



South Heighton Village Hall Management Committee
SOUTH HEIGHTON BONFIRE SOCIETY NEWS
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015

HELLO!

We had an excellent turnout for badge night in in September – around 60% of the current membership renewed – and we have a lot of new members. It's not too late to rejoin if you haven't done so already, so please contact Stuart Gostock to do that (contact details at the end of this newsletter).

FUND RAISING FOR 2015

Once again we have had a successful fund raising programme this year. Thank you to all those who have helped with this – you know who you are!

Here is a breakdown of what the bonfire society has raised so far this year: fetes/quizzes have made around £600, jumble sales around £350, membership over £1000 and other fundraising/donations £190. We also claimed back over £500 in gift aid on the previous two years' memberships.

SHBS BONFIRE NIGHT 7 NOVEMBER 2015

As you know our own bonfire night requires a lot of hard work. All hands on deck please from 9am at the field - the bonfire needs building, fences need putting up, torches need to be bagged up and distributed, water barrels need placing etc. Clearing up the next morning is also a major operation. We need help to restore the field to its original state and tidy up the bonfire area. Please be down there from 8.30am onwards.

Please remember that we do not allow any fireworks of any description on the procession route or on the firesite.

OUTMEETINGS

The new coach booking system appears to be working efficiently and thanks to everyone for adjusting to it. We have been to Uckfield, Crowborough and Mayfield so far this year. Congratulations to Kai Fletcher who won best banner carrier at Uckfield and we were voted the 2nd Best Visiting Society at Mayfield.

SHBS MEETINGS

Our next meeting is on **Monday 12 October**. This is an important meeting where we will finalise our plans for banner carriers and other jobs for our night, so if you want to be involved please show up. If you can't make it but want to volunteer, please contact us to let us know. A special marshals meeting will be held on **Wednesday 28 October** for those who have been allocated jobs. All these are at 8pm at the village hall. Drinks will be available!

TORCH MAKING

First torch making date on Sunday 20 September went like a well-oiled machine and nearly 500 were made. The next two dates are Sunday 11 and Sunday 25 October, 10am at the village hall.

TORCH DIPPING

Torch dipping will take place on Friday 6 November at the village hall from 6pm. The usual culinary delights will be made available after our work is done – chilli and curry with all the trimmings – and with a whiff of kerosene in the air!

MATERIALS NEEDED

We always, every year, need your old bed linen, towels, any largish bits of similar material so that we can use them for wrapping up the torches on our night.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Next quiz – a tinseltastic Christmas extravaganza!

Wednesday 9 December at the Hampden Arms from 7.30pm.

BONFIRE SOCIETY FUNDS

Information for our newer members: The money raised by South Heighton Bonfire Society goes to the South Heighton Village Hall Management Committee funds (i.e. the funds are merged). The Village Hall Committee (which is a charity) organises other events like the old music festival and South Heighton fete and, when the Bonfire Society was started by the Village Hall as a tentative move to see if it was successful (which it obviously was!), it was decided to keep it under the umbrella of the Village Hall Management Committee. There are two important reasons for this: (1) insurance cover and (2) if (touch wood) our bonfire night is rained off, or other fundraising efforts are not that successful, there should always be sufficient funds held by the village hall to cover the cost of fireworks, materials for torches, etc etc, for our bonfire night. And, of course, we use the hall for torch making, torch dipping, and it's our base on our own night. This is a good arrangement for the bonfire society.

If you need to contact us for any reason...

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