



FuseNews

Your regular update to all things going on with Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society

The NJBS Newsletter

April 2016

Competition time

This is the one any young Bonfire Boy or Girl does not want to miss! You have the chance to design, help build and process with the Society's junior tableau

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Annual General Meeting results

Our AGM was held on 29th February with some important changes to our officers and committee. You can find out more details on Page 2

Publicity update

We've been updating our website and putting a lot more out on social media. Find out more on

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Preparations for Nevill Extravaganza

After a year out NJBS Extravaganza is back with a bang to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday on 11th June

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#Know NJBS

We have started a campaign on Facebook for members and officers to get to know each other a little better. See Page 2 for more details.

Annual dinner

We held our annual dinner in February which was a great night for all.

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A word from our chairperson

Firstly, as always, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to fund raising this last year, which will enable us to put on another spectacular event on our night. Last year was very successful and well run. We are always looking to improve all aspects of the procession and firework display. In addition, moving headquarters to St Mary's Social Centre seemed to work well for everyone. With regard to the procession it was pleasing to see a great improvement in the standard of costumes.

Bearing in mind that next year 2017 will be our 50th anniversary we obviously want to make it extra special, which means we really have to make an all out effort on the fundraising. So please help out with jumbles and running bars, the more people doing this the easier it becomes for everyone.

If you have ventured down Ham Lane recently you will have noticed the bottom half below the car park has been



Members of all ages are able to lend a hand down the Land

cleared and leveled. This was no easy task and it's thanks to the dedicated effort of a few members who spend most, if not every, Sunday morning working hard to make ready the land for **Keith Brown** and the torch team to move in.

We are looking forward to the torch team joining us at the land. As always we look ahead to our night in October, it will come round quickly, so preparations and ideas will soon start. I hope you will all become involved and join us down the land. Who knows, you might find you enjoy it, we do!

Norma Thompson, Chairperson, Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society

Publicity news update

You may have noticed some changes to our website: www.njbs.co.uk. These changes are a part of providing you, our members, with more information about what is happening with the Society. We are regularly updating the site with new events, the latest news as well as more photographs from our night. We also have some sneaky photos giving you a behind the scenes look of what we get up to at the Land.

We have our Facebook page we recommend you 'like' for up to date news: www.facebook.com/nevillbonfire

Some of you will be aware, we also have a Facebook Group for discussions amongst our members. All members are more than welcome to join: www.facebook.com/groups/wedare/

Finally, we have decided it's time to re-start Tweeting. Please follow us for comment, bite-size news and 140 character insights: [@nevillbonfire](https://twitter.com/nevillbonfire)



And now for agenda item 64(b) (ix) 3/7



Results of the AGM

On 29th February the Society held it's Annual General Meeting. An important event in our calendar as it's when the big decisions get made for the coming year.

The Society held its election of the committee and officers. After many years of service **Luke Brown**, **Simon Barr** and **Mark Ayling** elected to step down as Captains of Tableau, Firesite and Banners, respectively. They will still be involved in Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society, but we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for the hard work, dedication and friendship they have brought to the Society over the years. Guys, you're going to be tough boots to fill, but thank you!

We're thrilled to announce that **Caroline Lipscombe** has been successfully nominated as our new Captain of Firesite, **James Isted** and **Sean Woollard** are our new Captains of Banners, **Kate Ellis** is Captain of Tar Barrels and **Ben Overton** for Publicity & Press. Not forgetting the re-election of all the other officers and committee members who have given tireless service over the years: thank you to all. A list of committee and officers can be found at the end of this Newsletter.

It was agreed by all that moving our headquarters to St Mary's Social Centre had been a great success in 2015. This had resulted in procession route changes which we have reviewed and sought to improve upon. As such, we have made changes to all three procession routes for 2016. Some have small changes, others have changed dramatically, but rest assured all routes will be focussed around the Nevill estate. We hope you'll be as excited about them as we are.

Know Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society

We have started a campaign for members and officers to get to know each other a little better, called #KnowNJBS. Members and officers are asked about their thoughts on NJBS and we publish the results on Facebook. If you are interested in being interviewed for our Facebook page please contact us at news@njbs.co.uk, we would love to hear from you. For those that are not on Facebook, here is a recent interview:

Hello, what are your names?

We're Gemma, Giles, Rupert (6 years old) and Hannah (4 years old).

How long have you been members of NJBS?

Rupert and Gemma have been members for 3 years and Giles and Hannah have been members for 2 years.

Why NJBS?

NJBS marched past our front door in Caburn Crescent for years which was a perfect way to introduce very young children to bonfire in Lewes, we waited until Rupert was nearly 3 and couldn't resist not joining in any more.

Smugglers or Pioneers?

We dress up as medieval knights, wenches and monks, mainly because Rupert was very keen to be a knight - he was aspiring to be one of the older boys that he had seen in the Procession! Plus, if you are too young to carry a torch, a sword and shield is the next best thing!

What's your favourite thing about Our Night?

Everything! Carrying the torches, memorial on the Green, being part of such a community event, seeing loads of friends, being close to home, the amazing fireworks!

What do you think this years Tableau could be?

Really hope we blow up Donald Trump this year!

[Editor's note, to ensure we are not biased, other politicians of equally low standing and moral fibre are available to incorporate into a Tableau]

It's our 50th anniversary in 2017, what would you like to see?

The route to include Caburn, Hamsey and Firle Crescents again (please).

Thank you Gemma, Giles, Rupert and Hannah.

As for the procession routes we can't promise everything, after all, there are a lot of roads on the Nevill. However, there are some route changes for 2016, so maybe you'll be pleasantly surprised!

And, of course, if any member feels strongly about the procession routes, then please come to our AGM. It is open to all members, we all have a voice.



Are you looking for a firework display?

The Society has to raise a substantial amount of funds each year to enable us to hold our night. One of the ways in which we raise our funds is through paid firework displays.

We have performed displays for weddings, schools and as fundraisers for community events. If you are on a PTA, work for an events company or know someone that does we could always do with performing more displays to help pay for our annual costs. As members you know how good our displays are and this is one of the best ways to help support your Society. If you know of any opportunity then please get in touch by emailing committee@njbs.co.uk.

Congratulations to Kate

Our very own Captain of Tar Barrels, Kate Ellis, is getting married on 13th May. We wish Kate all the best on what will undoubtedly be a fantastic day, and we hope to make it all that much better by running the bar!

We will be running the bar from 2pm until late. So if you can spare a couple of hours to help Kate on her big day, whilst supporting the Society, then we would gladly welcome your support. Please get in touch through committee@njbs.co.uk.



NJBS annual dinner February 2016

Our annual dinner was held at the Elephant & Castle in February. This is a time for members to celebrate another successful year.

Rookie of the Year Award went to **Chloe Woollard** in recognition of her fantastic efforts over the past year. Many congratulations Chloe!

We were also treated to some fantastic entertainment from Clergy **Ben Edmonds**, many of you will know Ben by his alter ego **Mr. Pineapple Head**. Ben was ably assisted by co-founder **Peter Earl** dressed as ... a nun. Suits you, Peter!



The evening was wrapped up by Society President and co-founder **Philip Amey** providing some great insights into the history of bonfire.

In researching for his presentation Phil has put together a DVD of historical Lewes Bonfire footage spanning several decades. Anyone interested in purchasing this collection of Lewes Bonfire videos can email Phil at: bonfire_video@ameys.org.uk

Many thanks go to our Commander in Chief, **Chris Isted**, for organising such a great night.



NJBS Extravaganza is coming!

After a break last year, Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society are proud to announce that the Extravaganza is returning on 11th June 2016 to Nevill Green.

The Society is celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday and, as with previous years, will hold the event in two parts.

A summer fayre between 12:00 and 4:30pm with displays, games, stalls food and drink. **Evening entertainment** between 6:00pm and 10:00pm. The Society will have a stage with live music from several musicians and a headline band all supported with refreshments and a bar.

This event is critical to our fund raising and necessary to ensure that our annual celebrations can take place. We would ask that all members help as much as possible to ensure it is a successful day.

We need help setting up the event and running as many games and stalls as possible. Even if you cannot make it on the day you can still help by donating prizes for games or by donating a larger gift which can be used in the raffle.

For those wanting to sponsor the event there are opportunities to sponsor the Tug of War competitions and other games. Please contact Peter Earl on 07772 031269 or email pgearl@tiscali.co.uk

There will be arena events and live music. If anyone knows of an appropriate display for the arena or has details of a reasonably priced band they think would be a good headline act for the evening please get in touch.

Competition time

Listen up Bonfire Boys and Girls, this is going to be big ... literally!



This year we will be running a competition for a young member to design, help build and process through the streets with the junior tableau. That's right, we want all you young members out there to get your thinking caps on and submit designs for a junior tableau. This opportunity does not come around very often, so grab your chance now!

It doesn't matter if you're not the best artist. We want your ideas, passion and commitment. Think of something relevant and important to you. Provide a drawing or two of how you think the tableau should look, add a few words describing what it is and some of the features of the tableau. It could be related to a film or book you're reading, a recent event in the news or a relevant topic, something local, national or international, commemorating an anniversary or a traditional bonfire theme.

Deadline for submission is Saturday, 4th June 2016. The submissions will be reviewed by committee members and we will announce the winner at our Extravaganza on 11th June 2016. The winning design will be taken forward and the winning designer will be supported by our expert team of tableau and effigy builders.

In order to enter you need to be a current member of Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society, under 18 years old and you **must** be willing to dedicate time to help build the tableau. We don't just want your ideas, we want you to be the future of bonfire.

You can email your submission to news@njbs.co.uk or post through the door of 18 North Way, Lewes, BN7 1DS. Please, mark your email or post as: The NJBS Junior Tableau competition.

We Dare!

Costumes

The Bonfire season may be some way off but we thought it useful to list some outlets for costumes.

In Brighton there are three army surplus suppliers: *Paul Brutton* on New England Road, *The Military Man* at the bottom of Elm Grove and *The Market Place* 7-8 Meeting Place Lane which also has some fancy dress. There is also an Army Surplus store in Hailsham.

We also hold several jumble sales a year at Ringmer Village Hall. Jumbles have plenty of items that those handy with a needle can adapt. You can also come and help with our jumbles if you have some spare time.

Lewes Little Theatre and the Barcombe shop 'The Sublime to the Ridiculous' periodically hold sales of costumes. Being Brighton there is also a whole array of fancy dress shops that can cater for all types of costumes and tastes. Ann Martin of 29 Priory Street has a large selection of costumes and materials at very reasonable prices. Ann can be contacted on 01273 478175.

Finally, NJBS have our own merchandise co-ordinator, Aileen Duncan, who often has items in stock and will be pleased to help. Aileen can be contacted at: merchandise@njbs.co.uk.

Committee & Officers

COMMITTEE

Chair: Norma Thompson
Vice-Chair: Kevin Brown
Secretary: Mike Fisk
Treasurer: Clare Pritchard

OFFICERS

Safety Officer: Kevin Brown
Captain of Tableau: TBC
Captain of Effigy: Mike Fisk
Captain of Aerial Fireworks: Kevin Brown
Captain of Set Pieces: Bob Thomas
Captain of Firesite: Caroline Lipscombe
Captain of Bonfire: Andy Brown
Commander-in-Chief: Chris Isted
Captain of Torches: Keith Brown
Captains of Banners & Street Pieces: James Isted & Sean Woollard
Captain of Tar Barrels: Kate Ellis
Membership Secretary: Sarah Earl
Captain of Programme: Phil Duncan
Captain of Bands: Anne Stevenson
Chief Collector: Hannah & Steve Crowhurst
Merchandise Co-ordinator: Aileen Duncan
Clergy: Ben Edmonds & Silvy Johnson
Out Meeting Co-ordinator: Roger Palmer
Out Firework Displays: Luke Brown
Publicity & Press: Ben Overton

Dates for the Diary

2nd April - Jumble Sale, Ringmer Village Hall. Sorting starts at midday, doors open 2pm.

3rd April - Easter Egg hunt, NJBS Land, Ham Lane. 10:30am-12:30pm.

21st May - Southover Bonfire Society May Fayre, Priory Field. 10:30am-4:00pm. Members help needed in setting up and running an NJBS stall.

5th June - Waterloo Bonfire Society Fayre, The Paddock. Members help needed in setting up and running an NJBS stall.

11th June - NJBS Extravaganza, Nevill Green. Midday-10:00pm.

23rd July - Jumble Sale, Ringmer Village Hall. Sorting starts at midday, doors open 2pm.

10th September - Badge Night, St Mary's Social Centre.

22nd October - Our Night, The Nevill Estate.