



NEWSLETTER - Autumn 2019

The Society has been hard at work throughout the spring and summer months

- The Quiz night in June was fully booked and enjoyed by all. Great Fish and Chips too
- The Village Fete in Old Rectory Gardens in July was the best ever.
- Picnic in the Park with Jazz at the Village in August was as popular as ever.
- The beautiful hanging baskets have again given the whole village a real lift May to October
- The Beach Cleans always have a good turn out on every second Saturday of the month and we joined again in the Great British Beach Clean with the Marine Conservation Trust for the September Clean.
- The 'Friends of Old Rectory Gardens' teams have been busy keeping the Gardens tidy and weed free at their monthly work sessions and rewarded with the gardens gaining Green Flag status
- Our Conservation & Development Group is progressing the audit of flint walls and monitoring Blakes Cottage
- The St Michael's Allotment held work parties and successful plant sale. Thanks to all who helped
- The 'Unpacking Blake' event in September was packed with those seeking to understand William Blake

We have more coming up this year:

Members Autumn Social Evening on Nov 11th 6pm- 8pm. The Fox Inn. Bring friends who are interested in what we do and have a free drink on us.

History Talk on 'The pubs of Felpham' should be interesting on 19th October 7pm at Felpham Village Memorial Hall.

St Michael's Allotments work party – Help keep this wonderful space wonderful. 10 am Saturday 19th October

Hanging Baskets come down at the end of October. You are welcome to help with this satisfying task.

Christmas tree light Switch-on 3pm on Friday 6th December 3.30pm onwards at Grassmere Parade choirs, carols and joy with mulled wine and mince pies

Our monthly beach clean and Old Rectory Gardens work party will also continue throughout the winter.

We now have over 250 members and our funds are much healthier due to such successful events as our annual fete. But we need to attract new members both to help with our events and possibly become committee members

(T)ales of Felpham

Saturday October 19th Felpham Village Memorial Hall 7pm



Come along to the Conservation Society History talk on 19th October and hear Gary Purser give an amusing talk of why there were/still are so many Pubs in Felpham.

- What have the Romans ever done for us? Pubs!
- Why were people drinking beer through the ages?
- Why were so many Pubs found in Felpham?
- Why did some Pubs survive and some didn't?
- What are the trends that will affect Pubs in the future?

Gary Purser set about finding out about our local area through Local History Groups, local Museums, Records Offices etc and brings a wealth of real-world experience into the arena of local history. Doors open at 6.30 for a 7pm start. Tickets £3

members £5 non-members at the Village Post Office or at the door. Refreshments available.

Christmas tree light Switch-on

3pm on Friday 6th December Grassmere Parade

This annual event leads Felpham into the Christmas festivities. with choirs from Felpham Community College, Downview and Bishops Tufnell schools plus St Mary's Church. The road will again be closed providing a safe environment for all. Butlins are again providing the tree and there will be free mulled wine and mince pies. Gather at 3pm for carols and mince pies for the switch on at 4pm.



This year we will have our new sound equipment so everyone can enjoy the carols and sing along.

www.felphamvillageconservation.co.uk

Hanging Baskets and Poppies



Thanks to another great Fete we have again been able to put up the hanging baskets throughout the village and were up in time for the May bank holiday. This year the Snooks Corner Group funded the baskets in Sea Road bringing our total lampposts to 34 with 68 baskets. Watering is done during the evening to avoid the traffic.

The baskets will come down at the end of October and after the success of the poppies for the great War centenary commemorations they will again go up in the village area.

Felpham Summer Fete

Yet again we were blessed with sunny skies ensuring Felpham lived up to its reputation as the sunniest spot in England! It was our best attended event ever and everyone had a great time. Highlights were the great music line-up, more stalls than ever and some fantastic family games.



We again had contributions from many local businesses whether as raffle prizes, leaflet ads, sponsorships or helpers. Particular thanks to Master of Ceremonies Bob May of May's the Village Agents. Thanks to

Bay Tree Estates for sponsoring the Amazon Echo Spot competition, Butlin's for donating a 32" TV plus an annual family pass and a weekend at any of their Bognor hotels, Abacus for sponsoring the Entertainments, Milestones the Tea Tent, Felpham Dental for the Games area. King and Chasemore for putting up the boards around the village and Jackie Scott sponsored the Teddy Bears Parade... back by popular demand. Our local MP Nick Gibb again lent us all the white chairs and tables that made a big difference.



Thanks to the Fox Inn for running the Beer and Pimm's Tent and Bognor Rotary for doing the BBQ. Stalls were bright, colourful and all did good business. We were grateful for support from all our

stallholders and volunteer helpers

The surplus from the Fete goes back into Felpham projects such as the Hanging Baskets. We always look out for new projects for the good of the community.



Picnic in the Park with Jazz at the Village

Once again a large crowd came to the Summer concert in our lovely Old Rectory Gardens. This year it was held in August to coincide with Fun on the Prom. Jointly organised by the Society together with Jazz at the Village it featured wonderful jazz by Ben Holder (Jazz Violin) and the Julian Marc Stringle Quartet.

Beach Clean

The regular Felpham Beach Clean is at 10.30am every second Saturday of the month starting in front of the Sailing Club. We regularly have 10-20 people who collect four or five large sacks of rubbish and recycling so it's a job well done as well as being good fun. The Society again decided to move their September clean to the Saturday 15th to coincide with the Marine Conservation Society National Great British Beach Clean.

The main point of the September event was the separate survey with details submitted to the Marine Conservation Society to monitor



changes on an annual basis. This year the Society is launching a new initiative to attract families and young people with beach games and activities.

'Unpacking Blake'

In September the Society put on a challenging Felpham based event about our most famous resident William Blake as part of the annual BlakeFest run by The Big Blake Project. There was an exhibition of installation art by Dr Mikey Georgeson, some inspiring music from local duo "Across the Sea". This was followed by four speakers presenting various aspects of Blake which resulted in a lively discussion on how Blake was still influencing the modern world. The event was packed throughout the day with a whole mix of local residents, Blake enthusiasts and the merely curious. Tea, coffee and cakes provided by Society volunteers.



Friends of Old Rectory Gardens Group

The Society acts as 'Friends of Old Rectory Gardens' and liaises with Arun District Council over the maintenance and management of the park. The Friends also hold an Old Rectory Gardens work party at 2pm on the fourth Friday of each month. We clean up the flowerbeds and liaise with Arun DC. Earlier in the year the Society donated funds towards the installation of two new picnic tables with disability access



This year the Gardens was awarded Green Flag status. Work started in March on landscaping to enhance the Gardens as a "welcoming place that invites and draws people

into it".

The award is also about community involvement which must be "*actively and appropriately involved in making decisions about the site's development and providing opportunities for active participation in site projects*".

Green Flag means that for aesthetic as well as health and safety reasons, issues of cleanliness and maintenance must be addressed, in particular litter and dog fouling. Grounds, equipment and other features must be well maintained. appropriate management strategies must be put in place to conserve and enhance the conservation of natural features, wildlife and flora. Horticultural and arboricultural decisions should "*reflect an understanding of the impacts of climate change*". In particular the award means ensuring the appropriate provision of recreational facilities and activities for all sectors of the community.

St Michael's Allotments

The Society originally took a plot on the St Michael's Allotments to locate our greenhouse for the hanging baskets. Our presence on the site led us to try and help the Parish Council reinvigorate the site. The Society has organized work parties, salvaged one of the wooden beach huts and improved security. In May we held the first of our annual plant sales which was a great success for members, plot holders and locals.

Your Society needs you!

We always strive to attract new volunteers to bring in fresh energy and new ideas to the Society. If you would like to help in some way please contact the Secretary at 19 Culver Road Felpham PO22 or email mail@felphamvillageconservation.co.uk