



Pigeon Post

HALLOWE'EN HAMLET



Fulking's resident ghouls, ghosties and ghashlies certainly stepped up the intensity of their haunting and hunting activity this

year – especially when it came to the sweetie bowls. Why does no one challenge them to 'Trick'? The village was tormented from

end to end and back again with no less than two bands of unholy shriekers, the Undead Toddlers having gained considerably in

strength and numbers since 09. Much thanks to [Alison Taylor](#), [Stuart](#) and [Marie Harper](#) for the Ghostly Garden, and all helpers.



This absolutely extraordinary picture of our local scenery was taken by Andy Coupland at dead of night – 3.30am to be exact – at the end of the summer. It's on the Poynings website but Andy and Colin Warburton, who runs www.Poynings.net, generously agreed we could show it off in print for the benefit of Pigeon fanciers everywhere. What more talent exists round here?

Broadband, narrowband, no band at all?

Word has been coming in from a small but significant collection of villagers about what is going on – or not – with broadband in the area. Andrew Iversen, Tony Brooks, Damien McTernan, Bob Rowland, Geoff Bush and Colin Warburton who does the Poynings website (www.poynings.net) and email newsletter are all drawing attention to BT's grand claims about 'BT Infinity', the fibre optic upgrade to local exchanges that will allow download speeds up to 10 times faster than the current legal minimum, which is 2Mbps, or megabits (not megabytes, doh) per second. But – guess what – Poynings, as an exchange with less than 1000 users (369, to be

exact), doesn't qualify.

All is not lost. There are two things you can do. One is register your interest and vote for BT Infinity at www.bt.com/racetoinfinity. It won't mean you have to go with BT as your provider, just register with BT that there is a demand for better broadband in the area. You have until 30 December to vote, and at the last count only 25 votes were in, so get off your cyber-situpons and put your name where it counts. Now!

The other thing you can do, says Colin from Poynings, is: 'Complete a questionnaire that will enable us to build a case to put to BT Openreach and the Internet Service Providers,

on your behalf, to improve broadband in the county. Your role is essential to make sure that our voice is heard and that we are at the top of the queue when BT make the decision to improve broadband in West Sussex. They are looking for responses from the widest possible cross section, especially from two key audiences: those without any connection and small to medium size businesses.

Fill in the on-line questionnaire at www.westsussex.gov.uk/broadband. If you require an individual hard copy, call 01243 382147 and they'll send one to you. Take the time to complete it and help us get you connected!

Village Xmas Party!

Three-line whip: it's on Friday 17 December at 6.30pm in the village hall. Everyone is welcome of course, but 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).

Bring a Plate & Bottle Party!

More good times! You're all invited to Four Acres, Poynings Road, BN5 9NB, on Friday 19 November, from 6.30pm. Let me know what dishes you will bring along. Many thanks. See everyone then! Sarah, 393

Final Fair Funds

At the last meeting I gave an incorrect figure for the 2010 fair surplus. After paying for the loos and St John Ambulance it is £1840. Considering everything I think that is terrific. Bob Rowland

Village Diary

Wednesday 17 November, 6pm
PLANNING MEETING
Village Hall
Paula Hazard, 957

Friday 19 November, 6.30pm
BRING A BOTTLE & PLATE PARTY
All Villagers Welcome!
Four Acres, BN5 9NB
Sarah, 393

Saturday 20 November, 3pm
CHORAL CONCERT IN AID OF
PAKISTAN
Church of the Good
Shepherd, Dyke View Road,
Brighton
Jo Hudek, 870

Friday 17 December, 6.30pm
VILLAGE XMAS PARTY
All Welcome!
Village Hall
Pam Rowland, 271
Carolyn Loveless, 280

Vote for Devil's Dyke on the Bovril Revival website



Bovril is offering the National Trust £100,000 to be split between four or five countryside infrastructure projects under the banner heading 'The Bovril Great Outdoors Revival' – the challenge is to 'do up the great outdoors',

writes warden **Charlie Cain**.

National Trust Properties were asked to put forward projects which the public could then vote for. The top four or five would get a share of the £100,000. The Devil's Dyke wardening team has put a proposal together to improve paths and signage on Devil's Dyke, and restore the barn at Saddlescombe (pictured) which will provide an exhibition area on wildlife, history and land

use in the area. We need your help to bring some of this money to this area. We're currently running seventh out of 70-odd; let's see if we can get into the top slots!

Please vote by visiting www.bovril.co.uk/revival. Click FIND A PROJECT. Type BN1 in the postcode box. Fill in your name and details and press VOTE NOW. That's all there is to it – no money required!

Lucie Robinson

What can I say about Lucie that will do justice to her memory? I've known her for 21 years. A delightful child grew into a delightful young woman, who never let her health get in her way. You expect courage from soldiers, but to see it day after day from Lucie was something else. I hope you're swimming with dolphins and playing with Noah over the rainbow bridge, Lucie. Sleep tight. **Linda Harris**

Village Misc. Read carefully to the very end!

Pigeon Post on Paper

If you only receive **Pigeon Post** on paper, please contact **Chris Gildersleeve** to tell her so so we can arrive at an accurate count of people who need their paper copies. All heartfelt thanks to **Jo Hudek** for her sterling work printing it this last year, but it's come to the end of the line. We're investigating sponsorship and black and white only, but in the meantime we will probably have to eliminate paper copies for anyone who gets it by email. So call **Chris** if you're a paper-only Pigeon person on **552**.

Road closure

There is to be a road closure at Edburton in front of 1, 2 and 3 School Cottages on 16, 17, and 18 November. EDF are planning to move the overhead electricity cables underground. **Lydia Bush**

Power cuts

If you get a power cut or reduced voltage (lights go dim), you need to ring EDF on 0800 783 8866 because they aren't always aware of the problem – and they need to be, because they have to physically come out to fix it. If enough people ring, EDF take it seriously. If power fails, turn off all non-essential items to reduce the power surge when the electrical power is restored. This includes computers.

When the lights dim as a

result of reduced voltage, first turn off your fridge, freezer, washing machine, computer, central heating... in fact anything that is working or could work automatically from a thermostat or time switch that has an electric motor which could burn out – as some did during the recent power fault. Be sure to leave one light on, so you know when the power is restored. **Tony Brooks**, Fulking Parish Council

Marking of footpaths

Some people have asked why they can't see the footpaths clearly. Paths are now being marked by running a quad bike across the ground to leave two tracks. The footpath is between the two tracks. But the ground was dry in early autumn so the marks didn't show up. The plan was for it to be done again when the ground is wetter so that the tracks show up more clearly. So keep your eyes open. No one would say it has been dry recently!

Downland Churches website

The Downlands churches website is now up and running at www.downlandchurches.co.uk

Choral music to help Pakistan

Three of us Folkingites belong to a community choir, the Brighton City Singers. At 3pm – 5pm on Saturday 20 November at the

Church of the Good Shepherd on Dyke View Road, we are singing in a concert to raise money for the flood victims in Pakistan. We'll be joined by our sister choirs from London as well as children from local schools. It'll be fun and very informal – everything from the James Bond theme songs to Gershwin via a bit of church choral. Please come along if you can – although the Pakistan flooding isn't headline news any more, there is a desperate need for continued support... and you can have a great time giving it! **Jo Hudek**

Mind the deer, dear

As winter takes hold, the Highways Agency and partners in The Deer Initiative are reminding drivers to watch out for deer, particularly at dawn and dusk. The Deer Initiative estimates that there could be up to 74,000 deer/vehicle collisions every year in the UK. Highest risk is in autumn and spring, particularly around dawn and dusk.

When you see deer warning signs, check your speed and stay alert. If your headlights are on, use full beam when you can. But dip your headlights if you see deer as they may 'freeze'. More deer may follow the first one you see. Be prepared to stop. Try not to suddenly swerve to avoid a deer. A collision with oncoming traffic or another obstacle could

be even worse. If you have to stop, use your hazard warning lights. Do not approach an injured deer, it could be dangerous. If you collide with a deer (or witness a collision) and someone may be injured, or if vehicles or deer in the road are a risk to road safety, then ring 999 for the Police or Ambulance. To report an injured deer ring the RSPCA 24 hours on 0300 1234 999. More information about the DeerAware campaign at www.deeraware.org.uk, also Farmwatch: 0800 3288166: farmwatch@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Planning information

How can we make it easier to find out about planning applications in the village and the dates of the PC planning meetings to discuss them? Planning meetings always happen at short notice and are advertised on the village noticeboard. We will post brief details to www.fulkingvillage.co.uk of any new planning application, the date of the PC planning meeting and a link to the Mid Sussex Online Planning Register which gives details of recent planning applications: www.midsussex.gov.uk/page.cfm?pageID=3339. The PC has just received an application, details of which are on the Mid Sussex website and on the PC noticeboard. **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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Christmas Open Days / Evenings at The Coach House:
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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or phone Sarah for details on 01273 857393



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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