

KATIE STEWART'S RECIPE

Hot baked pears with cream

Our home grown Conference pears are the best kind to use here and don't worry if they are firm and unripe because fruits ripen up when they are baked.

6 firm Conference pears
Juice of 1 lemon
3 tablespoons light muscovado sugar
Pinch ground cinnamon
25g (1oz) butter
1 x 142ml (1/4 pint) carton double cream

Serves 6

Heat the oven to 180C (350f or gas 4). Select pears of even size and with stalks on – they look pretty. Squeeze the lemon juice into a bowl. Peel the pears leaving them whole and with stalks intact. Slice each pear in half lengthways and scoop cores out with a teaspoon. Turn the pears in the lemon juice as you prepare them.

Arrange pears halves, cut sides up, in a well buttered, roomy serving dish – they should lie in a single layer. Choose a baking dish you can take straight to the table because hot fruits should be served at once. Sprinkle with the mixed sugar and cinnamon and add the butter in flakes. Enclose the dish in foil. At this stage you can let them sit for a couple of hours - the lemon juice helps to keep them white but even if they do brown a little they come out of the oven golden anyhow.

Set in the heated oven and bake for 40 minutes or until the pears are tender – test with a knife tip. Remove from the heat, discard the foil covering and immediately pour over the contents of the cream carton – a kind of butterscotch sauce will form.

THANK YOU'S AND BOUQUETS

A huge thank you to Richard Wood for painting the Society's notice board whilst he painted the front of Wealden Stores.

And to Dawn & Janine at the stores, David Foord-Brown and Marie at Change of Address for their on-going support of the society in being our ticket sellers and general information points – where would we be without them?!

DON'T FORGET...

MSDC Garden waste Collection Service

This is a new scheme available to residents for an annual payment of £35 to cover cost of collection. A standard household 240 litre wheelie bin with a green lid will be provided. Collections are fortnightly from the edge of the property (not necessarily on the same day as the household waste and recycling is collected). All garden waste collected will be composted at the facility operated by Olus Environmental in Wineham. Neighbours with small gardens can share a bin and the cost! The bin will be collected from the applicants address only.

To join the scheme residents will need to complete an application form and direct debit mandate. This is attached to a leaflet, which is being delivered to local households and can also be collected at Help Points, Libraries and Council Offices or by contacting the Recycling Team:

Tel: 01444 477440

Email: recycling@midsussex.gov.uk

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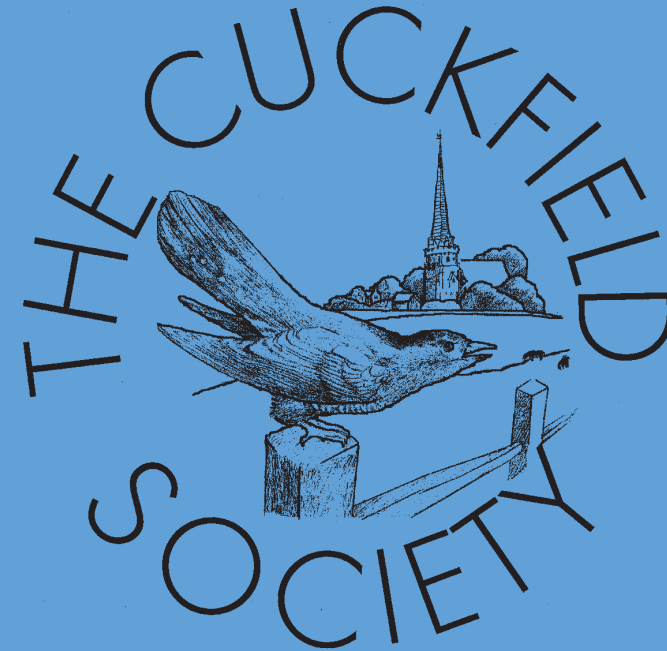
Registered Charity 249110

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Vice Presidents: Katie Stewart and Nick Rowe

www.cuckfield-society.org.uk



Issue 133: Autumn 2006

Thoughts from the Chair

The role of Cuckfield Society Chairman brings many exciting opportunities with it, for example, at the Street Party, I was interviewed on my thoughts about the day, which was videoed and will be stored for posterity in the Museum! The committee as a whole is currently gainfully employed ensuring that the Society continues to operate efficiently and we are all actively engaged in the general comings and goings of the village.

Our main focus at the moment is in preparing for the Village Show on 9th September. This is the first time that the event will be held for nearly 100 years, so I hope that you will all spend the remaining summer weeks growing vegetables (on the assumption that you will be able to water them!); creating crafts; making preserves or whatever takes your fancy! We are very excited about this venture and hope that the village will embrace this event and make it a great success.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Independent State of Cuckfield and no doubt you will have seen the barometer on the Talbot Inn, listing all the mayoral candidates. By the time of the elections, ISOC hope to have 40 names listed. Firstly I am very pleased to report that The Cuckfield Society is putting a candidate forward whilst, at the same time, I am a little surprised to tell you that it is me! So, later in the summer, I will be

undertaking some activities to raise money in support of my candidature. This is a great way to raise money for our local charitable organisations and I hope that everyone enters into the spirit of the events and offers as much support as they can to the 40 would-be Mayors!

In the next newsletter, we will be undertaking a survey to canvass your views to more fully understand what you want/expect from The Cuckfield Society. Please participate in this so that we can more fully meet the expectations of our members and ensure that the Society continues to evolve and prosper. We are a very enthusiastic bunch of people, with lots to contribute and lots of ideas to share, so please let us know what you think!

A few years ago, a set of Cuckfield Walks was printed (10-12 in total), which varied in distance, complexity and accessibility. We are currently re-walking these in order to update the maps and directions. We intend to have them on sale later this year. If you have discovered a walk and would like to share it with us, please let us know.

The Society commented recently on the parking consultation and I hope you have all responded as well. If we want to forge change, we must speak up and be heard, so I would urge everyone to comment upon, and persevere with, the issues that impact on our village. In that vein, it looks like the Ockenden Manor planning application will be heard by Central Area Committee on 3rd August 2006. This decision will be very important in terms of preserving the built-up boundary. We will keep the website updated as events unfold.

On the subject of the website, we are delighted to report that we have secured the domain name www.cuckfield.org. One of our members, Rob Webb, has volunteered to host and create this new site and we are hugely grateful to him for this. We plan to offer space and content on the site to all the other organisations and businesses in the village to create an exciting and informative site for all. Watch this space!

For those who may not be aware, the current Scout Hut on Ardingly Road is on its last legs. The scout committee has ambitious plans for a re-build and will need lots of financial support. If your family has benefited from this organisation, please make a donation to their fund.

Enjoy what remains of the summer!
Bernadine Burnell Chairman

Cuckfield Museum Re-opens

Cuckfield Museum has now re-opened after a complete refurbishment funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, assistance from Mid-Sussex District Council, West Sussex County Council/Cuckfield Parish Council and Gatwick Airport Community Trust together with contributions from Cuckfield residents, business people and the Cuckfield Society!.

In the refurbished Museum you will find: familiar and less well known objects, the Iguanodon story, research and reference resources and The Stairwell Art Gallery - featuring "Paintings of Cuckfield"

To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Independent State of Cuckfield there is a new exhibition: "The Donkey Races and The History of the Independent State of Cuckfield".

Come along and see the improvements for yourself. The museum is open from 10 am until 12.30 pm each Wednesday and 10 am until 4 pm on Saturdays. Researchers, groups and school parties are welcome at other times by prior arrangement.



Before



After

Winter Lectures

The new season of lectures will kick off on Friday 3 November with a talk by James Gardner, the author of 'The History of St Francis Hospital'. The lectures will be held in the Council Chamber in the Queen's Hall. Admission £2 to include a glass of wine (served from 7.30 pm) payable on the door.

Village Show

Hopefully you will all have received your show schedules by now and will have had a good look through to decide which classes to enter. Entry forms are at the back of the schedule and you should return these along with your entry fees to one of the following addresses by midday on Thursday 7 September.

- Jo Roche, Crouchlands, Whitemans Green (next door to Cuckfield Motor Co)
- Marie Dormer, 1 The Knowle (opposite Pelham House)
- Bernadine Burnell, Beadles, Ockenden Lane (South end of the Lane)

We have been offered a Best in Show cup by the Mayous who are hosting the Show but if anyone has any old silver lurking at the back of a cupboard and would like to donate this to the show, we can create more special prizes and you will get a prize named after you!

This promises to be a real village event, so even if you don't fancy entering, then do come along from 2-4pm and see what a talented bunch your neighbours are! Prize giving will begin at 4pm and there will be refreshments including teas, coffees, home made cakes and candy floss available all afternoon.

SOCIAL DIARY

Village Show – Saturday 9 September 2006, Cuckfield Park

Tour of Warden Park School – Tuesday 26th Sep at 2pm

Winter Lecture – Friday 3 November 2006 at 8.00 pm: 'The History of St Francis Hospital' - James Gardner. In the Council Chamber, Queens Hall

Late Night Shopping – Friday 8 December 2006.

Winter Lecture - Friday 26 January 2007 at 8.00 pm: 'New England Wood' - John and Margaret Pilkington. In the Council Chamber, Queens Hall

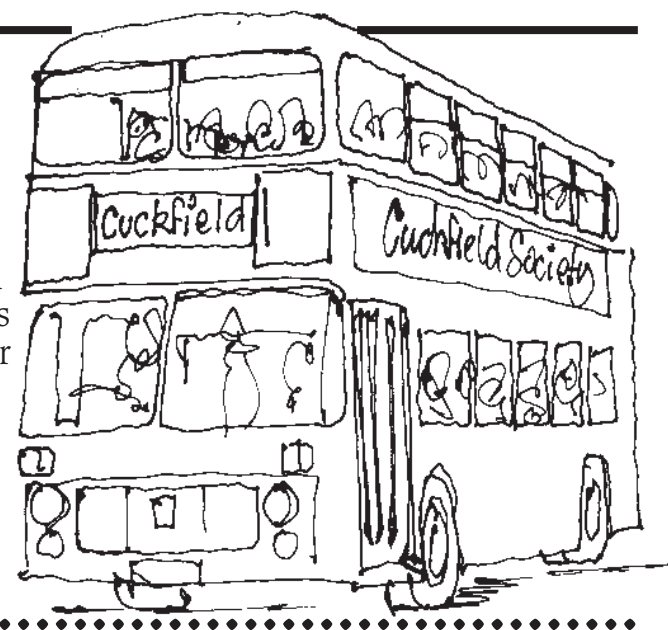
AGM – Friday 30 March 2007

Summer Show – Saturday 17 July 2007 (more on this soon!)

Traffic Problems and Local Buses

The number of cars passing through Cuckfield seems to increase all the time. We suspect that many are just used for local journeys. At present we have an hourly, not always reliable, bus service into Haywards Heath and beyond which is not very well used. We think a half-hourly service, such as Lindfield has, would encourage more people to leave their car at home and take the bus as they would have more options for departure and return. Do you agree?

To help us take the idea further, please let us have your views by completing the slip below and returning it the Cuckfield Society letter box in the Queens Hall or Wealden Stores by 15th September.



✂

How often do you use the local buses now?

Never / Occasionally / Once a month / Once a week / Most days

If there were a reliable, half-hourly service into Haywards Heath, how often would you use it?

Never / Occasionally / Once a month / Once a week / Most days

What time do you think the first and last buses should run?

First _____ Last _____

Name: _____ Date: _____