

# Fyfield Focus

April/May 2017

Happy Easter to All  
from the Focus







## Water Main Burst on 16th February

Queen Street competes with the water show at the Bellagio Hotel in Vegas but minus the music! and only 25ft high.



## Candles at the Service of Reflection & Remembrance – 23 March



## Mobile Mast Delayed

**Fyfield faces a further delay in receiving a good mobile phone signal**

**Last September, EFDC granted permission for a 15m Mobile Phone Mast to be erected on a site at Lower Houchin Field.**



Telefonica UK would have provided the service by this summer. However, there are complications with this location and a further number of potential sites in the village are under consideration and will shortly be tested for technical suitability.

This, of course, will require a new planning application which will delay any improvement in the service initially by at least 56 days for statutory EFDC approval and then by however long Telefonica take to schedule and build the mast.



Watch this space.

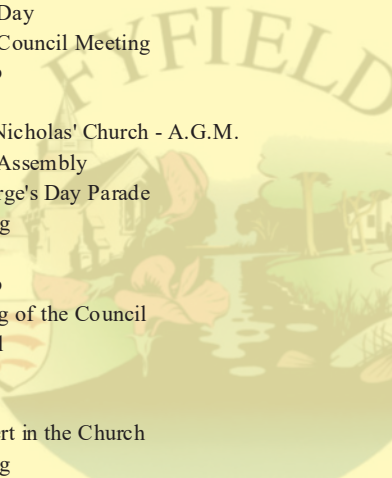
## Village Hall Looks to the Future with Refurbishment Plans

**As from this month, the Village Hall will take over occupancy of the Club Room from the Sports & Social Club and implement plans for the refurbishment of major parts of the Hall. Plans include:**

- A disabled Toilet in the Monica Couling Room
- Complete refurbishment of the Club Room
- Upgraded Changing Room & Showers
- New entrance to the Hall
- Resited & re-equipped Kitchen
- A Veranda on the front of the Hall

Once the Club Room is completed there are plans to open the bar on a regular basis providing a pleasant facility located in a peaceful setting with outstanding views over the Sports Field and Roding Valley.

## Village Diary 2017



04-Apr	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
05-Apr	Workshop - Dementia Friends	Village Hall, 2.30pm
06-Apr	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
08-Apr	Poppets Open Day	Poppets, 11.00am
10-Apr	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
12-Apr	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
19-Apr	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
20-Apr	Friends of St. Nicholas' Church - A.G.M.	The Church, 8pm
24-Apr	Annual Parish Assembly	Village Hall, 8pm
28-Apr	Scouts St. George's Day Parade	Scout HQ, 6.45pm
02-May	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
04-May	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
10-May	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
15-May	Annual Meeting of the Council	Village Hall, 8pm
13-May	Fyfield Festival	The Church, 12 Noon
17-May	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
01-Jun	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
04-Jun	Evening Concert in the Church	The Church, 7.30pm
06-Jun	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
12-Jun	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
14-Jun	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
21-Jun	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
06-Jul	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
10-Jul	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
12-Jul	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
19-Jul	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
06-Aug	Celebration Cream Teas At The Church	The Church, TBA
16-Aug	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm

### Many Thanks

To our regular and ad hoc advertisers, sponsors and donors without whose support we would not be able to produce this magazine and distribute it free of charge.

#### Sponsors – 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018:

Fyfield Post Office & Village Store – April/May 2017 Special Colour

#### Donors – 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018:

Brian & Kim Carpenter, Carol Cox, Fyfield Carpet Bowls, Fyfield Parish Council and The Church Coffee Morning.



# Having the first word....*Having the first word*

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I hope this special colour edition is a welcome and cheerful start to Spring and the Easter break. This colour edition has been kindly sponsored by our Village Store and

Post Office owner Nikhil Patel who is always so cheerful and helpful and brings a smile to your face as does his lovely wife Gita.

Not all villages continue to have a community magazine but we are very fortunate in Fyfield that we do and long may it continue. The magazine will continue whilst we have people who are willing to give of their time and regularly write articles, deliver the magazine and of course we continue to attract advertisers who provide the revenue to enable us to produce the magazine. However, the Focus is not the only communication vehicle in our village. Don't forget the Parish Council Noticeboard and the various websites: The Fyfield Focus, The Parish Council and the Village Hall websites are all regularly updated for our benefit. The Fyfield Focus also produce an update for the months in between publications and this is on the Focus website and as an A4 poster available in the Village Store, on The Parish Council Noticeboard, The Church Noticeboard in the porch and in the bus shelter. This update contains breaking news, The Village Diary and any last minute additions to the diary.

As well as the many regular weekly and monthly activities there are some important annual events happening over the next two months such as the Parish Council's Parish Assembly in April and their AGM in May. The Friends of St. Nicholas' Church AGM is being held in April in the Church and of course the Fyfield Festival is also being held in May which is the most important fund raiser for the Church to keep their doors open. It is also a very enjoyable day and has something for everyone including the ever popular dog show. There is a Dementia Workshop on 5th April and our local Day Nursery, Poppets, are holding their Open Day on 8th April which will include a Mad Hatters Tea Party and Easter Egg Hunt. The Roothings Art Group are staging their annual Art Exhibition on 30th April and 1st May and it always displays work from many talented artists; including Fyfield Artists, so do drop in. Looking further ahead in the calendar the Church have announced they are holding an Evening Concert in June and there will be Celebration Cream Teas on 6 August. Do take a look at the Village Diary and the various notices and adverts for further details and please try to support them if you can.

Our Scout Group have been very busy and have been learning important life skills including how to deal with an emergency and get help. They are doing a St. George's Day parade on the evening of 28th April - see the diary and their notice for details. Les Lamb, our Footpaths and Public Rights of Way Champion has provided us with a local Fyfield walk which you may want to try over the bank holidays and if you want something quite different to read have a look at the Pageturners Book Group review.

We have repeated the Rural eMail Families letter from Tony Ellis, Crime Prevention Assistant, which you may find useful if you missed it the first time round, and he has also sent us a statement about the Westminster Attack - information which is sent to help us but not scare us.

It is a busy time for the Focus as we are dealing with renewals of annual advertising and we would like to welcome some new annual advertisers who cover a wide range of skills and services: Amanda's Mobile LA Tanning, Artisan Painting - specialising in hand painted finishes for kitchens etc, Ash Care - Health Care Support , Harmonize Care - Domiciliary Care, Paws - Dog

Walking and Dog Care and we welcome back Carol's dog grooming who is available again until the end of September. We would like to thank all our advertisers for their continued support as well as to those we have said good bye to this year.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter and hopefully we can look forward to two sunny May Bank Holidays - fingers crossed!

*Cheryl Hadley,  
Editor*

## **1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group**

## **St. George's Day Parade**

**28 April 2017**



**On 28th April at 6.45pm the Scout Group will be leaving H.Q. and parading through Fyfield and arriving at St. Nicholas' Church at approximately 7pm.**

**They will then hold a Renewal of Promise Ceremony and Presentation and parade back through Fyfield to H.Q.**



# Letter from the Reverend Christine Hawkins



I'd like to begin my first letter for 'The Fyfield Focus' by saying a huge "thank you" to all the Churchwardens and people of the four parishes within the benefice for all their support since I was appointed as the

new Priest-in-Charge of Bovinger, Fyfield, Moreton and Willingale.

My husband and I are both Essex people and we're delighted to have the opportunity of living and working back in our home county after a brief spell in Lincolnshire. I cannot tell you what a thrill it is to drive through the lanes around these beautiful villages, especially at this time of year. I consider myself to be blessed beyond measure.

In fact, my own feelings of being blessed led me to investigate an informative and stimulating book – 'Sharing God's Blessing'. It's written by Robin Greenwood who once worked for the Diocese of Chelmsford and who is now William Leech Research Fellow at St John's College, Durham University. Greenwood's book invites us all to realise how blessed we are – even in the midst of some struggle and pain. It also speaks to churches, addressing what Greenwood calls "the myth of scarcity", enabling we who are the church to see that although we are beset with the problems of declining church attendance and reduction in clergy numbers, 'the church' is greatly blessed.

At the time of writing, we are using the book as the basis for five conversations during Lent to explore the theme of blessing together.

I hope these beginning conversations will form the basis for further conversations and discussions both within the existing benefice and beyond as we look forward to joining with the parishes of Matching and The Lavers later this year. There will be challenges ahead, for sure, but also great blessings if we look for them.

As we travel on through the season of Lent and await the great blessing of the festival of Easter, may I encourage all of you all to look for the blessings in your own lives and situations and then to share these in conversation with one another. We are bombarded with so many stories in the news and media that have negative connotations and a cynical edge; stories that blunt our spirits and encourage us to expect the worst in life. Robin Greenwood's book is the antidote to this and prompts us to remember that we are blessed, not merely on the odd occasion, but on every day that we are alive. I cannot tell you how thrilled I am to be back in Essex, to have been called to be the Priest-in-Charge here and to be able to pass on the 'Good News' that we are blessed beyond measure; that each day is a re-birthing – an opportunity to live life in all its fullness.

I look forward to the blessing of meeting many of you in the weeks and months that lie ahead.

*Chris.*

*Reverend Christine Hawkins  
Priest In Charge  
The United Benefice of Bobbingworth,  
Fyfield, Moreton & Willingale  
The Rectory  
6 Forest Drive  
Fyfield  
Ongar  
CM5 0TP  
Tel: 01277 286113*

## Licensing of The Reverend Christine Hawkins

Several weeks ago I was surprised and honoured to receive an invitation to the Licensing of The Reverend Christine Hawkins as Priest-in-Charge of the United Benefice. The Licensing was to be conducted by The Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell, Lord Bishop of Chelmsford and the Installation by The Reverend Canon Dr Joyce Smith Area Dean of Epping Forest and Ongar. The service to be held at the Church of St. Nicholas, Fyfield.

When I arrived in Fyfield village there were cars parked everywhere. The reason for so many cars soon became apparent on entering the church. Although I was in good time, the building was packed, with nearly every pew taken. Despite extra chairs fitted into every available space, some of the guests had no option but to stand for the entire service.

The fairly complex procedure that was to follow was clearly explained in the ten page Order of Service. After a welcome by the Area Dean, this important ceremony started with the Lord Bishop, resplendent in robes, mitre and carrying his crook, apologising for a couple of minutes late start by explaining his spectacles had just broken and were kindly repaired by one of the Church Wardens. This set the tone for the ceremony, reverent but with a touch of humour that I am sure went towards relaxing all those that took part. The new Minister was presented to the Bishop and later, representatives of the church community gathered round the new Minister and ceremoniously present spiritual objects. The declaration and oaths followed. The Bishop then read the licence

and gave it to the new Minister. Towards the end of the ceremony the Installation took place. This consisted of the Area Dean presenting the new Minister with the keys to the church. The Bishop then presented The Reverend Christine Hawkins to the people.

Following the formal licensing, refreshments were provided. Because of the number of people present we were treated to waitress service at our seats. A pleasant surprise was to be offered a glass of Prosecco together with delicious sandwiches. Tea and homemade cakes



ended a very interesting afternoon.

A queue formed at the exit, not because of the heavy rain outside but everyone wanted to wish Christine well in her new post. We all wish her a hearty welcome to the United Benefice.

*George Hart, Windy Ridge, Moreton Road,  
Bovingher CM5 0LU*



# Services at St Nicholas' Church, Fyfield

Priest in Charge:	Reverend Christine Hawkins:	telephone: 01277 286113
Churchwardens:	Marcus Dain	telephone: 01277 899590
	David Bessell	telephone: 07886 075889

The following service schedule is based upon the pattern of services we have maintained throughout the interregnum and it may be necessary to change some services. Any changes will be advertised on the notice boards in the church porch and outside the village shop.

April 2	11:00am	Morning Prayer
9	11:00am	Holy Communion
13 (Thursday)	8:00pm	Communion of the Last Supper
16	11:00am	Easter Communion
23	11:00am	Family Service
May 7	11:00am	Morning Prayer
14	11:00am	Holy Communion
28	11:00am	Family Service

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## FOOD BANK

We are delighted to tell you about a new cooperative initiative between Food Bank and Stansted Airport under which items surrendered during pre-flight baggage checks are now donated, with passengers' agreement, to Food Bank. During the pilot (*sorry for the pun!*) project, top range goods from Buckingham Palace, Fortnum and Mason, Highgrove and Harrods were collected. Once delivered to the Food Bank, all of these donations are sorted and distributed back into the local community via front-line agencies such as Citizens Advice, children's centres and homeless projects. This valuable addition to the resources available to Food Bank started when Frank Field MP asking all airports in the UK to look at the possibility of supporting their local communities in this way.

As always, thank you to everybody who continues to support this important charity. Your kindness in donating to Food Bank is essential to helping people to become self-sufficient once again. In addition to the box for food donations in the church, you can also leave food donations in a Food Bank collection box in Fyfield Stores.

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### **St Mary's Church, Moreton**

April	2	9.30am	Holy Communion
	12	8.00pm	Reflection for Holy Week and Compline
	14	6.00pm	Service of the Cross
	16	9.30am	Easter Communion
May	7	9.30am	Holy Communion
	21	9.30am	Family Service

### **St Germain's Church, Bobbingworth**

April	2	11.00am	Family Service
	11	8.00pm	Reflection for Holy Week and Compline
	16	11.00am	Easter Communion
	30	11.00am	United Service plus Baptism
May	7	11.00am	Family Service
	21	11.00am	Rogation Service at Waterend Farm

### **St Christopher's Church, Willingale**

April	9	9.30am	Family Service
	10	8.00pm	Reflection for Holy Week and Compline
	16	9.30am	Easter Communion
	23	9.30am	Holy Communion
May	14	9.30am	Family Service
	21	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
	28	9.30am	Holy Communion





Bring your dog along to the



# Fun Dog Show

at



# FYFIELD

# FESTIVAL

**\*13<sup>th</sup> May\***

**12noon - 4pm**



**Games - Flower display - Stalls**

**B.B.Q. - Afternoon Teas**

**(Please register your dog between 12 – 1pm)**

**(All Proceeds to St. Nicholas' Church, Fyfield)**

## Best Kept Front Garden Contest - On Your Marks Again!



Now that April is here it's time to tidy up your front garden for the judging of the Best Kept Front Garden Contest. Last year, was the fourth year of the Best Kept Front Garden Contest and was won by Frances & Graham-Hart of The Studio, Elmbridge Hall. Who will be the winner this year? That's up to you and the judges.

The judges will be around for the next six weeks or so taking notes so that the winner and two runners up can be announced at the Parish assembly on April 24th. The contest is open to all Fyfield residents and involves maintaining your front garden in a neat, tidy and attractive state. You don't have to do anything to enter the Best Kept Front Garden contest as all properties will be judged regardless.

Best of luck to all who make the effort and to those of you who always have an attractive front garden. Lets hope the April weather will be kind to us and we can still get Fyfield ready for the judging and present Fyfield as a neat and tidy village free of litter.



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## Westminster Terrorist Incident - 23 March 2017

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have been asked to circulate the below statement from Essex Police Assistant Chief Constable, Andy Prophet. Please bear his comments in mind particularly his request for the public to be alert but not alarmed.

Acting Assistant Chief Constable Andy Prophet said:

"On behalf of Essex Police I want to offer the thoughts and prayers of the entire force to members of the public killed, injured or affected by the incident in London today. We of course also join our colleagues in the Metropolitan Police Service in grief for the loss of a serving officer.

This has been declared a terrorist incident in London and is being investigated by the Metropolitan Police Counter Terrorism Command.

In Essex tonight, and until further notice, there will be increased visible police patrol including additional armed officers and other specialist resources.

I urge the public to be alert but not alarmed. Police forces and our partners are doing everything we can to help protect the security of our citizens, public institutions, critical national infrastructure, and businesses and places.

This is a time for communities in Essex to remain resilient, compassionate and supportive of each other. Should anyone have any concerns or see anything suspicious I would urge them to report it immediately by calling 101 or 999 in an emergency."

*Tony Ellis  
Crime Prevention Assistant  
Epping Forest District  
Essex Police  
Tel. 101 ext. 319383*

## Service of Reflection & Remembrance – 23 March 2017

Reverend Christine Hawkins conducted a short service of Reflection & Remembrance following the Westminster Attack the previous day. The service was attended by 20 residents and Christine's words were very comforting, thought provoking and calming. It also gave people the opportunity to light a candle for the people who have been affected by this pointless attack and for those who protect us and are at greatest risk from being hurt.

We felt very fortunate to be given this opportunity to come together at our village Church so soon after such an incident and this was appreciated and very helpful.

Thank you Christine from all who attended.

*Cheryl Hadley*





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## **Fyfield Festival - Chocolate Stall**

Everyone needs a bit of Chocolate and so does our popular Chocolate Stall at the Fyfield Festival.

If you have any chocolate left over from Easter or have some

chocolates you can donate will you kindly contact me.

Just think of all those calories I will be saving you!!

*Carol Cox,  
Tel: 899245*

## Fyfield Walks – Norton Mandeville Loop

We are blessed with a fine network of public rights of way in Fyfield and bordering parishes. Over the coming issues of the Fyfield Focus I will share my favourite walks. If you have a walk you would like to share please do send it to me ([leslamb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:leslamb@hotmail.co.uk)).

### Walk Description

4.5 miles of mainly grassy track taking around 2.5 hours at a gentle pace. The route is fine for children and dogs but can get a little muddy down by the river after rain. No facilities on-route but of course we have two great pubs to enjoy when you get back and plenty of places for a picnic on-route. It's not all well signposted so please do print and take the map with you or buy the Ordinance Explorer Map #183. The route follows public footpaths and a short single concrete track between West Park Lodge and East Park Lodge.

### Route

The walk starts at the Fyfield Village Hall (1) and goes south along the Three Forests Way. Cross the open field towards Herons Lane then turn left onto the bridleway towards the River Roding and Tun-Bridge (2). Don't cross the bridge but instead turn right along the Essex Way keeping the River Roding on your left (3).

Follow the riverside track for approximately a mile then cross the bridge over the river leading to West Park Lodge (4). Don't miss this bridge or you will end up in Ongar! After a gentle climb up a grassy track turn left and walk on the concrete track towards East Park Lodge (5). After about half a mile turn left at the lodge along the track until you reach the old concrete apron which was

once part of the WW2 Chipping Ongar Airdrome (6).

Follow the straight track north then bear left before the gate which leads to the private shooting grounds (7). At the bottom of the track follow the sign and turn right through the wooded area (8) and then left onto the bridleway towards the Tun-Bridge. Don't cross the bridge but follow the track right across the open field and through the woods (9). You will then come out on the Willingale Road by the church (10). Turn left and cross over the road bridge then take the footpath on the left back to the village hall.

### Special points of interest

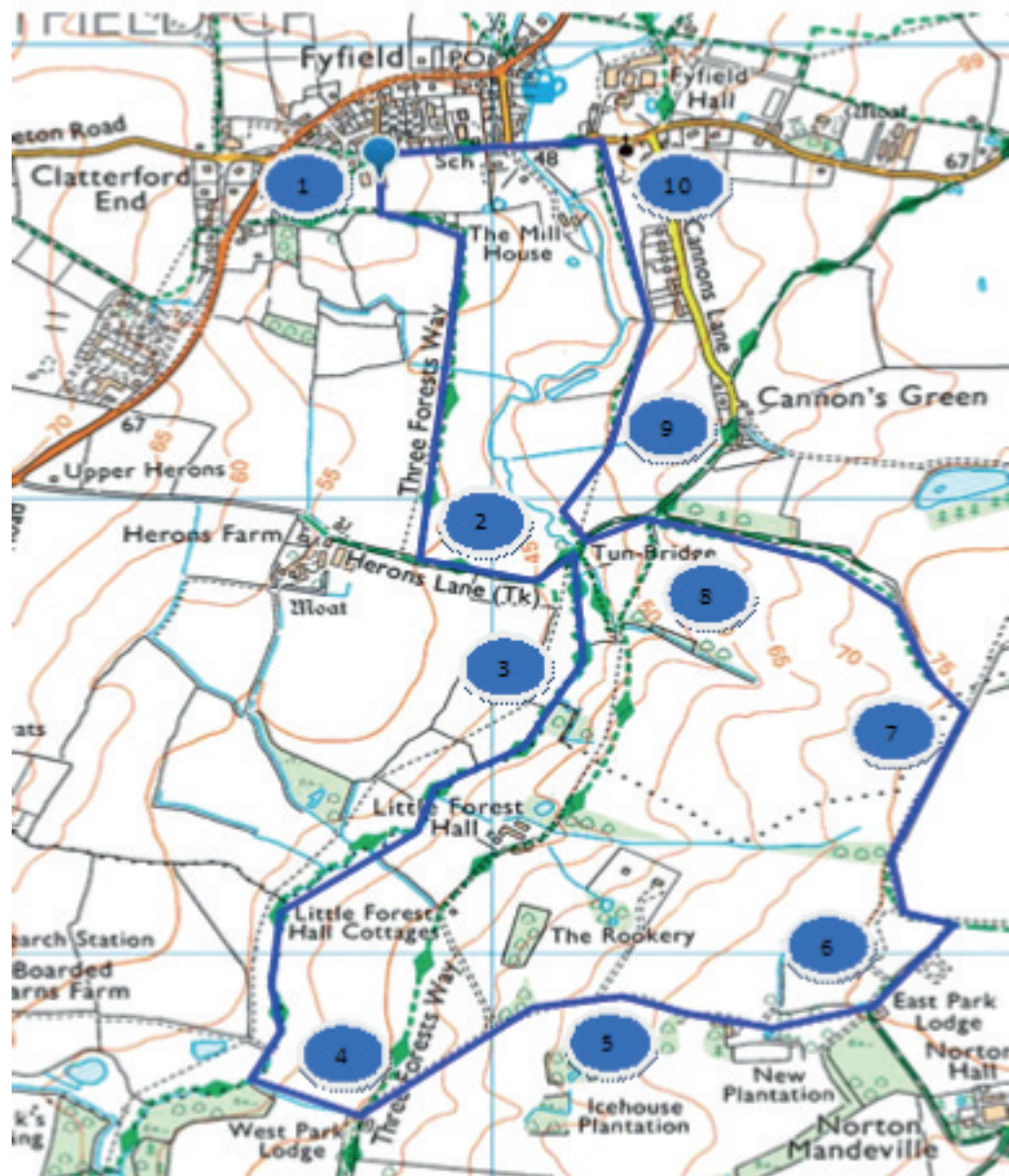
Keep an eye open for kingfishers and herons along the river. In the river there are very large crayfish and good size fish (I think chub) on the deeper bends. At position 6 there is an old underground train next to the big barn!

I can recommend printing and taking a copy of the map of the airfield (link below). The map shows the runways, bomb stores, hangers, fuel stores and many other building which catered for over 2000 American service personal and squadrons of B26 bombers in 1944. Still standing is the Radar Workshop in the middle of the field off to your right between (6) and (7). <http://www.americanairmuseum.com/media/17554>

Please contact me if you have a question or would like some company on your walk.

Les Lamb ([leslamb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:leslamb@hotmail.co.uk) or mobile 07776178794)

## Fyfield Walks – Norton Mandeville Loop







## **ASH Healthcare Support**

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- **End of Life**



**To arrange a visit by our nurse to discuss your needs and how we  
can assist you call 01279 718823.**

# Chris & Kellie While

Live at

St. Nicholas' Church, Fyfield

Sunday June 4th - 8.00pm

Refreshments available for sale from 7.30pm  
(Refreshments may also be available during the interval)



Mother and daughter come together for a special evening. Kellie is known for fronting two of the country's most successful folk/roots bands, the Albion Band and e2K, as well as being a prolific writer and great guitarist. Chris is known for her work with Julie Matthews as well as for performing with the Albion Band and St Agnes Fountain.

This concert is being performed as a special favour for Jude and David Bessell as the first concert in what they hope will be an on going effort to make the Church at Fyfield more of a focal part of the village

Please come and support the event and take advantage of being able to see this magnificent duo in your own back yard. For a taster of Chris & Kellie While look them up on 'YouTube' and realise what a superb opportunity this is.

**Tickets £12.50 from David & Jude Bessell**

**Tel: 07886 075889 or eMail: [davidbessell@sky.com](mailto:davidbessell@sky.com)**

**All proceeds raised will go to St. Nicholas' Church**



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## Afternoon Tea at the Church

The Afternoon Tea Team are pleased to announce that we have donated 4 new tables to the Church and in addition to this, from the Afternoon Tea profits, we have made the following donations:



£200.00 - St Nicholas Church (This is to help with on-going heating & electricity costs.)

£ 75.00 - British Heart Foundation

£ 75.00 - Marie Curie

£ 75.00 - Cancer Research

£ 75.00 - Alzheimer's Society

These charities were chosen by our afternoon tea supporters.

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude for everyone's continued support. We always look forward to seeing everyone each month and what a great way to come together and socialise and at the same time raise money for good causes.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has donated cakes and given of their time. We will continue to update you on future donations.

Don't forget we open at 1pm and serve lunch as well as afternoon tea.

Many thanks.

*Jan Hall.*



**FREE WORKSHOP**  
***Presented by***  
**`DEMENTIA FRIENDS`**

**WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2.30pm**  
**FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

A Talk covering What is Dementia, Signs & Symptoms, Risk Factors and Living with Dementia will last about 45 Minutes with time for Questions, and Information to take away. Places are limited to 40, so please ring Patti Nicholson on 01277899504 or Ann Jackson on 01277899898 to reserve a place or for further information.

(Written Questions may be sent in advance.) *Refreshments will be Available*

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**Fyfield Coffee Morning**  
**(in the church)**

*Please come and join us for  
coffee and homemade cakes.*



***4th April, 2nd May & 6th June***  
***10 am to 12 Noon***  
***Marion, Margaret and Carol***

## Crime Awareness - Rural Communities eMail Family



Many residents living in the Epping Forest District reside in rural locations where, perhaps, neighbourhood watch is not a viable option. For these residents it is difficult to keep in touch

with what is going on around them in the way of criminal activity. Knowledge is power and if you know the current crime trends it is much easier to address the safety of your own property.

However, if there is no Neighbourhood Watch in your area and to start one wouldn't be practical, there is an alternative. I manage an email group which is called the Rural Communities Email Family. There are currently around 200 members who receive regular updates from me regarding suspicious activity in our rural areas.

All you have to do is send your email address to me at [tony.ellis@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:tony.ellis@essex.pnn.police.uk) and I will then add you to the contact list. The details

that you send me will be stored by me and only used to send you information about current crime trends and other information which might affect your quality of life. All emails will be addressed via BCC so no other members will receive your email address.

However, this isn't a one way passage of information and I don't have the time to trawl through all intelligence that comes in to the Police each day. If you see anything suspicious I would like you to share it with me at the time by email and I will ensure that information goes out to all other members warning them to be vigilant. It will also be fed into our Police Intelligence System and could be used to support future policing operations.

If you fit the above criteria you are most welcome to join us and I look forward to working with you.

*Tony Ellis  
Crime Prevention Assistant  
Epping Forest District  
Essex Police  
Tel. 101 ext. 319383*

## Break In At The Church

Sometime between Sunday night (11th March) and Tuesday morning (13th March), somebody broke into the shed in the churchyard. They forced the padlock and snapped off the hasp, leaving the door wide open. The shed contains only a few unused chairs and a couple of trestles and nothing was taken. Residents are reminded that one night a couple of years ago thieves working their way systematically through

the village breaking into and stealing from every shed and this latest break in is a timely reminder to check our sheds regularly. In case other attempted thefts took place with this one, the Essex Police reference number for the church shed break in is: WEB-V7P-3BJ-NH2 and other cases can be reported on 101.

*Marcus Dain,  
Church Warden,  
St. Nicholas' Church - Fyfield*

**Have your Dog Groomed  
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**Thank You to  
Janice Barker  
- Luncheon  
Club Team  
Leader**



A rose named 'Thank You' was  
presented to Janice Barker on her  
retirement as a leader of one of the  
Fyfield Luncheon Club teams .

Janice was thanked for her support  
& contribution to the Luncheon Club  
which spans at least 19 years.

*Jan Hall.*



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[Katieholloway@poppetsnursery.co.uk](mailto:Katieholloway@poppetsnursery.co.uk)

Unit 10, Fyfield Business & Research Park, Fyfield Road, Ongar, Essex. CM3 1PY



## St. Nicholas' Church – Appliqué Wall Art - Sewing Circle

We have had three workshops since our last report (21st January, 25th February and 25th March). Everyone has been working hard and some beautiful work has been produced. At the workshops people work in their small teams and seek help, guidance and tuition from our Workshop leader Becky Preen and other members of the project. We are a group of 18 ladies with a variety of needle work skills and experience who are working very well together.

At our workshop on 25th March Becky started to design and help us with the pillars that will frame our 9 illustrations of our Patron Saint, St. Nicholas. The design needs further thought and work and Becky is intending to finalise the design in readiness to give us guidance on how we will create the pillars and put it altogether at our next workshop. Becky also demonstrated a very useful tool for making your own bias binding which we may consider using for some parts of our illustrations.

We usually meet in the Church but due to the lack of light and warmth in the church at the last workshop in February we held our workshop on the 25th March at the home of Jude and David Bessell. We were a group of 11 and we would like to thank Jude, and of course David, for offering to host the workshop at their home.

The next workshop is being held on 20th May and will again be at Jude and David Bessell's home. This is a 3 hour workshop and is between 10.00am to 1.00pm so do bring a packed lunch and tea and coffee will be served. There is always room for more people to work on the project and if you are interested in taking part in the project you can call me for details.

*Wendy Henshaw*  
*Tel: 899367*



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Free 'Taster' Session – just turn up!

The Club also holds social events and outings

**Further information from Patti Nicholson (899504) or June Phipps on (899942)**

# Fyfield Village Hall

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We have had a busy couple of months at the Village Hall. As most of you will know the Village Hall Committee will now be in charge of the clubroom in the Village Hall, as well as the changing rooms and showers. As a result we are looking to refurbish the clubroom so that we can return to using it not only as a sporting pavilion for the teams of footballers and cricketers that use it, but also as a bar that can be available for the residents to use on a regular basis. We are hoping to get the work done by early summer so watch this space. We are also installing an additional disabled toilet in the Monica Couling Room. Work for this will start mid April and will improve facilities for everyone that uses the Hall.

As with everything, improvements are expensive, and so we have had a couple of fund raising events. On 18th February we held our popular quiz night. As ever, John Jewiss provided a wonderful quiz and it was good to see such a wide range of ages on the tables. On 18th March we all got out our pens and tried our luck with a Bingo night. Our thanks to Roy and Geoff for keeping us all in line and being great callers, to Richard

and Christine for their continued support, and to those people who came and helped make it a thoroughly enjoyable evening. These events all help to keep the village hall open, and we really do need you to make them successful. So next time you see something on, come along, we can assure you that you will have a really good evening out and meet lots of local people. We are hoping to have another Bingo evening in June and would love to see more people there.

We will also be launching our 100 Club initiative again soon. We will be posting letters and application forms in April, and if you are able, we would love you to support this. For £12 a year you get a chance every month of winning money back, and over the last two years we have given nearly £2000 in winnings to entrants. It is a good way of showing your support if you are unable to come along to our events. So go on, give it a go! The more people that enter the higher the prizes. **The Winning Numbers for March are: 82, 95 & 65.** and we will be printing the winning numbers in future editions too.

We also continue to do things that we feel are important to local people, and so we will be holding an afternoon of information on Dementia on 5th April. Entrance is free and there will be some very experienced and well informed speakers on what is becoming an issue for many families.

In addition to running the Hall, the Village Hall Committee will also be organising bookings for the field on behalf of the Parish Council. We will be

dealing with formal bookings from cricket clubs and football teams for use of pitches, and will display their fixture lists when available on the calendar on our Village Hall Website. We will also be working with the local Scouts and Guides so that when they use the field this will also appear on the calendar. However, the field is also a wonderful asset that we have in the village for the use of the residents and is available for anyone to use for sports for example a family game of rounders or a picnic. We would ask that you avoid the cricket square, clear up afterwards and leave in good time for organised matches, but do come and use it and enjoy it.

I would also personally like to say a big thank you to the Village Hall Commit-

tee. We are all volunteers who do this because we feel passionately about keeping the hall open and welcoming for everyone. We have had a turbulent couple of years, but with the hard work and determination of everyone on the committee, we are making progress. So, thank you to all of you, you are unsung heroes.

By the time you read this we will have held our AGM on 30th March. If you missed it, and want to help out in any way at all, or want any more information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

*Marie Apperley*  
01277 899386

**FRIENDS OF SAINT NICHOLAS' CHURCH, FYFIELD**  
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## **Annual General Meeting**

**will be held Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
at 8.00pm in the church.**

All members are, of course, invited and other interested persons will be welcome to attend and observe proceedings.

Any questions with respect to the meeting or to the Friends should be addressed to the Chairman, Mrs Julie Robinson, on 01277 899557

# Fyfield Gardening Club

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Thanks to Julie for this month's notes about the allotments.

When the allotments were first opened I had no intention of having one until friends Helen and Fran talked me into the idea of sharing a plot. We then set about fencing our plot to keep the bunnies out and then putting up a shed where we could drink tea. The first year was the hardest as we had to battle the never ending weeds but we all got rewarded by our first crop of vegetables which for me included potatoes, beans, beetroot and onions. We are now in our fourth year and I still have no idea what I am doing but each year I still get a good crop of vegetables. Sometimes things do not grow so well and sometimes they are great, so it is very experimental. The digging, weeding and carrying of water is hard work but cheaper than going to the gym and I can take the dogs as well!! Everyone on the allotments is friendly and happy to help and now we have a free supply of horse manure from our new neighbours. There are still plots available so give it a go as you may surprise yourself just like me.

## Talk: Plants of Seasonal Interest

Nearly fifty people came to the village hall on March 13 to hear Tim Carter of Long House Plants, Noak Hill give a fascinating talk about plants of seasonal interest. Tim is passionate about plants. He became interested in them as a teenager, helping out at his local nursery and when he left school he had impressed the owner sufficiently to be offered a job. As he gained experience, he broadened his knowledge. He went on

plant hunting expeditions to Australia and New Zealand. He had brought plenty of plants along for sale and having described their development and care during his talk, there was much demand afterwards to take them home. Tim may come back at a future date to share more of his immense experience with us, but if you cannot wait that long, you may like to visit his nursery. Opening hours in general and special charity occasions are detailed on his website, [www.longhouse-plants.co.uk](http://www.longhouse-plants.co.uk)



We have spare allotments available immediately. If you are interested please ring Pat on 899590.

[www.fyfieldgardeningclub.co.uk](http://www.fyfieldgardeningclub.co.uk)



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# Fyfield & District W.I.

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At our meeting in February we were very lucky to obtain a speaker at short notice as our booked speaker, whose subject was *Skeletons In The Cupboard*, was struck down with flu so instead we learnt from Ms. Rose about William Morris the lynch pin of the Arts and Craft Movement. A painter, poet, author and weaver who lived from 1834–1898. He came from a wealthy family and had an eventful life, not always happy, but his designs for fabric retain their popularity today and are instantly recognisable.

On Shrove Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February we had a very successful Pancake Party with members cooking and serving over 100 pancakes. A big thank you to all our

members who helped and to everyone who came and supported us.

Our March meeting, the members meeting, we had Kay Ball who returned and showed members how to make the best use of make-up. Unfortunately this year 4 of our members have through various reasons felt unable to renew their membership and of course sadly two of our members last year passed away. So we have vacancies for new members and we would welcome some new members so if you are free on the first Thursday afternoon in the month from 2.00 till 4.00p.m, you will receive a warm welcome. Our speaker on 6<sup>th</sup> April is Deborah Hart speaking on Willow in the Landscape.

*Wendy Henshaw*

---

## Fyfield Luncheon Club

At the beginning of the meal in February Janice Barker was presented with a Rose Bush in appreciation of the many years she has been on the team cooking for the Luncheon Club. She has now retired and comes to enjoy a lunch every month.

As usual we had excellent lunches both in February and in March.

Thanks to the two teams who provided the delicious desserts and serving them plus of course the lovely main course provided by the Queen's Head Chefs.

Our next lunch is on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 12.00 for 12.30p.m. at £4 each. Please phone me by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April to book your lunch.

*Wendy Henshaw*  
*Tel: 899367*

---

## Fyfield Art Group

We are having a break due to Easter Holidays and will restart on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10.00 till 12 noon in the Monica Couling Room, Fyfield Village Hall.

The next one in May will be May 8<sup>th</sup> and then 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We would love to see some more people come along and join us for a relaxing two hours every fortnight drawing and painting.

*Wendy Henshaw*  
*Tel: 899367*

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## Star Fishmongers Celebrates 10 Years in Ongar

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We have opened our kitchen and our range of ready prepared meals are designed especially for you to take the pressure away from mealtimes.

Already on the menu are our firm favourites:

Fish Pie , Fish Cakes (made with 75% fresh cod), Coquilles St Jacques, Fish Lasagne and Seafood Tagliatelle. We still have a wide range of the freshest wet fish available and a large selection of shellfish.

We are offering discounts with our new loyalty card. With spring and summer just around the corner we are busy developing our barbeque offers so follow us on Face book to find out more - you can also find out what we have to offer on the day.

**Star Fishmongers, 195 High Street , Ongar, Essex, CM5 9JG. Tel: 01277 363131**





## OPEN DAY

*Saturday 8th April 2017*

*Mad Hatter's Tea Party & Easter Egg Hunt*

*11.00am - 2.30pm*

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Please feel free to come along to our

**Mad Hatter's Tea Party Open Day and Easter Egg Hunt (11.30am)** and enjoy the fun with our friendly staff ... no appointment necessary.

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# Out of Focus

*(It can't get any worse, or can it!)*

---

This may well be the last Out of Focus that I write from Fyfield as I have been fortunate enough to have won the Microsoft award of the year which gives me \$900,000. If that is not enough I have also been advised that I have £12,000,000 waiting for me in a Nigerian bank and that all I have to do is verify my identity plus make an upfront payment of £10,000 to cover a government stamp duty fee and local administration.

As with all good news there is always some bad. On the same week I was informed by email that my PayPal account was about to be shut down due to suspicious activity, my email system was also being shut down and my PC was infected by a new bug that only one company can fix (if I paid them). I also had a message from a nice Russian woman who wanted to marry me! Some unsolicited messages can be useful!! Try this, search on-line for something unusual like a holiday in Greenland and see how long it takes for Greenland holidays to appear alongside your on-line searches for anything. How do they know these things? Beware, whatever you do on-line you are being watched.

Since the Stansted flight path over Fyfield was changed last year to head in an easterly direction, all has been very quiet in the sky. Aircraft still fly above but at a much higher altitude on their way to some other place far away.

Nowadays if I hear a low flying aircraft I feel obliged to look up whereas before I didn't bother. More exiting than aircraft is the news that a London Transport underground train has been spotted on the outskirts of Fyfield. It looks like a CP series from the 1950's that were used on the District and Metropolitan lines. It doesn't surprise me that this has been spotted as I have been left waiting on Blackfriars Station many times thinking that the District Line train I was waiting for has vanished after seeing a never ending parade of Circle Line trains. Maybe it took a wrong turning somewhere or it could even have been abducted by an alien force who returned it to Fyfield not remembering where they originally took it from.



Missing you already!

*Ian Hadley*  
*ianhadley@gmx.co.uk*

# Archie's Column

(Tails from the Riverside)

Hi, Archie here!



I wish they wouldn't put the clocks forward this time every year. It plays havoc with a dog's digestion not to mention sleep pattern. One good

thing about the clocks going forward is it means that it's getting warmer and I can go into the garden and sleep in the sunshine. Unlike humans, dogs don't have to keep awake most of the time. We don't work or have any duties or responsibilities so why stay awake. I do wake up if there is any sign of food around of course or if there is any chance of a walk. Otherwise it's a chance to get my head down for some quality sleep, preferably in the sun. I had some new food the other day, it was Kangaroo - very good when

served with biscuits but not as good as the food that they have.

The other day they went out for a meal and when they returned they had a doggy bag full of meat for me. I'm not too keen on salads though and the dressing that they put on it is far too sharp for my liking. My favourite though is bacon sandwich with brown sauce followed by a few custard creams followed by a sleep somewhere quiet.

Mind you with those noisy Canada



Geese around a dog has to wear earplugs. The sooner they go home the better.

Anyway, I'm off to buy some more Brexit.

*Bye for now.  
Archie*



# Letter from the Chairman

---



Charlotte Apperley, one of our councillors has resigned as she will no longer be a resident of Fyfield. Charlotte is moving to Manningtree and we wish her well in her new home and thank her for her participation with council mat-

ters over the past year. That, of course means that we have yet another vacancy on the Parish Council and details of how to apply and how to request an election are on the Parish Council Notice Board and Web Site. If there is more than one applicant and at least ten residents request an election then an election will take place. If an election is not triggered then the co-option process, where the existing councillors vote on applicants, takes place.

At the March council meeting, the subject of Neighbourhood Watch was raised and it was agreed that Cllr. Les Lamb would start to investigate the desire of the residents to implement a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. If you would like to get involved please contact Les directly. We were all pleased to see Cllr. Tony Boyce our District Councillor in attendance and look forward to him engaging even more in the future.

A few weeks ago, Skippers, the company engaged by the council to maintain the sports field, cleared out the overgrown land behind the garages on the south side of Walker Avenue. This was leased from EFDC about 15 years ago with the

intention on being used as a car park but was never established. On discussing possible uses for the land, my neighbour, Jenny Stone, suggested that it could be used as a petanque terrain. This would be inexpensive to set up and would help to keep the area tidy. Anyone wishing to play could use the facility and maybe complete the game with a drink at the new bar at the Village Hall. This is just one idea and if anyone else has any suggestions on its use please email me.

This is the time of the year when we mount the Best Kept Front Garden Contest and also apply for the RCCE Essex Village of the Year Competition which is not just judged on the appearance of the village but what we consider makes our village a special community. Most of this comes down to the effort of the many volunteers in the village who keep us informed, entertained, fit, nourished, safe and happy.

On the 1st April, the Parish Council granted a Licence to the Village Hall to administer the activities that take place on the Sports Field. This was previously managed by the Sports & Social Club which has now decided to go into abeyance. By the time that you read this the Sports & Social Club will have vacated the Club Room and removed all of their belongings. This will allow the Village Hall to refurbish the Club Room completely as part of an ongoing refurbishment programme which will result in the Village Hall becoming an even better facility.

On April 24th at 8 pm the Parish Council will be holding its annual Parish Assembly.

Please come along and hear what's been going on from many of the organisations in the village.  
On May 15th the council holds its Annual General Meeting and all are welcome.



*Ian Hadley*  
*Chair, Fyfield Parish Council*  
[ianhadley@gmx.co.uk](mailto:ianhadley@gmx.co.uk)  
*T: 01277 899840 M: 07765882001*

**Annual Parish Assembly**

**Monday 24th April**

**8 pm**

**Fyfield Village Hall**

Come along and hear updates from local groups and plans for the future

To apply to become a Parish Counciller Contact Derek Farr - [caliban@gmx.co.uk](mailto:caliban@gmx.co.uk)

To request an election submit a written request to the Returning Officer, Epping Forest District Council, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping, Essex CM16 4BZ

**Fyfield Parish Council**

Cllr. I Hadley (Chairman)	01277 899840	<a href="mailto:ianhadley@gmx.co.uk">ianhadley@gmx.co.uk</a>
Cllr. K Webb (Vice Chairman)	01277 899477	<a href="mailto:ken_awebb@yahoo.co.uk">ken_awebb@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Cllr. L. Lamb	07776178794	<a href="mailto:leslamb@hotmail.co.uk">leslamb@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Cllr. Ms B Saward	07747803829	<a href="mailto:barbara@saward.uk.net">barbara@saward.uk.net</a>
Cllr. T. Walden	01277899772	<a href="mailto:tobywalden@hotmail.co.uk">tobywalden@hotmail.co.uk</a>
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# Light Hearted Monologues from a Local

---

## **Frothy Extracts From The Pale Ale Annual Of Allegations And Legends.....**

Alexander Graham Bell's test on his first telephone was to his assistant on a handset in the next room. "NO YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP THE WIRE TAUGHT LIKE THE OLD TWO TIN CANS WE USED TO USE!" he shouted.

The sentence that he uttered was "Mr. Watson come here I want to see you!" Mr. Watson, on his return, said "Mr. Bell a voice on the earphones was offering Solar panels! What are they?"

"Mobile phones have to have heavy batteries - the size of house bricks - they'll never catch on".

An opinion expressed by an experienced financial advisor who also purchased lorry loads of vacuum cleaners and took them to the Hoover Dam. He has since changed his identity and disappeared in to obscurity. Hoping to have his name in the history books LARRY LONGFELLOW - mentioned previously connected with Niagara Falls - attempted to preserve for prosperity the first paper shop in Vancouver. Unfortunately it blew away. General Custer is remembered by assuring his army that Chief Sitting Bull would listen to reason as they were friendly Indians. Chief Sitting Bull paradoxically was responsible for Custer's last Stand at the battle of The Little Bighorn.

A Swiss Cobbler, tired of burglaries at his fabulous fitting shop, set up a shot gun booby trap. A regular well-to-do client requested footwear urgently out of hours. In a rush the cobbler forgot his surprise welcome when opening the alarmed door

and blasted himself. Possibly the origin of "shooting oneself in the foot! "

Another famous Swiss who repaired watches had an enviable set of keys for all sorts of clocks and watches. Perhaps the earliest Wind Up Merchant?

African Inter-Tribal conflict was luckily avoided when a young learner jungle drummer sneezed when sending a news message. He momentarily caused a pause in his transmission which signalled that the saxophone would be starting next. This was a tradition only allowed on the permission of the Chief's wife. He preferred the trombone. Not broadband but palm band?

Amazing archaeological inspection of a Stonehenge stone has revealed hieroglyphics hitherto unnoticed on the lower side of the tallest structure.

After much research the markings translate as "Lego stone prototype No.1".



Stop Press .....

President Trump visiting Fyfield! Well actually 4 miles above in Air Force One. Due to special security facilities Stansted may well be the arrival area chosen for the new president of the U.S.A. Special tickets will be available for the best positions in the village to wave to the aircraft as it fly's overhead. Please contact Gullible Promotions .conartist. Trump that!

*Barry Betteridge*

# Arts Section

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## Page Turners

### Love from Boy

*Roald Dahl*

This is a book composed of letters from Roald Dahl to his mother Sophie. They span a forty year period starting in 1925, as he started in boarding school, ending in 1965 two years before his mother's death. It was not until just after her death, when he was handed the bundle of letters that he found out that, unbeknown to him, she had kept every one.

Roald was sent to boarding school after his mother took him away from school following a beating by his headmaster.

This move did not seem to be much better for him.

The first letter, under the censorious eye of his headmaster, he wrote:

"Dear Mama, I am having a lovely time here. We are playing football every day. The beds have no springs.....The masters are very nice.....will you send my stamp album. Love Boy."

Although Roald did not start writing his famous children's books until he was aged forty two, his early formative years were when he began practicing his writing skills. The letters were an amazing record of all his frustrations, adventures, whacky and often crude comments, often making light of the more serious events so as not to worry his mother. He would also exaggerate or bend the truth to make his storytelling more interesting. It was during this time he was incubating ideas for future children's stories.

Prep school was followed by public school. On leaving school Roald spent some time working in Tanganika for the Asiatic Petroleum Company, where he records colonial life. On the outbreak of war Roald trained as a fighter pilot in the RAF and loved flying over Africa. Vivid flying imageries where to appear later in 'James and the Giant Peach' and 'The Minpins'.

In 1940 Roald was nearly killed in a plane crash in the Libyan Desert, leaving him with severe injuries including to his head. He made light of his injuries to his mother, but recovery took months. This episode ended his days as a fighter pilot and he did not fancy the idea of becoming an earth bound instructor.

A change in direction came in 1942 when he was offered a job in America working as an assistant air attaché at the British Embassy. Here he mingled with a very different crowd; from the Roosevelts in Washington to Charlie Chaplin and Walt Disney in Hollywood.

The book tells of a very different side with his personal life which involved quite a bit of tragedy. Loss of a father and sister at an early age followed in later life with a young son involved in an accident and the sad loss of a daughter aged seven. Roald's first wife, the actress Patricia Neal, suffered a serious stroke from which he helped her to recover.

All members of our book club thought this book an interesting read, showing us how the complicated life of Roald Dahl helped shape the man and his stories of our much loved books.

*Rita Cook.*

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## Cookery Section

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As it's Easter this month's cookery column features two very easy but delicious chocolate desserts. Give them a try and let me know what you think.

### Chocolate Fondants

100g chocolate  
100g butter  
2 egg yolks  
75g caster sugar  
30g rice flour

Preheat the oven to 180c. Melt chocolate & butter in a bowl over a bain marie (bowl in a saucepan of warm water on the hob). Whilst chocolate & butter are melting mix the eggs & sugar. Make sure the chocolate is not too hot and add to the sugar & egg mix. Stir & fold in the flour. Pour the mix into 4 greased fondant moulds (each mould should have 80g batter & you can use ramekins also). Cook in the oven for 8 mins. Check the fondants are cooked but still have a soft centre by carefully removing them from the oven and giving them a shake. If the centre wobbles place it back in the oven for 30 seconds to a minute. You want a soft and oozy middle so be careful to watch the clock. As a final touch, lightly sprinkle the plate with a hint of cocoa powder. Serve warm with a dollop of good quality Italian vanilla ice cream or cream.

*Marie Radley*

(Marie is a very special friend who is half Italian and is a very busy lady juggling lots of balls so this is a perfect dessert to impress but

takes very little time. Its Italian name is Tortino Al Cioccolato Con Cuore Fondente.)

### Chocolate Bombe

¾ pint double cream  
1oz caster sugar  
Grated chocolate  
Chocolate mix filling:  
6oz plain chocolate  
1oz butter  
6 egg yolks  
6 egg whites

Use a 3pint pudding basin (do not use a smaller bowl).

Lightly whip the cream with sugar and once mixed using the back of a tablespoon, spread the cream evenly to line the inside of the basin and put in the freezer to set firm while preparing the filling.

Break the chocolate into a basin, set over a saucepan half filled with hot, not boiling water. Add the butter and stir occasionally until the chocolate has melted. Add the egg yolks to the chocolate mixture, stir to blend and remove from the heat. Beat the egg whites until they are stiff and form peaks and with a metal spoon fold gently but evenly into the mixture to make a chocolate mousse filling. Pour into the cream lined basin and put back in the freezer and leave overnight or until mixture is frozen hard. About 2 hours before serving unmould the pudding – dip basin up to rim in cold water to take the chill off and slip a palette knife down the inside of the basin to loosen it and turn out on to a serving plate. Place in fridge until ready to serve and before serving sprinkle the grated chocolate over the surface of the bombe.

*Angela Reece*

*(This has been tried and tested many times over the years and never fails to impress. We have lost touch with Angela & David Reece but coming across this recipe has reminded me of the friendship we had.)*



## Fyfield Carpet Bowls



When I wrote my last report it was snowing! Today, the sun is out and there is definitely a feeling of

spring in the air. It will be nice to have the lighter nights ahead of us when our bowls club meets.

Again, my report will be short as the club as a whole has not done anything outside of club nights. We have another new member though and I would like to welcome Alan on board. He is a beginner to carpet bowls, but we all hope that he will enjoy the game and continue to come each week.

The County squad has played a further two matches. On Sunday 15th January, they travelled to Welwyn Garden City to play Hertfordshire. As I mentioned in my last report, this was a new venue for them and we could tell that they were still getting

used to it. This did bode well for us as Essex won the match 21 points to 15. A good win under our belts. Our ardour was rather dampened, however, on our next match. It was against Suffolk, who are already at the top of the league. Even though it was a home match, we suffered a big defeat, with Suffolk taking 26 points off us to our measly 10. Oh Dear! Our captain was not the best pleased. We are, however, hanging on to 2nd place in the league, with Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire hot on our tails. Our last match of the season is against Cambridgeshire. It is away at Ramsey, Cambridgeshire, on Sunday 19th March. This is also a new venue for Cambridgeshire, so, with a bit of luck, we might do as well as we did against Hertfordshire – keep your fingers crossed! I'll let you know how we get on in my next report.

That's all for now. Catch you later.

*Jacky Brown*



# Brownies

## HELP PLEASE!

Do you have time on a Wednesday, from 5.30-7.00, to help a group of 11 Brownies age 7-10?

I have been helping with the 'Fyfield Brownie Unit' for the last 18 months and now urgently need another adult

to help me. No previous experience is needed.

If you would like to find out more, or make an exploratory visit please telephone me on **899389**. You would receive a very warm welcome! Sadly, if we do not find another volunteer the Fyfield Brownie Unit, which was started by Wendy Henshaw in 1970, will no longer be able to continue.

Many thanks in anticipation.

*Jane Davenport*



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# FYFIELD, ONGAR & DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB

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When my days of discos, formal dinner parties and dinner dances had long lost their magic my social life turned more to informal suppers and

card nights with games like Kaluki or Canasta where it did not so matter much if the brain was befuddled by alcohol.

Some friends had once tried to introduce me to Bridge but it seemed far too demanding for a fun night so I always dismissed it as a serious game for grown-ups. However, some 10 years ago a new bridge club was set up locally and when it offered lessons I was persuaded to sign up. The Beginners course lasted for about 22 weeks and from the start, I was hooked. It is not a mindless game like Solitaire but one played with a partner where strategic planning and a conversation by signals battles the opposition for points. Obviously much depends on the cards you are dealt but even if you don't hold all the big guns, the battle

can sometimes be won through guile or the smallest card in your armoury.

Bridge is universally popular particularly for those who prefer to spend their spare time on something more interesting than say watching Gogglebox. It not only keeps the mind active but it's also a very sociable and fascinating pastime that can be played 24/7 at one of the many bridge clubs locally or online.

I play at the Fyfield, Ongar and District Bridge Club a very friendly club situated in Fyfield just 3 miles from Ongar and we meet in the village hall every Thursday evening at 7 for 7.15pm start.

If you have played Bridge in the past and want to brush up your skills ( no partner necessary) or are interested in learning the game please contact us on [fyfieldbridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:fyfieldbridgeclub@gmail.com) or John Adair on 01 277 899432 where you will receive a very warm welcome.

*Jackie Knave*



# 1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group

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## **The Beaver Scout Colony - 5 3/4 to 8 years - Tuesday 6.00pm to 7.15pm**

The Spring term has been a fun and happy time for the Beavers; they started the term with a Log Chew. This is a discussion the Beavers have first in their lodge and then they all discuss what ideas or badges they would like to do in the future. From the list of activities they wanted to do cooking was the most popular. So, on Shrove Tuesday the Beavers all cooked their own pancake and decorated them with a vast array of goodies. They also celebrated Founders day near Baden Powell's birthday. They all decorated muffins and learnt a little bit about how Scouting started. They have also been learning about how to deal with an emergency and how to get help. This was run over two evenings and at the end of this they gained the Emergency Aid stage 1 badge. The one thing that they all wanted to do was go on a sleepover and a hike. Susi the Beaver leader was happy to organise a sleepover for them in March. They will be hiking from our Head Quarters around the village and local footpaths and then returning to the HQ then having supper then a film is planned and then hopefully they will go to bed

to sleep. The next day will be breakfast and then home. We have had three Beavers swim up to Cubs Scouts at half term. They were Alfie Grimmette, Adam Tew and Reece Speller. We had four new Beavers start after half term and they are all going on the sleepover. I am sure they will all have a fantastic time.

## **Cub Scouts - 8 to 10 1/2 years - Thursday 7.00pm to 8.30pm**

The first meeting of the term had to be cancelled as there was a snow storm and as the cubs travel in from as far as Matching, Chelmsford, and High Roding we thought it best to cancel in case anyone got stuck. The following week the Cubs played team games towards their teamwork Challenge Award. On Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup> January the Cubs took part in a night mission at Chigwell Row campsite. This involved wearing camouflage and their face painted to hide and find clues around the site. This was against other teams of Cubs from the Royal Forest District. The Cubs really enjoyed the evening even though it was a cold evening. On the next meeting night, the Cub had a Sixer council and talked about a code of conduct and activities that they would like to do.

The week before half term they all went Bowling at TenPin in Chelmsford. Everyone turned up and they all had a great evening including the new Cubs that had joined us from Beavers. The week before Shrove Tuesday the Cubs had great fun cooking pancakes and managing to toss them over as well. The next two weeks have been spent with the Scout Active Support members coming in to the Pack to train them for Emergency Aid stage 1 and 2. The Cubs behaved well and seemed to really enjoy both evenings learning about how to deal with an emergency and how to call for help and being shown Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and showing their skills at bandaging. We have 14 Cubs going on District Cub Camp in May and the Cubs are also looking forward to an adventure weekend in June at Skreens Park building their own Bivouac to sleep in. Before this they will have hiked to Skreens Park from our Head Quarters. They will cook over an open fire and take part in at least one site activity. So, an exciting few months to come for the Cubs.

### **Scouts - 10 to 14 years - Friday 7.30pm to 9.30pm**

The first few weeks of term were spent learning some new skills for the annual Brass Monkey camp which is run

annually in the first week of February. So, there were reminders for first aid and emergency procedure training, planning a menu that could be cooked on an open fire. Designing a Bivouac that would be waterproof and wind proof. The evening before the camp the Scouts that were going to camp met in Sainsbury's car park in Ongar and each team went to do their shopping for the weekend - each Scout had a maximum of £8.00. The next day they all met at Thriftwood Scout Site in Brentwood and the competition began. All our teams were very young and although they didn't finish near the top they all gained a lot of experience. The following week there were lots of challenging games for the Scouts as they had all worked so hard over the last month. After half term, they worked on compass points outside whilst the other half played a team experiment on trust which involved a mock bomb that exploded if not carried over an obstacle course. The two groups then swapped over. Everyone had a really challenging evening. The following week it was Pancakes. The troop split into two sections with half cooking conventional pancakes and the other half cooked a drop pancake on an empty small tin over a night light then they changed over so everyone got a chance to do both. The next week the 25 members



of the Scout troop went on a night navigation exercise. Everyone was tired but they all enjoyed the evening even if they got a bit muddy. The Scouts are looking forward to summer camp to Snowdonia this year but before that they have the Waltham Walk hike over a weekend in Essex and five of the girls are taking part in an Expedition Challenge on the South Downs Way.

**Explorer Scouts - 14 to 18 years -  
Tuesday 7.30pm to 9.30pm**

Six of the Explorer Scouts are celebrating winning the Explorer section of the District Annual Brass Monkey Challenge held in February. They had been training hard on various skills in cooking over an open fire,

First Aid, Bivi building without any plastic or tarpaulins, leadership skills and teamwork. They cooked venison for their meal on the Saturday and had a cooked meal at lunchtime on Saturday and Breakfast on Sunday. Since then they have been planning for their Bronze Expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. All nine Explorer Scouts are also looking forward to Summer camp in Snowdonia and will be training hard to achieve the climb of Snowdon.

*Mary Bacon - Chairman 1<sup>st</sup> Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group*

Telephone: 01277 899052 or  
07554933563

eMail: [marychristinebacon@aol.com](mailto:marychristinebacon@aol.com)



***1<sup>st</sup> Moreton and Fyfield Scout Group***



Beaver Scouts	Tuesday	6.00 – 7.15pm	6 - 8 years
Cub Scouts	Thursday	7.00 – 8.30pm	8-10½ years
Scouts	Friday	7.30 – 9.30pm	10-14 years
Explorer Scouts	Tuesday	7.30 – 9.30pm	14 -18 years

All sections are co-educational and meet at Fyfield Scout Headquarters.

For details phone Mary Bacon 01277 899052. Or pop in and see us.

# Fyfield Focus - Advertising and Editorial Details

## Advertising in the Fyfield Focus

The Fyfield Focus is published bi-monthly on the 1st of the month. The publications are: February/March, April/May, June/July, August/September, October/ November and December/January. Two publications are special colour editions (subject to receiving the necessary sponsorship) and focus on Spring (April/May) and Christmas (December/January).

Adverts will be accepted in Text format (word etc), Picture format (JPG, GIF, BMP) and PDF file. All accepted adverts will be placed in the Fyfield Focus Magazine and the Fyfield Focus Online website [www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk](http://www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk). All requests for advertising should be directed to the Editor by the 10th of the month and payment for all adverts is to be received in advance of publication (full advertising terms and conditions are sent out with all invoices). The Fyfield Focus also provides a 'Leaflet Stuffing Service' – contact Cheryl Hadley for details.

Distribution of the Fyfield Focus (370 copies) is done by a team of volunteers (17) who deliver a copy to every home in Fyfield and to a no. of key community points in Fyfield and surrounding areas. It is the aim of the Focus production and delivery teams to deliver the Fyfield Focus Magazine by the 1st of the month.

## Advertising Rates

Size	Per Issue	Per Year
Quarter Page	£8	£36
Third Page	£10	£48
Half Page	£14	£72
Full Page	£26	£144

## Contributing Articles to the Fyfield Focus

Contributions to the Fyfield Focus are always welcome and should be sent to the Editor normally no later than mid-day on the 17th of the month and will be published subject to space being available. The Editor's decision is final regarding suitability for inclusion and material may be edited for grammatical accuracy and length.

## The Fyfield Focus Team:

Editor & Advertising:  
Production & Website:  
Printing:  
Distribution:

Cheryl Hadley – [fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk](mailto:fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk)  
Ian Hadley – [ianhadley@gmx.co.uk](mailto:ianhadley@gmx.co.uk)  
Chelmsford Diocesan Print Unit

Dennis Bird, Liz Bird, Carol Cox, Eddie Fancourt, Elaine Griffiths, Cheryl Hadley, Henry Hart, Jackie Hart, Fran Homersham, Ann Jackson, Les Lamb, Helen Llewelyn Jones, Mary Simons, Richard and Jenny Stone, Mike Walker, Roy Wilkinson and Mary Woodrow.

## Fyfield Useful Contacts

Bell Ringers - Hand	Pat Turnpenney	899223	Parish Council		
Bell Ringers - Tower	Allan Cook	899240	Chair	Ian Hadley	899840
Pageturners	Debbie Spanton	899317	Clerk	Derek Farr	07783505906
Bookworms	Jane Davenport	899389	Scouts & Guides		
Bridge Club	Janet Brindley	362037	Rainbows	Tarnya Sharp	07712206514
Carpet Bowls	Jacky Brown	899076	Brownies	Jane Davenport	899389
Church Coffee Morning	Carol Cox	899245	Guides	Alison Lavender	01277 365842
Cricket Club	Nancy Bridge	899503	Beavers	Mary Bacon	899052
Dr Walkers School	Mrs Myers	899298	Cubs	David Gordon	896321
Friends of St Nicholas	Allan Cook	899240	Scouts	Mary Bacon	899052
Fyfield Art Group	Wendy Henshaw	899367	Explorer Scouts	Simon Mountly	07939 158980
Fyfield Focus	Cheryl Hadley	899840	St Nicholas' Church	Rev. Christine Hawkins	286113
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Ongar & Villages				David Bessell	07886075889
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Team Co-ordinator	Jan Hall	899808	Box Office-Events	Patti Nicholson	899504
Pilates	Claire	07903121003	Womens Institute	Jo Balcombe	899141
Poppets Day Nursery	Katie Holloway	365488	WD50+ Exercise Club	Patti Nicholson	899504
Pre-School	General No.	899678			
	Lisa Carey	07917763369			

**Websites:** [www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk](http://www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk) [www.essexinfo.net/fyfield-parish-council/](http://www.essexinfo.net/fyfield-parish-council/) [www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk)

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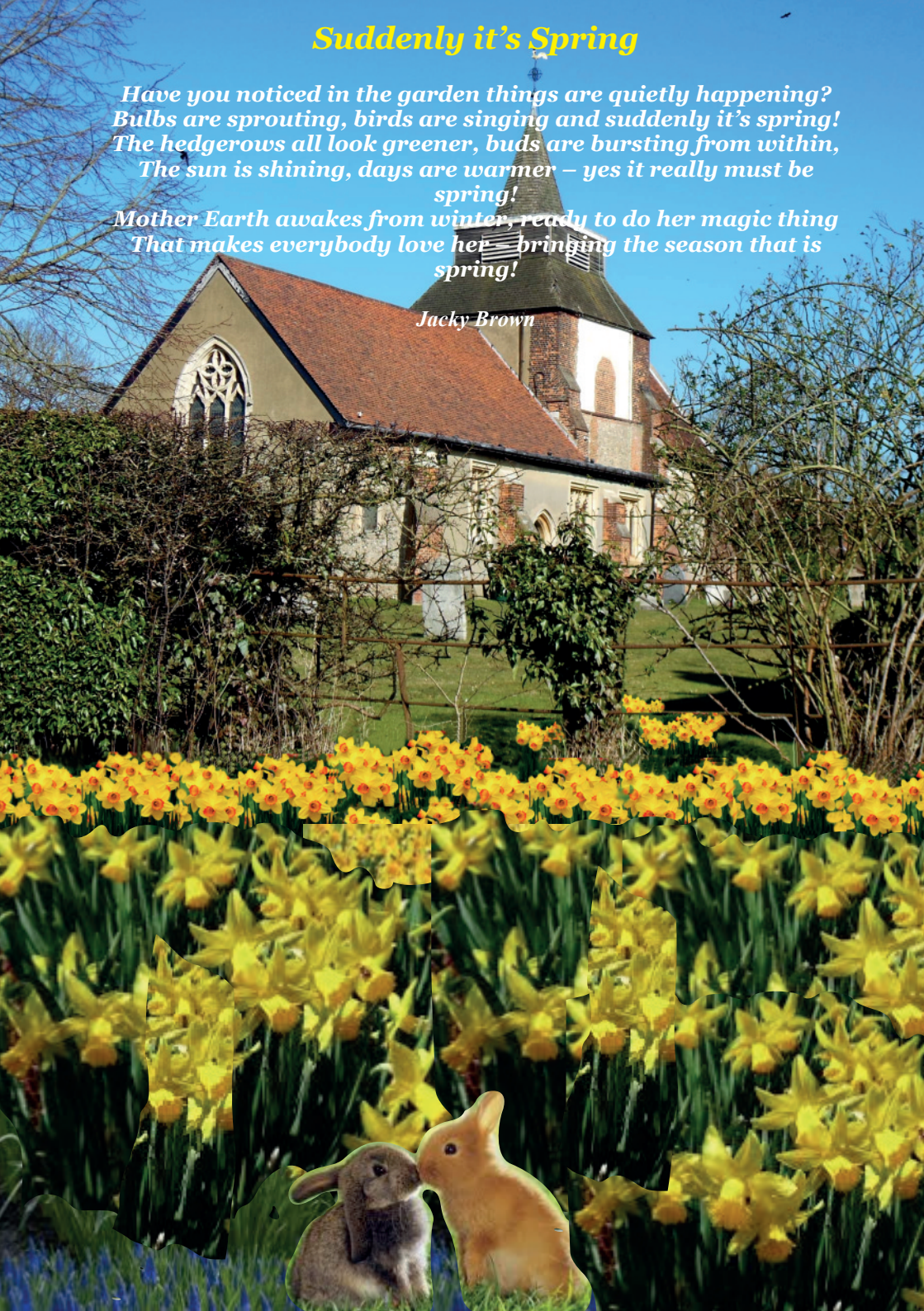


## ***Suddenly it's Spring***

*Have you noticed in the garden things are quietly happening?  
Bulbs are sprouting, birds are singing and suddenly it's spring!  
The hedgerows all look greener, buds are bursting from within,  
The sun is shining, days are warmer – yes it really must be  
spring!*

*Mother Earth awakes from winter, ready to do her magic thing  
That makes everybody love her – bringing the season that is  
spring!*

*Jacky Brown*



# Shop Local



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