



NEWSLETTER - Autumn 2021

Dear Members,

We are delighted to let you know we are back and are now in a position to give you news of our events, some of which began earlier this year. Future events are taking place in November and December. As you will have seen your Society has been busy with events, mainly in the open-air, but we were pleased to be back with our first indoor audience-participated History Talk which took place in the Memorial Village Hall.

Friends of Old Rectory Gardens Group

During the summer months our gardening group 'Friends of Old Rectory Gardens' liaise with Arun District Council helping to maintain the park. The Friends working group meet at 2pm on the fourth Friday of each month to weed the flowerbeds and generally tidy up the park. Arun DC continue to work on the landscaping, which enhances the gardens and we are delighted to announce Old Rectory Gardens have once again retained the Green Flag status. Many congratulations and thanks to our volunteers who have helped us to retain this prestigious title. More volunteers are always needed to help in the gardens so please do try and come along. All you need are your own gloves and hand tools.



Beach Clean Group

The Beach Cleaning team have been working hard every second Saturday of the month, come rain or shine, to ensure our beach is kept clean and in September the community came together to support the Marine Conservation Society taking part in the Great British Beach Clean. Every year thousands of volunteers around the country run beach cleans recording every lolly stick, lost toy or piece of plastic. The data is hugely important as it helps to track litter back to source and enables the MCS to campaign for change.

Our own Beach Clean results were as expected with 66.40% of the total being plastic; 16% paper/cardboard; 17.60% metal, cans, wood, wet wipes plus various small items. Full details have been sent to the MSC to be included in their overall campaign results.



Our regular Beach Clean continues to take place at 10.30am every second Saturday of the month now meeting outside one of the beach huts on the East Greensward.

Our grateful thanks to all those helpers who come along to collect rubbish from our beaches. We also welcome youngsters with their parents to come along.

Conservation & Development Group

As reported previously the C&D Group continue to work with Felpham Parish Council and West Sussex County Council in a scheme to make sure that our footpaths are in good condition. A recent footpath inspection with members of the Society Committee, WSCC and a representative from FPC resulted in agreement in principle to repair work being carried out on a collaborative basis. As mentioned in our previous Newsletter our Shabby Areas group welcome any details of areas of concern, please do get in touch.

History, Heritage and Archive Group

Earlier this month the Society's History, Heritage & Archive Group were delighted to welcome Sylvia Endacott to give us a Talk on Butlins in Bognor since 1932 to the present day. This was our first audience participated event since October 2019 and the Felpham Memorial Village Hall was an ideal venue for this special occasion. The entire evening was very interactive and informative, with new residents to Felpham enjoying the facts about Butlins, plus residents who had lived in the community for a numbers of years telling of their individual memories when they had visited this local famous attraction.



St Michael's Allotments and Hanging Baskets Group

During the summer months the St Michael's Allotments Group have been extremely busy with sales of plants and produce, together with working hard at the allotment ensuring the enormous task of maintaining their plot which enables the Society to provide the Village with the beautiful hanging baskets. Each May we hang 72 baskets, which can only be achieved with all the volunteers who put them up and at the end of October take them down.



An Open Morning and Plant Sale took place on Saturday, 16th May, plus a Pop-Up sale at the Felpham Village Post Office where sales of reasonably priced annuals, herbs and perennials were on sale.

At the July Felpham Farmer's Market members of the Committee had a stall, selling plants and seasonal fruit and vegetables, plus wild flower/meadow seeds. We felt this was a very good outside event which we could safely attend as part of the community.



Another Society activity at the Allotments. We are monitoring the Young Offenders team in the cutting back of brambles for the creation of six more plots at St Michael's. The team has been arranged by the Parish Council and consists of four young offenders and two supervisors. They are doing the work using hand tools and it will take around a week. We are just monitoring and helping with advice on the area to be cleared and disposal of cuttings. We are also laying out the new plots as they are cleared so the young men can see the results of their efforts as they progress. We had considered bidding to do the whole job ourselves, but it was too big a task and along came the Young Offenders who are not making a charge and a worthy task for them.

Forthcoming Events

Autumn Social Evening on Monday, 1st November

Invitations have now been sent out to our Members for the Autumn Social Event at The Fox Inn from 6.00-8pm. Members and their guests are welcomed with a complimentary glass of wine and nibbles. It is a chance to meet the committee and other members, to ask questions and make suggestions. We encourage members to bring along a guest who might think about joining! Details of Covid restrictions have been included in the invitation and a request to confirm attendance to help with numbers.

Remembrance Day

We are delighted to confirm once again we have been given permission to put up the large Royal British Legion Poppies onto the lamp-posts in Felpham Village and Sea Road. Unfortunately it is not possible to put up more poppies throughout Felpham as permission by the required authorities has only been given for specific lamp-posts. We will also be laying the commemorative wreath on behalf of the Society at St Mary's Church on Remembrance Day-Sunday, 14th November.



Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on - Friday 3rd December

This event is one which the entire community look forward to each year, when we can switch on the Xmas Tree Lights in the Village. Butlins have kindly agreed to once again provide the tree and the newly replaced tree lights will be switched on at 4.30pm. Please do come along and with your friends and family to sing Xmas Carols and enjoy a glass of mulled wine and mince pies. Father John, Rector of St Mary's Church will bless the tree and encourage us into the Christmas spirit.

We do hope to include a number of events during 2022 and would welcome any new ideas.

Please do continue to contribute to our Facebook Page –

Felpham Village Conservation Public Group

Send contributions, comments to:

mail@felphamvillageconservation.co.uk

www.felphamvillageconservation.co.uk/contact

