

Fyfield Focus



*Merry Christmas
2019
from all
at the
Fyfield Focus*

December 2019/January 2020

www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk

Fyfield Focus

www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk

February 2013

New Year, Shop Owner, Focus Editor, Focus OnLine

Welcome to 2013 and a very warm welcome to Nishil Patel the new owner of the Village Store and Post Office (photo below). Work on re-arranging the shop is not quite complete but what a different place.



The shop is now very well stocked and it even has a Trolley Machine! See inside for more details. The Fyfield Focus now has a new Editor Cheryl Hatley and with the change of Editor comes a new look (Fyfield Focus). Take a look inside and tell us what you think. Finally, 2013 sees the launch of the Fyfield Focus being published online as a website www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk. The additional benefits of the new Fyfield Focus Online are outlined inside.



Happy Christmas to all
the Parish of St. Peter
and the Village of Fyfield
The Celebration of Life and Tradition

Residents Concern Over Sale of Land

Over 20 residents attended the Fyfield Parish Council's "Open Forum" on Monday 14th January to voice their concerns regarding the proposed purchase of land on the Wyllinge Rd. Following suspicious activity around the site, rumours have been circulated as to the use the land may be put including a potential "care home". The prospective purchaser intended the method to obtain his plans for the land and to ensure the purchase was not hidden from the public. As the purchase has not yet been completed, residents will, no doubt, keep a watchful eye on the site.

Norwood End and Floods! Pot Holes and Floods!

PCCs decided the PPS will have to make the road.

December 2012/January 2013

Fyfield Focus

www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk

Save Our Phone Box

Could Fyfield be losing its phone box, a landmark since the 1930s? After a recent Parish Council meeting it was decided to request BT to the commission the RT phone box as no money should be committed to it unless a sponsor was found. As such, next year BT will remove the phone box and Do you agree with removing an iconic village landmark? What then? We have already discussed losing the shop, and traditional village architecture, as is a village hall, shop and pub. If you agree that we should retain the deconstructed phone box then make your views felt to the Parish Council. It costs £5 to adopt the Phone Box and can be minimal maintenance costs if no further work is required other than telephone boxes still in operation are protected by Historic England and BT as iconic national objects, with special architectural design interest. Our phone box is not listed but could be if it is necessary to save it. What do you think?

Time to Say Goodbye

After Seven years of editing and producing the Fyfield Focus I am bowing out and leaving the magazine in a good state for the next focus team to take over.

We hope that you have enjoyed the publication and found the 54 issues we have produced informative as well as entertaining. During the time we have been involved we have made many friends from the village and grown our knowledge of the area. Take care everyone and keep on reading the Focus.

Cheryl's Jan

No Xmas Tree This Year!

After last year's successful running of the Christmas tree lights, carols and Christmas tree blessing event around the village square, the Parish Council are not able to repeat the event this year because of insurance issues. However, plans for the event to take place next year are scheduled well in advance so we can all look forward to a special event in 2014.

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

Fyfield Focus

December 2019/January 2020

www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk



Save Our Phone Box

Could Fyfield be losing its phone box, a landmark since the 1930's! At a recent Parish Council meeting it was decided to request BT to de-commission the BT phone box as no specific use was forthcoming and no money should be committed to it unless a sponsor was found. As such, next year BT will remove the phone box and make good the land on which it stands. Do you agree with removing an iconic village landmark? What next! We have already discussed losing the shop, and the church which are vital to the traditional village environment as is a phone box, a post box, a village sign, village hall, shop and pub. If you agree that we should retain the decommissioned phone box then make your views felt to the Parish Council. It costs £1 to adopt the Phone Box and can be minimal maintenance costs if no further work is required other than painting. There are over 3,400 K6 telephone kiosks still in operation in England today and over 3,000 are protected by Historic England and BT as iconic national objects, with special architectural design interest. Our phone box is not listed but could be if felt necessary to save it. What do you think?

Time to Say Goodbye

After Seven years of editing and producing the Fyfield Focus Ian and I are bowing out and leaving the magazine in a good state for the next Focus team to take over.

We hope that you have enjoyed the publication and found the 54 issues we have produced informative as well as entertaining. During the time we have been involved we have made many friends from the village and grown our knowledge of the area. Take care everyone and keep on reading the Focus.


Cheryl & Ian

No Xmas Tree This Year!

After last year's successful turning on of the Christmas tree lights, carols and christmas tree blessing event around the village sign, the Parish Council are not able to repeat the event this year because of insurance issues. However, plans for the event to take place next year are scheduled well in advance so we can all look forward to a special event in 2020.

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

Village Diary 2019



01-Dec	Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk	Village Hall Car Park, 10am
01-Dec	Scout's Christmas Fayre	The Scout HQ, 10am-2pm
02-Dec	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
03-Dec	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
05-Dec	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
07-Dec	Fyfield Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch	Village Hall, 1.30pm
08-Dec	Carol Service - 9 Lessons and Carols	The Church, 4pm
09-Dec	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar, 8pm
16-Dec	Christingle Service with Dr. Walker's	St. Nicholas' Church, 2pm
05-Jan	Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk	Village Hall Car Park, 10am
08-Jan	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
09-Jan	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
20-Jan	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar, 8pm
20-Jan	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
04-Feb	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
06-Feb	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
08-Feb	FyfieldVillageHall - Quiz Night	Village Hall, 7pm
12-Feb	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
17-Feb	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar, 8pm
25-Feb	WI Pancake & Coffee Morning	Village Hall, 10.30am
02-Mar	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
05-Mar	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
11-Mar	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
16-Mar	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar, 8pm
30-Mar	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
02-Apr	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
08-Apr	Fyfield Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
20-Apr	Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)	Budworth Hall, Ongar, 8pm
27-Apr	Annual Parish Assembly	Village Hall, 7.30pm

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 – 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020:

Fyfield Post Office & Village Store – April/May 2019 – Colour Edition

Donors – 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020:

Brian & Kim Carpenter, Chris Jackson, Fyfield Bowls Club and Fyfield Parish Council



This publication marks the end of my time and Ian's time working on the Fyfield Focus. It only seems like yesterday when I advised Ian that I was considering exploring the

idea of taking on being Editor of the Fyfield Focus. His reaction was great and if you like I will support you by doing all the Desktop Publishing and Design Work so it only needs to go to the printers for printing and collating. Oh, and I will develop a website so the Focus can go online and be looked at by anyone living anywhere. That was 7 years ago and 6 years since we announced we were stepping down – where did that time go?

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed news, articles, poems, photos and notices to the Focus because without your input there wouldn't be a community magazine and we wouldn't be able to attract the advertisers we do without your input. Your support plays a key part in the communication in our village and you are the core support in adding value to the community spirit in the place we call home.

Many, many thanks to our Advertisers – both commercial and community/charity - who have made it possible for the Focus to continue to be produced and distributed free of charge to all our residents and community and retail outlets in surrounding areas. This is despite the increase in size of the Focus. Our first publication in February 2013 was 31 pages and at its largest 60+ pages;

averaging over the 7 years approximately 48 pages per publication.

This month we welcome 3 new advertisers to the Focus – The Only Way is Ironing, Ongar Dog Training and Laurelo Probate Services – see their adverts inside.

Thank you to all the sponsors who have supported the special Colour Editions – some of you having sponsored on more than one occasion; Nikhil being the record holder and Tony & Nikki Walker following shortly behind. We introduced special colour editions after we entered our first Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) Community Magazine Competition and won a finalist award in our first entry in 2014. One of the recommendations to further our chances of winning one of the higher awards was to introduce colour. In addition to this we always got lots of compliments about the special colour editions and it did help us win a more prestigious award in 2015. We sadly just missed out on a finalist award in 2016 – RCCE's last competition until it finds a new sponsor.

We continue to appreciate the voluntary donations we receive from Organisations and Clubs and individual residents. We not only appreciate the financial contribution but we welcome how much you value the magazine. We particularly appreciate the donation from our Parish Council which allows us to include articles of particular benefit to our readers such as Health & Wellbeing support (Dementia, Heart), Security and Policing etc.

A huge thank you to the delivery team who because they are at the end of the

Focus Production line always get squeezed in relation to the time they have to deliver the Focus and in all weathers. Without your support our readers wouldn't have the luxury of the magazine dropping through their letter boxes. I would like to give a special thanks to Helen Llewelyn Jones who has retired from the delivery team after delivering the Focus for over 40 years. Helen made me smile when she told me that she volunteered because she wanted to stop the gate from being left open and children and animals escaping on to a busy road.

Finally, thank you to Sally, Steve, Jenny and Margaret for volunteering to come on

board last summer. You have all made a huge difference to my workload and I really appreciate your support over the last 18 months.

Well I am off to check out my collection of Recipe Books and scrutinize the seed catalogues that have landed on the doormat. – well there has to be a life after the Focus!

Ian and I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Cheryl Hadley



Fyfield Focus - New Email Address

The new eMail address for the Fyfield Focus is: Fyfieldfocus@gmail.com

The new Editor & Production & Design Manager is Jennie Russell who can be contacted at the new eMail address.

If you want to contact Steve Turner - Advertising, Finance and Delivery continue to contact him at steve.turner31@gmail.com

If you want to contact one of the Sub-Editors - Margaret Dines, Jenny Juttner or Sally Wallden contact the new eMail address or if you are a regular article provider and have been allocated a Sub-Editor kindly contact the address you normally use.

Chery Hadley



Thank you so much to everyone who attended our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We raised the amazing sum of £840!!! I am so grateful for your support

I would particularly like to thank Jan, Marion, Anne, Carol and Jenny for helping me on the day, and everyone who made cakes and donated raffle prizes.

Julie Robinson

Fyfield Village Store & Post Office

Christmas Raffle in aid of St. Nicholas' Church, Fyfield

Our Village Store & Post Office looks ready for Christmas!

The Store is decorated with some very tasteful Christmas Garlands which look very attractive and Santa looks like he has already visited!

Nikhil is again running a Christmas Raffle to raise much needed funds for our Village Church – St. Nicholas. He has provided a very generous and truly wonderful selection of Hampers, Drinks and Christmas Treats.

Tickets are £1 a strip - so please help Nikhil raise as much money as possible.

Cheryl Hadley





FYFIELD VILLAGE

HALL

FUN

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

Saturday 8th February

7 FOR 7.30PM

£8.50 per person

Why not make a table of 8

Includes a mini Ploughman's

CASH BAR OPEN

CONTACT BOOKINGS ON 07956 440894

or MARIE ON 01277 899386

TO BOOK YOUR TABLE

Charity number 801804



THE ONLY WAY IS IRONING

PRESSED for TIME?

IRONING SERVICES



We're here to make your life that little bit easier! Our affordable prices includes Pick up/Drop off service & flexible hours suited to you!

Clothing - Shirts - £2:00 each, Single items - £1.50 each

Bedding - Single sheet - £2.50, Double sheet - £3:00. King - £3:50

Please contact Kath on 07807013379

References available

The WD50+ Club – Change of Meeting Time

When the WF50+Club began, initially as a seated exercise class sponsored by EFDC in April 2009, the session time was subject to the availability of the Village Hall and of the instructor, which resulted in 1.45pm for a 2pm start. Although Friday will remain our regular Club day, the **time** of our sessions is about to change.

As from 10th January 2020, the WD50+ Club members will be meeting at 11.30am for a prompt start at 11.45am, finishing at latest by 1pm. This earlier time leaves people free for lunch after their exercise and to have the rest of their afternoon free for other activities. Also during winter months, it means our sessions will be over before it gets dark. It will also leave the Hall free for other activities to take place on Friday afternoons.

The last session at the current time of 1.45pm will be held on Friday, 20th December and will finish a little early so we can hold our traditional mini Christmas Social. It has also become a tradition for the Club to have a New Year Lunch (there are so many events in December) and it is to be on Tuesday 21 January at The Fox, Matching Tye.

The Club has recently welcomed some new members who are delighted with the benefits they are already experiencing from their regular exercise sessions under the direction of our skilled instructor, Clare Smith. It is anticipated that this change of time may attract more people, and anyone interested in coming along should in the first instance get in touch with Liz Bird on 01277 899324, or me on 01277899504.

Wishing all readers of the Fyfield Focus a very Merry and Healthy Christmas and a bright New Year, from everyone in the WD50+ Club. Remember, Keep Mobile-Keep Happy!

Patti Nicholson

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



www.haskett.co.uk

T: 01277 899325

M: 07850 761865



**The Good Pub Guide:
Essex Dining Pub of the Year 2018
Open Table Diners Choice 2018
Michelin Guide 2018**

Family run 15th Century Country Pub.
Good Food, Fine Wines, Real Ales,
Friendly Service, Open Fires,
Private Dining Room, River Garden.

Bar & Waiting staff wanted.

The Queen's Head
Queen Street, Fyfield, Essex CM5 0RY
Tel: 01277 899231

Email: info@queensheadfyfield.co.uk
www.queensheadfyfield.co.uk

A Brief History of the Fyfield Focus

I have been asked to write a History of the Focus, which seems apt at this time of yet another change in its journey around Fyfield.

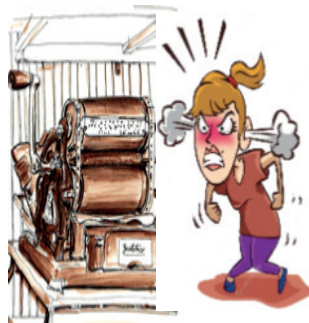
As you might imagine (*or not if you are young*) people's memories fade, but I have done the best I can!

In 1975, Peter Turner, the then Vicar of Fyfield (*and it's worth mentioning here that Fyfield was his **only** parish and he had the help of a Verger. Chris now has seven, or is it eight parishes to look after*). Back to 1975, Peter had the idea of producing a monthly Newssheet to be delivered to every house in the village detailing the church services and village events which he came to know about or people asked him to publicise. It covered both sides of a foolscap sheet and was free to all villagers. There were sponsors, whose names were mentioned.

His wife Stephanie, typed it onto a skin and it was rolled off on a gestetner, which according to Wikipedia, was a stencil-method duplicator that used a thin sheet of paper coated with wax (*originally kite paper was used*) which was written upon with a special stylus that left a broken line through the stencil, removing the paper's wax coating. So now you know!

Apparently, the production was then passed to Mrs Knife who, we think (*this is where Peter's memory is a bit dodgy*) changed the format to an A5 booklet.

In 1985 - enter Pat Dain!! She took over as the Editor of the Focus and had the help of Helen Coote. Legend has it that Peter Turner, was asking people to help out with various community jobs. Helen was convinced he was going to ask her to help with the Sunday School, a thought which filled her with such horror that she would have agreed to anything! So that is how she found herself every month in a freezing cold shed, reeling off copies of the Focus, reciting the mantra '*at least it's not Sunday School*'.



She also helped collate, staple and fold the magazine and continued to do this when Pat Turnpenny took over in 1990 .

Pat was persuaded by Brian, her husband, to use their computer to format the Focus. The Lavers had bought a large printer and just needed a hard copy to print from, so the gestetner became redundant. By this time the Focus was some 20 pages long and contained articles from all the village organisations, items of interest, forthcoming events and advertisements. It received donations from the organisations, was sponsored by various individuals and the Parish Council, and had an income from six advertisements, so continued to be completely self-financing. I have a copy

of Pat's favourite edition - May, 1995, when Fyfield celebrated, over the Bank Holiday weekend the V.E. Day 50th Anniversary. The celebrations included a V.E. Barn Dance, a Thanksgiving Service, a Treasure Hunt and BBQ for the teenagers and on the Monday a 40's Social and Dance with a Fish and Chip Supper at £5 a ticket! In 1997 Pat was looking for a new editor, and this is when I took over.

Pat has kept a copy of my first edition, October 1997, so I don't have to rely on my memory! I introduced '**Having the first Word**' where I thanked Pat for all her hard work, and asked for contributions to a Letters to the Editor article, and included a Brain Teaser page. There were by now, nine advertisements from independent businesses to keep the finances in order.

I loved my years as Editor. I felt that it gave me a step into people's homes, which was a great privilege, and I had such fun. However, it was a huge commitment and seven years also proved long enough for me. I was incredibly grateful to Katharine Perry, who volunteered to take over the Focus in December 2004.

Katharine continued with the format of the magazine, but introduced the very helpful Village Diary and the Useful Contacts page. She made the change to a printing service who copied, collated, stapled and folded! This cut down on so much work, and Helen at long last was made redundant! Katharine's last issue was the December 2012 issue, as she had at last found a new editor.

February 2013 was Cheryl and Ian Hadley's first publication. A very different Focus landed on our doorsteps with the format changed to a newspaper style with columns and front page headlines! Over the next few months, new articles appeared including Archie's Column, Out of Focus, Book Reviews and Recipes. They also put each issue online at www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk which meant that anyone with connections to Fyfield could keep up to date. In 2014 the first Fyfield Focus publication was entered into the Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) Community Magazine Competition which received a finalist award. In 2016 they made the biggest change in the Focus history, by deciding, with the support of all the regular article providers, to go bi-monthly. This enabled them to get their life back(!), have holidays without worrying about administration and finances and enjoy producing the magazine rather than it becoming a burden.

Cheryl says: *'I have thoroughly enjoyed my seven years of being Editor of the Fyfield Focus and it has been a privilege to work with so many interesting people across the village who really do care about Fyfield and work very hard and add a lot of value to our village community. As joint custodians of the Fyfield Focus since February 2013 Ian and I are very pleased with the development, quality and the financial stability of the magazine and we feel, with the expansion of the Focus team in the summer of 2018 we are handing over a sustainable package.'*

So now Jennie, it's over to you!

Sally Wallden

FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE



**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FOOD,
DANCING AND CELEBRATION**

FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 9TH MAY 2020 7 FOR 7.30PM

**TICKETS £15.00 TO INCLUDE 2 COURSE BUFFET
FROM ASHLYN'S AND ENTERTAINMENT FROM
BRIAN SHAW**

CASH BAR WILL BE OPEN

**PRIZE FOR THE BEST DRESSED 1940's GUEST (THIS IS
OPTIONAL)**

ENTRANCE BY TICKET ONLY

CALL MARIE ON 01277 899386 BOOKINGS ON 07956440894

OR e mail fyfield.villagehall@gmail.com

Fyfield *Litter Pickers*

The last village litter pick was on Saturday 26th October with only Heather and I turning up. This picture shows the 3 bags of rubbish collected between the Village Hall and Elmbridge Gate. One hour's work and a few hundred feet walked and so much rubbish.



Unfortunately, due to lack of support we are calling it a day with pre-arranged litter picks. We will continue to litter pick ourselves and encourage others to do the same. If anyone wants to organise a big litter pick we will come and join you - after all - who thinks the litter louts are going to stop?

Fiona Baxter



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



Dr Walker's School

Remembrance Day November 11th

It was wonderful to see the children dressed up for Remembrance Day.

Families and parents came in to take part in activities in the afternoon as well as enjoying a well-deserved slice of cake and a cup of tea.



Woodland Art Day Thursday 28th November

The children will be enjoying their surroundings. It could get muddy! They will be exploring art with the nature around them and they will be creating an exciting recycled art project using old CD's.

Reading

We have gone reading crazy at Dr Walker's! We are reading every day, enjoying our books together and we have even opened our starbooks café. We have also created a display of our staff's favourite childhood books. Here is Miss Morley and Miss Willis with their favourites!



fav

Author Day Monday 2nd December

We will be celebrating the work of David Walliams on this day. The children will enjoy activities based

around his books and there will be an inter-house competition.

Cross Country

We have also taken part in a cross-country event at Ongar Primary school and the children worked together really well as a team.



Open Mornings

We have been very busy showing round parents and families of children who are starting school in September 2020. We are now fully booked for these open mornings but if you would like to look around the school please contact us and we would be happy to arrange a time. There is a Stay and Play event where we are inviting parents to bring their children to spend an hour at the school. This event is on Wednesday 4th December 2-3pm. You can book a place by ringing the school office on 01277 899298. We would love to see you if you are looking for a school place in September 2020.

It has been another busy term here at Dr Walker's School with many and varied activities. The term will draw to a close with a whole school panto visit, the nativity performance, our Christmas Fair and Christingle Service.

Our Christingle service is on Monday 16th December at 2.30pm at St Nicholas' Church – all members of the local community are welcome and encouraged to join us.

Nikki Willis
Headteacher







LAURELO

Path to Probate

Here at Laurelo we are committed to making the process of applying for the 'Grant of Probate' as straightforward for you as possible.

Our Services:

-  **Free Consultation**
-  **Fixed Fee**
-  **Hand holding throughout the Estate Administration process**
-  **At Laurelo we will take the complexity out of every situation providing you with clear, concise explanations and processes along the journey.**

For further information please visit our website

www.laurelo.co.uk or call 020 3058 2329



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

Contact our Nursery Manager, Michelle Pateman on 01277 365488 or by email

Michellepateman@poppetsnursery.co.uk

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

Remembering Jan Boyce

6th November 1941-3rd October 2019



Sadly on 3rd October this year Jan lost her battle with Cancer at the age of 77. Jan passed away in St. Clare Hospice with her husband Tony by her side and their family. Jan loved her family

deeply and like Tony family came first and these were the most important people in her life whom she supported, loved and cared for.

I had the privilege of first meeting Jan Boyce in 2013 at the Fyfield Luncheon Club Christmas Lunch. Wendy Henshaw had seated Ian and I at the same table as Tony & Jan Boyce and I took an immediate liking to Jan (which was not difficult to do) and we found we had a lot in common, in particular, cruising and caring about our respective communities both personally and in support of our husbands work in the community.

Fortunately, after our initial meeting, our paths crossed on many occasions through Tony and Ian's District & Parish Council work and also in my role as Editor of the Fyfield Focus. Jan was always so positive, nothing was any trouble to her, she was very efficient and a real pleasure to deal with. Jan, like Tony, was a huge supporter of the Fyfield Focus and she told me she always looked forward to it arriving and read it from cover to cover. It was obvious both Jan and Tony loved Fyfield and genuinely took an interest in the activities in our village.

Although Jan was a very private person she was a very warm person and was able to be a very effective support to a husband who has a huge personality. Tony was the Chair of The Epping Forest District Council in

2014/2015 and I was fortunate to witness first-hand Jan supporting her husband hosting the Epping Forest District Council Civic Awards and Dinner on 27 February, 2015, at Down Hall Country House Hotel. Jan was the perfect hostess – making everyone she spoke to feel important to be there, discretely prompting her husband when she needed to and keeping a watchful eye out that no one was being left out. Typical of Jan; always looking after others before herself and giving more to life than she took.

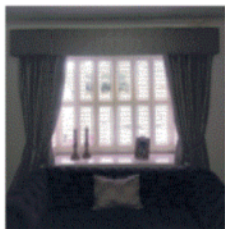
Jan was petite and whenever I saw her she was always perfectly groomed and was a simple but stylish dresser; Tony and she made a very handsome couple. I can remember when she greeted us at the Civic Awards Ceremony she was wearing a beautiful peacock blue silk Jacket. I leaned in close and whispered to her how much I admired her jacket to which she responded 'thank you it's not new but it is one of my favourite items which I take when we go cruising'. Jan was a modest person and never one to boast.

Jan's funeral service was very moving yet brought lots of smiles to our faces as Rev. Christine Hawkins relayed stories of Jan's life with Tony. The setting was very peaceful, tastefully decorated with flowers, foliage, candles and ribbons and we were all moved by the crystal clear voice of Cheryl who sang Songbird and Ave Maria as we all exited the Church at Moreton. I couldn't help thinking this is just how Jan would have liked the service to be; unpretentious, in good taste and surrounded by the people she loved the most.

The words **Always In Our Hearts** was on the front cover of the order of service - how true these words are for Jan.

Cheryl Hadley

BESPOKE WINDOW | DRESSING



Services include:

- Curtains
- Roman blinds
- Padded pelmets
- Cushions



Please call or text Debbie on:
07718644990 (free quotes)

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



Franklin Trees

Tree Surgery | Hedge Trimming | Stump
Grinding

Full Public Liability Insurance

07989 794 625 | 01277 899 527

www.franklintrees-essex.co.uk

City & Guilds
NPTC

St. Nicholas Wall Art – Visit to the NEC Festival of Quilts

3rd August 2019

You may recall that our St. Nicholas' Church Wall Art depicting our Patron Saint – St. Nicholas – was being entered into the annual Festival of Quilts at the NEC. This was a suggestion put to the team by our very talented tutor Becky Preen. This was something which we were quite surprised about but nonetheless delighted with. The most delighted member was Wendy Henshaw closely followed by Mary Ellis.

To enter our work into the Festival, Becky had to make the art work a different shape to fit the size restriction. So she had to unpick the individual illustrations and instead of it being a long banner shape she had to put it together into a rectangle of 3 illustrations across and 3 illustrations down.

We then canvassed the team to try to make a trip to the exhibition at the NEC, just outside Birmingham, to see our work being exhibited but unfortunately either people weren't available or thought it was too far to travel just for a few hours.

So we were a party of 4 – Mary Ellis, Helen Webb, Sheila Doe (a quilting friend of Helen's) and I. Helen was the designated driver and she pulled up at my door at

7am with Mary and Sheila in the back of her car and off we went. The weather was kind to us so it was very pleasant travelling through the Essex Villages until we got on to the M11 which was also quite pleasant until we discovered that we had to come off the M11 and go a different route due to the M11 being closed for a number of junctions which we had to pass through. We needed to get off the M11 at Duxford as Helen had remembered she had left the tickets at home and we needed to try to get in touch with Becky.

So we parked up at Duxford, got out the tea and coffee, Mary was very confident that we wouldn't be turned away and Helen calmly sorted out the new route and we arrived at the NEC safe and sound and Mary used her charm and got us all in without a hitch.

We were met by Becky who took us to see our art work and we were all in awe at how good it looked made into the shape it now was and against the other exhibits. It was worth the trip just to see this in real life. It was attracting lots of attention, as Becky told us it would, and people were taking photographs.

Our Art Work was in the Group Category and the detail of this category and details of the work is in the catalogue and was dedicated to the memory of Wendy Henshaw. This detail will be in the book that will go with the work which Sally



Wallden has been putting together when it is finally hung in the Church.

We then had our packed lunch before we all set-about viewing the exhibition which we did in 2 pairs and then met again for a cup of tea before starting the journey home.

I had a couple of visits back to our St. Nicholas' exhibit and it was still attracting a lot of attention.

We had a lovely day, Helen was really good to drive us there and get us all back safe and sound and the only thing we all thought was it was a pity the rest of the team didn't get to see our lovely work on display. Although, it was a long way to travel but it was worth it.

Cheryl Hadley



D&G Windows

UPVC and Aluminium

Windows / Doors / Bi-folding doors

Supply and fitting

Darren: 07972 777783

Amanda: 07929 402642

amandagilford@yahoo.co.uk



Fyfield Village Pre-School



Skeletons, pumpkins and witches attended Fyfield Village Pre-School for Halloween.

The children all dressed up for the occasion and enjoyed a party and games. They made special Halloween crafts and all had a go at carving a pumpkin, which they named Pete.

The pre-school is now busy preparing for Christmas with a show planned for

parents and carers and a Christmas party for all the children who attend. The children are enjoying learning the lines for their favourite Christmas songs.

The children will also be getting into the festive spirit when they visit Dr Walker's Primary School to watch their nativity.

The pre-school, based at the Scout Hut, can be contacted on 01277 899678 or email fyfield_manager@hotmail.com

Michelle Breavington



We will miss you Carole

As this Focus goes out, our friend and neighbour Carole Bailey will shortly be off to pastures new. It will be 'Goodbye Fyfield' after over 50 years and 'Hello Suffolk.' We wish you well in your new home.

From your friends and neighbours.

‘Coffee with Cops’ At Fyfield Village Hall



As highlighted in the last edition, attendance figures for the Coffee with Cops events had become so low that the future of the meetings were in doubt. This edition will have gone to print before the next Coffee with Cops meeting takes place on the 29th November but hopefully attendance will be good.

Keep an eye on future editions of the Focus for confirmation of dates in 2020 and please try to come along if you can otherwise this will be another case of ‘use it or lose it’.... For further details please contact:

Cllr Barbara Saward – email: barbara128@ymail.com or Tel: 07747803829

Local Policing A Request from PC Harrison

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



Mobile: 07815 491392
Email: Paul.HarrisonPC@essex.pnn.police.uk
Twitter: [PcPaulHarrison1](#)
Or call 101

Call 999 in an emergency situation.

Kindness Bags 2019

Helping Homeless Women



Kindness Bags is an initiative that runs every Christmas – creating rucksacks filled with essential items and goodies that get delivered to homeless women in shelters over the Christmas period. Often the reason why women end up homeless is because of abusive and unsafe relationships. Having access to basic things like warm clothes and sanitary products can be hard or impossible when you are vulnerable and living on the streets. Kindness Bags aims to make a difference by creating bags of useful items to give to those in need. Since starting in 2015, hundreds of bags have been delivered to charities including Crisis, St Mungos and Hackney Women's Night Shelter.

Can you help us to create 'Kindness Bags' for homeless women this Christmas? You can help by filling a rucksack with some of the items listed below, or if you don't feel able to create a whole bag yourself you can simply donate some of the items towards a bag. We pride ourselves on the quality of the bags we deliver. All of the bags are quality checked and we ensure that each bag has a good range of goodies and essential items that are new and unused.

Clothing Items: Thick socks, Thin socks, Warm hat, Gloves, Knickers (new & plain), Thermal top & leggings, Pac-a-mac / light cagoule, Jewellery (simple – no necklaces), Hair accessories (bands/clips)

Sanitary Items: Toothbrush & Toothpaste, Face wipes (sensitive), Shower gel, Shampoo, Sanitary towels (no tampons), Perfume & sealed makeup, Deodorant, Sealed hand / body / face creams, Sealed lip balm / Vaseline, Hairbrush / comb

Food Items: Sweets, snack bars, high energy treats, Teabags (in sealed waterproof bag), Empty Thermos flask, Travel mug, Sealed multi-vitamins, Spoon (no sporks/forks/knives)

Other Items: Reusable ziplock bags, Wind up torch (small), Sleeping bag / bivvy bag, Pen & small notebook, Blank postcard with stamps on (may encourage them to write home), Basic first aid items (no medicine), Book / magazine, A personal note of well wishes

Please contact Jenny on 07709376328 or 01277899801 to arrange a collection or drop off by Sunday 8th December if you would like to be involved – thank you!

Jenny Juttner

2nd Fyfield Brownie Guides

Fyfield Brownies have been very busy exploring 'Take Action' as a theme this term.

The girls have been considering a wide range of issues and have been sharing their opinions about aspects of our world that they feel could be improved.

Much of our discussion has been about 'Climate Change' and the approaches that can be taken to 'spread the word' and influence other people. The girls became news reporters and spoke passionately about the plight of sea turtles and the impact of pollution on wildlife. They explored the notion 'The earth is in my hands' reflecting on the ways in which they can take action to help protect the planet.

They also discussed Role Models and considered how they can be role models in their own families and communities. We discussed what can be learnt from a range of different people including Greta Thunberg, Ariana Grande and Nelson Mandela. Are famous people always role models? It was lovely to hear from the girls that their main role models were their own parents!



We're looking forward to our forthcoming Christmas Celebrations which includes an after dark Elf Hunt at Skreens Park!



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

For more information please contact **Jane Davenport** on 01277 899389 or janedavenport@gmail.com



Cleaning with Meaning



Offering a full housekeeping service using a team of dedicated, friendly and insured staff. Originating in Fyfield.

Services are individually tailored to your requirements and can include:

- ❖ Polishing, dusting and vacuuming
- ❖ Bathroom & kitchen cleaned and sanitised
- ❖ Floors washed
- ❖ Beds changed
- ❖ Ironing



What can we do for you?

- ❖ Weekly/ Fortnightly service
- ❖ Move in/ Move out cleans
- ❖ Special event deep cleans

All staff are DBS-Police background checked

Please contact Kristie for a free quote

Tel: 07949 431 707

Email: cwmesssex@gmail.com



ANDY LONG

PROPERTY & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

PAINTING

- Internal & external
- Ladder and scaffold tower work

GARDENING SERVICES

Lawn cutting, strimming, tidying, small rubbish clearance and patio & decking cleaning

No job too small



Tel: 01277-896011 Mobile: 07923 405190

10 Green Parishes

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



As part of the TerraCycle programme, Claire is working to establish new local collection points for items that are not commonly recycled, or highlight existing collection points. Items currently available to be collected are empty crisp packets, health and beauty products, Tassimo coffee pods and pens (biro/felt pens/markers/tippex). If you would like to find out how you can access the collections please email Claire at claireinoz100@hotmail.com or join the 10 Green Parishes Facebook group, which is also a very active hub of information.

Last week, 10 Green Parishes arranged for a 'Wastebuster' from 'Love Essex' to give a talk at Aythorpe Village Hall providing tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle your waste. Twenty local residents attended the event and listened to the information available, asking questions and sharing experiences along the way. Here are some of the things we learnt:

- A 'hierarchy of waste' was presented which encouraged us to first REDUCE the amount of waste we produce through various measures, and to then consider REUSE, RECYCLE and COMPOSTING so that landfill waste was the very last resort for our domestic rubbish.
- We were told the 'Recycling Rules' which are consistent across all districts. These are:
 1. Remove plastic lids from aerosols and place both items in your recycling.
 2. Keep your card and paper clean, dry and flat.
 3. Drinking glasses and glass cookware are not recyclable, only glass bottles and jars can be recycled.
 4. Empty and rinse your plastics, cans and foils to avoid spoiling other recyclables.
 5. Remember to remove tissues before recycling your tissue boxes, and any paper ends from toilet rolls.
 6. Leave labels and lids on your plastics, just wash and squash.

7. Recycle all newspapers, envelopes and magazines – no need to remove the windows from envelopes.
- Black plastic cannot be recycled. Polystyrene is also not recycled.
 - The main sources of extra rubbish at Christmas are wrapping paper, cards and bottles. Wrapping paper CAN be recycled so long as it does not have glitter on it and is not foil lined – you can test for this by scrunching the paper in to a ball, if it springs back when you let go then it is foil lined and cannot be recycled. If possible, remove any sellotape from the paper before recycling. Christmas cards can also be recycled so long as they do not have glitter on them. If you do have a glittery card, tear off the front and recycle the back. Recycle your bottles! Also, don't forget to recycle real Christmas trees through the Council collections and if you can, reduce your waste - avoid heavily packaged gifts, consider giving an experience or homemade gift instead.
 - Love Essex has a wealth of information on its website www.loveessex.org and are currently running three campaigns, the 'Reuse Campaign', 'Home Composting' and 'Cloth Nappies'.

At the end of the month, a 'Beeswax Wrap Workshop' has been organised which proved to be very popular and was a quick sell out. Claire hopes to arrange further workshops for those that missed out, in the meantime I will do my best to report back in the next edition of the Focus!

Jenny Juttner





At our last lunch on Wednesday 13th of November, we celebrated Ron Barker's 90th Birthday with another lovely meal.

Our next luncheon club will be on Saturday the 7th of December at 1.30, which will be our Christmas lunch, which is a great meal for only £8.50. This is our last lunch of the year.



Our first luncheon club of 2020 is on Wednesday the 8th of January at 12.30pm. Contact Sandra on 01277 899519 if you would like to come and join us for lunch.

We wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas.

Sandra Mead and Jan Hall

Harvest Home at St Nicholas, Fyfield

This year our church Harvest Festival was shared with our neighbouring parish, St Christopher, Willingale. However, we were delighted to see that the Fyfield Village Pre-School walked down to our church and left their Harvest gifts. Many thanks to the staff and children for their Harvest Home, which was added to our parish Harvest gifts and delivered to the Harlow Food Bank.

Jenny Stone
Fyfield PCC





As another year draws to a close, it always makes us think about the year that has gone. For the Village Hall, it seems

to have gone very quickly. Sadly, we have had to get used to operating without Wendy, and during the year, two other members of our committee decided to step down. I would like to say thank you to Penny for all her hard work, particularly with the Life Walks initiative, and also to Elaine. Elaine revolutionised the booking system and worked tirelessly with the renovation work that we have done, as well as being a constant support to all of us. Thank you.

So, looking forward we are very happy to welcome Richard to our committee and we still have a vacancy if anyone in the village would like to come and join us and give something back to our lovely community. Just give me a call.

Speaking of looking forward, we have two events coming up next year that we would really like you to support. Firstly, on 8th February we have a quiz night. Emma and Miz, who have run the quiz before, will be returning and they always deliver a really enjoyable evening. Tickets are £8.50 per head and that includes a ploughman's supper half way through. Try to get a table of about 8 together and come and have a laugh and light-hearted competition with your neighbours! There is an advert in The Focus with all the details.

The second event that we are excited to be involved in takes place over the weekend of 8th and 9th May 2020. As you may be aware this is when Great Britain will celebrate 75 years since VE Day, and at the Village Hall we didn't want this to go by without getting involved.

On 8th May, there will be a National Ringing for peace, hopefully the church bells will ring, and we will be holding one of our family BBQs to listen to the bells and to come together as families.

On 9th May, we are holding an evening of themed entertainment! We have a wonderful entertainer called Brian Shaw all evening and there will be singing and dancing together with a two course buffet supplied by Ashlyn's. Feel free to come in 1940's costumes, however this is optional, but there will be a prize for the best dressed. We will be decorating the hall accordingly, and it promises to be a great evening.

Following the very moving memorial service at the church on 10th November this year, what better way to honour and remember all those from this and surrounding villages and give thanks that we are all able to live together in this beautiful place. We would love the Village Hall to be full, with the community really coming together to celebrate this important anniversary, as the whole of the UK does the same. Let's be part of something nationwide to feel good about. Details are in the advert in The Focus, and also at the Village Hall.

I would like to end by saying thank you to a few people. The Fyfield Bridge Club has been incredibly generous and has donated

£250.00 towards the costs involved in the defibrillator that we are in the process of installing. Thank you to them for their ongoing support and kindness, it is much appreciated. We had a £50.00 donation from the WD50+ Club for this initiative as well, and without these kind people the Village Hall would not be able to keep improving its facilities.

Just for information, we are not running the 100 Club in 2020, but are hoping to bring it back for the following year. Thank you to everyone who has taken part over the last few years.

I would also like to say a personal thank you to the Fyfield Village Hall Committee. They are a really good bunch of people

who work very hard, without recognition, to keep the fabric of the hall in good condition, events running, the day-to-day bookings and the finances and records in good order. We are very lucky to have people in the village prepared to give up their time and energy without whom, the Village Hall would not be open.

And so, from the committee at the Village Hall, have a wonderful Christmas, and a peaceful and Happy New Year. Thank you to everyone that has supported us this year and to everyone that will do so in 2020.

Marie Apperley

Chair

01277 899386

Fyfield Post Office – ‘Your Local Bank’

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. Euros are kept in stock and all customers can order foreign currency. With the continuation of the closing of banks on our high streets take advantage of doing your banking locally at our **Village Post Office - Your Local Bank**.

Why would you choose to bank anywhere else when it is already on your doorstep?

Every banking transaction is revenue for Nikhil; so why not support Nikhil to keep our precious Post Office and Village Store open for business.

**Fyfield would not be the same without Nikhil and the
Fyfield Post Office and Village Store**

It is important we ‘use it if we don’t want to lose it’.

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 Secretary on 01277 899223 if you need more information.

January	9 th .	Lynda Cook	RNLI Lifeboats
February	6 th .	Margaret Rogers	A Tour of Northern Ireland
March	5 th .	Members Meeting	Arranged by the Members
April	2 nd .	Jane Pearson	Historical Essex – Women's Lives and Work
May	7 th .	ANNUAL MEETING Jo Adams, WI Advisor & RESOLUTIONS	
June	4 th .	Nick Wickendon	Hylands House
July	2 nd .	Pat Gilbey	My Titanic Connection
August		NO MEETING	
September	3 rd .	Ian Kirby	My London Thames River Front
October	1 st .	Peter Turrell	The History of Marconi
November	5 th .	John Watkins	Reflections of Nature
December	3 rd .	Andrew Wiltshire	Fairy Rings & Flagstaffs

Christmas Greetings



*The Nativity from the East Window
St Germain, Bobbingworth*

Letter from the Reverend Christine Hawkins

Dear Friends

In a few days' time, we will be singing Christmas Carols again - those familiar words and tunes which tell the Christmas story. One favourite of mine is *'In the Bleak Midwinter'*:

*In the bleak midwinter
Frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron;
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter,
Long ago.*



Every year people come to our churches to sing the same words and to hear, again, the Christmas story. The story never changes. We count on that. Every year it's the same story with the same characters, the same locations, the same plot, and the same ending. Mary and Joseph are pregnant and unmarried. Emperor Augustus issues a decree of taxation. Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem. There's no room at the inn. Mary gives birth to Jesus and places him in a manger. The angel announces this good news to the shepherds. They come and see this thing that has happened. Mary treasures and ponders the words of the shepherds and they return to their fields.

You know that story as well as I do. You've probably heard it and told it many times. But have you ever considered the poetry of Christmas? I'm talking about the images and metaphors that tell the story behind the story. The facts of Christmas remain the same every year but the poetry of Christmas is what keeps the story alive, has preserved it through the ages, and allows us to relive it again every year for the first time - we find that poetry in some of our best loved carols.

I think that the real reason we come to church every year at this time is to hear the poetry. We want to know that despite our changing story and despite what has happened over the past year, Christmas is still true and still happening. We want to be reminded that light is still shining in the darkness, that good news is still being announced, that the child is still being born anew, and that God is still with us.

Another of my favourite Carols is 'It Came Upon a Midnight Clear'. How we need to hear the promise conveyed in the final two verses:

*And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road,
And hear the angels sing!*

*For lo!, the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.*

Yes, it is still true. All of it. Christmas is happening, whatever the circumstances of your life might be this year. Christmas is happening in whatever changes you've experienced over the last year. Christmas is as real and present in the difficult and painful times of life as it is in the joyful and exciting times.

On behalf of the worshipping community in the benefice, I wish you a holy and blessed Christmas.

Chris

*Christine Hawkins, Priest In Charge
The United Benefice of Bobbingworth, Fyfield, Moreton & Willingale and
The Benefice of High Laver w Magdalen Laver and Little Laver with Matching
The Rectory
6 Forest Drive
Fyfield
Ongar
CM5 0TP*

December & Christmas Services

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH
1st December Advent Sunday	08.30	1662 (said) Communion	Little Laver
	10.00	Family Service	Matching
	10.00	Family Communion	Moreton
	17.00	Christingle with uniformed Organisations	Fyfield
8th December	08.30	1662 (said) Communion	Fyfield
	10.00	Family Communion	Matching
	16.00	9 Lessons & Carols	Fyfield
	18.00	9 Lessons & Carols	Willingale
15th December	10.00	Family Communion	Magdalen Laver
	10.00	Family Communion	Bobbingworth
	18.00	9 lessons & Carols	Moreton
20th December (day before the Winter Solstice)	19.00	The Longest Night <i>(a service for anyone who will find Christmas difficult this year)</i>	Moreton
22nd December	09.30	Family Communion	Willingale
	10.00	Family Communion	High Laver
	17.00	9 Lessons & Carols	High Laver
24th December	16.00	Crib Service	Magdalen Laver
Christmas Eve	16.00	Pilgrimage to Bethlehem	Bobbingworth
	23.00	Midnight Mass	Matching
25th December Christmas Day	10.00	Holy Communion	Willingale
29th December	10.00	Holy Communion	Little Laver



January 2020 Services

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH
5 January	8.30 am	The Epiphany 1662 Holy Communion	Little Laver
	10.00 am	Family Service	Matching
	10.00 am	Family Communion	Moreton
8 January	10.00 am	Midweek Communion	High Laver
12 January		Baptism of the Lord	
	10.00 am	Family Communion	Fyfield
	10.00 am	Family Communion	Matching
15 January	10.00 am	Midweek Communion	High Laver
19 January		2nd Sunday after the Epiphany	
	10.00 am	Family Communion	Bobbingworth
	10.00 am	Family Communion	Magdalen Laver
	14.30	Deanery Plough Service	Matching
	18.00	Evening Prayer	Willingale
22 January	10.00 am	Midweek Communion	High Laver
26 January		3rd Sunday after the Epiphany	
	10.00 am	Family Communion	High Laver
	9.30 am	Family Communion	Willingale
29 January	10.00 am	Midweek Communion	High Laver
2 February		Candlemas	
	8.30 am	1662 Holy Communion	Little Laver
	10.00 am	Family Service	Matching
	10.00 am	Family Communion	Moreton



Christmas Quiz



Can you name the Christmas Carols or Songs??
(e.g. WC = White Christmas)

1. TFN
2. OCAYF
3. MaW
4. JB
5. ICUaMC
6. LIS,LIS,LIS|
7. HYaMLC
8. OLTob
9. RAtCT
10. IWICBCED
11. ItBMW
12. RtR-NR
13. CotB
14. TTDoC
15. DtKiC
16. JttW
17. D-DMonH
18. ISMKSC
19. OHN
20. WWYaMC



The answers can be found on page 40

KAREN'S Minibus

CALL 07733407208

FULLY QUALIFIED, LICENCED AND INSURED. Essex County council Approved operator.

Up to 16 Passengers.
All Airports, Weddings, Parties, Theatre Trips, Race Days, Nights out Days out.



Number of Passengers Each Way			With Luggage		Hand Luggage Only	
Airports	4	5/6	7/8	9/10	11/13	16
Stansted	£35	£53	£70	£80	£95	£110
Gatwick	£85	£100	£125	£155	£175	£185
Heathrow	£85	£105	£130	£170	£185	£195
Luton	£80	£98	£115	£125	£140	£150
City	£50	£65	£85	£95	£110	£120
Southend	£60	£80	£100	£110	£120	£130

karensbus@gmail.com Alt Contact Number 07710 730 007

D. Webb's Plumbing

Qualified and experienced Plumber dealing with all plumbing & heating requirements:

- **Emergency 24 hour Callout**
- **Bathroom Specialist**
- Blockages
- Taps
- Float Valves
- All other aspects of plumbing and property maintenance
- No job too small



Call Danny on: 07599 561441
www.dwebbsplumbing.com

Christmas Quiz - Answers

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. T F N | The First Noel |
| 2. O C A Y F | O Come All Ye Faithful |
| 3. M a W | Mistletoe and Wine |
| 4. J B | Jingle Bells |
| 5. I C U a M C | It Came Upon a Midnight Clear |
| 6. L I S, L I S, L I S | Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow |
| 7. H Y a M L C | Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas |
| 8. O L T o B | O Little Town of Bethlehem |
| 9. R A t C T | Rocking Around the Christmas Tree |
| 10. I W I C B C E D | I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day |
| 11. I t B M W | In the Bleak Mid Winter |
| 12. R t R-N R | Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer |
| 13. C o t B | Carol of the Bells |
| 14. T T D o C | The Twelve Days of Christmas |
| 15. D t K i C | Do they Know its Christmas |
| 16. J t t W | Joy to the World |
| 17. D-D M o n H | Ding-Dong Merrily on High |
| 18. I S M K S C | I Saw Mummy Kissing Santa Claus |
| 19. O H N | O Holy Night |
| 20. W W Y a M C | We Wish You a Merry Christmas |

Ron Blackburn

It is with great sadness to announce the passing away of Ron Blackburn. Ron died peacefully on Monday, 18th November, 2019, in Princess Alexandra Hospital. Ron's wife Joyce and Son Stephen were with Ron when he passed away.



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

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

The Fyfield Ramblers

The Fyfield Ramblers enjoy a monthly walk gently exploring the beautiful countryside around our village. The average length of a walk is about 4 miles. Everyone is welcome to join us, with or without a dog!

Please note that we are changing the date of the walk from the 2nd Sunday of the month to the **1st Sunday of each month** to fit in with the revised Family Communion Service at St Nicholas', which is now monthly on the 2nd Sunday at 10am.

So, the Ramblers will now meet at 10am, in the Village Hall car park on the 1st Sunday of the month!!

Please come along.

Les Lamb



LB & CO

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

- TAX RETURNS
- SOLE TRADER ACCOUNTS
- VAT RETURNS
- PAYROLL
- LIMITED COMPANY ACCOUNTS
- CIS RETURNS
- BOOK-KEEPING
- MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

PLEASE CONTACT LAURA FOR A
FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE

LAURA.BUTCHER@ACCOUNTANT.COM

07970014298

Ongar Dog Training Club

Your local dog training club, established 2011.

**Professional training and
support for you and your dog
in a friendly environment**

- **Puppy socialisation**
- **Adult Classes**
- **1:1 Training**



Contact Claire to discuss
your dog's needs.

ODTC

Tel: **01992 619186**

Mobile: **07943 348760**

Email: **bloomers3@ntlworld.com**



turtle doves

However, this could not be true in this country as turtle doves are summer visitors, arriving in late April and leaving in September to spend the winter in West Africa.

At the monthly meeting in September, Emma Stobart from the RSPB explained why this bird, just smaller than a collared dove, is of such interest. It is because the breeding population in Britain has declined by an alarming 91% in the last 10 years and the remaining birds are now confined to south-eastern England.

The turtle dove is found on arable and mixed farmland in places where there are suitable nesting sites.

They require a continuous supply of wildflower and cereal seeds from April to August and a lack of seed is probably the major factor limiting their breeding success.

Whilst turtle doves are protected in Britain, they are shot in large numbers during migration, and they also experience problems in their African wintering grounds.

Most of us have heard of turtle doves from the song *Twelve days of Christmas*, with the words: "On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me – two

The RSPB's *Operation Turtle Dove* tracks birds with satellite tags, which has provided detailed information of their migration route, and shown that they migrate mainly at night, covering 400-500 miles in one flight, and flying at speeds of around 40mph.

Operation Turtle Dove also supports farmers in providing supplementary food for the doves, many of which arrive in this country before wildflowers have produced seed. So why are they called turtle doves? It is not because of their appearance but because they have a soft 'purring' song and their "turt - turtttttt" call has been translated as "tur-tle".

The next meeting of OWLS is at 8pm on Monday 9th December when Dr Brian Rosen from the Natural History Museum will give a talk entitled '*Christmas Corals*'. Yes, Corals not Carols!

'*Climate Change*' by Brian Eversham starts the New Year on 20th January, and on 17th February Bob Reed will give a fascinating talk entitled '*Badgers*'.

All meetings are now held at our new venue, Budworth Hall, High Street, Chipping Ongar, CM5 9JG. Visitors pay £5, but why not join - only £25 a year for nine talks, a garden party and a New Year party. It's great value and an opportunity to learn about wildlife and the environment. More information can be found at www.ongarwildlifesociety.org.uk



Keith Snow



In October, Ray Spiller taxed our memories with snippets of themes from Radio and TV from the 1940's till the present day and it was great fun.

In November, Anita Marie Sackett showed us pictures of the different aspects of the way the Victorians marked Christmas. Early cards bearing little of the Christmas message in contrast to Charles Dickens' cosy sentimental depiction of family Christmases. She also explained the origins of some of the rituals we now associate with Christmas.

Looking ahead to December, we have Danielle Barnet coming to *Sing a Song of Xmas*.

Visitors and new members very welcome, meeting details are in the Village Diary.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

An Invitation To
Shrove Tuesday 25th February
Pancakes and Coffee Morning
in the Village Hall

10.30 ~ 1.00

£4.00 for 2 Pancakes & Tea or Coffee

STALLS, RAFFLE, etc.

In Aid of WI Funds

Pat Turnpenny, Secretary, 01277 899223

Fyfield Coffee Morning (in the church)

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



3rd December & 4th February
10 am to 12 Noon
Marion, Carol & Tricia

Out of Focus

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



It's that time of year again for some crystal ball gazing! When Brexit is decided, one way or the other, we can concentrate on important issues like the imminent sinking of Ongar High Street into a large hole. My crystal ball is looking ahead by about ten years (2030). I have written before about wind farms so you shouldn't be surprised that I suspect that the Chipping Ongar Airfield, if it has not become a satellite runway for Stansted especially for electric aircraft, will become a massive wind farm to assist in the growing de-



mand for electricity brought about by the increase in everything electric.

We are being told by some that in the near future we will have no need for our own transport but merely call a driverless vehicle to take us to whatever destination we choose. That implies that we will no longer need to have a garage or car port or even a drive or parking space. So where are all of these 'on demand' driverless vehicles going to be stored? You've got it, the new Chipping Ongar Wind Farm & On Demand Centre. In fact the whole of the country will need to have such places dotted about with any new housing development being required to provide an On Demand Centre. With all these new electric powered vehicles buzz-

ing about there will, no doubt, be new health concerns regarding the massive amount of Radio Frequency (RF) generated around us all. Mobile Phone masts, TV's, microwaves and bedside alarm



clocks will fade into insignificance when we all get bombarded on a permanent basis by the unseen forces of power;

they will turn into magnets which will attract or repulse other items including people.

The Gypsy Mead site will have finally been developed but not with houses but a giant wind turbine/mobile phone mast which will power the new housing estate built on the site of the Village Hall and Sports Field.

The spread of Ongar will now have reached Clatterford End in the North and Kelvedon Hatch in the South. During the development, it was discovered that there is a second secret nuclear bunker within a few miles of the one at Kelvedon Hatch. This one is located under Ongar High Street hence the subsidence and plans are afoot to turn it into a multi-story Sainsbury's before Ongar vanishes into it without trace.

Fyfield Marina is growing but not due to planned development but to the gradual rise in sea level and increased rainfall in



the UK. Residents of Cannons Green have clubbed together to build a beach and pier at the end of their gardens

which is proving very successful as a water skiing venue and sea plane port.

The European Union has now totally imploded with its only asset being the Eurovision Song Contest. Most of the old member countries now want to join the UK in a new powerful trading block that rivals China and Trumpland (formerly USA).

Anyway, as my dog says, I'm off to spend more time with my collection of bus tickets and as commodore of the Fyfield Yacht Club.....! Well, there must be a life after the Focus!

Ian Hadley
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk

At last I'm back home in Little Witney!

I'd like to thank everyone for their kindness, care and support over the last year. It has certainly helped me to keep my head above water.

For the first two months I lived with Ron and Margaret who opened their home to me and Hollie and gave us a place of safety to recover from all the trauma of the fire.

I am most grateful to Mark Simpson for allowing me to live in Helen's house, and also to Nicole Wagstaff, who provided me with her Mother's home in Abbey Close when I had to move on. They both enabled me to carry on with my life, surrounded by you all, in our wonderful village.

Carol Cox

Fyfield Festival 2010!!

Has anyone been busy making chutney and jam this Autumn? We would really be grateful for any jars containing delicious homemade preserves to be sold at our fundraising Fyfield Summer Festival next year.

Many thanks!

Jenny Stone





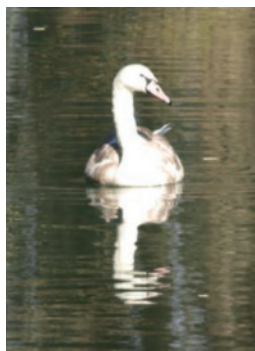
Archie's Column

(Tails from the Riverside)



Hi, Archie here,
It seems a good time of the year to say hello and Merry Christmas to my friends in Fyfield and other places. So here

goes: To Martha from Cannons Lane, the Brown Boys, Tilly opposite, Jessie next door, Buzz the other Jack Russell, Pepper, Mac the Welsh Corgi, Dizzie the Black Lab, the Black Lab at the Queens Head and Sid next door, Percy, Buddy, Rufus near the sports field, Rigby, George the big dog, Pip at the Black Bull and Lucky nearby, Gus the Gun dog, Peach, Poppy, Shelby and Sadie (the German girls), Doodle, Hollie and Frank the Boxer.



The Fyfield Swan, although I haven't seen him yet this year, I hope he is alright. The Muntjac that lives on the other side of the river (I talk to him every night), the Moorhens who live op-

posite and the Squirrel who keeps pinching the peanuts from the bird feeders. The horses in the field opposite and the ginger cat that creeps around the place hoping to sneak up on some

mouse or bird (typical cat tactic). Jack Russell's always bark before trying to catch something; we like to give them a chance to get away. If they don't run away then we do! After all, who wants to fight! Merry Christmas to the Postman, I'll catch him one day, the Bin men who wake me up and Hugo and Woody, my cousins in the north. The ducks, pigeons, jackdaws, rooks, crows, wood peckers, blue tits, great tits, gold finches, green finches, bull finches, long tailed tits, pied wag tails, jays, nut hatches, sparrows, dunnocks, wrens, robins, black birds, starlings, thrushes, doves, the kingfishers who fish off my riverbank and other things that come into my garden.

Well, that's enough of that for one year. I'm looking forward to the nights getting shorter on December 21st and the warmer weather in spring.

Anyway, I'm off to spend more time in my bed whilst I think about all the food I will be eating at Christmas, all the presents my Auntie Marilyn & Uncle Malcolm will bring me and I can't wait to see my niece Claire who flies in from the USA just to spend Christmas with me.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to everyone; cats included.

Goodbye.

Archie.



RELIABLE. PROFESSIONAL. LOCAL.

*The go-to people
for all your vehicle repair
and maintenance needs*

GS Carcare Ltd is a family run business serving the local area for over 8 years.

We cover all aspects of vehicle repair and maintenance on all vehicles and light commercial vehicles.

FREE local collection and delivery.

Courtesy car available on request.



*Excellent service,
highly skilled and helpful.*



*A truly great experience from
a friendly and professional team.*



*Excellent, friendly,
professional service.*

T: 01277 500060 - E: gscarcare@gmail.com - www.gscarcare.com

Unit 5, Paslow Hall Farm, King Street, High Ongar, Essex CM5 9QZ

Light Hearted Monologues from a Local

My car was to be repaired at a local body shop. Leaving my prized but dented diesel auto at their premises, I was given a lift home by the 'BOSS' in a white van with an unusual shelf in the roof above the windscreen.

Some few days later the car was ready. My kind 'chauffeur' arrived but somehow, we missed each other. Unexpectedly the phone rang with the caller questioning, "Where was I?"

Now back at his shop, he said that after a cup of tea he would travel again to my abode and "would I please look out for him."

Somewhat embarrassed I walked to the main road to meet him thus saving a bit of time and to guarantee our connection. Spotting the white van with the unusual roof, I flagged him down by the corner shop. As he drew up his face was ruddier than I remembered and a large black Labrador reclined on the front seat. Serves me right I thought, I'd have to travel in the back of the van and rough it back to the shop.



He got out and I apologised for his wasted journey before. "Before? I haven't been here before," he

said. "I'm on my way to Dunmow and I thought that you had travelled closer to meet me!"

Mystified I mumbled apologies to this stranger and walked back to my house. Waiting patiently outside was the "BOSS" in a GREY SALOON car!

And on the same subject....

On July 17, 1946, the temperature in Detroit was 97 degrees. Four Goldberg brothers, Lowell, Norman, Hiram, and Max walked into Henry Ford's office telling him that they had the most exciting innovation in the auto industry since the electric starter- **a car air conditioner.**

Persuading him to get into their car in the parking lot, they turned on the air conditioner thus cooling the inside immediately from 130 degrees down to a comfortable temperature.

Excited, Henry offered them \$3 million for the patent. Refusing, the brothers agreed to settle for \$2 million with their name on the dashboard by each installation. Negotiations took time but finally a settlement of \$4 million was reached with only their first names shown.

Therefore, to this day all Ford air conditioners show --Lo, Norm, Hi, and Max on the controls.

Barry Betteridge



At long last the Moreton, Bobbingworth and Lavers Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted by the Epping Forest District Council

(EFDC). The plan will now be referenced when any planning application is reviewed and will have the same weight as the EFDC Local Plan.

Congratulations to the Morton Bobbingworth & Lavers Parish Council for their hard work and perseverance.

The recent plans to build an office block at North Weald airfield to accommodate EFDC staff has now been abandoned due to projected escalating costs. The plan now is to adapt the current Civic Offices in Epping to accommodate the staff. As the Civic Office is a listed building any alteration has to adhere to the appropriate heritage rules to maintain design continuity.

Plans have been announced to insource the development and maintenance of council owned properties. This will increase revenue for the council as well as provide other benefits such as the employment of apprentices from our district.

Plans are being discussed to make it illegal for vehicles to park on pavements. At the present it is not against the law to

park on a pavement but is against the law to block the passage of pedestrians so they have to walk into the road.

Obviously, this will have to recognise local circumstances especially in our rural area where sometimes parking on the kerb is necessary to allow combines and large vehicles to pass.

On the 5th November EFDC passed a motion to support restrictions on fireworks and firework displays including a decibel limit and raising the age for purchasing fireworks.

Lastly, it may or may not be a record for district councils, but EFDC has five councillors who are standing for parliament in the forthcoming election. Three Conservative, one Lib Dem and one Green.

Christmas greetings to all and best wishes for the New Year.

Cllr. Ian Hadley
Epping Forest District Council,
Moreton & Fyfield Ward
01277 899840
07765882001

cllr.ihadley@eppingforestdc.gov.uk
www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Fyfield Parish Council

Letter from the Chairman



Although it was a real success last year sadly, due to unforeseen insurance issues, the Parish Council is unable to provide a Christmas tree in the village this year.

At last the Council is back to a full team of 7 councillors. Sandra Mead regularly attends the Council meetings as a resident but has decided to join us as a Councillor. Sandra plays a huge role in the running of the 1st Moreton and Fyfield Scouts which is one of the most successful Troops in the country and a real credit to our community. She brings to our Council enthusiasm, a real *can do* attitude, humour and a terrific knowledge of the village and residents. Good luck Sandra we are looking forward to working with you.

The Council wants to thank Cheryl and Ian Hadley for their years of work, writing articles, editing, publishing and distributing the Fyfield Focus. This took a huge amount of time and effort which is very much appreciated by the Council. Cheryl and Ian will hand over to a new editorial team. Our very best wishes to them and thanks for continuing to provide us with our local magazine.

Your Council is busy continuing the work to update the burial grounds records, improving our asset register, moving to a new web site and planning the 2020 budget.

We wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cllr. Les Lamb
07776178794
leslamb@hotmail.co.uk

Fyfield Parish Council

Cllr. L. Lamb (Chair)	0777 6178794	leslamb@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr. J. Hall (Vice Chair)	01277 899808	janet.hall@btopenworld.com
Cllr. M. Alcock	01277 899432	alcock123@btinternet.com
Cllr. L. Chisenhale-Marsh	01277 899262	lisellecm@icloud.com
Cllr. B. Seward	07747 803829	barbara128@ymail.com
Cllr. D. Webster	01277 899405	dan@fyfield.uk.com
Cllr. S. Mead	01277 899519	gemkia@aol.com
Charlotte Collins, Clerk	01277 899006	fyfieldparishcouncil@gmx.com

FYFIELD VILLAGE STORE & POST OFFICE – CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES



Village Store

Christmas Eve	8.00am to 2pm
Christmas Day	CLOSED
Boxing Day	8.00am to 12.30pm
27 December	8.00 am to 2pm
28 December	8.00am to 2pm
29 December	8.00am to 12.30pm
30 December	6.00am to 5pm
New Year's Eve	8.00 am to 2pm
New Year's Day	8.00am to 12.30pm



Post Office

Christmas Eve	9.00 am to 2pm
Christmas Day	CLOSED
Boxing Day	CLOSED
27 December	9.00 am to 2pm
28 December	9.00am to 12.30pm
29 December	CLOSED
30 December	9.00am to 5pm
New Year's Eve	9.00am to 2pm
New Year's Day	CLOSED



Nikhil, Gita and all staff

**wish all their Customers a Merry Christmas
and a Healthy & Happy New Year**

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



Fyfield Village Store & Post Office *Opening Times*

Village Store

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

Post Office

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



Tel: 01277 899201

CLASSICTRAVEL

***ttgluxury* Travel Awards 2019 Finalist -
Luxury Travel Agent of the Year**

If you would like a high level of service & be looked after by our concierge team Then visit us at our Loughton office, or give us a call, or look online, you will find we are friendly & efficient & have the benefit of our travel knowledge & overseas contacts plus offering the very best price for your holiday.

We host a number of events throughout the year -
If you would like to get involved

**PLEASE EMAIL US AT INFO@CLASSICTRAVEL.CO.UK & WE WILL BE IN
CONTACT WITH OUR NEWS & EVENTS DATES**

**CLASSIC TRAVEL, 152 HIGH ROAD, LOUGHTON, IG10 4BE
TEL 020 8508 5588 WWW.CLASSICTRAVEL.CO.UK**



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)**

Pageturners

Do No Harm by Henry Marsh



The eminent brain surgeon Henry Marsh reviews his professional life including operations he has carried out over the years for differing brain conditions. It sounds grim and it would be fair to say the group

picked up this book with trepidation.

It was, however, an enthralling insight into the intense pressure and frustration of being a consultant in the NHS. You cannot help but be in awe of someone who every day of his working life is conducting microscopic surgery where any slight error can have life changing consequences on the patient. Who would want to do that? Clearly, Henry Marsh does and he relishes his role.

Poking about in someone's brain you might think would be the hardest part of his job but Henry is adamant that the procedures are essentially straightforward. It is the decision making surrounding surgery that is the hardest aspect. Recognising when to stop during a procedure comes essentially with experience. He is very honest about some

of his early years decision-making and what the subsequent consequences were.

You may well have seen Henry in a TV documentary about neurosurgery in the Ukraine. Over the years, he has assisted a neurosurgical unit in a hospital in Kiev. There the facilities and equipment are decades behind what we have here in the UK. Henry arrives, like a medical Father Christmas, with his case of goodies to ease the life of his Ukrainian colleagues and their patients. Does this man ever switch off?

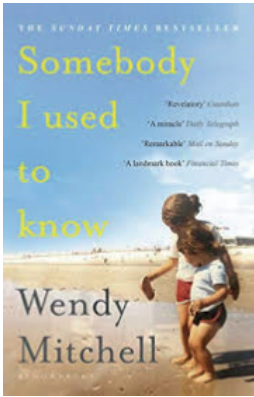
Henry is old school. Despite finding the modern NHS unnecessarily bureaucratic and inevitably inefficient, he is a supporter of the NHS's ethos. Many of his colleagues have deserted the NHS for the private sector, whereas Henry feels that access to healthcare should be about need not money.

We found the book fascinating but if you do not feel like wading through the 320 pages, catch Henry on the many YouTube clips that exist. A principled man, who is a huge loss to the NHS since his retirement.

Margaret Dines

Somebody I Used To Know by Wendy Mitchell

This moving memoir is an amazing insight into the frightening world of dementia. Wendy Mitchell was diagnosed with early onset dementia at the age of 58 and this book, co-written with journalist



Anna Wharton, describes her old self as she once was, and the new self living her life, keeping the Alzheimer's at bay as much as possible.

Wendy had been a dynamo of energy and practicality. She

had worked for the NHS for 20 years as an efficient and reliable team leader, rostering nursing shifts in a busy hospital, and was well known for her accurate memory. Successfully bringing up two loving daughters alone had been a challenge, into which Wendy had channelled all her limitless energy. They are the centre of her life now and do all they can to allow her to live an independent life. Wendy always

maintains, "dementia doesn't mean the end of life, just a different kind of life".

There is a long list of Wendy's achievements since the onset of her condition, all a fitting tribute to her determination to live in the moment. She travels up and down the country (by herself) to give talks and raise awareness; has made films for the BBC and regards the publication of her book as one of her greatest achievements. It has been sold in many countries, and even been translated into Chinese. If you would like to "meet her", take a look at the clips of her on YouTube - watch the one of her wearing cap and gown after being made an Honorary Graduate of Bradford University, making her speech to her fellow graduates and lecturers. A truly remarkable and inspirational lady, whose book has a message for us all.

Jenny Stone

WAWMAN SERVICES

Oil fired Boiler & Aga

**Service / Routine Maintenance / Breakdowns /
Landlords Certifications / New Boiler Commissions.**

Mob: 07946-759021

**Email: wawmanservices@hotmail.com
Fully insured & OFTEC registered.**



Cookery Section



I have provided 2 main courses; one a very festive supper type main course and the other a main course which is quite special and can be served any time of the year. The Fyfield Cookery column was introduced in March 2013 and featured Creamed Cabbage & Pineapple Fruit Cake - both recipes which once you have cooked you will use again and again. The Cookery Column has appeared in 40 out of 54 publications and covered 75 recipes - all from me and some really great cooks.

Chicken Cranberry Wreath

2 pkts (240g each) chilled fresh dough for croissants
90ml/1 tbsp mayonnaise
20ml/4tsp Dijon mustard
2.5ml/1/2 tsp freshly ground black pepper
225g/8oz boneless, skinless cooked chicken, chopped
1 stick celery, thinly sliced
45ml/3tbsp fresh parsley snipped
85g/3oz Gruyere cheese, grated
40g/1 1/2 oz walnuts, chopped
1 egg, separated
Serves 8-12

Preheat the oven to Gas 5. Unroll croissant dough and separate into 12 triangles. Arrange 6 triangles in a circle

with wide ends of triangles towards the centre on a baking tray. Corner ends of wide ends will touch and points will extend beyond edge of the tray. Arrange 6 remaining triangles in centre, matching wide ends. Press seams together using a rolling pin (points will overlap in centre, do not seal).

Measure mayonnaise, mustard and black pepper into a bowl. Chop chicken, thinly slice the celery and snip parsley. Add chicken, celery, parsley and cranberries to the bowl and grate cheese into the bowl and mix the ingredients.

Scoop chicken mixture evenly over pressed seams of dough, forming a circle. Coarsely chop the walnuts and sprinkle over the filling. Beginning in centre, lift one dough triangle across mixture. Continue alternating with outer triangles, slightly overlapping to form wreath. Tuck last end under first (filling should not be completely covered). Separate the egg and beat egg white lightly brushing over dough. Place the baking tray in the oven and bake for 25-30 mins. or until deep golden brown.

Tip - can use cooked turkey instead of chicken and use sultanas or chopped ready to eat apricots in place of cranberries.

Liesl Hadley

(This is a delicious and very impressive Christmas Main Course which is lovely served with a mixed salad and coleslaw. You can also serve with minted new potatoes or potato salad.)

Baked Salmon with Parmesan & Parsley Crust

6 x 5oz salmon fillets, skinned

Butter if necessary

Chopped parsley

Sauce:

2 1/2 fl oz white wine

6oz chestnut mushrooms sliced

10fl oz double cream

Topping:

1 oz fresh white breadcrumbs

1 oz parmesan coarsely grated

2 tblspns chopped fresh parsley

Grated rind of 1/2 lemon

Paprika

Serves 6

Season both sides of the salmon fillets and place on lift-off paper on a baking sheet.

Measure the wine and mushrooms into a pan, and boil for 1 minute. Lift out the mushrooms with a slotted spoon and reduce the wine to about 2 tblspns. Add the cream, bring to the boil and reduce to a sauce consistency. Season. Return the

mushrooms to the sauce and leave to cool completely.

Spoon a little of the cold mushroom mixture on each salmon fillet, but do not spread to the edge. Sprinkle the breadcrumbs, parmesan, parsley and lemon rind on the mushroom mixture and dust with paprika. Leave in the fridge for 24 hours if necessary. Save the rest of the sauce to reheat and serve separately.

Bake for 15 mins on Gas Mark 7

Tips – use more mushrooms – say 8oz and any long stalks chop in half. Use wide rather than long fillets. Reduce the mushroom & wine liquor to exact measure; this makes it stronger in taste & a thick sauce – this takes time so be patient. Do make double amount of sauce!

Jude Bessel

(Jude is such a wonderful cook and her presentation and bringing together of different foods is fabulous.)



Fyfield *Carpet Bowls Club*



On Sunday 6th October Mary Wilkinson, Sharon Birch and Dot Letchfield travelled to Braintree for the Essex Triples

competition. They played very well and won their group, qualifying for the knockout rounds. They got through to the last 8 teams (the quarter-finals) where they met stiff competition and were knocked out. Well done to all three players, it showed that Fyfield are still a club to be reckoned with. Beryl Shuttleworth and I, together with Colin Day entered for High Easter, but were not very successful and did not qualify for the knockout rounds.

On Sunday 13th October, Mary, Dot, Beryl and I were again at Braintree for the Top Ten Team Bowl. We all played in different teams and disciplines and none of our teams won any prizes, but it was a good day's bowling.

Our next competition at Braintree is on Sunday 17th November, where we will be entering the pairs' competition. I'll report on this in the next issue.

On the county front, on Sunday 22nd September we travelled to Littleport in Cambridgeshire for the Eastern (6) Counties Team Bowl, which was hosted by Essex this year and is a charity event. Essex started well and was in first place at the beginning of the day but tailed off in the afternoon, ending in 4th place,

with Suffolk winning overall. Over £300 was raised for the Teenage Cancer Trust. On Saturday 5th October, 16 members of the squad travelled to West Sussex to play our annual friendly against this county. Essex had a comfortable win of 11 points to 5. They will be coming to us next year.

On the weekend of 8th- 11th November, the squad travelled to Potters Resort in Norfolk for the National Carpet Bowls Competition. Nine Counties took part and it was a very strenuous weekend. Essex started strongly on Saturday morning leading the way, but dropped to 4th place by the afternoon. Sunday saw us struggling as two of our members had to drop out due to illness. With the two disrupted teams, we ended the weekend in 5th place. Again, Suffolk won, with Cambridge in second place.

That's all I can report on this year. Have a great Christmas and catch you again in 2020!

Can I take this opportunity in thanking Cheryl and Ian for all the hard work they have done in the past years for the Focus and wish them good luck for the future.

Jacky Brown

Fyfield, Ongar & District *Bridge Club*



It's a busy time for all of us, no more so than our Club who recently held its AGM. We are fortunate to be able to report an on-going rolling training programme, the purchase of new equipment and sizeable donations to local and national charities. Part of the proceedings was the much awaited announcement of the trophy winners with the Wells Cup for best Monday session players being awarded to Violet Porter and Margaret Warren, the Hadley Cup for the best Thursday session players to Mike and Ailsa Wildig and the most improved pairing to Peter Spray and Eileen Heaphy – our congratulations to you all. A presentation was also made to our hard-working Secretary, Marion Alcock, who has decided to stand down from that role this year.

By the time of publication, we will have again played in the international

Simultaneous Pairs competition in aid of Children in Need. We have had respectable results in the past so are hoping for the same again this year. However if not, we will be philosophical about it as it is the taking part and donation that really matters. Just before the Christmas closure both our Monday and Thursday sessions will enjoy a social get-together where the bridge is secondary to the festivities but still no one wants to go home with the wooden spoon!

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

Christmas Closures: Thursday 26th and Monday 30th December.

Fyfield, Ongar and District Bridge Club
Website: www.bridgewebs.com/fyfield



1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Explorer Unit

Beaver Scouts

The Beavers started the term with an amazing Dragon Camp at our Scout Head Quarters. They went on a hike following the Dragon trail and did lots of various Dragon activities, finishing the night off with a Dragon's dinner and Dragon movie. We got fantastic feedback from the beavers who said they loved every minute of it. So it was a huge success!

This term they've also done several sessions to earn their Communication Badge. They wrote letters home addressed to themselves, deciphered messages in Morse Code, learnt some sign language (*thanks to the lovely Stella Howell*) and made phone calls to our very own Mick Bacon emergency services, where they were given a scenario and had to ask for the correct service and give details etc.

They went on a walk around Fyfield to get pine cones to use for a project later in the year. While out walking they did a litter pick collecting half a bin bag of rubbish as part of their Community Badge. It also taught them why it's important to dispose of our rubbish properly.

We had a Mad Hatter's tea party and a Halloween party, not only as a reward for their hard work, but also as great opportunity to do some teamwork games where they had to work together.

For fireworks night they learnt some fire safety, had sparklers, collected wood for a fire and learnt how not to light a fire as unfortunately the young leaders weren't

very successful, so they had to just eat untoasted marshmallows!

This week we're off to Pets at Home as part of our Animal Care Badge. With Christmas approaching they will hopefully be making some decorations to be sold at the Christmas Fayre and do some more community work with our reverse calendar where they donate food to the local church for the Food Bank.

We have had some fantastic feedback from our Beaver parents on our What's App Group saying how much they're enjoying the activities.

All of which couldn't have been done if it wasn't for my 2 amazing assistant leaders, Ed Collop and Julia Grist and the several young leaders we have. The young leaders are a massive help.

So, thank you.

Sam Bird, Beaver Scout Leader

1st Moreton & Fyfield Cub Pack

We currently have 20 Cubs split over 4 sixes. The following briefly details some of the events and activities that we have done this Autumn term.

Daniel & Chloe our two young leaders agreed to give talks on their experiences at the recent Jamborees. Daniel went to Australia and Chloe went to the 24th World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia. Hopefully some of our current Cubs will have the opportunity to attend a future Jamboree.

On the 29th September, 10 Cubs and 2 Leaders spent the day on a canal boat with

Canal Ability in Harlow. We all had a great time on the water and the Cubs learnt how to open and close canal locks. The weather was better than forecast and no one fell in the water which was a bonus! Following the Canal Ability day, Ken Templey, a volunteer of the charity very kindly came to the Scout Hut to give a talk about canal boats and the history of the canals.

In October we started work on the Home Help Badge, the Cubs cooked snacks, each ironed a t-shirt and did some sewing. They also completed the Scientist Badge.

Before the October half term, the Cubs all had a go at apple bobbing and making toffee apples. This was ahead of our fireworks night, where the Cubs made their very own Guy Fawkes, which they burnt and then had an impressive display of fireworks. The Cubs also joined in with the rest of the Scout Group by parading to the church for Remembrance Sunday.

This a list of the badges that the Cubs have earned over the last 12 months.

Chief Scout Silver Award, Team Leader & Teamwork Challenge

Fire Safety, Scientist, World Challenge, Skills Challenge, Adventure Challenge, Time on the Water, Fire Safety, Athletics, Home Help, Home Safety, Nights Away Staged Badges, Hikes Staged Badges

The Cub pack is running well, and we are proud of what they have achieved over the last few months.

David Gordon, Cub Scout Leader.

The Scout Troop

At the start of the term we held a Knife, Axe & Bowsaw training evening when individual permits were gained by the Scouts. The evening included starting campfires using natural materials, bark and the use of a flint & steel.

The Fyfield 5k Fun Run in September from the sports field across the fields and countryside was completed by the leaders and Scouts who ran to raise sponsorship for forthcoming camps.

Several weeks later the Scouts took part in a Night Hike and Night Navigation Scheme following the route of the 5k run.

They went on a trip to The Imperial War Museum at Duxford with Dennis, who had won a competition.



The Friday before Remembrance Day the Scouts had a presentation by a WW1 military historian representing the 10th Essex Battalion. He brought along uniforms, webbing, rifles, revolver, Vickers machine gun, gas masks and a soldier's personal kit for them to see.

On Remembrance Sunday the Troop, with the rest of the Group sections, carried our

flags, marching behind our drummer, to Fyfield Church for the Remembrance Sunday service and laid a wreath of poppies on the memorial.

We were proud to support 3 of our Explorer Scouts who went to the World Jamboree in America and 1 of our scouts to the International Jamboree in Australia. Our support will be extended to support the 3 scouts destined for the Europe International Jamboree in Poland in 2020.
Rolf Bassnett, Scout Leader.

Dragonian Explorer Scouts

Our numbers have grown from 5 Explorers to 12 with more due to come up from Scouts in the coming months.

As a unit, we have been working on our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Each half term the young people spend time recording their skills, volunteering and physical activities into the online Duke of Edinburgh system. We have recently spent a number of weeks planning menus and route cards as well as consolidating our first aid and equipment skills in preparation for our Bronze Expedition. Eight Explorers successfully completed a walking expedition around the Hertfordshire countryside, demonstrating their teamwork, perseverance, map reading, resilience, and scouting skills. The weather was kind to us, although rain was never far away! The next step for these young people is to complete the other sections of their award before moving on to their Silver.

As part of their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, most of the Explorers spend their time volunteering as Young Leaders with other sections within the group. To assist them within this role, they have been

completing modules for their Young Leader Award. All the Young Leaders have thus far, completed their basic training and continue to work on other modules and missions to gain the full award. Both the Young Leader training and Duke of Edinburgh award offers the Explorers an opportunity to develop personal skills which they will utilise many times in the future.

Throughout the year, we have supported Caitlin, Matthew, Chloe and Daniel with their fundraising efforts, culminating with their visits to the World Scout Jamboree in America over the summer and Australia in December. Congratulations to all four of them for being selected and working tirelessly to raise the funds necessary for their trips. We all thoroughly enjoyed their presentations, hearing their stories, and looking at their photos and souvenirs. As we move forward into the next year, we will be supporting Shannon, Saffy and Emma as they fundraise for their trip to the European Jamboree next summer, in Poland.

Vicki Wood and Peter Wick, Explorer Scout Leaders



Ongar Road & Clatterford End – Focus Delivery

We now have a vacancy to undertake this delivery round which consists of 20 properties which are located close together.

If you can spare about 30 minutes every 2 months would you kindly eMail me at steve.turner31@gmail.com

Many thanks,

Steve Turner,
Fyfield Focus – Finance Advertising & Delivery.



December 12th General Election, 7am to 10pm Don't Forget to Vote



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. 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 Steve Turner 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 Steve Turner for details.

Distribution of the Fyfield Focus (**385 copies**) is done by a team of volunteers (**17**) who deliver a copy to every home in Fyfield and to a no. of key community points in Fyfield and surrounding areas. It is the aim of the Focus production and delivery teams to deliver the Fyfield Focus Magazine by the 1st of the month.

Advertising Rates

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

Contributing Articles to the Fyfield Focus

Contributions to the Fyfield Focus are always welcome and should be sent to the Editor normally no later than **mid-day** on the **15th of the month** prior to the publication date (i.e. January, March, May, July, September and November). Articles will be published subject to space being available. The Editor's decision is final regarding suitability for inclusion and material may be edited for grammatical accuracy and length.

The Fyfield Focus Team:

Editor:	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, Advertising & Delivery:	Steve Turner – steve.turner31@gmail.com

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

Printing:

Chelmsford Diocesan Print Unit

Fyfield *Useful Contacts*

Bell Ringers - Hand	Pat Turnpenny	899223	Pilates	Claire Smith	07903121003
Bell Ringers - Tower	Julie Robinson	899557	Parish Council		
Pageeturners	Debbie Spanton	899317	Chair	Les Lamb	07776178794
Bookworms	Jane Davenport	899389	Clerk	Charlotte Collins	899006
Bridge Club	Marion Alcock	899432	Poppets Day Nursery	Michelle Pateman	365488
Carpet Bowls	Jacky Brown	899076	Scouts & Guides		
Church Coffee Morning	Carol Cox	899245	Rainbows	Veronica Riches	364604
Coffee with Cops	Barbara Saward	07747803829	Brownies	Jane Davenport	899389
District Council			Guides	Alison Lavender	365842
Moreton & Fyfield	Ian Hadley	899840	Rangers	Veronica Riches	364604
Dr Walker's School	Miss N. Willis	899298	Beavers	Mary Bacon	899052
Friends of St Nicholas	Julie Robinson	899557	Cubs	David Gordon	896321
Fyfield Focus	Cheryl Hadley	899840	Scouts	Mary Bacon	899052
Fyfield Litterpickers	Fiona Baxter	899342	Explorer Scouts	Vicki Wood	07977111894
Fyfield Luncheon Club			St Nicholas' Church	Rev. Christine Hawkins	01277 286113
Club Co-ordinator	Jan Hall	899808	Warden	TBA	TBA
Lunch Bookings	Sandra Mead	899519	Village Hall		
Fyfield Ramblers	Les Lamb	07776178794	Chair	Marie Apperley	899386
Fyfield Village Pre-School	General No.	899678	Bookings	Elaine Tunnard	07956440894
Neighbourhood Watch	Les Lamb	07776178794	Womens Institute	Pat Turnpenny	899223
Ongar & Villages			WD50+ Exercise Club	Patti Nicholson	899504
Voluntary Care	General No.	365363			
Ongar Wildlife Soc (OWLS)	Keith Snow	366791			

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



Fyfield Travel (in association with Call Paul) are ready to comfortably & safely drive you to your destination. A professional private hire company who have been serving the area for over 18 years.

- **Airport Transfers**
- **Days / Nights Out**
- **Shopping Trips**
- **Deliveries**



- **Weddings**
- **Local Journeys**
- **Cruise Terminals**
- **London Trips**

For more info or to book a journey please contact us

01277 532900 / 07960 633244

info@fyfieldtravel.co.uk www.fyfieldtravel.co.uk

 @fyfieldtravel

Fyfield Focus

April/May 2016

www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk



Fyfield Focus

August/September 2018



Special Summer Edition

