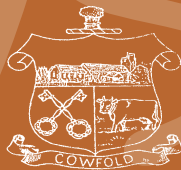


# NEWS

from Cowfold Parish Council



Keeping you informed of the work of the Parish Council and the community of Cowfold

## From the Editor:

Here it is! The first copy of our new look magazine. We hope you find it entertaining, informative and enjoy the new format. I have included information from local organisations and news of the doings of the Parish Council but in the future would like to include more articles direct from residents on issues of interest. It would be nice to include views from younger residents and perhaps contributions from allotment holders or from people who regularly walk our footpaths. I would love to see more photographs of the village, perhaps recording the seasonal changes round about us. So get sending! The copy date for the next issue is 1st May 2011. Send everything to migcutbush@btinternet.com or phone on 01403 865190. *Mig*

## Hello & welcome to your new look Cowfold magazine

As you can see Cowfold Magazine has changed in format. Instead of the Parish Council publishing it we have transferred the publishing to a private company. We still retain control of the editorial content but no longer have to sell advertising and put the magazine together, then pay for the printing. Tell us your views.

Local Council Elections are to be held on the 5th May this year. With the present government's "Localism Bill" the need for a Parish Council becomes even more important. We don't know yet what will be in the bill but it has been hinted that some planning powers could be devolved to parishes. Other things could be a capping of Parish Council precepts (the part of your council tax paid to the Parish) and referendums on local issues. At election time some current

councillors will stand again and some will stand down. This means that Cowfold will need more volunteers to stand for election onto the Parish Council in May. So could you give some time to the community?

So what do councillors do? The village owns and maintains some street lights, some grassed areas, and both play grounds. We are involved in all planning applications and liaise with outside bodies on behalf of the village. Council meetings are held in the village hall on the second Monday of each month at 7.30pm and are open to the public. Parish Councillors do not get paid for their services.

To be a Councillor you must be over 18 years old and have lived or had your main place of work in the parish or within 3 miles of the boundary for at least 12 months.

If you think you might be interested and want to know more please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council and she will be happy to help.

Contact Jan Wright: 864806  
clerk@cowfold-pc.gov.uk

Vic Allmond – Vice Chairman  
Cowfold Parish Council

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## Cowfold Village Fete 2011

This year's village fete will be Saturday, July 2nd – on the village playing field – starting at 12 midday until 5pm. We aim to create a 'very English' and patriotic Village Fete to celebrate a Royal Wedding Year. St Peter's Church are planning another 'Spit Roast Evening' on the field, with music and dancing and no doubt will carry this theme of 'Celebration' late into the night to make July 2nd a village day to remember.

As last year, funds raised will be donated to organisations and needy causes in the village. Last year St Peter's Church and the New Pavilion benefitted. Donations were made to the Weald Church, St.Catherine's Hospice, Muscular Dystrophy, Help for Heroes and Sussex Pet Rescue. Finally, a sum to assist Country Mice will be announced shortly. I am sure you will agree that Cowfold Fete Day plays a very useful part in our village calendar in providing fun, pleasure and much-needed help to lots of people – long may it continue!

John Blythe, Chairman

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## New Pavilion Fundraising

This is an important year for the new pavilion project. With the plans approved we have started the application processes for major funding. Meanwhile, we continue with our local fundraising and look forward to seeing you at our events.

We are planning to have a jumble and bric-a-brac sale in the spring with the usual additional stalls of books, toys, puzzles and games. Watch for posters in the village nearer the time for details. Jumble will be gratefully received – please call Eileen 864321. The Cloverleaf walk with all proceeds going to the new pavilion will be held again this year by popular demand.

## Cloverleaf Walk: 2nd May 2011

There will be four separate “cloverleaf” legs of varying lengths, totalling around 11 miles. Each leg will be entirely separate and walkers can choose to do any number, with guidance notes being provided. Headquarters will be in the pavilion on the recreation ground. Registration and walk start will take place between 10am and 12am. Registration charge will be £5 per person with a maximum of £10 per family. We also hope that sponsorship money will be donated. Complimentary refreshments will be available with a running barbecue to buy hot dogs and beefburgers. **For further information please call 01403 864321.**



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## News from St Peter's CE (Aided) Primary School, Cowfold

Everyone has settled back into school after the Christmas holidays and the children are enjoying learning about their new topics. Children in Years 3, 4, and 5 are learning about Africa and were inspired by a storyteller earlier this term. We have also arranged for an African drummer to visit, so if you hear some drumming one morning you will know that he has arrived.

The Key Stage One children's topic is 'Ice and Fire.' Some have made some beautiful drawings of polar bears and each class has an 'igloo' role play area this term.

Year 6 are studying rivers and will be visiting Chichester Harbour later in the term. They are also learning songs from 'The Piper' to sing with other Horsham Schools at the Music Festival at The Hawth in May.

Children in Years 5 and 6 recently competed in the Horsham Schools Cross Country Event. They ran really well and two children have been invited to take part in the Sussex Schools Finals in February.

Friends of St Peter's CE (Aided) Primary School (FoSPS) continue to organise social and fundraising events for the school; there will be a special evening of fun and shopping in school on Thursday 17th Feb at 7.00pm. There will be stalls selling items from 'Jamie at Home', a raffle, Avon, cup cakes and many more. Please put this date in your diary and join us if you can.

**Gail Sainsbury – Headteacher**

## Cowfold Horticultural Society

Best wishes to everyone for 2011 from your local Gardening Club and here's what's planned for period ahead. We supply 'Social & Serious' subjects and not just specifically gardening topics. All Members (£1.50) and Non-members (£3.00) are welcome to these events. Catch us on our website too at [www.cowfoldhs.co.uk](http://www.cowfoldhs.co.uk). **John Blythe.**

### March 25: Getting to grips with your camera

Robin Wilson, Cowfold's very own freelance photographer, explains that getting the best results from modern cameras comes from understanding how they work. Bring your own camera and a notebook along.

### APRIL 29: After the Royal Wedding... More gardening memories

Laurie Manser returns by popular request to continue his fascinating account of his working life from garden boy to head gardener. We will end the evening with our annual PLANT SWAP so please remember to bring along a plant or two as they may just be what someone else is looking for!

Further programme dates in future magazines.

Every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of content. Eyelevel Publishing or the Parish Council cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions or endorse companies, products or services that appear in this magazine. Production of the magazine relies solely on advertising revenue and is at no cost to the Parish Council or its parishioners.

# Cowfold Village Hall – A Happening Place

The Village Hall was built in 1896 and is firmly positioned bang in the centre of the village where the A272 and the A281 cross each other. Donated to the village many years ago by Frederick Du Cane Godman, it is managed by the Cowfold Village Hall Management Committee with the Cowfold Parish Council as the Custodian Trustees.

Over the years it has provided a versatile meeting place for all manner of groups and events. As well as having an indoor facility, we also benefit from the use of a sport's pavilion which provides hirers with the choice of extending their useable space to the hard standing area outside and onto the village green. Admittedly, the Pavilion is showing its age nowadays, but plans are afoot to replace it with a 'fit for purpose' new building as repairs on the old Pavilion are no longer financially viable.

A sneak peek inside the bookings diary for both buildings reveals just what a thriving and sociable community exists here. The Village Hall and Pavilion cater for age groups from as young as new-born right through to those who receive birthday cards from the Queen! Country Mice Playgroup runs a Toddler group and the Welcome Club provides a central place for our senior residents to meet.

At one time a badminton club used the hall; perhaps this may resurface in the future. It is certainly an ideal venue with its high ceiling and brand new solid oak flooring. Other sports users are KB Fitness who, amongst other activities, provide an over 50's exercise class. Short Mat Bowls is very popular and perhaps the Dog

Training classes should come under the category of 'extreme sport'! Cowfold Football Club enjoy holding various quiz nights and events in the hall or pavilion and in the summer you may even be lucky enough to spot the newly formed Cowfold Bulls Stoolball team making use of the Pavilion facilities; come over and join in!

Of course if you prefer a more leisurely approach to your socialising, why not contact the Bridge Club or the Cowfold History Society and check out when they meet. Still not found your niche? Maybe attending Women's Institute or Royal British Legion events would be more your cup of tea? Talking of tea – you should definitely look out for the Cowfold New Pavilion Fundraising Group's book, toy, bric-a-brac and jumble sales – you can always get a nice cuppa and homemade slice of cake there!

Other regular users of the hall include the local C of E Parish Church who has held various events from Barn Dances to Christmas Fairs in the Hall. The Weald Community Church also meets regularly for worship on a Sunday. Some people regard gardening as a spiritual pastime; Cowfold Horticultural Society members have regularly held events in the hall for their very particular type of nature worship!

Use of the hall and pavilion is not limited to the residents of Cowfold – although if you are a resident you will benefit from discounted hire charges! A very recent addition is the Surestart Children's Centre, they provide advice and support

to parents and carers of pre-school children. Commercial hirers have sold furniture, carpets and all kinds of crafts from within the 115 year old walls – if only those walls could talk... I bet they'd have some stories to tell! In fact, perhaps a great addition to the village would be the re-forming of the Cowfold Players amateur dramatics society?

So, the Village Hall and the Pavilion are obviously the 'happening' places to be in Cowfold! If you want to join or start up a new club, listen to the Parish Council meetings or simply have your own private party complete with glitter ball, disco lights and stage lighting – this is the place to do it! For more information about hire facilities, conditions and charges or just to see how you can get involved and help us to keep this invaluable asset at the centre of our community, please contact John Chamberlin on 07774 970302.

## Royal British Legion – Sussex Weald Branch

On 14 May 1921, the British Legion was formed; this is our 90th Anniversary year. Later on in the year we shall be making our own Branch celebration of this special birthday, hopefully to tie-in with the national celebrations over the weekend of 10/11/12 June, details have yet to be finalised, and will be published in the next newsletter.

We shall be welcoming the Swing Commanders to the Village Hall on 5 March for an evening of dance music and songs from the 1940s and 1950s. If you haven't got your tickets yet, it's probably too late! However, should you care to dress up in the style of one of the Legion's nine decades, it would add to the character of the evening. All profits to the Poppy Appeal.

I am pleased to report that Sussex Weald Branch has a new Hon. Secretary. Geoffrey Case has volunteered to take over the role. He was co-opted onto the Branch Committee at our January meeting and then appointed.

We still need younger blood in the Branch and so, if you fancy helping raise money for the Poppy Appeal in a friendly and enjoyable company, please get in contact with Membership Secretary, Graham Daniels (01403 864063), Chairman, Bob Farren (01403 864544) or myself.

Michael Gething – Vice Chairman  
01403 864052

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## Cowfold Football Club

Cowfold Football Club continues to go from strength to strength. With four successful adult teams now being run in the village there is an excellent opportunity for players of all ages to play at a level that suits their ability. The club particularly encourages people from the village to get involved either as a player or in helping to run the club behind the scenes.

The football club have been very successful in attracting a large number of local young people to play football and a very high proportion of the players are 17/18 year olds. Supporting the transition from playing junior football into adult football is a key priority for the club.

The first team are enjoying another hugely successful season and are currently competing for the title in the West Sussex Premier League and have reached the semi-final of the Sussex Intermediate Cup for only the second

## Country Mice Playgroup

Country Mice have a newly refurbished and extended building. During December and over the Christmas holidays, local builder (and parent) Peter Hale and his team at Southern Construction, worked extremely hard to complete the alterations. The snow in December caused problems, but Peter worked right up until the evening before, with his wife Amanda, to ensure that the playgroup could open after the Christmas break. The staff and the playgroup committee also helped to make the building clean, tidy and ready for reopening.

The improvements have made a tremendous difference. It has created a new entrance lobby for the children to store their coats and bags and a separate office for the staff. Redecoration, double-glazing and provision of new toilets have been included. A large canopy now provides an undercover play area and shelter for waiting parents.



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time in the club's history. The game will be at Cowfold on the 26th February 1.30pm KO against Hurstpierpoint.

The other teams are competing very well for promotion in their respective leagues and the club have high hopes of repeating some of the success that has been achieved in recent seasons.

The committee are looking for additional support at the moment and in particular the club are in need of a new treasurer as a matter of urgency. Anyone interested in supporting the club in this post or indeed any other way can contact the secretary at [suej.parsons@btinternet.com](mailto:suej.parsons@btinternet.com)

Unfortunately, the building work has churned up the grass, so we need to turf some areas. We are looking for a local volunteer with a little gardening knowledge to help us to relay the grass.

The playgroup benefits many village children, but we cannot make improvements without financial support. Our next fundraising events are "Children's Disco": 8th April and "Cowfold's Got Talent": 6th May. We also have Sports Day and a Boot Fair to look forward to. If you would like to help with the Country Mice Garden, or like more information on any fundraising event please contact 01403 864011 or email [info@countrymice.co.uk](mailto:info@countrymice.co.uk). Alternatively watch out for posters appearing around the village.



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## 1st Cowfold Brownies

At Brownies we have been working on badges. Some of us have done our Hostess badge. We decorated cakes and put different types of icing and sprinkles. We also had to take care of the new Brownies that were joining and show them all the things that we do.

In the autumn we did our Wildlife badge. We made bird feeders to hang in the garden. We also went to West Grinstead where we met the Ranger and looked at lots of different types of moths and trees.

We did a Wonderland Challenge badge. We had a Mad Hatters Tea party where we had to wear a hat or wig. We ate food that we'd never had before and told jokes. **By Safia and Megan**

## Cowfold Guides

This term we welcome 3 new guides, and we are continuing the work on the Mr Men challenge raising money for children with Leukemia. We are also working on a Junk Funk Music project. We will be joining with guiding members in our Division to celebrate with international activities. We will be making Mother's Day Crafts and Easter Activities. We look forward to the lighter evenings so we can go outside. **Any girls interested in joining please contact Carole on 01903 743041.**

# News from St Peter's Church

## Friday Cafe

Every Friday in term time, we run a café in the church. It's the chance to call in for a chat with other parents and carers for half an hour on your way home from the school run. We are open from 8.50am - approx 10am. Just wander in and meet up or make some friends. All welcome.

## Baby and Toddlers

We meet on alternate Tuesday mornings in term time from 10am to 12 noon, for a relaxed and fun time. There are cuppas for the adults, refreshments for children and the group makes no charge. We have singing with percussion instruments, a very short participative story, arts/craft activities including sticking, colouring, painting and snack-making. We usually have about 15 children and a similar

number of parents/carers at any session, so you are bound to find someone you know or can become friends with. Meetings are on Tuesday 1st, 15th and 29th March in the church. Just turn up.

## Family Service

Family Service is held on the first Sunday of the month at 11.15am. It's about 50 minutes long with modern songs and hymns, St Peter's band accompany the singing with guitars, and flutes. Children who are regulars at church take part in the service by leading the short prayers, reading from the Bible, meeting and greeting people as they arrive etc. The service in March is on Sunday 6th and you are assured of a warm welcome. We will be joined



by the children from St Peter's school choir who will be singing.

## Regular services at St Peter's on Sundays

8am – Book of Common Prayer service

11.15am – Communion service (Family service on the first Sunday of the month)

6.30pm – Choral Evensong on the first Sunday of the month only

## St Peter's Church Fundraising

We had a dry Fireworks Evening which raised about £500. Our thanks go to Gordon Tregear for letting us use his field and to John Chamberlin and Barry Sowton for organising and setting off the Fireworks, supplied by Aurora Fireworks. The BBQ team had a busy evening and the cheeseburgers sold out fast – as did the mulled wine!!

The Christmas Fair had a fabulous selection of stalls from Hand made Wreaths and Bird Boxes, Kitchen

Gadgets, Named Gifts, Cosmetics and even jumpers knitted by the Monks. The Children's Activities were popular, as was Father Christmas – who thoroughly enjoyed his visit. The Produce Stall did a roaring trade and there was a fantastic Tombola Stall. Many thanks to everyone who contributed or helped on the evening. We raised nearly £900.

This year we have lots of things planned.

**Friday 4th March** – Ladies Night in the Village Hall – lots of treats for the girls

**Saturday 21st May** – Themed Dinner

in the Village Hall – A May Ball

**Saturday 11th June** – Safari Supper round the Village

**Saturday 2nd July** – we will be doing something at The Village Fair – to be announced.

**Saturday 1st October** – Harvest Supper with Family Quiz in the Village Hall

**Saturday 5th November** – Fireworks and BBQ on the Playing Fields

**Saturday 3rd December** – Christmas Fair in the Village Hall

## Lionel Barnard our County Councillor

The winter weather always does terrible things to our roads and this year has been no exception. Having overcome the snow and ice problems, we are now faced with the annual pothole problem. The £15m worth of resurfacing in the autumn has protected a large number of our roads but potholes are a fact of life and we are filling them at a tremendous rate. 18 crews are working flat out. Members of the public and Parish Councils continue to report faults for our highways departments to deal with.

The cabinet agreed their proposals on budget cuts and the full council will, I hope, ratify these on 11 February. Although Highways and Transport will have had to find some £10m of savings over the next three years I have managed to protect the highways maintenance programme. We will maintain the quality

of our roads, currently amongst the top two or three in the UK, and keep people moving through West Sussex. There are a number of budget cuts on safety measures, grass cutting and bus subsidies and safety cameras but these will all be dealt with as sympathetically as possible. Most of the proposals will take effect in the first year when we will save some £39m across all the portfolios, with a 30% reduction in back office expenses, staff numbers will reduce and the total savings will be at least £75m over the three years.

The county have been told by the government that it must now administer the Concessionary Fares scheme. Although we have been given £10m to do this we estimate that we will be at least £800,000 short and one of the decisions in order to save money is to start the scheme later, at say 9.30am.

Your county council portion of the council tax has been frozen for the year 2011/12 Your payment will be the same this year as last year, I understand that this will also apply to the police precept and your district taxes.

Lionel Barnard: County Councillor (Deputy Leader); Member of Sussex Police Authority; Local 01273 491426, County 01243 756784



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## Cowfold Village History Society

Our next event will be on Friday 15th April in the Village Hall with the AGM at 7.30pm followed by a talk by George Cockman at 8pm about 'The Steyning Line, including West Grinstead'.

On Friday 8th July John Chamberlin promises a fascinating question and answer session on Church Marks and St Peter's Churchyard. An important aspect of Cowfold's history. Meet in the churchyard at 7.30pm.

Members free and non members £3.00 including refreshment. Young people welcome. Are you interested in joining the CVHS and taking part in our projects? If so contact [sucrofts@aol.com](mailto:sucrofts@aol.com) or 01403 864602.

## 30 Thirty mile an hour stickers

On dustbin day you might have noticed some striking 30 mile an hour stickers on the dustbins by the main roads. Our Parish Clerk has some of these stickers for sale for £2.00 each. Those who live on the main roads could put stickers on the bins to remind the passing traffic there is a speed limit in the village. If you would like some stickers (2 per bin to catch them coming and going) get in touch with Jan on 864806 or [clerk@cowfold-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@cowfold-pc.gov.uk).

## London to Paris Bike Ride

Stewart Whitehead from Holm Oaks has taken up a challenge to cycle 300 miles from London to Paris in September to raise funds for Alzheimer's Society. Stewart hopes to raise over £1300 by cycling through medieval villages and countryside to finish beneath the Eiffel Tower.

Stewart 55, decided to take up this challenge because he has had friends and relatives who have suffered from Alzheimers. He says, "Due to this and also my career in mental health nursing, I know that this is an illness which has a major impact on many people's lives. It will be a tough ride but I am hoping that by

raising funds for Alzheimer's Society more support can be provided for people with dementia, their families and carers."

Stewart and his young family are raising money through sponsorship as well as various fundraising activities. His daughter Isabel (aged 10) is running a cake sale with her friends at St. Peter's School, and both Stewart and his son Sam (aged 12) are washing cars on Saturdays to raise money.

If you would like to support his efforts then you can sponsor him on [www.justgiving.com/Stewart-Whitehead](http://www.justgiving.com/Stewart-Whitehead) or telephone 865 443 to arrange for your car to be washed! Look out for other activities too.



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