

Pigeon Post



May... or may not? For intrepid gardeners and shorts wearers, this sweet month is a bit of a disappointment. But the NTF's blossom lifts the heart

Village Action Plan and PC Member

The email list of villagers – a few more than a hundred out of the 150 or so on the [Pigeon Post](#) circulation – will have received an email encouraging people to come to the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 13 May at 8pm. One of the main reasons is that there will be a talk explaining how villages like ours put their 'Village Action Plan' (see PP March) into... well, action. This is what [Paula Hazard](#), Clerk to the Parish Council, says:

'As a follow-up to Tony's Village Plan discussion document, there is going to be a talk at the APM

by Action in Rural Sussex which is the organisation that supports this initiative.

The idea is that the Parish Council gets it kicked off but the next stage would be to form a Village Action Plan team from local residents. The idea is to hopefully draw a team from a wide cross-section of the community with a couple of representatives from the PC. The talk will cover what the process is, the benefits and give an example from another small village. The key thing is that it involves forming a team from residents so it would be good if

people can come along to the talk to find out about what is involved.' So – as you can see – the deal is about getting stuck in. Let's see if we can raise more than 'the usual suspects' this time!

Parish Council Needs New Member

[Jenny Vaughan](#) is leaving the village, sadly, and we wish her well – she goes with heartfelt thanks from us all for her sterling service on the Parish Council. This news also means that the PC needs a new member. The post would just be for a year

as the PC finishes its four-year term next year, and then it's all change again in true democratic style. Unlikely to lead to a 'Hung Council' though.

So this is a chance to try out the role for a year and, if you find you like it, you can put yourself forward as a candidate at next year's Parish Council elections. If you are interested and want to know more about what is involved please phone one of the currently serving Parish Councillors: [Tony Brooks](#) (200), [Pam Rowland](#) (271) or [Richard Corner](#) (219).

Sustainability matters

The MSDC Sustainability Group has received a huge boost. A board meeting of the Mid Sussex Partnership was held recently and one of the items on the agenda was two bids for funds in order that the group could proceed with its planned programme of raising awareness throughout the district on all aspects relating to Sustainability. The first was for £5000 to provide admin assistance for the group and the second for £10,000 to cover a menu of workshops, roadshows and talks.

Quite unexpectedly and to his great credit, **John Jory**, the Council's CEO, said that the aims and aspirations of the group were so important that the admin would be absorbed into the Council so that the full amount could be used to further the group's work.

David Smith, Transition Mid Sussex. <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/transitionms/>

Bright ideas?

Have you got a bright idea for an event or workshop but don't have the time to get something together? Why not let us do the work for you! Let us know a bit about you and your idea. The Mid Sussex Environment Group has received funding (see above) to help raise awareness of environmental issues in the community. We would like to offer community groups, parishes, and social enterprises a 'menu' of talks, workshops, or assistance to help them to reduce their environmental impact or adapt to climate change. What's on offer? It's entirely up to you. To get you thinking about ideas from food growing to community power, contact **Celia Austin**, celiaa@midssussex.gov.uk

GOOD AS NEW CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES SALE



AND ART EXHIBITION

Our last sale in 2005 was so successful that we have decided to have another - to help in raising funds for St. Andrew's Church.

Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd May 2010 10am - 5pm,
at St. Andrew's Church, Edburton Rd, Edburton
BN5 9LN - Admission 50p, Children free



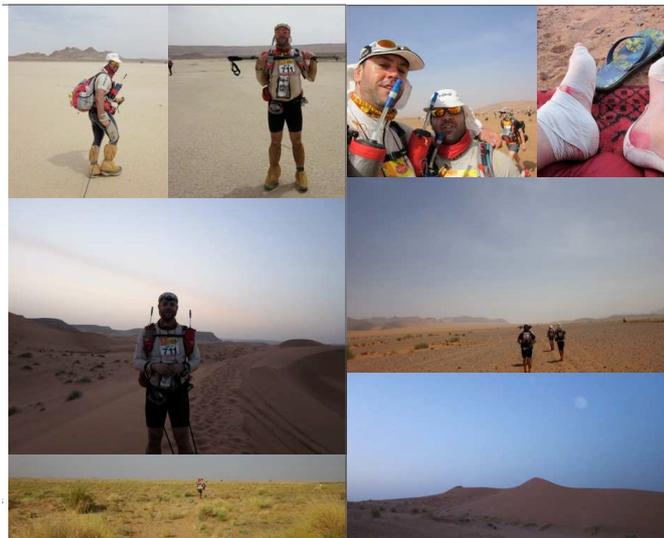
Good quality items for sale

to include: Ladies Clothes, Accessories (Bags, Hats Scarves), Shoes, Children's Clothes, Jewellery, Unwanted Gifts, Good Quality Toys, Books, Raffle Prizes...

Refreshments and home-made scones & cakes
available all day

PARKING - Brown's Meadow, Edburton Road, across from Spring's Smoked Salmon - some disabled parking available, or drop off at Church entrance - disabled toilet available.

We welcome you to share this rural setting in the heart of the South Downs
Unsold items to be donated to The Martletts Hospice & Child Help - Hassocks.
In aid of St. Andrew's Church Restoration and Maintenance Fund Charity No. 243143



The long - very long - week in the desert

Ade Caroen's extraordinary 150-mile adventure on the Marathon des Sables is over and done, he's back in Fulking, with feet that might never be the same again, and a good deal of sponsorship money to boot. 'The Marathon was one of the biggest achievements of my life,' he says. 'I know how dark and low I can

feel as well as how high. I've seen some of the most amazing and dramatic scenery ever and pushed myself beyond every expectation. If you still want to contribute, it's not too late. Just follow the link at www.facing150.com or hand us a cheque or cash. Every pound can make a difference!

Village Diary

All May weekends, daytime
ART WORKS BY JEN & CHRIS
11, The Twitten, Ditchling
Jen Green, 552

Wednesday 19 May, 7.30pm
FULKING SOCIAL COMMITTEE
Village Hall
Jenny, 382

Saturday 22 & Sunday 23
May, 10am-5pm
GOOD AS NEW
Clothes and Accessories
Sale, Art Exhibition,
Plant Sale
St Andrew's Edburton
Marion Strachan
01903 208337

Wednesday 26 May, 10am
FORAGE FOR EDIBLE WILD
PLANTS ON THE DOWNS
Ditchling, starting point TBA
Louise Gorst, 813722

Friday 28 May, 7.45
GAMES EVENING
Village Hall
Table tennis, boules, then
pub. All welcome.
Jen Green, 552

Wednesday 2 June, 7.30pm
FULKING SOCIAL COMMITTEE
Village Hall
Jenny, 382

Friday 18 June, 7pm
CALL MY BLUFF WINE QUIZ
Only 3 tables left!
North Town Field
Bob Rowland, 271

Saturday 19 June, 6.30pm
BARN DANCE
North Town Field
Bob Rowland, 271

Sunday 20 June, TBA
EXTRAVAGANT VILLAGE
ENTERTAINMENT
Fulking's Got Talent?
Or other possibilities?
North Town Field
Suggestions to
Bob Rowland, 271

Fulking May Miscellany

Local artists show their work

Jen Green and Chris Gildersleeve are exhibiting their work in Ditchling as part of the Brighton Festival Open Houses scheme. All villagers are cordially invited to come and view Jen's watercolour landscapes and mosaic mirrors (right), and Chris's stone and cast sculptures at: 11, The Twitten, Ditchling. The exhibition is open during the daytime every Saturday and Sunday in May.



Dog sticks stick mower man

Our North Town Field mowing, now the province of the estimable Mark, is coming a cropper on occasion because of dogs and sticks. Or rather, the sticks that you throw for your dog to catch. When you and / or he/she tires of the game, DON'T LEAVE THE STICK LYING. Pick it up and chuck it in the hedge. Sticks make mowers stick!

Social Committee Notes

The latest Soc Comm was held on 28 April in the village hall.

- Finance: After the additional contribution to the North Town Field shown below we have uncommitted funds of £970.
- North Town Field Playground. After much hard work by the fundraising team we have won a grant of £2850 from West Sussex County Local Committee, and raised £920 from the recent Village Appeal. The Committee agreed a further £1000 of SocCom funds, additional to the £500 agreed on 24 February, should be contributed to this project. Inclusive of £350 raised by Hollie Trist and £100 from Good Start, the funds available will now total £5720. Since the quote is £6055 we still need to raise £335. The Committee agreed that the Parish Council should now be asked to organise for work to start, with a request that it is finished by 18 June.

- Fulking Mid-Summer Weekend: Friday 18 June: Wine Call My Bluff: ONLY THREE TABLES LEFT! Act now! £75 a table of 8 or £10 a ticket. Bob Rowland, 271. Saturday 19 June: Barndance: tickets available from Jenny in the S&D, Carolyn Loveless 280, Alison 705 and Bob'n'Pam, 271. Please make cheques payable to Fulking Social Fund or, of course, cash is acceptable. £8 in advance. Under 16s go free – no need for a ticket. Sunday 20 June: Watch this space!
- Fulking Fair, Sunday 1st August 2pm. More to come.
- Next meetings: Wednesday 19 May, 7.30pm; Wednesday 2 June, 7.30pm.

Jo's Jam Jar Appeal

Jo Hudek, esteemed printer of Pigeon Post, designer of assorted tickets and general contributor to the good life of the village, has this to say: 'As summer approaches [when?], if people have a glut of fruit or veg that they can't or don't want to use, I'll happily buy or barter it from them to use for jam and chutney making. As it's for my new cottage industry, I'd certainly pay in hard cash or a jar or two of the finished product!'

Contact Jo on 870. We all know that the village produces a glut of produce, so let's preserve it – and call it Fulking Fancies!

PLAY AREA APPEAL

We need to raise funds for the badly needed new play equipment in the North Town Field. The Parish Council's grant application needs to show that there is local support for this £5000 project. We've set a target of raising £650 from this appeal and we're nearly a third of the way there. Please give what you can afford – it's a great amenity for the village.

Contact Pam Rowland (271) for how to donate. More details about the project are also on www.fulkingvillage.co.uk.



Good news for Field Appeal

On Tuesday 27 April, writes Pam Rowland, I presented our case for a grant of £2,850 to the Panel for Community Initiative Fund and this time we were successful and were granted the whole amount! This means the project will go ahead... but to make the Adventure Trail more fun and interesting we would like to add two more items, chosen by Hollie Trist.

This means more fundraising. So far donations have mainly come from people without children. To date only five parents with children have donated to this village amenity. So come on, all you Mums and Dads, every little helps – it doesn't have to be a fortune. We have a potential date for installation of the first week in June, so it should be up and running for our big bash weekend. Cash or cheque (make cheques payable to Fulking Village Fund) and please drop it off to either Jenny Vaughan,

Broadreeds, The Street or myself, Pam Rowland, at Furze Field, Clappers Lane.

Money, honey

I have just issued a cheque, says Bob Rowland, treasurer of the Social Committee, for £1500 in favour of Fulking Parish Council as a contribution towards the proposed playground equipment in the North Town Field. This should cover the required deposit. This sum comes from monies raised by the Fulking Social Committee and Hollie Trist from various fundraising activities, including last year's Fair, and has been voted to the Parish Council by the Committee.

Naturally there are further sums, which I will transfer to the PC and which have been raised by Hollie and Pam's fundraising efforts, ably assisted by Jo Hudek.

I understand the work is scheduled for early June in time for our June 18/20 weekend.

Advertise in Pigeon Post for £40 per year (11 issues) or £5 per issue. Contact Aidan Walker, 01273 857735 or aidan@aidanwalker.co.uk



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