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Beside the Duck Pond!

Welcome to The Rottingdean Village Fair 2024, located as always, on the village green beside the duck pond!

Originally constructed as a vital watering hole for local sheep and cattle, the pond was also a popular destination for fishermen too. Largely artificial, it had to be refilled on a regular basis using the pump beside the well.

Since then, it's become a much-loved focal point of the village for local residents, tourists, artists, families, picnickers, tipplers and pranksters... and, of course, for our ducks!

The Rottingdean Village Fair dates back to 1887, but the first charitable event was held in 1925, and has been held more or less every year since, apart from during times of war.

It's a much cherished annual celebration that unites villagers and visitors in a day filled with laughter, merriment, and shared memories.

We hope that you enjoy your visit today and look forward to hopefully welcoming you back, time and again in the future.



Highlights of the Fair

THE GREEN

On The Green this year are all sorts of interesting stalls to explore, fabulous food outlets to sample and fun games to play.

There's also a diverse range of entertainment on the banks of the pond - where one of our two stages is situated. It's the perfect location to sit back and relax with a drink and enjoy the pot-pourri of talented local performers listed opposite.



KIPLING GARDENS

Be sure not to miss out on visiting these truly beautiful walled gardens to discover even more stalls and other things to do and see - including the opportunity to try your hand at bowling, croquet or a bit of wacky golf!

There's also a second stage to the rear of the gardens with music and entertainment throughout the entire day.

FOOD & DRINK

Having fun is hungry work and this year we're providing more options than ever.

Our fabulous sizzling barbecue, courtesy of The Plough Inn, is serving delicious flame-grilled burgers and hot dogs, and is conveniently located right next to the bar!

Also on The Green, is the ever-

popular Whiteways Tent, where they are serving tea, coffee and a truly mouthwatering array of sandwiches and cakes.

We're also really delighted to welcome our first ever 'guest cuisine'; the talented local curry chefs from 'Mango Kitchen'.

And last but not least, there's a dedicated Pimm's & Prosecco tent, conveniently located right beside the stage to the rear of Kipling Gardens!

FOR THE KIDS

There's plenty of entertainment for our younger guests too, including bouncy castles and slides, Punch and Judy, a farmyard petting area and a variety of fun games and inventive challenges.

Also on offer, are lashings of ice cream and candy floss too - a popular treat for kids of all ages!

The Spirit of the Fair

The Rottingdean Village Fair is a tapestry woven with threads of quirkiness and eccentricity, a true reflection of the village's unique spirit. But beyond all the laughter and lively banter lies a more meaningful purpose.



Every chuckle shared, every penny spent, fuels the support we provide for local charities and good causes.

The beneficiaries change every year but our commitment

to nurturing the community remains steadfast.

By coming here today, and spending money at the charity stalls, you are contributing to a legacy that champions the very

heart of Rottingdean.

Last year, we contributed funds towards buying new tents for our local Scout troop - the 23rd Brighton (St. Margaret's Rottingdean) and further funds to the latest project from PARC; helping to install a storyteller's bench on the seafront.

For registered charity recipients, our funds are matched by corporate donors, thus doubling the amount we're able to grant!

The Two Stages

Our Master of Ceremonies today is Maurice Thorogood!

	The Pond Stage	The Kipling Stage
10.30	The Salvation Army Band	
11.00		The Possible Chicken String Band
11.20	LCAS School of Theatre Arts	
11.45	Holly King & Cookie (the dog!)	
12.00	The Mewes Dog Show £2 entry per catagory in aid of RSPCA - Most Handsome Male - Lovliest Lady - Best Pedigree - Best Crossbreed - Best in Show	The Saltdean Jazz Band
13.00	Zumba with Helen Ford	
13.15	Theatre Express	
13.30	Zumba Toning with Helen Ford	MiDaS (Traditional Music)
13.45	Brighton School of Slinging	
14.30		The Possible Chicken String Band
14.45	Highland Dancing	
15.00	Closing Act - Hurly Burly	
16.00	The Fair Closes	
17.00	The Car Park Closes	
	All timings are approximate and subject to change. Other guest artists may appear at the last moment!	

Making It Happen

Putting on the Fair is becoming ever more expensive, so this year we decided we had to find a new source of income to ensure its sustainability for future generations to enjoy.

In addition to our commercial sponsors, we have



introduced an entirely new opportunity for individuals to play a pivotal role in the Fair's success.

'The Friends of the Fair' is a new group comprised of passionate villagers and supporters dedicated to preserving and enhancing the Fair. This year, our Friends helped us to purchase our fabulous new bunting, new gazebos, and some essential technical equipment which will be used for many fairs in the future.

Their amazing generosity has helped to ensure that the Rottingdean Village Fair continues to thrive as a beacon of community spirit and giving.

Together, they have enabled us to uphold this tradition, create lasting memories, and strengthen the bonds that unite us all. Thank you so much.

Friends of the Fair 2024

Fr Anthony Moore
Mike and Christa Sexton
Heather Butler
Victoria Harris Pet Portrait Artist
Sarah Maywood
David Currie and David Hall
Charly and Jamie Robertson
Lynda Hyde
Gary Fitzpatrick & Peter Litten
Neil and Carol Robertson
David Spellman at Neat Feet
Mag Storey
Andrew and Helen Clark
Vikki Bianco
Gail Woodcock
Matthew and Sonja Palmer
Corinne and Rick
Mike and Rowena
Graeme and Margaret Hills
Christine Wales

In memory of Bill Spencer
Bini McCall
Trevor and Denise Hopper
Graham Keeling and Lisa Costigan
Rottingdean Dental Care
Mike and Janet Nixon
Councillor Bridget Fishleigh
Colin and Penny Alexander
Helen and Rich Aston
Patsy & Clive Dixon
Ian Kenneth Birksted
Sue Hart
Linda Hudson
Denise Penn
Paul and Brenda Griffiths
Kay Tipple
David Bull

We would also like to thank all those Friends who chose to remain anonymous today.

Future Friends

If you missed out on becoming one of our 'Friends of the Fair' this year, why not go ahead and join up now and enjoy even more benefits next year for our special centenary celebrations?

The sooner we can encourage new Friends to join, the better it is for our organisation as a whole - so we shall be offering an 'early bird' special by way of reward - in the form of an extra glass of Pimm's or Prosecco in the VIP area of the Fair! To join 'The Friends of the Fair 2025', simply fill out the form on our website: www.rottingdeanvillagefair.co.uk

Unfair Weather!

As the weather is becoming increasingly unpredictable, we now have to make contingency plans in case of the worst. If a deluge is forecast prior the event we may have to take the regrettable decision to move the fair under cover to three alternative locations - and we are most grateful for their support:

The Village Hall	- Entertainment, Food & Beverage
The Whiteways Centre	- Commercial Stalls
Our Lady of Lourdes Hall	- Community & Charity Stalls

Whilst this is undoubtedly disappointing to everyone concerned, the Fair will nevertheless still happen - as was proven last year. All you have to do, is maintain a stiff upper lip and smile!



Other Information

- Please note we have a professional photographer onsite today taking photos for the committee
- The car park in Hilder's Field will close at 5PM
- Toilet facilities are located in The Grange, immediately opposite The Plough Inn
- Please take all your rubbish and recycling home with you as we have limited capacity
- In case of emergency, there is a qualified first-aider on call and a defibrillator nearby. If you need either, please contact one of the organisers or other volunteers.
- Any help to clear up at the end of the day would be very much appreciated!

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Our Centenary Next Year!

Next year, we'll be celebrating 100 years of the Rottingdean Village Fair and we plan to mark the day with a truly memorable and spectacular event! Not only will there be many more stalls to explore, there'll also be a host of other exciting things to do and see.

It's the perfect opportunity to celebrate our rich and diverse history with a range of exciting attractions to bring it all to life!

We'll be remembering our famous artists and actors, our poets and authors, the rich and the famous, the heroes and the villains - and all different aspects of local life through the ages.

We're talking costumes and scenery, and all kinds of inventive theatrical shenanigans. It'll be a



'once in a lifetime' celebration of our unique and special village!

But it goes without saying, putting on an event of this scale and ambition takes a lot of time and money. Planning is due to begin almost immediately after this year's event and we shall be hoping to involve many more in our community - more residents, more local businesses, and

more from the wider corporate world too.

If this is something that you would like to get involved with then do please let us know. If you have an idea, or a skill you can bring to the table, then please don't hesitate to come forward.

Similarly, we will also be looking for more sponsors next year too - and hopefully we'll be expanding the membership of our newly formed 'Friends of the Fair'.

Our centenary event will be good for our community, good for our businesses, and good for our reputation.

But, most important of all, it'll all be a whole load of fun!

Acknowledgements

The owners of Hilder's Field for allowing parking on their land
Rottingdean Arts for lending their sound equipment and chairs

The Whiteways Centre for lending their tables

Amanda Rosenstein Davidson for her lovely poster design

Mie, Christa and Poppy for supporting additional new bunting

Lynda Hyde for supporting the new gazebo for the bar

The Rottingdean Bowling Club for organising the car parking

Bob Webzell for providing professional photography services

Charly, Jamie, George and Bump for supporting the 'Friends of the Fair' VIP area

Jessica Carr and and High Barn Farm for helping to move endless stacks of chairs and tables

We would also like to thank Petticoat Lane, Yoshiko Matsumoto and The Rottingdean & Saldean Lions for their contribution to many past events and are unable to be with us this year.

And last, but not least, the many volunteers who have given their valuable time!

The Committee

Lynda Hyde - Honourary President

Steve Grantham - Treasurer

Gary Fitzpatrick - Chair

Peter Mackenzie Litten - Design & Production

Denise Penn - Stalls & Marketing

Charly Robertson - Entertainment

Nadine Fox - Social Media

David Currie - Friends of the Fair

Jo Newman - Swing

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