



February 2011



# Pigeon Post

## VILLAGE ACTION PLAN BECOMES A REALITY



Fulking stalwarts engaged in cooking and serving The Plan to deserving residents smile obligingly for the record, taken by the candid camera of Clive Goodridge at the Action Plan meeting in the Village Hall on 8 January

The draft Village Action Plan went out to all households in early December and we've had interesting and useful feedback and suggestions by email – and from those who came to our lively open morning on 8 January. The 10 February meeting, to finalise the Plan, went really well. The revised plan will have a little layout and photo wizardry before being published (we hope within the next month) and sent to Action in Rural Sussex to be lodged on their database. Volunteers have agreed to lead the actions – their names will appear in the published version – but in the meantime they would love some extra support. If you're interested, please contact Bob (271), Jo (870) or Kate ([kate.watson4@btinternet.com](mailto:kate.watson4@btinternet.com)) who can email you the latest draft plan and put you in touch with lead people. The next meeting to hear about progress and to update the plan will take place on 9 June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Jo Hudek

*Burgess Financial Services sponsors the printing of Pigeon Post*

# Parish Council Matters

## Time for New Parish Councillors

The Parish Council comes to the end of its term in May and the current Parish Councillors will be standing down. There will be vacancies for five new Parish Councillors. This is an opportunity to get involved with

the community and help look after the village. Anyone who is interested can contact any of the current Parish Councillors to find out what is involved. (Contact details on [fulkingvillage.co.uk](http://fulkingvillage.co.uk).) Nomination papers will be available soon from the Parish Clerk, [Paula Hazard](#), 957.

## Speaking of which...

Another way to put something back into the community is to take on the role of Parish Clerk. [Paula](#) will be stepping down from this role in April. If you have a few hours spare a week and are interested, contact her on 957 for an informal chat.

## Our New Improved Children's Playground!

Our project to improve Fulking Children's Playground has received £5,000 from Viridor Credits Environmental Company, through the Landfill Communities Fund for a new safety surface. The grant, combined with the village's great fundraising efforts, has funded a new rubber surface, proper concrete edging and re-turfing.

Local parents and grandparents, including [Tricia](#)

[Robinson](#) our local Health Visitor, are delighted – no more bark bits in little eyes, or finding their way into washing machines! [Tricia](#) says her little grandson loves going to the playground and finds the new surface much easier and safer to get around on. It also means lower maintenance costs for the village. A spring celebration, including an Easter Egg Hunt, to officially open our new improved playground, is on Good Friday, 22 April; we are hoping a certain

local 'celeb' will help with that. Viridor Credits Environmental Company distributes funding through the Landfill Communities Fund. Funding is available for community and environmental improvement projects within 10 miles of an active Viridor Waste Management landfill site. Since 1996 Viridor Credits has allocated over £70m to over a thousand projects across the UK.

For further information about how to apply for funding, call Viridor Credits on 01823 624656.

## Rattus Fulkingitis



People might be mistaken for thinking that Fulking is the location for a new version of Wind in the Willows, but sadly our ratty visitors don't have Equity cards and are causing quite a

nuisance for some residents on The Street. Whilst rats are part of country life, as one of us found recently, having a not-so-small brown fellow romping on your living room rug isn't the best of Valentine's Day presents. Rats love lurking in undergrowth and debris as well as any food sources, so everyone is asked to help minimise the rat population by:

- Checking undergrowth near houses and keeping it cleared out and tidy.
- Clearing outside areas of debris

and 'stuff' (even non-food items).

- Making sure that bird feeders are rat proof and don't drop excess seed etc. on the ground below, and are situated away from the house.

- Making sure that all rubbish is in the wheelie bins and that the lids are closed.

If you do have a furry fellow or two in your garden (or inside), remember that pest control for rats is a free service from Mid Sussex District Council. Contact [Andrew Lancaster](#) or [John Wise](#) on 01444 477433 or 423.

## A feast of music for a departed friend

Music lovers can enjoy an evening of popular song, operetta and light classics at Danny House, Hurstpierpoint on Saturday 19 February at 7.30pm.

The Lea Graham Quartet will perform in memory of [Gina Field](#), a long-standing friend of the Quartet founder. The programme will include many of Gina's

favourite items such as excerpts from The Gondoliers, Ivor Novello songs and traditional folk tunes. The Quartet will be accompanied by [Geraldine Rowland](#).

Admission to the concert is £10 and tickets are available from The Mint House, High Street, Hurstpierpoint, with all proceeds going to Cancer Research UK.

[Susan Fleet](#) says: 'Gina was a dear friend, a respected councillor and charity campaigner as well as a much-admired pioneering businesswoman. Our programme will include music for all tastes and we will certainly inject a little humour as Gina would have particularly enjoyed that.'

## Village Diary

Saturday 19 February, 7.30pm  
CONCERT FOR GINA FIELD  
THE LEA GRAHAM QUARTET  
Danny House, Hurstpierpoint  
Susan Fleet, 01444 235475

Sunday 20 February, 10am  
FULKING'S GOT TALENT  
REHEARSAL  
Village Hall  
Alison, 705; Nicole, 735

Wednesday 23 February, 7.30pm  
SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
FULKING FAIR MEETING  
Fulking House, The Street  
Bob, 271; Richard, 219

Saturday 26 February, 10am  
SMALL TREE CLEAR UP  
North Town Field / The Street  
Chainsaw wielders welcome!  
John Hazard, 957

Saturday 19 March  
FULKING'S GOT TALENT  
TALENT SHOW  
Rehearsal 9.30am  
Performance 5.30pm  
Alison, 705; Nicole, 735

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

## Egg language

Because of Viridor's generous donation to completely renovate the safety surface under the North Town Field climbing frame, we are giving them publicity in the form of a Grand Opening. A Good Friday Easter Egg Hunt in the North Town Field is planned for village children under 10, along with the 'opening' of the new surface. The Social Committee is generously laying the eggs; thanks to Rachel (090) and Jen (626) for taking it on.

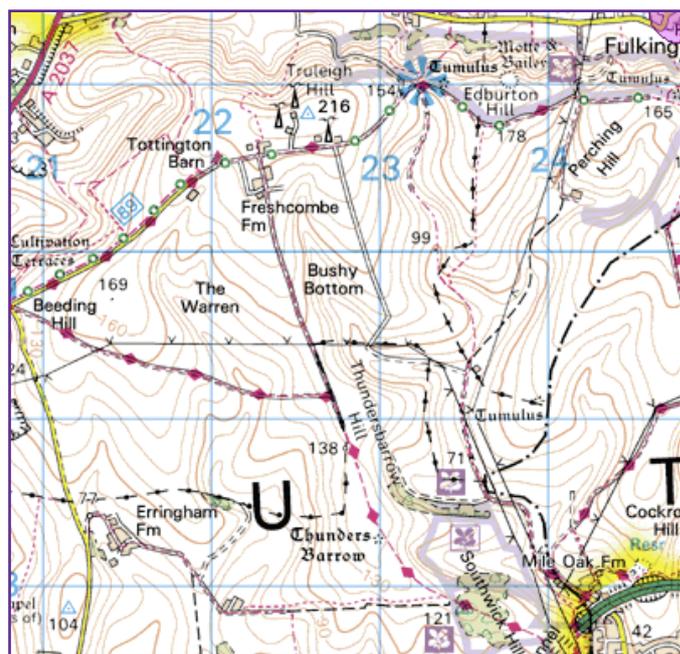


On the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2011.

Emma Prothero's self-penned poster (thanks Emma, you're the only one so far!) announces Fulking's very own children's talent show – aptly titled 'Fulking's Got Talent' – to be held on Saturday 19 March at 5.30pm in the Village Hall. A planning meeting in January attracted a veritable tribe of articulate young persons eager to display their skills to an unsuspecting world; at the last count, we have no less than 19 acts! Rehearsals on 20 February and also on the morning of 19 March, tickets on sale shortly. Wine (for the adults) and cakes are promised for interval. More details from Alison (705) or Nicole ([nicole@blueincevents.co.uk](mailto:nicole@blueincevents.co.uk)).



Local celebrated artist and Fulking's webmaster extraordinaire James Lightfoot is exhibiting a selection of his recent work at the Royal Oak in Poynings. Take your chequebook when you go for a pint.



The new Permissive Path on our farm is now open, writes Annie Brown of the BD Harris Farm Trust. It is the dotted line on the map starting in the north west corner of square 24, running from the South Downs Way at the top of Perching Bostal, south through the dry valley, past the Perching Hill buildings and on towards Mile Oak. It is part of our stewardship agreement with

Natural England. It is permissive access and no new rights of way are being created. It is an opportunity for people to further enjoy some beautiful countryside and we welcome your support in promoting the fact that this is a working farm, so please encourage all users to not disturb the livestock or the wildlife, to shut the gates, and in particular to keep all dogs under control.

## The usual Village Misc, never to be misced

### Carol singing

The village carol singers raised £190 odd for St Andrew's Restoration Fund. Many thanks to all who rewarded our serenading so generously and a special thanks for the mince pies and mulled wine – very welcome in sub-zero temperatures!

### NTF Tree topping 260211

We are having a clear-up of the smaller trees on the bank between The Street and the NTF on Saturday 26 February at 10am. Chain-saw wielders most welcome.

### P.P.P.P. Printing Pigeon Post

A small but powerful sub-set of the Fulking Social Committee has agreed that Trevor Brooks

of Burgess Financial Services be asked to print 120 A4 copies of Pigeon Post, four pages full colour, for the foreseeable future. Trevor has kindly agreed, which is why the BFS ads are back (and front). Burgess are doing it at cost – a rate we would not get anywhere else – to be paid for out of advertising revenue and SocCom funds. Many thanks to Trevor and Burgess Financial Services.

### Clarence the horse seeks good home

A little call out to horse/land owners. My other great love in life – Clarence my horse, a very handsome Brabant, a Belgium heavy draft – is looking for turn out. He is happy in his current



home but I would like him to live a little closer to us in Stammers Hill. We are surrounded by horses and I thought somebody must have a small space for a big horse round here. Chasing after everyone one I see on a horse isn't really working. Please contact me: Holly King, [holly@amisambles.com](mailto:holly@amisambles.com), 07859 027119.

### Broadband again!

The Fulking Village Action Plan supports the need for better broadband speeds. Please register an interest in BT Infinity, not yet available in Fulking. This will not cost you anything, nor commit you to anything, nor commit you to BT as a provider. Go to [www.bt.com/Products and Services/BT Infinity](http://www.bt.com/Products and Services/BT Infinity) – superfast broadband (under the broadband column). Then use the 'Can I get BT Infinity?' box. If with BT, just enter your telephone number. If not, press the appropriate tab above the number and enter your details. Press 'register an interest' and enter the information requested. Then email [andrew@iversen.com](mailto:andrew@iversen.com) to let me know how you got on!

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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