



South Heighton Village Hall Management Committee

SOUTH HEIGHTON BONFIRE SOCIETY NEWS OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022

HELLO

Membership is booming this year! It's not too late to rejoin us if you haven't done so already, so please contact Stuart to do that (contact details at the end of this newsletter).

TORCH DIPPING

Torch dipping will take place on Friday 11 November at the village hall from 6pm. Our HQ the Hampden Arms once again this year is going to host the traditional "after torch dipping meal". Chilli and curries will be provided by the usual chefs, and if others attending could bring along accompaniments like poppadums, pickles etc that would be great. Anyone who dips and then eats should take a change of shoes so we don't stink out the pub with the whiffs of kerosene! £3 per person for food please.

SHBS BONFIRE NIGHT 12 NOVEMBER 2022

As you know our own bonfire night requires a lot of hard work. All hands on deck please from 9am at the field/village hall - 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 – and also the village hall needs a complete clean and tidy as well. Please be 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.

The Hampden has also kindly offered to provide a **FREE pre-bonfire building/field preparation breakfast to helpers - full English, toast and tea/coffee**. Tessa really needs to know numbers for breakfast and whether there are any veggie requirements, so please let her know or via us. She says that beer won't be free though 😊

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.

SHBS MEETINGS

Our next monthly meeting is on **Monday 10 October**. This is an important meeting where we will finalise 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 2 or 9 November (date to be confirmed)** for those who have been allocated jobs. Both these are at 7.30pm at the village hall.

PRIZES

We won prizes at Burgess Hill - well done everyone!

- 1st Prize for Best Dressed Girl (Keira)
- 3rd Prize for Best Dressed Boy (Oscar)
- 1st Prize for Best Banner

TORCH MAKING

Torch making all completed with 1200 torches made over two Sundays, so no need for a third date. Many thanks to everyone who helped out.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Next quiz – a Tinseltastic Christmas Extravaganza!

Wednesday 14 December at the Hampden Arms from 7.30pm. Dig out your Christmas jumpers and festive gear! A fun raffle as always – who knows just what is inside that gift-wrapped prize if you are a winner!

BONFIRE SOCIETY FUNDS

Information for our newer members: The money raised by South Heighton Bonfire Society goes to 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 South Heighton summer fete, monthly bingo nights and other fund raisers 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 night is affected by rain (**HELLO 2018!**), 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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