

The Clarion

Issue 283 July 2019

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Committee report
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Puzzle page 15



:) Look what I won! See page 12 for details

Editors note:

Summer is here! I am officially on my holiday and here is the latest Clarion for your perusal.

Included is a hefty Committee report to go through so make sure you are sitting comfortably to read it.

There are less than 4 months until our big night and there is plenty to be doing in preparation to make sure the Cliffe is Nulli Secundus again. As you will see and have hopefully already read in the ECN we have quite a few fundraisers coming up and I am looking forward to all of them. If any of you have time to help set up and support these events it will be appreciated.

Sadly, for those who don't know our President Tim knight passed away in May. Tim was an important Cliffe member for over 50 years, he was a true Bonfire Boy with all that entails: building noisy tableaux; drinking to excess at outmeetings far & wide; carousing through the night; letting fireworks off willy-nilly around the county; drilling into fireworks to make them 'go faster'; and recently the proud owner of a remote-control pyrotechnics detonating device.

Born & bred in the county, he was also a true Sussex boy – always keen to share his opinion, loyal to his friends, frequently stubborn, often curmudgeonly, and never, ever 'Druv'!

His departure will leave a gaping hole in many people's lives, particularly in Bonfire. He will be missed by many.

On a personal note Tim and his family were the people who got me involved in bonfire and the Cliffe. Lending me his poncho for my first ever procession (Nevill Bonfire) and keeping an eye on us all at outmeetings until we were old enough to start keeping an eye out for him!

I have many good memories of Tim. A favourite of mine is when we were at Newick and the coaches weren't allowed to collect us from the pub. We had been waiting for a very long time and everyone was frustrated. When the coach was finally let through, Tim with a beer in his hand, dressed as a monk and wearing sandals, laid down in front of it protesting loudly and refusing to move. It took three of us (teenagers at the time) - myself, Yasmine and Adam - to get him off the floor and finally on the coach back to Lewes.

Tim taught me a lot about bonfire, and the workings behind all of it. He always encouraged me to say what I believe in. Which has helped me to think carefully about decisions that need to be made in Committee meetings also in other situations unrelated to bonfire. For that, I will always be grateful. Love to all of his family.

Until the next Clarion, regards to you all Amber Richardson (Editor)

Who's who?

Here is an update on all of the current positions held:

Directors: Alex Hunt, Paul Mockford & Lucy Wilson.

Chairman: Kate Over

Secretary: Allan Philp

Treasurer: Ed Smith

Commander in Chief: Lucy Wilson

Captain of Bands: Christine Sullivan

Captain of Banners: Vicky Funnell

Captain of Effigies: Mark Allen

Captain of Street Fireworks: Trista Fife

Captain of Aerials: Sonya Blake

Captain of Fire Site: Steve Mockford

Captain of Fiery Pieces: Richard Wilson

Captain Of Programmes: Gary Edwards

Captain Of Tableau: Gavin Ward

Captain of Torches: John Cross

Captain of Tar Barrels: Chris Bassett

Membership Secretary: Alex Hunt

Committee Members:

Simon Barr (Safety Advisor), Peter Bassett, Tim Bassett, Travis Blake, Lee Christmas, Adam Frost (ECN Editor), Mark Greenwood (Safety Advisor), Ian Over, Duncan Pratley, Amber Richardson (Clarion Editor), Chrissie Stanley (Fundraising).

Merchandise: Charlotte Smithers

Bar Manager: Felicity Jackson

Pioneer Chief: Carl Prince

2nd Pioneer Chief: Caroline Groves

Enemies of Bonfire: Currently Vacant



Committee Report July 2019

Our President

It goes without saying that the sad loss of our President Tim Knight has cast a shadow over the first four months of this year, but it was so good to see that his Society showed up in force to send him on his way with a few well-timed bangs and songs a plenty, as I'm sure he would have appreciated. As a mark of respect, the Committee have decided that we leave the position of President unfilled until the next AGM.

Report

Despite this, your Committee has been hard at work on your behalf, as always. In summary we have discussed and/or made decisions regarding the following:

- Our yard maintenance team continues to keep our most important asset in good shape but as always, **more volunteers are needed** to get it ship shape in time for the beginning of the season – it's only 2 months away!
- Yard security – we will be erecting some 7ft fencing around the front of the yard soon. We had hoped to continue this around the back but **simply cannot afford it at the moment**. It will cost c.£1000 for materials.
- Other security measures are also being considered but these have yet to be agreed. We have a lot of valuable assets and equipment that we keep there and this will help to ensure that we do not get any unwanted visitors as we have experienced in the past sometimes. It will also mean that no one will be able to enter the yard without prior permission in future. We will keep you posted about this as and when plans become more clear.
- Our Captains of Aerial and Effigies have successfully renewed their British Pyrotechnic Association membership, as have others, so we now have at least six members among our firework teams, as well as others who have taken it in the past. This also means that we are now better placed to undertake firework displays on a professional basis so **if you know anyone who wants one, let us know**.

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Committee Report continued...

- Sonya and her team will be working hard in August to prepare for our entry into this year's Firework Competition on August 10th, 2019 at Wiston Park. We hope to be arranging some transport and we hope to see as many of you there as possible to give them your unrivalled support – and win! Keep your eyes peeled for further information.
- East Hoathly and Firle will be our visiting societies this year.
- Our revamped website is well on the way to being set up and will be re-launched in time for the new season in September. Also, we may even have some electronic ways of paying in future so buying merchandise will be made a lot more easy. Again, watch this space and the ECN!
- As you may have seen in the ECN on 28th June 2019, we are always looking for more helpers to carry jumble to and from the yard and St Thomas' Hall in Cliffe High Street. As our Treasurer highlighted, **there are many of you who live within 10 minutes' drive** of Lewes and some of you must be able to offer a couple of hours to help every few months. **It would a great shame to lose this regular fundraising event after so many years because our members cannot be bothered!**
- We will be launching a new range of merchandise to help with our fundraising activities and we hope to have these on sale at the Archives Evening on Friday 20th July 2019 @the All Saints' Centre.

Last, but not least, and not for the first time, the most discussed topic in the last few months has been the pitiful state of our finances and the almost total lack of help that we get from our members in helping us to raise money. We were very fortunate last year in that we had quite a few bars, but we still made a loss. This year there have been significantly fewer bar bookings and it looks like that we will continue to make a loss this year. While we have a couple of new fundraising events this year on the 19th and 21st July, for which you will see advertisements later in this Clarion, this will not be enough to cover our losses.

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Committee Report continued

	Banked to date	Spend to date
	£	£
2018	£8,774.00	£29,652.00
2019	£5,136.00	£23,731.00
Difference between years	£3,638.00	£5,921.00
Difference between income & expenditure to date	-£2,283.00	

	Income	Expenditure
	£	£
Forecast income and expenditure to end 2019	£90,000.00	£96,000.00
Forecast difference @ year end		-£6,000.00

	Plus 2% inflation decrease for income & increase for expenditure				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Income	£90,000.00	£90,000.00	£90,000.00	£90,000.00	£90,000.00
Cost of running Bonfire Night	£50,000.00	£51,000.00	£52,020.00	£53,060.40	£54,121.61
Insurance	£14,000.00	£14,280.00	£14,565.60	£14,856.91	£15,154.05
Total	£64,000.00	£65,280.00	£66,585.60	£67,917.31	£69,275.66
Difference between Bonfire Night costs & income	£26,000.00	£24,720.00	£23,414.40	£22,082.69	£20,724.34
Cost of running Cliffe Bonfire Society	£32,000.00	£32,640.00	£33,292.80	£33,958.66	£34,637.83
Difference between total costs & income	-£6,000.00	-£7,920.00	-£9,878.40	£11,875.97	£13,913.49
Increase in subs required to cover shortfall	7.50	9.90	12.35	14.84	17.39
Potential new adult subscriptions	£37.50	£39.90	£42.35	£44.84	£47.39

Continued next page

Committee Report continued

Whichever way you look at it, we are still going to run at a significant loss that is unlikely to get any smaller into the future. **If we cannot raise significantly more money through fundraising, particularly those events that attract members of the public rather than just our own members, we will not be able to afford to put on Bonfire Night in the way to which you have all become accustomed.** Added to which, if we cannot afford to pay our insurance then the whole night could be put at risk.

Of course, **we could put up adult subscriptions but in order to cover our increasing losses this could go up to as much as £50.00 per adult by 2023 shown above.** This is not scaremongering, this is wake up and smell the coffee time!

Do you really want this to happen? If not, set aside an hour or two here and there when you are asked to support or to help at an event in the Clarion, ECN or by email. If we had your commitment we could put on more profitable events that raise enough money to ensure that we at least break even each year. Without it, your Bonfire Night is at risk.

I am sorry that this is not the sort of report that tells you that everything is hunky dory in the land of the Cliffe, because it's not. We need more of you to help with the year round fundraising, not just having fun for the night itself! We have had a couple of suggestions from other members and we will be following these up but we could do with some more, if you have any please let Allan or I know.

Kate Holgate Chairman

**THE NEXT COPY DATE FOR
THE CLARION WILL BE
31ST AUGUST 2019**

Remember the Clarion is always after new writers, pictures, quizzes, tales, interviews and sponsorship. If you can help with any of these things. Please don't hesitate to contact me:

Amber Richardson Cliffeclarion@gmail.com or 07866 847938 Thanks

Membership

Adult membership applications closed on 30th June. We welcome new members who will be reading their first Clarion and also our junior members who have progressed to adult members this year. We will hold a new members meeting at the yard on Sunday 8th September from 10 a.m. please come along and meet our new members and make them feel welcome.

If you need to apply for junior membership application forms are on our website.

I will be collecting subs at the Growers and Showers event on Sunday 8th September at the Dorset in the afternoon. This will be the first of the subs dates - more dates to follow.

My usual reminder - if you have changed your address or contact details please let me know - just email me on membership@cliffebonfire.com with your new details.

And finally if you have received a paper copy of this Clarion then please consider changing to email. Again just email me and I can change for you - bonus is that you get your Clarion quicker you save the planet by having paper and of course you save the Cliffe money in postage and administration costs.

A decorative graphic featuring several colorful firework bursts in shades of blue, red, and yellow, arranged around the title text.

The Bonfire Societies Firework Championship

This year our very own Captain of Aerials Sonya Blake and her superb team will be competing at The Bonfire Societies Firework Championship, on Saturday 10th August. It is held at Wiston Park, Steyning. I am taking this opportunity to rally up the troops to come and support them. They are representing the Mighty Cliffe and should have as many of us there to support them.

Best wishes Sonya! Nulli Secundus



Stoolball

The 1st inter-society Bonfire cup!



Sunday 21st July 2019
11am to 6pm, the Paddock



Bar



BBQ



Stalls



Bouncy castle



Best dressed team prize

**£5 to register a team. Then
£2 per person to play in a
team of 10.**

**Register your team up at:
treasurer@cliffebonfire.com**



Fundraising

This is a call out to ALL members, even before the start of the 'Outmeeting' season the bonfire calendar runs all year round, in the coming weeks we have a few things in the pipeline for fundraising, however this cannot be achieved without the dedication and support, not only of OUR Committee and loyal supporters but also YOU 'The Members', whether it is attending the fundraising meetings, helping with the organisation & set up or just turning up and the supporting the events themselves 'Your Society DOES Need You!'

If you require any information or want to help with fundraising please contact Chrissie on chrissie.stanley@hotmail.com

Cliffe Bonfire Archive

On Friday 19th July we will be holding a Cliffe Archive & Film Evening!

From 5pm until 7.30 pm we will have a selection of our archives on view, thanks to Pete Martin. He will soon be depositing them into the Sussex Archives at the Keep so don't miss this opportunity!

There will be banners, old newsletters and lots of photos and all sorts of other interesting things to look at from our 166 year history. We will also have a rare chance to purchase old Clarions & programmes.

Refreshments will be available: tea, coffee, cakes, snacks and a fully licensed bar.

From 7.30pm/8pm we will be showing two films. Once A Year In Lewes & Lest We Forget. Both films capture Lewes Bonfire in such a unique way that they are unmissable!

Doors open at 5pm and will be due to finish at 10pm. There is an entry fee of £3 but under 16s are free.

If you can, please put up a poster and encourage as many of your fellow members and friends to come along.



Cliffe Bonfire Archive

**Friday 19th July 2019
All Saints Centre, Lewes**

Doors open: 5pm

Entry £3.00 under 16s Free

Historical archive from 5pm

Cliffe Bonfire film showings from 7pm

Licensed bar



All welcome



Firesite dinner

Those adept in the art of pallet shifting and fire building came together one evening in May to celebrate another stupendously fine year. Master crafter & Captain extraordinaire himself - Mockers, was on hand to present some awards that were brilliantly created by elite craftsman (and minor TV celebrity / award winner, no less) – Dave 'Flintman' Smith to round off the evening. A jolly good time was had by all!



Best Firesite Pallet Shifter

Winner: Amber Richardson
Runners Up: Mark (from Worthing)

Firesite Award for the Biggest Strop of the Year

Winner: Duncan Boyes
Runner Up: Duncan Boyes

Best Fireside Cake and Snack Provider

Winner: Helen Boyes
Runner Up: Ali Mockford

Most Chilled Out Firesite Member 2019

Winner: Steve (Mockers Mockford)
Runner Up: Vinnie Bridger

Firesite Member Most Likely to Fall Off the Fire 2019

Winner: Dave Bell
Runner Up: Alfie Cracknell

Most Enthusiastic Firesite Newcomer 2019

Winner: Jacko
Runner Up: Matthew Watts

Message from our treasurer

Hi everyone,

If you read the Clarion, peruse the ECN or follow us on Facebook and Twitter (and if you don't you really should), then you'll be aware of the many and varied fundraising events we run throughout the year. Putting on the greatest celebration of Bonfire Night anywhere in the world isn't cheap and the money we get from membership and donations only covers about a third of our total outlay each year. As such, the fundraising we do is absolutely vital and without the work of the many volunteers who help out with our events, our celebrations would be much diminished.

The pool of volunteers however is a somewhat small one compared to the number of members we have living in Lewes or within a few miles who could potentially be helping out. I know we all lead increasingly busy lives but it would be really nice if some more people could find a few hours here and there to help out with a bit of Cliffe fundraising. Even if you don't want to help run the events, coming along and spending money is also incredibly helpful!

So whether you've been a member for years but only ever turned out on the 5th before or you're one of our newer members looking to make good on what you said on the membership form about being willing to help out, there's never been a better time than right now!

All the people who run our events are super-friendly so don't be shy and we always have fun doing it. If you want more information about fundraising and how you can help, do please drop me an email at treasurer@cliffebonfire.com and I'll be happy to let you know where we're currently looking for volunteers and if not that, then hopefully I'll see lots of new faces in the crowd at our archive exhibition, stoolball tournament, treasure hunt, growers and showers fair and all the other money-making events we have planned between now and November! Thanks, Ed

Cliffe Programme advertising

Got a business you want to promote?
Do you know someone that may want to
advertise?

Do you know any shop/business owners in Lewes
and the surrounding areas who you think should
advertise?

Then book your space in the 2019 Cliffe Bonfire
Society Programme. Rates and artwork info on
request from Gary Edwards (garyjamesedwards@
gmail.com). The more money we raise for advertising
covers the printing and brings much needed coffers
in the Cliffe funds.

Growers & Showers

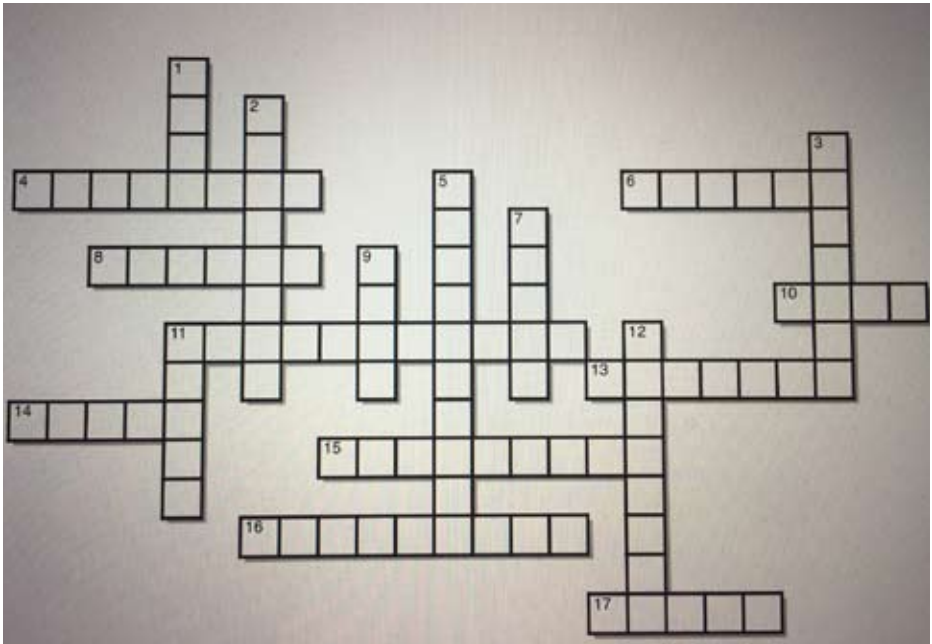
From Carrots to Icing - Please bring along your home grown garden
produce (or allotment of course!), Vegetables, Fruit, Jams, Pickles,
Breads, Cakes, Biscuits, Pies, Preserves, Wine, Beer. As long as it
his home grown, baked, stewed or produced, we will find a suitable
category for judging.

**Sunday 8th September at the Dorset
in the afternoon.**

(Details to be confirmed in the ECN.)



Have a go at this puzzle. Remember if you have any games, puzzles, jokes, articles, pictures please send them to me cliffeclarion@gmail.com thanks



ACROSS

4. Gav's the Captain (plural)
6. Nulli secundus (the society)
8. Over the river
10. Workspace and imperial measurement
12. Richard is the Captain
13. JC is the Captain
14. Commander in
15. Gary is the Captain
16. Number of protestant martyrs
17. Procession after the 7.10

Down

1. It's hot
2. Black and white
3. Sonya is the Captain
5. 4th November (5,5)
7. Societies in Lewes
9. Burn the
11. Date of Lewes Bonfire
12. Month of remembrance

Cliffe Bonfire Bars

We are always in need of volunteers to help staff our bars, which make a lot of profit for the Society, and are a lot of fun. NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF BAR WORK IS REQUIRED. Our pricing is simple, and we train our bar staff on the job. If you do not wish to serve on the bar, we also need help with loading/unloading and set-up, and with collecting and washing-up glasses. **If you can help with any of our upcoming bars, please contact Felicity Jackson on bars@cliffebonfire.com or 07760-942102**

Cliffe Contacts

Chairman - Kate Over
Address: Flat 16, 34/36 Cliffe High Street, Lewes, BN7 2AN
Home 01273 487346
Mobile: 07745 334132
Email: chairman@cliffebonfire.com

Secretary - Allan Philp
Address: 3 Chandlers Mead, Cooksbridge, Lewes, BN8 4SZ
Mobile: 07488 391066
Email: secretary@cliffebonfire.com

Treasurer - Ed Smith
Address: 5 Waite Close, Lewes, BN7 2QW
Phone: 07776 134683
Email: treasurer@cliffebonfire.com

Cliffe Clarion - Editor Amber Richardson
Tel: 07866 847938
Email: cliffeclarion@gmail.com

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