

# pigeon.post@fulking.net

SPRING EDITION MARCH–MAY 2023

Edited by Jen Green [jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk)

## Please help support the village hall

Fulking Village Hall has been at the heart of our small community for a century. As our only indoor public meeting space, it is used for public meetings, groups, events and parties. Since 2012 it has been run by the Village Hall Action Group (VHAG), part of Fulking Social Committee, and mainly financed by small but regular standing orders from residents. As people leave the village, standing orders have dwindled, but we hope that help is at hand from new arrivals! Please consider giving a donation or still better, setting up a standing order. Just £5 or £10 a month will make a huge difference. Bank details as follows: Fulking Social Fund, a/c 20174017, sort code 20-98-74. For more info contact Jen 857552 or [jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk) or Carol Mazgay<[frogmoremaz@aol.com](mailto:frogmoremaz@aol.com)>. The hall can also be hired for private events, contact Carolyn Loveless<[cj@rogerl53.plus.com](mailto:cj@rogerl53.plus.com)>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Fulking Village cleanup** Sunday March 26, 10.00am, see article below.

**Easter Services** April 2 Palm Sunday Edburton 10am. April 6 Maunday Thursday Poynings 7pm; April 7 Good Friday Pyecombe Midday; April 9 Easter Sunday Newtimber 10am, 6pm Pyecombe

**Villagers' night** 16 March 7pm Fulking hall

**Seedling Sunday** Sunday, 30 April, 11am-2pm, Fulking Village Hall, see below

## REGULAR EVENTS

Events take place in Fulking Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

**Yoga** Continuing online this winter Mondays 9.30-10.30 and 6.30-7.30pm. Both classes drop in, mixed ability. Contact Tricia Robinson

**Quotations** Mondays 11am. Discussion group reflecting on quotes from the world's faiths. Contact Samantha Leader 07479 458323

**Craft and chat** First and third Thursday in the month, 2-4pm. Contact Tricia Robinson

**Toddlers / family coffee mornings** Wednesdays 10.00-11.30 during school terms, in the North Town Field if dry, in the hall if wet. A friendly group for toddlers, older children and carers. Toys, singing, refreshments. £1. Contact [toddlers.fulkingvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:toddlers.fulkingvillagehall@gmail.com).

**Table tennis** Twice a month on Fridays from 7.30 pm. Contact Jen Green [jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk) or tel 552

**Book Nook**, Fulking Chapel. 2nd Sunday in the month 11-4pm, or by arrangement with jane warne <[lkhenfield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lkhenfield@yahoo.co.uk)>

**Massage Clinics by Calluna Therapies** Mondays 10-1.30pm and 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 10-1pm in Fulking

**Social events in Fulking** by Sally Brownie  
We had a very festive Christmas Party with thanks to Lee Holden's amazing decorating talents, and great attendance. A lovely event.

The 'Villagers' night' on the 3rd Thursday of every month has been very successful (next date 16 March) with much enthusiasm shown for building our communities within the villages. Many new acquaintances made plus the planning of groups such as running, walking, cycling, growing plants for woodlands and vegetable gardens, a cinema night, book club, quiz night and helping others in need for transport and elderly dependents. It shows a great caring spirit and also enthusiasm for energy saving, recycling and generally looking after this beautiful place we live in.

**Fulking Fair** is planned for July 16, 2023 and if you are willing and able to help we'd love to hear from you. Especially if you have events planning experience and a couple of hours to spare. Contact Bob Rowland or Sally on 07970 330429 or at the Bakehouse.

**Joyce Harris (1929-2023) Tribute** by Tricia Robinson

Joyce Harris sadly died on 22 January. She was married to Brian Harris, our local landowner and farmer, and lived in the village all her married life. She contributed a great deal of time to supporting the church and village. She was a church warden for many years and was one of the founder members of the Fulking choir. Joyce was a Trustee of The North Town Field and enthusiastically helped to maintain the field. We send our condolences to her daughters Anne and Pauline and to their families.

**Winter in Fulking** by Chris Gildersleeve  
Potholes seems to be a favourite topic this year! The harsh winter weather has taken its toll not only on roads, but has also killed some of my garden plants. But recent sunny days, snowdrops and celandines now promise spring. I'm starting

to plant seeds soon in preparation for a seedling sale, which we've held successfully every year except last, when mice ate all my young plants! This year it will be held at the village hall on 30 April 11-2pm. So please get growing, I will need contributions from you to make this a success.

### **Bluebells at Furzefield**

Hoping the middle/end of April we should have a great display of bluebells at Furzefield. As it has been for the past 30 years, Rich and I would like to continue Bob and Pam's welcome to villagers, their families and friends to walk around the woods. Please take care to stay on paths and keep children under control. Regrettably no dogs. Please message before you come so we are in and can put our dog inside. Sarah 07769 904736

### **Fulking Annual Spring Clean**

Please come along on Sunday March 26 at 10am to keep our village free of rubbish. As usual there are four meeting points: Party 1 starts at the north end of Clappers Lane and heads south; Party 2 starts at the south end and works north. Party 3 meets by the Shepherd and Dog and moves up The Street; Party 4 meets at The Dean in Poynings Road and works to The Street. This year we have three coordinators: Linda Harris 07551 716405 for the south end Clappers Lane, Margaret Rawlings 225 for north end Clappers Lane, Jen 552 for Parties 3 and 4, pub and the Street. If you can't make the suggested date and time, just make your own time and do your bit to keep our village beautiful.

**Parish Council News** by Mark Hind, Chair of Fulking Parish Council (PC)

### **Local Government Elections**

Mid Sussex Local Government Elections will be held on Thursday 4 May. Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) are implementing new electoral boundaries. Fulking Parish will come under a new electoral area known as Downland Villages Ward, with one District Councillor representing the ward on MSDC. Residents will be able to vote for District Councillors on 4 May.

In addition to the District Councillor, Fulking has five Parish Councillors who represent the community in dealings with MSDC, West Sussex County Council, the South Downs National Park Authority and the Police. If you would consider taking on a public service role and representing your community you can put yourself forward to be a Parish Councillor. For more information see: <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/media/8578/being-a-councillor-2023-msdc.pdf>. You will need to complete a Candidate Nomination Pack. For more info see: <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/upcoming-elections/>

### **Potholes and flooding**

Most of the roads within West Sussex are the responsibility of West Sussex County Council

(WSCC). Unfortunately, due to the extremely wet and cold weather this winter the number of potholes and floods on our roads increased dramatically. Although the potholes and flood close to the Shepherd and Dog were reported by the PC early in December it has taken WSCC until this month to undertake remedial work, as they have worked through their backlog. The PC continues to put pressure on WSCC to undertake faster and longer lasting repairs and to keep our local roads in good repair. I would also encourage residents to report issues directly to WSCC via their website:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/make-an-enquiry-or-report-a-problem-with-a-road-or-pavement/> WSCC have recently changed the "Love West Sussex" App so that any reports for road and pavement issues started within the App are redirected.

### **Bob's Observation No 102** by Bob Rowland **Good Fortune**

With the news of the Turkish earthquake and the ongoing war in Ukraine, the proximity of Spring is a good time to reflect on the good fortune of those of us who live in the Downland villages. It is only by the luck of the draw that we enjoy the stability and peace of the South Downs. Even though I am now living in Henfield my attachment to Fulking is undiminished, and I find a new wave of enthusiasm emanating from the Fulking Social Committee under the leadership of Sally Brownie. As for **Fulking Fair** on 16 July, so far stallholder response has been disappointing. Please rack your brains for anyone you know who would like a pitch at Perching Sands Farm and let me or Sally know.

### **Mid Downland Parish news** by Jane Warne

Sadly this year we have lost three of our church members. Christine Jilks, wife of our organist Colin, our Lay Reader Patrick Pollicott Read and Joyce Harris who has been such a wonderful support to us at St Andrews for so many years. We will miss them all and send sympathies to their families.

Our monthly service at π continues to be on the first Sunday in the month followed by bacon butties and coffee – all welcome. Our Parish Services at Poynings on 19 March and 21 May will be 'Messy' church services for children, with activities and refreshments. Last but not least, we will be screening the coronation in Pyecombe Church, with refreshments available and lunch (must be ordered). Our parish annual plant sale will be held at Pyecombe on May 7th at 3pm. For more details ring Jane 07812-465-559.

**And finally:** The next edition of Pigeon Post is due out on June 1. All contributions welcome, by email please to [jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jengreenuk@yahoo.co.uk) – deadline is one week before.