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2017 PROGRAMME

**April 21st - 23rd
The Garden Show at
Fife Place**

Fife Place,
Fife near Lewes,
East Sussex,
BN8 6LP.

theknitpickers@btinternet.com
07801277926

**May 27th
Heathfield Agricultural
Show**

Tottingworth Park,
Broad Oak,
Heathfield,
East Sussex,
TN21 8UE

pcandjc@gmail.com
01435 883435

August 19th - 20th**Tractorfest & Country
Fair**

Beech Lane Field,
Sissinghurst Road,
Biddenden,
Kent.
TN27 8EX

gray.mouse@btinternet.com
01424 751120

For contact details for all events keep an eye on the [Events Page](#) of our website

Notes from the Committee

Our 2017 season has started exceedingly well for both the Garden Show at Fife in April and the Heathfield Show in May enjoying good weather and attended by a very large footfall at both events. Heathfield is reputed to have had 15,000 paying customers! Thanks to Jean Hardy and to Peter Castle who organised these successful fairs and you will be pleased to know that we have already reserved spaces at both these shows for 2018.

As many of you realise we decided not take space at the Ardingly Smallholders Show. We have attended this event for some 10 years and felt that it was time to look for an alternative venue in July. With this in mind your committee are actively looking at having a marquee in 2018 at the two day Smarden Big Cat Show which takes place annually in July. This is a ticket only event and we understand the 2017 show is already a sell out. More on this later.

**Additional Event for 2017**

Your committee have agreed to take space at the Llama Park Christmas event to be held on Saturday and Sunday 25th/26th November 2017. For those who are not familiar with the Llama Park it is situated on the A22 at Wych Cross close to Forest Row. The present owner has run a very successful Santa's Grotto over the last two years and now wishes to add further attractions to his already successful Christmas weekend. In addition of course to the Llamas and other animals there is an interesting gift shop stocked with a variety of items and a coffee shop and restaurant. Visit the web site www.llamapark.co.uk to find out more about this exciting new venue.

Booking forms for this new event will shortly be available and will be sent out by email to all our members. Jean Hardy (theknitpickers@btinternet.com) is the organiser and will be happy to answer any questions. Space is limited so please contact Jean for a booking form as soon as you can.

August 19th - 20th
International Horse Trials
Firle Place,
Firle near Lewes,
East Sussex.
BN8 6LP
theknitpickers@btinternet.com
07801277926

September 9th - 10th
Laughton Autumn Show
Laughton Show Ground
Near Lewes,
East Sussex.
BN8 6BN
gray.mouse@btinternet.com
01424 751120

November 17th - 18th
Cooden Beach Hotel
Christmas Fair
Cooden Sea Road,
Bexhill-on-Sea.
TN39 4TT
lalawebb@gmx.co.uk
01424 893076

November 25th - 26th
Llama Fair
Wych Cross,
Forest Row,
East Sussex.
RH18 5JN
theknitpickers@btinternet.com
07801277926

December 7th
Battle Late Night
Shopping
Memorial Hall,
High Street,
Battle,
East Sussex.
gray.mouse@btinternet.com
01424 751120

The Garden Show, Firle Place April 21st—23rd

What a difference a year makes. This time last year we froze! Last year I sold at only 2 of the days whilst Higgys Bears took over for the third. This year I managed to stay for the three days and although it got coldish it was bearable and most of the time the sun did shine, it wasn't until later in the day that it got chilly. I will admit that 'doing' a 3 dayer isn't my idea of fun, but I will also admit that this show was the best I've sold at. The footfall on the Friday was surprisingly very high. Not only did I sell well but almost all tables were selling and commenting on the high numbers of people visiting our marquee. The Saturday and Sunday didn't appear to be as busy but lots of people seemed to be buying from us throughout these two days. I believe last year, our marquee was a little closer to the other marquees but this year we were positioned in a far better place and more central to the whole show which, I'm sure, put us in a more prominent position. All in all a very successful event.



My and everyone's thanks go to Jean for organising us into our selling positions. Having assisted on the Thursday prior to the event with Graham, Sue and Angela I discovered how difficult it was. I wouldn't want to have to organise that, but everyone seemed happy and all seemed (to me) to be selling. Thank you Jean and here's to next year?

Programme of Events

Your committee will be interested to know from members how they like the new "flier" also known as a useful book mark. The feeling was that so often the paper flier is quickly discarded, but by producing a more substantial item it will be valued by our visitors and have a longer "shelf life".

As many of you know our Chairman Alan Bristow has not been well. However he is feeling a lot better and wishes to say many thanks for all the kind messages that he has received.