarious competitive event saw a bubbly bunch of parents joined by teams from Thorne Engineering and Holy Cross Church, to name a few. The evening raised a record profit of £1,000 and has sparked renewed interest in parents' events (watch this space!) so a very warm thank you for everyone's support.

The most important date for your diaries is our key event of the year:

Sun 14th May: Fun Run-Our biggest annual fundraiser is coming ever-closer with 1, 5 and 10km races open to the public on the picturesque course around. We welcome everyone young and old to get involved, whether as participants or helpers - please contact litchfield@gmail.com if you can assist before or on the day (whether it be baking, marshalling, publicity or serving refreshments). We still have a few sponsorship spots available too, so if you would like to take the opportunity to sponsor this major local event, please let us know!

To get in touch with, please contact Anna in Horsted Green anna.murzyn@icloud.com or Louise Dainty-Woodham louisedw@btinternet.com. All ideas, help and feedback most welcome!

Anna Murzyn
Chair PTFA

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH

Our village church is not just a beautiful building for worship but for concerts too.

It was full, on an almost balmy Sunday afternoon in February, for a musical treat laid on by our own impresario, Cariena Cartwright, and village Mezzo-Soprano, Lucy Williams. They had persuaded an impressive selection of professionals and talented amateurs to play for this charity event. The players ranged from a harpist, flautist, pianists [classical and jazz], singers to a drummer - Frank Fox-Wilson; our last, sorely missed curate. John Wall, our new Rector, was the surprise turn and greatly impressed everyone with his folk song singing. The eclectic programme ranged from Mozart to Gershwin, Haydn to Fauré with much in between.

It was possible to share the proceeds of more than £1,000 between the St Peter and St James Hospice and the Friends of St Margaret's. Thank you to the performers and especially to Cariena and Lucy for such a great concert which a senior member of the audience was overheard to say was "the best St Margaret's concert ever".

If anyone would like to perform at a future concert or knows someone who might be persuaded to do so, please let Cariena know. You may not know, but there is a Bluthner piano in the church which would greatly benefit from being played either for private practice or perhaps in public. Just contact one of us to make the arrangements.

We hope that many families will have come to the Mothering Sunday service, despite losing an hour for the summertime change, when Primulas will be distributed for the children of the village to give to their mothers.

Our Annual meeting is on Thursday 6th April when the formal business of approving the accounts has to take place together with the election of churchwardens and members of the PCC. Most importantly, It gives an opportunity for anyone to ask questions about the church and its services and to make any suggestions. We hope to see you in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Then there will be the traditional, "donkey" led, procession through the village on Palm Sunday. It starts from the Recreation Field's car park at 9.30 on Sunday 9th arriving in time for the 10 o'clock service. We are extremely grateful to the Reffin family for again providing what must be the only thoroughbred "donkey". We know that unfortunately, one or two regulars will not be able to do the walk this year and hope that others will join in this traditional start to Isfield's Holy Week.

On Good Friday, there will be a Devotional Service at noon shared with Little Horsted's congregation. The Easter Day service is a Family Eucharist starting at 10 o'clock. We look forward to seeing everyone including those who enjoyed our Christmas services and those who were not able to come to them. Canon Hugh Moseley will again be leading all these services for us. We are most grateful to him and all the other clergy who have ensured that both the festival and weekly services continue in St Margaret's for everyone.

Jenny and Peter Holmes very kindly organised a cream tea party in their garden last summer and have very generously offered to repeat the event on Sunday 9th July at Derriford which is on the road leading to Lavender Fields. Other dates for your diary are the service-in-the-tent on Fete Sunday, June 25th; a great start to this special Isfield day. The annual Pets Service will be on Sunday 16th July; bring all your pets, the more the merrier.

In the last edition of the Newsletter we referred to the substantial damage to the Churchyard wall made by vandals in a vehicle. The twenty feet long hole has been beautifully restored by Clive Martin. It is well worth a visit to see the skilled work of a real craftsman.

We are still without our own curate but have been assured by the Bishop that it is his priority to find someone for us. Our Rector will keep the pressure on him particularly with the news that Mitch Mitchell will be leaving Uckfield in the late summer to take up the important post of Incumbent of Heathfield. Mitch was ordained less than a fortnight after Martin Onions' untimely death and he immediately had to take on the running of the Uckfield Plurality; a vast task with many responsibilities. His enthusiasm, deeply caring personality and sense of fun will be greatly missed. We wish him well.

Just a reminder, our Sunday services are at 10 o'clock with Holy Communion on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays, Matins on the 2nd and a Family service on the 4th. We do hope that you, especially newcomers both in Lavender Fields and elsewhere in the parish, will join us.

Churchwardens

Robert Smith
Tel 764541

Mervyn Griffiths
Tel 750446

ISFIELD CRICKET CLUB

The club is looking forward to the new season - now only a matter of a few weeks away.

The Saturday First XI is hoping to improve on its mid-table position in Division 3 of the East Sussex Cricket League achieved last year. The Saturday Second XI, after narrowly missing out on promotion last year from Division 12 of the ESCL, is hoping to go one better this year. The experience gained by some of our promising youngster's first year of league cricket may prove invaluable this time around.

The attendance at our Indoor Winter nets, currently underway on Monday evenings at Longhill School in Rottingdean, has been encouraging. Time for this is 8.00 - 9.00pm. Our outdoor Academy Nets for the Academy will be re-commencing at the Recreation Ground on 24 April at 5.30pm. We cater for an age range of 11 to 18 years old. If you have not attended before, and have an interest in cricket, why not come along for a taster session.

Pre-season friendlies and cup games will be played in April. For further details of this, the youth Academy and joining the club please contact

Neil Thornicroft on 01825-750283
e-mail: thornicrofts@btinternet.com.

Neil Thornicroft

ISFIELD FARM SHOP
Butchers and village store.

We have nearly been here a year now and what a busy year it's been..

We were delighted with our Christmas trade, helped massively by our local suppliers of great meat and beautiful turkeys from Nash Street farm Chiddingly. We had a large number of pre orders for meat along with a huge number of veg boxes. Which meant sourcing 100kgs of potatoes and 45kgs of sprouts!

After a short but needed break we came to the coldest 2 weeks of the year , which lead us to change the hours slightly.

New hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. 9-2

Thursday. 9-7pm

Friday. 9-5 pm

Saturday. 9-2 pm (however from 29th April - 2nd September we open on a Saturday from 9-4pm)

Bread

The beautiful bread from Ringmer bakery is very popular and on a sunny Saturday can sell out very quickly, please call us if wish us to hold you a loaf or, like some villagers, have weekly order.

Butchers

As always we have a great selection of fresh locally produced meat, and with Easter fast approaching please come in and have a chat about orders for that weekend. Our famous pork sausage are as popular as ever. We have introduced a number of new sausages including a spicy chorizo and a chilli and leek. Regularly there are sausage tasters out on Saturday.

Burgers - we run 3 sizes again all handmade, we have introduced a new lamb, mint and coriander and a chilli burger.

Some of you will have met our newest member of the team, Ryan who has joined us from Plumpton College, however once his studies finish in early May he will join us to give us a butcher on site 5 days a week, and although Helen and I have muddled through cutting steaks and chops this will give the shop the extra coverage needed to meet everybody's needs.

Veg and fruit Boxes

We already do a number of veg boxes ranging from £10 -£15 a box, some weekly some fortnightly. We would like to give a special offer to get people started -

Come and order a veg box and when you come back and place a regular order we will give £5.00 off the next box.

Remember BBQ season is coming and we will have plenty of deals going on in the shop

At this point I would like to thank everyone for their support, and also the fantastic team who helped out over Christmas (Sophie, Molly, Sarah and Emily) who you will all see in shop now helping make burgers !

Sue Biggins

ICE FIELD

Due to the timing of this issue, by the time you read this ICE's annual Spring Clean will have already taken place, so thank-you all who turned out over the weekend. Already over the past few days the first of this year's Caravans have arrived to enjoy our rural setting and intermittent spring weather. In preparation for this we have already successfully completed an inspection by Southern Water, begun tackling our mole problem, emptied our waste tank, arranged for a new drinking water tap to be installed, and done some minor tree work up at the top of the field. A tree has also been planted to replace the one which unfortunately died. So with spring gathering pace, and as we look forward to a busy summer of fun in the Field, this seems like a good opportunity to put one or two misconceptions to rest, in order to avoid future

misunderstanding.

The ICE Field is private property, run and owned by like-minded people, who are happy to allow the public access so long as it is respected. This means that all dog-walkers, and not just most, are expected to clean up after their animals - even from the long grass. I don't feel we are asking a lot here, just to treat the Field in the same as you would your neighbours garden or the children's' play area at the Rec', otherwise this policy will need to change.

The second issue is to do with when and what materials can be left in the field, for either ICE, or the Bonfire Society, to use or deal with. Over the past fortnight we have had the pleasure of being able to view, just inside our entrance, an anomaly of a fencing nature. To say that I was unhappy with this would be to understate it. When enquiries were made, one side claimed permission had been granted and that those granting that permission were aware of the anomaly's nature, while others claimed that it was heaped in the wrong place and that they were unaware of its true size and make-up. Further enquiries lead to new and contradictory statements, half-hearted jokes being made about it, and varying degrees of unedifying complacency. This has proven a real headache for me at my busiest time of the year, both with respect to my role within ICE and my work. It has also caused unnecessary friction. I recognise that as Chairman this is a role I put myself up for. However true that may be, it does not mean that I can be expected to dance upon eggshells, so as not to offend the adamant. What the truth behind this incident is I am yet to discover, but a little common-sense and a pinch of that "generosity of spirit", I spoke so much about during our campaign to buy the field, would not have gone amiss. The problem has been largely solved now, thanks to Jim Ashford, Ian Burgess and Eddie Stanton's efforts, but it was not their responsibility. So, to make it plain, **NO COMBUSTABLE MATERIAL, OR OTHERWISE, IS TO BE PUT IN THE FIELD, AT ANY TIME, UNLESS I HAVE GIVEN IT MY ASSENT.** The only exception to this is during early to mid-October, and only then once ILHBS have been given the nod, to begin preparations for Bonfire. This may prove inconvenient and it may mean that something which we might have made use of passes us by, but that is the way it is.

ICE will be holding its AGM in the Village Hall at 7.30 on 27th April. Myself, Susanna Tebbut, our Secretary, and Andy Brooks our Bookings Officer are up for re-election. Any Members wishing to stand should contact Susanna at secretary.ice75@gmail.com or by phoning me on 01825 750636. I look forward to meeting Members there. I shall not be discussing these issues further.

Pete "Scan" Scantlebury
Chairman ICE

ISFIELD & LITTLE HORSTED BONFIRE SOCIETY

To the lovely folks of Isfield.

Another year of bonfire fun begins, and I have the pleasure of being chairman. I hope to continue the great work that the society has done over the past few years.

We have many events between now and our Bonfire event, including a games night, Isfest and quiz. We hope to see lots of you at these events to help us raise funds for our spectacular bonfire night in October.

We also are always keen to welcome new members, so please ask in the Laughing Fish if you would like to join our ranks.

I look forward to another great year!

Timmy Fordham
Chairman ILHBS

Need Help with your
iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch
then come to a

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT
DROP-IN SESSION

Bring your Phone, Tablet for Tutoring

Sunday April 9th

10.00am - 12.00

Free

Come along and chat to **Philip Payne**
about anything you want help with.