



Findon

December 2025

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

News

*Findon News is published monthly and is available free of charge from various outlets throughout Findon and can be viewed on the Findon Community website - www.findonvillage.org
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Articles for publication (**maximum 650 words**) can be submitted by email to findonvillagenews@gmail.com, or via the 'Findon News Box' in the Village Shop.

Closing Date for Next Publication : 20th January 2026

On behalf of the Findon News team, I would like to thank all our contributors during the last year. Without you there would be no magazine. We love to get articles, particularly historical ones about Findon.

Also many thanks to our advertisers. You allow us to produce a magazine for the community free of charge. Alan does a sterling job of organising the finances, leaving Sally, Hilary and Monica to produce the magazine on a rota.

Remember there is no Findon News in January. The next one will be available February.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas, and best wishes for the new year



This magazine can also be read on-line on the following three websites:

Findon Village News : www.findonvillagenews.org

Findon Village Parish Council : www.findonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Findon Churches : www.findon-clapham-patching-churches.com



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From the Rectory

Another Church year has passed and in a few weeks we will once again remember the humble birth of a baby in an obscure location more than 2000 years ago, a baby who would grow up to change the world in his short life, a life which is the foundation of our Christian faith. Prophets had foretold of the coming of a Saviour over many centuries – you can read about this across the Old Testament – but when Jesus was born, the first people to hear about it were shepherds on a hillside. Jesus Christ, Emmanuel (God with us) slipped into the world just like you and me, a world under foreign occupation and oppression as are parts of our world today, his birth announced by angels (God's messengers) to a few very ordinary people, born not in a palace, but in an animal shelter, because all the inns were full.

Almighty God became human as Jesus, yet also as God's Son, fully divine, come to teach humanity to love and respect one another instead of abusing power and perpetuating hatred, but sadly most people failed to listen then and still don't listen today. Jesus grew up to bring God's healing and forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith, and through his death and resurrection revealing the path to eternal life.

So, as you prepare to celebrate Christmas, in whatever way you are accustomed to, remember that it is the birth of Jesus, Son of the Living God,

that we celebrate, not all the commercial trappings that seem to grow earlier and larger, more expensive, every year. The gifts we give and receive are (or should be) a token of the love and respect we have for one another, but the greatest gift of all came all those years ago, laid in a manger because there was no room in the inn. The last verse of the carol 'In the bleak midwinter' asks and answers the perennial seasonal problem – *What can I give him....?* All that Jesus asks of you and of me, this and every Christmas, is to 'give our heart'. This costs nothing financially, but can feel costly as we seek to become less self-centred and more focussed on Jesus, following his example and teaching.

This is the last time I will write *From the Rectory*, as I retire at the beginning of January. My body tells me it is time, but my heart longs to continue as your Vicar. The 13+ years I have served here in the Parish of Findon, Clapham and Patching have been a joy and I feel truly blessed to have been called here. I will continue to hold you all in my prayers this Christmastide and on into the new year, I thank you for making me and my family so welcome, for your friendship and all the support and encouragement you have given me in my time as the Parish Priest and wish you a happy Christmas, a peaceful and fulfilling new year and every blessing for the future.

With love in Christ, *Helena*

Rev. Helena Buqué, Vicar and Rev. Colin Cox, Associate Vicar
c/o The Rectory, School Hill Findon, BN14 0TR. Tel: 873601
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and Singers**

Time 10.00

**Come and enjoy a service
at the start of Christmas
Stop and enjoy the 27 trees
and
Christmas Tree Festival
refreshments**

Church Fun

Film afternoon -

Saturday 13th December 2pm Findon Church

showing the family Film called "The Star"

Entry by donation.

Family Fun Afternoon - 2pm

Saturday 17th January 2026

With Face painting, Skittles, Table Tennis, practicing with Musical instruments and Bell ringing Findon Church.

Entry by donation.



Poppies

Thank you to all who contributed to the Remembrance Day poppy display on the Church gates this year. It received many positive comments and we hope you enjoyed viewing it as much as we enjoyed creating it.

Gill, Kat and Gay

Findon's Live Nativity

Tuesday 9th December

Starting at 6.15 pm from
the Village Hall walking to the Gun
with sheep and donkeys

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Village Shop News

December 2025

Let me tell you my Christmas list – all, of course, found in Findon Store! Number One has to be the delicious looking amaretti almond biscuits from Tuscany – an absolute melt-in-the-mouth delight! They're closely followed by the flavoured panettones that are so beautifully wrapped, they look too good to eat! But I can assure you, they aren't! I know – I had one last year. The Italians certainly know how to put scrummy flavours together that ooze deliciousness! Then there's stollen, festive tins of biscuits and Cornish gingerbread. Whilst for tea, there's Sherry Trifle preserve or Festive Plum chutney.

To wash them down, I am spoilt for choice. There's a Christmas Globe filled with spiced orange and cranberry gin liqueur, which becomes a light-up globe when it's empty. If I was in a beer mood (unlikely, but it might happen) I could choose between Bad Elf Ale or – wait for it – Lump of Coal Stout! I'm sure the latter will be very popular! Or there's (very) alcoholic gummies.

In the cracker line, we have Cluedo (but they're selling fast – you'd better be quick), Connect 4, and a variety of other filled or non-filled ones. And, of course, we sell a wide selection of cards and everything else you would expect from your Village Store.

Now let me tell you some things that are not on my Christmas list, but will definitely be very popular with the younger members of our community. We have Lindt reindeer chocolates, iced Father Christmas or festive gonk biscuits, and, of course, the ubiquitous candy canes and sugar mice.

Do ask if there's something specific you'd like but can't see – we are always receptive to customers' needs, and will get it in if we can. We are also able to deliver, subject to a minimum spend of £10, if the weather is inclement, or you are unable to get out. If you would like one of the popular chocolate logs made by Mr B, please reserve it by 20th December, or, if you want to order bread for Christmas Eve, please tell us by 23rd. It gets very busy!

Last posting dates are Wednesday 17th for 2nd class and Saturday 20th for 1st class. There are slight variations for Tracked, but that's broadly it. The last Guaranteed Special Delivery is Tuesday 23rd.

And now for, not the Shipping forecast, but the Store Opening hours:

Christmas Eve: 07.00-16.00

Christmas Day: Closed

Boxing Day: 07.00-12.30

Saturday 27th: 07.00-19.00

Sunday 28th: 07.00-12.30

New Year's Eve: 07.00-16.00

New Year's Day: 07.00-12.30

Finally, the Management Committee and Post Office staff would like to wish all our wonderful volunteers and customers a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Oh, I almost forgot, just to say that not everything is Christmas related. We still stock non-Christmas goodies, gift bags and the like – please ask if you cannot see what you want; we just can't display everything at this time of year.

Jean Burden

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PLEASE NOTE that due to the current circumstances, we will be operating from our Storrington office for now. All contact details remain the same.

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Light Lunch

As I'm writing this we are shortly to hold our last Light Lunch of 2025 and we have been delighted at the support there has been to continue this monthly event at the village hall, both from our amazing team of volunteers, the Findon WI cooks and most importantly our diners, both regulars and newcomers who have joined us over the year.

We have served up over 450 meals during the year with 20 different soups and 40 different puddings being offered! The addition of teas and coffees at the end of the meal has been embraced and there is always a lovely atmosphere in the hall.

Light Lunch 2026 will be back in January and will continue to meet at Findon Village Hall on the last Tuesday of the month, except in August and December.

Could you help? We have a great team of volunteers who help to set up and serve the meals but we would welcome a couple more people who enjoy cooking soups or desserts to join the team of Light Lunch cooks and could offer to get involved 2 or 3 times during the year. Please contact Elaine on 07598144802 if you'd like to know more.

We look forward to seeing you in 2026.

Elaine Dibben, Booking Secretary
On behalf of Findon Village Hall Trust



Findon Light Lunch **2026**

will be held at Findon Village Hall
on the last Tuesday of every month
(except Aug and Dec).

Join us on **27th January 2026**

Doors open-12.45pm

Lunch served at 1pm

£6 for 2 courses-

homemade soup with bread
and homemade puddings.

Tea and coffee available

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Prize donations appreciated

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Love in a Box - Shoebox Appeal 2025

At last, the shoeboxes have been collected from my home and will soon be on their way to children in Moldova where there will also be evacuees from Ukraine. The need is great. Thank you to everyone who has filled a box, or donated goodies to extra boxes, it will be much appreciated. The driver told me he had started his day yesterday driving from Plymouth through Devon towns finishing that night at Exeter. Eventually he arrived in Findon where we had a fabulous 83 boxes waiting for him. The photo you see is of him packing our boxes into the van and he estimated there was approximately 800 boxes in there altogether.

Why not get a head start and begin collecting goodies for next year now!



Christmas Lights in The Square

The Christmas lights will be
switched on
at **5.30pm** on **7th December**

We hope everyone will come and
join us for the festivities,
including mince pies,
mulled wine
and carols.

Our special guest will be
Father Christmas
and his Elf helper.

Findon Village Church
**CHRISTMAS TREE
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Saturday 6th December 10am -5pm
Sunday 7th December 11am - 4pm

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Mott MacDonald Restricted

Findon's 'Chain Gang'

The Wednesday Open Spaces Volunteer group, affectionately known by some as "the Chain Gang", is celebrating 10 years of helping to keep our Village paths and open spaces looking clean and tidy.

It is testament to the dedication of the group, who volunteer for two hours every Wednesday, from 9am to 11am, that five of the original members, Robin Carr, Tony Brimyard, Tony Voice, Peter Kirk and Richard Pratt, still regularly volunteer each week.

The "leader" of our Group is Robin Carr who works tirelessly each week to plan the next week's work schedule. Robin's enthusiasm, dedication and commitment to the Group is outstanding. Each Wednesday, there are anywhere between 5 and 12 people out in all weather (unless it's raining heavily) helping to keep our Village paths and open spaces looking neat and tidy. We even help paint and maintain our Preschool and the bus shelters. And afterwards we recover with a nice cup of coffee and piece of cake!

The group is supported by Findon Parish Council and we are always looking for new members, so if you'd like to help, or find out more, please contact either Robin Carr on grdcarr@outlook.com or Nick Keating on nick.keating7@googlemail.com.

There is also a Saturday morning group for those who'd prefer

Saturdays to Wednesday. For more information about that group, please email john.wilson@findonparishcouncil.gov.uk



The photos show some of the group recently clearing the footpath along the A24 and also the group at The Findon Manor Hotel on 19th November celebrating the Groups 10th Anniversary where we were also joined by Pam Henty, wife of one of the founder members, Del Henty, who sadly passed away late last year.



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Findon Parish Council

Attending the Remembrance Day Service at St John the Baptist Church brought to mind the opportunity to say a heartfelt thankyou to Rev Helena Buque our Vicar who is retiring at the end of the year. Helena has been a truly wonderful supporter of Findon over her years with us, in particular her willingness to support all of our community has been warmly respected. Helena will be missed, notwithstanding greeting her whilst dog walking through the village. We look forward to working with Rev Colin Cox in the future.

For those of us who attended the wreath laying and silence in the Churchyard there was a truly moving moment. A soft gust of wind during the silence led to the fall from surrounding trees of hundreds of leaves that tumbled in a slow-motion fashion upon us all, a genuinely poignant moment to remember the fallen. On a similar vein the wonderful poppy display on Pond Green as well as the post box cover both again deserve special mention, stunning examples of selfless contribution many thanks.

As we approach Christmas the hard work associated with the Christmas lights has already started, ahead of the grand switch on scheduled for early evening on December 7th. The group has recently attracted some new volunteers which will add security for the next years.

Good coordination of the felling of the split and dangerous Sycamore tree on Pond Green has assured that activities by both the Poppies Group and the Christmas Lights Group were not impacted. A thanks to the Trees Group for their continued oversight and constant communication by our Clerk.

Findon Parish Council (FPC) Traffic and Parking group would like to say thanks to all who contributed to the recent survey. The fantastic feedback and comments will be reviewed in December and feedback provided on the outcome. Subject to these responses a potential Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) may be lodged with West Sussex County Council (WSCC), as part of our goal to make Findon roads safer.

FPC continues to support those volunteer groups that make our village the terrific location that it is. As the end of year approaches we are delighted to support the Open Spaces Group, the Litter Pickers Group, the Wildflower Group and the Trees Group celebrate their end of year by way of individual events as a small thanks for all their efforts.

We should take the opportunity to mention another retirement, that of Robin Carr as leader of the Open Spaces Group. Over the years Robin has been a long serving member of FPC, as well as a spell as Chairman, and he will step down after, in his words, ten years of hard labour!

Our village owes Robin a real debt for the service he has given over the years and will continue to deliver as a continuing active member of our Open Spaces Group. Robin will be succeeded by Nick Keating as the new lead, expect lots of helpful advice Nick!

Cllr Sean Smith

Chairman, Findon Parish Council
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Testing emergency response - Exercise Dogwood in Findon

On a sunny autumn day, Findon village became the scene of a dramatic emergency simulation known as Exercise Dogwood - a carefully staged event designed to test the readiness and coordination of local emergency response teams.

The scenario - an unexploded bomb was discovered in the heart of the village, prompting the evacuation to Findon Village Hall of 20 residents, played by volunteers from the village. With no time to gather belongings, evacuees arrived with nothing, simulating the real-life urgency and unpredictability of such emergencies.

Each participant was given a detailed profile, outlining specific needs such as medical conditions, children's requirements and the need for clothing and blankets adding realism and urgency to the exercise.

Findon Village Hall Trustees opened the hall as a rest centre and did a great job of supporting the evacuees until other agencies arrived. The village hall proved to be an ideal location for a rest centre, offering excellent facilities including accessible toilets and well-equipped kitchens. Teas, coffees and light snacks were provided, by the Trustees, to attendees upon arrival.

Food requirements were carefully recorded to accommodate dietary needs such as diabetic, vegan and vegetarian preferences. This ensured that, should the situation require hot food to be ordered in, appropriate options could be sourced.

Contingency plans were in place for extended stays. If the duration had increased, staff were prepared to

assemble makeshift beds to ensure comfort and rest for those affected.

The operation was led by Arun District Council's Emergency Planning Officer, supported by a dedicated team from West Sussex County Council (WSSC), Arun District Council rest centre staff, Findon Village Hall trustees, and the British Red Cross. Together, they created a fully functioning rest centre, recording evacuee details, assessing needs, and providing essential support, both practical and emotional.

The Trustees ensured that the evacuees were provided with shelter and refreshments whilst they waited for the other agencies to arrive.

The Red Cross played a vital role, offering, wash bags, blankets, and emotional support, ensuring comfort and care for all involved.

Officers from WSSC Resilience and Emergency Team were able to offer the support of the counties Social Services and had transport on standby if required.

Arun District Council Officers swapped their normal day jobs to work as rest centre staff, providing compassionate support to the evacuees.

The volunteers from the village who did a great job of playing the part of evacuees made the whole thing feel realistic.

Throughout the exercise, the rest centre manager provided regular updates, including advising the bomb disposal squad had arrived at the scene and when evacuees could return home.

After approximately three hours, the all-clear was given and the evacuees were

continued on page 19

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continued from page 17

“sent home,” marking the end of the exercise.

Michael Rowland, Emergency planning Officer said:

“This event was a culmination of work that has taken place between ADC and the Findon Village Hall Trustees to make sure they and the village hall was ready to be a rest centre should the need arise.

What made Exercise Dogwood truly successful was the commitment of everyone involved. The “actors”



portraying evacuees were fantastic, bringing authenticity and emotion to the scenario. For the emergency teams and the Trustees, it was an invaluable opportunity to test procedures, identify gaps, and strengthen collaboration across agencies.

Events like Dogwood are essential in ensuring that,

should a real emergency occur, our communities are prepared, protected, and supported. A huge thank you to all who participated and supported this valuable initiative.”

Findon Village WI

At the November meeting our ladies spent time making angels to adorn the Village Hall for the Christmas period. A great deal of gold paper covered the tables as we got to grips with the different sized angels and how to cut out the intricate details. Crafty Ladies will now be putting them together ready to go up for the first Christmas event.

Maggie Milward, our technical wizard gave us a tour of our website which is looking fabulous. The photo gallery charts all our activities over the last few years and brought back some lovely memories.

The Poppies have now come down, and we are preparing for the Christmas Tree Festival. Our theme this year is peace and kindness. We are adorning our tree with Izzy Dolls, inspired by Master Corporal Mark “Izzy” Isfold, a Canadian Military Engineer who lost his life while clearing landmines in Croatia. Mark carried dolls with him and distributed

them to children who had experience trauma and loss. Each doll has been individually made by our ladies, and at the end of the Tree Festival children will be invited to choose a doll to take home.

At our Christmas event we are going to dive into the world of Victorian etiquette. Our ladies will discover the Do's and Don'ts of courtship, calling cards, dinner party etiquette, and the mysterious language of the fan. It is going to be a fun, interactive evening of Victorian elegance led by David Allen.

Visitors are always welcome. Drop us a line or just turn up on the night.

Website –It has lots of news about our activities, sub-groups, and upcoming initiatives – Check it out.

Sara Clarke – President

Email: findonvillagewi@hotmail.co.uk

Website:

<https://findonvillagewi.wixsite.com/mysite>

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Findon Friends

The Friends will again be supporting and participating in the Christmas Tree Festival which takes place this year on the weekend of 6th/7th December; we hope to see as many of you there as possible; please spread the word. Two years ago we welcomed some 1,000 visitors over the weekend. Our beautiful historic church will be transformed by twenty seven wonderfully decorated trees entered by local residents, organisations and businesses. Visitors will be able to vote for their favourite tree, with the winning tree receiving a £50 donation for a charity of their choice. Attractions include an 'instant raffle' and a children's chocolate tombola while, for those in need of a rest, the Friends will be providing refreshments in a welcoming café area of the church where one can enjoy home-made scones and cakes, chat

with friends and neighbours, and delight in the welcoming atmosphere of our church.



None of this would be possible without the participation of willing helpers and we thank everyone who has already signed up to help with our refreshments stall. However, if you are able to offer an hour or two on either the 6th or 7th December, we would love to add your name to the list. Please contact: ianhollyhomes52@gmail.com

FoSJBF is a charitable trust which supports the restoration, preservation, repair, maintenance and improvement of our Church. For more information about our Church and the role of The Friends, visit our website <https://www.fosjbf.org>



The Foot Lady

Georgina Downs
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Yoga for Today
well-being for all

Working with body, breath & mind

Group Classes

Monday 4.30pm-5.30pm
Findon Village Hall, BN14 0TA
Block booking of 6 classes £65
Pay-as-you-go £13

Tuesday 6.30pm-7.30pm - online
£30 per month

Yoga Therapy

Individual consultations - Findon Village

Yoga therapy uses a range of 'tools',
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bring about physical, mental and
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Yoga therapy is appropriate for a wide
range of ages and lifestyles as well as
those looking for a healthier way of life.



For further information contact Michelle

Email: yogamichelle@pm.me

Website: www.yogafortoday.yoga

Findon Parish Council Vacancy

Are you passionate about Findon and its community? Do you want to make a real difference in the decisions that shape our village? Findon Parish Council is inviting applications for the three vacant councillor positions by co-option, and this could be your opportunity to get involved.

The Parish Council plays a vital role in representing local interests, managing community projects, and ensuring Findon remains a vibrant and welcoming place for everyone. From maintaining green spaces to influencing planning decisions, your voice matters.

Who Can Apply?

If you are over 18, live in or near Findon, and care about our community, we'd love to hear from you. No prior council experience is required -just enthusiasm and commitment.

How to Apply

For more details or to express your interest, please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@findonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Together, let's keep Findon thriving!



*Wishing all my wonderful furry friends
(and their lovely humans)
a Merry Woofmas
and a Tail-Wagging New Year,
filled with treats and tummy rubs!*

*Thank you for all of the wet noses,
wagging tails and love this year!*



CONTACT WENDY

t 01903 872147

m 07780 660881

e wendy@doggieinthewindow.co.uk

w doggieinthewindow.co.uk



Glimpses Stable Lane
Findon Village BN14 0RR



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In Findon Village

Lovely spacious self catering accommodation - sleeps two

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karmitage58@gmail.com

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info@warnerandwattsantiques.co.uk

The Cinnamon Trust Christmas Fair



The Cinnamon Trust Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 13th December in the Village Hall from 10am till 12.30pm. Entrance is £4 to include coffee or tea plus a savoury (eg homemade sausage roll) or sweet item (eg homemade Xmas cupcake). Extra items £1 each. Children under 12 admitted free. Well behaved dogs welcome.

Lots of goodies for sale including Christmas treats, pet goods, toys and puzzles, jewellery and toiletries. Stalls to include Men in Sheds, Nikky's Floral arrangements and bulbs, Lorna's Tropic Skincare and lots more.

Name the Christmas Pet and a grand raffle. Card reader available.

Good quality items for sale very welcome but no books, DVD's, CD's clothes or electrical items (sorry).

Please contact me on 07544 572702 or maggiemartin8@gmail.com.

Many thanks for all your continued support.

Maggie and John

Rachel Louisa May

Rachel is a childrens author and in 2023 she read one of her books to children at Findon Primary School. This book was called "Aunty Planty and the Eco-Warriors"

A book that is fun to read and teaches children about the environment. This was well received by the youngsters.

Rachel's father is Lawrence May a Findon boy and his father, Ernie May, was the village postman for many years. He was involved in the building of the Village Hall and took part in lots of Findon activities including being the striker for the village football team. He delivered mail on a Post Office bicycle and his route often included Tolmare Farm, Muntham Court, Park Farm, Nepcote and Maxwell Cottages. Some distance to cycle !

When at the school, Rachel was delighted to be shown the school register for 1952 which included Lawrence, her father.



Rachels publishers have now released her latest book titled "Aunty Planty and the eco-warriors Great Litter Pick" This continues with an environmental theme for young children. It is now available from Amazon at £7.99 and would make a great stocking filler, her first book is also available from Amazon and Waterstones Rustington.

Anne Matthews, Worthing



tajdar

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A choose between:
Tradition curries, Biryani or
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DESSERT

Vegan Cheesecake,
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Salted caramel Blondie.

BOOKING ONLY AT 01903872225

Findon Planning Applications



Planning applications for Findon are under the authority of South Downs National Park and listed on the SDNPA website (www.southdowns.gov.uk).

Findon Parish Council (FPC) Planning Committee meetings are scheduled monthly to consult on planning applications received from the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA). Parish Consultation Letters (PCL) received from the SDNPA are displayed on the Notice Boards outside the newsagents and the Village Hall, and published on the FPC website (<http://findonparishcouncil.gov.uk>)

along with the schedule of Committee meeting dates.

Please note that due to Findon News publication deadlines, some applications may have already been placed before the Committee. Residents should check the Notice Boards and FPC website regularly to view notices and meeting details.

Any enquiries should be address to the FPC Clerk - 01903 877225.

Since the last issue of Findon News, the following Planning Applications have been posted on the SDNPA website:

UK Power Networks (8500322546) - Upgrade an existing substation and lay cables from the substation directly into the public highway under the rights secured in the attached substation lease.

Land adjacent Soldiers Field Lane
Findon West Sussex
Ref. No: SDNP/25/04585/PA15B

Non Material Amendment to
SDNP/25/01295/HOUS - Brick gable end matching the rest of the extension to roof height

30 School Hill Findon West Sussex
BN14 0TR

Ref. No: SDNP/25/04379/NMA

Non Material Amendment to
SDNP/25/02220/HOUS - Removal of chimney stack above roof line.

Firbank 27 Cross Lane Findon West
Sussex BN14 0UB

Ref. No: SDNP/25/04339/NMA

Various works to T1 - London Plane,
Platanus x acerifolia.

1 Paddock Way Findon West Sussex
BN14 0TX

Ref. No: SDNP/25/04311/TPO

Adjoining Authority Consultation - UK
Power Networks (8500322546) -

Upgrade an existing substation and lay cables from the substation directly into the public highway under the rights secured in the attached substation lease.

Land Adj Soldiers Field Lane, Findon,
BN14 0SH

Ref. No: SDNP/25/04430/ADJAUT

Findon News is produced by volunteers and our only expenses are the printing costs. These costs are covered by advertising revenue and we are very grateful to all our advertisers for their continued support.
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judith@goatchers.com | 07980 025713

Paws Animal Sanctuary

Lots of phone calls from pet owners planning to go away for Christmas asking can I look after their animals? In the past when I had a lot more volunteers I would usually agree. Now we have cold miserable mornings with volunteers who have loyally worked here for years and years. We are all finding the hard work taking its toll. We all have aches and pains, bad backs, some have even been forced to retire or can no longer drive. Many of our young volunteers from Plumpton or Brinsbury Colleges who during the week come to do work experience one day a week leave at the end of term to find work or go to universities. We still have such busy days with lots of animals. It is hard work cleaning out the hutches, pens, cages, stables every morning, grooming and feeding the animals. Lifting sacks of cat litter, animal food, bales of hay, and vegetables.

We are lucky to be working mainly inside and only the horse /donkey and poultry are outside. In the evenings we start to put the animals to bed earlier when the clocks go back because it is

dark by 4.30pm. We have volunteers who have a problem finding somewhere to park here in the evenings. The chickens put themselves to bed as soon as it gets dark.

If anyone needs an Animal Ambulance for any reason (not everyone has a car), you can get help from a service in Findon Village called Pets2Vets. Telephone Karen 01903 933155 or Telephone 07368 199 038 available 7 days a week. Reasonable cost £15 flat rate, 55p per mile. Keep the number in case of an emergency.

Wishing everyone a lovely enjoyable time this Christmas and a peaceful time for your pets.

from Stacey.

Paws Animal Sanctuary Findon
15 The Oval, Findon Village, BN14 0TN
01903 872 734 / 0790 447 6819

We never use an ansaphone so keep trying someone is always around.

24hrs. 7days a week.

Email. pawsanimals@hotmail.co.uk

Registered Charity 1096231

Remembrance Sunday Bell Ringers

This is a photo of all the ringers who rang on Remembrance Sunday.

It is the first time in many years that we have had a Remembrance Service with all Findon ringers ringing, without help from other towers required.

Three in the photo are new ringers who have only been ringing for a year.

Left to right Adrian, Breda, Simon, Chris, Natalie and Will.



200 Club Autumn Social and Grand Draw

What a fun evening we had at the 200 Club Autumn Social and Grand Draw, when more than 70 members filled the Village Hall on Saturday 15th November.

A challenging quiz was delivered by Steve Sharp and together with Card Bingo and the Raffle, the 200 Club also held its Autumn Grand Draw.

Many congratulations to the winners:
£500 - Charlotte Green - ball number 56
£200 - Bob Goodrum - ball number 92
£100 - Bob Hewitt - ball number 199
£50 - Vicky Riches - ball number 7
£25 - Joan Francis - ball number 116
£25 - Bill Warrick - ball number 91
On the night voucher - Monica Eastabrook - ball number 11

A huge thank you to the following businesses who very kindly donated

vouchers for the raffle: Fontwell Park, Sylvan Oak, The Black Horse, Peckhams Butchers and Findon Village Hall Film Club.

Thanks also to the Village Hall Events team who worked incredibly hard throughout the night serving drinks and food.

And a final thank you to all our wonderful 200 Club members whose enthusiasm made the evening a roaring success in raising money towards the upkeep of Findon Village Hall. The Club's fundraising activities for the previous year organised by Alan Wadhams resulted in a healthy cheque for £2,500 being presented to the Village Hall trustees.

Tony Brimyard
FVHSC 200 Club Secretary

Singers
Rechoired



Saturday 6th December 4pm
Singers Rechoired
Presents
"Winter Covers"



1-11 Lime Tree Avenue, Findon Valley, BN14 0DJ



Free entry with an exit collection
on behalf of local charity
Cancer United

singersrechoired.co.uk

MONDAY CUPPA & CATCH UP

AT FINDON VILLAGE HALL

FROM MON 20TH OCT
TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS & CHAT

**A CHANCE TO MEET UP WITH
FRIENDS AND MEET NEW
VILLAGERS**

Our regular drop ins at the Village Hall during the autumn & winter months are returning!

- Just 50p for your first cuppa
- Refills are free!
- Biscuits also 50p

Please tell your friends and neighbours to come along! Everyone welcome - the more the merrier! (that includes your four legged friends!)

FINDON VILLAGE HALL
High Street, Findon
07598144802
www.findonvillagehall.net



Tea, Coffee, Biscuits
and Chat

Monday afternoon
sessions are back
for 2025 - 2026

Starting Mon 20th
October 2025 until
30th March 2026
2pm - 4pm

Where: Nepcote Hall
Findon Village Hall

Spread the word and
see you there!



Findon Village Hall News

Hopefully our residents will have seen that the Village Hall Car Park is now completely resurfaced, it has taken much time and fundraising to get to this point, but the end result has not disappointed, it looks fantastic, thank you everyone.

As a pre-Christmas reminder there is much continued activity at the hall and our intention is to have something for everyone, our classes and activities have broad appeal, with some new additional classes, but in brief again they are:

- **Baby steps Dance Class** has started on Saturday mornings from 9.30 am
- **Soccer Tots Academy** runs on Monday mornings from 10.00am
- **Tai Chi** – New and existing classes
- **Circuit Training Class** – Thursday evenings from 5.45 pm
- **Willow Making Workshops** – Running once a month, call for details
- **Yoga** – Both traditional and Chair Yoga
- **Findon Garden Association** – Call for further information
- **Art Workshops** – Monthly on a Saturday
- **Line Dancing** – Wednesday morning
- **Pilates** – Thursday Mornings all levels available
- **Carpet Bowls** – Thursday Afternoons
- **Bead Magicians** - Monthly
- **Children's Mini Vogue Ballet Class** – Friday Mornings from November 14th
- **Light Lunches** – Come along on the last Tuesday of every month
- **Danceaholics** – Sunday evenings
- **Meditation & Sound Bath Healing** - Monthly
- **Film Nights and Comedy Nights.**
- **Women's Institute (WI) and Messy Church.**

Apologies if we've missed you out, let me know and I will give you a special mention next time:

Call ELAINE on 07598 144802 or bookingsecretary@findonvillagehall.net

It would be right to mention, that this is the time of year when the Trustees have the unenviable task of reviewing the ongoing running costs of Chanctonbury and Nephcote Halls. There will be a small increase, which will be introduced at the beginning of next year, so now might be the time to book your next event and agree your cost.

Please Remember: ALL FINDON VILLAGE RESIDENTS ENJOY A 20% DISCOUNT ON ANY **ONE-OFF** PARTY BOOKINGS, PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Thank you once again for all of your support, have a Wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Village Hall Diary January 2026

For one off events e.g. children's parties, meetings and weddings please email Elaine Dibben on bookingsecretary@findonvillagehall.net or visit www.findonvillagehall.net/home/hire-the-hall. Please contact organisers directly for further information about activities/classes. Their details are available on the Village Hall website - www.findonvillagehall.net.

Please note the Village Hall opens again from **Monday 5th January** unless stated.

Weekly	Day	Hall	Time
Just Yoga	Monday	Nepcote	10:30am
Soccer Tots	Monday	Chanctonbury	9.45am
Monday Afternoon Drop Ins	Monday	Nepcote	14.00pm
Yoga for Today	Monday (from 12 th)	Nepcote	16.30pm
Encore Choir	Monday	Chanctonbury	18.45pm
Keeping Fit with Enzo	Tuesday	Chanctonbury	9.15am
	Tuesday (20 th)	Nepcote	9.15am
Tai Chi class	Tuesday (from 20 th)	Nepcote	10.30am.
You Yoga	Tuesday (not 23 rd)	Chanctonbury	18.00pm
Line Dancing	Wednesday	Chanctonbury	10.00am
UDanceUK	Wednesday	Chanctonbury	17.00pm
Cloud Nine Yoga	Wednesday	Nepcote	19.00pm
Strictly Dancing with Lisa	Wednesday (Not 7 th)	Chanctonbury	19.00pm
Pilates	Thursday (Not 18 th)	Chanctonbury	9.30am
Keeping Fit with Enzo	Thursday	Nepcote	09.15am
Carpet Bowls	Thursday	Chanctonbury	14.00pm
Circuit Training	Thursday (Not 11 th)	Nepcote	17.30pm
Tai Chi	Friday	Chanctonbury	10:00am
Cloud Nine Yoga	Friday	Nepcote	10.00am
Mini Vogues Dance	Friday	Nepcote	11.15am
Baby Steps Dance Group	Saturday (3 rd , 24 th and 31 st)	Nepcote	9.30am
Danceaholics	Sunday (4 th , 11 th and 18 th)	Chanctonbury	18.30pm

Monthly	Date	Hall	Time
Findon Village WI	8 th January	Chanctonbury	19.30pm
Parish Council Planning Mtg	8 th January	Nepcote	19.30pm
Tastevin	15 th January	Chanctonbury	19.00pm
Parish Council Full Mtg	19 th January	Chanctonbury	19.30pm
Bead Magicians	20 th January	Chanctonbury	10.00am
Light Lunch	27 th January	Chanctonbury	12.45pm
Findon Garden Association	30 th January	Chanctonbury	19.30pm

Dates for your Diary in January

Monday Afternoon Drop In – **weekly** - Nepcote – 2 – 4pm

FVHT Film Night **Friday 23rd January** (Film TBC) – Chanctonbury – 6.30pm doors open. Film at 7.30pm

Light Lunch– **Tuesday January 27th** – Chanctonbury – 12.45pm for 1pm

Dates for your Diary in February –

Monday Afternoon Drop In – **weekly** - Nepcote – 2 – 4pm

FVHT Film Night **Friday 20th February**– Chanctonbury – 6.30pm doors open. Film at 7.30pm

Friends of Findon Church Quiz Night - **Saturday 21st February** - Chanctonbury Hall

Light Lunch– **Tuesday 24th February**– Chanctonbury – 12.45pm for 1pm

Village Hall Diary December 2025

For one off events e.g. children's parties, meetings and weddings please email Elaine Dibben on bookingsecretary@findonvillagehall.net or visit www.findonvillagehall.net/home/hire-the-hall. Please contact organisers directly for further information about activities/classes. Their details are available on the Village Hall website - www.findonvillagehall.net.

Please note the Village Hall will be closed from **Wednesday 24th December – Monday 5th January** unless stated or for pre-booked private events.

Weekly	Day	Hall	Time
Just Yoga	Monday	Nepcote	10:30am
Soccer Tots	Monday (not after 8th)	Chanctonbury	9.45am
Monday Afternoon Drop Ins	Monday	Nepcote	14.00pm
Yoga for Today	Monday (not after 15 th)	Nepcote	16.30pm
Encore Choir	Monday	Chanctonbury	18.45pm
Keeping Fit with Enzo	Tuesday	Chanctonbury	9.15am
	Tuesday (16 th)	Nepcote	9.15am
Tai Chi class	Tuesday	Nepcote	10.30am.
You Yoga	Tuesday (not 23 rd)	Chanctonbury	18.00pm
Line Dancing	Wednesday	Chanctonbury	10.00am
UDanceUK	Wednesday	Chanctonbury	17.00pm
Cloud Nine Yoga	Wednesday (not 3rd)	Nepcote	19.00pm
Strictly Dancing with Lisa	Wednesday (Not 17 th)	Chanctonbury	19.00pm
Pilates	Thursday (Not 18 th)	Chanctonbury	9.30am
Keeping Fit with Enzo	Thursday	Nepcote	09.15am
Carpet Bowls	Thursday	Chanctonbury	14.00pm
Circuit Training	Thursday (Not 11 th)	Nepcote	17.30pm
Tai Chi	Friday	Chanctonbury	10:00am
Cloud Nine Yoga	Friday (not 5 th)	Nepcote	10.00am
Mini Vogues Dance	Friday	Nepcote	11.15am
Baby Steps Dance Group	Saturday (Not 13 th)	Nepcote	9.30am
Danceaholics	Sunday	Chanctonbury	18.30pm

Monthly	Date	Hall	Time
Parish Council Full Mtg	1 st December	Nepcote	19.30pm
Messy Church	2 nd December	Chanctonbury	15.30pm
Parish Council Planning Mtg	4 th December	Nepcote	19.30pm
Findon Garden Association	5 th December	Chanctonbury	19.30pm
Findon Village WI	11 th December	Chanctonbury	19.30pm
Bead Magicians	16 th December	Chanctonbury	10.00am

Dates for your Diary in December –

Monday Afternoon Drop In – **weekly** - Nepcote – 2 – 4pm

Cinnamon Trust Christmas Fair – **Saturday 13th December** – Chanctonbury - 10.00am

Live Nativity starts from FVHT Car Park on **Tuesday 9th December** - 18:15

Dates for your Diary in January –

Monday Afternoon Drop In – **weekly** - Nepcote – 2 – 4pm

FVHT Film Night **Friday 23rd January** (Film TBC) – Chanctonbury – 6.30pm doors open. Film at 7.30pm

Light Lunch restarts on **Tuesday 27th January** . Chanctonbury - 12.45pm for 1pm lunch

PARISH OF FINDON, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING

JANUARY 2026

January Services

All three Churches are open daily for private prayer.

There is a 10.00am said Eucharist in Findon Church every **Tuesday**,
and Morning Prayer every **Wednesday** and **Friday** at 9.00am.

Sunday 4th January The Epiphany	8.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Findon Church Helena's final Eucharist and celebration for her retirement, at Findon Church. (There will not be a service at Patching Church this Sunday)
Sunday 11th January Baptism of Christ (First Sunday of Epiphany)	8.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Clapham Church Eucharist in Findon Church
Sunday 18th January Second Sunday of Epiphany	8.00am 10.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Findon Church Eucharist in Findon Church Eucharist in Clapham Church
Sunday 25th January Conversion of Paul Third Sunday of Epiphany	8.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Patching Church Eucharist in Findon Church



Messy Church - Starts again on Tuesday 3rd February
3.30 - 5.30pm in Findon Village Hall

All children welcome with an accompanying adult for crafts, a story, singing and food!

Lambs Tails: Parent & Toddler Group for babies, toddlers, & parents/carers.
Contact Dom: fcpfamiliesworker@gmail.com for dates and more information.

Rev. Helena Buqué, Vicar, and Rev. Colin Cox, Associate Vicar:
c/o The Rectory, School Hill, Findon BN14 0TR.
t: 01903 873601 | e: findoncprectory@gmail.com

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

PARISH OF FINDON, CLAPHAM AND PATCHING

DECEMBER 2025

Church Services for Advent and Christmas

There is a 10.00am said Eucharist in Findon Church every **Tuesday**,
and Morning Prayer every **Wednesday** and **Friday** at 9.00am.

Sunday 7th December Advent 2	8.00am 10.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Findon Church Eucharist in Findon Church Eucharist in Patching Church
Sunday 14th December Advent 3	8.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Clapham Church Eucharist in Findon Church
Sunday 21st December Advent 4	8.00am 10.00am 10.00am 3.00pm	BCP Holy Communion in Findon Church Eucharist in Findon Church Eucharist in Clapham Church Nine Lessons and Carol Service in Findon Church
Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve	3.00pm 11.30pm	Crib/Christingle Service in Findon Church Midnight Mass in Findon Church
Thursday 25th December Christmas Day	8.00am 10.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Patching Church Christmas Eucharist in Findon Church Christmas Eucharist in Clapham Church
Sunday 28th December The Holy Innocents First Sunday of Christmas	8.00am 10.00am	BCP Holy Communion in Patching Church Eucharist in Findon Church



Additional Christmas Celebrations



Saturday 6th December	10.00am-5.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival in Findon Church
Sunday 7th December	11.00am-4.00pm 5.30pm	Christmas Tree Festival in Findon Church Christmas lights are switched on in Findon Village
Tuesday 9th December	6.15pm	Walking Nativity in Findon Village, starting at the Village Hall, with carols in the garden of The Gun Inn
Saturday 13th December	10.00am 2.00pm	Cinnamon Trust Christmas Fayre in Findon Village Hall Christmas film 'The Star' especially suitable for families, in Findon Village Hall. Entry by donation
Tuesday 16th December	6.00pm	Carols around the coals in Patching Churchyard with a visit from Santa
Thursday 18th December	2.30pm	Carol singing at Clapham Lodge Care Home

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Nepcote, Findon

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Asking Price: £1,150,000

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

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