

Pigeon Post

Current and past editions at www.fulkingvillage.co.uk.
 Submissions by 21st of month preceding publication to the Editor: Aidan Walker, aidan@aidanwalker.co.uk, 01273 857735

ALL SOULS' NIGHT PASSES PEACEFULLY



The profound significance of this ancient festival, when all the souls of the dead return to their former homes, was as usual lost in a flurry of sugar-fuelled threats and shrieks of 'We Want Sweets'. The assembled marauding ghouls and spectres were much nonplussed when called upon to 'trick' rather than 'treat', thus proving they were in fact benign, and villagers survived the night with dignity and sense of humour intact. Grateful thanks to Debi Sadka, Alison Taylor and corporeal Hallowe'en helpers. Next year: Scary Pumpkin competition, judged by local connoisseurs in the Art of Frightening...

Fulking Environmental Group

Michael Trist introduces a timely Village initiative – and a call to action for those who believe that to go global you have to start local

- Want to save money and the planet?
- Worried about the price of fuel?
- Would like to give your cash to local food producers instead of the supermarkets?

These questions, and plenty more besides, were among the items discussed at the first meeting of like minds at Bob and Pam Rowland's house recently. We are continually bombarded with scary stories about climate change, and unless your initials are GWB, you probably go

along with the 95 per cent of scientists in the world who are convinced that this is happening NOW, and that this is not some unproved hypothesis. Now is our chance to club together to make a difference.

The starting point to our discussions was the idea of 'Peak Oil', i.e. the time when crude oil supplies begin running out. At that moment, oil production would have peaked, hence the name. The emphasis is on practical, local solutions, and we have tasked ourselves with researching the range of

options that are available on fuel, transport, food etc. We then intend to present these to an open meeting in the Village Hall in January. Similar discussions are taking place in towns and villages across the country as part of a network of Transition Towns (making the transition to life after oil), including Henfield and Poynings, with whom we are already in contact. If you want to find out more, please phone or email me, and watch this space in the December issue of PP.

Michael Trist 857011,
trist@theperch.fsnet.co.uk

Village Diary

Saturday 8 November, 6.30pm
POYNINGS BONFIREFWORKS
 Blacksmith Field behind Forge Garage.
 Colin Warburton, 857024

Friday 21 November, 7.45pm
GAMES EVENING
 Village Hall
 Table tennis then grog in pub.
 Jen Green, 857552

Saturday 29 November, 12-6pm
ARTIST'S OPEN HOUSE
 Knole House, Clappers Lane.
 James Lightfoot, 857090

Sunday 30 November
QUIZ NIGHT
 Shepherd & Dog.
 Jenny, 857382

Sunday 14 December
CAROL SERVICE
 St Andrews' Edburton.
 More details to come
 Jen Green, 857552

Friday 19 December, 6pm
CHRISTMAS PARTY
 Village Hall
 Bring savoury finger food, contribute to raffle – see p2.
 Carolyn Loveless, 857280

Friday 9 January, 8pm
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
 Village Hall

Wednesday 14 January, 7pm
SUSSEX FILM ARCHIVE SHOW
 Village Hall
 Tickets £5 in advance from
 Bob Rowland, 857271

Fulking Villagers' Mostly Motley Miscellany

Shepherd & Dog

Quiz Night

Quiz night is back, on the last Sunday of every month. Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place.

Fish & Chips Takeaway

Every Thursday evening we shall be offering beer battered haddock, chips and garden peas for £6.25. To place an order call 857382 and we'll let you know when it will be ready for collection.

Guess the Pumpkin's Weight

The Granary have kindly given us a large pumpkin for customers to guess its weight. £1 a go, all proceeds to St Andrew's. Prizes – donated by The Shepherd & Dog: 1st – main meal for 2; 2nd – bottle of wine; 3rd – free round of drinks. Be great if all locals could come in to guess the weight and raise more funds for the church and if you haven't got a copy yet we still have a few of Tony's books available, again proceeds to St Andrew's.

Pumpkin winners announced on Monday 10th November.

Jenny 857382,
shepherdanddog01@yahoo.co.uk

Lightfooted Art



On Saturday 29 November, from 12-6pm, I'm hosting an open house, at Knole House of some recent oil paintings of local scenes. There will be wine and nibbles. Paintings for sale from £100 to £3000. 'Try before you buy' for locals. James Lightfoot 857090, james@lightfootart.com

Parish Council Minutes on the Web

Want to find out what's going on at Parish Council meetings? The minutes are now uploaded to the village website (www.fulkingvillage.co.uk), once they have been formally signed off at the following PC meeting. But as that means more than three

months before they are up, from now on draft minutes will be posted within a month of a PC meeting. They will have been circulated and effectively agreed by the Councillors, but they have to be marked 'draft' because it is a legal requirement for them to be formally approved and signed off at a public PC meeting. They will also be put up on the notice board outside the Village Hall. Paula Hazard, paula@hazzy.net

Christmas Party Raffle Snaffle

This is the annual plea for raffle prizes for the Christmas Party, in the village hall on 19 December. Entry is free, as it has been over the past years, so the raffle is vital to cover costs. PLEASE be generous and come up with a prize – bottles, chocolates, bath items or anything new that you can think of. Either drop off at Carolyn Loveless at Woodlands, 857280, or to Bob Rowland at Furze Field, Clappers Lane, 857271. Please spread the word to your neighbours and anyone else in the village

you may be speaking to (or if you aren't on speaking terms, maybe this is a chance to start!)

Getting Pigeon Posted

It seems, sad to say, there is still confusion about how you can (or can't) get your Pigeon Post delivered.

1 A colour pdf will continue to be sent by email to all those on the village database – UNLESS you ask to be taken off the list.

2 PP will be delivered in black and white print form to the entire distribution list in and around the village, currently about 160 copies – UNLESS you ask to be taken off the list.

3 It will be available to download as a pdf from www.fulkingvillage.co.uk.

IF YOU DON'T WANT IT TO COME TO YOU AS AN EMAIL OR PRINTED, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AT 857735 OR aidan@aidanwalker.co.uk.

Grateful thanks to Burgess Financial Services who print the paper version, and to Bob Rowland who pays for it. Hope and pay for four-colour soon!

Beachdown – it ain't all over after all, at all

From Mid Sussex District Councillor Gina Field (unofficially, as no report is as yet available from MSDC, statutory bodies or emergency services):

MY CONCLUSION – should this festival be permitted to grow, to make it safe for larger numbers, permanent infrastructure would have to be put in place including widening of the Devil's Dyke access road, internal hardtop trackways, grasscrete in the car parks; installation of water, electricity, sewage and proper shelter for staff and emergency services in the event of continued inclement weather. This step would, of course, compromise

the special status of Devil's Dyke.

This is my personal view and in no way represents the view of Mid Sussex District Council or its officers. Gina Field 843012, gina@ginafield.co.uk

I disagree with letting Beachdown, or any landowner, instal any permanent infrastructure on the South Downs. They are one of the few peaceful places to walk in South-East England, which is why they are about to become a National Park. If people want a pop festival in a location with existing infrastructure, how about Sussex Cricket Club's ground in Hove or the Albion football ground?

Richard Corner 857219, corners@talktalk.net

Neighbourhood Watch

Please make your house look occupied if you're out for the evening. Report all non-urgent problems promptly on 0845 6070999. Log the incident reference number that the police give you. However, for a 'crime in progress', even if it seems minor, call 999 – the staff are trained to decide how urgently a response is required. If you are deaf, or speech impaired, you can now text 65999.

Fulking Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), also covering Poynings, Pyecombe, etc, is Sharon Botting, 0845 6070999 ext 26671. Please also report burglaries/damage to myself, Richard Corner, 857219, corners@talktalk.net.

A local directory?

I wonder if there would be any enthusiasm for a local directory / who's who listing names, addresses, contact details, a paragraph about the residents / family and any services they might offer (eg gardening, babysitting, pet feeding)? Some may think this is intrusive but as a fairly new resident and one who is out of the village I would find it hugely helpful as an aid to getting to know people, linking up with other families with children etc. I'd be happy to organise putting such a thing together if there was enough enthusiasm, and to get it printed in black and white.

Ros Foulds 857312, ros@kidstalk.org.uk

Notes from St Andrew's Church, Edburton

Restoration Campaign

Some of you may have already received the 'final push' letter inserted into this month's PP.

We have included it so none of you miss out. To those of you who have already replied, a big Thank You.

Richard Rawlings 857776, richard@rmmarketingltd.co.uk

Harvest Supper at St. Andrew's

On Thursday 16th October, we hosted a Harvest Supper for all the four churches in our South Downs benefice, attended by the Rev. Graham Jeffery and our priest in charge Rev. Peter Morgan and his wife. Delicious food was enjoyed by nearly 90 people at candle-lit tables decorated with harvest flowers and berries. Peter entertained

us well at the end, followed by the auction of a very large pumpkin and the raffle of prizes so generously donated. Very many thanks to Peter, and equally to all the helpers, too numerous to mention, who gave their time, energy and cooking (and pew removing!) skills unstintingly to make the evening a success.

Special thanks to Marion Strachan for her organising and to Anthony Kenney for keeping the event running smoothly. Elizabeth Baldwin, elizabeth5@freezone.co.uk

Of Mice and Mystery

Thank you from all of us to all the 'Church Mice' for the wonderful and well-run, very enjoyable Harvest Supper – it was great. For those who do not know the Church Mice they are



The Church Mice left to right: Marion, Val, Sara, Elizabeth, Jean

a wonderful band of workers, who just do everything without any fuss or publicity and stay in the background. They enable many of the church events to be successful, they clean the church, do flower arrangements, events like the Harvest Supper,

organise and decorate the tables, prepare and serve the food, and clear up the mess. Thank you all, many do not even know your names or who you are – hence the name Church Mice! Tony Brooks 857200, hillbillybrooks@talktalk.net

Chris's Nature Notes



Ivy, honey

I was walking in the field just below the North Town Field in early October, and noticed an intense humming sound while passing a very large clump of ivy, which was in flower. It was covered in bees feeding on the pollen. I recently saw a programme about bee keeping in which the bee keeper said that ivy honey is absolutely the best flavoured honey – very dark and strong. So it might be a good idea to leave some of that ivy in your garden for the bees, especially as they are having a hard time at the moment.

Chris Gildersleeve 857382, gilder6646@aol.co.uk

Jack the Daw was here



When the Church gardening party borrowed a camera to record the jackdaw nests they were clearing, we were astonished to find that a relatively small bird made such a massive nest. Along with the mountain of twigs, some of them two feet long, there were large clumps of grass clippings and sheep's wool. Here is chimney sweep Wayne Sweep with the remnants of a nest he removed from a chimney in Ashurst. It took him two hours. So watch out if your chimney isn't fully capped – you may be in for a surprise when you light your fire! Wayne Sweep: 0800 2343964, www.waynesweep.co.uk. Ros Foulds 857312, ros@kidstalk.org.uk



The Edible Countryside and Wonderful Walks

This delightful graphic by James Ellis-Brown is the first (we hope) in a series of 'Illustrated walks' – if we can persuade James to keep making such pretty (and non-representational) renditions of the best walks we know in and around our village. Please send in your favourites, either with OS map references or just by plain description, and we will do our best to squeeze more work like this out of the redoubtable artist. We are also on the lookout for what we can pick and eat while walking – a real challenge in the winter! – locations of good blackberries, other edible plants, mushrooms and so on.

Advertise in Pigeon Post for £30 per year for 12 issues or £5 per issue. Contact Aidan Walker, 01273 857735 or aidan@aidanwalker.co.uk



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DO YOU ENJOY PLAYING BADMINTON?

The Henfield Badminton Club is looking for new members to play on Monday evenings from 7.30 – 10.30pm at Henfield Village Hall. Club standard players (that just means if you can play a game!) are invited to come along and enjoy a complimentary evening. See if this is the club for you! We play in the Mid-Sussex league (no pressure – only those who want to) and we organise many social events during the year. We are a friendly club and look forward to hearing from you. For further info ring Sally, 01273 494231

MATHS TUTORIAL offered (8 - 14 years)
Call Carol Clay 01273 833104

Winter Warmer Wanted

Anyone got a dry corner (2m x 1m) of a local garage, barn or shed for my beautiful Ducati motorbike for five months or so? I don't mind paying a few quid.
Aidan Walker 857735, aidan@aidanwalker.co.uk

Christmas Presents – Stuck for an idea?

Have you enjoyed reading 'The Changing Times' of our two villages? This unique book is limited to only 500 copies, with just 75 remaining, and at only £12.50 is the perfect gift. Its 489 pages contain over 300 pictures tells how life in Fulking and Edburton has changed over the last century. Available from Stokes, High Street, Henfield, Springs Smoked Salmon, Edburton, and the Shepherd & Dog, Fulking. For postal delivery call 01273 857 200. All proceeds (after printing costs) will go to St Andrew's Church, Edburton.



James Lightfoot
Artist's Open House
Saturday 29 November, 12 - 6pm
Knole House, Clapper's Lane
01273 857090

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phone Sarah for details on 857393.