

February/March 2020

Fyfield



Focus

View the Fyfield Focus in colour at www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk

Village Diary 2020

Date	Time	What	Where
02-Feb	10am	Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk	Village Hall Car Park
04-Feb	10am	Coffee Morning	The Church
04-Feb	11.40am	Mobile Library	Queen Street
06-Feb	2pm	WI Meeting	Village Hall
08-Feb	7pm	Fyfield Village Hall - Quiz Night	Village Hall
09-Feb	10am	Church Service - Family Communion	The Church
12-Feb	12.30pm	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall
17-Feb	8pm	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar
23-Feb	6pm	Church Service MMU	The Church
25-Feb	10.30am	WI Pancake & Coffee Morning	Village Hall
25-Feb	11.40am	Mobile Library	Queen Street
01-Mar	10am	Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk	Village Hall Car Park
02-Mar	7.30pm	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
03-Mar	10am	Coffee Morning	The Church
05-Mar	2pm	WI Meeting	Village Hall
08-Mar	10am	Church Service - Family Communion	The Church
11-Mar	12.30pm	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall
16-Mar	8pm	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar
17-Mar	11.40am	Mobile Library	Queen Street
22-Mar	6pm	Mothering Sunday. Church Service MMU	The Church
23-Mar	9.45am	E.F.D.C. - Life Walk	Village Hall
23-Mar	7.30pm	Fyfield Village Hall AGM	Village Hall
29-Mar		Don't forget CLOCKS GO FORWARD	
30-Mar	7.30pm	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
02-Apr	2pm	WI Meeting	Village Hall
07-Apr	10am	Coffee Morning	The Church
07-Apr	11.40am	Mobile Library	Queen Street
08-Apr	12.30pm	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall
20-Apr	8pm	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar
27-Apr	9.45am	E.F.D.C. - Life Walk	Village Hall
27-Apr	7.30pm	Annual Parish Assembly	Village Hall
09-May	7pm	Fyfield Village Hall - VE Day Celebration	
07-Jun	12pm	The Fyfield Festival	The Church

Hello and welcome to a new edition

On moving here, and before I stepped forward to join the team, I found the *Fyfield Focus* to be a font of knowledge for events, local services and businesses. This 'free' little book, created by a team of enthusiastic volunteers six-times a year, helped us find out what was going on and how to get involved. We indeed met some lovely folk through the local Scouting group but little did we know how our puppy would increase those local interactions exponentially. The pup and I have met a good number of walkers who have enlightened us on the local area. One lady told us all about the Monthly Ramble and another kindly explained what the platforms on some of the field footpaths were being used for. I find this local knowledge to be both invaluable and enlightening.

I have thoroughly enjoyed reading the pieces contained within this issue of the *Focus* (and I hope you do too), and the team have been immensely supportive and welcoming. I'd like to thank Cheryl and Ian for all their hard work over the years and, although they are stepping back, we look forward to future articles from them.

My thanks also goes out to the volunteers who have joined the team in recent years - this truly is a local magazine that's by the locals for the locals.

Talking of locals, over the coming months there are some wonderful events in the pipeline (as noted both in the calendar and advertised within). For starters, the team running the Village Hall are holding a **Quiz Night** on **8th Feb** (pg.36) and the **VE Day Celebrations** are taking place on **9th May**, with tickets including a buffet and entertainment (for more information on the days' events see pg.44).

The WI will, on Shrove Tuesday – **25th February**, be holding a pancake fuelled event from 10.30am to 1pm, with everyone welcome (pg.29).

Another date for your diary is the **Fyfield Festival 2020** on **Sunday 7th June**, which will undoubtedly be another great event to attend (pg.7).

Finally, the 3rd Fyfield Footpath 5K will be held in September (see <https://www.fyfield5k.com> for more details and to register – you can even walk the event with your kids, pets, granny!)

There is lots going on, so add these dates to your diary!

The *Focus* is supplied to your door for free thanks to the advertisements and funding received (and a great delivery team). We continue to see the area grow as new companies and businesses take flight. Our newest advertiser is **Yoga**

Kids. In organising the advert Ginta, from Yoga Kids, spoke of how mindfulness and meditation can be beneficial to children, teaching them techniques that could benefit them for years to come. As someone who practices yoga and meditation with her own kid I agree, especially in this fast paced world. Welcome to Fyfield Ginta, I wish your venture much success.

I doubt anyone has missed seeing the floods that occurred in the village this year. As a new resident to the area I only know the routine of the Dunmow Road lay-by's annual 'lake', where folks in vans are too impatient to queue and overtake, or cut through, as others are carefully navigating their attempts to 'hovercraft' across and through.



(Central Fyfield 20/12/19, *photo courtesy of Mr and Mrs Orros*)

The centre of the village being impacted is, however, highly unusual. One local resident's daughter told me how her mum had not seen this occur in nearly 40 years of living here.



(Central Fyfield 20/12/19, *photo courtesy of Mr and Mrs Orros*)

I can see ‘unusual’ becoming more ‘regular’ and so I wonder what solutions we can implement. My dad used to swear that plants could help rectify problems and, with our back garden being under sea level, he decided Willow trees were the right solution for us (after a visit to Beth Chatto’s garden). Our son talks of his concerns for the planet, so we remind him that we can make a difference, however small – we all need to look for solutions. Our small contribution last weekend was to litter pick as we walked the dog. We are planning our vegetable patch for this year and researching the best trees for a flood defence! I’m also

following the updates from **10 Green Parishes**, who are planning a small 'Make Do and Mend' workshop at the end of February.

Don't forget that you too can contribute to the Focus, just send in your ideas or articles to fyfieldfocus@gmail.com. I do hope you like our return to an historic-cover idea, it inspired us to ask you, our readers, to send in photos of the local area to appear on future covers.

On that note I wish you happy reading.

All the best from

Jennie

p.s. with the kind permission of Claire Broomfield of Ongar Dog Training Club, I asked Claire for some general tips for any pet owner. I look forward to sharing them with you.

With Valentine's Day on the horizon, it's wise to remember that you shouldn't give your dog sweet treats. We all know how harmful chocolate can be for a dog, but

did you know the harm that can come from anything containing Xylitol? This artificial sweetener may be good for dieters but it's not good for your pet if they consume it. Ingesting it can cause a rapid drop in blood sugar levels, it can cause seizures and worst still liver damage. It is used in medicines and foods as a sugar substitute, so always check your labels carefully for Xylitol (E967) and contact your vet immediately if you suspect your dog has eaten any.



Mobile Library

The Mobile Library visits Fyfield every 3 weeks. Located on **Queen Street**, just down from the back entrance to the school, on a **Tuesday** morning from **11.40am – 12.10pm** You are able to take books out for 6 weeks!

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 4th Feb

and then **25th February, 17th March and 7th April**

Kindness Bags 2019 Helping Homeless Women

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed bags, items and money to the Kindness Bags project at Christmas.

Thanks to your generosity, residents of Fyfield were able to contribute ten bags towards the total. Very special thanks go to the Fyfield Book Group for supporting the cause and donating so many items. In total this year, the Kindness Bags project were able to donate 140 bags for homeless women across London. Well done to everyone involved.



Jenny Juttner



Fyfield Festival 2020



The date for this event is

Sunday 7th June at 12noon ~ 4pm

We are planning all the usual attractions, including:
Refreshments, Stalls, a Flower Festival, Handbell Ringing
and, of course,



The Fun Dog Show !!



If you would like to have a Stall, please contact Julie Robinson on 899 557

For a Flower Arrangement, please contact Jenny Stone on 899 727

For offers of Raffle Prizes please contact Jan Hall on 899 808

This year, the theme for the flowers in the Church is 'A Favourite Song'
We would really welcome any new ideas, suggestions and offers of help.

Thank you

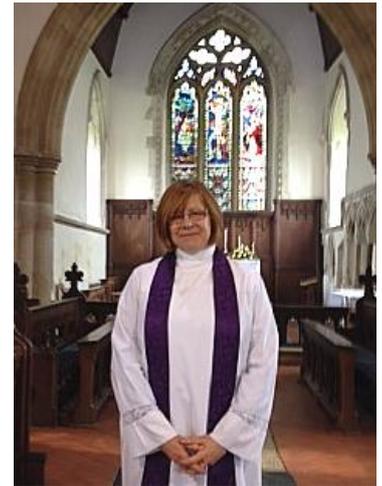
Carol Cox

Letter from the Reverend Christine Hawkins

Dear Friends

I'm writing in January, and so I wish you, on behalf of our worshipping communities, a Happy New Year.

The beginning of a new year gives us pause to reflect on the past year, and look forward to the next and what it may bring. We're also in the liturgical season of Epiphany, and our Sunday readings fit in with that new-year feeling, giving us a variety of 'new starts' to reflect on.



We begin with the Epiphany itself – the new-born king revealed to the Magi, Emmanuel, shown to the world. A new start of great hope and expectation – and yet it is overshadowed with danger and uncertainty. The Magi's visit unwittingly led to the Holy Family's flight into Egypt and the slaughter of the innocents.

The Baptism of Christ follows, when the adult Jesus appears, ready to take up his ministry. The Holy Spirit descends on him, and Jesus hears his Father's words 'This is my Son'. But he faces a challenge too, going out into the desert to work out what form that ministry should take.

Then we'll hear about Jesus calling the first disciples. They come with such excitement, forgetting their own plans – but not knowing, not understanding, what they were called to. Jesus proclaims that the kingdom of heaven has come near – but we know the way to new life and resurrection lies through the cross.

So, January is a good time to think about new starts. For some of us this year will bring a new start, filled with hope and excitement. Others may be more aware of the difficulties and challenges that lie ahead. And some will be expecting little change, just more of the same. Many of us will find ourselves facing an unwanted and unexpected new start, which has been forced upon us through the death of a loved one; the loss of a relationship or a job.

Whatever our situation, we stand on the brink of this new year with many questions and a great deal of uncertainty about the future, both personally, in the local community, nationally and internationally, but also within the life of our church.

Our Area Bishop has called us to a 'Congress' with him at the end of this month, which will reveal the current financial state of the diocese and how that

will impact on our local churches. There is a considerable challenge to be faced, and the PCC's and I will try to pick our way through the uncertainties to discover how 'church' might be sustained in our beautiful rural communities.

The church faces a 'new start', but, as the stories of Epiphany teach us, this new start will require us to travel the way of the cross; through loss, suffering and discomfort. This will mean facing our own "sacred cows" (to quote our Prime Minister), but not as those without hope, for we know that God travels with us in the shadow of the cross and leads us to Easter Time – the season of hope and re-birth. Please pray for us as we pray for you.

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

Fyfield Coffee Morning

(in the church)

**4th February, 3rd March
& 7th April**

10 am to 12 Noon

Marion, Carol & Tricia



Please come and join us for coffee & homemade cakes

Church Services

2 February		Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas)
LITTLE LAVER	8.30 am	1662 Holy Communion
MATCHING	10.00 am	Family Service + Baptism
MORETON	10.00 am	Family Communion
5 February		
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Midweek Communion
9 February		3rd Sunday Before Lent
MATCHING	10.00 am	Family Communion
FYFIELD	10.00 am	Family Communion
12 February		
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Midweek Communion
16 February		2nd Sunday Before Lent
MAGDALENE LAVER	10.00 am	Family Communion
BOBBINGWORTH	10.00 am	Family Communion
WILLINGALE	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
19 February		
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Midweek Communion
23 February		Sunday Next Before Lent
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Family Communion
WILLINGALE	9.30 am	Family Communion
FYFIELD	6.00 pm	'Rev-elation' (MMU Service)
26 February		Ash Wednesday
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Communion + Imposition of Ashes
BOBBINGWORTH	7.00 pm	Communion + Imposition of Ashes
1 March		Lent 1
LITTLE LAVER	8.30 am	1662 Holy Communion
MATCHING	10.00 am	Family Service
MORETON	10.00 am	Family Communion
4 March		
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Midweek Communion
8 March		Lent 2
MATCHING	10.00 am	Family Communion
FYFIELD	10.00 am	Family Communion
11 March		
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Midweek Communion

15 March		Lent 3
MAGDALENE LAVER	10.00 am	Family Communion
BOBBINGWORTH WILLINGALE	10.00 am	Family Communion
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
18 March		
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Midweek Communion
22 March		Mothering Sunday
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Family Communion
WILLINGALE	9.30 am	Family Communion
FYFIELD	6.00 pm	'Rev-elation' (MMU Service)
25 March		
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Midweek Communion
29 March		Lent 5
HIGH LAVER	10.00 am	Joint Benefices Communion Service for Passiontide

Fyfield Village Store & Post Office

Opening Times

Village Store

Monday - Friday	6.00am to 5.00pm
Saturday	8.00am to 2.00 pm
Sunday	8.00am to 12.30pm

Post Office

Monday to Friday	9.00am to 5.00pm
Saturday	9.00am to 12.30pm
Sunday	Closed



Tel: 01277 899201

Lent Course 2020



5 Study Sessions based on Henri Nouwen's book

'The Return of The Prodigal Son'

A chance encounter with a reproduction of Rembrandt's painting *'The Return of the Prodigal Son'* catapulted Henri Nouwen into a long spiritual adventure. In his book, based on this encounter, Nouwen shares a deeply personal meditation that led him to discover the place within which God has chosen to dwell. The Lent Course has been adapted from the book to help us reflect on the meaning of the parable for our own lives.

Rev Chris will be leading the 5 study sessions at
The Feast Room in Matching on **TUESDAY** afternoons:

3 March

10 March

17 March

24 March

31 March

All sessions start at 12.30 and will finish by 14.00

Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided.

These sessions replace the regular 'Pilgrim' group during Lent.

Pilgrim Group will resume after Easter.

For further information, please contact Rev Chris on 01277 286113 or by

e-mail: revcah56@gmail.com

Fyfield Village Store & Post Office

Christmas Raffle

The Christmas Raffle raised £572.00 for St. Nicholas Church.

Thank you to all our customers, old and new, for supporting our Christmas raffle and to our dedicated sponsors David & Anne Jackson, Tony & Nikki from The Black Bull, and Chris Jackson who provided additional prizes for the raffle.

A huge thank you to Lyn for all her hard work managing and promoting the raffle that was fundamental in raising the amount we did along with the excellent array of prizes.

Some of our lucky winners included Deborah, Jennie, Adam, Rosie and Linda.



Nikhil handing over a cheque for £572 to Reverend Chris Hawkins

Thank you to all our customers for your continued support throughout the year and all the best for 2020.

Nikhil Patel

A Tribute to Henry Hart

22nd October 1934 – 4th February 2018

A few days after Henry's funeral service Jackie Hart, Henry's wife, agreed for me to do a tribute to Henry in the Fyfield Focus. Although I put a short notice in the Focus after Henry's funeral service I didn't fulfil this commitment until now to pay a tribute to this talented, interesting and special person.

Henry and Jackie met in 1961. Henry was living and working in London and although he was a qualified draftsman he now owned and ran a large and very upmarket garage in Golders Green selling and hiring out Rolls Royces, Bentleys, etc. Jackie was living and working in New York, and was promoting USA tourism to the UK. Jackie needed to fulfil an assignment of hiring a Rolls Royce with a full time chauffeur for two weeks for the actress Elizabeth Taylor, who was visiting London, and she contacted Henry's garage and came over to London to meet Henry.

Henry visited New York frequently to see Jackie and despite Henry knowing that Jackie didn't want to move back to the UK (Jackie had been living in New York for 11 years) he asked Jackie to marry him, asking her to live in the UK for six months whilst he dealt with his growing business interests. Henry and Jackie married in 1962 and in 1964 they had a son Bradley, followed by a daughter Samantha in 1972, and between them they provided Henry and Jackie with three grandsons; Henry, Charlie and Piers. Although they visited the US many times Jackie never returned to New York to live!

Henry was already involved with inventing security items for motor and marine businesses, which were patented and successfully manufactured by himself, and other leading companies in this field, in the USA and Australia. These included the Hook lock (the forerunner to the crook lock), Bari-Nuts used on car and boat engines and also Prison Alarms. Henry's initial motivation for car security was driven by his car being stolen when he took a girl to the cinema to see a Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin film; he vowed that no one would ever steal one of his cars again. He moved into Housing Development with his first large housing estate being built in 1974 in Folkestone. This consisted of 41 individually designed homes called 'The Masters', with each one being named after a great artist. His last building development was a block of flats in Woodford, in around 2010.

Henry and Jackie moved from Chigwell to Fyfield in August 2004. In 2006 Henry got involved with the Fyfield Parish Appraisal and Action plan, with the

first official meeting being held in September 2006 where Henry was appointed Chairman and a constitution was agreed. In March 2007, Ian Hadley was co-opted onto the Committee and this was when Ian first met Henry. I first came into contact with Henry when he responded to an advert I placed in the Fyfield Focus asking if anyone was interested in learning to play bridge – this was the summer of 2007.

Henry joined the Beginners course in January 2008 and also signed-up for the Intermediate course in October that same year. Unfortunately he didn't carry on with Bridge so didn't become a member of the Fyfield Bridge Club, which opened in November 2008. This was a great shame because Henry was very well liked by all the bridge delegates. He had a great sense of humour, was very sociable, interesting, had presence and was always immaculately dressed; which impressed us all.

However both Ian and I still had contact with Henry and his wife Jackie, and Henry would often contact Ian about Parish Council matters. He was a huge supporter of the Fyfield Focus and would often provide input to the Focus and, as Henry was a keen and talented photographer, I also received some wonderful photographs from him.

Henry always paid attention to detail and this was probably due to his engineering talent. He was also interested and knowledgeable about a broad spectrum of subjects and particularly local issues.

Henry battled cancer for many years but, due to his love of life and family, he was always researching the latest developments and sought expert advice in an effort to help him conquer his battle. He was a very determined and courageous man.

Henry's funeral service took place at the City of London Cemetery and Crematorium on 15th February, 2018. The Chapel was filled to capacity with family and many friends. There were many wonderful tributes to Henry but his grandsons Henry, Charlie and Piers really did him proud with very loving tributes paid to their Papa; helping one another when they struggled to deliver their messages. It was obvious how important their Papa was to them and how much positive influence Henry had in their lives. It was a wonderful tribute to a very talented, interesting, successful and very caring person, who also had a great sense of humour.

Cheryl Hadley

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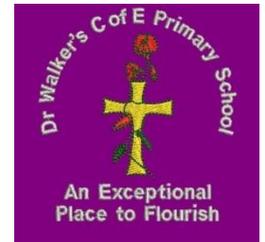
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Dr Walker's School

Happy New Year! At Dr Walker's we have come back to school happy to start 2020! We enjoyed wonderful Christmas celebrations including our Nativity performance, a reindeer day, our Christmas fair and a whole school trip to the Panto!



Back at school, we are working hard on our termly learning quests and are looking forward to our Author Day on the 3rd February. The focus this half term is the author Julia Donaldson. Last term we had lots of fun learning about David Walliams and all his books – we even tweeted him!

We love reading at Dr Walker's and we are looking forward to welcoming Christine from Ongar Library into school on this day too. We are all very busy working through our '100 books to read lists.'

Have you seen our new website? We have developed a new look website which can be found at www.fyfielddrwalkersprimary.co.uk

Are you interested in becoming a school governor?

We need you! Are you interested in working in the local community? We are looking for local people with an interest in working with the school. Governors play an integral part of assisting with maintaining high standards in education. It is a voluntary role but is a vital role in schools. If you are interested and would like an informal chat about the role please contact the school office in the first instance. The website below also offers lots of information about the role of a governor.

Dr Walker's Cof E Primary School 01277 899298

www.governorsforschools.org.uk

Miss N Willis, Headteacher

Fyfield Past & Present

SOME MEMORIES OF DWELLING IN FYFIELD

- When we moved here, 50 years ago, there was a petrol pump on the corner of Queen Street, just about where the bus shelter is now. Perhaps there was also a small garage that sold petrol.
- Where the chandelier cleaning office is now, there used to be a Rolls Royce garage that sold and serviced such vehicles.
- Cracks were found on the bridge over the river on the bend in Queen Street. Therefore, the bridge was removed and a new one was installed. This was highly inconvenient for those wishing to traverse locally but bliss for those of us living this side of the bridge.
- Some years ago, a large number of police officers forbade access to Cannons Lane as, allegedly, a stash of Kalashnikov AK47 rifles was being marketed by a resident living down the Lane.
- Along Willingale Road in the field on the right, waterlogged and overgrown now, and just before the church, you would see a bonfire grow to an enormous size in October, to be lit on 5 November in a communal firework area, with burgers and hotdogs for sale too. It was organised by the local school PTA, I think.
- At least two cars have been seen floating in the river near the bridge over the years. One was pushed in as, shall we say, a student prank! The other was driven into the water with the driver being fuelled not by petrol but by, well I'm sure you can guess.
- A canvasser recently calling to promote a local MP commented that he knew our house and that his relative named Jacobsen was our rector years ago. I knew the name and remembered that the reverend, invalided in a wheelchair, had travelled away for the day but he should have been attending and conducting a funeral at the church. Family and mourners were left in limbo while he was visiting the canvasser, his grandson, in Canterbury.
- I once witnessed a neighbour securing trellis to the front wall of his house. As I rested from my toils that day, I observed a high wind take control of the trellis, which resulted in the collapse of the small stepladders supporting both the neighbour and the trellis. Thankfully my neighbour came to no physical harm.
- A toilet was being installed in the vestry of the church and to repay a kindness I agreed to assist with the plumbing. A friend assisted me one day

at the church, as I needed to secure a fitting. The friend inadvertently nudged the lid of the cistern, which fell, hit the stone floor and shattered. To this day, you will see where the lid has been superglued back together. It was an end-of-range model at a 'knock down' price. Unable to finish making the fittings water tight, I departed on holiday. I thought that I had left a note for the rector to this effect. Perhaps this was an oversight, as a little later on the rector flushed the toilet and unfortunately the vestry floor flooded!

- Finally, not so much a memory but, there is a walk within the boundaries of the village where on some pleasant mornings a herd of deer, gently grazing, can be espied by quiet explorers.

Barry Betteridge

The Black Bull Inn, Fyfield



Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday
11.00 – 15.00; 18.00 – 23.00
Sunday 12.00 – 23.00

The Black Bull, Dunmow Road, Fyfield, CM5 0NN Tel:01277 899225

www.blackbullfyfield.co.uk

The Black Bull in Fyfield is a family run pub set in the beautiful West Essex countryside. It is a Grade 2 listed building dating back to the 1400's. We serve good food + drink and we are very pleased to be able to offer accommodation in our hotel adjacent to the pub.

For those who prefer to dine at home, we offer a take away service.

Fyfield Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who made generous Christmas contributions to the foodbank. The Beavers deserve a special mention and a special thank you for walking down to the Church with food for the Food Bank, before returning to the Scout HQ to have their own Christmas party food.



A lovely full carload was delivered to the warehouse, to be distributed to those in need in good time for Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support. There are lists of those items that are particularly useful at both St Nicholas' Church and the Fyfield Village Shop.

Carol Cox

Yoga Kid



THE BRITISH WHEEL OF
YOGA

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Fyfield & surrounding areas**

class details available at

yogakid.co.uk

**Contact Ginta on 07983614156
or yogakidyoga@gmail.com**

f Yoga Kid  yogakidyoga

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can learn, feel safe
and be themselves.



Hods & Sods

of Fyfield

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Ask for John

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01277 899963

surfbods@aol.com

Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)

At the December meeting, Dr Brian Rosen from the Natural History Museum gave an interesting and informative talk entitled Christmas Corals (yes, Corals!). He also included the coral's near relatives, jellyfish and sea anemones. Although these three groups look quite dissimilar, they all possess specialised stinging cells, which they use to capture their prey and to defend themselves.



Corals are under threat due to warming of the seas as a consequence of global climate change and Brian and other scientists throughout the world are monitoring changes in their abundance and distribution.

Warmer sea temperatures can result in coral bleaching when corals expel the green or golden-brown algae living in their tissues, causing the coral to turn completely white. Corals can survive a bleaching event, but they are under more stress and subject to mortality. This is because corals and algae have a mutualistic relationship. The coral provides the algae with a protected environment and compounds they need for photosynthesis. In return, the algae produce oxygen, help the coral to remove wastes and supply the coral with essential nutrients.

On Monday 17th February Bob Reed will talk about Badgers. The meeting will be held at 8pm at Budworth Hall, High Street, Chipping Ongar CM5 9JG.

You may wish to join OWLS and learn more about other aspects of the natural world. Visitors pay £5 but why not join - only £25 a year for nine talks, a garden party and a New Year party. It's great value and an opportunity to learn about wildlife and the environment.

More information can be found at www.ongarwildlifesociety.org.uk

Keith Snow

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Gatwick	£85	£100	£125	£155	£175	£185
Heathrow	£85	£105	£130	£170	£185	£195
Luton	£80	£98	£115	£125	£140	£150
City	£50	£65	£85	£95	£110	£120
Southend	£60	£80	£100	£110	£120	£130

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Fyfield Luncheon Club

In December we met for a lovely Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, many thanks to The Queen's Head and the many helpers for a great meal. We had a collection with which we bought flowers for Rachel at The Queen's Head and our lovely organiser Jan, without her input these lunches would not happen. Money was also put behind the bar for the kitchen team at The Queen's Head.

We meet in January for our first lunch of the year. Our next two meetings are on

Wednesday 12th February & Wednesday 11th March at Fyfield Village Hall, the meal starts at 12.30pm.

If you would like to join us please contact Sandra on 01277899519 by the Friday before the meeting.



Sandra Mead and Jan Hall

Fyfield Village Hall

Everyone at the Village Hall would like to wish you a Happy New Year. In this new decade, we are looking forward to the year ahead.

Sadly, Ian Hadley decided to step down as a committee member after many years of dedicated service, and he will be sorely missed. Ian has helped to oversee many changes and improvements, and his experience was invaluable. However, as many of you know, Ian is busy with our district council and I am sure they will benefit from his enthusiasm and hard work.

Inevitably, that now leaves us with three spaces on our committee for new members. We are delighted that Richard West has decided to join us. If there are any other residents that would like to get involved with keeping this wonderful hall open and thriving we would love to welcome you aboard. We meet once a month and are a friendly and enthusiastic bunch. New ideas would be a breath of fresh air. It is a great place for current and new residents to get involved and to meet the wider community. If you are not sure and don't want to commit straight away, why not come and have a chat and meet some of us. Just let me know and we can go from there.

We are also holding our AGM on Monday 23rd March 2020. The meeting is open to everyone and we would love to see as many people there as possible. Come with any suggestions you might have and if you are thinking about joining us it would be a great way to meet us. At our last meeting, we discussed the fund raising events that we have coming up, and we think there will be something for everyone.

First up is a quiz night on 8th February. Emma and Miz will be our Quizmasters, and they always make it a fun and lively affair. The cost of entry is £8.50 per person and this will include a Ploughman's supper. The cash bar will be open. If you can get a table of 8 that is perfect, but if you are on your own, or a couple then that is fine as well as we can make groups which is a great way to meet new people. If any of the clubs in the village want to put in a team, friendly rivalry is always welcome! See the poster in this magazine or at the hall for more details.

Then, in May, the whole country will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of VE Day. On the first Bank Holiday, Friday 8th May, at 7pm, the whole country can join together in listening to church bells being rung throughout our nation and around the world, in celebration of the peace and friendships we share today. The Village Hall will be holding a BBQ at the hall to raise a glass and listen to

the bells. The Fyfield Handbell Ringers will also be playing at the hall, so come along for an informal get together as a whole village. Perfect for everyone, young and old.

On Saturday 9th May, the country is being encouraged to get together and party and we have risen to the challenge. We will be decorating the hall for a great evening of music, dancing and food. Tickets are just £15.00 to include a two-course buffet provided by Ashlyn's and entertainment all evening long from Brian Shaw. Join with your fellow villagers and get together to make it a night to remember. More details are in the advert in the Focus and on the poster at the hall. Feel free to come in 1940's costumes, however this is optional, but there will be a prize for the best dressed!

Later in the year, we are holding another evening of magic. We held one a couple of years ago and it was a great success. We will be giving you more details later in the year, but please put the 19th September in your diary.

The popular Life Walks will resume on 23rd March and 27th April, so if you would like to join a group of people with all levels of fitness for a pleasant guided walk, then come along at about 9.45am. Tea and cake will be available when you return, always a welcome thought.

We are moving ahead with the installation of the defibrillator and the accompanying CCTV. I hope that by my next update we will be able to let you know a date for the free CPR/Defibrillator training that we are going to run.

We have also decided that the hall is in need of a little TLC, and so we will be getting the decorators in the give it a fresh lick of paint to brighten it up.

Please do try to come along to the quiz, put the May and September dates in your diaries, and we look forward to welcoming you at the hall very soon. It costs a great deal to keep the hall open and in good condition, so by coming and enjoying yourself at one of our events, you not only meet other lovely village people but also help keep this wonderful facility going.

Marie Apperley, Chair

01277 899386

fyfield.villagehall@gmail.com

Village Hall 100 Club Winning Numbers

Month	1st	2nd	3rd
December	67	77	25

FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL

NOTICE OF AGM

Date 23rd March 2020

Time 7.30pm

Place Village Hall

Each year we hold our AGM. Everyone in the village is invited to come and hear what we have done and what we hope to achieve in the coming year. It is also an opportunity to come and let us know what you would like us to be doing and what you would like to see the Village Hall used for.

We are all volunteers who run the Village Hall and we would so enjoy it if you could come along and just show that you care and support the work that we do at our lovely hall.

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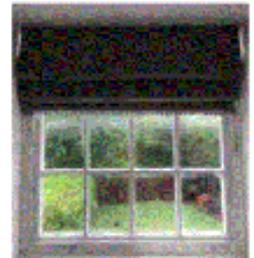
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- Home-cooked food, prepared on site with our in-house chef. We cater for individual children’s dietary needs, ie. vegetarian, allergies, gluten-free, etc.
- Poppets own vegetable patch in the garden, mud kitchen and sand pit.
- After school club available weekdays throughout the year, in our purpose built log cabin. Breakfast Club available for Chipping Ongar, Dr Walkers, High Ongar and Ongar Primary.

**Contact our Nursery Manager, Michelle Pateman, on 01277 365488
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Fyfield & District W.I.

We began the New Year with a most interesting talk on the work of the RNLI by Lynda Cook. She is based at Southend where they have two stations, one at each end of the pier. Her talk was interspersed with short clips showing the various types of craft, all of which are designed by the RNLI themselves and these designs are sold all over the world to other such organisations. We also saw shots of training exercises.

The dedication of the crews, all volunteers, is breathtaking and we admire such courage.

Our next activity in on
SHROVE TUESDAY

February 25th February

in the Village Hall

10.30 ~ 1.00

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Light Hearted Monologues from a Local

Ever Wondered why or if?

- Workers at a tea-packing factory have a coffee break.
- Sometimes have you walked upstairs in your house and forgotten why? It's nature's way of making you exercise more.
- Leaving a room during the day and switching a light on, when it wasn't on in the first place, is good practice for reflex ability. My excuse anyway.
- A good person is here to help others. Who are the others here for?
- When bankers change their jobs, do they lose interest? That accounts for it. However, are they unsteady because they lose their balance?
- My English teacher, who was cross-eyed, lost her job. She could not control her pupils.
- Travel brochures promote self-catering centres with fully equipped kitchens. If fully equipped, why are there no pianos or trampolines in them? In addition, they state 'No hairdressers on site' so where do they holiday?
- You lend someone £20 and never see that person again - it was probably worth it.
- Brains of older people seem slow because they know so much. We do not decline mentally with age; it just takes longer to recall facts as we have more information in our brains. Mine is so full, it can take 15 minutes to reply to my wife's repeated question!
- If at first you don't succeed – best not to try parachuting.
- Before you criticise someone, walk a mile in his or her shoes. Thus, when you do criticise them, you are far away with their shoes.
- Lonely people think no one cares – try missing a couple of mortgage payments!
- A book about anti-gravity is very hard to put down.
- Historically, bread was shared according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family - the middle, and guests got the top, - "The Upper Crust". My toast is always extremely blackened!

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Fyfield Village Pre-School

The children ended the autumn term with a Christmas party and were excited when Santa popped along to see them. Parents and carers were invited along to watch a performance of Christmas songs with the children all dressed up in festive costumes.



Children returned to Fyfield Village Pre-School after their Christmas break and have been busy playing and working on themes based on classic stories.

They have made playdough gingerbread men and decorated biscuits while focussing on *The Gingerbread Man*, and this half term there are activities planned around other classics including *Dear Zoo* and *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*.

Fyfield Village Pre-School can be contacted on 01277 899678 or email fyfield_manager@hotmail.com

Michelle Breavington

‘Coffee with Cops’ At Fyfield Village Hall

I am pleased to report the attendance at the last Coffee with Cops session on Friday 29th November was very well attended by 17 residents. I am ashamed to admit this was my first attendance despite hearing from many people that these are informative sessions and now having attended a session I totally agree.

PCSO Laura Ashcroft (Police Community Support Officer) was in attendance and spent time speaking with individuals on a one-to-one basis and also some attendees raised their questions or issues so everyone could hear the points they were raising and also hear Laura’s response. Some of the items raised related to:

- The reporting of incidents – good and bad experiences
- County Lines (The practice of trafficking drugs into rural areas and smaller towns, away from major cities.)
- Speeding Through the Village
- Enquiring about a burglary incident on Queen Street

The key take-away from the above items for me were:

Reporting of Incidents: Be aware the 101 number is manned by the same team as the 999 emergency number, so when they are dealing with a lot of emergency calls you will be kept waiting. If you are waiting for a long time and it is not an emergency or you do not need a time critical response, then consider going to the website (www.essex.police.uk) where you can report your concern or incident and you will get a report no. and will be called back. Don’t forget you can call your local PC Paul Harrison but bear in mind if he doesn’t respond immediately he works shifts.

County Lines: Drug traffickers & runners will always try to park their car where they can get a quick get-away e.g. close to a junction. So if you see an unfamiliar car parked close to a junction and you see some suspicious activity report it.

Speeding Through the Village: The statistics from Community Speed Monitoring do help the police target problem areas. Unfortunately, despite people being bothered by the speeding through our village, the Fyfield Parish Council has not been able to attract volunteers from the community to continue to carry-out community speed monitoring.

There is a lot of useful information on the Essex Police website which is worth looking at and I thought the session was very informative; particularly the open session where we could share information.

The next Coffee with Cops date is as yet unknown. Please look out for posters advertising future dates in the village store and posts on the Fyfield & Moreton Grapevine Facebook page.

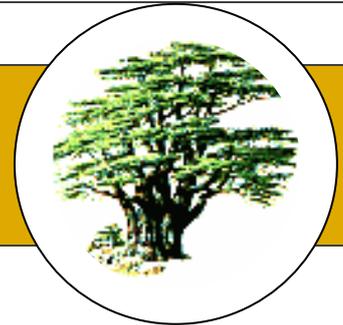
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Local Policing Courier Fraud Warning



Essex Police have warned of increased incidences of courier fraud in our area. Courier fraud occurs when a fraudster contacts victims by telephone purporting to be a police officer or bank official. To substantiate this claim, the caller might be able to confirm some easily obtainable basic details about the victim such as their full name and address. After some trust has been established, the fraudster will then describe a scenario such as;

- Some money has been removed from a victim's bank account and staff at their local bank branch are responsible.
- Suspects have already been arrested but the "police" need money for evidence.
- A business such as a jewellers or currency exchange is operating fraudulently and they require assistance to help secure evidence.

Victims are then asked to co-operate in an investigation by attending their bank and withdrawing money, withdrawing foreign currency from an exchange or purchasing an expensive item to hand over to a courier for examination who will also be a fraudster. At the time of handover, unsuspecting victims are promised the money they've handed over or spent will be reimbursed but in reality there is no further contact and the money is never seen again.

Please be alert to this fraud and report any suspicious activity.

If you see something suspicious or out of the ordinary in the local area then please report it to our local police officer *first* before posting on social media sites. Our local PC Paul Harrison is frequently out on patrol in and around Ongar and the surrounding villages and can therefore respond quickly to reports, potentially thwarting criminal activity before it happens. Policing needs our community engagement and interaction and relies on intelligence information coming from us, the public. So if you see any suspicious activity or behaviour, please notify Paul in the first instance as he may well be in a position to respond and investigate immediately. His contact details are:

Mobile: 07815 491392

Email: Paul.HarrisonPC@essex.pnn.police.uk

Twitter: PcPaulHarrison1

Or call 101

Call 999 in an emergency situation.

2nd Fyfield Brownie Guides

Fyfield Brownies took part in some very enjoyable end of term activities. Our Elf Hunt at Skreens Park in Roxwell was great fun! The girls had their map-reading skills tested as they searched by torch light, in total darkness, to find clues hidden by the elves. There was a lot of running about and screams of delight every time a clue was found! As a result of great teamwork, we managed to complete the Christmas Quiz and were all rewarded with a prize.



Fortunately it was a dry evening, although the car journey there through the many flooded local roads was a challenge for the adults! A great time was had by all and no one fell in the mud, which was a bonus!

At the beginning of December, we took part in a District Carol Service, supported by the girls' parents, which was held at St Mary's Church in

High Ongar. The Rainbow and Brownie units each sang a Christmas Song, and some of the local Guides and Rangers sang and read poems. Our Fyfield girls sang with confidence and enthusiasm. Gifts were given to a collection made for the homeless. It was a lovely occasion where we had the opportunity to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.



A very enthusiastic group of girls eagerly took part in playing *'The Chocolate Game'* in our final meeting of the term. Eating a bar of chocolate with a knife and fork is a challenge, but doing so whilst wearing oversized gloves, a hat and large coat, resulted in a great deal of hilarity! Everyone was rewarded for their sporting efforts as we shared the chocolate at the end of the game.

We ended the term with awarding the *'Take Action'* badges that the girls had been working during the term to achieve.

This term we will be exploring the 'Be Well' theme and considering the factors that contribute to our physical and mental wellbeing.

If you know a girl age 7 – 10, who would enjoy making new friends as part of Brownies, we would be delighted to meet her and guarantee a warm welcome.

For more information please contact me.

Jane Davenport (Brown Owl)

Tel: 01277 899389 or email: janedavenpo@gmail.com

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10 Green Parishes



‘10 Green Parishes’ is an initiative started by Great Canfield resident, Claire Knight, which aims to get local parishes to work together and share ideas to tackle the climate emergency we are facing. Together with a number of ‘reps’ from the various parishes, Claire has worked hard to establish and share ideas to help reduce, reuse and recycle on a village level, often with the support of the Parish Councils.

Together with Nina Hall at Little Hadham Stores, a very successful Beeswax Wrap Workshop was held at the end of last year. Beeswax wraps are a great, reusable alternative to cling film, which cannot generally be recycled. Due to the growing popularity of beeswax wraps you can now find them to buy in many shops and supermarkets, however you can also make them yourself! Nina was a fantastic tutor and has kindly circulated instructions that can be followed at home, which I include for you to have a go with!



The items needed can be purchased from Little Hadham Stores, as well as other retailers.



A huge well done to Market Lane Dental in Mill Lane, which has become Dunmow’s drop off point in the Colgate Recycling Programme. You can now drop off any brand of electric and battery operated toothbrush heads, any brand of toothbrushes, any brand of toothpaste tubes and caps, any brand of toothpaste outer packaging and any brand of toothpaste cartons to the collection point. The collected waste is then sent on to TerraCycle who extract the polymers and make new recycled products. Another fantastic recycling opportunity in the community that will hopefully be used by as many residents as possible.

10 Green Parishes is planning a small 'Make Do and Mend' workshop at the end of February. If you're not a member of the 10 Green Parishes Facebook group yet do consider joining, it is a great source of information and the first place to find out more information about upcoming events and workshops.

If you have any recycling, reusing or waste reduction tips or ideas do let us know and we could include them in a future issue! Please email claireinoz100@hotmail.com

Jenny Juttner



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DIY Reuseable Beeswax Wraps

You Will Need:

Cotton or linen fabric cut to desired size (this recipe makes enough to approx cover three 25cm x 25cm pieces)

25g natural beeswax*
12g natural pine resin*
1 tbsp jojoba oil

old, clean, glass jar, saucepan, spoon to stir, oven tray, baking paper, a small paint or basting brush (keep this brush for this purpose only), pegs for hanging the wraps while they dry.

Method:

- 1 Preheat your oven to 150 degrees C.
- 2 Place the beeswax, resin and jojoba oil into your jar into a saucepan filled with water half way up the jar. Place the saucepan onto the stove, turn to medium heat and melt the contents of the jar, stirring occasionally. Resin takes longer to melt than beeswax, so it's best to have the heat on medium to high initially and then turn down the water in the saucepan to simmering.
- 3 Place baking paper over the oven tray and place your fabric flat on top. Once the beeswax mixture has completely melted, use a spoon and drizzle the mixture evenly over the fabric.
- 4 Place the tray into the pre-heated oven for about 2 minutes to reheat. Carefully pull the oven tray out and use your basting brush to spread the mixture quite thick and evenly over the fabric. Don't forget the edges and corners.
- 5 Pop it back into the oven for a minute to 'melt out' and any uneven bumps or clumps. You can turn the fabric over to make sure both sides are covered. You can do this as many times as you like until you are satisfied with the result. Remove from oven and hang up with pegs on a hanger to let set and dry.

How To Use:

These reusable beeswax wraps are an excellent alternative to plastic cling film and zip lock bags. Wrap up cut up fruit and veggies, sandwiches and cover plates and bowls.

To store, fold neatly and keep in a cool dry place, such as a kitchen drawer.

To clean, wipe down after use with a damp cloth and allow to air dry. You can wash, using a mild natural detergent in cool water and air dry. Avoid hot water as it will melt the wax. You can place them back in a low oven for 30 seconds to sterilise them. You can also use a block of wax to refresh them as they get older, or make some more.

Not suitable for the dishwasher or washing machine.

Do not heat in microwave.

Do not use with raw meat.

© Mrs Fox's 2019. All rights reserved. The logo for Mrs Fox's is a circular emblem featuring a silhouette of a fox sitting on a log, surrounded by a decorative border.

The Ongar Health Centre PPG



The Ongar Health Centre Patient Participation Group had a very productive meeting with the new Practice Manager, Louise Dobbyn, in December and have a number of exciting projects on the horizon.

The Ongar Health Centre PPG is a committee formed of current Ongar Health Centre patients with the aim of acting as a contact point, advocate and voice for the patients. We aim to be representative of all patients of the Practice and to seek patient opinion for feedback to the Practice where appropriate. We are affiliated with the official body for Patient Participation Groups, NAPP, and work together with the West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group.

The PPG Committee aims to meet four times a year, together with the Practice Manager and senior staff. Inevitably, due to the recent staff changes within the Practice, it has been difficult for the PPG to make much progress. However, we have several initiatives in the pipeline that we will be working on this year. These include putting together a gardening team to tend the much neglected courtyard garden on the ground floor, and establishing a regular activity within the community that carers and their loved ones can attend together. We also aim to hold another Carers Coffee Morning in the spring.

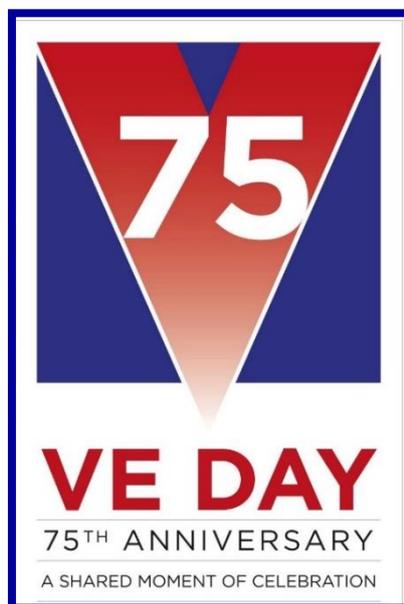
Keep an eye out for the next edition of the PPG Newsletter, which will be published in February with hard copies available at the surgery and e-versions sent out to all patients on our mailing list. In the meantime, if you would like to be added to our mailing list or you would like to contact us for any reason please email ongarppgnews@gmail.com

Alternatively, leave any correspondence for our attention at the Practice.

Jenny Juttner

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Epping Forest District Council Matters: Moreton & Fyfield Ward



I hope you all had a happy Christmas and New Year break, and are looking forward to a stress, and may be Brexit, free 2020. I know that most of us are totally overwhelmed by the number of elections that we have had to endure recently but I have to advise you that it is not over yet. In May this year we have the Moreton, Bobbingworth and Laver Parish Council election, the Fyfield Parish Council election and the Epping Forest District Council election for the Moreton & Fyfield Ward.

If you feel that you could make a valuable contribution to your local council then why not put yourself forward for election. If you prefer not to then please try and vote on the day as we should all have our say.

My own Christmas EFDC duties and invites this year included:

- Christmas by Candlelight at Waltham Abbey, by invitation of the EFDC Chairman and the Mayor of Waltham Abbey Town Council, with a full congregation and an outstanding choir, followed by mince pies at the Town Hall.
- Nine Lessons & Carols at All Saints Church, High Laver, led by Reverend Chris Hawkins, once again with a beautiful choir and refreshments.
- The Moreton Parish Council Open Meeting and the turning on of the Christmas lights, plus refreshments.

It's not often that one of our councillors becomes an MP, so congratulations to EFDC Councillor Gagan Mohindra who was elected Conservative Member of Parliament for the constituency of South West Hertfordshire.

Also deserving of congratulations is Councillor Richard Morgan, who received an MBE in New Year's Honours List for his work in the Community in the Harlow area.

Good news for us all, the EFDC Budget planning for 2020/21 is progressing towards a Council Tax increase of just 1.5 percent being set; half the predicted rate of inflation.

Councillors also noted that the EFDC have acquired a number of shops and flats, focused on and around Centric Parade in Loughton, adding these to the council's commercial property portfolio. An estimated annual return of over

£700,000 is expected and will be used to support the delivery of public services in the district.

Cllr. Ian Hadley

Epping Forest District Council, Moreton & Fyfield Ward

01277 899840 / 07765882001

cldr.ihadley@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk



Fyfield Parish Council

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Cllr. J. Hall (Vice Chair)	01277 899808	janet.hall@btopenworld.com
Cllr. M. Alcock	01277 899432	alcock123@btinternet.com
Cllr. L. Chisenhale-Marsh	01277 899262	lillecm@icloud.com
Cllr. B. Saward	07747 803829	barbara.m.saward@gmail.com
Cllr. D. Webster	01277 899405	dan@fyfield.uk.com
Cllr. S. Mead	01277 899519	gemkia@aol.com
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on Fridays, **11.30am** (for 11.45am start) till **12.45pm**

Monica Couling Room – Fyfield Village Hall

Enjoy a social cuppa afterwards

Instruction from qualified Physical Fitness Trainer

All equipment supplied

Sessions cost £3 Members, £4 Non-Members, Club Membership £15
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Free 'Taster' Session – just turn up!

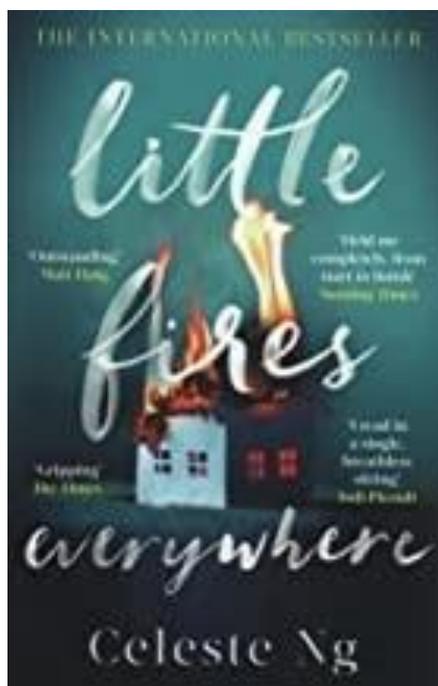
The Club also holds social events and outings

Further information from Patti Nicholson (01277 899504) or
Liz Bird (01277 899324)

The Arts Section

Page-turners

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng



“Everyone in Shaker Heights was talking about it that summer: how Isabelle, the last of the Richardson children, had finally gone around the bend and burned the house down” - from this opening line, the rest of the novel goes back a year to show how the Richardson family come to lose their perfect Shaker Heights’ home and life.

Ng describes her book as a ‘novel about race, and class and privilege. Shaker Heights, Ohio, is one of America’s first planned communities, a community where every aspect of life is mapped and ordered, from the colours of the houses to the immaculate lawns and rubbish collection, and the perfect, upper middle-class lives of the inhabitants.

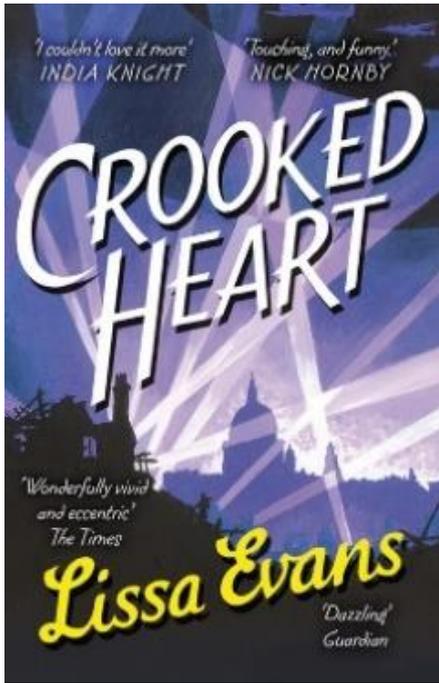
Elena Richardson is the embodiment of Shaker Heights’ principles, believing that by following the rules and leading an ordered, planned life, disaster and tragedy can be averted. The novel revolves around three very different families and how their lives cross and intermingle in unlikely ways. Into the Richardson’s lives bursts single-parent Mia and her daughter Pearl who become tenants of the Richardson’s and embody everything Shaker Heights is not. Mia is a free-spirited artist with a blatant disregard for the rules and she and Pearl become intertwined in the Richardson’s lives.

When Elena’s friends attempt to adopt a Chinese-American baby, resulting in a fierce custody battle, the community is divided, and Mia and Elena find themselves on opposite sides resulting in Elena determined to uncover Mia’s secret past with devastating results for her own family.

The interracial adoption and trial drive the latter part of the novel and unravel everyone’s pre-conceived ideas about motherhood, surrogacy, abortion, adoption, and ultimately question “What made someone a mother? Was it biology alone, or was it love?”

Debbie Spanton

Crooked Heart by Lissa Evans



This book has been compared to *Paper Moon* and I can understand why. It is basically a black comedy set in World War 2, chronicling an unlikely friendship between a small-time con lady and a young boy (an orphan who has been evacuated).

Vera Sedgewick is the 36 year old widow who takes him in at a time when she is drowning in debts and dependents. The boy, Noel, is mourning his Godmother Mattie who we find out was a former suffragette who, up until the point of death, was in the depths of dementia. Noel has a wise head on young shoulders, with a disdain for authority. He has little in common with other children (due to the fact he had never mixed with them) and even less with

the impulsive Vee (Vera).

As the war provided various opportunities for making money she teams up with Noel, visiting the bombed suburbs of London and 'collecting' via a mobile donation box for people who have been traumatically affected by the war. As they start to make a profit Noel is drawn out of his shell, however events conspire against them...

This book shows how, through adversity, people are drawn together in what eventually becomes a love story between a woman whose own son shows her no affection and Noel, who needs so desperately to be loved but has a hard exterior.

Humour runs constantly through this book and caused me to laugh out loud many times.

It is well worth reading as I believe it captures the adversity of lives captured in the banality of war.

Mary Simons

Don't forget you can visit the Mobile Library.

It visits Fyfield every 3 weeks on a Tuesday morning from 11.40am – 12.10pm in Queen Street, just down from the back entrance to the school.

You are able to take books out for 6 weeks, Tuesday 4th Feb, and then 25th February, 17th March and 7th April.

Fyfield Carpet Bowls Club



Happy New Year to everyone. I cannot believe it is the year 2020 and the bowls club is still managing to keep going!

Not a lot has happened since my last report. The only competition Fyfield entered was the Pairs Tournament held at Braintree on Sunday 17th November 2019. Mary Wilkinson and Dot Letchfield played for Fyfield, and Beryl Shuttleworth and I entered for High Easter. Unfortunately, neither of the pairs got very far in the competition, but we all enjoyed our day's bowling. The next competition is the Fours Tournament on Sunday 9th February.

On the County Squad front, on Sunday 24th November 2019 they travelled to Needham Market for their match against Suffolk. Unhappily, it was a disaster! Suffolk beat us 34 points to Essex's measly two points, our Captain's team winning those two points. I think this is the worst result I can remember in all my years playing for Essex.

On Sunday 8th December 2019, we had a home match against Cambridgeshire and needed to put the Suffolk game behind us. Essex certainly did this, winning the match 20 points to 16. We all felt much better, especially our Captain, Peter Orrin.

Our next match is away to Bedfordshire on Sunday 19th January, so we are hoping for a good result again.

That's all I can report on for now, but as I have said before, if there is anyone out there that wants to try their hand at carpet bowls, please come along to one of our club nights at the Village Hall on a Tuesday evening between 7-9pm. We would love to see you. The first two visits will be free and if you decide to keep coming, each visit will cost £3 with a yearly membership fee of £5.

Catch you later!

Jacky Brown

1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Explorer Unit



Beaver Colony – age 5 ³/₄ - 8 years

The Beavers finished the year with a reverse Christmas Party. They walked to St Nicholas Church Fyfield with food for the Food bank and then walked back to the Scout HQ to have their party food.

At the first meeting of the Spring term the Beavers had a Log Chew about what they had done over the Christmas holidays. Also, they heard that the Beavers will be going to a water activity centre in the summer term and they talked about what they would like to do. Wobble boarding and rafting were the two most popular events. After this they played blind fold games including following a blind trail. This coming term they are also looking forward to an evening of Archery.

At the end of this meeting the Beavers were all awarded with their Communicators Badge and their Scientist Badge. Two Chief Scout Bronze Awards were presented to Ava Grist and Finlay Grist. This is the highest award that a Beaver Scout can gain. After this presentation Ava and Finlay swam up to Cubs and were welcomed by David Gordon our Cub Scout Leader.

We do have some spaces in the Beaver colony.

If you need further details please contact me on the phone or email, details at the end of this article.

Cub Scout Pack – age 7 ¹/₂ - 11 years

The Cub pack made painted glass lanterns to sell at the Craft Fayre at the beginning of December. They had a Christmas Party playing lots of games and having lots of party food. At the first meeting of the Spring Term the Cubs held a Cub Pack Forum where they discussed what they would like to do for the term and also select the activities they would like to do on a visit to the Water Activity centre in Broxbourne later in the year.

The Cubs then played some games before the presentation of their badges earned during last term. These were Science Badge and Fire Safety, Book Reader and Snow Sports. David presented Reece Speller and Alfie Grimmette with their Chief Scout Silver Award. This is the highest award a Cub Scout can earn.

We invested new Cubs. Isla, Tilly, Sophie, Emily, Blake, Henry, Charlie L, Charlie C. and Fabian and we welcomed Ava and Finlay from Beaver Scouts. Two of the cubs Reece and Marley will be going over the rope to the Scout Troop on the 23rd January.

Scout Troop – age 10 ½ - 14 years

To finish the end of the term in 2019 the Scout troop went to the Ice Rink in Chelmsford.

The first camp of the year took place on 10th to 12th January. It was at the Pedal Car Olympics, a national event held at the Thriftwood Scout site in Brentwood. This was a weekend in tents and Jack Riggs, one of our Scout leaders, was also being assessed for a Nights Away Permit.



We had four teams entered in the event and they were kept busy from 7.00am to 11.00pm each day. There were eleven different races, so everyone was kept busy. All the other site activities were also open to every Scout and Explorer team all weekend.

One of the races was dismantling a pedal car and carrying the parts over and under obstacles and then reassembling them.

There was a sprint race which Thomas Benton won and was awarded a first-place medal. In another race the driver of the car was blindfolded and directed by the team member, who was thankfully not blindfolded. It was very funny to watch! All competitors took part in the endurance race, which went around the campsite. In the evening there were other activities for the campers including a silent disco! It was a brilliant weekend and everyone said they wanted to go again next year. So we had 16 happy Scouts and Explorer Scouts, and a happy Jack Riggs as he gained his Nights Away Permit. A huge thank you to Jack, Peter Wick and Vicki Wood for helping out all over the weekend.



We have a few spaces for new scouts to join as several Scouts have moved up to Explorer Scouts this term. If you need further details, please contact the phone or email details at the end of the article.

Dragonian Explorer Scout Unit – age 14 – 18 years

The Unit has grown over the last few months and now has 19 members. They are nearly all working on their Duke of Edinburgh Award as well as the Scouting Chief Scout Awards.

The unit plan their own meetings. Everyone gets a turn at doing this and running an evening for the unit.

Caitlin Clark has been awarded her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award this term and is now working on her Silver Award.

Eight of the Explorers took part in the Pedal Car Olympics, which they all enjoyed.

1st Moreton & Fyfield Group News

We have had several fundraising events over the last two months. These have all been successful. We held a Beetle Drive in November for the children. We had a small attendance, but all there really enjoyed themselves. The next event was a Christmas Craft Fayre on 1st December. This was very successful, and the HQ was full of tables, produce, crafts and lots of people too!

We held a Christingle service on 1st December at St Nicholas Church Fyfield. This was very well supported, and we sent £125.00 plus a donation of £30.00 to the Church of England Children's Society.

We have three Explorer Scouts who were selected to attend the European Jamboree in Poland later this year and we wish them well with raising the funds to attend.

Brian Baldry

With great sadness we were told of the death of Brian at the beginning of December. He was a leader with our group for over five years with his wife Susan. Katy his daughter was also a member of our group from Beavers through to the Scout Troop. Brian left to take up the role of Group Scout Leader at 3rd Ongar Scout Group. He was very involved with the Big Build for a new Scout HQ for Ongar.

His funeral was held on the 2nd January and over 200 people were present. His Scouting life took him all over Europe every year when he helped to run the Archery team for Intercamp in various European countries. Scouters came to the funeral from all over Europe. He was also very involved in the Gang Shows held in the Maldon & Dengie District.

Over the last three years Brian had battled with ill health, but he never gave up and did as much as he could.

Brian was a very dear friend of Michael and me, and we miss him.

Mary Bacon

Chairman 1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group

01277899052: 07554933563

marychristinebacon@aol.com



1st Moreton & 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 on 01277 899052 or pop in and see us.

Bookings are now open for the third Fyfield Footpath 5K on 13 Sept 2020.

(<https://www.fyfield5k.com>)

Fyfield Footpath 5K THE FYFIELD FOOTPATH 5K

Home Registration Results Info Feedback Contact Us

Walk, Jog, Run

10:00 13/09/2020

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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

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. All requests for advertising should be directed to Steve Turner and adverts must be received by eMail no later than the 10th of the month prior to the publication date (ie. January, March, May, July, September and November). 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 Steve Turner for details.

Distribution of the Fyfield Focus (385 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 15th of the month prior to the publication date (i.e. January, March, May, July, September and November). Articles 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/Production:

Jennie Russell – fyfieldfocus@gmail.com

Sub Editors:

Margaret Dines – fyfieldfocus@gmail.com

Jenny Juttner – fyfieldfocus@gmail.com

Sally Wallden – fyfieldfocus@gmail.com

Finance, Advertising & Delivery:

Steve Turner – steve.turner31@gmail.com

Delivery Team: Dennis Bird, Liz Bird, Carol Cox, Eddie Fancourt, Elaine Griffiths, Jackie Hart, Fran Homersham, Ann Jackson, Les Lamb, Katharine Perry, Mary Simons, Jenny Stone, Steve Turner, Mike Walker, Roy Wilkinson and Mary Woodrow.

Printing:

Chelmsford Diocesan Print Unit

Fyfield Useful Contacts

Bell Ringers - Hand	Pat Turnpenny	899223	Voluntary Care General No.		365363
Bell Ringers - Tower	Julie Robinson	899557	Ongar Wildlife Soc(OWLS)	Keith Snow	366791
Pageturners	Debbie Spanton	899317	Pilates	Claire Smith	07903-121003
Bookworms	Jane Davenport	899389	PARISH COUNCIL		
Bridge Club	Marion Alcock	899432	Chair	Les Lamb	07776-178794
Carpet Bowls	Jacky Brown	899076	Clerk	Charlotte Collins	899006
Church Coffee Morning	Carol Cox	899245	Poppets Day Nursery	Michelle Pateman	365488
Coffee with Cops	Barbara Saward	07747-803829	SCOUTS & GUIDES		
District Council Moreton & Fyfield	Ian Hadley	899840	Rainbows	Veronica Riches	364604
Dr Walker's Sch	Miss N. Willis	899298	Brownies	Jane Davenport	899389
Friends of St Nicholas	Julie Robinson	899557	Guides	Alison Lavender	365842
Fyfield Focus	fyfieldfocus@gmail.com		Rangers	Veronica Riches	364604
FYFIELD LUNCHEON CLUB			Beavers	Mary Bacon	899052
Club Co-ordinator	Jan Hall	899808	Cubs	David Gordon	896321
Lunch Bookings	Sandra Mead	899519	Scouts	Mary Bacon	899052
Fyfield Ramblers	Les Lamb	07776-178794	Explorer Scouts	Vicki Wood	07977-111894
Fyfield Village Pre-School	General No.	899678	St Nicholas' Church	Rev. Christine Hawkins	01277 286113
Neighbourhood Watch	Les Lamb	07776-178794	Warden	TBA	TBA
Ongar & Villages WD50+ Exercise Club	Patti Nicholson	899504	VILLAGE HALL		
			Chair	Marie Apperley	899386
			Bookings	Elaine Tunnard	07956-440894
			Womens Institute	Pat Turnpenny	899223