



April 2011

Pigeon Post

HAPPY
EASTER!



SPRING HAS SPRUNG... OR HAS IT?

Ne'er cast a clout... is what they say. Or used to, when we wore clouts. (They were for wearing, weren't they?). And there's always that old argy

bargy about May, whether it was blossom or the month. Many thanks [Claudia Lorrabaquio](#) for the fab pix, and [Kevin and Diane](#) for the subjects!

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Parish Councillors: good news, bad news

As you know if you've been paying attention, the Parish Council comes to the end of its term in May and the current Parish Councillors will be standing down. There are vacancies for five new Parish Councillors, and we are happy to report that two Village Stalwarts,

who have to remain nameless at this point, put themselves forward in the nick of time before the 4 April deadline. Assuming we get no more than five nominations, those two plus another three will automatically become Councillors, because there will

not be a contested election. The bad news: two is not a quorum, and unless we have five, Mid Sussex District Council takes over as the Parish Council. Do we want this? They might co-opt some more, but that's hardly democratic. Contact Paula Hazard on 957 if you want to stand.

Fulking really has got talent...



From Michael Trist: Those who attended the jam-packed Village Hall on 19 March were certainly not disappointed by the abundance of energy, talent and goodwill that awaited them. The range of acts put on by the very able youngsters in our village was truly impressive, both in its diversity and quality. The audience was treated to everything from gymnastics, dance, music of every genre, through to RADA-standard acting.

The evening was rounded off by a delicious range of home-baked refreshments, adding to

what was already a very special atmosphere created by our very special community at its best. It was a superb event.

This memorable evening could only have been created with the hard work of its organisers Nicole Walker and Alison Taylor along with, of course, the superb performances from the participants – well done to all involved! The first of many more to come, we hope, and one that brought out the very best from our very special community.

Along the way, Tricia Robinson read out some of Lucie's final

words, in which she described how Molly, Lucie's faithful canine friend, had transformed onlookers' attitudes towards her: 'Molly helps me out at home. When we are out and about, Molly opens doors etc, but her most invaluable role is the security of positive attention she brings. People now acknowledge me with a smile when they see her, in her purple coat, instead of ignoring me, crossing the road, or selling me drugs, as I seem to be seen as an anorexic drug addict! When times are tough all I do is look at her and see why

Village Diary

Thursday 14 April, 7.30pm
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Village Hall
Paula Hazard, 957

Good Friday, 22 April, 11am
EASTER EGG HUNT
AND GRAND OPENING OF
NEW NORTH TOWN FIELD
PLAY AREA
North Town Field
Rachel, 090; Jennifer, 626

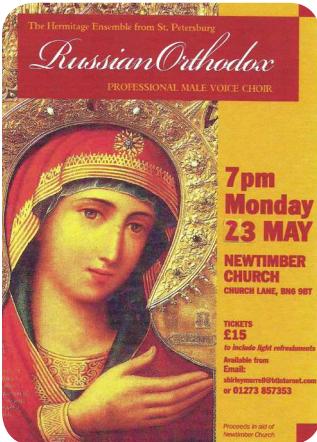
Thursday 5 May, all day
LOCAL ELECTION / NATIONAL REFERENDUM DAY

Thursday 12 May, 8pm
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Village Hall
Paula Hazard, 957

Sunday 31 July, 12 noon
FULKING VILLAGE FAIR!
Bob Rowland, 271
Jenny Tooley, 456

I want to fight on for life.' The evening raised £130 for 'Canine Care', based in Midhurst, to help continue the training of others such as Molly.

From Bob Rowland: What an incredible amount of young talent we have in the village! It was all on display at the 'Fulking's Got Talent' evening, organised by Alison Taylor and Nicole Walker and very ably MC'd by 10-year old Ciaran. So successful was the evening that it will, no doubt, become an annual event. If you weren't there, don't miss it next year.



Hermitage Ensemble comes to Newtimber

This is a special opportunity to hear a professional Russian male voice choir sing sacred and folk music. They are visiting England for a month from St. Petersburg. Our 13th-century church is set in lovely countryside just north of the South Downs. Parking is in an adjacent field. Ticket for £15 includes light refreshments.

Monday 23 May, 7pm: St. John the Evangelist Church, Newtimber, BN6 9BZ.

Contact: shirley@murrell@btinternet.com or phone 353.

CRIME TIME

Darren and Melissa at Fulking Cottage had their car broken into on Thursday night 31 March. Melissa has had a small grey handbag and black leather jacket stolen from it. The car was locked and on their driveway. They wanted to alert villagers to be vigilant and if anyone comes across the bag (which might be thrown away after the contents are taken) would be grateful for its return.

The Pigeon Loft itself was also invaded the same night, the crafty criminals ignoring the four-point heavy sliding door lock and just removing the (also enormously heavy) glass. And we have since heard that two more cars and a garage were broken into. Busy night.

We had a visit from **Eve Maryan** the local Police



Bluebells at Furzefield: Bluebells are usually good at the end of April/beginning of May. All villagers are most welcome at Furzefield, Clappers Lane to wander around or just sit and enjoy. Please ring 271 before you come. Regret no dogs. Children under control! Bob & Pam Rowland.

Community Support Officer today who signed us up to Farmwatch – the rural version of Crimewatch, although as we all know Crimewatch is also here in the village, courtesy of **Richard Corner**. Eve says if anyone wants advice please get in touch with her at 0845 60 70 999, ext 27921, or email eve.maryan@sussex.pnn.police.uk.

So, people: the days of leaving your back door open are over. Another of our police visitors has explained that crims these days check out their targets by using Google Maps or Google Earth, or estate agents' websites, so they can even see house interiors. Nothing really we can do about this, just be on our guard, lock our doors, and ramp up our security systems.

Anything crime related, report direct to Eve or to Richard Corner in the village: corners@talktalk.net, ph 219.

Local business directory

As part of the actions resulting from the Village Plan, which as you know is being finalised, I have agreed to compile a **Directory of local businesses and skills** to be published on the Village website and possibly in printed form. Residents who would like to be included should email me or post me their name,

the name of their business or skill, address and contact details (telephone/email /website). They could also include one sentence to describe the business activity or skill.

Richard Rawlings, Brook House, Fulking, BN5 9NH. Phone 776, richard@rmmarketingltd.co.uk

For hire: Village Tables, Gazebos, Crockery!

If you are planning a party, the village has some items for hire:

- Wooden folding tables: six, 6ft x 2ft each – £2 each:
- Gazebos: four, 9ft x 9ft each – £3 each:
- Crockery: chunky, but up to 80 dinner and side plates, bowls, cups and saucers – up to £10:
- Cutlery: up to 80 knives, forks, spoons, teaspoons, serving spoons and forks – up to £10.

If you would like to hire anything please call Carolyn on 280. All proceeds to Fulking Social Fund.

Seeking scarecrow chic

Bob & Pam Rowland aforesaid need to smarten up their scarecrow, who has become ahem, somewhat dishevelled over the winter. If anyone has old – very bright – clothes to adorn the effigy and put the scare into the crows, contact B&P on 271.



Adults' and Kids' Plays

I've been toying with the idea of putting on a play in the summer in the Village Hall / NTF which stars our own talents (adults this time) from Fulking. If anyone is interested in taking part, please get in touch with me on 115 or myriam.brenner@gmail.com.

Also, the Monday afternoon plays-in-the-park start again after the Easter hols. **Myriam**

Gardening and dog walking

Jen Green is offering these services locally: Gardening – Fast, experienced, reliable. Dog walking – Regular walks will keep your dog healthy and quieter indoors. Reasonable rates!

Contact Jen on 552 or jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk

Spring Herb Walks

Here is the link for Spring Herb Walks in Ditchling, Keymer and Hassocks with Herbalist Sarah Furey: <http://sussexmedicalherbalist.co.uk/news.html>. More details from Sarah on 01273 831446

Botany for Beginners

There are a few places left on the 'Botany for Beginners' days, based at St Dunstan's Farm, near Heathfield: <http://www.sussexnature.co.uk/#/courses/4541438998>

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aidan@aidanwalker.co.uk, 01273 857735

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I am showing at Brighton Open Houses, part of the Brighton Festival: 23 Harrington Road, Nr Preston Park (21 in Festival Brochure). Dates: 7th/8th, 14th/15th, 21st/22nd, 28th/29th May 11am - 6pm



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