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2018 PROGRAMME

April 20th - 22nd
The Garden Show
Firle Place,
Firle (near Lewes),
East Sussex.
BN8 6LP.

knitpickers45@gmail.com
07740 351104

May 26th—28th
Cuckoo Fair
Laughton Showground,
Near Lewes,
BN8 6BN

pcandjc@gmail.com
01435 883435

August 18th - 19th
**Firle International Horse
and Dog Show**
Firle Place,
Firle (near Lewes),
BN8 6LP

knitpickers45@gmail.com
07740 351104

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



Notes from the Committee

Another year has ended for us, and your Committee are in the process of planning our calendar for 2018. On the whole, we felt that 2017 was a success, with very good footfalls at most of our shows. The two new events we added to our programme, had mixed receptions, with the Autumn Show at Laughton being badly affected by the weather. Strong winds and heavy showers did not make it pleasant for an Autumn family day out. However we were well looked after by the organiser David Anstiss and his private car parking area allocated to us was particularly well received. We will be at the Autumn Laughton Show again in this coming year, and in addition we are negotiating to have a marquee at the Spring Cuckoo Fair also at Laughton. This 3 day event will replace the Heathfield Show in May as attendance in our marquee has been falling off, and it is felt that, perhaps, a fresh venue will stimulate greater interest. The other new event was at the Llama Park, which was arranged at very much at the last minute by Jean Hardy and Angela Webb. Again it is well worth developing and the present owner was very helpful in assisting us with this event., It was extensively well advertised, and will again be included in our programme for next year. This together with our usual events:- The Garden Show, Tractorfest, etc. (see the table of events attached) will be our programme for 2018. We had hoped to add a four day event at the Big Cat Sanctuary at Smarden to the 2018 programme, but sadly we were unable to agree terms with owners. The booking forms for our events will be available at our AGM, which will be held as usual in the Robertsbridge Community Hall TN32 5DA on Thursday 22nd February 2018. Our advice is to book early for our shows as we take bookings on a first come, first served, basis. As usual refreshments will be served. As far as the future is concerned, we are always open to suggestions to add new events to our programme. We are conscious that we have a gap between the Spring May Bank Holiday and the Tractorfest and Firle Horse Show both in August. We will be very happy to look at any Ideas for new events that members may suggest. Please contact in the first instance our Secretary Jean Hardy on knitpickers45@gmail.com

Heathfield Farmers Market

The organisers of this monthly event are looking for new stall holders, and if any of our members are interested in having a stall, please contact Joanne Aldous on 01892 610314 or farmersmarket@heathfield.net

August 18th - 19th
Biddenden Tractorfest & Country Fair
Windmill Corner,
Tenterden Road,
Biddenden.
TN27 8BH

gray.mouse@btinternet.com
01424 751120

September 8th - 9th
Laughton Autumn Show
Laughton Show Ground
Near Lewes,
East Sussex.
BN8 6BN

gray.mouse@btinternet.com
01424 751120

November 16th - 17th
Cooden Beach Hotel
Christmas Fair
Cooden Sea Road,
Bexhill-on-Sea.
TN39 4TT

lalawebb@gmx.co.uk
01424 893076

November 24th - 25th
Llama Park Christmas
Fair

Wych Cross,
Forest Row,
East Sussex.
RH18 5JN

knitpickers45@gmail.com
07740 351104

December 6th
Battle Late Night
Shopping
Memorial Hall,
High Street,
Battle,
East Sussex.
TN33 0AQ

gray.mouse@btinternet.com
01424 751120

Pat Testing

We are pleased to say that PAT testing of electrical equipment, lights, etc, will resume this year. Charles Buchanan has agreed to take on this task and for a small fee will be happy to help if possible. He can be contacted on ronpatbuchanan@hotmail.com if your equipment needs to be tested at one of our events, then please check that electricity is available. Our marquees don't always have an electric point and a supply is obviously essential for this job.

Advertising

A big advantage of having a marquee at the large events, apart from the large footfall, is that the organisers advertise their events extensively in the press, on web sites etc. However we do feel that we should play our part in ensuring the public are aware of our group. We pride ourselves on the handmade quality of our products and in this respect we have a web site www.wealdcrafts.co.uk which details our programme and gives information about us. Keeping this site up to date is an ongoing problem and we are looking for a volunteer who would be prepared to take on the task of ensuring the information is up to date. If any member is prepared to help, please contact Peter Castle at pcandjc@gmail.com. In addition of course, we produce our "book mark" flier which seems to have been a hit with both our members and the public. We plan to produce a similar one for 2018 but we still appreciate any feedback from members. We try to get these distributed as far and wide as we can, as it is in our interests to keep our name in the public eye.

Chair

In our last newsletter we mentioned that Alan Bristow had not been well, and although he feeling a lot better, he says that until he is fully fit, he feels it best if he stands down as our Chair. We are sure everyone will want to thank him for services to Weald Crafts, and to hope he will soon be back to his old self.

Finally may we take this opportunity of wishing our members our best wishes to you and yours for the Festive Season and of course for a very successful craft year in 2018.

Macmillan

We have received a very big thank you from our friends at Macmillan to say that they have raised £4.376 from their attendance at our events! We plan to continue our support for this wonderful charity and will welcome them back in 2018 as old and valued friends.