

Fyfield Focus

August/September 2016

www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk



Silence over Fyfield

Has anyone noticed that there are not as many aircraft flying over Fyfield? It seems that many aircraft taking off from Stansted in the south west direction have a new flight path. Until recently, aircraft bound for destinations in the direction of northern France took a route that passed over Fyfield to follow the Detling (near Maidstone) air corridor out over the English Channel to France. That has now been changed and aircraft now fly on a route that takes them in the direction of Clacton, not Fyfield. There are still a few aircraft that pass over us but far fewer than before.

Fyfield Focus wins Magazine Award

The Fyfield Focus has won a merit award at the annual Essex Life Community Magazine Awards competition organised by the RCCE with backing from Essex Life, the Diocese of Chelmsford and Newport News. The winners received their awards at a reception held at The West Street Vineyard in Coggeshall on the 20th July. The RCCE competition is designed exclusively for magazines edited and put together by volunteers and this year attracted more than 40 entries.

Mobile Signal Soon!

Fyfield looks like it is very close to getting a good mobile phone signal as Telefonica are planning to erect a 15m high communications pole on Lower Houchin Field near the large oak tree. Other sites were considered but the selected site met all requirements. With any luck Fyfield will have passed from a no signal area to a fully serviced area with the fastest broadband in the country plus a 4G ready mobile phone signal.

Support the Shop

Fyfield is in the very fortunate position of having its own Village Shop and Post Office but we should not take this for granted. Like pubs, village shops and post offices are closing down all over the country and it's true, you never know what you've got until you lose it. The only way to keep our shop is to support it by buying goods from there. We really do need to start doing more of this now. If you already support the shop then that's fine but we can all do more. The next time you are in the shop just consider where you would have to go if it was no longer in business.

Best Kept Front Garden Contest

Once again the Best Kept Front Garden contest has been judged and proved to be a close run thing with the winners detailed inside the Focus.

*Friends of St. Nicholas' Church receive a National Heritage funded grant.
See inside for details.*

See the Focus in Colour On-Line at www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk

Village Diary 2016



02-Aug	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
08-Aug	Friends of St. Nicholas' Church - A.G.M	The Church, 8pm
17-Aug	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1.30pm
21-Aug	Cream Teas - Friends of St. Nicholas' Church	Little Witney Green, 1pm
01-Sep	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
06-Sep	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
12-Sep	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8.30pm
14-Sep	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
22-Sep	WI Coffee Morning	Village Hall, 10.30pm
02-Oct	Indoor Boot Sale	Village Hall, 10am
04-Oct	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
05-Oct	Cake & Collectables	Village Hall, 2pm
06-Oct	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
10-Oct	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8.30pm
12-Oct	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
14-Nov	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8.30pm
09-Nov	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
11-Nov	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
01-Dec	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
10-Dec	Christmas Cheer	The Church, TBA
12-Dec	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8.30pm

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:

Fyfield Parish Council – Annual Production Costs
 Queens' Head – July/September 2014 Special Colour Edition
 Fyfield Post Office & Village Store – December 2014/January 2015 Special Colour Edition
 AGS Limited – April 2015 Special Colour Edition
 Fyfield Post Office & Village Store – December 2015/January 2016 Special Colour Edition
 The Black Bull – April/May 2016 Special Colour Edition

Donors:

Brian & Kim Carpenter, WD50+ Exercise Club, Fyfield Carpet Bowls, Fyfield & District W.I. and Poppets Day Nursery.

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



I am delighted that the Fyfield Focus has won a Merit Award in the Essex Life Community Magazine Competition for 2015 – it really has become a very tough competition to

compete in. I will be providing more details about the competition, the award and the awards ceremony in the next publication but for now a big thank you to everyone who writes material for the Focus – this is your Award – and without your material there would not be a Fyfield Focus. One thing I would like to share with you is that I met a Margaret Morgan who told me she used to produce the Fyfield Focus with Pat Turnpenny. Margaret is involved with the production of The Lavers & Matching News which won a Highly Commended Award. I found out a week later she is also the wife of a bridge player I sometimes partner!

Some more good news is that the Friends of Saint Nicholas' Church have received a National Heritage Funded grant which will enable them to proceed with more repairs to our lovely Church. The Friends are holding their AGM on Monday 8th August in the Church at 8pm so do go along and learn about what they are up to. The Friends are holding a fund raising Cream Tea at Little Witney Green on 21st August – see the village diary and News from The Friends for more details. The Church Tapestry Project is making good progress and you can still get involved – see Mary and Wendy's update inside.

The Fyfield Parish Council are progressing the Fyfield Champions Initiative which is a way of people volunteering to support improvements and changes in our Parish – read all about the initiative inside.

The Village Hall Open Day was a great showcase of our Village Hall facility and the activities the Clubs provide to us on our doorstep – it really was a great atmosphere. Most Clubs continue through the Summer and the Committee have some events planned for October; an Indoor Boot Sale and a Cake and Collectables event - see the village diary and adverts for details. If you have something for sale and want to advertise it in the Focus we are trialling a For Sale Page for residents of Fyfield which gives you free advertising for the next few publications for items for sale – send brief ads to the Focus.

If you are thinking about taking up Bridge or returning to this fascinating game why not enrol on one of the Hatfield Heath Bridge Club courses starting in September. You can also read their article about bridge in our area as well as reading the news from The New Fyfield Bridge Club which meets on a Thursday evening at the Fyfield Village Hall. This month we have a new advertiser M&Ms professional painting and decorating services which undertakes work in Fyfield and surrounding areas – see Mark's advert.

Wishing you all a very happy and sunny Summer.

Cheryl Hadley
Editor

Services at S^t Nicholas' Church, Fyfield

Visit our website: fyfieldbenefice.org.uk

Priest in Charge:

The living is currently in interregnum

Churchwardens:

Marcus Dain

telephone: 01277 899590

David Bessell

telephone: 07886 075889

A full pattern of services is in place for the duration of the interregnum, with special services substituted as appropriate.

During August there will be one service only in the Benefice each Sunday

Aug 7

7

9:30am Holy Communion at Moreton

14

9:30am Family Service at Willingale

21

11:00am Holy Communion at Bobbingworth

28

11:00am Family Service at Fyfield

Sept 4

4

11:00am Morning Prayer

11

11:00am Holy Communion

18

Services at Moreton, Bobbingworth and Willingale

25

11:00am Harvest Thanksgiving

Oct 2

2

11:00am Morning Prayer

FOOD BANK

Thank you to everybody who continues to support this important charity. In addition to the box for food donations in the church, you can now also leave food donations in a Food Bank collection box in Fyfield Stores.

Food Bank provides food to families and individuals in desperate need who have nowhere else to turn.

Food Bank works in conjunction with organisations such as Citizens Advice who arrange for food to be provided to people who, without it, would have, literally, nothing with which to feed their families.

Partner charities, such as Citizens Advice use the limited time for which food aid is provided to help the recipient back on to their feet. Your kindness in donating to Food Bank is essential to helping people to become self-sufficient once again. Thank you again.

Here are Lloyd and William Dain making the latest Fyfield delivery to the Food Bank warehouse.



PROBLEMS? Nowhere to turn for advice?

If you have a problem and have no idea what to do about it, Citizens Advice is there to help you to set about resolving it. They are friendly and welcoming and are not judgemental. They offer free, confidential advice on every problem: Debt, Housing, Relationships, Consumer, Employment, Benefits, Law – Rights & Responsibilities, Healthcare, Education and lots more. In addition, they provide support and representation in the County Court for people facing repossession of their homes.

There are Bureaux at Harlow and Epping. Harlow opening hours are:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10am – 1pm (Drop-in plus telephone services) 1pm – 4pm (information)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10am – 4pm (Follow-up appointments and information)

13-15 East Gate, The High, Harlow CM20 1HP; Telephone: 0845 1203717

Epping Bureau is closed temporarily but details will be published when it reopens; probably early next year.

There is lots of useful information about a wide range of issues on the advice website:

www.adviceguide.org.uk

St Mary's Church, Moreton

Aug	7	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sept	4	9.30am	Holy Communion
	18	9.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving
	25	6.00pm	Evening Service
Oct	2	9.30am	Holy Communion

St Germain's Church, Bobbingworth

Aug	21	11.00am	Holy Communion
Sept	4	11.00am	Family Service
	18	11.00am	Family Communion
Oct	2	11.00am	Harvest Thanksgiving

St Christopher's Church, Willingale

Aug	14	9.30am	Family Service
Sept	11	9.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving
	18	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
	25	9.30am	Holy Communion
Oct	2		No service



M&M's

Professional Painting and Decorating Services

**Dulux Approved
Interior and Exterior**

**Professional work to a high standard
Reasonable rates and friendly advice**

**Work undertaken in local areas
Blackmore, Ongar, Fyfield**

**Call 07866 291795
Or 01277 823285**

Best Kept Front Garden Contest

Once again the Best Kept Front Garden contest has been a close run thing with the winners as follows:

First Prize:	The Studio, 7 Elmbridge Hall, Caroline Hall, £50 Gardening Voucher
Second Prize:	6 Abbey Close, Les & Kate Lamb, £20 Gardening Voucher
Third Prize:	Little Whitney Green, Carol Cox, £10 Gardening Voucher

Well done to all contenders and the best of luck in next year's contest.

Banking Facilities at Fyfield Post Office

Don't forget you can do your banking at the Fyfield Post Office (Deposits – Cheque and Cash and Cash Withdrawals). This is available for all customers of HSBC, Barclays, Lloyds, TSB, Co-op and some Santander customers. With the continuation of the closing of banks on our high streets take advantage of doing your banking locally at our village Post Office and support Nikhil to keep our precious Post Office and Village Store open for business. Fyfield would not be the same without Nikhil and the Village Store.

Fyfield Footpaths and Bridleways



In our rural parish we have 19.5 miles of some of the best public footpaths and bridleways that Essex can offer. They weave their way through open country, along hedgerows and river and through woods and have been tracks for public access for hundreds of years. Days when walking or riding a horse and cart was just about the only way to get to school or work or to travel to village markets to sell your wares.

Those days are past now but the footpaths and bridleways remain and I feel privileged to live in a rural community that takes pride

in them and in maintaining some of the culture and traditions of a more gentle time. As you may know Ian Hadley, Chairman, Fyfield Parish Council, has started several initiatives to help improve our Parish and has asked me to be the Footpaths Champion. My role will be to ensure our footpaths and bridleways are monitored and accessible and that way markers are in good order. I will coordinate with landowners, our Parish Council and Essex County Council to help make our footpaths the best they can be.

If you would like to get involved in this initiative or have any comments about our footpaths please do get in touch with me. Also if you have a particular route you would like to share send it to me, with photos if possible, and I will put them on the website for all of us to enjoy.

It must be a real burden for landowners to maintain footpaths that cross their land and crops but for the most part they are to be congratulated. However, maintaining them is of no value unless they are used. So get your boots on and go for a walk!

Les Lamb

leslamb@hotmail.co.uk

Flower Bed – Outside the Church

We have tried to maintain the flower bed outside the church but after battling with rabbits and deer for the last 5 years we have conceded defeat and have decided to grass over the area.

Hopefully the daffodils will still come through next spring.

Marion, Carol & Margaret





Our Bridge Players Have a Busy Social Life

We are very lucky there is a thriving bridge community in our area. There are many U3A groups and clubs that cater for all standards on each weekday and even on some Sundays. You need never be lonely or stuck for something to do if you can play bridge.

Hatfield Heath Bridge Club has been running classes since 2007 and in that time our membership has increased considerably and so has that of all the other local clubs. We now have our main club running every Wednesday evening with a separate section for newer players. Not everyone finds Wednesday evenings convenient but Fyfield Bridge Club meets on Thursday evenings and there are clubs that meet on Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings. We mustn't forget the very popular club Herts & Essex

Bridge Club which meets every Tuesday afternoon in Hatfield Heath.

Not all bridge is played in organised sessions. Friends made in bridge classes often get together for a social game at home with a cup of tea and some cake or even supper and wine.

Anyone can learn to play bridge. No prior knowledge is necessary. You don't need a partner, a degree in mathematics or a photographic memory though it is helpful if you can count! The most important part is to want to learn something new and being open to the idea of meeting new people and making friends.

The new session of classes at **Hatfield Heath Bridge Club** starts on 19th September and further information can be obtained from:

Penny and Brian at hassells2@gmail.com or 01279 721428.

Fyfield Coffee Morning (in the church)

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

*2nd August, 6th September & 4th October
10 am to 12 Noon
Marion, Margaret and Carol*





BRIDGE IS FUN

Hatfield Heath Bridge Club

Learning bridge opens up a whole new world.

It keeps your brain

active and introduces you to many new friends.

Our relaxed and friendly classes are for two hours and are a mix of tutorial and play with a break for a drink, a biscuit and a chat.

“Beginners” Classes

Monday evenings starting 7.30 pm 19th September 2016

If you already play bridge but would like to improve your game you may enjoy our

“Improvers ” Classes

Tuesday evenings starting 7.30 pm 20th September 2016

Hatfield Heath Bridge Club meets every Wednesday evening and there is now a separate section for newer players and space for Beginners to practise together

For more information contact:

Penny & Brian Hassell

Tel: **01279 721428**

Email: **hassells2@gmail.com**



FYFIELD

champions

If you have ever felt the desire to comment on the need for something to happen in Fyfield then how about grasping the bull by the horns and making it happen. The Parish Council are promoting the establishment of Champions who are individuals who are prepared to lead or run or control campaigns that do things that make Fyfield a better place. Elsewhere in the Focus you will read that our first Champion is Les Lamb who is organising a group of residents who will survey and monitor local footpaths and bridle ways. There are plenty of other things that are crying out for a champion such as a first responder group, neighbourhood watch, organising the installation of a defibrillator and keeping the roads and streets where we live looking cared for and litter free. So why not have a think and either start a project or volunteer for being a part of one and helping out. The Parish Council will fully support you and provide you with assistance in any way that they can including awarding a Champion of Champions prize in the summer of 2017.

If you are interested then please contact:

Ian Hadley on 899840 or ianhadley@gmx.co.uk

Congratulations & Thanks

Congratulations to Georgiana Jones and Tom Marshall who tied the knot on 15th June in Florida. Wishing you both lots of happiness for the future.

Friends & Residents in Fyfield.

Diary Dates for August & September

Summer Bank Holiday - 29th August

Battle of Britain Day - 15th September



Ongar Research Station - Developing a Weed Killer

When I'm walking our dog around the footpaths and look out over the fields of cereal crops it reminds me of my time working at the Ongar Research Station for May and Baker. My job in Agrochemical Research was to help find and develop new cereal crop weed killers and in 1979 we discovered a selective weed killer that went on to be a market leader.

We tested thousands of chemicals each year to see if they killed weeds but did not harm crops. Very occasionally one would show promising signs but often development was subsequently dropped for various reasons. However, in November 1979 we assessed the previous week's experiments and it was a remarkable result. The broadleaf weeds had turned white but the cereal crops were totally unharmed and within a few days the weeds had died. It was incredibly effective on many broad leaved weeds and killed them at just a few grams per hectare.

Our reference number for the chemical was M&B38544 and its' chemical name was Diflufenican. These terms were to become part of our everyday language and it was the start of years of laboratory tests and field trials all over the country.

Part of my job was to set-up small scale field trials to assess how the chemical was affected by soil type and weather conditions. Also back in the laboratory to measure how quickly it was metabolised and passed through the soil. The trials were UK wide

but many were around the Ongar and Fyfield area and involved the co-operation of lots of our local farmers.

As M&B38544 passed the numerous tests we became ever more hopeful that this time we had a product that would make it to market. Finally, in the late 80's it did. Under the brand name "Javelin" it quickly became a market leader and I believe it is still in use today under different names and combinations with other chemicals.

Weeds seem to appear daily in my garden but thanks to discoveries like Diflufenican there is often not a single weed peeking above a huge field of crops.

I went onto work in I.T. at the M&B site in Dagenham but look fondly back to my 18 years at Ongar Research Station. I am proud to have been part of such a small but successful research team and even better to have met my future wife, Kate, who worked there in finance.

In July several of our old May and Baker colleagues are coming to a reunion. Kate and I can't wait to catch up with them and reminisce about old times.

It would be great to hear from local farmers who remember working with me and other colleagues at May and Baker all those years ago.

Les Lamb
(leslamb@hotmail.co.uk)



PW KEEN LTD - HELPING TO BUILD YOUR FUTURE SINCE 1949

For All Your Sand and Aggregate Requirements!

All Sand Aggregates delivered or you can collect
FULLY Licensed waste transfer station for trade & public

On site Cafe - Snooksy's!

Other Services We Offer:

Grab Lorry - much cheaper than skips!

Landscaping Service

All tree work undertaken

All types of Fence work undertaken

We will NOT be beaten on price & up to a 25 year Guarantee on our work

PW Keen Ltd. Unit 9, Hallsford Bridge Ind Estate, Stondon Road, Ongar, Essex, CM5 9RB

Tel: 01277 362 739

FRIENDS OF SAINT NICHOLAS' CHURCH, FYFIELD

(Registered Charity Number 1090313)

Annual General Meeting

**will be held Monday, 8 August 2016
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**

Friends of St. Nicholas' Church - Update

We thought it was time to give an update on the work behind the scenes of the Friends of St Nicholas.

Thanks to all the contributions and fund raising we are now looking to start restoration on the porch shortly.

The next piece of good news is we have secured a grant allowing us to restore and repair the remainder of the roof and the bell tower and this will finally make our church water tight.

We are continuing to raise more funds and will be:

Serving cream teas at Little Witney Green on 21st August, 2016 - 1pm to 4pm.

Having Christmas Cheer in the church serving Christmas refreshments and a few stalls for some last minute pressies on 10th December.

We are holding the AGM in the church on 8th August at 8pm.

Thank you to everyone who supports us and has made the restorations possible and we hope you will continue to support us in the future.

*Julie Robinson,
Chairman of Friends.*



WANTED FOR THEFT/BURGLARY

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?

On the afternoon of Thursday, July 21, this man stole items from Fyfield Church and took them away in a blue bag – he stole that as well!

If you recognise him, please contact Essex Police on 101. The Crime Reference Number is 42/94794/16



“If you can’t be there, we can”

- Official OFSTED rating ‘GOOD’.
 - Open Monday to Friday 7am – 7pm (excluding Bank Holidays) 52 weeks a year caring for ages from 0 to 5 years.
 - Flexibility of childcare with full days, morning and afternoon sessions available or ‘school days’, with the understanding that your days need to be flexible too.
 - All forms of childcare funding accepted.
 - Educational toys, interactive technology complete with 55” LED screen specifically for Early Years English & Maths and facilities to promote better learning experiences.
 - A secure environment to ensure quality of care and safety for your child.
 - Extensive outdoor facilities including a large garden, an outdoor ‘classroom’ and access to a substantial all weather outside area.
 - A sensory room and library/story telling area for stimulating educational progress.
 - Home cooked food prepared on site by 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 & sand pit.
 - After school and holiday club every weekday throughout the year, in our purpose built log cabin.
- Breakfast Club now available for Chipping Ongar Primary School pupils.

Contact Michelle Pateman for availability on 01277 365488 or by email

michellepateman@poppetsnursery.co.uk

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

Dr Walker's School Foundation

Any young person who is resident in the parishes of Fyfield, Willingale or High Ongar may seek financial assistance from the Foundation. Assistance is also open to young people who currently attend Dr Walker's School or have attended Dr Walker's School for not less than two years and who, in the opinion of the Governors, are in need of financial assistance.

Assistance is available towards an education exhibition approved by the Governors, the cost of clothing, tools, instruments or books required to assist their entry into a profession, trade or calling, or otherwise promote their education. Applicants for university and other further education are particularly encouraged.

Applications for assistance should be sent to the Clerk to the Governors: Mr P Gilbert, 11 Roxwell Road Chelmsford CM1 2LY, to arrive no later than the first full week in September. Details of the Foundation may be obtained from the Chairman or any of the Foundation Governors listed below:

Mr M Dain: Vice Chairman
Mrs W Henshaw
Mrs M Ellis: Chairman
Mrs H Gingell
Mrs D Spanton
Mr R Wallden
Mrs S Collins



WD50+ EXERCISE CLUB

Work out with a friendly group of Over 50s on Fridays, 1.45pm – 2.45pm

Monica Couling Room – Fyfield Village Hall

Enjoy a social cuppa afterwards

Instruction from qualified Physical Fitness Trainer

All equipment supplied

Sessions costs £2.50 Members, £3.50 Non-Members, Annual Club Membership £12

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)

aGlandscapes

GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

Allan G Lamb 07952 418586

For all your gardening needs
Competitive prices

All garden maintenance including:

- Mowing
- Hedge cutting
- Pond cleaning
- Patio cleaning
- Weed killing
- Upkeep of flower beds

And any other maintenance you can
think of!

- Renovations
- Complete hard& soft landscaping
- Fencing

Planning & building gardens how you
want them



Fyfield Art Group

The Art Group were pleased to join in with the Village Hall Open Day. We have hung some new pictures in the hall and on the day had many pictures to show.

Jackie Galise demonstrated how anyone can draw and tried to encourage visitors to come and join us. We are having a break during August but will start new sessions beginning 12th and 26th September, from 10.00a.m. till 12 noon at Fyfield Village Hall.

Wendy Henshaw

ABADDON



PEST CONTROL EXPERTS
WASPS, RATS, MICE
ANTS, COCKROACHES,
BIRD PROOFING ETC



UNMARKED VEHICLES, QUALIFIED STAFF

FREEPHONE
0800 975 7477
01277 899898

www.abaddonpestcontrol.co.uk

York House, Dunmow Road, Fyfield, Essex, CM5 0NN



MAIN PLUMBER



PHONE KERIM

01277 899367 / 07752 765917

Kerim5@btinternet.com

Free estimates
No job too small
Reliable service
Reasonable rates

Fyfield Village Hall

We had a very enjoyable Open Day on Sunday 10th July when all affiliated clubs took part. The Carpet Bowls club were busy teaching people to bowl and hope some new members will come along to Bowls on Tuesday evenings. Other clubs represented were WD50, Clare gave a demonstration of the exercises, and talked to visitors about Pilates, Art Group had a display of paintings and a demonstration, Mini-movers starting in September demonstrated their activities, Fyfield W.I. had a beautiful display of crafts and Janice demonstrated her pressed flower card making. Luncheon Club gave out flyers inviting visitors to come and have a sociable lunch once a month. The Village Hall Committee produced delicious cakes for all to enjoy and were on hand to hear suggestions and ideas.

Our next two events in October are an indoor boot sale on Sunday 2nd and a Cake and Collectables event on Wednesday 5th where Mark Stacey from Stacey's Auctioneers will be available to give you a verbal valuation on collectibles/antiques (our very own Village Antiques Road Show). Please see the adverts and the website www.Fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk for full details of these events.

Winners of the 100 club for July were 86, 21 and 8. If you want to join, you can still do so by paying pro rata by contacting Marie Apperley on 899386.

Wendy Henshaw

Fyfield Luncheon Club

As usual we have had two enjoyable meals prepared by the Queen's Head and delicious desserts from the volunteers, Katherine, Lizzie and Lisa in June, and Jan, Fran and Julie in July. Thank you to you all. We were delighted to welcome Doug Kelly back this month after his long spell in hospital. Sadly we had to announce the death of Sheila Whitehead who died quite suddenly after a week in hospital. Also, we were missing our friends from Willingale Jean and Derek Beavis, Jean is waiting to go into hospital for an operation on her spine.

The lunch club are going on a Mystery Tour On Wednesday 10th August having a hospitality lunch provided by a W.I. en route. We have some places on the coach if anyone would like to join us cost £15.00, which includes the lunch. Meet at Houchin Drive at 11.30a.m. and leave for home at 4.00p.m. return to Fyfield between 5.00-5.30p.m.

Please phone me Wendy on 01277 899367

Indoor Boot Sale

At
Fyfield Village Hall



Sunday 2nd October

10am – 2pm

£10 per table for sellers, free entry for buyers

Book your pitch with Penny Ovel

by 25th September

on 01277 899584 or 07884 007865

Refreshments will be available

Fyfield Gardening Club

Thanks go to Marion Alcock for our Gardening Club entry this time:

Garden gnomes, you either love them or hate them but if it is not a gnome, I am sure you have some other objet d'art in your garden whether it be a statue amongst the greenery or a fancy wind chime.

Me, I like unusual containers, the rustier the merrier but each to their own. I have been to the Gibberd Garden at Harlow, renowned for its abstract exhibits but, in truth, they left me cold and uninspired but my interest was awakened on a recent Gardening Club visit to Barnards Farm, a private garden on the A128 a mile past the Halfway House, opened under the National Gardens Scheme.

The garden covers 17 hectares and its more parkland carved out of woods aka Capability Brown than Gertrude Jekyll herbaceous borders although there is plenty of colour surrounding the house and café. The main stay of this garden is the 80 sculptures punctuating the landscape. There is plenty to amuse and enjoy like the oversized silver rhino or the outdoor bathing boy but my green-eyed monster came out when I saw this giant verdigris creature. Particularly stunning are the four sentinels soaring aloft and a larger than life angel just about to take off from a lawn. All sculptures are of

gallery quality and if only I could afford just one something similar.....

The garden is open on a Thursday until 1st September and during the summer school holidays a miniature steam railway runs for the children. There is a special

day on Sunday 4th September when the vintage car museum and a 1920's cycle shop also opens to keep the dads amused. Do not worry if you are not so mobile as there is a golf buggy tour available; a bit bumpy so hold on tight. Well worth the visit: www.barnardsfarm.eu



Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? Well thanks to a plague of snails not very well. Ok, the roses and flowering shrubs have been stunning and best ever for many a year but the emerging soft green growth of the perennials has attracted an army of slimy giant slugs and snails who have grown fatter at my expense. Initially I was kind and collected the blighters by torchlight for rehousing in the field next door. When numbers reached over 50 a night I resorted to euthanasia by a bucket of salty water and somewhat reluctantly have now added some pellets to the


containers. Annuals like sweet peas and runner beans have struggled with the lack of sunshine and what little growth has emerged has been munched to nothing. I feel that I

have been visited by some of the plagues of Egypt and wonder what next.

The Gardening Club meets every month in members' homes and provides a varied program. This year as well as the outing mentioned above, we held a talk in the village hall and have organised a plant swap evening. Future events include a garden party, barbeque (at the allotments) and a talk on "The role of art in gardens" plus another garden visit. New members are always welcome.

Allotments: The allotments are situated at Canons Green and there are plots available now. For all enquiries about these or the Club, please ring Pat on 899590.

www.fyfieldgardeningclub.co.uk



Hair by
Helen

Fully qualified with many years experience
Salon owner and tutor in Hairdressing
Advanced cutting/blow drying and colouring

01277 899477
or 07909 897581

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 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.

The Black Bull, Dunmow Road, Fyfield, CM5 0NN Tel: 01277 899225 www.blackbullfyfield.co.uk

Cake & Collectables

Valuation of Collectables

Fyfield Village Hall

Wednesday 5th October

Start time 2pm -5pm



Mark Stacey

**from Stacey's Auctioneers and Valuers based in Rayleigh will
be hosting this event**

*Ticket price £6 to include a talk from Mark, a verbal valuation of up to
2 items that each person can bring along, together with a cup of tea
and home-made cake.*

*People can also bring along another item, that time permitting and for
a small fee, can also be valued.*



ARBTEC

Tree Services

Office: 01277 362 605

Mobile: 07710 515536

Email: rodhunt@btinternet.com

All aspects of tree work undertaken

- Crown reductions
- Crown thinning and lifting
- Felling
- Sectional dismantling
- Stump grinding
- Site Clearance
- 20 years experience
- 5 Million public liability insurance
- TPO work undertaken
- Work carried out in confined spaces
- We cover Essex and London
- Local Authority approved

FREE
Estimates

www.arbtectreeservices.co.uk



SMALL WORKS

Building & Maintenance

All building and maintenance work
undertaken to domestic & commercial premises.

NO JOB TOO SMALL!

Full Public Liability Insurance- Enhanced CRB

01277 899 311 | 07983 030 698

chris@smallworksbuilding.co.uk

Fyfield & District W.I.

Fyfield WI members were hugely entertained on 7th July by speaker Tracey Mackness who told us about Turning My Life Around. Tracey is an Essex Girl who came from a family of Romford market fruit and veg traders, very bright, with a bubbly personality and zest for life. Tracey took a lot of very hard knocks in her early life – many self-inflicted – but when at rock bottom, in prison for a 10 year sentence, she turned her life around by taking up training courses available to prisoners and became, first, a fully qualified gym instructor, but later, when transferred to an open prison in Kent, Tracey met the love of her life – British Saddleback Pigs! Enduring struggles and hardships on the way, Tracey became a qualified pig farmer, butcher, and owns the Giggly Pig Company, supplying award winning sausages (60+ varieties!) and pork, in all forms, to Farmers' Markets all around Essex and at country-wide garden show events. Well, Tracey kept us laughing, gasping, and full of admiration for her pluck, determination and ability to laugh at herself - definitely the best WI speaker I have ever heard! Tracey had brought along cooked samples of her sausages for us to try. They were absolutely scrummy and we queued up to buy sausages and bacon packs to take home. In 2013 Tracey published her story – Jail Bird - The Life and Crimes of an Essex Bad Girl, and I intend to read it as soon as possible. I know it's going to be a terrific read! What a good afternoon and what a terrific woman!

There is no WI meeting in August, which is fortunate as Tracey would be a hard act to follow – but on 1st September we have something completely different with a Taste

of Capel Manor from Mrs Anne Luder, and on 6th October Mrs Brenda Harley will speak on How I became an old Sew and Sew. Visitors are always welcome at Fyfield WI – just phone Jo Balcombe on 01277899141 to say you are coming – and come along to Fyfield Village Hall by 2.0pm.

We are holding a Coffee Morning on Thursday 22nd September in the Village Hall from 10.30a.m. till 12.30p.m. There will be lots of stalls and a raffle. So please do come along and join us.

Patti Nicholson.

Hods & Sods

of Fyfield

Landscaping Ideas & Plans

Fairest Prices for:

**Patios, Drives, Fences
Brickwork, Ponds
Automatic Gates/Iron Railings
Turfing & Decking
Plants & Planting
Lighting, Water features
Garden Maintenance**

Ask for John

07961 875100

01277 899963

Surfbods@aol.com

FYFIELD & DISTRICT W.I.



Invite you to our

Coffee Morning

Thursday, 22nd September

At

Fyfield Village Hall

From

10.30am – 12.30pm

Many Stalls & a Raffle



St Nicholas' Church – A St. Nicholas Tapestry

The proposed needlework depicting the story of St. Nicholas has been met with great enthusiasm and a group of ladies have been exploring possibilities.

Margaret Cox is busy drawing illustrations of St. Nicholas ready for us to use to transfer on to material.

A group of us went to the material shop in Tiptree and found various suitable materials we could use. A rough outline of this endeavour is being priced and looked at from all angles. At the moment the best material for the backing will cost in the region of £100.00.

To assist everybody who wants to be part of the working party we are holding an Applique Workshop in the Church on Saturday 27th August from 11.00a.m. to 4.30p.m. For more information on the cost of the class please phone Wendy 899367. If you can't attend the workshop but would still like to take part in this project you will be welcome to join us.

It will make a lovely addition to the fabric of the church for the 21st Century in the same way that the hanging celebrated the end of the 20th Century.

Mary Ellis & Wendy Henshaw



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

Missing Sign

Why would anyone want to remove a public footpath sign? I know that this happened in the last war so to confuse any invaders, especially if they wanted to get from the Grange to the Black Bull, but nowadays with Sat Nav they would have no problem.

So whoever took the sign at the entrance to the Grange can they please return it so the rest of us know how to get to the Black Bull.

Good to be British

On the 24th June Chris Froome won the Tour de France for the third time, Lewis Hamilton won the Hungarian Grand Prix and Johanna Konta beat Venus Williams to win the Bank of the West Classic tennis tournament in Stanford USA. Excluding football, we seem to be getting used to success in many areas of sport. When I started my cycling life we all accepted that the continentals were better than us. Even though they have the same number of arms, legs etc., they seemed to have a divine right to win. Then in 1958 a Yorkshire cyclist called Brian Robinson became the first British person to win a stage in the Tour de France. From then on we have had various successes on the continental cycling scene but no domination until Sky entered the scene in 2010 when the team principle, Dave Brailsford, declared that his aim would be to have a British Tour de France winner within 5 years. In fact Sky and Britain have had 4 winners since 2012. What has been proved is that we are as good as anybody especially if we commit ourselves and, as the now Sir Dave Brailsford proved, if you make mar-

ginal gains on every aspect of your performance you will improve. This proved true in the London Olympics where the Team GB cycling team won more cycling medals than most countries won any medals. After the recent referendum, I heard a young lady on the radio say that she was not proud to be British. No comment.

The New Utility

Communication technology is now just as important to us all as the other utilities but not everybody accepts this. A long time ago in a place not too far away some people objected to electricity and the ugly overhead power lines. 'I don't need electric light' they would say

'what's wrong with gas mantles'? They were not aware of future developments such as radio, MRI scanners, computers and food mixers that need electricity to function. It's the same with the broadband infrastructure. It's not just for watching TV and playing games. For example, in the not too far ahead future, a blood test could just involve a sample of your blood being analysed by a small device connected to the internet and passed on to a laboratory for further analysis. The consultation with a medic could be done over Skype. We already have 'smart' electric meters and remote control of our central heating and it will not stop there. So let's not fight it, be a part of it and embrace it. Ever thought of reading the Focus on line?

Silence over Fyfield

So, its say goodbye to Ryanair and EasyJet,
Farewell to Boe-
ings and Airbus-
es, 'Missing you
already' you
majestic 747's
slowly powering
your way above
Fyfield to the blue sky that is always there
even if we can't see it.



No more wondering if the Mediterranean
bound holiday makers are on their first glass
of something aboard their Thomson Air-
ways Dreamliner. No more wishing that
you were in their place. Just keep on mow-
ing the lawn in relative silence.

What's that noise? It seems that the Isle of
Man TT races are now passing through
Fyfield at high speed!

Ian Hadley

ianhadley@gmx.co.uk

JACKSON ENGINEERING

STATION GARAGE
HIGH STREET, ONGAR
Telephone 01277 363707

- **SERVICING & REPAIRS**
- **EXHAUSTS**
- **AIR CON SERVICING & RE-GAS**
- **4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT**

MOT TESTING OF PETROL &
DIESEL VEHICLES

**'WE NOW TEST MOTOR BIKES
& THREE WHEELERS'**

JAPANESE & 4 WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES
SERVICED & REPAIRED

FREE COLLECTION & DELIVERY



Good Food, Fine Wine, Real Ales, Private Dining Room & River Garden

The Garret Session

*Is now on summer vacation
and will recommence in the
Autumn.*



The Queen's Head

Queen Street, Fyfield, Essex CM5 0RY
<http://www.thequeensheadfyfield.co.uk>

Telephone: 01277 899231

Archie's Column

(Tails from the Riverside)



Hi Archie here!

Now us Jack Russells are well known for being happy dogs who are always tail

wagging and willing to have fun. But we can also be grumpy just like humans especially when we are tired and are woken up. This is particularly annoying when we are woken and told to go to our bed. The problems is that I have beds positioned all over the house so I can have a knap whenever and wherever I like. In the winter I like my bed in the utility room where the underfloor heating keeps me very snug. It also has a curtain so that the light does not wake me up before 9 am. A dog needs his sleep! I was on holiday in Yorkshire a few weeks ago and had a lot of good long walks but mostly on a lead. It seems that they have thousands of those woolly creatures called sheep roaming around. I am told that they are dangerous and do not like dogs at all. The local farmers are a bit mean too as they shoot dogs if they think that a dog is worrying their sheep. What if the sheep are worrying me, will the farmer shoot the sheep? Funny, but I am still looking for this Brexit stuff in the shops and am now desperate to try some. Everybody seems to be talking about it so where is it. Some dog told me that we might have to wait for two years because the truck carrying the Brexit is stuck at

some French port because there are no illegal immigrants left to man the customs post before they get on the ferry to Dover. I've heard that France is not much further than Willingale so I might even swim over and buy a packet and then swim back. Shouldn't take too long should it!

Anyway, I'm off to buy a snorkel and mask plus four flippers and maybe an outboard motor.

Bye for now,

Archie.



Letter from the Chairman

Apart from a few minor irritations my first few months have passed quickly as it does when you are busy. I have to say that not all of my effort has gone into what I consider to be the work of the Parish Council but has been diverted to dealing with the irritants.



First, I would like to introduce Derek Farr to you as our new Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer. Derek is an experienced Parish Clerk who will guide and advise the councillors on our duties and responsibilities. When you all voted in May I suspect you voted for a council that is proactive on behalf of the residents. I can assure you that my view of a councillor is a person who volunteers to take ownership of issues and is not content to be a non-participating member.

You will read elsewhere in the Focus that the Council are promoting Champions for the village and are planning to award a Champion of Champions prize to the most deserving person or group. On the 18th July we held our annual Parish Assembly, somewhat late this year but something we have to hold even though there were only six residents attending. Next year we will be holding this meeting on time thanks to Cllr. Barbara Sayward who is undertaking the task of ensuring compliancy with local government requirements along with our new Clerk, Derek Farr. Barbara and Derek will ensure that the council are undertaking everything that we are legally obliged to do and also advise on things that we should not be doing. Not only do we have to do the right things, we have to do things right. Have a good summer everyone, the next council meeting is on Monday 12th September.

Ian Hadley
Chair, Fyfield Parish Council
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk
T: 01277 899840 M: 07765882001

Fyfield Parish Council

Cllr. I Hadley (Chairman)	01277 899840	ianhadley@gmx.co.uk
Cllr. K Webb (Vice Chairman)	01277 899477	ken_awebb@yahoo.co.uk
Cllr. Ms C Apperley	01277 899386	charlotte_apperley@hotmail.com
Cllr. R Balcombe	01277 899141	ray@technicaldramadesign.co.uk
Cllr. Ms N Bridge	01277 899503	bridgecricquet@aol.com
Cllr. G Perry	07968819333	hmtrailers@btinternet.com
Cllr. Ms B Saward	07747803829	barbara@saward.uk.net
Derek Farr, Clerk	07783 505906	caliban@gmx.co.uk

**Have your Dog Groomed
in your own Home**



**Small/Medium Breeds
& Crossbreeds catered
for
22 Years Experience
City & Guilds Qualified
Saturday Appointments
Available**

**Tel: Carol (Evenings)
on
01277 364585**



APPLES JOINERY

Bespoke Cabinet Maker

Paul Speller
Mob: 07930316821 Home: 01277 899577
Email: paul@applesjoinery.com
www.applesjoinery.com



Star Fishmongers Celebrates 10 Years in Ongar

Well it's been ten years since we first opened the doors at Star Fishmongers and new things are happening!

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



We have exciting news for you!
Gigaclear's pure fibre ultrafast broadband is coming soon!

Essex County Council, Epping Forest District Council and Gigaclear are about to transform communications, entertainment, education and online experiences for rural residents and businesses in the Epping Forest District.

Delivering the UK's fastest* broadband to more than 4,500 properties in some of the most isolated communities in the county, Gigaclear is delighted to announce that we will be starting our network build from October this year. Delivering a new, purely fibre, broadband connection to every property passed, we will be bringing ultrafast speeds of 50Mbps up to 1000Mbps.

To see if you could soon enjoy a different pace of life, please visit:
www.gigaclear.com/superfastessex

Find out more:

If you have a question about Gigaclear services, email info@gigaclear.com

To find out more about the Superfast Essex Rural Challenge Project visit
www.superfastessex/ruralchallenge



**SUPERFAST
BRITAIN**



*Delivering up to 40x faster broadband than the average UK broadband speed.
(Source: Ofcom's overview of fixed broadband speeds published 26th February 2015).

HASKETT

Landscaping and Countryside Services

Creators of bespoke landscapes in Fyfield and beyond. Specialists in countryside management and the ancient craft of hedgelaying

- Garden Design and Construction
- Planting
- Turf Laying
- Ponds, Streams
- Irrigation and Garden Lighting
- Hedgelaying
- Woodland Design
- Woodland Planting
- Pond and Moat Restoration
- Tree and Hedge Planting



www.haskett.co.uk

T: 01277 899325

M:07850 761865

Fyfield Village Store & Post Office

Opening Times

Village Store

Monday, Weds & Friday	7.00am to 6.00 pm
Tuesday & Thursdays	7.00am 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



BEVEJ

for Building

Houses – Extensions - Conversions

**All building works carried out by a team of skilled professionals
with many years of experience**

Tel: 01371 830947 Mob: 07766 351515

Bevej.bb@gmail.com

Cookery Section



This month we feature two more Summer recipes which are both light and refreshing and perfect for Summer, although both recipes can be enjoyed at other times of the year too. Last month we featured a Fig, Lardon & Dolcelatte Tart and a starter of Aubergine, Tomatoes, Basil & Mozzarella (Melanzane alla parmigiana). The tart recipe contained an error in the list of ingredients for the tart filling – 2 fl oz mild should have read 2fl oz milk! Thank you to Mary Simons for bringing this to our attention. Next month's recipes will feature some lovely recipes for Autumn – a main course and a starter – and I can't wait to share them with you.

Peaches Baked in Marsala with Mascarpone Cream

Peaches:

6 firm ripe peaches
1½ oz caster sugar
10 fl oz sweet marsala wine
1 inch cinnamon stick
1 vanilla pod
1 rounded tsp arrowroot

Mascarpone Cream:

4 rounded tbs mascarpone
4 rounded tbs fromage fraise – 8% fat
A few drops of vanilla extract
1 tsp caster sugar

Serves 6

Preheat the oven to gas mark 4.

Begin by halving the peaches and removing stones, then place the halves in a bowl, pour boiling water over them and, after 30 seconds, drain AND SLIP OFF SKINS. Now place peach halves in a shallow baking dish, mix the sugar & Marsala in a jug and pour over. Add the cinnamon stick and vanilla pod to the dish, then place on the centre shelf of the oven and bake (do not cover the dish) for 35/40 mins.

Remove from the oven and drain juices into a small saucepan. Mix the arrowroot with a little cold water then add it to the saucepan and whisk over a gentle heat until slightly thickened; this will happen as soon as it reaches simmering point. Then pour the juice back over the peaches and leave to cool. To make the mascarpone cream beat all the ingredients together and pile high into a pretty serving dish to hand round separately.

Cheryl Hadley

(This is a lovely Summer fruit dessert which my friend Lynne Evans gave me many years ago and you feel you are eating a naughty dessert when you aren't. If you are doing a dinner party and want to offer a choice of two desserts this is a good alternative to go with a more calorie laden dessert. You must use good quality ripe peaches (or nectarines) – not the ones which taste like cotton wool!)

Grilled (or fried) Chicken with Chilli, Lemon & Mint

400g chicken off the bone (breast, thigh meat, whatever)

1 med sized hot red chilli (or 2 bird's eye red chillies), seeded & chopped

1 heaped tsp crushed dried chillies

2 cloves of garlic, peeled & chopped

2 pinches of saffron stamens

A handful of mint leaves (20 or so)

4tbl spns olive oil

Juice of large or 2 small lemons

Hunks of lemon, to serve

Serves 2

Cut the chicken into thin strips roughly the size of a finger and put them in a basin.

Whizz the fresh and dried chillies, the garlic, saffron, most of the mint, olive oil and most of the lemon juice in a blender or food processor till you have a thick, speckled, bright red, orange and green slush. Pour it over the chicken and toss gently. Set aside for half an hour for the chicken to take up some of the flavours of the marinade. Heat a ridged grill pan and

lightly oil it. When it is hot, add the strips of chicken, and any marinade clinging to them, and fry for three or four mins on each side, till they are golden brown in patches but cooked through. They will be firm to the touch and sticky. Watch that the chilli does not burn; if it shows any sign of singeing, then turn down the heat. Season with a little salt and the remaining lemon juice and mint. Serve with hunks of lemon.

Cheryl Hadley

(This is another recipe from my friend Lynne Evans who introduced me to this Cook/Chef and like all the recipes Lynne recommends they are full of flavour. This dish is good for everyday eating or for a casual supper dish with friends and I serve with simple vegetables or salad & salad potatoes. You will need to experiment with the amount of chillies depending on the level of heat you like. I always marinade for longer than 30 mins and always use thigh meat. I quite often do four times the recipe and after marinating overnight freeze in portions of two.)

Qualified Tree Surgeon

City & Guilds NPTC



Kevin Spencer

All aspects of tree surgery, thinning, reduction and raising,
fruit tree pruning, hedge maintenance, Logs for Sale

Kevin Spencer 07798 823 118 - 01277 899977

Professional Service / Full Insurance Cover

Easy Life Home Cleaning Services

We want to make your life a
little easier



Spring Cleaning

Welcome to **Easy Life Home Cleaning Services.**

We are a family run business based in Ongar, providing a reliable, high quality cleaning service. We will take care of the cleaning and you can free up your time for the things you'd rather be doing. The rate for cleaning is £11 per hour and we provide a full range of cleaning services designed specifically for your needs. Our cleaners provide I.D. eligibility to work in the UK and two references.

Please telephone: 07983 894143/01277 896106
or e-mail: easylife1411@gmail.com for more information or to discuss your requirements, we look forward to hearing from you.

Light Hearted Monologues from a Local

An Abridged Tale of High Jinx and Suspense

One cloudless morning as traffic crossed over San Francisco Bay the following were inexorably linked:

The Golden Gate Bridge, Dodge trucks, Charly "yo yo" Jackson and Sam Hill.

On 27th May, 1937 the suspension bridge was completed and opened spanning the Golden Gate strait. This is the one mile wide (1.6 km), three mile long (4.8 km) channel between San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. The bridge was originally painted with red lead primer and a lead-based topcoat. Since 1990 acrylic topcoats have been used instead and it is now maintained by 38 painters who touch up the paintwork where it becomes seriously corroded.

On one such maintenance day Charly Jackson, a contract painter, was addressing corrosion, 746 feet high, at the top of one of the two towers that support the suspension cables. Being at the highest point of this internationally recognizable symbol of San Francisco and the U.S.A. was breath-taking and Charly was determined to do the structure justice. His first move, momentarily forgetting where he was and stepping back on the suspended cradle to ensure brush marks were not too visible, was to slip, with paintbrush in hand, suddenly from the highest truss. Spectacularly his "Holds Em Up" brand of trouser braces snagged onto a rivet as he descended at some speed from above the bridge. At the lowest stretch of the elastic Mr Jackson started his ascent and encountered the



top of the bridge with his head. Quickly scrabbling at anything he could grab a scaffold board came into his grip as he began to rush downwards again. As the law of gravity dictates his descent increased with the added weight. Reaching the extent that the stretched elastic would allow the upward movement began only to be stopped by Charly's head again. Alarming the buttons holding one side of his braces flew off of his trousers as he, unable to stop, began to approach Mother Earth again. One of the buttons whistled very closely past a fellow painter's ear, that of Sam Hill. He instinctively ducked fearing it was a gunshot and dislodged a can of paint from his position. It fell from quite a height hitting a lower support discharging paint over a passing transporter delivering new Dodge trucks. Was this the first Panic Button?

Charly "yo yo" Jackson dangled to a halt and was helped down to the safety net. What was a big hit with him were all the different coloured stars that he counted swirling round him although it was daytime. Recovering completely he noticed that his hat size had changed to two more sizes bigger than usual although he could now balance a tray with ease on his head. Bridge girder head butting was, thankfully, a short lived sport but he may unwittingly hold the first World record for Braces Jumping.

When the Dodge trucks were delivered one of them had a very "random art" paint job on the cab and rear load shelf. This was easily sold as the latest custom truck and the dealer set off a huge mystery at the factory when he requested several more of this "Splash" design model.

Barry Betteridge

Arts Section

WAMDRAMS performance of 'DUETS' – by Peter Quilter

Friday, 10th June, Willingale Village Hall

Under the skilful direction of John Jewiss and Allyson McKenna, the six strong cast gave their audience an enjoyable evening with their performance of 'Duets' – a trio of three short plays that deal with the dilemmas, joys, frustrations and romanticism (or lack of it) involved in male/female relationships, as portrayed in three very different couples.

Peter Quilter is a West End and Broadway playwright whose plays have been translated into over 20 languages and performed in more than 40 countries. I had never seen any of his work before, but discovered that he is an Essex man – born in Colchester. In 'Duets' he explores the strengths, frailties and eccentricities of his characters through the comedy, misunderstandings, memories, hopes and doubts that their different situations produce.

In 'Blind Date' middle-aged Jonathan and Wendy (played by Jim Noon and Jo Easter) meet at Jonathan's apartment via a magazine lonely-hearts column. Both have clearly had bad romantic experiences in the past, but are hoping to overcome their nerves, giving us some great comedy moments. Jonathan is uneasy, less than truthful about his age, romantic but rather shy, whereas Wendy's nerves make her a little over eager to please. She voices her dilemma over what to bring when turning up for a pre-dinner drink before going out to dinner on a blind date, 'What can a woman bring as a gift? It's easy for Men

–they can take flowers..' so she explains to a bemused Jonathan that she has brought him some cheese! However, we get the feeling that she may win out in the end. Excellent performances from both Jim Noon and Jo Easter.

The characters in 'Holiday' are a married, middle-aged couple, Bobby and Shelley, who have decided to go to Spain for one last fling before getting divorced!

('Holiday was paid for so we might as well have it' says practical Bobby, glumly.) Will the holiday and shared memories change their minds, we wonder? Shelley, determined to party into the small hours, is rapidly drowning in a sea of cocktails, much to Bobby's dismay as he attempts to restrain her drinking! Barry and Margaret Freeman were convincing in their roles and gave us plenty of laughs as well as moments of nostalgia and regret.

Finally, in 'The Bride To Be' we meet Angela and her brother Toby, played with great skill by Gemma Crouchman and Steve McFaul. Angela is in a neighbour's flat, in her bridal dress, about to get married for the third time, with brother, Toby, on hand to escort her to the Church. Angela is superstitious, nervous, and seeks endless reassurance from Toby about her dress – a cross between a voluminous white meringue and an unwieldy parachute - and whether she should go ahead with her third marriage. She begs Toby to get her coffee, for her nerves, then spills it down her dress! Toby's patience is almost exhausted before she eventually agrees to go out to the waiting car, but his relief is short-lived! We hear thunder and lightning and Angela enters, dripping hair and running mascara!

Toby reassures and coaxes Angela and we have glimpses of the strong brother/sister bond between them before Angela recovers her confidence sufficiently to go up the aisle again!

All three plays were well executed and very enjoyable. Congratulations to the Directors and the Cast, and to all those backstage workers who designed and created the set, found the props, managed the wardrobe, lighting and sound effects. A great team effort! Finally, I enjoyed the layout of the hall that was informal and relaxed and appreciated having a drink in the extended Bar! Here's to the next one, WAMDRAMS!

Howard Nicholson



Experienced DJs & Equipment Hire for Private Events

Top 40 Chart/Commercial,
Motown, Soul, 70s 80s & 90s,
Classic House Anthems,
Old School RnB, Indie, Rock
Disco and House.

Fresh & Fun | Competitive Rates |
Fully Insured

Contact Jaynee 07596720124
www.jayneewilkins.com

Fyfield Carpet Bowls



I really don't have much to report for this issue, as the Club has not done anything over the past two months,

other than to enjoy our Club nights.

We did, however, attend the Open Day at the Village Hall on Sunday 10th July. We laid down a carpet and let visitors 'have a go' at carpet bowls. Quite a few tried their hand and most really enjoyed it, even though they realised it wasn't quite as easy as they had thought! However, only one extra person actually attended our Club night on the following Tuesday, and this was someone who had previously been a member and who decided to return. A little disappointing that more did not give it a try, but we welcome Howard back to the fold!

I have not had any update on the afternoon session of the Bowls Club, but the outlook does not look good. I may have more news in my next report.

The County's first competition takes place on Sunday 25th September, with the Eastern Counties Team Bowl at Littleport, so I have nothing to report on that front until later in the year.

I hope everyone has a great summer and I'll catch you later.

Jacky Brown

The New Fyfield Bridge Club



Our Summer Social took place on Thursday, 14th July – a beautiful sunny evening (hopefully not the last of our unsettled summer) giving members an informal evening to enjoy both a drink or two of something nice, a few tasty nibbles, and the chance to socialise as well as play some Bridge. Excellent idea all round! Food and drink were contributed by members and the Committee under the general direction of Janet Brindley, Club Secretary. The results do not count towards the Endeavour Cup which is played for over the summer months, but on the first Thursday each month. Like most Bridge Clubs, we do have annual cups as well as the normal weekly results. These are the Endeavour Cup (played for over six summer months) and the Hadley Cup (played for during the six winter months). Interest in the competition for the Endeavour Cup is growing as we are more than half-way through. October is the month when the two

top players will be awarded the Endeavour Cup and they will hold it for a year.

Meanwhile the Club continues to attract a good attendance and Duplicate Bridge is flourishing in Fyfield! It is a very pleasant way of spending an evening and it's very good exercise for the brain cells! Having time to socialize a little more – rather than just before starting play or at tea-break time – is a bonus and gives members who come from around the area a chance to get to know each other better and, perhaps, even discuss a few Bridge pointers!

Duplicate Bridge is played at Fyfield Village Hall every Thursday evening, starting at 7.15pm promptly. New members are welcome. Parking is easy and you will be sure of a warm, friendly reception if you decide to come along. More information from Janet Brindley, Club Secretary, at fyfieldbridge@icloud.com

I'm off now to practice my card shuffling skills ... oops!

Julie Diamond

KAREN'S BUS SERVICE

- FULLY LICENCED, INSURED & CRB CHECKED
- LADY DRIVER
- VEHICLE UP TO 16 PASSENGERS
- WEDDINGS, PARTIES, AIRPORTS, DAYS OUT, NIGHTS OUT
- COMPETITIVE RATES

Tel: 07733407208



karensbus@gmail.com
www.karensbus-service.co.uk

1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group

The Beaver Colony - 5¾ to 8 years

The Beavers have been recycling for a few weeks and then brought lots of this in and then made a Robot, a Rocket and a boat. They explained how they thought their model would work.

The following week they designed a picture to create a stepping stone to give to their father or grandfather or Uncle for Father's Day. The next week they made a plaster cast stepping stone and then put their design on to the stone. The next week was spent with a story about a wizard that had dementia and forgot it was his birthday. The Beavers thought of different ways that he could be reminded. They also played some memory games. The Beavers went on a teddy bear picnic hike to the Discovery Wood they all really enjoyed themselves despite the rain they even managed to have a picnic as well.

Following the hike the next week they went back to the Discovery Wood and spent time finding out the names of trees and plants in the wood.

The last week of term there was a party and silly games involving lots of balloons and we also invested Kai Millington-Baltzer and Harry Stockdale. Susi also gave out World Challenge Award and Hikes badge to the colony.

The Cub Pack 7½ to 10½

The Cubs had a challenge to build the tallest tower out of junk and sit an egg on the top without breaking it. They all really enjoyed making these models and none of the eggs got broken. The next week all the cubs had the flower tubs to fill with bedding plants lots of mud and dirty hands but good fun and a tug of war on the field. Len Skinner our GSL came in the following week and he helped all the cubs make a branded key ring for their dads or grandfather or uncle for Father's Day. Unfortunately the rain was so torrential on the next week we had to abandon fire lighting and cook inside on portable gas stoves. They cooked flat dabs in a frying pan which they cut open and put jam inside and then toasted marshmallows and had these between to chocolate digestive biscuits (Smores). They went to the Discovery Wood and carried out an environmental survey on their senses, which they all enjoyed. On July 7th the cubs all went in their sixes on an orienteering hike around the local area. On the last night of term they had a BBQ and played sports games on the playing field. On this night we also invested Christopher Mustill-Beard and Jake Deller-Hendy went over the rope to Scouts. David then handed out

badges for nights away and navigator and musician and Teamwork Challenge Award.

Scout Troop - 10 to 14

On May the 20th the scouts prepared for the Waltham Walk the following day. This started at Good Easter made their way via several checkpoints and carried out lots of tests and got to Skreens Park campsite at Roxwell for the night. Then they continued the next day to Blackmore Village Hall going through various checkpoints and incidents. We had two mini trek teams (12 to 14 year olds) and two Teenie Trek teams (under 12 year olds) and 1 super vet team (leaders). The Teenie Trekkers were awarded a trophy and one of the mini trek teams won the highest placed Scout team and our other mini trek team was awarded the final finishing team place. A lot of teams did not finish so great to see all of ours finished the course. The next week we had a BBQ and the Grand Egg Throwing Competition which was won by Saffron Long and David McCarthy. The last weekend Scouts went to the Essex County Scouts Archery day. Everyone had a really good day and one of our parent helpers Lyndsey Bushell won the closest shot to the Gold and received a gold medal. Fire lighting was carried out by the younger Scouts and the older scouts were taught how to butcher a leg of lamb and how to cook kebabs on the fires made by the

younger Scouts. Father's day was a beer glass painting evening. We had some very nice designs. On the following night (Sunday) the Scouts went microlighting. Unfortunately only 5 of the 11 managed to get a flight as the weather turned windy and it was too hazardous to attempt anymore flights that day. We hope to reschedule during the summer holidays.

On the 24th June we played Scoutopoly which consisted of a lot of different challenges that each patrol had to complete. The following week we had further Pulling (rowing) training and pitching tents for summer camp. On the Sunday 11 scouts went back to the Docklands Scout Project to practice more on the water ready for summer camp. On the 8th July the whole troop went to Thriftwood Scout Campsite in Brentwood and we had booked the Cresta Run and the 3D Maze. Both of these activities were really good fun apart from the gnat bites everyone suffered. The last week of term the troop went for a ghost walk through to Greenstead Church and everyone enjoyed the walk and the hot chocolate at the end of it. Now it is preparation time for their summer Camp to the Dartmouth Regatta at the end of August.

At the beginning of June the Scouts had shooting practice on a Monday night to practice for

The National Scout Rifle Championships at Bisley in October. They had a competition to see who would win a place in the team.

Explorer Unit - 13½ - 18

The Explorer unit started back at the end of June after the long exam period. They celebrated with a Chicken and Chip supper and games night. The next 2 weeks were spent in shooting practice for the National Scout Rifle Championships at Bisley in October. They then had a competition to see who would be in the team. On Friday the 15th July 18 members of the Explorer Unit and their leaders plus 4 of the older Scouts went on a trip to the Olympic White Water Raft Centre in Lee Valley Park. They had a wonderful evening and a good relaxation after a hard term for most of them.

Scout Group News

56 members of the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scout plus their leaders are visiting Rope Runners at the Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker on Monday 18th July. The weather forecast is great so I hope they all have a wonderful time.

In July both the Scouts and Explorer Scouts have also attended bag packing sessions at Tesco in Epping. This is a way for the young people to raise their own funds towards camps and activities. We start section meetings on Tuesday 6th September for Beavers and Explorer Scouts and 8th September for Cubs and 9th September for the Scout Troop.

Mary Bacon

Chairman 1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group 01277 899052 mobile

07554933563

Marybaconx1@aol.com



Items for Sale

2 x Hardwood Sun Loungers with cushions (as new)

Bargain for **£90** each

Call Colette on 01277 89919

Pine Bookcase 3ft 6 inches High & 4 foot Wide

£50 ono

Ian 899840

Ladies Bike Boomerang Weekender With a metal basket on the front.

15 gears. As New condition. Used only about a dozen times.

Silver and Blue very nice bike. **£50.00**

01277 899838

Hill Billy electric Golf Trolley complete with battery & charger. Old but works.

Battery may need replacing. **£30 ono**

Ian 899840



1st 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. 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
Ian Hadley – 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	899041
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			Brownies	Jane Davenport	899389
Afternoon	Laurie King	899249	Guides	Alison Lavender	01277 365842
Evenings	Jacky Brown	899076	Beavers	Alison Eckley	899210
Cricket Club	Nancy Bridge	899503	Cubs	David Gordon	896321
Dr Walkers School	Mrs Myers	899298	Scouts	Mary Bacon	899052
Friends of St Nicholas	Allan Cook	899240	Explorer Scouts	Simon Mountly	07939 158980
Fyfield Art Group	Wendy Henshaw	899367	St Nicholas' Church	TBA	TBA
Fyfield Focus	Cheryl Hadley	899840	Wardens/Allotmnts	Marcus Dain	899590
Funtime Friday	TBA	TBA		David Bessell	07886075889
Mardon Ash Ongar FC	Jim Glasscock	07824464890	Village Hall		
Ongar & Villages			Chair	Marie Apperley	899386
Community Care	Mary & Roger Rolls	365363	Bookings	Elaine Tunnard	899306
Luncheon Club			Box Office-Events	Patti Nicholson	899504
Bookings	Wendy Henshaw	899367	Sports & Social Club	Nancy Bridge	899503
Team Organiser	Jan Hall	899808	Womens Institute	Jo Balcombe	899141
Pilates	Claire	07903121003	WD50+ Exercise Club	Patti Nicholson	899504
Poppets Day Nursery	Katie Holloway	365488			
Pre-School	Jane Wright	366801			
	Julie Read	899133			

Websites: www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk www.essexinfo.net/fyfield-parish-council/ www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk

CALL PAUL

For ALL your Taxi needs - Airports/Weddings/Parties/Small Deliveries/Local trips/London etc



Passengers up to:	4	5/6	7/8
Gatwick (each way)	£74	£98	£148
Heathrow (each way)	£77	£104	£154
Luton (each way)	£72	£100	£144
Stansted (each way)	£30	£46	£60
City Airport (each way)	£42	£60	£84

+ 15% Unsociable Hours (12 midnight - 6 am)

All cars are fully licensed & insured & maintained to the highest standard

Next time you need a **TAXI** why not **CALL PAUL**

07960 633244 callpaulovel@gmail.com www.fyfieldtaxi.com