

The Clarion

Issue 286 Oct 2020



**STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
PROTECT CBS**

This Clarion is sponsored by 'the President'

"I started the Clarion way back in the late 60's. I think we called it the 'Cliffe Newsletter' then. It was an A4 sheet folded in half and printed on a Gestener machine. I used to draw a little picture on the front. The only one I can remember was a large pill with the caption 'You can take it if you want to'. It was at the time when there was controversy surrounding the Pope's advice on taking the contraceptive pill. I'm pretty certain Pete Martin as part of the 'Cliffe Archives' had a complete collection right through to the present." Jim Etherington

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

Editors note:

Hello lovely Cliffe members, I hope I find you safe and well.

As editor, I pondered on how to begin this edition of the Clarion. What do I say to you all? I still don't know. So I am sticking with this: Enjoy reading your newsletter, respond, communicate be a part of our Bonfire society in any way that you can.

Best wishes Amber cliffeclarion@gmail.com

To the Cliffe Lockdown Volunteers

You are all amazing!

Thank you so much for all the support you have given our society and our community during the lockdown and beyond.

These volunteers have been supporting the elderly, and those who are vulnerable with a multitude of tasks; shopping, deliveries, prescription collections, helping with dog walking and calling those who just needed a chat. I know that I struggled at times during lockdown and it was good to know that there were people out there who could help.

So thank you again Cliffe's Angels.

Tin badge competition 2020

We are still after designs for this year's tin badge please send your ideas to Allan: secretary@cliffebonfire.com

Message from our Chairman - Kate Over

So, this turns out to be one of those years to remember for all the wrong reasons. It will certainly be one to tell the children and grandkids about, I'm sure. "So what did you do when there wasn't a Bonfire Night in 2020?" I can hear them say. "Nothing" should be your response, or at most, "Well, we had a little bonfire and a few small fireworks in the back garden". What can I say? Nothing, except what follows may seem harsh, but it is for the Society's and your own protection and I have the unenviable task of being the one having to communicate it to you. I would have given my eye teeth not to have had to do this.

To repeat: the committee made the very difficult decision to cancel our celebrations on 5th November 2020. This was for a very good reason: to protect you as members, the public and our emergency services.

This also means that there will be no Badge Night on the 4th November 2020. The Society will NOT be doing anything at all: no gathering in the Dorset car park; no 'secret' event at the yard or fire site; no firework display; no remembrance at the war memorial; no processions of any kind; nothing at all.

If you do not live in Lewes, there will be no reason to come here, so please don't. We will be making another public announcement to this effect in mid-October to try and ensure that no one comes into the town 'just in case'.

You must remember that if you and your family and friends decide to go out on the night, here or anywhere else, individually or in groups, as a family or otherwise, you will be doing so entirely at your own risk. You will not be part of Cliffe Bonfire Society and MUST NOT claim to be so.

This is to protect the Society against any insurance claims made in relation to COVID 19 transmission and injuries to yourself or others. If a claim is made against you, we will not defend you because we will not have any insurance. If just one claim can be made against us successfully because of something you've done, then there is a very high risk that we will lose more than just our financial reserves.

Message from our Chairman - Kate Over (continued)

The police will be out and about, and they will be expecting those bonfire boys and girls that do go out to be causing havoc and mayhem, so be warned! No matter how tempting it is to go around letting off fireworks, you will be on your own. Believe me, I know how hard that will be for many of us. This is not an excuse for a re-enactment of the late 1800s when bonfire boys run amok throughout the town.

Take note, those who decide to act irresponsibly may well be brought before the committee for bringing the Society into disrepute.

I cannot stress enough how incredibly important this is. Not only must we act responsibly, we must be seen to act responsibly.

We took the lead in taking the right decision not to put at risk our members, our townsfolk or the emergency services and we should be proud of that.

Please do not let yourself or the Society down.

In spite of this, you will see elsewhere in this Clarion that we still hope to run a few membership renewal sessions at the yard and we will still be trying our level best to raise funds through selling: a 'non-programme' for 2020; a new, very splendid pewter badge; a badge in remembrance of Aubrey; a tin badge for 2020; our usual merchandise; as well as having a few collecting tins dotted around town, so please dig deep and 'fill yer boots'.

Rest assured; we will be back better than ever, hopefully in 2021! It only leaves me to say, somewhat oddly I know, but have an enjoyable and safe night, as best you can, whatever you do.

NULLI SECUNDUS!

Membership

Thanks to those of you who have already paid your subs following the ECN that went out a few weeks ago.

As a reminder, we are asking if you can pay your subs this year either direct into our bank account or by post with by cheque made payable to Brightnight Ltd.

If you would like to pay by BACS our bank details are

- Lloyds Bank
- Account Name Brightnight Ltd
- Sort code 30 90 89
- Account number 37648560

Please put your name in the reference so we can trace you and send an email to Alex Hunt, Membership Secretary membership@cliffefire.com stating who you are paying for and the amount paid. You can also text these details on 07709302779.

If you would like to pay by post, please send a cheque made payable to Brightnight Ltd to Alex Hunt, 28 Gundreda Road, Lewes BN7 1PX.

Your 2020 membership badge will not be issued until after 5th November this year to conform to current guidelines. You will be able to collect it in 2021 when you renew, or we can post to you if you send me a SAE. If you would like your membership card signed please post to Alex on the above address with an SAE for its return.

We do intend to run some limited renewal sessions, but if government legislation changes than we will have to cancel these, so we urge you to use the postal or BACS payment options. Currently the sessions planned are at the yard, Ham Lane, Lewes BN7 3PS on the following dates

- Sunday 11th October 11am - 3pm
- Sunday 18th October 11am - 3pm
- Sunday 25th October 11am - 3pm

Thanks and best wishes

Alex Hunt

Membership Secretary Cliffe Bonfire Society

membership@cliffefire.com

07709302779

A few words from your C in C

Well, what a year. There are many expletives I would love to put in here but we really did have to cancel our night this year. It is for very good reasons and your health and the health of the public is paramount.

It is really rather strange sitting down to write this. Usually I would be waffling on about ranks of three, the authorities, my sleepless nights and strange dreams! It will be weird not to be doing anything this year, I for one will miss the honour and pleasure of taking our glorious society out on the 5th.

Not only are we missing out on our celebrations we are also missing out on vital fundraising and also collecting for local charities on the night. We still have costs to cover and I urge you to please pay your subs so that the mighty Cliffe can continue in a manner that we are used to!

With regards to the local charities, last year the combined Sussex Bonfire Societies across the county raised over £70,000 for local causes. This will be severely depleted this year. Obviously we aren't having a street collection this year but between myself and our Official Collector, Mrs Angela Brinkhurst there will be collection tins situated at The Dorset, The Volunteer and Beckworths on Lewes High Street.

The 2 chosen charities this year are St John Ambulance and Friends of Lewes Victoria Hospital. Please pop in to any of these establishments and donate if you can. If you want to donate but cannot get out then contact me on 07917127845 or email me on lucy.crook@email.com and we can help you.

I wish you a safe and happy season (if you can call it that) and I wish I could invent a time machine so I could go back 6 months and take out shares in loo roll and Zoom.....

Lucy Wilson

Your (out of work) Commander in Chief

From Captain of Programmes - Gary Edwards

Cliffe Bonfire Society 'not a' Programme 2020

The new Cliffe Bonfire Society 2020 publication which replaces this year's Programme will be published in early October. It will be full of features and content and will make a good and interesting read for Cliffe members. Copies will be £3. This will be a strictly limited edition print run and once they have gone that will be it.

If we sell all the copies then we should turn a tidy profit which we can add to the much needed Cliffe funds. So get this collectors item while you can!.

We will have copies for sale in The Dorset, The Volunteer and Beckworths and hopefully down the yard for the subs days on the 12, 19, 26 October. We will also be running a mail order service for it as well. All you will need to do is pay in the CBS bank account at a cost of £5, this price also covers the postage cost as well.

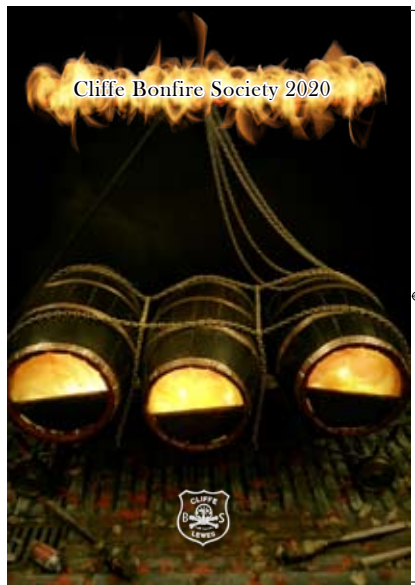
If you pay by BACS in the ref number just add CBSProg20 and your name. Then drop me an email to say you have paid and send me your address details by email to: garyjamesedwards@gmail.com

We will also be selling them in the new Cliffe online shop as well at: <http://www.cliffebonfire.com/>

Stay safe all, Gary Edwards,
Captain of Programmes

Needed: Voice over artists for the audiobook programme.

Anyone who can help with this please contact Ed Smith at treasurer@cliffebonfire.com



Message from Captain of Barrels - Chris Bassett

At the end of September we were delighted to hand over £3,270 to the Society from the sale of surplus barrels and tubs.

Thank you to anyone that bought one. We have supplied many different people from all walks of life, but recently we stepped it up a gear by selling barrels to the Al-Fayed family (Harrods).

We will continue to sell both barrels and tubs, so please get in touch if you would like one. Call or text 07881747912 (Malc).

Cheers, Malc & Chris."



That is an amazing amount of money raised!

Thank you both for my tubs. I have planted Blueberry bushes in mine.

If anyone has a good photo of how they have used their tubs/barrels send them to the Clarion.

Message from Captain of Firesite

- Steve Mockford

Well boys and girls it looks we've been beaten this year by a bit of rogue snot from China!

The field lies fallow this year, the first time since 1989 apart from when it was submerged under water in 2000! What a bummer! Hey. Still at least no one's dropping bombs on heads or threatening to invade us! Round us up against a wall and shoot us!

Our bellies are full and we have plenty of bog roll!

Get the sparklers out in the back garden and always follow the covid code! Keep your friends and family at a safe distance and dunk them in a bucket of water when you've had enough of them!

Have a safe one!

See you on the other side,

Luv Mockers

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

bands
bonfire
cliffe

fireworks
Guy Fawkes
processions

smugglers
sparks
torch

Thank you to Zahra-Claire Bahrani-Peacock who sent in this wordsearch

Message from Captain of Fiery Pieces (and at the moment Yard maintenance) - Richard Wilson

Hi everyone! With usual Bonfire activities suspended, I'm sure you're all missing being down the Yard over the weekends. Fear not though, as we have plenty of maintenance to do! The only hurdle though, is that we can only have groups of six at a time, or at least six per task.

On the last weekend of September there was a small group who started creosoting the 'new' unit. Thanks to the few that came out and helped.

The yard still needs tidying and over the next few weekends depending on the weather, we aim to start strimming all the trifids that have appeared over the year.

If you would like to help out with any of these tasks, or indeed if you have any other tasks in mind, could you please let me know by email (richardjrwilson@gmail.com) or if you have my mobile number, give me a call or message. That way I can work out work teams, and allocate people to certain tasks.

Many thanks, and I look forward to being inundated with responses! Rich.

Message from Captain of Street Fireworks - Trista Fife

Hi All, What strange times were living through I hope you're all keeping well. This would normally be a long post about keeping your distance from our street firework pieces, but as they will be safely tucked up down the yard as NOTHING is happening I don't need to do that! We will be back next year when fingers crossed it will be safe to do so, until then stay safe and well.

Bye for now Trista

Welcome to your new Cliffe Website!

LATEST NEWS: THE CLIFFE ONLINE SHOP IS NOW UP AND RUNNING!

www.cliffebonfire.com/shop

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.

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 2020.

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)

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

A screenshot of the WordPress login interface. At the top is the WordPress logo. Below it is a form with two input fields: 'Username or Email Address' and 'Password'. There is a 'Remember Me' checkbox and a 'Log In' button.

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

50/50 Club

The 200 Club has now become the 50/50 Club. It will work in exactly the same way as the 200 Club but with a few tweaks. As of June, 50% of the profit will go to the Cliffe and 50% will go towards the winning numbers. We will now have three (3) winning places every month, with December being a bonus month. The other difference is numbers now cost only £1 per number/per month! JUST £1 PER MONTH. The more people that purchase numbers, the more funds raised, but also, the bigger the winners pot. It is a win-win situation, so buy your numbers now.

This is how easy it is:

- Decide how many numbers you would like;
- Set up a standing order to this account - Account number 29931660 Sort Code 306537 - for however many numbers you would like.
e.g. 1 number=£1 per month / 2 numbers = £2 per month / 3 numbers = £3 per month etc etc. Please use your name as the reference.
- Email **5050@cliffefire.com** to let us know you have set up your standing order and we will allocate you your numbers. If you do not email us, we will not know to allocate you a number.
- Sit back and relax in the knowledge that you are helping the Cliffe raise much needed funds, AND you could also become a lucky winner.

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION - If you are already a member of the 50/50 Club (was 200 Club) you do not need to do anything. You will be allocated extra numbers according to your standing order. If you are not a member, why not? Get your numbers now! If anyone has any questions, please email us on 5050@cliffefire.com
Thanks, Tim and Sien Bassett.

Barstock

As all of the events we planned to run bars for have been cancelled this year it was agreed that we would sell it on to our members.

There is still **barstock available** to purchase (an updated list in the ECN) If you can help us by buying any of these items, please contact Felicity Jackson on 07760 942102 or flissjax7@gmail.com Deliveries in the Lewes area.

Fundraising Catch up

ARCHBISHOPS BINGO - Way back in January we had our first (and only?) face to face fundraiser. Oh wasn't that great! :) The hall was packed with people chatting, laughing and drinking, in fact we ran out of tables it was so busy!

Entertained by the duo that is 'Norman and Johnson' it was always going to be a fun night! The speed bingo half way through (due to timing issues) was hilarious - a bit much - but I managed to keep up! Dropping their balls and being unable to read the correct numbers the boys did a cracking job, I thought it was a massive success.

To end the night, was the best raffle ever! Made up of unwanted Christmas presents. We raised in total £635 before the bar takings!

As it was the last Archbishops Bingo I'd like to personally thank Keith and his helpers for all of the Bingo nights that they have held for the Cliffe. I have enjoyed them immensely (yes I've just said that about bingo!) and will miss them. I cannot wait for the next idea.

So far there have been 3 **lockdown quizzes** which have raised a fair amount for our coffers. £280 from the Easter quiz and well over £200 combined from the others.

I have enjoyed getting together online with my mates and having a good go at the questions. Lucy did a superb job of the **Easter Quiz** (I still owe her a pint) however I did miss the arts and crafts section this year which has been a firm favourite and slightly risky feature of the annual quiz since I can remember. Winners: Molly and Nick Romanov It was fun to collaborate with Gary and run the second quiz. Although frantically marking all the answers by the next day was exhausting! Winners: Fat Kind Always Win on the Sofa (Allan, Brad, Julie, Trista and Joseph occasionally).

Allan, Trista and Co. featured an excellent album cover round in their quiz and I now I feel like I know much more about their musical tastes! Winners: Olliver's Army which included Lynn, Graham, Katie, Grant, Hannah Olliver & Martin Haggart (getting 79/80 points in the album cover round!) **I am hoping there will be another quiz soon (any volunteers?).**

Thank you to Duncan Pratley who has raised £150 from selling the **old railway sleepers** that were cluttering up the Yard. Darn it! I never did get any off you!

Fundraising Catch up

The **Cliffe Virtual Grand National** was held on the 4th April. A fundraising idea instigated by Dave Johnson. There were 20 winners in total and it raised over £300 for the society. A big thank you to those who decided not to take their winnings and to all those involved. A great time had by all who took part.

The **Cliffe Golf Championship 2020** ran by Keith Norman in September raised near to £500 The results were as follows:

1st nearest the pin went to Keef Philp £50

1st Longest drive Allan Philp £50

2nd nearest the pin Dan Burgen £50

2nd longest drive Dan Burgen £50

All three winners donated their winnings to the Cliffe; a big thank you for your generosity.

Onto the winner of the Cliffe Claret Jug.

In 3rd place with 37 points was Tim Bassett.

In 2nd place with an impressive 38 points was Keef Philp.

The Winner with a massive 42 points was Dan Burgen.

Easy fundraising scheme do all your online shopping through the links on their website so that we get a donation of about 1-2% of whatever you spend - it won't cost you a penny, as the retailers make the contribution themselves.

We have finally reached the milestone of 150 contributors who have now raised the splendid sum of £1,268.95 for Cliffe funds just by doing their online shopping through the EasyFundraising site. If you want to join them and find out a bit more about our easy-peasy money-making scheme, it's best that you go straight to the sign-up link, which is here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cliffebonfire/>

Fundraising is an important part of our society but without your voices, ideas, contributions we cannot grow and adapt. So please keep your ideas coming. There have been some excellent events online and offline to help contribute to our funds this year so thank you to all and I look forward to the next ones! Amber

Please contact the fundraising team via chrisstanley@hotmail.com

Bonfire Archive

We want your Bonfire stories, poems, thoughts, and feelings sent to us please.

The idea is to make a record of how we, the members of The Cliffe Bonfire Society remember and feel about the best season of all.

What does it mean to you?

It could be a short two-line story of a funny event. A poem about how you feel. A 24-page extravaganza of the past. Whatever you want, we would like to hear it in your own words.

The stories coming in through the ECN are along the lines of what we were thinking, and they are brilliant!

If you have older or younger Bonfire friends/family, please ask them what they want to say, and ping it over. I may regret saying this, but there is no story too bold or rude.

You can either comment on facebook, or message us.

Please send your wonderful entries to

jenny.green88@btinternet.com or korma84@hotmail.com

Many Thanks, Pete & Jenny Bassett

Cliffe Annual Dinner

Dearest Bonfire Family, It is with a heavy heart that we must cancel this year's Annual Dinner due to the current climate. Hopefully, we shall return next year with more much more to celebrate.

Jenny and Pete Bassett

Blois Carnival

Blois Carnival will be on Sunday 28th March 2021 with the theme of "Magic".

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 Thank you

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

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