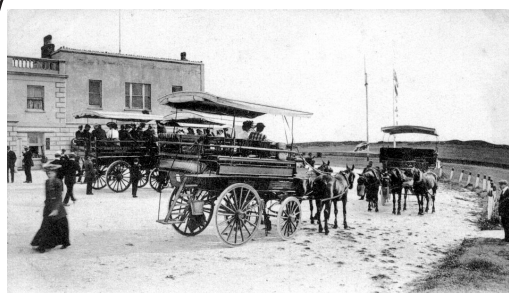


SPRUNG!



'Maa, Maa, where's it all happening?' 'Read your Pigeon Post dear, it has everything you need to know. Nothing to do with Pigeons though.' So at last Spring has sprung, in a sort of half hearted way... the daffs look luvverly, if a bit on the chilly side, and the wind still seems to have taken up semi permanent residence in the North East. As Fulking wakes up, shakes its collective feathers and prepares itself for a summer of sprangling, hope (like the season) springs eternal that the sun will shine upon us and all our doings. Thanks to John Hazard for the pic and Diane and Kevin Foord for the photogenic subjects, newly arrived in the South Town Field.



Local history's endless fascination

Those of you who didn't make it to the village hall on 19 March, says **Bob Rowland**, missed a great evening's entertainment by the highly knowledgeable and amusing **Trevor Povey**. His fascinating talk and slideshow on the Dyke Railway and Downland villages showed a remarkable knowledge – and this, coupled with a great sense of humour and superb diction made it a memorable evening. If we are lucky enough to entice him back next year I urge you to

come along, he is a class act. A big thank you to **Tony Brooks** who organised the evening and fetched and carried Trevor from the other side of the Downs.

Trevor himself explains: 'The talk commenced with a look at the Dyke Railway and the route that it followed up the 1 in 40 gradient to Poynings Place Farm. The picture shows the Dyke station with a train about to depart for Brighton which was a 20-minute run downhill. The Devil's Dyke Estate was in

the parish of Poynings, and the picture shows horse buses at the Dyke Hotel on a busy weekend. The talk concluded with a look at Truleigh Hill and Freshcombe Lodge, which has been the subject of recent research to establish the changes that it had undergone since being built as an 18th-century hunting lodge.' (Of course, Trevor showed many more than two pictures, but we're grateful to him for sending us a small sample of his vast archive - Ed.)

Soc Com notes

Not necessary to publish all the deliberations and decisions of the Social Committee meeting on 24 March, but a few updates are worth mentioning. It also needs to be pointed out that some of the proceedings reported here are not actually part of the formal committee meetings, but a result of conversations, usually by e-mail, among the 'extended' membership, which amounts to about 30 people.

Fulking Mid-Summer Weekend: Friday 18 June Wine Call My Bluff: tables/tickets are being reserved rapidly, act now! £75 a table of 8 or £10 a ticket. **Bob Rowland**, 271.

Barndance (Saturday 19 June): 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!



I went to Tanzania in February, says **Chris Gildersleeve**, to help out a couple of deserving projects there. Thanks to **Hollie Trist's** fundraising efforts I was able to buy some things for my friend's nursery school, which has 70 children from two to five years old, and virtually no play materials or equipment. When I was there half their play area

had been dug up for new sewers and they were prevented from falling into the large hole by a few chairs. I was able to buy them a giant parachute, balls, and coloured pencils and paper. The money also went toward buying their morning porridge which is often the first meal they get during the day. Bit of a contrast to our nursery school!

Nature notes – Long-tailed tits

These delightful birds form a group of parents and offspring throughout autumn and winter. We have seen a group of 10 of them several times a day – they are very keen on fatballs. Now as

spring arrives (!) the group breaks up as the offspring find mates and continue the life cycle. When these birds have two broods the youngsters from the first brood help to feed their younger siblings. Altogether charming little creatures! **Chris Gildersleeve**

Village Diary

Friday 23 April, 7.45pm

GAMES EVENING

Village Hall, and afterwards at the Shepherd & Dog
Jen Green, 552

Wednesday 28 April, 7.30pm

VILLAGE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Village Hall
Jenny (S&D), 382

All May weekends, daytime

plus Monday 3 May

ART WORKS BY JEN & CHRIS
11, The Twitten, Ditchling
Jen Green, 552

Saturday 1 May, 12.30pm

CHANCTONBURY MORRIS MEN FROM 1954

Re-creating the great 'Tour'
Shepherd & Dog
Sean Goddard, 559107

Sunday 2 May, 12 - 4pm

BLUEBELLS AT FURZEFIELD
Furze field, Clappers Lane
Bob and Pam, 271

Thursday 13 May, 7.30pm

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Village Hall
Paula Hazard, 957

Sat 22 & Sun 23 May, 10am-5pm

GOOD AS NEW SALE

Clothes and Accessories
St Andrew's Edburton
Sally, 534; **Valerie**, 706

Wednesday 26 May, 10am

FORAGE FOR EDIBLE WILD PLANTS ON THE DOWNS
Ditchling, starting point TBA
Louise Gorst, 813722

Friday 18 June, 7pm

CALL MY BLUFF WINE QUIZ
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?
North Town Field
Bob Rowland, 271



Bob and Pam Rowland, out of the goodness of their hearts, extend a warm invitation to all villagers to join them from 12 to 4pm on Sunday 2 May to enjoy the spectacular spread of bluebells that carpets their woodland haven for a few short days. 'Come and join us for a glass of wine and a walk round,' says Bob. 'Regret no dogs, and ONLY well behaved children.' Well done you, Mr and Mrs R.

Also: take note of a Charity Concert in aid of Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice, 7.15pm on Saturday 24 April at Danny House, Hurstpierpoint. It includes music from harpist Helen Arnold, the Lea Graham Quartet and pupils from Burgess Hill School. Tickets are £12 each for the black tie event, from Clifford Dann, 833491, or Susan Fleet, 01444 235475.

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.



Fulking Village April Miscellany and Important Matters

Thursday 6 May – date with destiny

The PP Diary and the website have been showing the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 6 May. Now that Mr Brown has decided this is the day that Britons should be putting crosses on bits of paper, then the APM is postponed to Thursday 13 May. The village hall will be used as a polling station. See Diary column.

Village Clear Up, Sunday 11 April

Thanks to all the villagers who took the trouble to turn up and pick up litter on the village highways and byways.

Bags of help for Parkinson's!

If you are at Rushfields during April then please help the European Parkinson's Disease Association (i.e. the EPDA, with whom I work) to raise awareness of Parkinson's and celebrate World Parkinson's Disease

Day (11 April) by buying a fabulous EPDA jute bag – on display next to the tills! Biased I may be, but they really are fantastic (sturdy enough to carry 8 bottles of wine...) and at £1.50 are a real snip! For those of you wondering why these are being sold at a garden centre, this is because the worldwide symbol for Parkinson's is a tulip named in honour of Dr James Parkinson (the English doctor who described the condition in his 1817 "Essay On The Shaking Palsy") whose birthday is 11 April – hence World Parkinson's Disease Day. Carolyn Loveless

Village Play Dates

The next Games Evening is 23 April at 7.45 in the village hall for table tennis, pub afterwards. Jen Green, 552. AND: Now that it's (nearly!) summer again, Monday afternoon children's play in the North Town Field is back, starting at 4pm. Myriam Brenner, 115

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, 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 and on the May Day Bank Holiday (3rd May).

PP – back to the big numbers

At the Soc Com meeting on 24 March, the subject of delivery of Pigeon Post was raised. Those at the meeting agreed that e-delivery was weakening the impact and reducing the readership of Pigeon Post. It was therefore agreed that hand delivery of paper copies should be reinstated. Funds would be made available for colour printing

and the Soc Com has come to an arrangement with Jo Hudek for 150 copies each month. Tim Stace will supply the paper. Many thanks to you both.

Shepherd & Dog 'Name the Ale' competition

We are going to be making our own ale from the spring water in the pub garden, says Jenny at the Shepherd & Dog. It should be available by mid or end of May. We are currently running a competition to name the ale, the prize being a gallon of the aforesaid new brew. Adrian Caroen, recently arrived in the village, and hopefully recovered from his 7-day desert marathon (see PP March), is designing the badge, and Adur brewery will make the ale itself. Ade and someone from Adur, plus one other, will choose the winning name. Watch next month's PP for a date for unveiling the ale and announcing the winner.

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



DM
gardening services

GRASS CUTTING
STRIPING
HEDGE TRIMMING
TREES PRUNED
FULLY INSURED



Tel: 0774 8322 778 / DAVE@DMSERVICE.CO.UK

Dandelion Puppets

Fun, interactive wildlife Glove Puppet Show
for children from 3 - 8 Years. Party games optional
01273 857482

Mobile motor air conditioning servicing



MRFREEZE
FROM **£45** INC. VAT

FULLY MOBILE. CONVERSIONS FROM R12 TO R134
CALL: 0774 8322 778
OR VISIT: WWW.DMSERVICE.CO.UK | EMAIL: MRFREEZE@DMSERVICE.CO.UK

Pamper parties organised;
Make-up for weddings and
other occasions;
Spray Tanning



EMA'S
nails and beauty

Local fully qualified beautician.
Evening home appointments available.
Phone to discuss your ideas or just pop
in - Unit A, Cobblestone Walk, High
Street, Steyning BN44 3RD.
Phone 07917 644909

Gift Vouchers

Open Monday - Saturday

Sparkling Serenade at Danny

Saturday 24 April, 7.15pm



An evening of songs, music and
readings in the splendid
surroundings of Danny House,
Hurstpierpoint - by kind permission
of Mr Richard Burrows

Tickets: 01273 833491 or 01444 235475

TSA BUILDING SERVICES & HOME IMPROVEMENTS

For friendly, reliable and quality work
Phone 857502 or 07919 374402

Hand Crafted Jewellery by Aine Henson



01273 857036: 07771 847770: ainehenson@live.com
Jewellery can be viewed and bought from: The Coach House,
Woodmancote (By appointment): Bay Tree Trading,
Henfield: Natashas, Henfield



**Marquee Hire
and Catering**

Marquees for all occasions
including hire of tables, catering
and all you need for your event.

For a FREE quotation **01273 694304** www.brightonmarquees.co.uk

We are delighted to be supplying the Marquee for
Fulking's Mid-Summer Weekend

Bed and Breakfast in Fulking



available at Four Acres. See www.fouracres.org.uk
or phone Sarah for details on 01273 857393



THE SHEPHERD & DOG

New seasonal menu starts April!

01273 857382 shepherdanddog01@yahoo.co.uk