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Firle Fete

*August Bank
Holiday Monday
Firle Cricket Ground 1-4pm*

Programme No:

*In aid of: Firle Memorial Hall
St Peters Church and Firle Bonfire Society*

Order of the Day

**1.00pm Fete opening
by Lord Gage**

2.00pm Dog Show*

3.00pm Sheep Racing

4.00pm Raffle Draw

**Compere: Our very own
Vicar Peter Owen Jones**



Dog Show Classes:

- ◆ Best Purebred
 - ◆ Best Cross
- ◆ Young Dog
- ◆ Golden Oldie
- ◆ Best Trick
- ◆ Love Island Couple



Please Note: Entries Dog Show by 1.30pm

Prizes sponsored by Cliffe Vets . Rosettes sponsored by Upper Level Tree Surgeons Prizes

Activities and Stalls

Bowling for the Pig

Catch the Rat

Bric-a-brac

Coconut Shy

Crockery Smashing

Dog Show

Children's Face Painting

Fishing Game

Shoot past the Goalie!

Clockwork Pigs

Welly Wanging

Sheep Racing

Tombola

Guess The Weight of Cake

Raffle

Sheep Racing

Guess No. Sweets in the Jar

Produce Stall

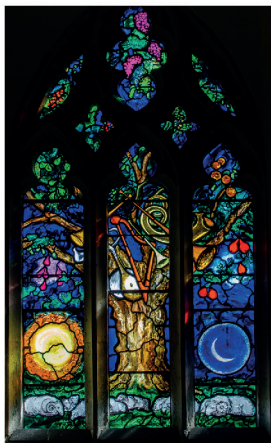
Clothes Stall

St Peter's Church

Part of our beautiful downland church is over a thousand years old: when William the conqueror arrived in 1066 he would have seen in Firle one of the first stone chapels to be built in Britain. That stone chapel is now the vestry and houses several superb alabaster tombs of the Gage family and also the famous John Piper commemorative window with all its wonderful vibrant colours.

The rest of the church was built in the 12th century and extended in the 13th and 15th centuries and is a Grade One Listed Building. There are beautiful brasses to see, and a prayer circle available for private prayer and meditation. The church is open as a place of sanctuary to all who need it. Services are regularly held here, as well as at Glynde and Beddingham churches, led by our Rector, Rev'd Peter Owen Jones.

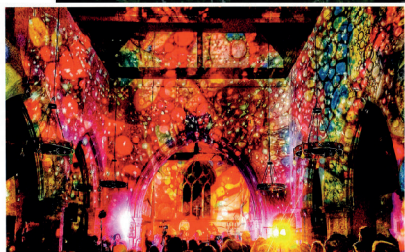
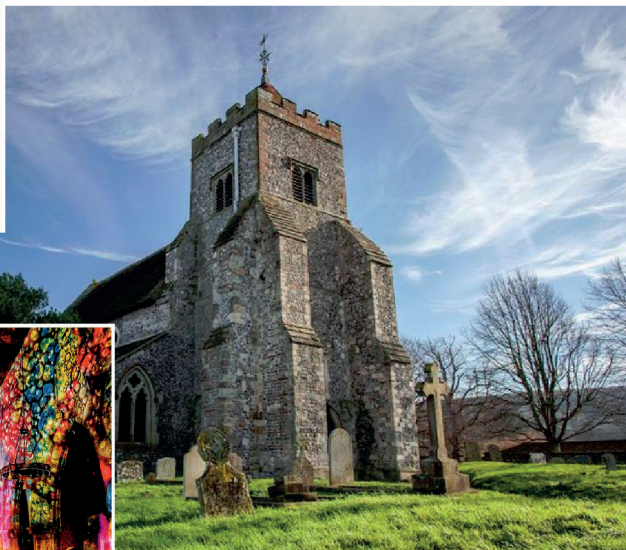
Peter is a well known environmentalist, author and film maker, who has been our incumbent since 2005. St Peter's is a popular venue for weddings and Rev'd Pete welcomes all couples who wish to be married in church including LGBT. Concerts of all kinds are regularly held at St Peter's, and the church is available as a venue for meetings, and for fundraising events. Our recently built extension with loos, and our kitchen servery / pop up bar are useful additions to this beautiful ancient building



In our peaceful churchyard, opposite the ancient yew tree, you will find the graves of Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant, members of the Bloomsbury group. For information about services and how to contact us please go to:

www.firle.org.uk/firle-church

(left) The Piper Window (bottom left) A winter concert



The Village Fete



Many village fetes likely originated from the old markets which, since medieval times, were used for the selling and purchase of livestock and the hiring of workers. Since then, these fairs have transformed into regional agricultural shows and much smaller fetes.

Village fetes have been held for over 100 years in England and are now primarily used for fundraising for charitable causes or for local community projects.

In Firle, the village fete is an important fundraiser for the bonfire society, the village hall and playing fields and the church, and in turn each of these organisations raise funds to support a variety of charities.

Firle fete has changed little over the past 70 years, although some popular additions include welly throwing and sheep racing. Our fete still has many of the traditional stalls such as 'Catch the Rat' the Tombola, the Hoopla, Guess the weight of the cake, the Dog Show, the Coconut Shy, Bric a brac, the Produce stall, as well as a teas with fantastic homemade cakes.

The Dog show has traditionally been judged by the Gage family who live at Firle Place. Patsy Hollingdale, who moved into Firle in 1955 as a new bride, says that 'Bowling for the Pig' i.e. playing skittles to win a live piglet was a favourite event in those days.

During the early 1900s, many villagers throughout the country kept a pig in their back gardens to supplement their food and small pigstys can still be seen the back gardens of many of the Firle cottages. However, nowadays the clockwork racing pigs are the only pigs you see in Firle Fete!

Fête were popular throughout England in the 1950s, where they featured heavily in books such as Richmal Crompton's Just William. Their popularity declined thereafter with the advent of cheap food and travel and loss of local interest in traditional village events. More recently they have been featured in TV crime series such as Midsomer Murders. Nowadays they are making a comeback and are seen as a fun inexpensive day out for all the family and a wonderful way of bringing the community together. Without the generosity and time of many local volunteers and organisations, this traditional English pastime would not exist.... so long may it last!



Firle Memorial Hall

Firle Memorial Hall was donated to the village by Lord Gage's grandfather in 1913. It was first used as a Bath House and Reading Room, and later transformed into the Memorial Hall. Viewed from the road the Hall has changed little over the years. Indeed, that is what makes Firle exceptional, a beautiful and unspoilt village nestled in the South Downs. A thriving and close community, with at its heart Firle School, Church, Pub, Stores, and of course our Village Hall. Firle is indeed a very special place to live or visit.

However, behind the Hall's original façade a lot has happened. In the 1970's, toilets and a kitchen area were added. Much more recently the Hall has had a major modernisation with a new rear extension adding more space and facilities including an upstairs meeting room. The sizeable new kitchen is fully equipped and opens out on to a pretty and private terrace for all year round use, but especially for summer barbecues. Solar Panels were installed to offset our electricity costs.

The Hall is used not only by village groups such as the Over 50's Club, Firle & Beddingham WI, Friday Morning Café, Lunch Club, it also is used weekly for sports such as Pilates, Yoga and Fencing, not to mention our musicians Jam Night! Firle Parish Council and Firle Community Association use the Hall for their monthly meetings. Firle has a community of resident artists, who show their work at the annual Artwave Festival. This year it starts on 3 September, please come along to the Hall and support them. Of course there are many children's birthday parties for which the Hall is a perfect venue (and some grown ups parties and well!) We also are very happy to host a limited number of Weddings a year.

Our big project this year is a major renovation of the village playground and we were successful in our application to receive significant grant funding from the Veolia Environmental Trust. The Committee would like to extend a huge thank you to the Parish Council and Firle Estate for their resilience in overcoming obstacles along the way. No village resource such as ours can exist without the support of residents, and particularly those who give their time and support to our Hall. A very big thank you to our Committee, and to Della, Rosanna and Fay for all their work on the "front line".

The Firle Fete is the primary fundraiser for the Firle Memorial Hall. Like all other similar community venues our finances have taken a downturn over the last two years, so we thank you wholeheartedly for supporting the Firle Fete 2022, and sincerely hope that you have a really enjoyable and involved afternoon.

Please also consider us for your future needs, be it a birthday party, a business meeting, or whatever! Just ask and we will do our best to accommodate you. We are very flexible and here to help make your event a success in such a wonderful location. By doing so you will assist in assuring the long term success of a vital community charitable resource. For enquires please contact bookings@firlevillagehall.org

History of Firle Bonfire Society

The following quotations have been taken from the diary of the Reverend Crawley, Vicar of Firle from 1878-1899.

1879 Wed Nov. 5th Bonfire and fireworks in front of The Ram were very well done.

1881 Grand Bonfire doings on a greater scale than usual, very orderly.

1882 Bonfire Night. Good display, creditable to the village.

1887 Blunt dined with us - and we all to his room at The Ram for the bonfire.

Very wet night.

1888 I was to have begun night school but found it was the Bonfire Boys Supper Night!

So it was put off till tomorrow.

1896 I took Constance (his daughter aged 7) out for a few minutes to look at the bonfire.

The Society has in its possession three medals dated 1906, 1907 and 1912. These medals are made of lead, bear the letters F.B.S. and the current year and were worn on bonfire night to show you were a fully paid-up member. After bonfire night, these medals would be collected and melted down ready to be struck again the following year. Most of the fireworks at this time were home-made. One being the "Firle Rouser" which went off with a shower of sparks and a very loud bang. Even then they must have believed a little in health and safety because wire mesh goggles were worn when making fireworks.

The traditional village bonfire is held every year!





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Firle Fete Beer Suppliers



Crossword

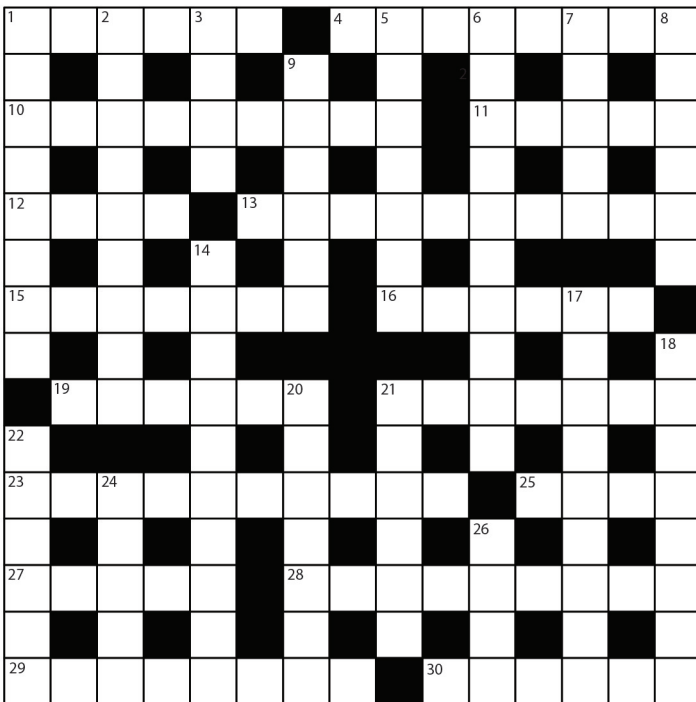


DOWN

1. A picture or view of part of The Brine. (8)
2. (Greek Myth) WIFE OF PERSEUS. (ANAG) A MAD DRONE. (9)
3. Fee to use a bridge or road. (4)
5. People delivering beer for a brewery. (7)
6. Person working in an establishment providing facial treatment, manicures etc. (10)
7. (ANAG) STALE. (5)
8. Triangular Indian fried pastry . (6)
9. Upward slope. Incline. (6)
14. Coating for exterior walls. (6&4)
17. Metamorphose. (9)
18. Essex Town. (ANAG) LOAD BINS. (8)
20. Puts up with. (7)
21. Out and out. Utter. (6)
22. An arrival which is awaited (6)
24. KARMA _____ (5)
26. Zone. (4)

ACROSS

1. The bodies of spears. Rays of light. (6)
4. Eccentric people. (8)
10. Autonomous community in Spain (ANAG) DUAL ASIAN. (9)
11. Put the wind up. Danger signal. (5)
12. Bird, vaunt, blow ones own trumpet. (4)
13. Inflammation of the skin. (10)
15. Nip in the bud, thwart. (7)
16. Nuance, fine point. (6)
19. Walk. Talk a lot. (6)
21. US State. (7)
23. German city (ANAG) LORD FUSSED. (10)
25. Italian sparkling white wine. (4)
27. (Films) Person hired for crowd scenes.(5)
28. GIVE SOMEONE THE _____ to give somebody unclear, evasive, or misleading answers to a question. (9)
29. Light weight wooden box. (3&5)
- 30.(Naut- of a vessel) Keel over on side. (6)



Local Quiz

Fun facts and history from the village and slightly further afield - answers below.

1. What are Fuggles, Goldings, Progress and Bramling Cross?
2. What local delicacy are they key ingredients of?
3. What did William de Warenne, 1st Earl of Surrey and Lord of Lewes build?
4. What saint is Firle Church dedicated to?
5. What bird is Lewes football team named after?
6. Which member of The British Royal Family grew up in Plumpton?
7. Which illustrator and author lived just west of Plumpton at Westmeston?
8. How many staves is the Long Man of Wilmington carrying?
9. Do you know how long the Long Man of Wilmington is to the nearest 10 meters?
10. How many pubs did Firle once have along The Street?
11. Can you list the names of these pubs?
12. What is the meaning of the Saxon name Firle?
13. What century did the Romans invade Britain?
14. What century did the Romans leave Britain?
15. In what decade was Firle Cricket Club founded?
16. Which wartime performer, who sang 'We'll Meet Again', lived in Ditchling?
17. What colour is the flag of Sussex?
18. How many gold Martletts does the Sussex flag have?
19. These Martletts represent the Sussex Rapes or county sub-divisions - can you name them?
20. Where in Lewes did the stone for Firle Place come from?
21. What is the Sussex word for a road leading up a hill?
22. When in 1985 George and Mary Hufflett retired from running The Ram how many families had held the tenancy over the previous 300 years?
23. What is the highest point in East Sussex?
24. In what local village was the South Down Sheep bred by John Ellman in 1800?
25. The traditional dress of what region of Spain is the costume of Firle Bonfire Society?
26. What was the population of Firle Parish in the 2011 Census to the nearest 10?

1. Hops
2. Harvey's Best Bitter
3. Lewes Castle
4. St. Peter
5. A Rook
6. Duchesses of Cornwall
7. Raymond Briggs
8. Two
9. 80 meters
10. Three
11. The Ram
12. The Woodpack
13. 1st Century BC
14. 4th Century AD
15. 1750's (1758)
16. Dame Vera Lynn
17. Blue
18. Six
19. Chichester
20. Lewes
21. Blue
22. Three
23. Ditchling Beacon
24. Glynde
25. Valencia
26. 290
12. 'Fierl' meaning overgrown with oak
13. Firle meaning overgrown with oak
14. 'Fierl' meaning overgrown with oak
15. 'Fierl' meaning overgrown with oak
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26. 'Fierl' meaning overgrown with oak



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Thank You

*A thank you to Firlie Memorial Hall Committee,
St Peter's Church, Firlie Bonfire Society, villagers, visitors,
family and friends.*

*A huge thank you as well to all the local businesses and
people who have donated prizes and sponsored this event.*

View Prizes in the Raffle marquee!

£50 CASH PRIZE! AND MUCH MUCH MORE!!!

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Course at Hunter Gather Cook

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Veg box from The Crop

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**PLEASE HAND TO RAFFLE TENT
BY 3.45PM**

Raffle drawn at 4.00pm