

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### MARCH 2016

Weds 2nd **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC)**. Ashdown Forest. Beryl Venables. Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club.**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Weds 9<sup>th</sup> **TWIG First Aid**  
Village Hall 7.45pm

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> **Art Talk: Fran Angelico - The Stunning Frescoes at San Marco in Florence.**  
Cost: £10 Village hall  
7.15 - 9pm (Doors open 7pm)

Weds 16<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC) How Not to Run Hotel.** Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club.**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> **Children's Disco.**  
Little Horsted School

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> **Village Hall Open day**  
Village hall 11am - 4pm

Sun 20<sup>th</sup> **Palm Sunday Service**  
9.30am Procession from the Recreation Field Pavilion  
10.00am St Margaret's Church

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> **Parish Council Meeting**  
Village Hall 7.30pm

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> **Good Friday Devotional Service.**  
Noon St Margaret's Church

Sun 27<sup>th</sup> **Easter Day Service**  
10am St Margaret's Church

### March Cont.

Weds 30<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC)**  
**The Confederation of the Cinque Ports.**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club.**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

### APRIL 2016

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> **Woodblock Printing Workshop**  
Village hall 10am - 4.30pm

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> **TWIG tba**  
Village Hall 7.45pm

Weds 13<sup>TH</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC) Coast to Coast in Costa Rica - Graham Albon**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club.**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Tues 19<sup>th</sup> **AGM St Margaret's Church.** Village Hall 7pm

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Village Hall AGM**  
7pm

Weds 27<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC) AGM**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club - buffet dance.**  
Village Hall 7-10pm

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> **Pre-School Quiz Night & Raffle.**  
Barney's Playbarn, Uckfield. Tickets from gailgillon@yahoo.com

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## ISFIELD NEWSLETTER

March 2016



### Editors Note:

It's been an interesting few months since the last newsletter. We have watched the Isfield Camp transform into something akin to the Somme with mountains of mud and an army of diggers. Now the show home is up alongside a short road and things are slowly taking shape, including a rechristening as Lavender Fields, not that there's a great deal of lavender yet. It is a great pity that the farm shop has had to close, Simon is a lovely chap and he did a great line in sausages. Word on the street has it that there are negotiations going on that may see it reopening under new management in the future, clearly it needs the village's support if this is to succeed, use it or lose it (again).

The newsletter is full of local activities both past and future, including a panto and a village hall open day, hope to see you at one or all of them.

**Jason Kennedy:** jtobkennedy@gmail.com 750769

**Bev Ashford:** ashfordbja@gmail.com 750456

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### **Isfield Village Hall Open Day Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (11am - 4pm)**

**Demonstrations - Competition Prizes - Raffle - Refreshments  
Entry Free of Charge**

Isfield Village Hall is hosting an Open Day again this year with free entrance to showcase the current and potential activities that are available at the Village Hall.

We have superb support from the existing Isfield clubs and organisations who will be exhibiting at the event: Isfield Pre School, Isfield Play Scheme, Isfield Wednesday Club, TWIG, Isfield Dancing Cub, Isfield Art Group, Isfield Pantomime, Isfield Wine Society, I.L.H.B.S., Isfield Community Enterprise, Isfield & Little Horsted School PTFA, and Isfield Parish Council.

In addition there will be a fascinating array of stands introducing other activities that are now, or will be, held at the Village Hall, if there is sufficient interest, such as Woodblock Printing workshops, Basket Making workshops, Floral Decoration workshops, Contemporary Stained Glass classes, Art History talks, Film Shows and Race Nights.

Come with family and friends and enjoy some time with all the exhibitors. You can sign up to join an activity, watch demonstrations, have a chance to win a competition prize and/or raffle prize, and refreshments will be available throughout the day. If anyone not yet contacted wants to exhibit at this event, please call Katherine on 07515 898912.

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**Keith Taylor**  
**Chairman Village Hall Committee**



## FLUTE AND CAKE CONCERT

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 3pm**

At

**The Sussex Barn  
Hammond's Green Farm  
Hammond's Green  
Framfield TN22 5QH**

Come and enjoy tea and homemade cakes whilst Anne Hodgson, Susie Crosby and her other flute students entertain you with solos, duets and ensembles.

Free entry - retiring collection in aid of Susie's Croatia Challenge and St Peter's and St James' Hospice



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## ISFIELD AMATEUR DRAMATICS

The first meeting of the panto group took place at the end of January to see if it would be viable to start up an amateur dramatics group - the excellent news is that there are sufficient people interested with a wide range of skills to enable the formation of this new group in Isfield. It is early days and lots of work will have to be done in the planning and preparation to produce the first pantomime but it is anticipated that this will take place during February 2017. Watch out for adverts for auditions and help required.

If you are interested in an acting role or would like to offer any help then contact Bev on 750456 or email [ashfordbj@gmail.com](mailto:ashfordbj@gmail.com)

**Bev Ashford**

## EASTER LILIES



We will be placing lilies in the church at Easter in memory of loved ones.

If you would like one or more lilies to be dedicated in memory of someone special to you please contact

Cariena Cartwright (Telephone 01825 750749) and she will make arrangements.

Lilies cost £3 each.

**Cariena Cartwright**

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## ISFIELD VILLAGE HALL

### **Recent Events:**

Over the last six months many parties, seminars and workshops have been held at the Village Hall. Feedback has been positive with comments like 'lovely hall, everything we need is at hand.' We try hard to ensure that booking and using the hall is as straightforward as possible, so that everyone has an enjoyable event. Booking details are at the end of this update.

On November 29<sup>th</sup> we hosted a spectacular Frost Fair where local artists, crafts people and suppliers offered unique locally produced gifts and Christmas fare. The exhibitors' displays were imaginative and very attractive, and lots of people came to browse the stands creating a lovely pre-Christmas spirit. Teas and home-made cakes were available all day, thanks to Brenda Reynolds and her team, and we managed to book a Fish & Chip van at the last minute to offer hot appetising lunches. The exhibitors are keen to participate at our next fair, and we are already planning to hold one on 27<sup>th</sup> November.

To finish the 2015 film season on a festive high note, we had two film showings on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December; a 3pm afternoon matinee of 'Paddington' and an evening showing of 'White Christmas', the classic Christmas musical, with complimentary seasonal refreshments. Our splendid regular

## MAY 2016

Weds 4<sup>th</sup> **TWIG tba**  
Village Hall 7.45pm

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> **Isfield & Barcombe Fun Run.** Little Horsted PTFA.  
10am Isfield Rec

Weds 11<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC). History, Overseas & Local Work of the Red Cross - Joel Scott, Health and Social Care Co-ordinator**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> **Late Spring/Early Summer Floral Arrangements work shop.** Village Hall

Weds 25<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC). Visit to Bentley wildfowl Park & Bentley House Talk - David.**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> **Parish Council Meeting**  
Village Hall 7.30pm

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> **Shakespeare in Love Film Showing.** Village Hall 7pm

## JUNE 2016

Weds 1<sup>st</sup> **TWIG Summer walk**  
Village Hall 7.45pm

Weds 8<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC). Rudyard Kipling - his Life and Works, Peter Wellby.**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC). Magistrates in the Community - Bob Kite**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Sun 26<sup>th</sup> **Fete Day Service-in-a-Tent.** 10.30am ICE Field

**Isfield Village Fete.**  
12.30pm ICE Field

## JULY 2016

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC). Street furniture - a look at historic statues, milestones, letterboxes etc - Glenda Law.**  
Village Hall 2.30pm

**Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Weds 13<sup>th</sup> **TWIG Making Lavender Wands/Balm with Sally Barrett.**  
Village Hall 7.45pm

July cont. .

Weds 20<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Dance Club - buffet dance**  
Village Hall 7-10pm

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> **Parish Council Meeting**  
Village Hall 7.30pm

Weds 27<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Wednesday Club (IWC). Tea at the Lavender Line**

Sat 25<sup>th</sup>-Aug 4<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Play Scheme.** Village Hall

### AUGUST 2016

Weds 10<sup>th</sup> **TWIG -Summer Social & BBQ**

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Flower Show**  
Village Hall

Weds 17<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

20<sup>th</sup> Aug - 4<sup>th</sup> Sept **ArtWave - Isfield Art Fair.**  
Village Hall

Sat 27<sup>th</sup> **ICE Arts and Crafts Market.**  
12noon-5pm ICE Field

Weds 31<sup>st</sup> **Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

### SEPTEMBER 2016

Weds 7<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> **TWIG tba**  
Village Hall 7.45pm

Weds 21<sup>st</sup> **Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> **Film Show.** Village Hall  
7pm

### OCTOBER 2016

Weds 5<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Weds 12<sup>h</sup> **TWIG tba**

Sat 15<sup>th</sup> **Race Night.**  
Village Hall 7pm

Weds 19<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Dance Club - buffet dance.**  
Village Hall 7-10pm

### NOVEMBER 2016

Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> **Isfield Dance Club AGM & Club Night**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Weds 9<sup>th</sup> **TWIG tba**  
Village Hall 7.45pm

Weds 16<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> **Film show.**  
Village Hall 7pm

Sat 27<sup>th</sup> **Frost Fair**  
Village Hall 11am - 4pm

Weds 30<sup>th</sup> **Isfield Dance Club**  
Village Hall 8-10pm

### Isfield Village Hall cont.

supporters turned out in force, but we would like more of you to join us please. Ideas for films to show are always welcome.

We hosted a professionally run **Race Night** on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January, with magnificent support from Andy Brooks of the Laughing Fish who ran the tote for us. The event helped offset village hall running costs, and a donation was made by the Village Hall Management Committee to Andy's chosen charity this year, the Friends of Sussex Hospices. Everyone had a really great time, so we plan to hold another Race Night on 15<sup>th</sup> October. If you enjoy the thrills of racing and missed the January event, be sure to come to the next Race Night.

### Upcoming Events:

Local artists Adele Scantlebury and Martin Brockman are running a comprehensive Woodblock Printing workshop on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 10am to 4.30pm, to teach the basic techniques using a wooden spoon. Cost is £75 and places are limited so booking in advance is advised by contacting Adele on 07968 119479.

The details of Isfield Village Hall Open Day on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March at the Village Hall are provided on the front page. Bring all the family to see what activities are available at the Village Hall, and sign up to join whatever appeals to you from the wide range on offer.

Jane Will, from Flowers and Daughters of Rotherfield, is running a half-day workshop on 'Late Spring/Early Summer Floral Arrangements' on Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am to 1pm, at a cost of £48 per person to include all materials and instruction, coffee/tea and home-made treats.

Our next film show 'Shakespeare in Love' (marking Shakespeare's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary) will be a 'themed' event including prizes for example for the best Shakespearean costumes worn by attendees, will be on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May at the usual time of 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm for complimentary refreshments). Tickets are £6 per person, reduced price family tickets available.

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. As an introductory offer you can attend 5 classes for £50, or if you introduce a friend you can have a 10% discount.

This year we will be hosting an Art Fair to promote our many talented local artists on a weekend date probably during ArtWave (20<sup>th</sup> August to 4<sup>th</sup> September). Art works will be on sale, artists will be there to discuss their works, and our usual high quality teas/coffees and home-made cakes will be available.

We have been invited to run a stall to promote the Isfield and Little Horsted School PTFA's Fun Run on May 8<sup>th</sup> and we will be there with some of our regular users to support the event, showcase the Village Hall and run a surprise prize competition for children. Come and say hello to us on the day, and maybe you will also be a winner.

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](http://www.isfieldvillagehall.org.uk)

### Secretary:

We are delighted to announce that Peter Holmes has accepted the position of Secretary following Jan Phillip's retirement at the end of 2015. Peter has extensive past experience including working as a Committee member for Maresfield Village Hall Committee where he was instrumental in obtaining funding to improve their facilities. We are very grateful to Jan for her hard work as our Secretary, and for the excellent advice and guidance she has given us over the years. Jan remains on the Committee as the Isfield Wednesday Club's representative member.

### 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](mailto:bookings@isfieldvillagehall.org.uk) Or provisionally book online on [www.isfieldvillagehall.org.uk](http://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**



## BROADBAND UPDATE

The final cabinet to serve Little Horsted is still not operational. However, the good news is that the wayleave has just been signed so Openreach is now booking in the power work to complete everything before final commissioning. ESCC think that this is likely to occur in the April/June quarter and, when this eventually takes place, all the premises connected to the Isfield exchange will be fibre enabled

### Jerry Phillips

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## UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL MP

March marks the start of spring, and so is one of my favourite times of year. Just as the cold is nearly over and new flowers and leaves are growing in earnest, I want to make a fresh start on longstanding issues that affect Wealden residents.

I have made it clear that the standard of service you are all too often receiving on the railways is unacceptable. I recently attended a Taskforce meeting about rail services in the South East, and called on the Rail Minister to set performance targets for Southern and Network Rail. If these are not met, there will be very strong arguments for finding an alternative provider of the franchise. I am also persisting in my efforts to secure a House of Commons Transport Select Committee inquiry into Southern's poor performance.

The release of the independent Redeborn Review into Gatwick Airport shows what can be achieved with persistence. After months of hard work trying to make Gatwick a better neighbour, I welcome the Review's 23 recommendations, the most significant of which include:

- Bringing forward the sunset date for unmodified Airbus 320 aircraft to December 2017
- The adoption of carefully designed routes which bring about a "fair and equitable dispersal of noise", including the relocation of holding positions to areas over the sea, "eliminating airborne holding dwell time over Sussex",

and a higher altitude for commencement of Continuous Descent Arrivals

- An overhaul of noise complaints policy and procedures employed by Gatwick Airport, particularly the establishment of a Noise Management Board

To declare victory now would be premature, as Gatwick still need to implement the recommendations. Nevertheless, this is a positive step forward and I am confident that affected residents will be seeing tangible improvements soon.

I also want to deliver for those around their lives who risk their lives for our benefit. I have already spoken frequently about the utmost respect I have for our Armed Forces, and recently I asked a question on their behalf at PMQs. I am glad that the Prime Minister shares my concern about law firms that encourage people to make spurious legal claims against our troops, which can prevent them from being able to do their job properly. I was also able to secure and lead in the House of Commons a debate about journalists in conflict zones. Last year, an estimated 112 journalists were murdered in direct reprisal for their work, yet most people will never have heard the vast majority of their names. In particular, I wanted to highlight the journalistic role that ordinary citizens play by giving us a glimpse of what life is really like inside Islamic State, and thereby challenging the appalling narrative of Daesh, and the terrible risks they often take in doing so. We must honour them and raise awareness of their work.

As ever, if you wish to contact me, my email address is [nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk)

### Nusrat Ghani MP for Wealden

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## CONTACT DETAILS

<b>BONFIRE SOCIETY</b>	<b>Andy Brookes</b>	<b>Laughing Fish Pub</b>
<b>THE WEDNESDAY CLUB</b>	<b>Colin Staines</b>	<b>766342 Email: <a href="mailto:colinstains@gmail.com">colinstains@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Deputy Chairman</b>	<b>Wendy Chandler</b>	<b>750517</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jan Phillips</b>	<b>750522</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Liz Fine</b>	<b>750658</b>
<b>I.C.E.</b>	<b>Peter "Scan" Scantlebury</b>	<b>750636</b>
<b>ISFIELD AMATEUR DRAMATICS</b>	<b>Bev Ashford</b>	<b>750456</b>
<b>ISFIELD CRICKET CLUB</b>	<b>Neil Thornicroft</b>	<b>750283</b>
<b>ISFIELD DANCE CLUB</b>	<b>Ron Levett</b>	<b>750404</b>
<b>ISFIELD FETE</b>	<b>Rachel Cranfield</b>	<b>07793 798922</b>
	<b>Ian Macdonald</b>	<b><a href="mailto:macdonaldian@btinternet.com">macdonaldian@btinternet.com</a></b>
	<b>Andy Brooks</b>	<b>Laughing Fish Pub</b>
<b>ISFIELD NEWSLETTER</b>	<b>Bev Ashford</b>	<b>750456</b>
	<b>Jason Kennedy</b>	<b>750769</b>
<b>ISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL</b>	<b><a href="http://www.isfieldpc.org.uk">www.isfieldpc.org.uk</a></b>	
<b>ISFIELD PRE SCHOOL</b>	<b>Julie Hall</b>	<b>750245</b>
<b>ISFIELD STOOLBALL</b>	<b>Charlotte Carla</b>	<b>07712001879 07824556832</b>
<b>LOCAL MP</b>	<b>Nusrat Ghani</b>	<b><a href="mailto:nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk">nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk</a></b>
<b>POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER</b>	<b>Megan Gardner</b>	<b>07787685765 e-mail: <a href="mailto:megan.gardner@sussex.pnn.police.uk">megan.gardner@sussex.pnn.police.uk</a></b>
<b>ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH</b>	<b>Church wardens:</b>	
	<b>Robert Smith</b>	<b>764541</b>
	<b>Mervyn Griffiths</b>	<b>750446</b>
<b>TWIG</b>	<b>Sues Crawford</b>	<b>750767</b>
<b>VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS:</b>	<b>Brenda Reynolds</b>	<b>749778</b>
	<b>e-mail:</b>	<b><a href="mailto:bookings@isfieldvillagehall.org.uk">bookings@isfieldvillagehall.org.uk</a></b>
	<b>Website:</b>	<b><a href="http://www.isfieldvillagehall.org.uk">www.isfieldvillagehall.org.uk</a></b>



## THE I.C.E. FIELD

Spring is just around the corner and we at ICE have already begun to prepare for another season of merry making by villagers and happy camping by our caravaners. A number of dates are already booked in - our 2017 calendar is fast filling up too - but dates for this year's diary include; private parties on 27<sup>th</sup> May and 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> September, The Fete 26<sup>th</sup> June, ICE Arts and Crafts Market 27<sup>th</sup> August, Isfest 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> September and the ILHBS Bonfire 28<sup>th</sup> October.

But before we kick off the new season we have a handful of maintenance jobs to do, so we are looking forward to a good turn-out to help things along at 10.00am on the 19<sup>th</sup> March with our annual Spring Clean. As usual it isn't all glamour. There is litter to deal with - picking up all those crafty crisp packets which have overwintered in the undergrowth - some hedge cutting and ditch clearance, general sorting and tidying, as well as stimming the boundaries and the sinking of a couple of fence posts. So, if you can spare the time, please come and lend a hand. You don't need to be a Member, just someone who appreciates what we are trying to do. Bring some gloves and any tools you think might be useful. By 1.00pm, or soon after, we should all be finished and there might even be a drink in it for you, at the Laughing Fish, to ease your aching muscles.

With luck the spring will also see, time and weather permitting, wildflower mixes seeded along the boundary with the Lavender Line and we are looking into a little experiment, over the summer, with a grass reinforcement mesh to reduce wear on the grass.

**Pete "Scan" Scantlebury**  
**Chairman ICE**



## THE LAUGHING FISH

**STOP PRESS!** We've just been informed that we have been elected Country Pub of the Year 2016 by the Campaign for Real Ale - Brighton and South Downs Branch. We're really proud of this, as it is a free vote from all CAMRA members and reflects our passion for quality and choice of locally-brewed cask ales.

**Andy Brooks**

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## LAVENDER FIELDS

If anyone is interested in the plan of Lavender Fields then go to the Millwood Homes website

<http://www.millwooddesignerhomes.co.uk/our-developments/isfield-east-sussex/>

to view what the houses and estate will look like.



## **SIXTY YEARS NEW - THE ISFIELD WEDNESDAY CLUB**

For some time, it has been felt that, as 'the Forget Me Nots', our name did not really reflect our membership. We are a group of people with varying interests, a wide range of experiences and enquiring minds so henceforth, we will be known as the **Isfield Wednesday Club**.

Why not come and join us on alternate Wednesday afternoons at 2.30 in the Village Hall? After listening to one of our interesting speakers, we end with a tasty and sociable tea. It's a pleasant way to spend an afternoon.

Our programme can be seen on the Isfield web site and on the village noticeboard so why not take that further step and come and see for yourself?

We look forward to welcoming you.

For information contact:

Colin Stains (Chairman) 01825 766342  
Liz Fine (Secretary) 01825 750658  
Jan Phillips (Treasurer) 01825 750522

**Colin Stains**

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## **ISFIELD DANCING CLUB**

We had a very successful year in 2015 with club evenings and functions well attended throughout the year. At our AGM in October our members voted to extend our club evenings and not have a summer break in August, so there are two more evenings for your diary, August 17<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>.

2016 has started very well with most members attending club evenings apart from those with the odd coughs and colds, so it's looking very promising. We would welcome anyone who would like to come and join us on a Wednesday evening.

**Ron Levett**  
**01825 750404**



## **ISFIELD PRE-SCHOOL**

The Pre-School is now in full swing and we are all looking forward to the days getting brighter and longer.

The children have been busy practising their throwing and catching skills also comparing their height to the height of Incy Wincy's drain pipe which reflects learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage and through play.

We recently invited the children's parents to take part in some pancake races, which was a fun event that made us extremely hungry, so it was only right that we all tucked into some delicious pancakes with lots of yummy toppings afterwards.

In a few weeks time, we will get our garden and vegetable tubs ready to plant some seeds which the children will water and watch grow.

At the end of March, it is the return of our fabulous Easter Bonnet Parade. The children will model their beautiful creations and there may even be a few chocolate egg prizes.

The children will also be walking to the recreation ground and hunting for Easter Eggs amongst the pretty daffodil flowers that the autumn bulbs we planted have grown into. We hope you all enjoy looking at them too.

The Pre-School Committee are organising a Quiz Night and Raffle at Barney's Playbarn on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April. This was an extremely fun event last year and a great fundraiser for the Pre-School. Do come along and support us, teams of 4. Contact Gail for tickets and further info,  
[gailgillon@yahoo.com](mailto:gailgillon@yahoo.com).

Isfield Pre-School offers a bright and spacious, well resourced nurturing environment with qualified and very experienced teachers. We have spaces available in September for children aged 2 years to school age with 2 year funding if you are eligible and 15 hours of free childcare for all children over 3 years, for more details or to book a visit, please contact Julie on 01825 750245.

**Gail Gillon**



## **ST MARGARET'S CHURCH**

We are delighted to be able to announce to the village that a new Rector of Isfield, Little Horsted and Uckfield has been appointed. He is the Reverend John Wall who has been the Team Rector of Moulescoomb, on the outskirts of Brighton, for the last eleven years. Those of us who interviewed him were unanimous in approving his appointment and all agreed that we are extremely fortunate to have such a very likeable, friendly and devout man as our new Rector.

It was particularly good, at the end of the meeting, to hear the Bishop of Lewes confirm that now his priority is to find us a Curate to live in Isfield.

The Reverend John Wall will join us in the autumn. In the meantime, Mitch Mitchell, the Assistant Curate, along with a dedicated group of Lay Readers and retired clergy, continue to ensure that we have a service every Sunday together with providing whatever pastoral care and other help is needed. If you want to talk with a minister, please initially speak to one of us and we will arrange for the most appropriate one to contact you.

The Book Exchange event, which Cariena Cartwright and Jean Pointing arranged in January, was a great success not only raising funds for the flowers for special church services but also giving an opportunity for villagers to meet up at the start of the year. A big thank you to Andy and Linda for so generously hosting the event.

Our services over Holy Week begin on Palm Sunday with what has become a village tradition. It started in 2000 when a number of parishioners first walked behind a "donkey" from the Recreation Field's pavilion to the church. This year we will start at 9.30 [having remembered to put our clocks forward] in order to arrive in

time for the 10 o'clock service. We would be so pleased if lots of you joined us.

On Good Friday there will be a service, at noon in the Church's Shurley Chapel, to celebrate the Passion of the Lord. Our Easter Day service starts at 10 o'clock with a Family Service and Holy Communion. Please contact Cariena Cartwright if you would like to purchase a lily in memory of a loved one [as in her separate article].

Looking ahead to Fete Day, 26<sup>th</sup> June, we hope that many of you will be able to join our Service-in-a-Tent on the Field starting at 10.30. We are also looking forward to at least two village weddings in St Margaret's during the summer.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 7 o'clock in the Village Hall. It is a time not just to elect the churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council but also to ask questions about the church, its services or any other matters and to suggest fundraising ideas. We hope to see you whether you've been in the village for years or just a few months.

Just a reminder, our month's services are a Family one on 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, Matins on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Holy Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. They all start at 10 o'clock.

**Churchwardens:**  
**Robert Smith      Mervyn Griffiths**  
**01825 764541      01825 750446**

Services etc

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March Palm Sunday 9.30 am  
Procession from the Recreation Field Pavilion  
10.00 am Service

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March Good Friday Noon  
Devotional Act of Worship

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March Easter Day 10.00 am  
Service

6 Tues 19th April AGM. Village Hall 7pm

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June Fete Day Service-in-a-Tent  
10.30 am



## **ISFIELD & LITTLE HORSTED BONFIRE SOCIETY**

At our Annual General Meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup> we agreed on a donation of £750 from our funds to go to the Young Carers division of the Sussex Charity "Care for the Carers". We will again be raising funds for charity this year, as well as for our own display.

In order to retain the services of our excellent current Fireworks supplier we have had to bring forward the date for Bonfire this year to Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>. We know that this is at the end of half-term week, when some people are away, but we decided that this would be better than having to find an alternative supplier - we get excellent value for money currently. We'll also be making sure that the catering facilities are bigger and better this year!

Two other important dates for your diaries - first, our Easter Quiz in the Village Hall which is being held on Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> (tickets £7.50 including buffet, available from The Laughing Fish); and second "ISFEST" - again, bigger and better than last year, and this year being held in the ICE field behind the Laughing Fish on Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, the Bonfire Society will again be running a "Bric-a-Brac" stall at the Village Fete on June 26<sup>th</sup> - so, nearer to that date, we would welcome donations of items you no longer require that someone else might be able to make use of. We can also arrange collection (from mid-June onwards).

**Andy Brooks,**  
**Chairman 750349**

## **ISFIELD VILLAGE FETE**

How good it is to be writing a piece for this newsletter when we can report that - yes! - the new Bus Shelter is actually in place! As you will realise, we had a few teething problems getting to this stage, but we're very pleased with the end result and there'll be a plaque attached to it soon acknowledging the contributions of the various parties involved in delivering this project.

The Fete hold funds available for such projects which can be for the benefit of the village as a whole, and are always open to ideas. One such is to renovate the old bus shelter to provide a viewing window (like the new one). However, we are aware that the developers of Lavender Fields (Millbrook Designer Homes Ltd.) have set aside some funds for wider village expenditure, so we are awaiting details of what that might be (through the Parish Council) before we commit further fete funds.

Work has been completed around the village sign to make it more presentable and certainly more robust against the contract lawn mowers! A huge thanks to Matt Crawford for the donation of the sleepers.

This year's fete will be held on Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup>, and will follow the same successful format as in previous years. If you are interested in having a stall or helping out generally please contact either Rachel Cranfield (750709) or Adele Scantlebury (750636). There will be flyers arriving on your doorstep in due course,

**Andy Brooks**  
**Chairman**



## Isfield Cricket Club

The Saturday First XI finished mid-table in Division 3 of the East Sussex Cricket League last year - its highest ever position in the ESCL. The team will be endeavouring to achieve promotion this season which starts in earnest in early May.

The first team squad will be bolstered by the inclusion of a number of our promising youngsters. The second team, after its inaugural first season, will this season move from the Mid-Sussex Conference to compete in Division 12 of the ESCL. This will be another step up which will bring further experience to the team. Indoor Winter nets are underway at Plumpton College on Tuesday evenings from 9.00pm - 10.00pm. All are welcome. Nets for the Academy will be re-commencing at the Recreation Ground in April (dates will be advised later).

Pre-season friendlies and cup games will be played in April. This year our Annual dinner will be celebrated just before the new season gets into full swing. It is being held on 16 April at Barnsgate Manor. Friends of the Cricket Club are most welcome to join us. For further details of this, the youth Academy and joining the club please contact Neil Thornicroft on 01825-750283.

### **Neil Thornicroft**

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## THE CRICKET PAVILION

The Pavilion is continuing a slow but thorough make-over. New stud- and spike-proof flooring has been fitted to the main area and the rest of the floor will be re-covered soon.

We look forward to a busy season with cricket, stoolball and football teams all using the facilities.

If you have any queries regarding the Pavilion, or wish to make any bookings to use it, please contact Linda at The Laughing Fish.

Have a great summer!

**Linda Brooks**  
**The Laughing Fish 750349**



## THE LAUGHING FISH

It's nearly time again for our annual extravaganza which is the "Tommy Trot" Beer Race on Easter Monday. This event was started as long ago as 1956 by landlord Tommy Thompson, so this is its 60th anniversary! The race - involving the carrying of a half-pint of ale to the Mill and back again - is merely the centre piece of a day of fun activity for all the family. We are so pleased - in a year in which we celebrate 15 years at the pub - that this old village tradition continues. The day involves:

at 12 noon, an Easter Egg Hunt in the garden, for children of primary school age or below

at 12.45, a "Lemonade Race" for children, to the Telephone Exchange and back

then at 1.45 the main event - the 60th anniversary "Tommy Trot" Beer Race; and finally

at 3.30 pm dancing at the front of the pub with the Ashdown Forest Morris Men.

There'll be a BBQ available from 12 noon.

The entry fees for the various events go to charity, and this year we're joining forces with "The Friends of Sussex Hospices" who'll be here supporting us on the day.

For the remaining Bank Holidays this year - Monday May 2nd and Monday May 30th - we are again planning a BBQ in the garden, as well as our normal food offer from the kitchen. Let's hope they're not both washed-out again!

Finally, although we don't have satellite TV, we will be showing the European Championship Football which starts on June 10th and runs until the final on July 10th.

**Linda and Andy Brooks**  
**Tel: 750349**  
**www.thelaughingfish.co.uk**

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## ISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Residents will have noticed the increasing construction work on the Army Camp site as the development moves ahead. The work has almost inevitably caused a few hiccups, particularly concerning noise and the presence of large delivery trucks; unfortunately, there is little to do about that, except to remember - possibly through gritted teeth, at times - that it will not last for that long. But the positives will. First, and obviously, the site is finally being used, which should create an overall improvement in the ambience of that part of the village. Secondly, the funds provided by the developer (under a long-standing agreement) will allow the Parish Council to continue with upgrading some village facilities. At the last meeting, a group of residents proposed that some of these funds should be used to renovate and improve the children's play area in the corner of the recreation ground. That same group are working to produce a concrete set of proposals, which the Council will then consider. Together with the work already being done on the pavilion, this would represent a worthwhile improvement to the recreation ground facility.

Potholes seem to breed like flies; I have been asked to draw parishioner's attention to a facility for reporting them and other road-based issues on the East Sussex County Council website. The relevant part is called 'Fix My Streets'. It would be nice to hope that using this reporting system was effective; personally, given the number of potholes everywhere (in and out of our own village) I have to say I am not holding my breath. But perhaps I am wrong.

One subject which has recently been raised by residents is the growing number of deer spotted on the roads, particularly at the top Buckham Hill. To be clear, dealing with deer is not within the abilities of the Parish Council. They are wildlife, and frankly there would seem to be two ways of controlling them. One is to erect deer-proof fences (and, for the avoidance of doubt, that is a decision for the landowners) and the other is to cull them; I believe there are a number of qualified deer stalkers in the area.

County and District Councils may be raising their council tax payments; I am pleased to

confirm that the Parish Council element of bills (the precept) will remain at the same level for another year, as finances remain in a robust state. There is one other issue I would like to bring to parishioners' attention. The Boundary Commission, with a brief to make changes to the overall number of District/County Councillors, has proposed certain changes to the way some parishes are grouped into wards. At present, Isfield is grouped with Danehill and Fletching; these are all similar rural parishes. However, the new proposal is to group Isfield with Uckfield West. From a geographical point of view, that may look logical. However, the Parish Council feels strongly - and has made representations - that to group a small rural parish like Isfield with an urban area may quite possibly result in our concerns playing second fiddle to those of the larger, more densely populated area. The Parish Councillors would be interested to hear if any residents have a view on this.

### **Geoff Sambrook**

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## ISFIELD WINE CLUB



The Isfield Wine Club is looking for new members to join this fun, informal and informative way to learn about and discuss all aspects of wine. We intend to meet monthly in the village hall and everyone is welcome.

For more information contact Keith Taylor on 749778 or come along and see us at the open day in the Village Hall on Saturday 19th March and learn more over a glass of wine.

### **Keith Taylor**

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## LITTLE HORSTED CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

An Early Years Foundation Stage Village at Little Horsted C.E. School

The Governors of Little Horsted School have agreed the creation of an Early Years Village for children, aged 3 to 5 at Little Horsted School. Following consultation with East Sussex County Council the school has been invited to be part of Phase 4 of this countywide initiative to provide seamless provision in schools for children throughout their education in the Early Years.

The Governors will from September 2016 be able to offer up to 15 places to children in Foundation Stage 1 (age 3 to 4 year olds). Our Reception children are known as Foundation Stage 2. This will enable the school to provide an Early Years Village learning environment for both years of the Foundation Stage (age 3/ 4 and age 4/ 5 children). The EYFS Village learning environment will include the existing Reception Classroom, the outside playground/ garden and the area currently used as the office. The office will be relocated to another part of the school during the summer holiday.

A timeline of actions and required developments has been drawn up and the Governors are actively exploring solutions to the many and various challenges that the changes in our provision offer will create. This proposal may in the future, lead to the provision of full wrap around care for our children from 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Holiday club provision may also be considered in due course.

This is a very exciting development for the school and the community, particularly as recent East Sussex research into pupil outcomes indicates strongly that children who receive continuity of education (without the many transitions that now take place) achieve a higher level of achievement and attainment throughout their schooling and on into their adult lives. If you have any thoughts or questions for the governors about the proposal please could you email or send these into the school office. If you would like a place for your 3/ 4 year old child from September 2016, please also contact the school office. A range of

learning session times will be available including mornings, afternoons or whole day.

### Curriculum events, Church, Community and PTFA information

The children have been learning about Mountains and Rivers in Owl Class (Class 4), China, Chinese New Year and the Romans in Badger Class (Class 3), the Arctic and Antarctic in Hedgehog Class (Class 2) and Polar environments in our Rabbit Class (Reception). Owl and Badger Class enjoyed an Art Day linked to their learning journeys and Badger Class tasted many delightful Chinese dishes during their visit to the Wok Inn at Halland. Rabbit Class challenged themselves tobogganing down the ski slopes at Bowles Outdoor Centre as part of their learning journey experience.

Father Mitch and Father David have led many enjoyable Wednesday morning assemblies. They have spoken to the children recently about Epiphany, prayer and praying, Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday and the Anglican Church. The school will attend the Mothering Sunday service at St Michael & All Angels Church on Sunday 6 March at 11 a.m. Our end of term Easter service is at St Michael and All Angels Church on Thursday 24 March at 1.30 p.m.

The School Website has information about the school which is readily available to both parents and interested members of the community. The children are able to access their class areas in the school website to extend their learning at home. They also have access to Purple Mash which consists of a suite of software, including coding challenges that we regularly use in school.

The PTFA organised a Quiz and Curry Night for the community on Friday 29 January and a Film Night for the children on Friday 5 February. They have a disco organised for the children on Friday 18 March. The annual PTFA Isfield and Barcombe Fun Run will take place on Sunday 8 May at 10.00 a.m.

For more information about the school please visit [www.littlehorsted.e-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.littlehorsted.e-sussex.sch.uk) or telephone us on 01825 750380.

8 **Dr Michael Davies**  
**Headteacher**

## RIDGEWOOD POST OFFICE OUTREACH SERVICE

You are probably aware that the Post Office is now located in the Laughing Fish on Thursday mornings from 10.00am to 12.00 Noon.

Your continued support would be much appreciated to ensure the viability of the service. Just a reminder of the many services we can carry out:

Get money from your account - most banks

Pay cash and cheques into your account, with a paying-in slip

Post items via Royal Mail and Parcel Force

Purchase stamps and stamp books

To make it more appealing, Andy has also organised a coffee club in the pub which we hope will be as popular in Isfield as it is in some of the other villages where we run the Outreach Service.

### Jon and Sue Gothard

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**TAI CHI**



There has been substantial talks about running Tai Chi classes in the village hall which Andrea Kocache has offered to tutor provided there are enough people to run a class.

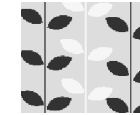
If anyone is interested contact

SuesCrawford –

[digdogs27@gmail.com](mailto:digdogs27@gmail.com)

in the first instance - if we can generate enough interest I will forward the information onwards. (The classes are offered to both males and females.)

**Sues Crawford**



## TWIG

**December** was our usual enjoyable evening as we shared delicious food, warm conversation, and a hearty laugh at the things we had forgotten we'd done over the years courtesy of the slide show of photos provided by Jill and myself. Thanks to all ladies who attended with their plate of yummy food to share.

**January** - a small group of ladies met in the Fish on a cold dark January night to plan out the TWIG programme for the coming year. Lots of interesting and informative ideas were presented and the year is beginning to shape up nicely. Plans are in place for a return visit from Sussex Ouse Restoration Trust, a first aid tutorial, visit to Brighton for a tour of the oldest hotel or, guided Brighton walk on "The Notorious Women of Brighton", Drumming workshop, cheese tasting, Talk by Peter James - author, Belly Dancing, visit to Farley Farm, Talk by Edward Reeves photography studio, Pottery workshop, summer social BBQ and Christmas wreath making.

**February** was very enlightening, we had the very talented Andrea Kocache to teach us all about Tai Chi, she demonstrated some beautiful movements, the evening was really well attended and everyone left for home feeling very good.

Some important changes have been decided upon for the future of the group and this has been emailed to all on the mailing list, in short, subscriptions are increasing and will be due in March (TWIG have not had to increase subs for 6 years) guests are still welcome to attend a meeting at the guest price of £5.

All ladies are welcome, we meet in the village hall unless stated otherwise, refreshments are included and meetings **start** at 8pm. For further info please contact sues 750767 email: [digdogs27@gmail.com](mailto:digdogs27@gmail.com)

**Village hall open day 19th March**  
TWIG will once again be having a stand to promote our group and we look forward to meeting all ladies interested in finding out more about us, please come over and say hi!

9 See the diary pages for information about our further meetings.

**Sues Crawford**