

FULFORD VILLAGE NEWS

www.fulfordvillage.com

SPRING 2017

BEST KEPT VILLAGE 2017

Entering the Best Kept Village competition will bring many challenges this year, not least of which will be making good the verges and grassy areas that have been dug up and then dug up again all over the village. If you are only able to do one thing to help, make it tidying up the verge near your house! This may be sweeping, using a spade to clear the mud and straighten the edges, making good tyre marks or reseeding bare earth. Otherwise plans are already under way for the usual planting of the flower beds, trimming overhanging branches and washing the signs etc.

New for this year will be a focus on wildlife with a 'Grow the largest Sunflower' competition and the nurturing of caterpillars to increase the butterfly population of Fulford (details to follow in the April newsletter). These topics will also be the focus for the BKV school posters so look out for lots of lovely bright art work by the children of Fulford Primary School all over the village from May 1st.

As in previous years the photographic competition will be taking place with the focus being Fulford and its Fauna and Flora. The village calendar 2017 sold out within days so if you would like to see your photo in print either as one of the vote winners framed in the pub or in the calendar, the closing date is June 5th. The garden competition will be judged during the week beginning Monday 19th June. More details about these competitions will follow in April's newsletter.

SPRING TIDY Saturday 4th March 10.30 a.m. Village green.

Just an hour from lots of people will quickly tidy the village green and surrounding paths, so put Saturday 4th March in your diary, bring a rake and/or a brush and we will provide the bags and coffee!

NO ACCESS HGV SIGNS

Signs have been placed at the bottom of Tudor Hollow and the top of Brooms Lane informing HGV drivers that there is no access through the village to Stallington.

DOG FOULING

There have been improvements in the dog poo count in Baulk lane but other areas are a cause for concern. Please, please pick up after your dog – most do, it's just a few dogs and their owners that leave their mess for others to clear up or step in.

SCHOOL PARKING

Double yellow lines will be in place outside the school in the next few weeks. Despite the best efforts of the school, parking has been a long standing and intractable problem with children's safety being put at risk on a daily basis.

FARM SHOP

A big thank you from all at Fulford Hall Farm to everyone who returned the questionnaire about a farm shop. The response has been great, and whilst the farm shop is still in the planning stages the farm is pleased to be able to offer pre-orders for their lamb and pork meat boxes.

For further information contact Jade on 07854213236.

FULFEST 2017

Due to important family commitments over the summer the Fulfest organising group will be taking a break this year, so although there may be other events during the summer, the main music event will be at the Shoulder of Mutton on Saturday July 1st. Celebrating seven years in the village there will be live music starting at 3.00 p.m. as well as great food and drink, garden competition results and photo competition voting.

ANNA IRWIN



HELP FUND THE FIGHT FOR ANNA IRWIN

Anna is not only a National hero, but is also a "Fulford Girl born and bred" who has sadly been diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer.

Anna grew up in Tudor Hollow, the daughter of Mick and Nina Irwin, and is trying to raise £45,000 to be split between two cancer charities and treatment for herself in Spain.

In 2013 Anna was presented with an award for 'Most Outstanding Airman' by Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall at the national Military Awards in London. She had been part of a medical emergency response team dispatched to rescue eight soldiers after a suicide bomb attack on their base in March that year. Even when a rocket-propelled grenade struck close by, brave crewman Sergeant Anna kept a cool head to keep the Chinook helicopter on the ground until all were safely on board, fending off Taliban gunmen with a machine gun.

There is a giving page on Facebook that many kind people have already used to make donations as well as via the <https://www.gofundme.com/fund-the-fight-for-anna-irwin> website.

FULFORD BABY AND PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

A baby and pre-school group is held in the annexe to St Nicholas' Church, Fulford every Friday during term time 10am – 12pm. Run on donations, the playgroup is a supportive environment for Mums, Dads and Grandparents to enjoy a cup of tea whilst the children play as well as taking part in various activities, such as decorating the Church at Harvest and seasonal arts and crafts.

For more information contact Judith on 07495 023774.

PARISH PROFILE

It was with sadness that we said goodbye to Peter, Cathy, Michael and Sarah Dakin just before Christmas but are glad to hear they are settling into their new home and village well. Thank you to the members of the Church who have overseen the cover of services in the interim and for putting together such a wonderful Parish profile for the advertisement in the Church Times. Fulford and Hilderstone are truly reflected in this document as vibrant, friendly communities with much to offer. To see this document in full visit www.fulford-parish-council.org/churches-in-fulford-parish



PILATES

Pilates classes are held on Monday and Thursday at Fulford Village Hall and are ideal for beginner / intermediate level. There are limited places per class but spaces are available in Thursdays class 7pm - 8pm. To book a place and for more details please call Melanie on 07562 378808.

A500 MUSIC

Bringing great live music to the Potteries, A500 Music has chosen Fulford Village Hall as one of their venues for some of the finest acoustic style music in a friendly and intimate environment.

The next gig is Willy Porter and Carmen Nickerson on Sunday 7th May, tickets £12.

For more information and tickets visit www.A500music.co.uk or on Facebook@A500music.

FULFORD COMMUNITY CHOIR Sundays 4.00 – 6.00 Village hall (roughly fortnightly)

Fulford Community Choir has a very busy summer ahead with their first entry in the Newcastle under Lyme Festival in March, a trip to the Community Choir Showcase in Nuneaton in April, the afternoon Tea concert in May and participation in 'A Night at the Oscars' in Hanley Victoria Hall in July!

The choir is open to everyone regardless of age or experience and is a great way of relaxing and making friends so do give it a try if you are interested - contact Wendy 01782 398186.

QUIZ NIGHT AT THE SHOULDER OF MUTTON 01782 399320

The Wednesday quiz continues to be really popular with cash prizes for the top three places and the added bonus of Play Your Cards Right at the end of the evening. The quiz starts at 9.00 but it is best to arrive by 8.45 to get settled with a drink and make a start on the picture round.

MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library now visits Fulford Village Hall at 11.55 and Moss Lane at 1.15 every 3rd Friday.

HIGHWAYS

Maintenance of the village infrastructure is no longer done routinely so it is in our interest to report blocked drains, holes in the roads, street lights, flooding, areas that have become hazardous, grit bins that need filling, etc. It is a very easy process either by phone, or quite simply and accurately on the County Council website, it takes 2 minutes on www.staffordshire.gov.uk/ "road or lighting faults". Or phone 0300 111 8000. Environmental issues, such as littering, graffiti, dog mess, sharps, fly tipping and problems with children's play areas, can all be reported with just one phone call to StreetScene or on the Borough Councils website www.staffordbc.gov.uk

THE VILLAGE HALL www.fulfordvillagehall.org.uk

The Village Hall continues to be a fantastic resource for the village not only for the activities it hosts but as a location for fundraising and social events for the local community and for private parties, weddings and birthdays. For a timetable of the regular bookings held in the hall and for information about forthcoming events, please visit the website, and for party bookings tel. 01782 388784 or email bookings@fulfordvillagehall.org.uk.

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.

WHAT'S ON IN FULFORD 2017

(but check www.fulfordvillage.com for the latest info)

- MARCH** Saturday 4th Tidy up 10.30 a.m. Village Green
Sunday 5th Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green
Sunday 26th Mothering Sunday
- APRIL** Sunday 2nd Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green
- MAY** Monday 1st Best Kept Village Competition begins
Sunday 7th Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green
Sunday 7th Willy Porter & Carmen Nickerson Village Hall 7.30 for 8.00 p.m.
Sunday 14th 4.00 p.m. Afternoon Tea concert Fulford Community Choir
- JUNE** Sunday 4th Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green
Monday 5th Photographic competition closing date
Week beginning Monday 19th Garden competition judging
- JULY** Saturday 1st 3.00 p.m. The Shoulder's 7th Birthday Party
Saturday 1st Final BKV judging begins
Sunday 2nd Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green
- AUGUST** BKV results
- SEPTEMBER**
- OCTOBER** Sunday 1st Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green
- NOVEMBER** Sunday 5th Village walk 11.00 a.m. Village Green
Sunday 12th Remembrance Sunday
- DECEMBER** Friday 1st Santa and Soup 6.30 p.m. Village Green
Saturday 2nd Christmas Fair 2.00 p.m. Village Hall
Sunday 10th Fulford Community Choir Christmas concert 7.00 p.m. Village Hall

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

**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.**