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AUTUMN EDITION 2025 SEPT-DECEMBER

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## UPCOMING EVENTS *For details see below*

**Parish Walk** September 7, *see leaflet*

**Macmillan Coffee Morning** Saturday 27 September, 10am-12, Fulking Village Hall

**Ceilidh** Saturday 27 September (7-10pm)  
Preston Nomads

**Quiz night with Sally Gunnell and Solo Gym**  
Saturday November 1, 7.00pm, Preston Nomads

**Call My Bluff** evening November 12, 7pm,  
Fulking Village Hall

**Christmas Party** December 5th 7pm

## REGULAR EVENTS

*Events take place in Fulking Village Hall unless otherwise stated.*

**Yoga** Monday evenings 6.30pm till 7.30pm, in North Town Field (playground) or the hall if cold or wet. My other classes are on Zoom. I have a medical background & still work in the NHS. I have taught yoga for over 40 yrs. I teach mixed ability classes. Contact Tricia via text or WhatsApp 07729688636.

**Quotations** Mondays 11am. Discussion group reflecting on subjects such as kindness, death, resilience, truth etc. Members contribute quotes from world faiths, philosophers and writers for discussion. New members welcome, contact Samantha Leader 07479 458323

**Craft and chat** First & third Thursdays 2-4pm, with refreshments. A friendly group, you can bring any activity to work on, there is plenty of help & advice. Donations towards the hall & heating are gratefully received. Contact Tricia.

**Toddlers** A friendly group for the under 5s, on Wednesdays, 10-11.30am. Babies & children need to be accompanied by an adult. We meet in the hall or playground in fine weather. We have refreshments, plenty of toys & sing at the end. Please make a donation towards the hall & refreshments. Contact Tricia or [toddlers.fulking@gmail.com](mailto:toddlers.fulking@gmail.com)

**Table tennis** Once 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)>

## VILLAGE HALL APPEAL UPDATE

### One last push to save Fulking Village Hall!

As summer comes to a close, we wanted to express our heartfelt gratitude for the incredible generosity that so many people have shown in supporting our campaign to save Fulking Village Hall, be that personal donations, corporate sponsorship or attending our many fundraising events. The enthusiasm and support people have shown has truly galvanised our community and demonstrated the strength and camaraderie that Fulking embodies.

Following a great programme of summer events, **we have now raised an incredible £65,000. But we're still £20,000 shy of the £85,000 needed to purchase the hall.** To help bridge the gap, we are delighted to announce an autumn of exciting events including a Ceilidh, a Quiz evening with Sally Gunnell, and a "Call My Bluff" evening. But we still need personal and business donations to meet our target. So if you're minded to donate but haven't yet got around to it, the time to give is now!

You can donate either by BACS to Fulking Village Hall CIO, sort code 08 92 99, a/c no 67391765, or to [Fulking Village Hall Donations - JustGiving](#). If you are a UK taxpayer and giving personally, we would ask that you complete our gift aid form at: <https://forms.gle/631Nucc1smWZLVv38>. Alternatively, please email us at [fulkingvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:fulkingvillagehall@gmail.com) for a hardcopy of the gift aid form. For more info see <https://fulking.net/save-fulking-village-hall/>. Again, a huge thank you for the incredible generosity that so many people have shown so far in supporting our campaign. Let's have one final push to secure the hall for generations to come!

The Trustees of Fulking Village Hall CIO, Peter Boarder, Sallyann Brownie, Jen Green, Mark Hind, Tim Jagger, Roger Loveless, Ben Murray, Tricia Robinson and Nick Stace

**Autumn events in Fulking** by Sally Brownie, chair of Fulking Social Committee  
It has been a truly lovely summer and our events have been outstanding successes. Thank you to everyone who has supported us and helped to make them very enjoyable. Our community has come closer together with every event and it's not over yet!! Look forward to seeing you all again soon at the events below...

**Ceilidh Social & Dance** Saturday 27 September (7-10pm) Join us at Preston Nomads for this

social gathering featuring traditional Scottish and Irish music played by a live band, as well as plenty of dancing, laughter, food and drink.

**Call My Bluff** evening Nov 12, 7pm Village hall. Back by popular demand, Fulking's own wine tasting shindig.

**Quiz night with Sally Gunnell and Solo Gym**  
Saturday November 1, 7.00pm Preston Nomads  
With live music & refreshments

**Christmas Party** on December 5, 7pm, our traditional Xmas bash

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

#### **Devolution & local government reorganisation**

The government has requested proposals to move to a simpler, single-tier council model, replacing the current two-tier system of county and district or borough councils including devolution with the election of a mayor in May 2026. Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) consultation ended on 13 August and proposals will be made to the government with a decision taken later in 2025.

**Dog Bins** There have been recent incidents of the dog bins in the village (North Town Field and Clappers Lane) overflowing. The dog bin waste service is provided by MSDC but paid for by the Parish Council. The bins are supposed to be emptied twice a week on Mondays and Thursday but it appears they have not been emptied. We have raised our concerns with MSDC but need to establish whether collections are being missed or the bins are being filled quickly! Please email Trevor our Parish Clerk ([parishclerk@fulking.net](mailto:parishclerk@fulking.net)) if you notice a missed collection so we can take this up with MSDC

**Village Hall** At the last meeting on 3 July the PC discussed the business plan and funding request from Fulking Village Hall Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The Council was supportive of the request to raise the precept by £2,500 per annum to fund some of the running costs of the hall. Issues remain with the competing costs of upgrading the playground and these will need to be addressed before a final decision is made. This item will be discussed again at our next meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 9 October.

#### **Summer in Fulking by Jen Green**

it's been a fabulous summer for those of us who like hot, sunny weather, but perhaps less so for the farmers whose crops have suffered from the dry conditions... fortunately I understand a reasonable harvest is in now, a month early! What's not in doubt, however, is that it's been a fantastic summer for events aimed at raising funds for Fulking Village Hall. At Perching

Manor Farm Open Day in June we learned how the farm is dealing with the challenge of climate change, and what it is doing to help local wildlife. July brought a double bill – a Garden Party for the Wimbledon men's tennis final at Customary Cottage, and the Garden Open Day at Woodlands. Best of all perhaps was the Charity Cricket Match between Preston Nomads and Middlesex CC on August 3. All these events have helped bond our small community together, showing Fulking at its finest.

#### **Shepherd and Dog appeal**

Our own Shepherd and Dog continues to support the Fulking Village Hall appeal with a £1 voluntary table donation, every penny of which goes to help save the hall and chapel. Another good reason to visit the pub!

#### **Bobobservation No. 131: Fulking Village Hall**

The fund raising appears to be on target for the acquisition of the Village Hall from the Church. It would be good to know that plans are in place for the necessary repair and maintenance work that is going to need to be funded. Because I am aged and disabled I am particularly concerned about the dangerous steps and entrance. Wheelchair access is impossible which excludes anyone with that need from attending the hall. To update the path and entrance must cost several thousand pounds and I hope this has been budgeted for in future costings.

In setting out the foregoing I am only expressing concern that the enthusiasm for acquiring the hall has not obscured the serious costs that are going to be needed to improve and indeed maintain the hall, if it is going to continue to be the asset it has been in the past.

#### **News from St Andrews by Jane Warne**

Our Churchyard is looking particularly beautiful at the moment. The grass has been recently cut, our fallen tree has been trimmed and pupils from Hurstpierpoint College did a grand job in June in clearing several overgrown graves. It is well worth a visit. Inside is equally beautiful – a quiet, calm place for reflection in this busy world. It is regularly cleaned and cared for by a committed gang of locals. We have some spaces on our cleaning rota and if you could spare a couple of hours once or twice a year we would love you to join us in keeping this beautiful building spic and span and neat and tidy! We look forward to seeing you on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month for the St Andrews service followed by bacon butties, at the Parish Walk on 7 September and at our quiz at Preston Nomads on 17 October.

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