

LINDFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020



A Note from the Editor...

Hello and welcome to the November edition of the LBS Newsletter.

I thought that I'd introduce myself. Since January I've been a co-opted member of the Committee and in April I took on the role of Press Officer. This is a new role on Committee designed to help contribute to communicating what we are up to, both to members and the wider community.

I originally thought that maybe, just maybe, we would have been able to hold our usual Bonfire celebrations and this first edition of the newsletter with me contributing to it would be all about that. Sadly this has not been the case due to the wretched pestilence that is COVID. I share everyone's disappointment that we can't celebrate in our usual way which brings so much joy into the village, as well as attending outmeetings of other societies. But we're still going to fundraise. And we're still going to do our utmost to raise money for our chosen childrens' charities. And we'll be back next year. (I wonder if we could get Martin Durrant to make a COVID molecule to burn alongside the Guy?!)

Since April I've hit the ground running and set up a few things that you may be interested in.

Firstly, we now have a Twitter address – **@Lindfield_bs**. I wanted it to be used show what we were up to in real-time, especially on 5th November to help raise awareness and provide information as necessary. If you use twitter, please give us a follow.

Secondly, we now have an Instagram account – **Lindfield_Bonfire** – where the intention was to broadcast photos and video from our events – especially on 5th November. Again, please give us a follow if you use it.

We still have our Facebook pages – search for 'Lindfield Bonfire Society' for the main page and members can also join the 'Lindfield Bonfire Society Members Only' page which is designed for member-only communications and matters that

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we want to hold back from revealing to the general public.

Our website – www.lindfieldbonfiresociety.co.uk has been creaking for a while and has been redesigned to ensure that it is fit for the future, is more relevant and much easier to keep up-to-date. Applicants will eventually be able to apply for membership online and there will be an online store to buy all your LBS merchandise from. We will also feature the charities that we are supporting and have some items on the history of Bonfire and the Sussex Bonfire tradition (can you believe that there was no information about the Gunpowder Plot on there!). It also has a countdown timer so you know exactly how far away 5 November 2021 is.

Lastly, as you may also have noticed, the newsletter has also had something of a makeover. It's now in our Society colours of navy blue and white – so there's no excuse for not knowing them!

I really do hope that you like these changes. If you have any comments, please get in touch.

With very best wishes.

Stewart Rose

Press Officer

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the QR Code.



AGM Update



We would normally have held our AGM by now but COVID restrictions have meant that we have been unable to do so.

The Committee had been exploring the feasibility of holding the AGM prior to Lockdown 2.0 given that restrictions had been somewhat relaxed and we all come to terms with the 'new normal'. However, making the AGM COVID secure would place a high burden on the Society and in addition the latest lockdown has made the holding of the AGM unfeasible.

The Committee at its September meeting decided to not hold the AGM this year. Legal requirements such as approving the accounts of the Company have been performed and filed at Companies House.

The members of Committee will continue to serve until the AGM can be held – at the earliest this will now likely be in the spring of 2021.

Some Committee members have decided to stand down from their roles and Committee has voted to make the following appointments on an interim basis until the next AGM:

Treasurer:	Tracey Webster
Logistics Secretary:	Matt Willcock
Press Officer:	Stewart Rose

The Committee want to place on record their thanks to the outgoing Treasurer, Sheila Cheeseman, and Logistics Secretary, Wendy Box who have provided such immense support in these roles over the years.

RECENT EVENTS

COVID may have put a dampner on our 5th November celebrations, but we've still been active holding events to raise funds for the Society. Below are details on some of the things we've been up to:

Online LBS Quizzes

Stewart Rose hosted two online quiz nights in June and July while we were all still locked down. Members and non-members took part and competed on rounds on general knowledge, music, TV themes and on Lindfield trivia. Everyone had a great time and the two nights raised £120.99 for the Society.

Stewart will look at holding a few more of these over the winter months to make those long winter evenings pass by just a little quicker!

LBS Drive Sale

Mark and Sarah Tampion-Lacey hosted a drive sale on 31st August at their home to sell donated stock and LBS Merchandise.



The event was really well-supported with many people stopping by on their Bank Holiday strolls and it was

wonderful to spend some socially-distanced time with fellow members.

The sale raised a whopping £288.93.

Many thanks to Mark and Sarah for hosting the event and for the excellent Chilli which we all scoffed down!

LBS Badge Nights

In September we would usually host a badge night at the Stand Up Inn where our good friends from Skulldrummary would attend and really get things going with their bone-shattering drumming, while we sell our badges for the upcoming season.

Sadly because of social distancing measures it was not feasible to hold this event in its traditional form.

We were also thinking of holding a 'Not Badge Night' picnic on Lindfield common, where badges and merchandise were sold. Sadly however the tightening of COVID regulations which limit the size of groups gathering in public has caused these plans to be put on hold for the time being.

NEW MEMBERS WANTED

We're always on the lookout for new members to join our small but perfectly formed Society. **See Membership News section for more details.**

OUR CHOSEN CHARITIES

CLAPA Chestnut Tree House
Court Meadow RDA Orchard House
Kangaroos

Garden Guy Competition

In October in the run up to Bonfire Night, we held our first ever Garden Guy Competition.

The success of the competition exceeded all of our wildest expectations. Over 60 households entered the competition. Entries ranged from traditional Guidos with barrels of gunpowder, to minions.

At our street collection on 24 October we even sold out of our first batch of maps showing the location of each Guy demonstrating the popularity and enthusiasm of the Village for Bonfire things.

The judges decided on the following winners:



1st place: The Harper Family of By Sunte



2nd place: The Slack Family of Hickmans Lane



3rd place: Emma Ford of Lewes Road (assisted by Stew and Liz Rose)

Commendations were awarded to the Brough Family (technical merit), Andi and family at the Stand Up Inn (for rebuilding following storm damage and the Poulsen Family (for use of twigs and looking beautiful).

Congratulations to the winners, runners up, those commended and everyone else for taking part.

We must also say a big thank you to Mike Webster for his organisational skills, Matt Wilcock for printing, Happy Feet for selling the maps and to Dave Hawk for supplying the chocolate prizes.

The good news is that after the success of this year, we're going to do it all over again in 2021!

Guess the Weight of the Pumpkin Competition



Our very good friend Andi and her team at the Stand up Inn hosted a guess-the-weight-of-the-pumpkin competition in aid of our fundraising.

The winner was Chris Donohue who was only 0.1kg away from the pumpkin's weight of a whopping 26.1kg (that's 57.5lbs in old money!)

Remembrance Sunday

Due to the Royal British Legion Lindfield Branch having to cancel the Remembrance Day wreath laying and church service, the LBS wreath was laid in the church by Mark and Sarah Tampion-Lacey prior to Remembrance Sunday.

All the wreaths have now been attached to the lathes on the wall next to the War Memorial by the RBL.

We very much hope for a return to the traditional wreath laying next year, and will invite all LBS members to attend.

November 5th 4th

The introduction of Lockdown 2.0 on Thursday 5th November 2020 meant that we bought forward our usual street collection by 24 hours.

Mike Webster, Sarah Tampion-Lacey and Stewart Rose (assisted by Spike) raised money from merchandise sales and donations.



...and for those of you wondering what our 2020 Guy looks like...



Another superb effort from Martin Durrant.

EASYFUNDRAISING

Please support Lindfield's shops where possible by buying things from them. For those things you can't buy locally, consider buying them from **Easyfundraising**.

For those retailers registered on the scheme, when you make an online purchase, LBS receives a percentage of your spend at no cost to you.

To date, easyfundraising has raised over £400 for LBS. For more details and to register, go to easyfundraising.org.uk and search for **Lindfield Bonfire Society**.

November 4th Walk to Wendy's

On Bonfire eve, a small and socially distanced group walked the torch procession route, held a two-minute silence at the village War Memorial, recited the Bonfire Prayer at the fire site and then went to visit LBS Stalwart Wendy Box.



We were sad that only a few could go out to mark the procession route, but hope you understand that this could not have been a big event and numbers had to be kept to a minimum for everyone's safety.

FUTURE EVENTS

The First Bonfire

We've taken the unfortunate decision to cancel the First Bonfire event usually held in January due to the pandemic.

The LBS Duck Race

2020 is proving to be a year of firsts. In addition to online quizzes and garden



Guys, we're also looking to hold our first ever duck race around Easter 2021.

Think of it like a race night but with ducks. You will be able to buy a duck (as many as you like) and they

will be raced down a stretch of the river. The owner of the winning duck will win a prize, everyone who enters will have helped to raise funds. The race will be broadcast online, so you can see how your duck fared, and you don't get muddy.

Further details will be announced on our Facebook / Twitter / Instagram channels when they are finalised.

Conspiracy

This new event commemorates the date of the first meeting of conspirators of what would go on to be known as the Gunpowder Plot in May 1604. No details yet, but it is bound to include beer (given that first meeting was itself held in a pub!)

FUNDRAISING



Some of you may be wondering why it is that we are still doing fundraising activities given that the biggest event in our calendar – 5th November has not taken place this year.

Well there are a number of reasons...

Firstly, there are still costs that we incur even if we do not hold our event. We still, for example, have to hold valid insurance to provide cover for the materials that we keep and what activities we still undertake.

Secondly, by holding fundraising events, we continue to maintain our public profile. We are an all year round member of our community. There is more to us than 5th November.

Thirdly, we still want to do what we can to raise money for the wonderful children's charities that we support. In these difficult time we want to help them as much as we can.

Fourthly we have to pay for fireworks for future events – we may as well start saving up now!

And finally, we still want to have fun. Laughter with friends is often the best medicine – even more so in these troubled times.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We're always on the lookout for new members to join our small but perfectly formed Society.

In addition to normal membership we now have a **Friends of LBS** membership available which is for those who wish to support us but not be heavily involved. This is priced at £7.50 per year.

Full details of all of our memberships are available on our website at lindfieldbonfiresociety.co.uk/membership

LBS Merchandise

For those of you needing merchandise, our Membership Secretary Mike Webster has a stock of LBS jumpers and badges (current and historic) available. Mike can be contacted on memberslbs@gmail.com.

Our 2020 badges:



Our very popular 2021 calendars are available to buy and make the perfect stocking filler and are available to buy from the following places:

- Sarah Lacey Dry Cleaning
- Cottenham's Butchers
- Mark Revill Estate Agents
- Penny Black Barbers
- Clough's Delicatessen

THE LBS WORDSEARCH

Can you find the Gunpowder Plotters in the wordsearch?

P T F O G G Y J O H N G R A N T F Z N J
 B Y T R T B I J P B R V P S J R R Y F H
 V Q H E A R Y F O T F L E O D X K M G E
 U J O V A N O R C H H Z U K A Z H L U H
 M X M E U P C B F D N O D W C F E A A Z
 G Z A R S P G I E H P W M S H O T P Q P
 S P S A O V D N S R A K R A M A A Q N H
 T G W R F K I H U T T N T I S O H U W H
 X K I D L W J L G J R W D R G B B S G F
 R A N D R X J L P J M E I R W H A G F A
 O A T I H O L Z E T W N S N W F T T P P
 B N O G R E Z S F P P J T H T L T J E C
 E J U B I T O R O F O R G G A O B S S S
 R N R Y X F P Y M N M A X Q M M U S M B
 T F U R O B E R T C A T E S B Y K R U M
 K B Y V B V G K R S V V K T O D G M D P
 E S A M B R O S E R O C K W O O D V E G
 Y O Q S M Y L Y P M G F X X E U I Q U W
 E N P M A C N E T H O M A S P E R C Y H
 S S D H G U Y F A W K E S B C A W Z X F

GUYFAWKES
 THOMASWINTOUR
 EVERARDDIGBY
 ROBERTCATESBY
 JOHNWRIGHT
 ROBERTWINTOUR
 THOMASPERCY
 ROBERTKEYES
 THOMASBATES
 JOHN GRANT
 AMBROSEROCKWOOD
 FRANCISTRESHAM

Some Bonfire Night jokes...

What do you call a duck that likes watching fireworks?
 A firequacker

What do you get when you cross a dinosaur with a firework?
 Dinomite

How many safety inspectors does it take to light a bonfire?
 4: One to light the match and three to hold the fire extinguisher

A policeman arrested two people on Bonfire Night – one for dinking battery acid and one for eating fireworks. He charged one and let the other one off!