

# FULFORD VILLAGE NEWS

[www.fulfordvillage.com](http://www.fulfordvillage.com)

AUTUMN/WINTER 2018

## BEST KEPT VILLAGE 2018

Every year brings new and different challenges to Fulford's Best Kept Village entry – last year it was unending roadworks and this year it was extreme weather ranging from unseasonal snow to weeks of unbroken sunshine! Every village in the competition was in the same situation however, but Fulford continued to shine and achieved **third place in the small village category**, an achievement to be proud of! Thank you to everyone who helped in any way, however small. Below is the judges summarising paragraph but the full comments can be found at [www.fulfordvillage.com/bkv-results.php](http://www.fulfordvillage.com/bkv-results.php)

'It was a pleasure to visit Fulford and all the judges were impressed by the overall appearance of the village. There were very good open spaces, excellent BKV and children's poster coverage, an attractive pub and much improved church surrounds. A good deal of effort had gone into the BKV entry pack and into maintaining the appearance of the village throughout the judging period. Third Place in the Small Village Category in the Stafford Area was very well deserved this year. Well done and good luck in 2019.'

### GARDEN COMPETITION

A very pleasant weekday evening in June was spent walking round the village looking at an incredible variety of beautiful front gardens. The standard was very high and choosing the prize winners was a very difficult task for last year's winners, Peter and Lisa Ostrouchov, however, five winners were chosen and have received vouchers. The winner of this year's large front garden award will be next year's judges.

*Winning large front garden:* Ashdale, Meadow Lane

*Winning small front garden:* 21, Tudor Hollow

*Winning tubs and hanging baskets:* 44, Kingfisher Crescent

*Verge appeal:* 22, Kingfisher Crescent

*Judges' Special:* 50, Highview Road

Thank you to everyone for taking part but particularly to Peter and Lisa for giving their time and expertise.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The standard of photography on the theme of '**Fulford through the Seasons**' was incredibly high with the top spot being shared by David Hudson and Stuart Thorn each of whom had submitted photos of Fulford in February (but with very different weather!). Rowan Schaak presented some amazing aerial views of Fulford taken using a drone and his photo of the Church from Above received the prize for the children's entry.

The winning photographers have received vouchers and the photos are framed and on display in the pub.

### FULFORD CALENDAR 2019

Using many of the fantastic photos from this year's village photographic competition the Fulford calendar 2019 will be on sale from the beginning of October at events around the village and from members of the village group or the farm shop. The calendars are available in two formats and cost £7.00 (landscape) or £5.00 (portrait) with all money raised going towards funding projects in Fulford. To reserve your copy please text 07890 996798.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS 2019

With the wonderful selection of winter scenes submitted in the photographic competition this year it has been possible to print Christmas cards of the village – this is a first for Fulford and an exciting new venture. They will be on sale from November at events around the village and from members of the village group or the farm shop. The cost of the packs has not yet been decided but, as with the calendar, all money raised will go towards funding projects in Fulford so money well spent!

### **HALLOWEEN GHOST WALK Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October 6.00 p.m. starting from the Shoulder of Mutton**

Starting from the Shoulder of Mutton at 6.00 p.m. on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October there will be a Halloween Ghost walk around the village. The walk will last about 40 minutes and there will be prizes for best fancy dress (child and adult) to be judged in the pub after the walk. Ghosts are guaranteed on this walk so it is not suitable for those of a nervous disposition.....!!!!

### **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> November**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November has even more significance this year, marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 1 and to reflect this, there is a choice of events in Fulford for people to attend to pay their respects. As well as the traditional service at St Nicholas' Church at 10.45 where the last post will be played by the war memorial (weather permitting) with the traditional prayers and readings there will also be a special commemorative event at the pub starting from 10.00 where 200 crosses representing family members who have fought in any war will be stand as a reminder of their sacrifice. These crosses will have been blessed by the Church and will be available to be bought from 1<sup>st</sup> November for £2.50 each with all funds raised going to the Royal British Legion. This will be followed by an Act of Remembrance and later a singalong of wartime songs.

When the Tower Of London poppies became available for sale the Parish bought 20. From these, framed, certificated poppies are now on display in the village halls and two wreaths have been made using six poppies each commemorating the 12 from Fulford who died in the Great War. Incorporated is a horse shoe from the Queens Regiment and symbolic barbed wire – particularly poignant reminders of World War 1. These beautiful and evocative wreaths will be on display at each event in the village on Armistice Day. In addition, in the evening a brazier will be lit at Meir Heath at 7.00 joining a line of fires across the country.

### **TOMMY – a nationwide installation for the Fallen**

Have you seen Tommy by the village hall, head bowed with his rifle in hand? There But Not There's life size Tommies can be seen around the UK and is the 2018 Armistice project for the charity *Remembered* whose aim is to educate all generations about the ultimate sacrifice but also to raise substantial funds to help heal those suffering from the hidden wounds of war. The Parish Council has been successful in obtaining from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund, four silhouettes for the community, which once again show the ability of art in communicating a powerful and moving message.

### **VILLAGE LEAF CLEAR Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November 11.00 a.m.**

Every year the leaves need clearing from the village green and surrounding paths to keep the paths safe and to allow the grass to grow in the spring. This is a task for a small army of volunteers so if you have a spare hour on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November please come along with a rake, bags will be provided.

### **VILLAGE WALKS 11.00 from the village green**

The walks take place on the first Sunday of every month starting from the village green at 11.00 a.m. and returning by about 1.00 p.m. The walks are on the roads and footpaths around Fulford and are a great way of taking exercise, getting to know people in the village, catching up on the news and seeing and learning more about the environment in which we live. New to the village? Then this is a great thing to do!

### **FULFORD COMMUNITY CHOIR Sundays (roughly fortnightly) 4.00 – 6.00 p.m.**

Everyone is welcome to join Fulford Community Choir but if you are not sure it is for you come along and attend a rehearsal for free, you will find everyone is very friendly, there are no auditions and you will not be asked to sing on your own! This term the choir will be singing at the Village Fair, their Christmas concert and the Church Carol service – lots of festive music! For further details, including rehearsal dates please phone 07890 996798 or leave a message on the village website.

**A500 MUSIC IN FULFORD VILLAGE HALL - bringing great music to the potteries** A500 Music run a range of musical events in the village hall. For latest details call or text 07480 615671, email [info@a500music.co.uk](mailto:info@a500music.co.uk) or see their facebook page [www.facebook.com/A500-Music](http://www.facebook.com/A500-Music).

## CHRISTMAS IN FULFORD 2018

Christmas 2018 promises to be another magical year in Fulford with all the favourite events already in the calendar – Santa and Soup on the Village Green, the Christmas Fair, the Community Choir Christmas Concert, Carols on the Green and of course the wonderful services at Church marking and leading the celebrations of the Christmas story. Add to this the excitement of Christmas at school and the festive cheer at the Shoulder of Mutton and it would be hard to imagine a better place to be at Christmas!

The regular leaflet 'Christmas in Fulford' will be delivered to all houses in Fulford at the end of November - if you have a Christmas event that you would like included please contact the village group.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The annual **Barn Dance** date is being finalised but we hope it will be in late February as in previous years. Keep an eye on the village website and notice boards for up to date information as tickets sell very quickly! Plans are already under way for a new event in the Fulford calendar - **Fulford Community Fun Day** on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July. Every group in the community is being invited to take part and the day will offer music, food, activities, crafts, pets and much, much more. More detail to follow nearer the time!

## FOCUS ON A FULFORD RESIDENT - ANDREW HARGREAVES

talks about his life with racing pigeons.

Born in 1950, I soon fell in love with my father's hobby of racing pigeons and together we formed a partnership which lasted until he died when I was 27. My wife, Linda, took over from my father and we have been operating from our home in Moss Gate near Fulford ever since. Pigeon racing has given us so many happy times, but there have been sad ones too, especially when one of our favourite birds either goes missing, or dies! We have had many fabulous weekends away at Blackpool, where some 30,000 pigeon flyers attend the annual pigeon show.

As a lifelong member of the Blythe Bridge Homing Society, we get the opportunity to race our birds with two of the strongest Federations in the country. We have had many successes in their competitions, but it had always been my ambition to win a Midlands National Flying (MNFC) race. With many of the country's best flyers competing, this event is very difficult to win! After many years of trying, in 2012 I finally achieved my ambition. In the race from Vire (France), a distance of 287 miles to our loft, we managed to beat 4507 pigeons, with our best bird, a blue hen we named Mystery Girl. It was a very hot day and only the best, fittest birds would excel. Reports on the local grapevine of earlier timings further south of the country, made it apparent that for any chance to do well in the results, landing before 3-00pm would be needed. At 2-57pm, Mystery Girl, to my great delight, landed and clocked in on the Electric Timing System (ETS). Later that afternoon, after all the other birds had landed, I was declared the winner! The phone didn't stop ringing for the next two days with other fanciers congratulating me - I was euphoric!

In 2015 lightning struck twice at the MNFC Young Bird National from Portland on the South coast. One of my entries, later named Ayres Rocket, homed fastest at a speed of 60mph! Well, another very happy night was spent in our local, The Shoulder of Mutton in Fulford, celebrating this latest win with family and friends! As with last year, we plan to enter the MNFC 'One Loft Race' with several family and friends from the pub, 'The Fulford Flyers'. Hopefully we will have a winner! Having been a 'Fancier' for some 50 years, I'm looking forward to many more and who knows with what future success!

Andrew Hargreaves 2018

## THE SHOULDER OF MUTTON **01782 399320**

The pub continues to sell great pub food and beers as well as hosting the regular Wednesday quiz and play Your Cards Right. Look out for information about live music nights, specials and forthcoming events on the board outside the pub or better still, come in for a drink to find out the latest news!

If you have any unwanted, good quality books you no longer need or are short of a good read, don't forget the pub bookcase. All money raised goes to St Nicholas' Church with the sum raised to date in excess of £1300!! Forgotten to buy some coriander for your curry? Help is at hand from the Community Herb Garden – just take your scissors and help yourself!

## **FULFORD HALL FARM SHOP 07854 213236**

Fulford Hall Farm shop is now open, selling free-range meat, eggs, vegetables, homemade cakes and pies from their little blue shop next to St. Nicholas' Church. Opening times are Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Local delivery is also available, for any enquiries please ring Jade on 07854 213236.

## **THE VILLAGE HALL [www.fulfordvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.fulfordvillagehall.org.uk)**

For a timetable of the regular bookings held in the hall and for information about forthcoming events, please visit the website. For party bookings tel. 01782 388784 or email [bookings@fulfordvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@fulfordvillagehall.org.uk).

# **WHAT'S ON IN FULFORD 2018/2019**

(but check [www.fulfordvillage.com](http://www.fulfordvillage.com) for the latest info)

## **OCTOBER** Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Harvest service 9.30 a.m. St Nicholas' Church

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Harvest Supper 6.00 p.m. Village Hall

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Halloween Ghost Walk 6.00 p.m. starting at the Shoulder

## **NOVEMBER** Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance event from 10.00 the Shoulder of Mutton

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Sunday service 10.45 St Nicholas' Church

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Brazier lighting 7.00 p.m. Meir Heath

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Village leaf clear 11.00 a.m. Village Green

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Santa and Soup 6.30 p.m. Village Green

## **DECEMBER** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Christmas Fair 1.00 p.m. Village Hall

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Church Christmas Hamper raffle in The Black Lake

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Fulford Community Choir Christmas concert 7.00 p.m. Village Hall

Carols on the Green date TBA

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Christmas Carol Service 6.00 p.m. St Nicholas' Church

## **JANUARY**

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> New Year walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green

## **FEBRUARY**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green

Saturday Barn Dance 7.00 p.m. Village Hall (date tbc)

## **KEEP UP TO DATE**

If you would like to keep more up to date with what's going on in the village join the Fulford Village email list by sending your email address to [fulfordvillagegroup@googlemail.com](mailto:fulfordvillagegroup@googlemail.com)

## **FULFORD VILLAGE GROUP MEETINGS**

These open forum meetings take place on the **first and third Tuesdays of every month at 8pm** in the Shoulder, everyone is welcome.

**Thank-you to the Fulford Village Group for funding the printing costs of this newsletter. If you would like to contribute to the next edition please tel 01782 398186.**