

The Clarion

Issue 285 Dec 2019



Photograph courtesy of Roz Bassford-South

Editors note:

Ah what a superb and special night,
To the Captains, safety officers, chairman and committee, the fundraisers
and workers thank you. To my lovely Military ranks thank you for your
delightful company and I will see you the same time next year!
Already we have started our fundraising for 2020 so keep an eye on the
ECN for events and details of how you can help.

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

This Clarion is sponsored by Mr Steve Burtenshaw

He will be hosting a tankard stall at Christmas fair.
Over 100 tankards in stock!

Contact Steve Burtenshaw on 07944466636
Always happy to exchange a purchase if not fully happy.

"I'm usually carrying a dozen at most outmeetings and the 5th.
I attend Lewes beer festival with a stack of them too."



To sponsor the next issue of this newsletter please contact
cliffeclarion@gmail.com

A few words from your C in C - Lucy Wilson

What a night! The weather behaved, the timings were great and we overcame a very difficult build up to truly show that we are Nulli Secundus. I have a fantastic team and couldn't do it without them. There are so many to thank that helped out before, during and after. Those that fundraise, marshal, help with fencing, keep me calm and all the other jobs great and small, I thank you all!
Same time next year?!

Lucy Wilson

P.S any issues please contact me on lucy.crook@email.com
P.P.S A big thanks to Sonya. She knows why! And to Mark Allen for allowing me to use paper mache as therapeutic treatment pre-5th.

A few words from Senior Aide de camp - Mark Greenwood

Wow....what a 5th!! Well worth the many hours of work and preparations, and showing that we, the Cliffe know how to do bonfire bigger; better; and safer than we are ever given credit for by the authorities.

Once again it was a true honour to lead the procession through the town, and I would like to thank and congratulate ALL of the Captains; team members; and indeed the membership as a whole for being just so bloody fantastic!! Special mention as always to Lucy Wilson, our amazing Commander in Chief.....you rock!!

Look forward to seeing many of you at the dinner... for everyone else...
Happy Xmas!!

Mark Greenwood
Senior Aide de Camp & Safety Adviser

A few words from Smugglers Aides de camp

Duncan and Mark would like to thank all of the Marshals in the Smugglers' ranks for making it a great night. See you all next year.

From the Chairman - Kate Over

There simply aren't enough superlatives to express just how proud and happy you all looked, how well it all went (in the end!), how smoothly it was all organised, how noisy and excellent the fireworks were and how hot fire was. It's all getting to be quite normal, isn't it? Quite traditional in fact! We are an amazing sight to behold on Bonfire Night and you should all be very proud of yourselves.

However, before we all get too carried away with ourselves, needless to say there are a couple of 100 members who need thanking. As I'm sure you all well aware, it wouldn't happen without the immense amount of hard work all year that goes into making our Fifth 'Nulli Secundus'!

So, on a personal note and on others' behalf, I would like to say a huge and sincere 'Thank You' to: the incredible Lucy and her team of aides and marshals; the marvellous Captains (new and old) of Aerials, Bands, Effigies, Fiery Pieces, Firesite, Programmes, Street Fireworks, Tableau, Tar Barrels and Torches, their teams and helpers on the days leading up and after the Fifth; the torch makers and runners; the membership team; the merchandising team; Rico and his lorry; Angela and her team of collectors; the bands and band marshals; all those help to fundraise throughout the year; all those who make or help with jumpers and other costumes; our very own Fire Brigade; those who provide useful advice and guidance, particularly our clerical brethren and safety advisers; our most professional photographers who help us record such a wonderful night; the 'Catering Corps' – the lovely ladies who keep us fed and watered down at the Yard throughout the season; and last but not least, those who spend hours keep you informed throughout the year, the editors of the Clarion, ECN and website.

Without these members, it just wouldn't happen. So, if you'd like to revel in that warm glow of satisfaction in the knowledge of a good job well done, then please get more involved, either with one of the teams (you are welcome to speak to any of the Captains at any time) or by supporting our fundraising. Thank you one and all.

CAPTAIN'S MESSAGES

Captain of Torches - John Cross

Well what a great night, I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.

Now for a few thank you's firstly I would like to thank all the people who gave up their time the makers, the cutters, the dippers, the loaders and the runners. I couldn't do it without you.

Thank you to the ladies who kept us fed and watered down the yard.

To Joe Light for the skips. Rico with the lorry.

All the people who help clear up the morning after.

Lastly a special mention goes out to Gaz Newton who has been a part of my team for over 20 years thank you!

Hope to see you soon. JC

Captain of Tar Barrels - Chris Bassett

I was extremely honoured to take to the streets for the first time as Captain of tar barrels.

My new team were fantastic and made my night a whole lot easier thank you to each and everyone of you.

But there are two people I need to give a special mention to and that's Mark Philp my head of barrel maintenance for all his hard work to ensure the barrel carts passed their yearly MOT.

And to Malc Bassett (Dad) for all your advice and encouragement I hope I done you proud.

Cheers

Chris

Captain of Programmes - Gary Edwards

So that was another 5th November and a glorious day it was as well. I would like to thank the Programme selling team who did an amazing job leading up to and selling on the day as well. There are too many names to list them all, but you know who you are. Hopefully we should make a nice tidy profit so all of the hours you have put were worth it. Thanks also to the Captains, Committee members and workers of the society who put 1000's of hours in to make this the greatest day of the year. Till next time. Regards, Gary Edwards, Captain of Programmes

Captain of Firesite - Steve Mockford

Congratulations to all the Captains and their teams for once again a truly spectacular night.

Thanks to my team of misfits for their assistance in constructing the fire and of setting out of the field. (Trying as it is at times).

Not a bad sing song on the 6th either guys.

All the best until next time,

Mockers

Captain of Aerials - Sonya Blake

Well done to all the Captains, their teams and everyone who works tirelessly – what a fabulous enjoyable night.....

A HUGE HUGE THANK YOU.

To the Aerial Team - you are like a well oiled machine and it is noted just how many hours are put in and hopefully you know how much you are appreciated..... it's also amazing how many biscuits and cups of tea can be consumed in the shed but if it keeps you all working!!

The Humping Team – you are beyond the most helpful people in helpful land, putting out the equipment and then becoming the clearer-upperers on the 6th and then the shifting team who came down on the 7th and shifted everything back to the yard you are amazing.

I won't name you all but you know who you are.....

This year was so wet I think Screwfix sold out of Wellies here's hoping for a dry week next year.

We are NULLI SECUNDUS!!

See you at the Dinner!!

Sonya Blake

Captain of Aerials

Captain of Street Fireworks - Trista Fife

Thank you to my amazing team for all you do, it wouldn't happen without you!

Thanks also to everyone that helped with things before and during the night and to everyone that carried and did poppy cannons.

Well done to all the Captains for a great night.

See you at the dinner

Captain of Bands - Christine Sullivan

What a night! My first year as Captain of Bands could not have gone any better. I want to personally thank all my Band Marshals for doing a brilliant job on the 5th in looking after the bands. Without you all we would not have the bands we do coming back year after year. All the bands have praised the work the Marshals in looking after them on the night and they all booked to return next year. I am also very thankful to the team at the Dorset and the ladies who helped out in providing an amazing spread at the Dripping Pan. Here's to doing it all again next year.

Thank you Christine Sullivan, Captain of Bands

Captain of Fiery Pieces - Richard Wilson

Hi all! what a great night! Really happy with my first year, and I would like to thank the Fiery Pieces team, and all of the carriers and helpers - couldn't have done it without you! Well done one and all! Rich

Captain of Tableau - Gavin Ward

Well done everyone on another fantastic 5th and a massive thanks to all my team on another amazing tab! BTFP Cheers Gav

Captain of Effigies - Mark Allen

I would like to thank all of my team for all of your hard work. Well done to all of the other captains we did well in some very boggy conditions on the field! I would also like to thank all the workers who helped make it such a fantastic night.....see you all at the dinner. Mark

Captain of Banners - Vicky Funnell

Well what a night! A huge thank you to everyone who carried a banner on the night, the procession looked fantastic! Well done to all the Captains on another spectacular evening and a heartfelt thanks to the committee for all their hard work over the year.

A final thanks must also go to everyone who has carried or looked after either of the outmeeting banners over the season. It's been lovely to see photos of them around Sussex!

Once again, I think we as a society have once again proved we are Nulli Secundus!!

Thanks all, Vic.

Competition results:

Men's Barrel Race - Isaac Reeves

Ladies Barrel Race - Indie Edwards (but a really close race amongst the Tab Shed Ladies, so thanks also goes to Pippa, Holly and Rosie).

Costume Competition:

Best Dressed Boy: Albie Bassett
Best Dressed Girl : Jessica Lucas
Best Dressed Gent : Pete Martin
Best dressed Lady : Anne-Marie Christmas
1st Pioneer Male : Jon Borthwick
1st Pioneer Female : Esme Johnson
2nd Pioneer Male : Charlie Groves
2nd Pioneer Female : Chris Varnham

The judges thoroughly enjoyed themselves and marvelled at the truly spectacular being that is Cliffe Bonfire Society at its best,
Nulli Secundus

Cliffe Annual Dinner

We invite to this year's extravaganza, The Cliffe Annual Dinner. It will be held on

Saturday 7th December 2019

at the new lower price of £30.00 per ticket. The venue again will be White Hart in Lewes. We have the wonderful delights of Jon Borthwick entertaining us from the DJ booth this year. Closing date for bookings is the 29th November.

If you would like to book your ticket to hopefully another fabulous fun-filled evening, please do one of the following:

Email Pete on: korma84@hotmail.co.uk or call on: 07856 866933

Please state your name, menu choices (details in the previous Clarion) and if you have any dietary requirements. Payment can be made by cash cheque or bank transfer. Cheques to be made payable to: Cliffe Bonfire Society or CBS. Bank Account number: 00-57-73-66 and sort code: 30-95-01 Ref: Your name & Dinner. Cash or cheques can be dropped into 94 Blois Road, Lewes, BN7 2TS or 7 The Rose Walk, Newhaven, BN9 9NH.

We hope you to see you there! Many thanks, Jenny & Pete Bassett.

Archbishop of the Cliffe's Firesite address.

Bonfire boys and girls of the Cliffe, welcome to the most wonderful firesite amphitheater anywhere to be found in this town and beyond.

Shortly your bonfire bodies will enter into a state of orgasmic delight at the wonder that is the Cliffe's firework teams. But first it is my duty as your archbishop to address you in the traditional manner.

This year the mighty Cliffe lost our most treasured president, Mr. Tim Knight. For me he was Cliffe through and through and the definitive bonfire boy. I am convinced that Tim is looking down on this field at this very moment and I know he is going to love the show we are about to put on.

The Cliffe bonfire society has been organising these celebrations for the last 167 years. There are 4th generation members within our ranks, we know what we are doing. We do not need the help of any outside authorities. The boys in blue are showing a huge lack of respect to our hard working committee as well as our treasured traditions. They need to understand that bonfire night in the Cliffe will happen with or without their say so. The Cliffe bonfire society brings some order to an evening that 168 years ago was chaotic and riotous. The police should be very grateful to this and all the lesser societies in this town. You are acting like children therefore you must be treated like children.

Sussex police you may be seen and not heard.

Can I ask you all to raise your glasses to her majesty the queen, Elizabeth 2nd. Thank God, she is 93 years old and still going strong. God save the queen.

May I now bring your attention to the altar behind me.

To your right we have the vile figure of pope Paul 5th. This so called pontiff was crowned on the 16th may 1605, 6 months before the plot. He'd been in the job 5 minutes and he thought, I'm going to send a load of thick soldiers to England and blow up their king and parliament. I'm sure you will agree with me bonfire boys and girls, this doesn't sound like a very holy act to me. Every terrorist organisation has a leader, Al-Qaeda had Bin Laden, Isis had Abu Bakr al Baghdadi, back in 1605 the catholic church had Pope Paul 5th. I for one can't wait to see this effigy blown to smithereens. No popery, BTP.

continued next page

Archbishop of the Cliffe's Firesite address continued

On the opposite side of the field we have the man with the match Guido Fawkes. Recently, on social media I keep seeing little ditties about Guido Fawkes being the only honourable man to step into parliament. I don't care how bad things have been at Westminster lately this is a terrible thing to say. Fawkes was a terrorist and if God hadn't prevailed and the plot had been successful we would be leading very different lives today, and I don't mean in a good way. Never forget Fawkes was foe not friend and his intentions were never honourable.

Effigy team, you have my blessing to blow Fawkes into a million tiny pieces.

In the middle we have good old Boris and Jacob. Due to rules set out by the electoral commission I am limited what I can say about these two. As always our magnificent tableaux team have summed up their plight magnificently. In the words of the Irish rock and roll band boys-own, "life is a roller coaster" and in the case of these two, just recently it certainly has been. One word of caution bonfire boys and girls, be careful what you wish for, the alternative is horrendous.

Boris enjoys a good bang so he should enjoy what's coming.

What shall we do with them all?

Links to pictures from the 5th below:

Lee Christmas: <https://adobe.ly/2NZPisy>

Roz Bassford-South: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/140755028@N04/albums/72157711685270852/>

Simon Hennesey: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/13153321@N03/albums/72157711666516156>

(Flickr links aren't working by clicking so please copy and paste in URL)

Cliffe Bonfire Society Collections 2019

A huge thank you to all the collectors this year. Tuesday night Bonfire night is always a bit quieter. So we did really well considering. Thank you so much.

1. Martin Keogh	£101.70	18. Angela Brinkhurst	£18.29
2. Roy Chapman	£16.56	19. Jamie Roberts	£61.28
3. Roy Chapman	£32.89	20. Paul Brinkhurst	£46.97
4. Roy Chapman	£50.07	21. Denzil Jones	£50.14
5. Jane Lee	£14.30	22. Roy Chapman	£5.97
6. Sara Cormac	£16.72	23. Roy Chapman	£40.33
7. Eszmey Butler	£4.10	24. Roy Chapman	£25.58
8. Gill Lindsay	£16.12	25. Paul Brinkhurst	£125.45
9. Carol Ward	£31.52	26. Denzil Jones	£53.05
10. Angela Brinkhurst	£102.09	27. Sue (Joiner)	£165.12
11. John Harvey Tavern	£2.00	28.	Skull x Bones
12. Volunteer	£24.15		Angela and Gary Brinkhurst
13. Gill Lindsay	£21.65		£102.64
14. Christine Lawrence	£41.07	29. Angela Brinkhurst	£151.14
15. Alan Lawrence	£30.47	30.	Guy Fawkes
16. Gary Brinkhurst	£101.55		Gary Brinkhurst & Owen Hendley
17. Denzil Jones	£18.98		£203.13

Total collected = £1675.00

I would like to say well done to everyone for making it a really great night. However at the war memorial, I thought that Amber Richardson our Clarion editor said a beautiful reading at the beginning of our war memorial service. It was amazing how she spoke, it really set the scene on our very poignant service.

Well done again. Angela Brinkhurst

(Thank you Angela it was an honour to read 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae at the war memorial. I'm glad I did it justice. Amb.)

A few words from Alex

Brilliant night! Congratulations to all the many people who make the 5th the great night it is.

Thanks to Trista, Sheena and Nicole for helping with memberships again this year. The queues were short and we were done by 9.30 on Badge Night! Must be a record!

I know it's a long way till next year but if you want to set up a standing order to spread the cost of membership, dinner, Vice President then you can set this up now to start in January and all you have to do is collect your membership badge in 2020. Please email me and tell me who and what you want to pay for and I will work out how much you need to pay each month.

Contact me on membership@cliffebonfire.com

See you at the dinner.

Alex Hunt

Membership Secretary



The Book.

Sadly, I was unable to beat my record of last year; circumstances meant that some were no longer able to subscribe, and some businesses are not doing so well. However, I still collected a healthy sum of £570.00 and on behalf of the Society I'd like to thank the following Subscribers for their contributions to the Book.

Mr & Mrs Elphick,

Bryan Parrott

W.E. Clarks

Harveys Shop

Pete and Ann Martin

Percys

The Outdoor Shop

County Carpets

The Gardeners Arms

Potts

Seasons

Cliffe Antique Centre

Intersport

Lumen

Lucy Wilson

Kate Over

Goldfinches Dry Cleaners

Woodruffs

The Dorset Arms

Paul Mockford

Molly and Nick Romanov

Once again, I thank all of these Subscribers for their generous donations.

Paul (Official Collector)

Welcome to your new Cliffe Website!

Having, some may say foolishly, others daringly, to answer an appeal for help with the Cliffe website, I was given the job of a redesign. The Committee had quite a specific brief which included pages to advertise our fundraising activities, such as tickets, jumble sales, the bar and merchandise, as well as a calendar. They also wanted a private members area.

This is all now available at **www.cliffebonfire.com**

The public will see one view of the website, members after logging in will see another.

All member information will, in future, be posted in the members area. This will include outmeetings, member documents, etc.

There are a fair number of pictures on the website, because graphics led is the current fashion if you look at John Lewis, Amazon or Microsoft home pages you'll see they are all heavy on pictures.

Clicking on the link symbol of any photo in the gallery will take you to that photographer's own gallery.

Moving the site from the test to real version was not straightforward, so if you find any broken links please report them to me at

cliffe@rozadie.com

Some content is still a work in progress, for example merchandise and new photos for 2019.

[HISTORY](#) - [GALLERY](#) - [BAR HIRE](#) - [MERCHANDISE](#) - [JOIN](#) - [MEMBERS](#) - [CONTACT US](#)

So to log in:

Click on the members tab

You will see the login

Username is:

Cliffe (with a capital C)

Password is

cl1ff31605 (lowercase c i=1 e=3)



Once logged in the members menu will now show you more options.
Roz Adie

Well done Roz it looks excellent, so easy to log in, (sorry that I couldn't include all of the images, members will have to check it out themselves). Love the Clarion section! Amber

CLIFFE CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 14th December 2019
10.00am - 4.00pm
Lewes Town Hall, Lewes,
East Sussex BN7 2QS

Entrance 50p

Cliffe Christmas Craft Fair
is taking place on Saturday 14th
December in Lewes Town hall and if you would
like a stall or know someone that would please fill in the
attached form and send it in to the address shown. Although
we do still have stalls available they are going at a
steady rate so get in quick!
fairs@cliffefonfire.com



SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR



Kids Annual Christmas Party Saturday 7th December Lewes Con Club 12pm - 2pm. £4 Per Child. This includes all the usual fun and frolics, games and entertainment from Elf Bish and his crew, buffet filled with delightful E Numbers and then a visit from Santa with a picture if the darlings cooperate.



Kate will also be there to present the trophies for best dresses boy & girls as voted for on bonfire night.

So if you would like me to book your little angels email Chrissie (me) chrissie.stanley@hotmail.com with names and ages please so I can get prezzie ratio right.



As all the bonfire stuff is mostly over, and what a SMASHING one it looked.

I can now officially say the word Christmas right? *

Well I have and will continue to do so. As you may or may not know our Annual Christmas Fair is Saturday 14th December at the Town Hall. I'm shouting for help nice and early as we're going to need a bit this year with dressing the tourist information window, setting up on the Friday night, with stalls on the day, putting posters up around town, leafleting on the day, sign posting on the top road plus a few things I've probably forgotten also any generous donations of booze would be lovely as were doing a booze raffle/Tombola this year instead of the sledge.

If you think you can help in any way please contact myself Chrissie, or Ed, Norma, Alex

Thanks very muchly in advance



* No, no you can't Chrissie. (Amber)



Humbug.

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 call 07866 847938 or via the new members section on our updated website:

www.cliffebonfire.com Thanks and have a great new year.

**THE NEXT COPY DATE FOR
THE CLARION WILL BE
EARLY SPRING 2020
SO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR
POSTS IN THE ECN**

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