

# Chailey Bonfire Society

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9<sup>th</sup> November 2013



By shawn. bilton





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PUBLIC GATHERING AND CAN CARRY HEFTY FINES AND EVEN IMPRISONMENT.

**\*\*\* FIREWORKS ARE DANGEROUS \*\*\***

## **A note from the President of the Chailey Bonfire Society**

I am recovering from cancer of the colon. It is a mind changing experience as well as a life changing one!

While recovering in hospital and at home, I often thought how lucky I am to be alive and frequently pondered the good times had during my life.

There are memories of big events, such as holidays overseas and so on, but there are many simple things in life which help to make it enjoyable. Things which cost me very little but bring immense pleasure. With opportunities to meet friends and others in the pub and on a night out celebrating something.

One of the best for me since coming to live in Chailey over 30 years ago is the annual bonfire night procession and fireworks display. How wonderful it is that there are people in this village who devote a large part of their time to this spectacle so that we can enjoy it. It costs me nothing and they all do it for nothing. But we all get pleasure from it. I personally think that it is a very important part of life in our village.

So I hope that you will all come and be part of this great village occasion and bring your friends and especially your children for what is guaranteed to be a great night.

The procession stops at the Horns Lodge for much needed liquid refreshment and then moves on to the Village hall for the best fireworks display you will be honoured to see. There will also be food and drink for sale in the hall.

As I have said, it costs me and you nothing. But there will be collection buckets there for any loose change you may care to give which will go towards the annual Old Folks Christmas Party.

I hope to see many friends there and I know that this year like so many others will be imprinted on my mind for future contemplation.

And finally, a big thank you to all the volunteers who have made it all possible through the years.

Jim Jackson

# Chailey Bonfire Society Officers

President: Jim Jackson

Treasurer: Clive Bates

Chairman: Chris Farrow

Vice Chairman: Trevor Smith

Secretary: Diane Palmer

Committee: Adrian Black, Clare Black, Eddie Sheridan, George Meloy, Gini Jarvis, Joe Farrow, Les Rashbrook, Ron Sheridan, Sandra Tyler, Stuart Marden, Tom Stovold, Yasmin Black.

## THANK YOU

Jane Stent, Mike Bartter, Peter Olbrich, James Tillard,  
Shaun Bilton, Jeff & Sue Roadaway, Richard Barton,  
David & Mandy Dembry, Pascal Atkins.

Southern Events, Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire Brigade,  
Chailey Parish Council, Chailey Village Hall Committee,  
St. Johns Ambulance, Lindfield Bonfire Society, Phoenix Fireworks.

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Now in our ninth year! Thank you all very much!

# Chairman's Report

All change!!.....

Unusually I'd dropped into the Horns Lodge for a quick pint, or two, and was chatting to Dave Copping, the Landlord at the time, and Mike Bachelor when the subject of Chailey Bonfire Society came up. They enquired if I'd be interested in being co-opted on to the Committee - I said I'd think about it..... and before you could order another pint I was not only on the Committee but acting Treasurer! So here we are, more than twenty years later, and I now find myself Chairman. To be honest I did volunteer this time and of course the vacancy has only come about due to Jane Stent standing down after more years than I expect she cares to remember.

When I first became involved with CBS Jane had already been the Chairman for several years and along with several others had been through a very difficult period when CBS could have easily disbanded. Without their determination to keep going against all sorts of constraints, not least the lack of funds, the Bonfire Nights that we all have enjoyed so much over the years wouldn't have happened. Over the years people's priorities clearly change and many of those stalwart supporters, in the late 80's and early 90's, have moved on to other things and sadly some have passed away. Jane however has stuck with it and, along with her other interests, has found time to lead us from a period when CBS was struggling and on its knees to where we are today as, probably, one of the strongest Societies in the Village. So on behalf of us all may I offer a huge THANK YOU to those that kept CBS going but especially to Jane for all that she has continued to do for so many years... I should say and continues to do as, and I know many will be pleased to know, she's still running the Christmas Party for the Older Folk on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, so those that are interested please note the date.

Last year we tried a change to our established format and moved away from having so many set pieces in our Display. We sent more up in the air while still maintaining our underlying intention of safe Fireworks for Children. Many have

said how much they enjoyed it and we will be continuing along these lines this year but we'd really love to know what you think?

Costs continue to increase and fund raising continues to represent the biggest part of our annual activities, without which the Bonfire Night celebrations and the Christmas Party just couldn't happen. My thanks go to everyone that has helped and participated with our events, please keep it up, invite your friends and please remember new ideas are always welcome so do let us know. Thanks are also due to the Chailey Parish Council for their generous, and increasing, support and also to the members of the 100 Club which raises £1000 each year, providing we sell the memberships; there are still a few memberships left for the 2013-14 year so please let me know if you're interested.

We recently held a Beer and Music Festival which, while it wasn't as well attended as we'd have liked, was a great success and I have to say to those that stayed away you don't appreciate what a great event you missed. There were several bands – I've heard no complaints, and a number of beers, all of which I had more than my share of and have to say they were superb – hic.. and of course a Pig Roast. Those that set the event up did a fantastic job and I really look forward to when we do it again. Please watch out for the 2014 date and come and join us.

I've really enjoyed being Treasurer for CBS but change is inevitable and it's probably time I moved on anyway. I have no doubt Clive Bates will do a superb job and any suggestion that I hoodwinked him into the role, as I was, are totally untrue, correct Clive? We have a new Secretary, Diane Palmer, and several other new committee members to all of whom I also thank for their support. I somehow doubt that I'll be involved for another twenty years but I am very confident that our new Committee has the strength and commitment to continue the good of our predecessors.

As always I'm really looking forward to Chailey Bonfire Night and would love to see you there so why not come and join me and have a great time.

Chris.



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# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



## Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2013

5:00 pm	Gathering of the Floats and Procession at Chailey Comprehensive School, Mill Lane, South Chailey.
5.30 pm	Judging of the Floats - Langley Shield to be awarded - Presidents Shield to be awarded
6.00 pm	Torch lit procession and floats set off from the school to the Village Hall with a short pit stop at the Horns Lodge.
7.15 pm	Firework Display, Bonfire Prayers and Lighting of the Bonfire.
8.00 pm	Music and Refreshments.



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## **Senior Citizen's Christmas Party**

Saturday 7th December 2013  
Chailey Village Hall – 12 Noon

Xmas Lunch, Entertainment, Tea, Xmas Cake & Mince Pies

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## British Firework Championships 2013



[www.phoenixfireworks.co.uk](http://www.phoenixfireworks.co.uk)

# Pyrotechnic / Firework Team

It has been a busy time for the Chailey Bonfire Firework team this last year. New "Mandatory Competency Regulations" came into effect on the 4th July 2013 for all persons handling Category 4 fireworks, so getting qualified has been our number one priority. The firework team recently passed the "British Pyrotechnic Association (BPA)" course & examination and are now "City & Guilds" certified for the use of Category 4 professional fireworks, so congratulations to Yasmin Black, Stuart Marden and Ron Sheridan.

We would like to welcome Joe Farrow as our latest trainee pyrotechnician. We have been working with Joe to bring him up to speed with regard to storing, handling, fusing, securing, safety and legal requirements. Joe has shown a great aptitude and enthusiasm with regard to the pyro world and we will be getting him BPA qualified as soon as we can.

The pinnacle of the year so far for the Chailey Bonfire Firework team has to have been the "British Fireworks Championships" in Plymouth. We were privileged to have been invited to participate in the championships with Phoenix Fireworks. The event back in August saw six professional firework companies competing for the "Champion of Champions" title and Phoenix Fireworks were first up. We had a great time helping out Phoenix at the championships and all the hard work provided a stunning firework display as shown in the photo on the previous page. A big thank you to Martin / Alex and the team for allowing us to be part of this prestigious event and various other events that we have been involved in. We have learnt so much working with Phoenix which we hope we can translate into an even more spectacular show for our bonfire night.

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2 <sup>nd</sup> Draw	£50.00	74
3 <sup>rd</sup> Draw	£50.00	95
4 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	98
5 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	67
6 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	70
7 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	91
8 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	60
9 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	84
10 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	51
11 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	9
12 <sup>th</sup> Draw	£50.00	64
<b>Grand Prize (July)</b>	<b>£1000.00</b>	<b>61</b>

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You can now find us on facebook, why not join our group to get all the latest news and information from Chailey Bonfire Society.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out at all our fund raising events. If you are interested in finding something which is both fun and rewarding then drop us a line at [contact@chaileybonfire.co.uk](mailto:contact@chaileybonfire.co.uk) or put a post on the facebook group page and we will get back to you with more information on how to get involved.

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