



NEWSLETTER - Autumn 2020

FROM CHAIRMAN JOYCE

Welcome to another season and although the weather may be somewhat different from our summer months we are still fortunate to make the most of beautiful Felpham.

My Committee and I had hoped to be in a position to give you news of future events, but this is not the case. However, we still move forward on your behalf and work is continuing in the background.

We all hope you are getting through these unprecedented times, even though there may be times when we do not even know what day it is and we are living in a somewhat topsy-turvy world and restrictive in what we can and cannot do, but we must all play our part in keeping our community safe.

How are you managing these changing times? If, like me, having exhausted the TV Box Sets, you feel you never want to see a TV programme again – but now Saturday nights have come back with ‘Strictly’. You either love it or hate it! I cannot tell you how many Zoom meetings or lectures I have had during this time, but at least the family time is fun and although we are not all seeing our family face-to-face we know we will get through this together.

We understand that the lack of social contact is proving very challenging for some of our members, but everyone appreciates that protecting our health and the NHS must still take priority.

Let’s hope the FVCS can give you something to cheer about over the next few months.

With this in mind we continue to Stay Safe and keep Healthy

This newsletter includes information on where to get help should you, a partner or a friend need it.

We understand that not all our members have access to the latest media equipment, phones, etc, but for those who do the free NHS COVID-19 App is now available in England & Wales



It is a vital part of the NHS Test & Trace service

Protect your loved ones – Download the App

Many of us are ensuring we keep ourselves and others safe at this time and the Parish Council, plus Neighbourhood Watch supporters are working hard too in our local areas. If you do know of anyone who is isolated and vulnerable, perhaps needs a bit of reassurance or just needs a chat, lending a hand with collecting shopping or collecting medication help is available.



All our local shops are open, although having to cope with their own challenges, they remain supportive and cheerful as ever.

Our local churches are responding too and helping their parishioners, either with Live Streaming or Public Worship – see individual church details.....

St Mary’s Church – Rev John Challis

www.stmarysfelpham.org

www.stmarysfelpham.org/st-marys-stream

Felpham Methodist Church – Rev Dan Balsdon

www.felpham-methodist-church.org.uk/how-were-responding-during-the-covid-19-outbreak

[revdanbalsdon.com](http://www.felpham-methodist-church.org.uk/how-were-responding-during-the-covid-19-outbreak)

Our Lady of Sorrows

www.bognorcatholicparish.co.uk

www.youtube.com/channel/UCiRPATiIolsUNPUGt5k6V-g

SOCIETY UPDATES.....

ST MICHAEL’S ALLOTMENTS

The Allotments have been a great success this summer. We have regularly had five or six volunteers each Tuesday enjoying working on the plot and more recently having their share of the produce. We expanded the growing beds to sow more crops.

We were going to organise a November work party which would have been outdoors and could easily be socially distanced. However, due to guidance from TCV (The Conservation Volunteers) of which we are members and The National Allotments Association, this event is no longer viable. However, we can continue to hold our weekly Tuesday FVCS allotment group so long as we limit this to six people. We always socially distance and this group works well. On occasions funds are needed to maintain our site, purchase of a new First-Aid kit, hard standing area for a bench donated by a member, etc.

We have been asked by the bee keepers at the Allotments if the Society would help to raise awareness of bees - more details will follow in the future..

As you know the Allotment plot holders are allowed to tend their plots and FVCS have their own plot at St Michael's Allotments on Felpham Way. Members are welcome to come and do some work and share in the produce. Before the lockdown we had a regular Tuesday morning session, but now we need to ensure not everyone is working together, therefore any member who would like to help on the plot should telephone Glenn on 07595905010 and he will advise a time and tasks needed.

HANGING BASKETS

The Hanging Basket project for 2020 had to be abandoned because of the coronavirus epidemic and the health of our own contractor. However, your Committee feel the Hanging Baskets in Felpham are our priority and funds from our events will enable Hanging Baskets to return to Felpham in 2021. Further updates on the progress will follow in our Winter/Spring Newsletters.

OLD RECTORY GARDENS

Old Rectory Gardens continues to be maintained through these difficult times thanks to our Society's Garden Group of 6 and Arun District Council.



We are pleased to announce we have retained our award-winning status, as part of the parks and gardens Annual Arun Green Flags Award. The scheme recognises well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the international benchmark for the management of outdoor spaces around the world.

BEACH CLEANING

The Society have not felt it possible to run the monthly Beach Cleans, due to concerns about maintaining social distance at the meeting point. We realise that some of our community have continued to pick up litter, on a private basis, for which we are really grateful.

During October we came up with the initiative of Mini Beach Cleans, even for just 2 minutes at a time, on an as-and-when basis, disposing of the rubbish in litter bins or recycling in your home bin. The focus is Pick Up Plastic, which we all know is a prime pollutant of our seas. Although not organised by the Society we have provided the Society's members with a litter picker per household and so far have given out almost 20 pickers. Should you wish to help please email us – see details below.

HISTORY, HERITAGE & ARCHIVE

Most of the work the History, Heritage & Archive Group has had to be curtailed, although research has continued with the use of internet sites. It may appear that the HHA Group is not at present very active, but we have recently had good news regarding one of our members, Roger Brooks, who had had the article he wrote in 2001 for the Imperial War Museum on the Felpham & Middleton Memorial Cottages and St Mary's, published in West Sussex History Journal published by the West Sussex Archive Society on behalf of the Chichester Record Office.

FACEBOOK PAGES

As some of you are aware the Society have a Facebook Page – Felpham Village Conservation Public Group. The pages are always being updated with items of interest and to keep you informed of where you may get help do take a look and join in with some of the vast number of photographs and interesting facts from residents, or those who may have lived in Felpham in the past. The historic facts are of huge interest to so many people. Please do keep them coming.



Photo sent from Graham Crouch – Beach at the bottom of Admiralty Road, c1973

REMEMBRANCE DAY POPPIES

Due to Covid-19, many Poppy Appeal volunteers are unable to help with the usual charity appeal and like so many things this year, the Poppy Appeal has had to adapt to the threat of the pandemic. Therefore, in order to continue to support our Armed Forces community, they are asking the public to help distribute poppies to friends and neighbours. The Legion has worked with its members, staff, volunteers and partners to create a range of ways for people to get a poppy and show your support in 2020 - see the charity website for details <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/>



EVERY POPPY COUNTS

Your Society will once again show support and we are sure you will be pleased to know the large poppies will be on the lamp-posts throughout the village of Felpham and Sea Road at the in time for the Remembrance Day commemorations. Details of Church Services can be found via individual Church websites and noticeboards.



XMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

As with so many changes this year, your Committee has had to adapt, especially with our annual Xmas Tree Lights Switch-on. Unfortunately, as we are unable to ensure social distancing, we are unable to enjoy the singing from our local school choirs; sampling mulled wine and mince pies, BUT, fortunately, Butlins have once again given their support and will be donating the Xmas Tree. The Society will arrange the lights to be put up and switched on, plus we are hoping to have piped music playing to give us that Xmas joy.

Although we had hoped we would be in a position to give you a list of Future Events, please be assured your Committee will continue to look at new ways of working throughout these unprecedented times. If you have any ideas for new initiatives or can help with any of our ongoing Projects, obviously being aware of the Government Guidelines, please do get in touch via our website, our FACEBOOK – Felpham Village Conservation Public Group pages, or writing to FVCS Membership Secretary, 6 Halliwick Gardens, Felpham PO22 7JE or hand into Felpham Village Post Office.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

This is your newsletter send us your poems, pictures, useful links and reflections on lockdown. Send to:

mail@felphamvillageconservation.co.uk
www.felphamvillageconservation.co.uk