



Pigeon Post



SNOW DAZE, PARTY NIGHTS



Top, Fulking's Junior Pro Winter Sports team in training with wizened, hardened snow coaches in attendance. Middle, grey days,

glittering nights. Above, much missed ex-resident **James Ellis Brown's** party graphic (a bit squeezed, sorry JEB) announces

our grown-up Xmas Party in the Village Hall, 6.30pm on Friday 17 December. Bring your own finger food, but co-ordinate so

we don't overdo the sausage rolls. Plus Kids' Party, Preston Nomads clubhouse, Saturday 18 December, 3pm. Details inside.

Be at our Village Xmas Parties!

First: for the grown ups. Friday 17 December at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone welcome. Please bring a plate of savoury finger food when you come.

There will be a Tombola in aid of the new play surface which is replacing the barkpit in the play area of the North Town Field. Prizes for this should be dropped off well in advance to either **Carolyn** at Woodlands, The Street (280); **Tessa** at Arbor Vitae, The

Street (821) or **Pam** at Furzefield, Clappers Lane (271). Pre-thanks for hard work and preparation to **Carolyn**, **Pam** and mulled vintner extraordinaire **Jill Malby**.

Second: for the kids. Saturday 18 December, Preston Nomads Cricket Pavilion, 3pm. Come and meet the Big Man and enjoy some festive family fun! Families encouraged to join in! Parents' drinks and nibbles included. Tickets £5 each or £10

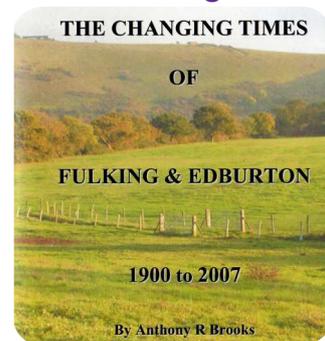
per family (two + children). The Children's party is subsidised by a generous donation from Fulking Social Committee – thanks, Soc Comm. Tickets include food, drink, entertainment and a gift from the Big Man. Tickets can be bought up until 15 December from: **Rachel** - Knole House, 090; **Jennifer** - Perching Sands Farm Cottages, 626; **Julie** - Clappers House, 109; **Nicole** - 1 Septima Cottage, 820.

Christmas crafts



Various high-quality local crafts are on sale at Rushfields Garden Centre every weekend before Xmas, will make great Christmas presents. Local artist **Jen Green** is exhibiting a new collection of mosaic mirrors and prints at Rushfields on 11-12 and 19 December.

The Fulking Book



Stuck for a Christmas present or want to know about your own house and the village history? Distinguished author **Tony Brooks** has just ordered a reprint. Call him on 200. It costs £12.50.

More diary dates

Fun'n'games

7.45pm Friday 7 January

Come and try out Fulking's fantastic new table tennis table. Games evenings are one of Fulking's few regular long-running events. Village hall, and in the pub from about 9.30.

Music in the Church

7.30 pm Saturday 18 December

The launch of an album of music recorded in Edburton Church is at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 on the door, with half the proceeds to church funds. Candlelight, mulled wine, tea and cake. All welcome

Village Diary

Sunday 12 December, 5.30pm

CHRISTMAS CHOIR
REHEARSAL
St Andrew's Edburton
Jen, 552; Alison, 705

Friday 17 December, 6.30pm

FULKING VILLAGE XMAS PARTY
Village Hall
Carolyn, 280; Pam, 271

Saturday 18 December, 3pm

CHILDREN'S XMAS PARTY
Preston Nomads Clubhouse
Rachel, 090; Julie, 109

Sunday 19 December, 4.30pm

CHRISTMAS CHOIR
REHEARSAL
As above

Sunday 19 December, 6pm

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS
St Andrew's Edburton
Caroline Currer, 456

Tuesday 21 December, 5.30pm

VILLAGE CAROL SINGING
Start at Skylarks, Clappers Lane
Trish Robinson, 255

Saturday 8 January 2011, 10.30am

VILLAGE PLAN OPEN
MORNING
Village Hall
Jo, 870; Bob, 271

Wednesday 12 January, 7.30pm

SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Shepherd & Dog
To discuss ideas for Fulking
Fair 2011. Jenny, 382

Thursday 13 January, 8pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Village Hall
Paula, 957

Saturday 15 January
LAST DATE FOR COMMENTS
ON VILLAGE PLAN

email to Kate Watson,
kate.watson4@btinternet.com

Sunday 16 January, 4pm

'F FACTOR' MEETING
1 Septima Cottage
Nicole, 820

Thursday 10 February, 7.30pm

VILLAGE PLAN MEETING
Village Hall
Jo, 870; Bob, 271

F...F...F...Fulking's got talent...

...In spades, as we all know. Can't hardly step out your front door without falling over singers, dancers, violinists, pianists, musicians of all sorts, acrobats, jugglers, comedians, you name it. And most of them are children.

Which is why **Alison Taylor** and **Nicole Walker** are organising our very own Children's Talent Show

– by the kids for the kids.

Provisionally entitled 'The F Factor' (what else?), the event is planned for Saturday 19 March. Performers are to be strictly aged 18 or under, but after that it's pretty much anything goes. This is an event run by the kids. If your child would like to be part of the F Factor, please either phone

Alison on 705 or email **Nicole** at nicole@blueincevents.co.uk to register your interest. We would like to hold a meeting to discuss it with the kids as they'll need to get involved in the organisation, designing and selling the tickets etc. The meeting will take place on Sunday, 16th January from 4-5pm at 1 Septima Cottage.

Street light saga – yes, we do have them!

The cost of Fulking's three street lights used to be offset from 'cross subsidy' from larger councils, but that stopped in 2008. Since then EDF has doubled its charges. In less than three years the annual cost of the lights has gone from £100 to over £650 – not sustainable

from the PC coffers alone. **Paula Hazard**, our redoubtable and resourceful Clerk to the Parish Council, found an electricity supplier with no standing charges (more than 2/3 of the current EDF bill). This means the street lights will stay on as the budget will cover the cost. The subject

will be on the agenda for the next PC meeting on 13 January, as since the energy companies continue to whack up their bills, turning the lights off could become a live issue again.

And – **Paula** found someone to repair the street light at Stammers Hill which is now fixed.

Downland Benefice Christmas Services 2010

| | Newtimber | Pyecombe | Poynings | Edburton |
|--------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Sunday 12 December | 2.30pm Carol Service then tea at Newtimber Place | 6pm Carol Service with Mid Sussex Brass Band | | |
| Sunday 19 December | | | 6pm Carol Service with choir. Then mulled wine and mince pies | 6pm Carol Service with choir. Then mulled wine and mince pies |
| Christmas Eve | | 11.30pm Midnight Mass | 3.30pm Christingle Service | 11.30pm Midnight Mass |
| Christmas Day | 8am Short service | | 10am Family Communion | |
| Boxing Day | | 10am Communion service | | |

Village Action Plan Consultation...

Enthusiastic members of the Village Action Plan Group have done sterling work to produce a first draft which we are now putting out to everyone in the village for consultation. You'll find a copy with your issue of *Pigeon Post* and we really want your feedback and views so that we can draw on them in getting the final draft finalised in February 2011. You can let us know your views by:

- Emailing comments to [Kate Watson \(kate.watson4@btinternet.com\)](mailto:kate.watson4@btinternet.com)

making sure that you mark your email 'Village Action Plan';

- Coming along to our open morning at the Village Hall, 10.30 on Saturday 8 January. This is an informal 'drop in' where you can chat to members of the Village Action Plan Group.

The draft Plan has three themes. Team members are:

Environment: [Jen Green](#), [Kate Watson](#), [Ken Smith](#);

Community and Leisure: [Julia Snell](#), [Tony Brooks](#), [Rev Caroline](#)

[Currer](#), [Richard Rawlings](#);

Transport and Housing: [Linda Dyos](#), [Clive Goodridge](#), [Margaret Rawlings](#), [Tricia Robinson](#).

[Jo Hudek](#) and I are playing a supporting role across the groups. If you are interested in chatting to any of the group members please give me a ring on 271.

Below, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) discusses plans for the Village Hall site, asking for your views about where you think a new Village Hall should

be located. This is one of the first actions arising out of our work so far! It's really important that you let the PCC know what you think, so please do email [Caroline](#).

The closing date for comments on the Plan is 15 January. We will produce a revised draft which will be presented at a public meeting on 10 February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, after which the final version will be produced. [Bob Rowland](#), Chair of the Village Action Plan Group

...as part of which, what do you think about the Village Hall?

It may come as a surprise to many in the village to know that what most people call 'The Village Hall' is in fact owned by the Church. The Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's in Edburton (known as the PCC – not to be confused with PC for Parish Council) is responsible for the upkeep of the Hall and for decisions about its future. For some years now the Hall has run at a loss, subsidised by the PCC. The building is now outdated and

rather run down, to the extent that some major decisions have to be taken. Although some short-term improvements will be made immediately for the current tenants (The Good Start School), it's clear that the site needs to be completely redeveloped over the next few years.

The PCC has identified two ways forward: sell the site for redevelopment, or retain it and build a new Hall together with other facilities, for use of church

and community. As we would be losing the Chapel / Reading Room, we would want to include in any plans a small adaptable space for church use – such as meetings with couples to discuss weddings or baptisms. Any redevelopment would of course be sympathetically designed to blend with surrounding buildings.

The decision between these two options will be made by the PCC based on a number of factors – one of these is what

local residents want. Asking your views on this issue is one of the main action points in the Fulking Village Action Plan (see the section on Community and Leisure). So please do let us know what you think:

Is a Hall in the centre of the village something that you would like to see retained? We'd love to hear from you.

[Caroline Currer](#), Priest-in Charge, on behalf of St Andrew's PCC. c.currer@btinternet.com

From street lights to grit bins: a bit of a grin

The grit bins are coming! A new grit bin will be installed near the junction of Clappers Lane and The Street. [Jenny Vaughan](#) paid for it as a leaving gift to the village. This should be in place soon. The PC were going to request bulk bags of grit for other problem areas but

have decided to go for a more permanent solution and have ordered four more grit bins.

Three will be sited in problem areas in Clappers Lane and one will be positioned near the Shepherd & Dog. Installing these might take a bit longer. Apparently grit bins get stolen so

they might need to be installed a bit more securely than the one in The Street.

When you get over a foot of snow you need more than grit, so the PC is trying to restore the old system where the County Council had an agreement with local farmers to clear the snow

from lanes. This has been agreed in principle with the local farm – Perching Manor Farm – and West Sussex County Council. However, the village is too small to afford its own snow plough so we are trying to borrow one from the Council. Think we might have found one! [Paula Hazard](#)

Amazing deal! Advertise in Pigeon Post for just £7 per issue or £60 for 11 issues. Contact Aidan Walker, details above

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Wednesday 24 November 9.30am - 10pm
Wednesday 8 December 9.30am - 10pm
Also
Craft Fayre, Adastral Hall, Hassocks, Sunday 21 November
Hurstpierpoint Christmas Fair, Hurst Village Hall
Friday 26 November 6.30 - 9pm
Saturday 27 November 9.30am - 1pm

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THE SHEPHERD & DOG

Christmas Menu coming up...

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2 meals for the price of 1 - see The Argus for detail and tokens

01273 857382 shepherdanddog01@yahoo.co.uk