

# pigeon.post@fulking.net

WINTER EDITION DEC 2024–JAN 2025

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Lighting the Xmas tree, Poynings** December 1  
6pm Cora's Corner for mulled wine and mince pies, then Xmas Singalong at the Royal Oak.

**Christmas carol service with brass band:**  
Sunday December 8, 6pm, Pyecombe church.  
Mulled wine & mince pies from 5pm.

**Fulking Christmas Party** Friday December 13,  
Village Hall, 6.30-8.30pm. *See below.*

**Carols at Rushfields** Sunday December 15 from  
12.30 with Pyecombe choir and friends.

**Carol singing around Fulking** Thursday  
December 19, starting 5pm from 37 Clappers  
Lane for mulled wine. *See below*

**Christmas services: December 24**, 4pm Crib  
service, Poynings; 9.30pm Bethlehem Midnight  
mass St Andrew's Edburton  
**December 25**, 10am St John the Evangelist,  
Newtimber

**Fulking Village Hall Open Day** Saturday  
January 11, 2024, 11am-3pm *See below*

## REGULAR EVENTS

*Events take place in Fulking Village Hall unless  
otherwise stated, but see article below for details  
of variations over the festive season*

**Yoga** All classes on Zoom at present: Mondays  
6.30-7.30pm, Tuesdays at 7pm and Fridays at  
9.30am. All are drop-in classes, mixed ability.  
Contact Tricia Robinson 255 or via the  
Community Skill Swap WhatsApp.

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

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

**Toddlers / family coffee mornings** Usually  
Wednesdays 10.00-11.30, but see note below. 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** 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)>

## Fulking Christmas Party

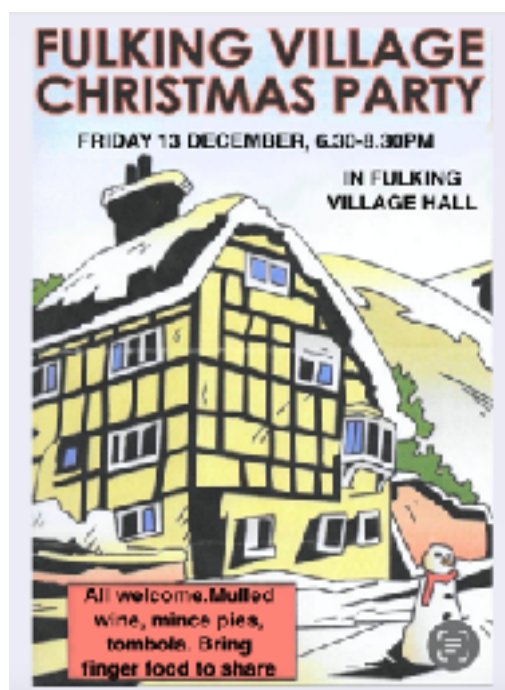
This year's Xmas party takes place on Friday,  
December 13, 6.30-8.30pm. Mulled wine and  
soft drinks provided. Bottle tombola packed with  
great prizes! All from Poynings, Edburton and  
Newtimber are cordially invited. Bring family  
and friends, and a plate of finger food to share. A  
great chance to meet or catch up with  
neighbours! Contact Sally Brownie  
[sallybrownie@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sallybrownie@hotmail.co.uk) See you there!

**Tombola appeal for Fulking Xmas Party** from  
Mick and Rosemary Donovan

We will be running a tombola at the Christmas  
Party. All bottle donations gratefully received.  
Please leave donations in our porch at 31  
Clappers Lane, Thank you in advance for your  
kind support and we hope to see you at the party!

## Groups in Fulking over Xmas

The Quotations discussion group continues with  
its regular Monday meetings through the festive  
period. Toddlers breaks up for Xmas on Wednes  
December 11. Tricia will announce the return on  
WhatsApp. The craft group breaks up on  
December 5 and returns on Jan 15. Contact Tricia  
about her yoga classes on 255 or WhatsApp.



### **Support Fulking Village Hall!**

Fulking Village Hall has been at the heart of our community for nearly a century, and we need your help to secure its future! The Church has recently agreed to sell the hall to the community for £75,000 provided that we complete the purchase by the end of 2025. To lead this major fundraising appeal, we have formed **Fulking Village Hall CIO** (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) with trustees listed below. The appeal will officially launch in the New Year.

Our motivation to keep the hall for our downland villages (Fulking, Poynings, Edburton and Newtimber) is so that it can serve our community in perpetuity. To do that we need to raise the money, BUT we must also better understand what you want the village hall to do for you and our community. So please join us for an Open Day on Saturday, 11 January, from 11am to 3pm. Everyone is very welcome, so please drop in to share your ideas. Tea/coffee, cakes and nibbles provided! Let's work together to make the hall a permanent and valuable asset for everyone in Fulking and beyond.

**Merry Christmas** from the Fulking Village Hall Trustees: Tricia Robinson, Nick Stace, Mark Hind, Peter Boarder, Roger Loveless, Michael Trist, Ben Murray, Tim Jagger and Jen Green

### **Carol singing in Fulking**

This annual event is on Thursday December 19. We gather at 5pm outside Tricia's house, 37 Clappers Lane for mulled wine, and finish at the Shepherd and Dog for refreshments. All from Poynings, Edburton and Pyecombe are very welcome to join the Fulking carollers! Wear warm, reflective clothing and bring a torch.

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

**Speed limits** Our request to West Sussex County Council (WSCC) for a reduced 40 mph speed limit along Poynings and Edburton Road has now been approved. We hope the new signage will be in place early next year.

**Village Signs** Two of the three signs have now been restored and replaced. The other sign is also being restored and will be replaced soon.

**RAM Pump Roof** Replacement of the RAM pump roof will require approval of Historic England and the SDNPA. We are now investigating options including repair or replacement, together with the approval process and quotations for its repair or restoration.

**Planning Inspector Appeal** The recent application for one gypsy pitch at Small Acres was rejected by the South Downs National Park Authority in September. An appeal has been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate and the closing date for representations is 11 December

2024. Submit any comments via the link <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk> quoting the Planning Inspector Reference: APP/Y9507/W/24/3352022

### **Autumn in Fulking** by Chris Gildersleeve

We've had a long autumn this year, haven't we? We still have roses blooming, and I noticed a snapdragon bud yesterday. The leaf colours have been lovely. Winter is here now, I fear, and the wet, windy weather is NOT appealing. I drove through a flood near Small Dole yesterday to avoid the flood in Clappers Lane!

How nice to see the fields green and planted again. The birds are getting hungry now and we have a daily visit by a beautiful jay. The village hall came into its own with the very successful Call My Bluff evening, which reminds us of the importance of the hall for the community. Happily there is news of progress about buying the hall at last, and more people are involved...

### **Social events** by Sally Brownie

A huge thank you to all who came and supported our Call My Bluff evening on 8 November in Fulking Village Hall. And especially to my fantastic team of helpers, Peter Boarder, Ben Murray, El Parry, Sheila Firth, Tricia Robinson and Jenny Tooley. Hilarious definitions were provided by our three expert bluffers Ben, El and Ed from Majestic wines, who generously provided the hooch. Several people commented that it just goes to prove how our community space can benefit the whole community.

**Bobobservation** No 123, by Bob Rowland  
Now, having a really successful 'Call my Bluff' wine evening was always one of the highlights of the Social Committee's year, but Sally and Jenny, ably assisted by the generosity of Majestic and all the others who put in so much work on the evening raised an incredible £1000+ for all the outgoings that are so necessary to keep the ageing village hall in such a presentable condition. Mrs Ormsby-Gore asked me to congratulate Geoff on winning the quiz!

### **Mid Downland Parish News**

We are very grateful to Jen and her team for distributing our Christmas brochure, which gives details of our services over the festive period. We look forward to welcoming you at one of our churches. All of us in the Mid Downland Parish, and especially those of us at St Andrews wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas and send good wishes for a happy and healthy New Year. With every blessing, Revd Tim

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