



Sandal Community Association
SPRING NEWSLETTER

April | 2018

Gearing up for the big event!

THE BUILD-UP to Sandal's fourth annual Scarecrow Festival has begun! It's five months away but even before entries have officially opened over half of last year's entrants have confirmed they are underway with scarecrows for 2018. One street is planning a coordinated theme for all its entries.

So, we are on the way to making this the biggest and best festival yet and YOU can be a part of it. The one piece of feedback we get every year is that people would like to see more and more scarecrows. Why don't you make one? Not sure how? Don't know what to make? Not on the trail? We have a number of great initiatives this year to make entering the festival as easy as possible:

- How To Make A Scarecrow' at Sandal Castle Primary School's summer fair on Wednesday afternoon, 4 July. Come along to see the different ways you can create a scarecrow.
- Vans will be made available to help move scarecrows to either host gardens or to Sandal Cricket Club for anyone not on the trail.
- Facebook postings with ideas for scarecrows and ideas about how to make them.
- Let us know as soon as possible if you would like to enter. You can send us your scarecrow's name later. If you are involved in a business that would like to sponsor a prize or enter a scarecrow, please get in touch.

As well as giving more space to scarecrows than ever before, Sandal Cricket Club will be hosting a two-day family gala including activities for children of all ages, freshly cooked food and much, much more. Keep your eyes peeled in the coming months for more details of all the things that will be going on. If you have any other ideas for the event, let us know by emailing info@sandal.org.uk. Let's make this festival the best yet, the festival no one will forget!



HOW TO ENTER: Fill in the entry form, available electronically through the SCA's website at http://sandal.org.uk/Scarecrow_Festival.php (just click on the link at the top of the page) or download a copy through the festival's Facebook page @sandalscarecrowfestival. Hard copies of the entry form can be picked up at The Spring Community Shop, Sandal Library, Fortythree Coffee Shop, the Castle Café or St Helen's parish office. Once you've completed the form you can drop it off at any of these outlets, where there will be special collection boxes. Entries open officially on May 1 but we'll accept them whenever you're ready. The closing date is August 31.

Scarecrow Mascot Competition

THIS YEAR for the first time we are launching a mascot competition to decide the scarecrow that will be the official face of the 2018 festival. Copies of the entry form can be downloaded from the SCA website or festival Facebook page, or picked up from any of the drop-off points listed above. It includes an outline for the children to draw in and colour their creation, which can include accessories and all. Don't let anything stop their imaginations!

The winning design will be made into an actual scarecrow and the winner will receive a cake made by Fortythree Coffee Shop featuring the mascot, plus a £20 book voucher. There will also be two £10 book vouchers for runners-up. All entries must be received by Tuesday, 8 May, and should be dropped off at one of the locations detailed on the entry form or scanned and sent to us by email at info@sandal.org.uk or through the festival Facebook page.



From the chair...

IT IS EXCELLENT news that Sandal Post Office may well have been sold. Let's hope there are no last minute hitches. Post office business has declined over the years due to the loss of its monopoly of certain functions and competition for its remaining services. If you wish this to remain a viable business in the future please use it. For example, where do you tax your car? I'm happy to say mine was renewed there recently. I understand that, if the sale progresses, Kathryn Bramley is willing to stay on until the handover is complete and then she and Ian are looking to purchase a residence in Sandal. We wish them well in their retirement



Since our autumn newsletter we have continued our programme of events which included an excellent wine and cheese evening at which David Lane gave a fascinating talk on "Heraldry and Family History". The Christmas period was a hectic as ever with a living Christmas tree being planted in November shortly before the traditional cut tree was put in place for the light-up and social evening at Sandal Castle School. The pupils' carol singing was better than ever and Santa's visit, in his newly acquired grotto, proved very popular. This was followed by another sell-out performance by the Horbury Youth Band at the West Yorkshire Sports Club.

Our first event in 2018 was a South America themed wine tasting evening (pictured) hosted by Jamie of the Majestic Wine Warehouse where we purchased the six varieties to be sampled. The most popular on the night proved to be a Chilean Carmenere, nicknamed the Jurassic grape as it was once thought to be extinct.



We have an afternoon cream tea arranged at The Spring café in mid-April and a day at Kinsley greyhound track in mid-May. Tickets for these three events have been snapped up by our members so we have not been able to offer places to others. However, we are hoping to arrange a summer event jointly with the Friends of Sandal Castle which will be open to all.

Our annual litter pick had to be postponed in March as we couldn't see any litter for the covering of snow and we didn't want our volunteers to get frostbite! It was re-arranged and will probably have taken place by the time this newsletter reaches you.

Les Goddard (SCA chairman)

Toy donations sought for hospice fundraiser

NEED to de-clutter this spring? Have a glut of unwanted post-Christmas toys or games filling your attic? The Sandal fundraisers for Wakefield Hospice will again be holding a toy stall at the Scarecrow Festival to raise money for the fantastic work done by the hospice - and they need donations! Toys and games can be for any age but should be in good, clean condition. Just drop them off at 81 Mountbatten Avenue (tel 256644).

IF YOU would like to hold a stall over the festival weekend to raise money for a charity of your choice, just let us know.

A chance to show your support...

The SCA supports a number of local groups, including the Friends of Sandal Castle, whose latest leaflet is enclosed with this newsletter. We're all concerned about the future of the castle site and you can help by joining the Friends and getting your name added to their email list for news updates – and membership is free! Just give them your contact details.

The SCA continues to welcome new members to its own ranks. The annual subscription is still only £6 per household which helps fund projects such as Sandal's Christmas tree and hanging baskets. To join, simply send a cheque with your contact details (including address, telephone number and email) to Phil Carter at 35 Marriott Grove, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 6RP.