

NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2024

Spring is in the air and we have news for you! So much to report!

Firstly, we must thank our teams for their amazing help and contribution to our Society:

- The 'Heavy Gang' for putting up/taking down the poppies throughout the village in November. Also erecting Christmas Tree and lighting.
- To Glenn Powell (standing in for John Farrington) for laying our wreath on Remembrance Sunday.
- We should congratulate all who were involved with our successful Village 'Christmas Tree Light Up' last December.
- The Beach Clean has carried on come rain or shine on every second Saturday of the month.
- The 'Friends of Old Rectory Gardens' team have been busy keeping the gardens tidy and weed free every 4th Friday afternoon each month
- Our Allotment group for all they do during difficult winter weather.
- The History Group for their new initiatives.
- Freshen up Felpham Group – looking forward

Christmas Tree Light up on December 8th



This event was so well attended and we have to thank Father John for blessing our tree (*Donated by Butlins*); and all the wonderful choirs: St Mary's Church Choir; Bishop Tufnell School; Edward Bryant School; Downview School; Felpham Community College. St Mary's Church Bells rang out too. All of us warmed with Mulled wine and Mince Pies.

*** Membership & Loyalty Card

A new initiative for our members to enjoy and take advantage of.

We are developing a loyalty discount card. We now have a number of shops, cafes, pubs and local businesses committing to the FVCS initiative. From the outset we decided that we would need 50% of businesses on board to make it viable for everyone. We are hard at work trying to achieve this and expect to be able to launch the card to our members in May this year. **Watch this space!!**

Membership Renewal is April 1st and we hope you will all renew. We will be sending a reminder. Our Bank Account has changed so please send your subscription to our new account: Lloyds Bank 30-99-50 Ac No 70277860 giving your surname as reference. £10 for individuals & £15 for joint/family

Felpham Coastline

Our FVCS committee had a meeting with the Snr Arun Coastal Engineer and Arun Foreshore Officer to discuss our coastline and the pebbles on the prom. With thanks to both they gave a great insight into the challenges they have. We have invited them to give a talk to our members later in the year and have decided we should all wear the T-shirt "***We love our Shingle***". We gleaned here in Felpham we have the safest coastline on the south coast for miles because of the shingle. Arun has limited resources to clear the promenade up to the beginning of The Beach of Estate. We have to understand out of goodwill they clear the areas in front of The Beach Estate and the Summerly Estate. Last year they had of budget of £4000 which was used up after the Spring Tides and nothing left for the unusual Summer storms. A free exercise class for those able - let's get out there with our spades/brooms and help clear some of this if we can!

AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS AND GUESTS

We request the pleasure of your company for Wine and Nibbles at our Spring Social Evening on Tuesday, 26th March: 6pm-8pm in the newly renovated conservatory at The Fox Inn. We look forward to seeing you there

Conversations with our Community Wardens

Our committee met with the Community Wardens to understand their role. We now have 2 wardens to patrol several areas of Arun. It would appear Felpham is one of the safest areas in their catchment area.

To get in touch with them should you have to - email: community.wardens@arun.gov.uk.

We have invited them to give a talk about **FRAUD** in our area on **Tuesday May 21st 2024**. Details to follow.

What is fraud? You will be amazed how it can affect us all in so many different ways.

Easter Egg Hunt – Children get ready – March 30th



History Group Development

2025 is the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II. The Felpham History Group is working towards various activities to mark this by researching what life was like in the village at that time. Other research undertaken recently has looked at the history of the local public houses. And bearing in mind the Save Our Local Village Post Office Campaign, research has also been undertaken on the origins of the village post office.

The new website for The Felpham History group continues to grow as a major resource for the village, the FVCS and The History Group. Historical records, personal accounts, publications and more are all being added as they come in from other members of the group. You can check here for the latest news - <https://thefelphamhistorygroup.net>

Old Rectory Gardens

Thanks to Maggie Lupton for heading this gardening group and to those who have been involved weeding, digging and planting. Along with Arun Council they were given the Green Flag Award again. **Congratulations.**

They meet every 4th Friday of the month 2pm – 4pm.

Thankyou Arun Council and all involved for renovating the Story Telling Area in the gardens. It's looking great again. Take a walk and go see.

Beach Clean

Thanks to Val Morris who leads on the Beach Clean The weather has not always been kind and so many members turned out regardless with an average of 25 people each time. December saw them huddled together with hot drinks and mince pies after their pickings. A great thanks to you all for participating.

Allotments & Hanging Baskets

Water, water everywhere..... the allotments have been under water. The group has not been able to plant anything but have managed to dig over a couple of beds in preparation for planting.

The plants have been ordered for our hanging baskets and will be grown on in our greenhouse. By the end of May the heavy gang will put them in place.

Ron Hand, who has been a vital part of caretaking our allotments, is no longer able to water our baskets during the summer months. The group has invited a member to take on this task and we will pay him the same rate as we did to Ron.

Freshen Up Felpham

Our Conservation and Development Group is progressing with the 'Freshen up Felpham' campaign, whose focus is on the protection and enhancement of the buildings and open environment within the village.

Late last year we conducted a further survey, with a critical view around the village. The great news was that there were only a few areas requiring attention.

The Group is also currently engaged in a plan to to install a few planters to brighten up the Village year round and we have liaised with West Sussex Council for permissions. We met with the officer and hopefully he will come back to agree placements.



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

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

Blue Plaque Trail

Thanks to Kevin Watson for his research. We are pleased to report that work has commenced on our (FVCS) website, introducing a Felpham Blue Plaque Trail starting from Felpham sailing club with the Barbara Harmer Blue Plaque, proceeding through the village with a further six Blue Plaques finishing in the Fisherman's Gardens with the Antarctic explorer Ernest Joyce Blue Plaque.

Quiz night on June 15th – always popular and fun.

Bob May as MC for the night (with Helen as his helper) and fish & chips supper. Further details nearer the date.



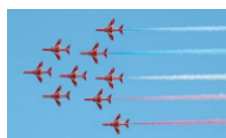
**Felpham Summer
Village Fete
Saturday July 13th
12noon – 5pm**



For your diary – **don't miss it.** Entertainment with Sounds of Gary Barlow and Take that; and others on the day. Hopefully we will be rain free (but who cares – last year was amazing in between showers). Everyone had so much fun. All our stalls were happy; Burgers ran out and Tea Tent had no more cakes to offer by 3pm.

Possible Guest

appearance on July
13th



Last year the Royal Air Force acknowledged the FVCS application for a Fly Past at the FVCS Summer Fete, which is held in The Rectory Gardens in July, cheekily we have requested a ten minute divert of the Red Arrows whilst they head for Goodwood Festival of Speed, which coincides with our summer fete, let us hope they consider it a worthwhile detour, fingers crossed.

History talk October 26th

In October, amateur historian Kevin Watson will be kindly giving a talk. This time sharing the heroic events of a soldier who once lived in Summerly Lane and was part of a small group of brave soldiers that liberated a train of holocaust victims.



FVCS Accounts

We would like to thank Lime Bookkeeping for monitoring our accounts this past couple of years. An end of year set of accounts will be distributed to members ahead of our AGM in April.

We now have a member who has offered to take on our bookkeeping using the 'Zero' system which we have subscribed to.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2024

26/3/24	Social Evening	The Fox Inn	6pm-8pm
30/3/24	Easter Egg Hunt	The Old Rectory Gardens	2pm on the dot
22/4/24	FVCS AGM	St Mary's Centre	6pm-7pm
21/5/24	Fraud Awareness talk	St Mary's Centre	6pm-8pm
15/6/24	Quiz & Fish and Chips	St Mary's Centre	7pm-10pm
13/7/24	Felpham Summer Fete	The Old Rectory Gardens	12pm-5pm
31/8/24	FPC Summer on the Prom	Felpham prom	12pm-10pm
26/10/24	History talk	St Mary's Centre	7pm-9pm

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 us

mail@felphamvillageconservation.co.uk