



NEWSLETTER - Autumn 2023

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.
- We had our first Easter Egg Hunt in April 2023 in Old Rectory Gardens. It was so well attended and fun and will go ahead next Easter too.
- The beautiful hanging baskets have again given the whole village pleasure and a real lift May to October.
- Our Village Fete in Old Rectory Gardens in July was the best ever - albeit thunderstorms initially.
- 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' team have been busy keeping the Gardens tidy and weed free at their monthly work sessions and rewarded with the gardens gaining Green Flag status. Still yet to be received.
- Our Conservation & Development Group is progressing with 'Freshening Up Felpham'. We've contributed along with Felpham Parish Council towards the renovation of Footpath 153
- Our St Michael's Allotment group held work parties and successful plant sales. Thanks to all who helped
- History Talk 'Graylingwell War Hospital 1914-1919' with Katherine Slay of West Sussex Record Office in October provided us with facts unknown to our local people and was very interesting.

More Coming up this Year:

Hanging Baskets now down Thanks to our 'HEAVY GANG' . *If any of you would like to join this group of 'doers' please let us know via mail@felphamvillageconservation.co.uk*

Members Autumn Social Evening on Tuesday Nov 7th - 6pm- 8pm at The Fox Inn. Bring along friends who are interested in what we do and have a complimentary glass of wine or two and some nibbles and meet fellow residents.

Christmas tree light Switch-on Friday 8th December 3.30pm onwards at Grassmere Parade: Choirs, carols and joy with mulled wine and mince pies. Always a lovely start to our Christmas season with Father John blessing our tree.

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

Hanging Baskets and Poppies. Thanks to a great

Fete
able



were

in 2022 - we have again been to put up the hanging baskets throughout the village and they up in time for the May bank holiday. The 'Snook's Corner Group' funded the baskets in Sea

Road bringing our total lampposts to 34 with 68 baskets. The baskets came down in October and after the success of the poppies for the great War centenary commemorations they will again go up this year in the village area. John Farrington will lay a wreath, on our behalf, on Remembrance Sunday at St Mary's Church. Thank you John.

We will be reducing the number of hanging baskets next year by half as our main man for watering them has had to take a step back. We have had a quote from a local company for watering which came in pretty expensive, therefore requiring the reduction and change of planting to drought resistant plants' .

If you know of someone who would like to do this job we would appreciate you letting us know. We will pay from our kitty to do this as we know how much our residents and visitors enjoy the baskets

Felpham Summer Fete 2023. First year since we

began holding this fete the rains came down and people disappeared. We persevered and started late and had the best ever Fete.

'Inferno' brought created a great they will be back Highlights were



Abba Tribute Band people together and atmosphere. We hope with us again in 2024. 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. Murdo Morrison for engineering the sound equipment. Thanks to Bay Tree Estates for sponsoring the Amazon Echo Dots prize draw. Butlin's for donating a couple of annual family passes Beachcroft Hotel for their amazing prizes of a night in one of their lovely new Beach Pods with breakfast; also a cream tea prize. Abacus for sponsoring the Entertainments, Milestones the Tea Tent, Felpham Parish Council for the Games area; Jackie Scott for the Teddy Bear's Parade; Gaterell's Butchers too for BBQ.

Christmas tree light Switch-on Event starting 3.30pm on Friday 8th December Grassmere Parade

This annual event leads Felpham into the Christmas festivities. With choirs from Felpham Community College, Downview School and Edward plus St Mary's safe environment are again providing there will be mince pies on offer. Father John will bless our tree and we thank him for this. It's always a very joyful and happy occasion.



Bryant School Church Choir (a for all.) Butlin's the tree and mulled wine and

Beach Clean & Street Clean

The regular Felpham Beach Clean is at 10.30am every second Saturday of the month starting on the Greensward at the east of Felpham Sailing Club. We regularly have 20+ people who collect a couple of large sacks of rubbish and a bag of recycling so it's a job well done as well as being good fun. The Society again joined 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.



A group of 30 people from FVCS & St Mary's Church took part again in the Autumn Street Clean (there was one in Spring too)

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. We have donated funds towards the installation of two picnic tables with disability access and now looking at improving/saving the 'Question mark seating area' which sadly is disintegrating.

This year the Gardens were 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.

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

mail@felphamvillageconservation.co.uk

CALL OUT TO MUSIC AND SOUND EQUIPMENT PRODUCERS OR TECHNICIANS

Our Sound producer, Murdo MacKenzie Morrison, would like to retire after years of helping us with our sound systems. We will be lost without him as he has so much knowledge.

Is there anyone out there, or do you know of someone who would like to take this on?

Most of our events only require a sound system with microphone. Our main event is the Summer Fete – We have all the equipment and need someone to operate it. Murdo would be happy to introduce you to the equipment and will always be there for guidance. Please contact us via our email address

mail@felphamvillageconservation.co.uk

*Please do continue to contribute to our
Facebook Page –
Felpham Village Conservation Public Group*

*Our website:
www.felphamvillageconservation.co.uk*

AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS AND GUESTS

We request the pleasure of
your company for a glass of
Wine and Nibbles at our
Autumn Social Evening on
Tuesday, 6pm 7th November
at
The Fox Inn .