

Fyfield *Focus*

Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year

2019



From All at the
Fyfield Focus

Turning on The Lights & Tree Blessing





Lights On!

Christmas Starts Here

Christmas must be coming! Over 100 people came to see the turning on of the Christmas lights in the centre of Fyfield on Friday November 23rd.



Reverend Christine Hawkins switched on the lights and blessed the tree. Children from Dr Walker's School sang carols and mulled wine and mince pies were served to the adults and soft drinks to the children. The tree was sponsored by Ernest Doe Ltd, the mulled wine by the Parish Council, the mince pies and soft drinks by the Queen's Head and the electricity for the lights by Mick Onslow.

Gypsy Mead Plans Disclosed

On Monday October 15th the Luna Group, new owners of the Gypsy Mead site, gave a public presentation of their plans for a development of 24 new homes.

Over 70 residents attended at the Fyfield Village Hall and asked questions of the developers regarding many aspects of the development. To date, the developers have not yet submitted their final plans to Epping Forest District Council indicating that no decision will be forthcoming until February/March 2019.

Celebration for Wendy



To celebrate the retirement of Wendy Henshaw from the Fyfield Village Hall committee

after almost 50 years, a special afternoon tea was held on Sunday 18th November. Friends and colleagues from all of the many organisations that she has been involved with over the years were invited along.

Village Diary 2018/19

03-Dec	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
04-Dec	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
05-Dec	Christingle Service with Rainbows, Brownies & Guides	The Church, 5.45pm
06-Dec	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
06-Dec	St Nicholas Day Service with Dr Walker's	The Church, 2.30pm
08-Dec	Fyfield Christmas Lunch	Village Hall, 12.30pm
08-Dec	Help for Heroes - Bingo Night	Village Hall, 7.00pm
09-Dec	Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk	Village Hall Car Park, 10am
17-Dec	Christingle Service with Dr Walker's	The Church, 2.30pm
24-Dec	Midnight Mass - 1st Communion of Christmas	The Church, 11pm
07-Jan	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
09-Jan	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
10-Jan	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
13-Jan	Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk	Village Hall Car Park, 10am
16-Jan	Fyfield Litter Pick	Village Shop, 9.30am
21-Jan	Fyfield Festival Meeting	The Church, 8pm
22-Jan	Fyfield Film Club	The Zinc, 12.30pm
02-Feb	Fyfield Village Hall - Fun Quiz Evening	Village Hall 7.00pm
04-Feb	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
05-Feb	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
07-Feb	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
10-Feb	Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk	Village Hall Car Park, 10am
13-Feb	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
04-Mar	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
05-Mar	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am

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.

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We hope you enjoy reading all the village news in this special colour Christmas edition of the Focus which has been kindly sponsored by Nikhil Patel the

owner of our Village Store and Post Office.

The colour gives us the opportunity to share with you photos of new and past events in 2018 and this year it is wonderful that we can include photos of the Fyfield Christmas Tree event. What a huge success this was and I understand this event will be repeated next year.

Christmas is a very busy time for the Church and this year Rev. Christine Hawkins is holding a number of Christmas services in the Church and a St. Nicholas Day service which everyone is very welcome to join. Our Christmas Carol service is on the 9th December and this year the completed Applique Art Work, which tells the story of our Patron Saint, St. Nicholas, will be on temporary display at the service so do try to be at the service and enjoy the Candlelit Church and the wonderful Benefice Choir. Rev. Chris is also holding Quiet Mornings for Advent at the Rectory. Please see the list of Church Services, Village Diary and Adverts for details.

Our Village Hall has been very busy again this year and has re-scheduled the Quiz Night for February and continues to take many bookings for events and regular club meetings. Its long standing Committee Member, Wendy Henshaw,

retired in November and was given a special send off as a thank you for all her hard work and valuable contribution to the Village Hall for many years.

The Fyfield Luncheon Club is holding their Christmas Lunch on the 8th December and in the evening Help for Heroes are holding a Bingo Night – see Village Diary and articles for details.

It was 10 years on 6th November when the first bridge club in Fyfield opened (The Fyfield Bridge Club) which in 2015 became a members club and is now known as The Fyfield, Ongar & District Bridge Club. There will be an article appearing shortly in the Focus about the history of the Bridge Club to celebrate this 10th Anniversary.

Star Fishmongers moved from Ongar to Calcott Farm in September and it is proving to be a successful move. David serves top quality fresh fish and willingly shares his recipes and inspiration so pay him a visit. We have a number of new advertisers this month Classic Travel which is based in Loughton and is owned by local people who live in Moreton. Also GS Carcare is a family run vehicle repair & maintenance business based in High Ongar. We really appreciate the support from our advertisers because without them we couldn't produce the Focus.

Have a wonderful Christmas and wishing you a healthy and happy New Year from everyone at the Fyfield Focus.

*Cheryl Hadley,
Editor.*

Services at St Nicholas' Church, Fyfield

Priest in Charge: Reverend Christine Hawkins 01277 286113
Churchwarden: Carol Cox 01277 899245

St Nicholas, Fyfield

December	2	NO SERVICE	
December	5	5.45	Christingle with Rainbows, Brownies & Guides (all welcome)
December	6	14.30	Service for St Nicholas Day with Dr Walker's School (all welcome)
December	9	18.00	9 Lessons & Carols with Benefice Choir
December	16	NO SERVICE	
December	17	14.30	Christingle with Dr Walker's School (all welcome)
December	23	11.00	Family Service
December	24	23.00	'Midnight' Mass (1 st Communion of Christmas)
December	25	NO SERVICE	
January	6	NO SERVICE	
January	13	18.00	Holy Communion
January	20	NO SERVICE	
January	27	11.00	Family Service

We are unable to continue to hold an 11 am service on the first Sunday of the month

St Mary the Virgin, Moreton

December	2	09.30	Family Communion
December	16	18.00	9 Lessons & Carols with Benefice Choir
December	21	19.30	'The Longest Night' (service for those who find it hard at Christmas)
January	6	09.30	Family Communion (The Epiphany)
January	20	09.30	Family Service

St Germain, Bobbingworth

December	2	11.00	Family Service
December	16	16.00	9 Lessons & Carols with Benefice Choir
December	24	16.00	Pilgrimage to Bethlehem (Family Service around the crib)
January	6	11.00	Family Service (The Epiphany)
January	20	11.00	Family Communion

St Christopher, Willingale

December	9	16.00	9 Lessons & Carols with Benefice Choir
December	23	09.30	Holy Communion with Carols
December	25	10.00	Christmas Day Communion
January	13	09.30	Family Service
January	20	18.00	Evening Prayer (1662 Prayerbook)
January	27	09.30	Holy Communion

Fyfield Food Bank

The Fyfield Food Bank donates to the Michael Roberts Charitable Trust, which is an inclusive charity that assists people who are in genuine need. The food bank is providing emergency food for over 2700 people in crisis each year and supplying food to support front-line professional care agencies.

Marcus Dain set up the food bank and it would be part of his legacy that we should continue this vital service to the less fortunate.

I have listed below the most useful items that people might like to donate. It is important that the dates on all these items are as long as possible. There are two points of collection: one inside the church and the other in the Fyfield Village Store and Post Office.

Tinned tomatoes	Tinned vegetables
Long-life juice	Sugar
Squash	Toilet Rolls
Sponge puddings	Toothpaste
Instant mashed potatoes	Toothbrush
Rice pudding	Shampoo
Long-life milk	Shower Gel
Tinned fruit	Deodorant
Tinned meat	Razor
Jam/spreads	Female Hygiene Products

So thank you to everyone who has generously contributed to the food bank. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Margaret Dines

Fyfield Pre-School

I would like to thank the Fyfield Pre-School for giving their Harvest Gifts to the Food Bank. We are most grateful for your donations.

Carol Cox
Church Warden



Dear Friends

Our thoughts turn to the Christmas Season once more.

It's not an easy time of year for many people, especially those who are sick or newly bereaved; those for whom

money is really in short supply and those who have suffered the loss of a job or an important relationship.

This year, in recognition of the fact that the season can be hard for some of us, I am introducing a new service – ‘The Longest Night’. It will be held at St Mary’s, Moreton on Friday 21 December – the winter solstice; the shortest day and longest night. You will be most welcome to join us for a short, reflective time together. Full details appear inside the magazine.

I want to share the following poem with you.

It was written by a Quaker, U A Fanthorpe (1929 – 2009), who used to write a new poem every year to include in Christmas Cards to her friends. This poem strikes me for its simplicity and lack of sentimentality; a contrast to the ‘Hallmark’ style of greetings we read all too often at this time of year. Fanthorpe writes in sonnet form and in fourteen short lines brings the reader face to face with the extraordinary truth of the gospel:

BC:AD

This was the moment when Before Turned into After, and the future's Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.

This was the moment when nothing Happened. Only dull peace Sprawled boringly over the earth.

This was the moment when even energetic Romans Could find nothing better to do Than counting heads in remote provinces.

And this was the moment When a few farm workers and three Members of an obscure Persian sect Walked haphazard by starlight straight Into the kingdom of heaven.

U A Fanthorpe

Playing with the concept of ‘BC’ (before Christ) turning into AD (Anno Domini, the year of our Lord), the opening lines allude to the difficulty in pinning down the exact date of Jesus’ birth. It is likely that he was born before the date when BC and AD changed places.

In the second stanza, the author claims that ‘*nothing Happened*’. This is an odd statement given that Christians believe that the Christmas event is so significant. But it seems that the ‘nothingness’ that Fanthorpe wants us to think of is the relative ‘*dull*’ peace that the angels announce – an absence of the comparatively exciting elements of war and conflict, which human beings seem to prefer.

The third stanza refers to the historic moment when Mary and Joseph travelled to Bethlehem for the census imposed by the occupying Romans. Here, the emphasis is on the boring again; the tedious administrative process of counting heads, rather than tuning into the wonderful mystery being unfolded in the birth of a baby.

The final lines reflect the familiar characters from our nativity scenes. Here, the shepherds become 'a few farm workers' and the wise men are depicted as 'three members of an obscure Persian sect'. The humble shepherds (the lowest of the low in Palestine at the time) and the strange foreign visitors (maybe the equivalent of refugees in our day), bore witness to the birth of an ordinary human child, in unsanitary conditions and in grinding poverty, like many babies before him and many after him. Yet, at the same time, the place that they walked into 'haphazard by starlight' was no less than the kingdom of heaven.



We can arrive at that place too. It is just a short journey away if we but open our hearts and minds to the possibility. I pray that, this Christmas, you too might wander 'haphazard by starlight' straight into an experience of heaven. I wish you all a blessed and happy Christmas.

Chris.

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

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Fyfield Festival 2019

The date for this event is

Sunday 2nd June at 12noon – 4pm

The Theme for the Flowers in the Church is

‘A Good Read’

So far we have

Many Interesting Stalls

A Fun Dog Show

The Fyfield Handbell Ringers



The next meeting is on Monday 21st January, at 8pm in the church. We welcome your support and new ideas, so please come along.

Carol Cox

Quiet Mornings for Advent

On the theme of the ‘O’ Antiphons led by

Rev Chris

On four Mondays before Christmas:

- ❖ Monday 26 November
- ❖ Monday 3 December
- ❖ Monday 10 December
- ❖ Monday 17 December

Time: 09.30 – 12 Noon

Venue: Fyfield Rectory – 6 Forest Drive, Fyfield

☎ 01277 286113 ✉



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Jason and I are never happier than when we're discussing different ways to turn our produce into mouth-watering meals and here at Calcott Hall Farm you can buy all the accompaniments you need to create the very best dishes. Seafood Sundays give us the opportunity to showcase traditional shellfish including winkles, whole and dressed Sherringham crab and Maldon oysters, not forgetting our handmade fish pates and prawn cocktail.

SEE YOU SOON!

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Tuesday 22nd January 2019
from 12.30pm to c.4pm*

Ticket price is £7 to include a two course lunch** and a film

AT

Zinc Arts Centre***,
High Street,
Ongar, CM5 0AD

Fyfield Parish Council have organised an event for our community (and the surrounding villages) to get out of their homes and we hope do something a bit different. Perhaps to meet or make some new friends, or just enjoy an old film on a big screen in the very comfortable surroundings of the Zinc Arts Centre.

Please do book early to avoid disappointment as the event has now become so popular that we have had our numbers capped to a maximum of 45 people seated for lunch.

RSVP by Wednesday 16 January 2019 to Liselle on 01277 899 262

to confirm one of the limited tickets available and any allergy requirements.

We very much look forward to welcoming you and please tell anyone who you think may also enjoy or benefit from an outing to the Fyfield Film Club.

NB. If you have RSVP'd and do change your mind, please do also cancel if you wish to by the RSVP date, otherwise we are committed to paying for empty seats and a place someone else may have enjoyed.

*Lunch will be served at 12.45pm and we aim to start the movie by c.1.30pm.

**Lunch will be chicken casserole and apple crumble and custard

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Ongar Health Centre PPG



The Ongar Health Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG) has continued to be busy and we have recently published our second newsletter. An e-version has been sent out to those Ongar Health Centre patients who have signed up to receive our news by e-mail, and some 100 hard copies have been printed by the practice, which can be collected from reception.

The PPG is now on Twitter - please follow us at @ongarppg. We are using the social media forum to publicise health news, not only from the practice, but also from other local health organisations. If you are not on Twitter, you can see all of our posts at www.twitter.co.uk/ongarppg Through platforms such as these, we are keen to reach out to as many patients and local organisations as possible.

We are also keen to target younger age groups as part of our efforts to increase membership.

Are you a member of a 'mother and baby' group, a pre or post-natal group or are you a carer?

If so, your voice is important and you are exactly the people whose views are so valuable to the Ongar Health Centre. So please consider supporting the PPG with your involvement.

You can complete a sign up form at the surgery to join in with PPG activities such

as patient surveys, as well as sign up to the e-newsletter and virtual PPG group. There is also a link to the sign up forms on the PPG page of the Health Centre website <http://www.ongarhealthcentre.co.uk/> We also encourage you to check our newly dedicated space on the notice board by the surgery ground floor lift for PPG updates and sign up information.

You may have seen PPG committee members at the recent Saturday flu clinics. Do say hello if you are attending any of the clinics in November. PPG committee members will also be attending a partners' meeting. Meeting with the GPs and other healthcare staff will help us work towards our objectives by initiating dialogue and working towards the compilation of patient surveys. The trialled new appointment system will no doubt be on the agenda.

Please get in touch if you have any ideas on how you would like your PPG to help improve services at Ongar Health Centre, or if you would like to become more involved yourself by joining the committee.

You can contact us by emailing ongarppgnews@gmail.com or leave any correspondence for our attention at the practice reception.

Ongar Health Centre PPG Committee



Fyfield Pre-School



Fyfield Pre-School has had a busy return to term. All the children were invited to a special Halloween themed party and dressed in

their best costumes for the fun. They enjoyed sports themed games, party food and spooky crafts.

Pre-School families dug deep to provide food items for Harvest and a group of children and staff took the supplies to a special service at St Nicholas' Church. These were passed onto a local food bank to help families in need in the area. Pre-School manager Lisa Carey said, "The children behaved perfectly and enjoyed taking the food for Harvest to Church. Thank you to our families for their donations."

Fyfield Swan

He's back. Our own swan has returned again for his annual visit to Fyfield.

He must be about four years of age now but, as yet, he seems not to have the company of a mate. Keep looking friend, somewhere there is a mate for you.

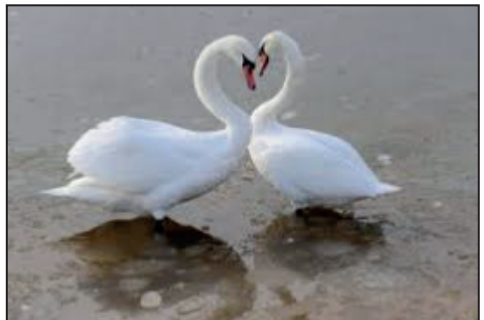
The children are now looking forward to their Christmas activities culminating in a show for parents and carers.



Fyfield Pre-School Halloween Celebration

For more information on the term time for pre-school which is based in the Scout Hut please call 01277 899678 or visit www.fyfieldpreschool.co.uk

Michelle Breavington



Fyfield Litter Pickers

The weather was very kind to us on our last litter pick on the 24th October - it was dry and very sunny and was a pleasure to be out enjoying our village and the fresh air.

Our route was from the shop down to the Black Bull clearing the verges and paths on both sides then back up to the Shop for 9.30 (the official litter pick start time) to see if anyone else was going to join the group of two. There were no litter pickers to join us so we continued up the Ongar Road finishing at the end of the large area of grass and trees in front of Elmbridge Gate. Again, clearing all footpaths and verges on both sides which resulted in two full black sacks and 3 metal poles which we found on the grass verge opposite Roding Close! Now I wonder what Fiona would have thought about that finding if she had been with us and not recovering from her seven day Camino de Santiago trek!!

On the large grass verge in front of Elmbridge Gate we found a filled Dog Pooh bag (which we have disposed of). I have never fathomed why a dog owner will clear up after their dog but doesn't dispose of the bag responsibly. It drives me mad and it gives us dog owners a bad name!! It seems that not only do some dog owners like to throw pooh bags into the trees and bushes and leave them hanging like decorations but now we have litter louts who have decided to throw filled carrier bags up into our trees - see photo below.

On a good note, in addition to our bi-monthly litter pick, we do know of a number of people in our village who go out on their own and litter pick and also

people who litter pick as they go about their business in the village. So a big thank you to everyone who does help towards keeping our lovely village as litter free as possible.

You may have noticed that the litter bin next to our bus stop has disappeared. Well, it is being replaced all thanks to Derek Farr, our Parish Clerk, who has organised a replacement. We also



approached our Parish Council to see if EFDC would place a litter bin in the layby on Ongar Road opposite the private road leading up to Bundish Hall. Unfortunately, EFDC do

not have an appetite currently to give us an extra bin so we are looking at our village to see if we can identify a litter bin that doesn't get used that could be better placed on the layby. If you are aware of such a bin eMail the Fyfield Focus (fyfieldfocus.org.uk).

Our next Litter Pick is on **Wednesday, 16th January, 2019 at 9.30am outside our Village Shop & Post Office.** If you fancy joining Fiona, Heather or I we would be very happy to see you. Just bring a black bag and rubber gloves.

Cheryl Hadley

Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea



The Church Afternoon Tea opened its doors on Wednesday, 20th July, 2016 and continued until July 20th 2018. Due to the success of the monthly afternoon tea it then started to offer lunch and became the Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea. During this time the team have used the profits to make donations to various charities, as well as helping out with some of the Church maintenance costs. The monies left at time of closure is £400 and the team have decided to donate this to the following:

Alzheimer's Society - £100

British Heart Foundation - £100

Marie Curie - £100

The Fyfield Focus - £100

The team are still keen to open up as a Pop-up Café and look forward to welcoming back its supporters. Dates will be advertised in the Fyfield Focus.

Jan Hall and Team



THE LAVERS AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



www.lavershorticulturalsociety.co.uk
lavershorticultural@gmail.com

The meetings are held on Mondays in Moreton Village Hall (unless otherwise stated) 7pm for 7.30pm - Feb-Dec. If you wish to become a member or just enjoy gardening why not give it a go. Yearly membership is £10 for a single or £18 for a double. Guests/taster visits £3. Parking is available in Moreton school car park.

Dates for your diary:

December 3rd: Members Only

January 2019 - No meeting

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St. Nicholas' Church – Applique Wall Art Banner

Our banner has been sewn together and is looking spectacular.

At our workshop on 8th October our tutor Becky announced to us that she wants to borrow it next August to enter it into the quilting exhibition at Birmingham NEC. We were overwhelmed when Becky asked us if this would be ok. We spent time at the workshop working out how to fix the banner on to the chancel wall and unfortunately we have now discovered that to hang it on the wall we have to get a faculty. This is the Church of England's planning permission and it also protects the art work for the future. This will take some time but we hope that we will be able to display it on a temporary basis for all to see before Christmas if possible.

We spent the rest of our workshop sewing on the sleeves to hold it in place and on 19th November we will be hemming it all

round hopefully many hands will get it finished.

We started it in 2016 and it has proved to be a wonderful community project. Members taking part are writing their thoughts about the project to be put into a book for posterity.

We think that we will need a bit more funding to have it fixed professionally and to buy a backing membrane to stop the damp getting to our work.

At our workshop on 19th November both Becky and Rev. Chris were able to attend. Rev. Chris was very impressed with our banner. It was agreed that we would have it on display for the Carol Service.

We do hope that you will be able to come to the Carol Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on **Sunday, 9th December at 6.00 p.m.** and also see our applique wall art banner on the Story of St. Nicholas which will be on temporary view.

Wendy Henshaw

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Remembering Remembrance



As we all approached our village church, we were greeted by the 'muffled' tower bells; even the fallen November leaves

on paths and grass were somehow symbolic.

The centenary of Armistice Day, as it should be, has been very special – but, somehow, that word is inadequate – it has been truly extraordinary.

The coverage in all media; the, until now, completely hidden memories of individuals and families, shared with a nation. Display and broadcasting of correspondence between those on the front line and loved ones still enjoying relative home comforts – sometimes coming to unexplained and shuddering full stops. Yet we can all guess why.

Many not questioning their fate; others resigned to the worst and undergoing unbearable trauma on a daily basis – yet still apparently not asking 'Why?'

Poignant and moving, as Remembrance Day always is, this anniversary has led to imaginative and creative events and displays locally, nationally and internationally.

From the daily lighting of torches in the Tower Moat, to streams and carpets of knitted poppies. Whole streets arrayed in red. The advent of the 'variegated' poppy, perhaps for the first time, acting as a

tangible reminder of those who gave or lost so much, but were non-combatants. From the resonance of the 'War Horse' song: '*Only Remembered for What We Have Done*' brings it a little closer to home. A reminder – and sometimes we need reminding – of the destruction, waste and sacrifice across many nations, as we remembered those, even closer to home. In our small village alone, some 54 men did not return to their loved ones. Some named families lost 2, 3 or even 4 from the same family group. The pain and anguish are almost unthinkable.

Yet, as David Bessell, who so movingly led our Act of Remembrance, reminded us, the silence that fell at 11.00 am on the eleventh of this month, 100 years ago, can hardly have been less than surreal to those in the trenches at that time. We were all reminded of the power of silence on Sunday 11th this year as we shared that experience, but in the comfort of our village church.

After the service our Handbell Ringers played a programme of WW1 songs and music, greatly enjoyed by those who lingered to enjoy welcome refreshment.

At 12.30, with our Act of Remembrance complete, our Tower Bell Ringers struck up again, joining many others across the nation

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Saturday 9.00am to 12.30pm

Sunday Closed

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24th – Normal

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27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st – Normal

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Tel: 01277 899201



As usual in October we had another delicious lunch provided by the Queen's Head and desserts made and served by the team made up of Julie Robinson, Fran Homersham, Linda Seels and Jan Hall.

In November we had Roast Beef from the Queen's Head and Head Chef & Owner Dan and Chef Sam came along to carve the beef and serve the diners. The team consisting of Carol Cox, Margaret Cox, Trish Jones, Jenny Stone and Jan Hall made some delicious desserts and like the members enjoyed the visit of the Chefs.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers. Not only are the lunches enjoyed but it is a great social time. Names were taken in October and November for the Christmas lunch on Saturday 8th December. 12.30 p.m for 1.00p.m. at the Village Hall.

There is still time to book:

**Fyfield Christmas Lunch,
Saturday, 8th December at 12.30 pm for
1.00pm at the Village Hall
Phone Wendy on 01277 899367 to book a
place.**

Wendy Henshaw



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Firstly, apologies for the cancellation of the Quiz Night in November.

However, we have rescheduled the Quiz Night for 2nd February 2019 at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. If you would like to come and join us please contact myself on 01277 899386 or Elaine Tunnard on 07956440894. You should also have started to receive our 100 Club letters. Please do try to support this initiative, as we would very much like to provide a defibrillator at the Village Hall in the New Year. There is also the Christmas Lunch on 8th December and the Help for Heroes Bingo on the same evening at 7pm for 7.30pm.

However, I would like to dedicate the majority of this update to a very special lady. Many of you know Wendy Henshaw, I don't think there is a committee or club that she has not been part of since she moved to the village over 50 years ago. However, we at the Village Hall have been especially lucky to have had Wendy on our committee for nearly 50 years. During that time, she has seen the move to the Sports field, the extension of the Monica Couling Room and the recent refurbishments. However, what many may not know is that Wendy has played a vital part in acquiring funding for all of these developments over the years. She secured £25,000 for last year's work, and a further grant of £20,000 so that we can refurbish the

kitchen in the near future. The money she has raised for the Village Hall must run into many tens of thousands of pounds.

Her knowledge, expertise, hard work and above all good humour have made working with Wendy a delight. Unfortunately, Wendy has decided that due to recent ill health, she has to take a step back and is retiring from our committee. It goes without saying that she will be missed terribly. I honestly don't know anyone else who knows so much or so many people, or who has worked so hard for so many years.

Although Wendy has served on our committee for nearly 50 years, she has also worked tirelessly with the Brownies and Guides, St Nicholas' Church and the WI. Wendy was also the school secretary when my children were at Dr Walkers. These are just a few of the organisations that she has helped, and I think as a village we need to acknowledge that without people like Wendy, we would live in a far less pleasant place.

With the recent loss of Marcus Dain, and with Wendy retiring, it has brought into sharp focus that this village relies on many unsung heroes that help us for many years, without asking for praise or recognition. Our village would be a much poorer place without the likes of Wendy Henshaw, who is somebody we should cherish and appreciate. When we moan about our busy lives, take a moment to think about people like Wendy

and Marcus who never complained but just kept going, helping, advising, organising and supporting everyone as well as working and bringing up their own families.

and we look forward to seeing you in 2019.

Marie Apperley
Chair

Wendy, thank you. You have been, and still are an inspiration. We will miss you enormously, but you can't escape, I think we may still need to pick your brains on a regular basis! Also, please come back when we have a function so that you can keep an eye on us.

And so to close, from everyone at Fyfield Village Hall, have a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year. Thank you for your support during 2018



Thank You

What a lovely surprise on my return from holiday; a tea party as good as the Ritz.

Thank you so much to Marie, the Fyfield Village Hall Committee and everyone who came on Sunday to make such a lovely party.

Huge thanks for the beautiful vase with flowers and the garden vouchers that I shall enjoy spending.

Wendy Henshaw





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At our October meeting, Barbara Falkner entitled her talk 'See A Pin And Pick It Up". This intriguing title produced a

wonderful story of the uses of pins throughout history. We learnt that pins were being used about 4,000 years ago when a lot of them were bone pins. During the 14th century over 12,000 pins were recorded as being made. Pins were originally used for fastening clothes instead of sewing, thus garments could have several different sleeves. Pin making was a cottage industry and at one time 2,000 children were employed in London putting on the heads of pins. During the 17th century factories started making pins, and automatic pin making started in the 19th century. We learnt that papers were originally pinned together before paper clips were

invented, that safety pins and nappy pins were invented by an American, and that drawing pins were invented to hold drawings in place. Another interesting fact was that Edwardian hats had 16inch hat pins. There were several letters to newspapers declaring them as dangerous, although it was suggested women could also use them as a weapon if molested. Barbara had many examples of decorative hat pins to show us.

Recently, some members of the W.I. had an outing and visited The Haven Plotlands Museum which is situated near Langdon on a site of some 450 acres which is now owned by Essex Wildlife Trust. The museum was furnished as it would have been in the 1940's. The members learnt that in 1933, Frederick Mils, a carpenter from Romford, purchased three adjacent plots for £20 which was paid in 24 instalments. In 1934, the family lived in a

Fyfield Coffee Morning (in the church)

*Please come and join us for
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tent whilst the sheds were built, and then in the sheds whilst the original two-roomed bungalow was being built. Members of the family lived there until 1975. Then between 1975 and 1982, Nick and Mary Cooke lived there as caretakers. In 1982, The Haven was bought by the Commission for New Towns and renovation began with The Haven Plotlands Museum officially opening in 1984. Members found the history of this little known museum fascinating.

At our November meeting, Maggie Piper stepped in at short notice and gave us a presentation of beautiful photographs of Royal Residences. These included:

Buckingham Palace – we learnt that James I planted mulberry trees in the garden to encourage the silk trade, but during the Commonwealth it fell into disrepair and in 1698 was sold to the Duke of Buckingham, from where the name comes. George III then purchased it and commissioned many renovations to make room for his family of 15. His son, George IV, hired John Nash to renovate it further and he built on wings making it into a ‘U’ shaped structure. When Queen Victoria came to the throne, she made it her Royal Residence but complained about the lack of space for entertaining, so Edward Blore was employed to enclose the forecourt and

construct staterooms and ballrooms. It is now the administrative headquarters of the monarchy. It has 775 rooms including 19 staterooms, 52 royal and guest rooms, 188 staff bedrooms, 92 offices and 78 bathrooms.

Hampton Court Palace – this residence started being built in 1515 for Cardinal Thomas Wolsey who gave it to Henry VIII to gain favour, Henry then enlarged it. Along with *St. James Palace* (which was the official Royal Residence from 1531 until 1837) it is one of only two residences left that were owned by Henry VIII.

Balmoral Castle – we learnt that this residence was bought by Prince Albert, along with *Osbourne House*, and that he redesigned them, the latter in the style of an Italian Renaissance palazzo. Other photographs shown were of *Kensington Palace* and *Sandringham*.

Our next meeting is on the 6th December in Fyfield Village Hall starting at 2.00pm when we learn about The Art of Magic with Paul Clancy. We are always pleased to welcome visitors so do come along and join us.

Wendy Henshaw



Fyfield & District Women's Institute Programme 2019

Meetings are held on the first Thursday in the month
(second in January) at 2.00pm in the Village Hall.

Our programme for the next year is interesting and varied.
New members are very welcome. Just come along or contact
the President on 01277 899367 if you need more information.

January 10 th .	Speaker from Essex & Herts. Air Ambulance	
February 7 th .	John Watkins	Living The Dream
March 7 th .	MEMBERS MEETING	
	Jane Robinson	English Cheeses
March 28 th .	CRIPSEY GROUP MEETING	
April 4 th .	June Wells	Storytelling – A Craft Reborn
May 2 nd .	ANNUAL MEETING & RESOLUTIONS	
June 6 th .	Kayla Conley	The Hidden Messages In Dreams
July 4 th .	Ann McLaren	Tales of Vicky – The Camper Van
August	NO MEETING	
September 5 th .	Margaret Mills	Extracts From Essex History
October 3 rd .	Ray Spiller	TV & Radio Themes 1940's To Date
November 7 th .	Anita Marie Sacket	Victorian Christmas
December 5 th .	Danielle Barnet	Sing A Song Of Christmas

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

One again Christmas has crept up on us, another year older and all that. You know when its coming when you see the 'order your Xmas Turkey' sign on the A414 and the big ticket Christmas ads appear on TV. One thing is for sure, with the weather so changeable, we could have a heatwave or 6ft of snow over the Christmas break.

I did something the other day that I have never done before, pay in a cheque via my banking app. In the past I have always paid in at a local branch but now that local branches are becoming a thing of the past we are left, thankfully, with paying in at the Post Office which is great but involves a delay. Paying in via your banking app means that you scan in both sides of a cheque and then submit it to your bank on-line. Just remember to hold onto the cheque until it appears on your statement so that if there are any problems you can present the cheque again. Please note that you cannot keep scanning the same cheque or if you can there is yet another flaw in on-line banking.

When I run out of topics for this column (or topics that are allowable; plenty that aren't) I revert to Chrystal Ball gazing. These predictions should not be taken seriously. To help you, just imagine that President Trump had written them.

Fyfield

Plans to connect Fyfield to Ongar with a super tram service are progressing well. If the super tram proves a success there

are preliminary plans to extend the service to Willingale and beyond and the proposed new retail park (Ongar World) near Chipping Ongar Airfield.



Ongar

Now that the High Street has collapsed and become a ditch there are plans to convert it into an underpass which can be used by the super tram on the route to Brentwood. As there are now no shops left in Ongar, the super tram will not stop there but proceed directly to the new John Lewis and Waitrose stores in Brentwood and then onto the Cross Rail terminus at Shenfield.

This shortens the journey time from Fyfield to Brentwood to 10 minutes with a further 10 minutes to the West End shops via the Elizabeth Line.

Brexit

The UK, having got over teething problems of leaving the EU, is thriving. The EU however, is struggling financially with the German economy at risk from continually supporting Greece, Italy & Portugal. Rumour has it that the Ger-

man government have had secret talks with the UK about a plan for them to leave the EU and join together with the UK in a new tariff free zone referred to as the Common Market. Ex UK Prime Minister, David Cameron, is rumoured to be an advisor on the referendum that Germany would require to take the first step to GEXIT.

As a result of the success of Brexit and the booming UK economy the Chinese are investing heavily in the UK. The recent purchase of Stansted Airport has progressed the plans for a 3rd runway which the new Chinese owners say will be constructed within four weeks of starting. A workforce numbering 10,000 Chinese workers are currently on standby to fly into the UK. The Black Bull Hotel is already taking bookings and is hiring 40 large motor homes to be located on its new Stansted Airport Off-Airport Valet Parking Service area on the fields near the Black Bull.

The latest airline operating out of Stansted is Hook-Up Air who will be providing a service calling at the Chipping Ongar Airfield. This new concept in air travel is based on the ski lift whereby an aircraft approaches the airfield at an altitude of 50 feet and lowers 30 hooks down to near ground level. Passengers are lined up at 20 meter intervals wearing a harness with a large ring attached. The hook at the front of the aircraft catches the passenger at the back of the queue and swiftly winches them up into the hold. This leaves the second hook to grab the next passenger in line and so on. First class passengers, those who boarded at

Stansted, are seated in the aircraft as normal. Those who opt for the 'hook up' get to stay in the hold for the duration with no toilets or food.

Sport

Sir Lewis Hamilton is closing in on his 12th F1 World Championship. He could have secured the title at the Mexico GP but someone at Mercedes forgot to buy new AA batteries for his electric F1 car and he ran out of power soon after the first corner. There are also rumours that Ferrari has developed a wireless charging device that taps into the power of nearby cars leaving them stranded. This could cause Lewis real problems in the future.

Well, that's enough of that so season's greetings to you all (I hope that I have more than one reader!) and I hope that we all have a great 2019 in or out of the EEC.

Ian Hadley
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk





Hi, Archie here,!

I don't know why they bother to wrap up my Christmas presents as I can smell exactly what they are!

I suppose they like watching me rip open the packaging in a panic to get to the treats. Of course, I make the most of this so as to put on a good show for them although I wish that they wouldn't dress me up in festive clothes. Last Christmas I got into serious trouble as I mistook one of their presents for one of mine and ripped open the wrapping. The chocolates tasted pretty good although they say that they are bad for me! Can't stand this weather! It's winter and far too hot. Dogs like mud and snow and especially coming home to a nice fire to sit in front of and dry off. With any luck a bowl of Yorkshire tea and a Jammy Dodger or two watching 'I'm a Jack Russell, Get me out of Here'.

Because of the uncertainty over BREXIT I am not sending Christmas cards this year so I thought I'd say Merry Christmas to all my friends' right here! Here's

to you: Close neighbours Jesse, Tilly, Mac, Buzz & Pepper. My girlfriend Martha, Drake and Gus the gun dogs, the Brown Boys, Polly, Poppy, Sarah's three dogs, Pipkin at the Black Bull, the dogs at the Queen's Head, Julie's two German Shepherds, Ripley, Barbara's dog, George, and my cousins Hugo and Woody.

Anyway, I'm off to check my pet passport is still valid. I fancy a trip to Willingale and I hope that there is no hard border to climb over.

Bye for now,
Archie.



Light Hearted Monologues from a Local

Actual headlines from a cross section of the press



Chef in the soup
Lost chord found
Eye drops off shelf
Fish found in river
Baker prefers tarts
Woman loses head
Bigamist seeks wife
Rain wets tarts at fete
Train fares on the rails
Curtain falls on theatre
Police dog follows lead
Sand dumped on beach
Traffic wardens revolting
Man lays eggs on counter
Postman stamps on letter
Minister marries his sister
Revolving door traps party
Guitarist plucks up courage
Kids make nutritious snacks
Stolen painting found by tree
Red tape holds up new bridge
Aeroplane pilot loses his wings
Dealers will hear car talk at noon
Chemist sells drugs under counter
Queen Mary having bottom scraped
Man runs over himself for cigarettes
Doctors and nurses swallow bitter pill
His head looked like my husband's behind
No parkin (*cake*) in Yorkshire enrages baker
Official lawnmower suppliers since the Garden of Eden

Barry Betteridge





Fly tipping is still a major concern in our area an example being a few days ago when I got a phone call from a resident in Faggoters Lane, High

Laver. Overnight three loads of mixed rubbish had been dumped along the sides of the road which is a small rural lane. I took a drive down there the following day and found that the fly tipping was now seven loads. This included two loads of garden waste plus the normal loads that look a bit like a house clearance. The problem is catching the culprits which is problematic in rural areas. However, if you do see anyone fly tipping please do not approach them for your own safety but get as much detail as you can and report them to EFDC via the website.

Ambitious plans coordinating developments in Epping and North Weald with modernisation of Epping Forest District Council are set out in reports coming to the next Cabinet meeting on 10 December.

Councillors are being asked to approve the next steps in the redevelopment of St Johns Road, to include a new leisure centre, cinema, shops and houses. A planning application to demolish the former primary school site has already been submitted. At the same time, councillors are being asked in principle to approve the relocation of many district council staff to new offices at Blenheim Way in North Weald.

Retaining the newer part of the Civic Offices in Epping for civic, democratic and customer service functions, the proposals involve the demolition of older buildings in preparation for a new residential development identified in the draft Local Plan.

Partnership opportunities

Epping Forest District Council is keen to explore partnership opportunities with Epping Town Council and North Weald Bassett Parish Council. Epping Town Council is already considering potential office sharing. The construction of a new leisure centre at St Johns Road would also pave the way for the redevelopment of the old site in Hemnall Street for housing.

Potentially only needing the ground floor of the Civic Offices in Epping, the district council is in the early stages of informal talks with other prospective partners to lease other parts of the Civic Offices. There will be further opportunities for commercial leases to small businesses on the top floor.

*Cllr. Ian Hadley
Epping Forest District Council, Moreton & Fyfield Ward.*

01277 899840
07765882001
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk

Letter from the Chairman



Well done to all who attended, organised and sponsored the turning on of the Christmas tree lights on Friday 23rd November. The last time a crowd like this gathered was when the Tour de France passed through in

July 2014.

Neighbourhood Watch in Fyfield is in need of a new co-ordinator to receive and spread important news and advice relating to crime in our area. If you are interested can you give Cllr. Barbara Saward a call or eMail. Barbara's details are noted below.

Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting can be found on our website:
www.essexinfo.net/fyfield-parish-council

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

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

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Cllr. L. Lamb (Vice Chair)	0777 6178794	leslamb@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr. L. Chisenhale-Marsh	01277 899262	lisellecm@icloud.com
Cllr. J. Hall	01277 899808	janet.hall@btopenworld.com
Cllr. K. Hirst	07540168958	hypnobirthwithkarla@gmail.com
Cllr. B Saward	07747 803829	barbara@saward.uk.net
Cllr. D. Webster	01277 899405	dan@fyfield.uk.com
Derek Farr, Clerk	07783 505906	caliban@gmx.co.uk



Page Turners

The Girl Who Fell From the Sky

by Simon Mawer



Simon Mawer is better known for his book *'The Glass Room'* that was shortlisted for the Booker Prize in 2009 but was pipped at the post by Hilary Mantel's *'Wolf Hall'*. *'The Girl Who Fell From The Sky'* is

another “good read” and tells the tale of a young girl who was chosen by the SOE to train for undercover work in France during the last war.

The book's original title was *'Trapeze'* but as there was another book with the same name published in the United States, the name was changed. There was still confusion however, as there is another book in this country entitled *'The Girl Who Fell From The Sky'* written by Heidi Durrow!

After University, Mawer became obsessed with climbing and all thoughts of writing were dropped. However,

when a climbing accident left him hanging from a rope for several hours; giving him plenty of time to think, he decided to take the literary rather than the mountain route. Subsequently he has spent most of his life teaching in Italy and writing in his spare time, until retiring to do full time writing in 2010.

As with all his books, *'The Girl Who Fell From The Sky'* is well written and researched, although it is perhaps rather more of a thriller than his other books. It tells the tale of Marian Sutro who was brought up in France and due to her impeccable French was recruited to train for the SOE. The training in the highlands was vigorous where she learned skills ranging from wireless operating to silent killing – all of which were necessary for her survival in France. Her mission there was not only to help the “Free French” but to persuade a nuclear scientist to return to Britain. Mawer “writes about fear – the way it sometimes nudges up against boredom – and about bravery better than any contemporary novelist”. Some people may not like the ending but this in no way detracts from the enjoyment of the book.

Brenda Walker

The Manfreds

The Cadogan Hall, 15th November

Anyone who remembers the '50's and the '70's but is a bit hazy about what happened in the decade between probably saw and heard Manfred Mann! Bring back any memories? The original members from the group now form the Manfreds. They are, Paul Jones - the original singer/harmonica player who was offered the job of lead singer with a



new group called The Rolling Stones but turned it down!, Mike D'Abo - Paul's replacement in Manfred Mann and singer, keyboard, song writer/producer. Tom McGuinness - later to form McGuinness Flint and Mike Hugg who plays drums and piano.

They continue to play British R&B going way back to the early '60's with the likes of Alexis Korner, John Mayall, Ginger Baker, Long John Baldry, Chris Farlowe, Rolling Stones etc. At this performance the guest star was Georgie Fame who is of the same vintage playing at the Flamingo Club regularly along with most of the R&B musicians of the time. Being a fan of Georgie Fame from his Flamingo days but never seeing him live, he ap-

peared to me like some god out of the wings. Unfortunately, he was playing a Rowland organ rather than the classic and tone wise, unequalled Hammond B3 organ from the 60's. Still the same in facial appearance but looking his 75 years bodily he sat down at the keyboard and delivered a number of his hits with a voice that seemed no different to that of almost 60 years ago. Age wise, he fitted in well with 76 year old Paul Jones and Mike Hugg, 77 year old Tom McGuinness, 74 year old Mike D'Abo. I mention their age as I cannot believe that they can still deliver the music in the way that they do. One of the highlights for me was Mike D'Abo singing one of the many songs that he has written, Handbags & Gladrags, later covered by Rod Stewart, another 60's R&B singer. The audience was, of course, of a certain age and glad of it as they can remember the beginnings of British R&B (not to be confused with the current definition of R&B) and still enjoy it. The Cadogan Hall, an ex-Church, is a superb venue for music and well worth a visit and has especially comfortable seats and a massive bar area. A great evening which proves once again that you cannot beat live music no matter what technology comes up with.

Ian Hadley

The Basin Street Brawlers

Ongar Jazz Club, 19th October

Not being able to beat live music also applies to the Ongar Jazz Club where I saw the **Basin Street Brawlers** for the second time. Usually the age of the musicians performing traditional jazz is in



the 70's even 80's. Unusually, this band has some younger members as young as forty maybe! Anyway, this band is, as always, a fine example of traditional jazz from the distant past played by musicians who also play in more modern styles at different venues. One thing of note is that the band does not include a drummer or a base player. Even more strange is that I never noticed until the end of the session! Musical minimalism I suppose.



Louis Armstrong also had the same line up with his Hot 5.

Ian Hadley

Tina - The Tina Turner Musical
Aldwych Theatre,

This musical is about the life of Tina Turner and her abusive and controlling husband, Ike Turner. The show covers

her life from her sub teenage years covering up to the present time. I should point out that this show is not like many other musicals about performers and is not a string of hits based around a non-storyline. So if you were expecting it to be like ABBA, the Musical, forget it! If anything it is more akin to Jersey Boys especially the film version. The absolute star of the show is American actress, singer and dancer, Adrienne Warren. Watching her is almost as good as watching the original as she has absorbed the vocals and all of the movements to a tee. At the beginning the audience is requested not to sing along as there will be plenty of opportunities near the end. True to form the last 15 minutes were a string of non-stop hits which had almost everyone on their feet and participating. Great show, do yourself a favour and go see it.

Ian Hadley



Adrienne Warren as Tina



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At last month's AGM we were fortunate to be able to report a third successive and successful year in terms of both

membership numbers

and financial health. We have all worked hard to keep the club as friendly as possible where the social side ranks equally with our aim to improve the quality of play. The resultant financial stability means that the club can now not only broaden its horizons particularly in the training area but also ensure its continued existence for the foreseeable future.

We also took the opportunity at the AGM to celebrate the achievements of our most successful members. Chairman Martin Collier presented the inaugural Wells Trophy for the best Monday partnership to Brenda Dunsford and John Bicknell, the Endeavour Cup for the most

improved player over the past year to JoAnn O'Neil, and the Hadley Cup for the best Thursday partnership to Ailsa and Michael Wildig.

Retirement is often seen as a golden age of leisure time and for the most part this is true but for some fate steps in and the amount of leisure time can become a burden. There are many local activities and clubs to join and bridge is just one of them, but it does provide a good social outlet and there is much to stimulate the grey matter. For younger working people it can provide long term interest and an antidote to the stresses of everyday life. If you are interested in joining our club, please visit our website

www.bridgewebs.com/fyfield .

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Marion Alcock
Secretary



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 cost £3 Members, £4 Non-Members, Club Membership £15 per annum

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 club is still going strong and we hope to have two new members quite soon.

On Sunday 7th

October 2018, Mary Wilkinson, Sharon Birch and Dot Letchfield travelled to Braintree to take part in the Essex Triples competition. They did extremely well, winning their group and qualifying for the knockout rounds. Unfortunately, they met with a very strong team who knocked them out, not allowing them to progress further. However, the three played well and did themselves and Fyfield proud. Beryl Shuttleworth, Colin Day and myself were there representing High Easter, but we did not qualify for the knockout rounds.

On Sunday 14th October 2018, Mary and Dot, along with Beryl and myself, were again at Braintree, this time to take part in the Top Ten Team Bowl. We all played in separate teams with different bowlers from around the county. It was an enjoyable day, but sadly, none of us came home with a trophy.

The next competition Fyfield has entered is the Essex Pairs at Braintree on 18th November and Mary and Dot will represent Fyfield again, with Beryl and I representing High Easter. I will report on this in the next issue.

On the county squad front, the Eastern Counties League opened with the Six Counties Team Bowl at Littleport. Essex achieved a respectable third place with 61 points, just 7 points behind

Cambridgeshire in second place but way behind Suffolk in first place with 94 points! Hertfordshire was fourth with 49 points, with Norfolk and Bedfordshire bringing up the rear.

On Sunday 20th October, at Great Saling, Essex was host to a team from West Sussex for our annual friendly match.

The West Sussex team was greatly improved and the day ended in a draw, 6 points each. It was an enjoyable day, and West Sussex thanked us for our hospitality. We will be travelling to their home turf next year.

Our next big challenge is on the weekend of 9th – 12th November, when the Essex squad travel to Potters Resort in Norfolk for the National Championships. Nine counties are taking part this year, the six eastern county teams together with three teams travelling all the way from Durham, Northumberland and Sunderland. Again, I will report on this in the next issue of the Focus.

I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year and I will catch you again in 2019 (where did 2018 go?).

Jacky Brown

Girl Guiding Jamboree Austria Home Trip 2018

Brief Summary of my Experience

Overall, my trip in Austria was absolutely amazing and was an unforgettable experience. It was a once in a life time opportunity and I feel so lucky to have been offered this trip.

We explored a lot of Austria and stayed in Vienna, Salzburg, Shildorn and St. Georgen im Attergau and met so many new friendly people who I miss so much. The experience and the whole selection process has really helped my confidence and changed me for the better. Now I'm a lot more willing to try new activities and foods and to start talking to new people. It has helped me develop social skills where I can make new friends and have fun, even when there was a small language barrier at the Jamboree. I'm so thankful to the 7 other girls who travelled with me as well as the 3 leaders. They were all so nice and I have left Austria with 10 new friends and so much more knowledge about Guiding.

The trip lasted 15 days, 10 of which were spent at the Jamboree which held such a sociable, lively, comfortable and safe atmosphere.



Selection and Pre-Trip Meet Ups

I first heard about the trip to Austria on 5th November 2017 at Pax Lodge in London and I got offered a place to go to Austria a few weeks after the selection weekend. Looking back now, I can't believe that at first I rejected the offer of the Austrian trip but am so thankful that I changed my mind. It was honestly the best trip - no words can explain just how brilliant it was.

Before going to Austria, our group had 3 meetups where we got to know each other. The first made me really nervous because I was so worried about what the other girls would think of me, but all my worries faded so quickly once I was there. My feelings towards the second were so different. I couldn't wait to see everyone again. I had no fears or worries about the girls and it was as if we were best friends already as we all had so much in common. We had great fun doing a range of activities, trying Austrian food and designing group kit/uniform as well as our trip badge and making swaps for the jamboree. At the final meetup we received our trip hoodies which we were all so pleased with. I absolutely love mine and its so comfy.

The Hilton – Heathrow Airport

The next time I saw my new best friends was in the lobby of the Hilton Hotel by Heathrow Airport on 1st August. We were all so excited to leave England and explore Austria that we barely got any sleep. It definitely didn't help that we had to wake up at about 4:30 am. The Hilton hotel was really nice and clean and I loved the fact that we had that evening to see each other before flying. We took off in the plane from Heathrow at 8:00 am

Vienna

We landed at Vienna International Airport about 3 hours later and then took the airport bus to the centre of the city. From there we walked to the Meininger Hotel with our heavy rucksacks on for 20 minutes in the boiling heat however this was worth it as when we got to the hotel we were greeted with yet again a clean, safe and friendly hotel.

The next 14 days were jam-packed with activities, sightseeing and were amazing, but all too soon it was time to go home. We had to put down our tents and clean them and then came the really sad moment where I gave my friends their last hugs and goodbyes before turning my back and walking away. Its honestly one of the hardest things I have ever done because I grew so close to them and they were like my temporary family for 2 weeks where we all took care of each other and supported one another. We left camp and headed for Salzburg, the airport and home. I miss everyone from Austria. I loved my



experience and I want to thank everyone who made it possible.

Future plans in Girl Guiding

When I'm older, I would love to go on another trip however, I would love to go on a service trip where I could help people abroad. Becoming a young leader, would also be great fun and I'm looking out for other opportunities and seeing where Girl Guiding takes me next

Olivia Oakhill

You can read Olivia's report in full by visiting the *Fyfield Focus* online at www.fyfieldfocus.org

Fyfield Rainbows



Some of the Fyfield Rainbows pictured with the Banner they made for the Church. The small

Poppies are the girl's fingerprints. They enjoyed learning about the reason we have Poppies.

The Rainbows are having great fun with the New Girlguiding Programme, earning badges and going on trips. They have recently experienced Climbing and Abseiling and had a great Camp Fire, as well as finding out about Family Trees.

The Rainbows have room for more girls aged from 5 years and are also looking for someone to help the leaders.

If you are interested, please contact me on 01277364604.

Veronica Riches

1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Explorer Unit

Last Sunday, on the 11th November, the 1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Troop, Cub Pack, Beaver Colony and Explorer Unit, some local parishioners and pupils of Moreton Primary School, their parents and I, walked from St Germain Church in Bovington to St Mary's Church in Moreton. On the way we met animals that had been used in war; such as horses, which not only made up the cavalry division but also transported artillery cannons; pigeons, which were used to send messages to and from the frontline, and as well as that,



used on bushes and trees was equipment soldiers would have been familiar with, for example, a bayonet used in close combat fights.

Halfway there we stopped at the Bobbingworth Nature Reserve where we learned how to estimate distance without a map, how to efficiently remember a person's face and body and lastly, how to count our steps and convert them into metres. All of these were techniques used by soldiers during World War 1. Finally, we walked the remaining distance to the church in Moreton, where, after some poignant poems courtesy of Moreton Primary school, at 11 o'clock, on the 11th day of the 11th month we were silent in commemoration to the fallen of the Great War.

*Finlay Wallbanks,
Assistant Patrol Leader, Wolf Patrol*



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Scouting in World War One



The Scout movement was founded by Robert Baden-Powell in 1908, teaching good citizenship and self-reliance skills such as camping, tracking, boating, woodcraft and first aid. By 1914, scout troops had formed nationwide and had started to spread across the world. They used their newly found skills to assist the war effort by filling some roles left vacant by the men that had gone to war. One prominent example is 18th August 1914, where the chief constable of Cambridgeshire called upon the scout troops to guard the railway bridges and tunnels in the County to prevent enemy interference that would stall the mass mobilisation of troops to reach the front line. They also acted as messengers, and “all-clear” buglers in air raids, as well as helping out on the farms.

Some of the original core aims of the Scout movement still hold true today. To teach young people good citizenship and new

skills, experience adventure, and assisting local communities where they can. Scout membership meant many boys and young men had learnt a range of useful skills from field-craft and camp cooking to signalling and sailing.

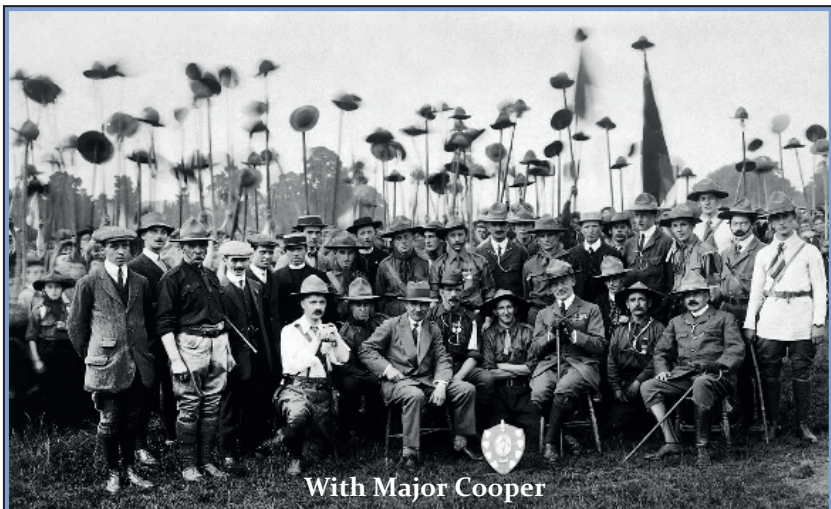
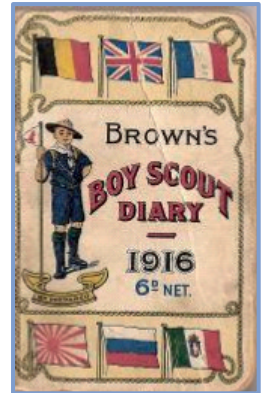
One of the first roles that Scouts undertook was supporting the Coastguards, with the very real threat of invasion, Scouts under the supervision of the coastguards watched the coast, ports and estuaries.

The Scouting motto ‘Be Prepared’ was never more relevant than in those dark times.

Scout Leaders **Jack Riggs & David Gordon** are with us today

1st Moreton & Fyfield Troop

<http://istmoretonandfyfieldscouts.co.uk>



With Major Cooper

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. Three publications are special colour editions (subject to receiving the necessary sponsorship) and focus on Spring (April/May), Summer (August/September) 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 and adverts must be received by eMail no later than the **10th of the month** prior to the publication date (i.e. 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 Cheryl Hadley for details.

Distribution of the Fyfield Focus (**385 copies**) is done by a team of volunteers (**18**) 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 & Advertising:	Cheryl Hadley – fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk
Design, Production & Website:	Ian Hadley – ianhadley@gmx.co.uk
Sub Editors:	Margaret Dines – fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk Jenny Juttner – fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk Sally Wallden – fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk
Finance:	Steve Turner – steve.turner31@gmail.com

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

Printing:

Chelmsford Diocesan Print Unit

Fyfield *Useful Contacts*

Bell Ringers - Hand	Pat Turnpenny	899223	Parish Council		
Bell Ringers - Tower	Allan Cook	899240	Chair	Ian Hadley	899840
Pageturners	Debbie Spanton	899317	Clerk	Derek Farr	07783505906
Bookworms	Jane Davenport	899389	Scouts & Guides		
Bridge Club	Marion Alcock	899432	Rainbows	Sophie Kelly	TBA
Carpet Bowls	Jacky Brown	899076	Brownies	Jane Davenport	899389
Church Coffee Morning	Carol Cox	899245	Guides	Alison Lavender	365842
Dr Walker's School	Miss N. Willis	899298	Beavers	Mary Bacon	899052
Friends of St Nicholas	Allan Cook	899240	Cubs	David Gordon	896321
Fyfield Art Group	Wendy Henshaw	899367	Scouts	Mary Bacon	899052
Fyfield Focus	Cheryl Hadley	899840	Explorer Scouts	Vicki Wood	07977111894
Fyfield Luncheon Club			St Nicholas' Church	Rev. Christine Hawkins	286113
Bookings	Wendy Henshaw	899367	Warden	Carol Cox	899245
Team Co-ordinator	Jan Hall	899808	Village Hall		
Neighbourhood Watch	TBA	TBA	Chair	Marie Apperley	899386
Ongar & Villages			Bookings	Elaine Tunnard	07956440894
Voluntary Care	General No.	365363	Womens Institute	Wendy Henshaw	899367
Pilates	Claire Smith	07903121003	WD50+ Exercise Club	Patti Nicholson	899504
Poppets Day Nursery	Katie Holloway	365488			
Pre-School	General No.	899678			
	Lisa Carey	07917763369			

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



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 Pre-School - Special Harvest Service at St. Nicholas' Church



The Fyfield Swan 2018



Wendy at her Celebration Tea



Remembrance Service



Jan Hall & Jodie Rand, from Ernest Doe, selecting the Christmas tree

Fyfield Village Store & Post Office



Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year

From

Nikhil, Gita & Staff