



## Lest we forget

THE 11 November, which falls on Sunday this year, will be marked with a 9.30am Remembrance Day Service at St Swithun's, followed by a parade up London Road and wreath laying at the High Street War Memorial.



# The Line

Autumn 2012

Edition 57

News from East Grinstead Town Council – where East meets West on the Greenwich Meridian Line

## Visit East Grinstead

### New website markets the town

THE Town Council has funded a new website to help visitors and local residents find out what East Grinstead has to offer in both business and leisure.

Launched in partnership with the East Grinstead Business Association (EGBA) the site offers free basic entry alongside information about where to eat, shop and stay.

The tourist information team, which has provided a history of the town, also lists visitor attractions and forthcoming events. Sponsorships and additional functions including a 'business of the month' will make the site self-funding.

Cllr Rex Whittaker said: "This new site has great potential to showcase East Grinstead and attract visitors, while at the same time ensuring that locals know about all the shops, restaurants and attractions in the town and not just the ones which are most obvious due to their location."

EGBA Chief Executive Stuart Scholes agreed. "This is a great opportunity for additional marketing for business in our town, supported by the Association and the Town Council, which is a positive and mutually beneficial situation for everyone connected with East Grinstead."

For more information see [www.visiteastgrinstead.com](http://www.visiteastgrinstead.com)

## Young Musician of the Year



THE BBC's Young Musician of the Year, Laura van der Heijden, has been honoured with a reception at East Court. Town Mayor Liz Bennett described Laura's achievement as an "outstanding example of hard work, commitment and sheer talent".

## Historic 'first' for EG Hockey Club

THOUSANDS of sports fans from across Europe are expected to descend on the town when East Grinstead Hockey Club becomes the first English club ever to host a round of the Euro Hockey League this autumn.

Twelve teams, including East Grinstead and Reading, will compete in Round 1.2 of the Euro competition which will take place from 26 - 28 October.

Calling it "the largest sporting event the town has ever seen", first team manager Matt Jones said: "We are immensely proud to be hosting such a prestigious event. We always wanted to bring Euro Hockey League to

England but felt we first needed more experience of playing in the competition.

"We are now in a position to host a showcase event of this size and importance.

We are really looking forward to it, and hope it will be a success for the club, for the town and for English Hockey." **\*For ticket details email: [EHL\\_EGHC@Live.com](mailto:EHL_EGHC@Live.com)**





## Have a ball at *Cinderella...*

LOVELY leading lady Abbie Lomax will be returning to Chequer Mead this Christmas to play Cinderella in another magical panto production from *The Company of Friends*.

Robert Barnes will be her Prince Charming, with Buttons played by Matt Ryan and Nick Gibbs as royal sidekick Dandini. The theatre box office is offering 'early bird' deals now on 01342 302000 - £13 a ticket for bookings made before 1 October.

\* Cast photos courtesy of: Champion Photographic.



### Avast there, me hearties!

TOWN Council PR Geraldine Durrant's third book, *Pirate Gran and the Monsters*, will be published in October by the National Maritime Museum. The first two books about her feisty heroine are to be turned into a stage show due to tour the UK next year.



### Support Chequer Mead

THE Company of Friends will be back with another production of their hugely popular *Olde Tyme Music Hall* from 1 to 3 November.

All profits from the shows will go to support Chequer Mead. Performances at 7.30pm each night, plus a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm. Tickets are £14/ £12.50 concessions.

\* Book early on 01342 302000.

## Waste not, want not

SOUTH East Water's compulsory metering programme for homes reaches East Grinstead this autumn in a bid to conserve supplies. After the Environment Agency classed the South East of England as 'seriously water stressed' in 2007, South East Water started to impose water metering as part of its long term strategy to manage water supplies. Find out more at [www.southeastwater.co.uk](http://www.southeastwater.co.uk), call 0333 000 0003, or visit the Meridian Hall on 25 September between 4 - 7pm.

## Neighbourhood Plan latest

TOWN Councillors have been busy conducting more surveys to inform the Neighbourhood Plan.

To keep up-to-date with the developments see the Council's website at [Eastgrinstead.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan](http://Eastgrinstead.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan).

The Council has appointed a consultant firm to help draw up the plan based on the survey results, which will go through a period of further consultation during the winter months.

This is your chance to influence the planning of the town for the next 20 years. See Page 4 to contact Town Council.

## Help nail metal thieves

SUSSEX Police have appealed for public help to tackle metal theft, one of the UK's fastest rising crimes.

"We all need to be vigilant and to report our suspicions quickly," said a police spokesman.

"Anyone who is worried about crime can contact us safely and anonymously at Crimestoppers on 0800 55 11 or go to our website at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org).

The police have also launched Operation Tornado which will make it easier to trace anyone selling scrap metal, and to prosecute anyone dealing in stolen goods.

Where are they now?

IN 2005, Crimestoppers launched the UK's Most Wanted on its website which allows the public to view images of criminals and pass on vital information about their whereabouts. It has been highly successful with over 1,500 arrests to date. **Do you recognise anyone?**

Soroptimist  International

AN exhibition featuring the work of the international women's group, the Soroptimists, will be at the town museum in Cantelupe Road until 28 October. Entry free.



PIONEERING plastic surgeon Sir Archibald McIndoe is to be immortalised in a bronze statue which will stand in central East Grinstead. The statue will be a lasting memorial to the man renowned for his work in reconstructing and rehabilitating badly burned airman in WWII.

A committee has been set up to launch an international appeal to fund the project, and Martin Jennings, known for his sculpture of poet John Betjeman at St Pancras station, has agreed to take on the commission.

Martin's own father was one of those treated for burns by Sir Archie at the Queen Victoria hospital in the Hollye Road. The statue will stand on a pedestal outside Sackville College on the route Sir Archie would have taken between his homes in the Lewes Road, and later at Forest Row, on his way to work. It will eventually be donated to the Town Council which will be responsible for its on-going maintenance.

The committee hopes to launch its official appeal by the end of the year, but for more information in the meantime email [jacque.pinney@blondmcindoe.com](mailto:jacque.pinney@blondmcindoe.com) or ring her on 01342 414052.

## Statue to honour Sir Archibald McIndoe

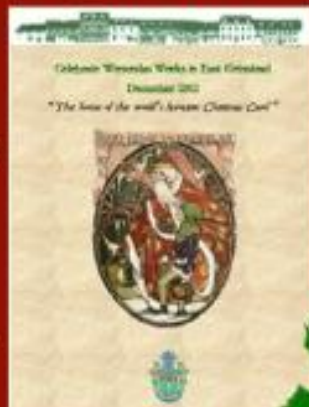
### Track Trek for Bluebell Railway

TOWN Mayor Liz Bennett will be taking the once-in-a-lifetime chance to walk the four miles of newly-laid Bluebell Railway track into East Grinstead to raise funds for the Northern Extension Project on Sunday 30 September.

\* Sponsor Liz on: [www.justgiving.com/LizBennett](http://www.justgiving.com/LizBennett).  
Or take part on: [track.trek@bluebell-railway.co.uk](http://track.trek@bluebell-railway.co.uk).

### Celebrate Wenceslas Weeks

Town tourism officer Simon Kerr will be promoting East Grinstead as the birthplace of the world's favourite Carol with a new poster celebrating "Wenceslas Weeks" this December. Anyone who has a Christmas event to publicise, or who would like to use the poster/logo, should contact Simon at the library in West Street.



## mid sussex wellbeing

THE Mid Sussex Wellbeing team has set up a free Junior programme aimed at families with a child who is above a healthy weight. It provides expert one-to-one support over ten sessions to help improve health and fitness. The sessions will be tailored to individual needs either at the Olympos Centre in East Grinstead or at some other suitable venue. Families with a school-aged child or children can contact Mid Sussex Wellbeing on 01444 477191 or by e-mailing [info@midsussexwellbeing.org.uk](mailto:info@midsussexwellbeing.org.uk)  
\* ADULTS can also contact the Wellbeing team for advice about weight loss, healthy eating, stopping smoking or other issues related to health and fitness.

TOWN Clerk Julie Holden has thanked the organisations and volunteers who enabled the extraordinary events of the summer to take place safely, and for the fundraising they undertook for their own groups and other charities. They included the Rotary Club (Meridian), the Lions, the RNLI and RAFA, East Grinstead's schools and Youth Council, the CVS and Meridian FM.



### Round the world run reaches East Court

FILIPINO runner Cesar Guarin, 56, was greeted by Town Mayor Liz Bennett and members of East Grinstead's Filipino community when he completed the latest leg of his Global Run at a reception held in East Court. Cesar's round-the-world Ultramarathon, which sees him run up to 60km a day, is to support his country's impoverished street children.

Kill your speed,  
not a child

Speed cameras on the A22 will be back in action this autumn

# Contact your Councillor

## Ashplats

Jacqueline Beckford (LD): 7 Woodlands Road, RH19 3EH. 01342 317884

Liz Bennett (Con): 39 Copse Close, RH19 3EF. 01342 301007

Danny Favor (Con): 7 Barn Field Place, RH19 3FD. 01342 410244

Tony Scott (Con): Flat 2, 26 Railway Approach, RH19 1BP. 01342 325045

## Baldwins

Margaret Belsey (Con): Gotwick Farm, Holtye Road, RH19 3PP. 01342 321574

Nick Hodges (Con): Wellbourne, 75 Lingfield Road, RH19 2EP. 01342 300113

Norman Webster (Con): 7 Newlands Crescent, RH19 1LF. 01342 317806

## Imberhome

Heidi Brunson (Con): 83 Blount Avenue, RH19 1JN. 07789 837362

Bob Mainstone (LD): Mallaig, Windmill Lane, RH19 2DY. 01342 326454

Frank Osborne (Con): Wisborough, Furze Lane, RH19 2BQ. 01342 322646

Rex Whittaker (Con): 11 The Stennings, RH19 1PF. 01342 302515

## Town

Ben Burns (Con): 3 The Close, RH19 1DQ. 07740 075331

Nicola Burns (Con): 3 The Close, RH19 1DQ. 01342 315848

Peter Wyan (Con): 7 Clays Close, RH19 4DJ. 01342 313985

## Heronby

John OBrien (Con): 5 The Dell, RH19 3XP. 01342 321883

John Saul (Con): Little Beeches, Woods Hill Lane, RH19 3RF. 01342 822712

Dick Sweatman (Con): 81 Estcote Drive, RH19 3YW. 01342 322743

## Worsled

Garry Sillitoe (Con): 3 Farm Close, RH19 3QQ. 07771 892113

East Grinstead Town Council	01342 323636
West Sussex CC Area Highways	01243 642105
East Grinstead Learning Centre	01342 321874
Citizens Advice Bureau	01342 321638
West Street Library	01342 410050
Library Help Point	01342 300780
Queen Victoria Hospital	01342 414000
Affinity Sutton	0845 6887717
King's Centre	01342 328616
Police Station, East Court	0845 6070999
Mid Sussex District Council	01444 458166
East Grinstead Visitor Desk	01342 410121
Samaritans	0845 7909090
Chequer Mead	01342 302000
Museum	01342 302233
EG CVS & Volunteer Centre	01342 328080

FIND help with services provided by West Sussex County Council, Mid Sussex District Council or East Grinstead Town Council at the Help Point in the library.

The Help Point is open Monday 9.30am - 7pm, Tuesday to Thursday 9.30am - 6pm, Friday/Saturday 9.30am - 5pm.

## Meetings

13 Sept	(Th)	Charities, A & T
20 Sept	(Th)	F & GP
24 Sept	(M)	Planning
1 Oct	(M)	Council
15 Oct	(M)	Planning
5 Nov	(M)	Planning
26 Nov	(M)	Planning
29 Nov	(Th)	Public Services
6 Dec	(Th)	Amenities & Tourism
6 Dec	(Th)	Charities
13 Dec	(Th)	F & GP
17 Dec	(M)	Planning

Meetings in the East Court Council Chamber are open to the public and start, from May, at 7pm with a maximum of 30 minutes for public questions before Council meetings, and 15 minutes before Committee meetings.

Email your councillor at:  
[initial.surname@eastgrinstead.gov.uk](mailto:initial.surname@eastgrinstead.gov.uk)

## Upcoming events

\* THE Farmers Market is in the High Street every Thursday for local produce including baked goods, meat, fish and vegetables.

\* 'Twas the Sunday before Christmas, the High Street Traders' Dickensian themed shopping event, will take place on 23 December.

\* The Vienna Festival Ballet returns on 8 November with two performances of Coppelia at 5pm and 8pm.

\* The Ashplats Conservation group welcomes volunteers to help maintain Ashplats woods. Contact Tanya on 01342 824431 for more info.

Contact the Town Council at:  
East Court Mansion, College Lane,  
East Grinstead, RH19 3LT.  
01342 323636.  
Or visit our website at:  
[www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk](http://www.eastgrinstead.gov.uk)