

# Fyfield Focus

February/March 2018

[www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk](http://www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk)



## Local Plan Has Second Thoughts!

Early in December, EFDC issued their revised Draft Local Plan. Many of you will remember that the original plan included a provision for up to 90 new houses on the Upper Houchin Field site (between the Scout Hut and the Ongar Road). However, much to everyone's surprise, the revised plan makes no mention of this site but now proposes 14 new houses on the Gypsy Mead site. Most residents seem to much prefer this new reduced proposal especially as it at long last addresses the eyesore of the Gypsy Mead site without detracting from the overall appearance of Fyfield.

## Mobile Mast Update

CTIL, the company that builds mobile masts for Telefonica, have confirmed to the Parish Council that the mast planned to be erected at White Chicks Farm, Willingale Road,

*'is due to have transmission in April 2018. The site will start taking traffic sometime after that'.*

After a few false starts let's hope that this mast gets built as soon as possible.

## Flood Misery



Once again the Dunmow Road near the junction of Birds Green has been subjected to flooding with a considerable amount of damage being done to the underside of unsuspecting cars. According to local residents this has been occurring for many years but until recently, the water has drained away reasonably quickly. The flood after Christmas lasted about ten days before it subsided indicating that there is now a serious drainage problem. Essex County Council Highways Department have been informed many times by many residents but no permanent solution has been found. The latest flood and the performance of Highways Department is being monitored on a daily basis by the Parish Council with the hope that a permanent solution is scheduled as soon as possible.

# Village Diary 2018

01-Feb	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
06-Feb	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
12-Feb	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
13-Feb	WI - Pancake Party	Village Hall, 10.30am
14-Feb	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
21-Feb	Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
24-Feb	Bingo Night	Village Hall, 7pm
01-Mar	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
06-Mar	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
09-Mar	WD50+Club - Charity Talk - Hearing Dogs For The Deaf	Village Hall, 3.15pm
12-Mar	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
14-Mar	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
21-Mar	Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
24-Mar	Magic Night	Village Hall, 7pm
03-Apr	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
05-Apr	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
10-Apr	Fyfield Gardening Club - Guest Speaker - Gardening Hints	Village Hall, 2.30pm
11-Apr	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
18-Apr	Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
21-Apr	Quiz Night	Village Hall, TBA
23-Apr	Parish Assembly	Village Hall, 7.30pm
03-May	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
09-May	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
12-May	Fyfield Festival	The Church, 11 am
14-May	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
16-May	Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm
07-Jun	WI Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
11-Jun	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 7.30pm
13-Jun	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
20-Jun	Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1pm

## Many Thanks

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Easter is early this year and runs across two Focus publications with it being at the end of March and beginning of April. The details of all the Easter related

activities are in this publication but we will be making more of Easter in the April/May publication as this will be a special colour Spring edition and we hope to get this delivered to you earlier than normal so you receive it before the Easter weekend.

March is the final month in the Focus financial year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Commercial and Community/Charity Advertisers for continuing to advertise in the Focus. I

would also like to thank our Sponsors and Donators for all your support this year. Collectively you make it possible for the *Fyfield Focus* to be delivered to every home in *Fyfield* and to community and commercial points in and around *Fyfield* free of charge. Your support is much appreciated, we never take it for granted and you are continuing to support a key communication vehicle in our rural village.

The village diary is full of regular and new activities so please do have a read and also see the adverts for further details of some great events being held in February and March.

*Cheryl Hadley,*  
*Editor*

### **World Scout Jamboree 2019 & the Australian Scout Jamboree 2019**

### ***Four local young people to represent the United Kingdom in USA and Australia***

*(All members are from 1<sup>st</sup> Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Dragonian Explorer Unit)*

The total which needs to be raised for them all to go on this life changing opportunity is **£14,200** . If anyone has any great ideas for raising money, please let me know. The young people are expected to raise the money themselves and they have already started by bag packing and are helping at a function in Moreton washing up and serving at tables so any ideas for them would be helpful.

*Mary Bacon*

*Tel 01277 899052 Mobile or 07554933563*

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

# Well Done Thames Water

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January around lunchtime, I took the dog for a walk and noticed the sewer inspection hatch on the public footpath west of the Mill House was overflowing. It was filling the ditch that runs alongside the footpath with a rather unpleasant substance. As soon as I returned home I reported the issue to Thames Water who told me that someone would attend to it by 9.30pm at the latest. At 5pm a Thames Water van pulled up outside of my house and asked exactly where the leak was. They fixed the problem and over the next few days proceeded to clear out drains in Queen Street which were also, unknown to us, backing up.

I feel that I must congratulate Thames Water on their prompt reaction to this problem and contrast it to other public services (mention no names) that are far more tardy in the response and communication of their likely response.

Well done Thames Water.



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# Letter from the Reverend Christine Hawkins



Dear friends,  
After weeks filled with the flurry of activity and preparation, Christmas has already begun to recede in our minds. Barely three weeks after the festival, the tinsel and baubles are back in the loft; the tree has

either been packed back into its box or left out for recycling; tidings of comfort and joy are no longer being sung in the church (or the pub!); Christmas jumpers have been washed and placed in the draw ready for next year and our feelings of excitement and expectation have given way to the dread of 'Blue Monday' when the bills hit the mat; the fear of the numbers on the scales after our Christmas feasting and the sheer grind of working through the cold January days with nothing much to look forward to.

Christmas is over... or is it?

In the church's calendar, Christmas does not, officially, end until 2 February - the Feast of the Presentation, or Candlemas. In some churches the crib scene, complete with Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, magi and the infant Jesus, will remain on view until then.

We are currently in the season of Epiphany which is an integral part of the Christmas story. The joy of Christmas continues to be celebrated and reflected in the church's worship, weekend by weekend. On 6<sup>th</sup> January, we celebrated the coming of the wise men (magi) which is understood as Christ being made known to the non-Jewish people. This was followed by the remembrance of Christ's baptism by John the Baptist (his cousin) when the heavens opened, and a voice declared

Jesus to be God's beloved Son and our celebrations culminate in The Feast of the Presentation where the baby child is now recognised by the ancient prophets Anna and Simeon as the Christ. We celebrate that festival in the churches of our benefices on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

But the redemption Christ brings is won through suffering and Christmas gives way early this year to the season of Lent which begins with Ash Wednesday on 14 February. 12 short days mark the transition from joy and celebration to the journey towards the pain and suffering of the cross.

It is just the same in human life; in the blink of an eye, the days of joy can so quickly be changed into days of suffering and anguish. Yet, our Christian belief is that the light of Christmas never truly leaves us; its flame still burns in our hearts, even in the times of dryness and pain when it seems to have become merely a faint ember.

I encourage all of you not to pack the spirit of Christmas away with your decorations, but to carry it with you throughout the days and months of 2018. May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men the obedience of Mary and Joseph and the peace of the Christ-child continue to be yours this year and always.  
*Chris.*

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

# FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL



**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

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# Services at St Nicholas' Church, Fyfield

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

Feb 4 11:00am Morning Prayer  
 11 11:00am Holy Communion  
 18 *Services at Moreton, Bobbingworth & Willingale*  
 25 11:00am Family Service

Mar 4 11:00am Morning Prayer  
 11 11:00am Holy Communion  
 18 *Services at Moreton, Bobbingworth & Willingale*  
 25 11:00am Family Service

**Holy Week – March 26-30:** 8:00-8:30pm Daily – Reflection & Compline  
 Monday: Willingale, Tuesday: Bobbingworth, Wednesday: Fyfield  
 Maundy Thursday: Seder Meal and Holy Communion: Moreton  
 Details of these will be posted on the parish and church notice boards.

April 1 11:00am Easter Sunday: Bobbingworth - Holy Communion

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## St Mary's Church, Moreton

Feb 4 9.30am Holy Communion  
 18 9.30am Family Service  
 Mar 4 9.30am Holy Communion  
 18 9.30am Family Service

## St Germain's Church, Bobbingworth

Feb 4 11.00am Family Service  
 18 11.00am Holy Communion  
 Mar 4 11.00am Family Service  
 18 11.00am Holy Communion

## St Christopher's Church, Willingale

Feb 11 9.30am Family Service  
 18 6.00pm Evening Prayer  
 25 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Mar 11 9.30am Family Service  
 18 6.00pm Evening Prayer  
 25 9.30am Holy Communion



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The WI are holding their

# Annual Pancake Party

on

Shrove Tuesday  
13th February from  
10.30 -12.30

at the

**Fyfield Village Hall**



*Do come and join us  
Two pancakes for £3.50 plus  
Coffee or tea.  
Extra pancakes at 50p and there  
will be a £1 stall plus raffle*

## **FOOD BANK**

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

Food Bank provides food to families and individuals in desperate need who have nowhere else to turn. Food Bank works in conjunction with organisations such as Citizens Advice who arrange for food to be provided to people who, without it, would have, literally, nothing with which to feed their families.

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

Thank you again.

*Marcus Dain*

## Dr Walker's C of E Primary School



I am delighted to have joined Dr Walker's Church of England Primary school as Head teacher, it is a very exciting new start for 2018 for me.

When I have visited the school on a number of occasions I have always felt the Christian ethos and family feel of the school, it is wonderful to be a part of this community. I hope I can bring stability for the children, parents and wider community at a time where there have been lots of changes.

My previous position of Deputy Head teacher was at Bentley St Paul's school in

Brentwood, I enjoyed 9 years at the school and loved working with the local church, staff, parents and children. I have been on a wonderful journey of learning and hope to learn more with the children at Dr Walker's. There are always challenges in education, however I am excited to embark on these challenges at a school where the children and staff are eager to learn and embrace new ideas. I look forward to meeting the wider community at events throughout the year.

Mrs Larkin  
Dr Walker's C of E Primary School  
Walker Avenue  
Fyfield  
Essex CM5 0RG  
01277 899298



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### **THE LAVERS AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**



Meetings are held in  
Moreton Village Hall -7pm for 7.30pm on  
Mondays unless otherwise stated

If you wish to become a member or just enjoy gardening why not give it a go.  
Yearly membership is £10 for a single or £18 for a double. Guests/taster visits £3.  
Light refreshments are served at the end of each meeting plus a Raffle.

February 5 – 'Kitchen Gardens' talk by  
Tom Cole  
March 5 – Annual General Meeting  
Election of Committee

[www.lavershorticulturalsociety.co.uk](http://www.lavershorticulturalsociety.co.uk)  
[lavershorticultural@gmail.com](mailto:lavershorticultural@gmail.com)



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**EG**  
Emma Green  
*design*

## Jean Hall – An Appreciation



On December 16<sup>th</sup> Jean Hall, who was in her early 80s, died suddenly at Corbett's House, Norwood End, where she had lived happily with husband, Barrie, since 1975 when they moved there

following their marriage in 1974. Jean and Barrie soon made friends both in Fyfield and Ongar and quickly became involved in developing Ongar Music Club. Good food and wine were important to them both; they were both good cooks and excellent, generous hosts. I can recall happy times spent with them in the house or in their lovely garden, enjoying their warm hospitality, laughter and entertaining conversation.

Jean made her career at the BBC, eventually rising to become chief editor of the TV section of the Radio Times, a very demanding and stressful job. Jean loved singing and did a lot, most notably with the *Philharmonia Chorus* in London, and contributed to recordings including a well-known recording of the Verdi Requiem. Barrie joined the BBC in 1957 as Music Director of Publicity for Concerts and the Proms, and in 1961 Jean became his Assistant. They shared a great love of music, became firm friends and Jean got to know Barrie's family well. In 1974 they were married and were the love of each other's lives.

Soon after moving to Norwood End, Jean and Barrie became involved in developing Ongar Music Club, drawing extensively on Barrie's musician friends, persuading them to perform for the Club for very modest fees. Ongar Music Club flourished and Jean had an idea that the OMC should organise an annual Competition for young musicians who had an Essex connection. An old friend of Barrie's, world concert pianist, John Lill, was recruited as Patron and Sponsor, and in 1983 the Essex Young Musician of the Year Competition was born and it continues to the present. Jean worked initially with Geoffrey Timms and in 1996 she took over the administration from him and ran the Competition for 14 years before handing over to Janet Pope as Administrator in 2008-9. The EYMY Competition was something very close to Jean's heart. One of the last letters Jean opened contained details of the 2018 EYMC and she was extremely pleased that it was continuing, after almost ending in 2017.

Jean's own family was small, and her only sibling died many years ago. When she married Barrie Jean acquired a big family; she leaves four step children, eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren that she loved and cherished. Step-son Jeremy and granddaughter Imogen were especially close to Jean, spending holidays at Corbetts House with Barrie and Jean. Imogen told me that although Jean did not share Barrie's love of model railways (he had an amazing layout) she was a very accomplished needlewoman and helped him with upholstery for the toys he made

for her and Jeremy. Although never herself a birth-mother, Jean was loved just as much by all the family.

Jean was a very independent character and was an avid reader all her life. She had a great love of the English language, having studied English literature at Holloway College, and this continued in many forms including her remarkable ability to perform the Telegraph crossword, code words and other linguistic puzzles. Barrie was older than Jean and died in May 2014, aged 93, just a month before their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. His death hit Jean very hard and she was determined to continue living in their beloved home where Barrie's ashes are buried in the garden

they both loved so much. In recent years Imogen and Jean became 'regulars' at the Afternoon Teas in Fyfield, both at the Village Hall and at St Nicholas' Church and were frequent customers at the Village Shop.

Family, friends and fellow music-lovers will mourn her passing, but be grateful that she ended her life where she wanted to be, close to Barrie and her home. At the time of writing, Jean's cremation will be on Monday, 29 January, 2.0pm at the Bentley Crematorium when her family and friends will gather to say Goodbye to a very special person.

*Patti Nicholson  
9<sup>th</sup> January 2018*

## **Who said the community spirit doesn't happen in the young well it does here in Fyfield.**

A huge thank you to Joe Hall for putting up our first Christmas Tree in the village and a huge thank you to Mitchell Tunnard with helping Joe and I put the lights and decorations on the tree. Once again thank you to our sponsors for making this possible. Many thanks to L & J Hall Digging Services (Les Hall) and Small Works Building Services (Chris Hayes) for sponsoring the tree. Marion Alcock (Fyfield Resident) for sponsoring the lights and Guy & Liselle Chisenhale-Marsh (Fyfield Residents) for sponsoring the tree base.

*Jan Hall*



# Church Lunch and Afternoon Tea

In our last news article in the December Focus we reported that we had purchased the new water heater/tea urn in the Church and paid for the cleaning of the Church window at the back of the Church. We also promised to report on the other donations to charity and community initiatives that we have made during 2017. These are:

- St Claire's hospice £100.00
- Heart Foundation £100.00
- Essex Air Ambulance £100.00
- Alzheimer's Society £100.00
- Macmillan cancer care £100.00

In addition to the above we pay a monthly fee to use the Church and this is all made possible through the support from our customers. There is always a very sociable and friendly atmosphere and the team are very pleased with the support and the money they are able to raise for the Church and other worthy causes.

We look forward to our first 2018 Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea which is on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February from 1pm. We hope to see many of our regular customers and also welcome new customers to our monthly lunch and afternoon get together.

*Jan Hall*



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# MAGIC EVENING

At **Fyfield Village Hall**  
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Contact Patti or Elaine for tickets  
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Charity Number 301304

## Thank You

Our thanks once again go to Guy & Liselle Chisenhale-Marsh for providing the Christmas Tree in our village church.

Your generosity is very much appreciated and the Christmas Tree is enjoyed by

many residents and visitors to St. Nicholas Church when attending the various services and/or the growing activities our Church has to offer.

Many Thanks.

Carol Cox

## St. Nicholas Church - Wall Art - Donations Needed

Our Church Fabric Wall Art which consists of nine illustrations of our Patron Saint St. Nicholas is almost complete.

The next stage is to put all the illustrations together, construct a frame and mount on the wall in the Church.

We cannot move on to this final stage as we do not have the finances to purchase the materials.

Can you help us complete this project by making a donation. Please give what you can all donations appreciated whatever the size - we need your help.

Carol Cox, 899245



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## Fyfield *Art Group*

Our meetings in February and March are 5th and 19th in both months between 10.00am and 12 noon. New members welcome to join for a relaxing morning painting or drawing. Contact 899367.

*Wendy Henshaw*

## Fyfield Festival - *Chocolate Tombola*

If you want to clear your cupboards of all those left-over chocolates from Christmas - let us help you!

We need donations of Chocolate for our ever popular Chocolate Tombola at this year's Fyfield Festival on 12th May.

If you haven't got any left-over chocolate you can always buy some from our village shop and help support Nikhil at the same time!

*Carol Cox*  
899245



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## Fyfield *Litter Pick*

For the first time in 3 or 4 years – since Wizzer the Dalmatian went to the Dogs Home in the sky – last summer I began regularly walking the lanes and bye ways around Fyfield as I trained to walk the Camino to Santiago.

I have been horrified by the rubbish desecrating our beautiful landscape. Discarded sandwich boxes, MacDonald's packaging, cyclist's energy bar wrappers, coffee cups – you name it and it can be seen in the hedgerows, bushes and paths around our lovely village.

One day on the lane from Birds Green to Millers Green I came across a full-sized child's pedal car, and nearby a set of boxing gloves and a dart board – there is an interesting story to be told about that weird collection of abandoned items I dare say. How in the name of all things did a fish tank get into the layby on Moreton Road! The food and drink containers thrown from car windows, by bikers or even walkers like myself I can visualise – but no one is out with a fish tank in the back of their car and decides on the spur of the moment to leave it in the layby! What are these people thinking of!

I have heard it said that this is a consequence of the Ongar Tip Moving to Coxtie Green – I do not care what the reason is. We cannot ignore the rubbish or we soon won't be able to move for it. Voicing my disgust recently, a group of ladies agreed it is not enough to complain, we need to organise a litter pick as in past years.

So come and join Heather Porter and me at the Village Shop at 11 am on Tuesday 13th February. Wear a fluorescent jacket if you have one – everyone who drives to France has at least 2, and bring one large rubbish bag and one recycling bag, a litter picker if you have one and/or rubber gloves. Spend as little or as much time as you can spare.



*Fiona Baxter*



**"Catch the Community Spirit"**



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- Poppets own vegetable patch in the garden, mud kitchen & sand pit.
- After school and holiday club every weekday throughout the year, in our purpose built log cabin. Breakfast Club now available for Chipping Ongar Primary School pupils.

Contact Katie Holloway for availability on 01277 365488 or by email

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

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

# Fyfield *Village Hall*

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Everyone at the Village Hall hopes that you had a very Merry Christmas and that 2018 will be a

good year for everyone.

Over the Christmas period the Luncheon Club Team provided a wonderful Christmas lunch at the Hall. So much hard work is put in by Luncheon Club, not only at Christmas, but during the whole year and their efforts are so appreciated by the people that come.

Help for Heroes also held a Bingo evening here in December. This was as usual a huge success, very busy and enjoyed by everyone that attended. Richard and Christine do a wonderful job in raising such a lot of money for such a good cause.

So, what does 2018 hold? Well we have now completed our refurbishments. This means that in 2017 we added a new disabled toilet to the Monica Couling Room, replaced and updated the showers for the sports teams, refurbished the men's toilets, added a new kitchenette to the Club Room and gutted, renovated and refurnished the Club Room and Bar. Quite a busy year! We also took on the bookings for the Sports Field.

I am not sure we can keep up the pace of change set in 2017 into 2018, but we will continue to strive to make the Village Hall a place for everyone to use and enjoy.

We are hoping to have a wide variety of fund raising events in 2018, and it would be lovely for the people in Fyfield to try and support at least one of them, we are sure there will be something to appeal to everyone.

On 24<sup>th</sup> February we have a Bingo night. Once again, Roy, Geoff, Richard and Christine will be helping us out with what is a really fun evening. Just £2.50 entrance fee, and you get a Ploughman's half way through the evening as well. The cash bar will be open, so come and have a laugh and you might win!

On 24<sup>th</sup> March we are holding a rather special Evening of Magic. We have been lucky enough to secure the Ilford Magic Circle to come and delight us with an evening of close magic and also a show. Included in the £20 ticket is a two course dinner supplied by The Restaurant at Ashlyns. The food and entertainment promise to be 1<sup>st</sup> Class, tables seat 8 people, so why not get some friends together and come along for an excellent night out. Contact either Patti on 800504 or Elaine on 899306 for tickets.

We are also holding a Quiz Night with John Jewiss on 21<sup>st</sup> April. This is an annual event that always delivers. John is a fantastic quiz master, and there is always much rivalry between teams. Put it in your diary now and get your own team together to pit your wits against your neighbours! Contact Wendy on 899367 or Marie on 899386 to register your team.

Finally, we are looking forward here at the Hall to long summer evenings, and in June and July we are hoping to hold some family games evenings on a Friday evening. We will have extra-large games for the children (and adults!) to play with on the field, and the bar will be open. Dates to be confirmed nearer the time. So, a big thank you to everyone that supported us last year by coming to events and lending a hand when we needed it. We are all volunteers who want to keep

<b>100 Club Winning Numbers</b>			
<b>Oct. 1st.</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>2nd. 130</b>	<b>3rd. 56</b>
<b>Nov.</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Dec.</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Jan.</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>114</b>

## **Support our Village Store & Post Office**

Not having our Village Post Office opened during Christmas and New Year was a short but good illustration of how it would be for us all in the village if it wasn't there.

Nikhil worked so hard to stock our village store and managed to staff it so it could keep open but he didn't manage to get the Post Office covered and boy did we miss it!

I thought I was very organised knowing the Post Office would be closed but I still found myself having to travel to Epping unexpectedly to use a post office at the last minute (I wasn't sure what the situation was with the Ongar Post Office!).

The Village Hall a focal point for the residents of Fyfield. However, we need your support. Please try and come to events or suggest other events that you might like to see put on.

The Village Hall thrives from being used. Finally, we are always looking for new members to come onto our Committee. We meet once a month, and new ideas and perspectives are always needed. We are a really friendly bunch, and being on the Committee does not have to be onerous.

Please think if you could spare a couple of hours a month, and if you fancy it, contact Marie on 899306 to talk about it.

Happy 2018 from everyone on The Fyfield Village Hall Committee.

*Marie Apperley*

A number of people have approached me and expressed how the short closure has illustrated how much we would miss it and could I mention it in the Focus.

Some of these residents were living in the village when both the shop and post office were closed for a number of years and expressed how soul-less our village was during this period. Someone also reminded me how our recently departed friend and neighbour Helen Simpson (who lived across from the village shop) spoke out about supporting the shop and how the village suffered during the period of its' closure.

Please support our village store and post office and let's avoid it having to close - Fyfield would just not be the same village.

*Cheryl Hadley.*

## ***Special Dates in February***

*13th - Shrove Tuesday*

*14th - St Valentines Day and Ash Wednesday*

## ***Special Dates in March***

*1st - St David's Day*

*11th - Mothers Day*

*17th - St Patrick's Day*

*25th - British Summer Time Begins*

*(Clocks go forward one hour)*

*30th - Good Friday*

### **Invitation from the WD50+ Club**

*Friday 9th March, 3.15pm, Fyfield  
Village Hall*

The Club hosts talks and demonstrations from time to time and has some members, including me, who have some hearing loss, so we are hosting a talk on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> March, by Wendy Brandham, a speaker from the Charity, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. This organisation trains dogs in ways that make an enormous difference people with serious hearing loss in very many ways. The dogs are on loan from the Charity and are placed with deaf people. A lady from Ongar who has a Hearing Dog living with her hopes to bring him (Otto) along for the

afternoon. The talk will start at about 3.15pm, after our regular exercise session, and will be over by about 4.30pm. *This is a free event for Members and friends.* Refreshments will be available plus a raffle and a voluntary collection for the Charity.

Please come along and enjoy the talk and learn about the valuable work done by this Charity – just give me a call on 01277 899504 for catering purposes. Fyfield WD50+ Club continues to meet regularly on Friday afternoons, 1.45pm to 3.0pm. On 16 January twenty-seven members had a lovely New Year celebration Lunch at The Eagle pub, Kelvedon Hatch, enjoying good food and pleasant company. For information about the WD50+ Club, contact me,

*Patti Nicholson, on 01277899504.*

## Fyfield *Grapevine*



Membership of our "Fyfield Grapevine" community Facebook page has grown to 81. There have been posts about lost pets, crime prevention, walking routes, village activities and event photographs. For example it was great to see recent posts about flooded roads which gave drivers up to the minute information before starting their journeys. Facebook is the preferred method of communications of our Neighborhood Watch co-ordinators in Epping and the Essex Police, so our Fyfield Grapevine fits in well.

Social media isn't for everyone but is arguably the best tool we have to get community and crime information shared widely and quickly. If you would like to join and have a computer or a smartphone with internet access you can create a Facebook account. Login and search for Fyfield Grapevine. You will be granted access and can then create and read the posts. If you need any help please do get in touch (leslamb@hotmail.co.uk or phone 077761787984).

*Les Lamb*

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## Fyfield Village Store & Post Office

### Opening Times

#### Village Store

Monday, Weds & Friday 7.00am to 6.00pm  
Tuesday & Thursdays 7.00am to 5.00pm  
Saturday 8.00am to 2.00 pm  
Sunday 8.00am to 12.30pm

#### Post Office

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



**Tel: 01277 899201**

## Fyfield Festival – Children’s Concert

We are hoping to revive the Children’s Concert at the Fyfield Festival this year on May 12th.

If any children or teenagers would like to take part please contact me, Wendy Henshaw 899367.

*Wendy Henshaw*

## Fyfield Coffee Morning

(in the church)

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



*6<sup>th</sup> February, 6<sup>th</sup> March & 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
10 am to 12 Noon  
Marion, Margaret and Carol*

## Fyfield *Luncheon Club*



We had a very enjoyable lunch again in January, friends meeting up after the Christmas break. Our organiser, Jan Hall, had been in hospital so a card wishing her well was signed and sent from the members. There was a slight panic on the day as two of the helpers were taken ill; we wish them well. So Pam Orris and Linda Seels roped in Julie Robinson and Patti Nicholson came on later to help wash up. The Queen's Head came up trumps with a favourite of sausage and mash. Thank you to Pam and Linda for coping so well.

Booking next month by Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb for lunch on the 14<sup>th</sup> Feb please.

*Wendy Henshaw 899367*

## **St. Nicholas' Church –**

### *The Story of St. Nicholas – Wall Art*

We haven't met since October so we don't have an update but we hope that our sewing ladies have been able to make progress on their wall art illustrations over the Christmas period and that we are all getting closer to completion.

*Wendy Henshaw*

## Fyfield *Gardening Club*

A preliminary notice that we have a guest speaker, Ian Keast, giving Gardening Hints. This will be on April 10th at Fyfield Village Hall at 2.30p.m. Tickets £5.00 to include tea/coffee and cake.

*Wendy Henshaw*

# Fyfield *Footpaths*



We have made a good start clearing our Fyfield footpaths but have lots more to do to bring them up to scratch.

The West Essex Ramblers have been very supportive again and cleared the path at Pennyfeathers. The next time they are in Fyfield they will clear the remainder of the Essex Way from Cannons Green up to Witley Green.

In January our Fyfield group will receive 22 waymarker posts and the necessary tools to install them along with access to a commercial brushcutter and necessary training.

Essex Highways pay for it all; we just have to provide the people power to get the work done.

I will be posting an invitation to join our working party and if you have a spare few hours to help that would be great.

*Les Lamb*

## The Black Bull Inn, Fyfield



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

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At the January meeting members were wished a Happy New Year by President Wendy Henshaw, she remarked that she

hoped it would be a happier one than 2017 when our very able secretary Helen Simpson passed away and more recently we lost Marlene Hunt who had been President and been a delegate many times at the National Annual Meetings. Marlene was a very vibrant member and we will all miss her input at our meetings very much.

Unfortunately for various reasons of other commitments three members are not renewing their subscriptions this year. We hope throughout the year we can encourage more ladies to come and join us.

Our speaker Michael Jennings Q.P.M. told us of his life as an on the beat bobby at Stansted Airport, which was built in 1942 by the Americans. Stansted is the designated airport for diverted aircraft that have either been hijacked or may have explosives on board. Michael gave a power point presentation describing various incidents starting with a threat by President Idi Amin to visit the Queen in 1977 for her Silver

Anniversary. Two Boeing 707 planes landed but fortunately he wasn't on board!

In 1982 Air Tanzania was diverted to Stansted and it took 26 hours to persuade the hijackers to disembark. In 1996 on a Sudanese Airbus 24 hours of persuasion and in 2000 a Boeing 727 it took 5 days of persuasion.

Michael played a recording of a conversation between hijackers, terrorists and a negotiator. The talk was very informative letting us know what goes on and what difficult decisions have to be made and the amount of manpower involved.

We are holding our annual Pancake Party on Shrove Tuesday 13th February from 10.30am to 12.30pm in Fyfield Village Hall – See advert for further details.

Our next meeting is on 1st February at 2.00p.m. speaker Carol Allen - a love of textiles. The March meeting is also on the 1st of the month. Traditionally it is the members meeting and is always a surprise. Visitors are very welcome.

*Wendy Henshaw*

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# Out of Focus

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

This year we had our Christmas dinner at the Queen's Head along with Marilyn, Malcolm and Claire. Marilyn and Malcolm were probably the only ones who travelled from Sheffield in the pub that day and Claire was definitely the only one who flew in from Phoenix, Arizona. Well worth the trip of course.

Now that Christmas and New Year activities are completed I have time to relax. Well that's what I thought but was not accounting for the latest bug from Australia or wherever. This was compounded by a two kilo Barbour coat that I took to Edinburgh for Hogmanay. Edinburgh is not a flat place and this coat just weighed me down so much so that I felt exhausted when I got back to Fyfield. I also suffered a bruised heel which made the 'hop on/hop off' bus very appropriate. Then the Flu or whatever struck. I still have symptoms as I write so don't get too close to the Focus! If that wasn't enough to contend with, this is tax return time of the year for me. Yes, you're right, I do leave it to the last moment to complete and it just adds another reason to hate January. At least I received my winter fuel allowance in December and had time to

stock up with a few bottles of Scotch to help warm the cockles of my heart and other bits also. For those of you who may be interested, the next stage of the Fyfield Marina is now complete and awaiting a grand opening when the weather gets better. The Department of the Environment are doing their bit by not dredging the Roding any more thereby helping form a natural lake next to Fyfield Hall. So don't be too surprised if you see a north sea ferry or ice breaker testing the deep sea navigation capacity of the Roding anytime soon.

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



***Can't believe that the Clocks go forward one hour on 25th March!***

*Had Christmas dinner at the Queen's Head and met a few old friends. My dog knows all about it!*

# Archie's Column

(Tails from the Riverside)



Hi, Archie here!

Spent New Year at the Country Club along with the other choir members. No wonder that I am going

prematurely grey. I'm worn out from singing. My staff went to the Queens Head for their Christmas lunch and brought me back a doggie bag full of nice things. Shame that us dogs are programmed to eat everything quickly because we don't get a chance to savour the food. The reason that we do eat so quickly is that when we were a little wilder than we are today, other animals would try to take our food from us. The answer was eat quickly. A dog can't be too careful you know. Mind you, if the other animal was a lion or tiger then it would be better to offer the food to them first. I'd rather lose my food than get eaten by them instead.

On the subject of food, my favourite food is the Simpsons range which includes Kangaroo Casserole, Buffalo and Lamb, Four Bird casserole, Venison and Rabbit and Wild Boar & Ostrich. Can't wait 'til dinner time!

My dad has built a jetty at the end of the garden so that yachts can moor alongside the garden. Better still, it makes a great runway for me to parade on as I check out the river, the ducks and the family of Muntjaqs that have moved in over the river. They seem to be about the same size as me but not

very friendly and clearly do not want to play. Unlike Holly Cox, the new dog on the block. Met her on Sunday and said hello. Nice girl.

Anyway, I'm off to check up on the river as I am sure that I saw the periscope of a nuclear submarine pass by. It could be World War 3 or maybe just President Trump going for a swift half with Kim Jong Un at the Queens' Head. After that I might treat my self to a Full English Brexit.

*Bye for now.*  
Archie

DON'T MAKE  
ME LOOK BAD



PLEASE PICK  
IT UP.

THANKS



"Catch the Community Spirit"



# Letter from the Chairman



Anyone who walks around Fyfield will have noticed how our footpaths and bridleways have improved and are now passable. This is especially true of the Dole Path which is now clear and useable for its

full length. This is all down to Cllr. Les Lamb and his West Essex Ramblers colleagues who spend much of their free time voluntarily keeping public rights of way clear of obstructions. One of the areas that is scheduled to be cleared on a regular basis is the land behind Walker Avenue and at the top end of the Dole Path. Les has the use of a Brushcutter and has volunteered to maintain this area as necessary.

The real big news for Fyfield is the removal of the proposal to build up to 90 houses on the Upper Houchin field between the scout headquarters and the Ongar Road at the junction with Moreton Road. Replacing this is the proposal to allow 14 houses to be built on the Gypsy Mead site on the opposite side of Ongar

Road. Any plan submitted would have to accommodate the existing trees on the site which will have the effect of softening the visual impact of the new homes. Fyfield can accommodate these new homes easily without any adverse effect on our infrastructure and at the same time erase the current eyesore that has been there for at least twelve years.

The other very good news is that the long awaited mobile mast will be working during April. That means that our community, with the fastest broadband speed in the UK, will now have a mobile phone signal to match. It also enables the installation of a defibrillator in the Phone Box which will no longer be of any use.

***13th February - try and join the litter pickers if you can. It's our doorstep! Let's not mess it up.***

*Ian Hadley*

*Chair, Fyfield Parish Council*

[ianhadley@gmx.co.uk](mailto:ianhadley@gmx.co.uk)

*T: 01277 899840*

*M: 07765882001*

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Cllr. D. Webster

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[dan@fyfield.uk.com](mailto:dan@fyfield.uk.com)

Derek Farr, Clerk

07783 505906

[caliban@gmx.co.uk](mailto:caliban@gmx.co.uk)

## FYFIELD *Ongar & District Bridge Club*

---

Bridge is a 'funny old game'. Like playing Chess, it can be played on many levels from raw beginner to the very experienced player. At Fyfield, Ongar & District Bridge club, we welcome players of all abilities. I have played bridge for many years now not with any formal training but by being shown how to play by friends who were keen bridge players. When asked what my bidding system is I reply 'Speculative Acol' and this always elicits a humorous response.

Although I have not taken formal classes, mainly because being 'of a certain age' I don't think that I could cope with abandoning my sometimes successful system, I have taken advantage of the two or three refresher classes run 'in house' by Dougie Brown. These have been informal

but very informative and I have found them really helpful. I even persuaded my 'other half' to join one of the classes. If any of you out there are thinking of returning to playing Bridge (we had two visitors who are doing just that, recently), then come along to either of the two sessions run at Fyfield Village Hall. We meet on Monday afternoon, starting prompt at 2pm otherwise there is a Thursday evening session starting prompt at 7.15pm. All details can be found on the Club's website [www.fyfieldbridge.club](http://www.fyfieldbridge.club). Alternatively contact John 07847 541170 or Barbara 07751 485514.

*Marie Hatch*

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## Fyfield *Walking Group*

On Sunday 14th January we had our second ramble around the parish. It was muddy but the weather was much kinder than our first snowy walk back in January.

I think we had 17 people and 7 dogs come along for a 4.5 mile ramble up past Lampetts Farm onto Norwood then looping back via Lee Farm towards Clatterford End.

The peace was disturbed by lots of laughing, chatting, village talk and very happy well controlled dogs.

Many thanks to the farmers up there for keeping the grass headlands, hedges and cross field paths so well maintained.



Our next walk will be on Sunday 11th February meeting at 13:00 in the Village Hall car park.

*Les Lamb*



## **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

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All equipment supplied

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

Free 'Taster' Session – just turn up!

The Club also holds social events and outings

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

# Fyfield *Carpet Bowls Club*

---



Happy New Year to you all! Another year has begun and the weather

has been really dull, making it even more depressing getting over Christmas!! Since my last report, Dot Letchfield and Mary Wilkinson entered the Pairs Competition, run by Essex, at Braintree on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017. They both played well, but did not manage to get through to the final stages, but well done to them both. Beryl Shuttleworth and I, playing under the banner of High Easter, managed to get through to the quarter finals stage, where we were knocked out by the eventual winners, the team of Nigel Balham and Mervyn Bushe from Langham. The next competition for club members is the Fours on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February and Dot and Mary, together with mother and daughter, Sharon and Hanna Birch, making up the team of four.

On the County Squad front, if you remember, the team were travelling to Norfolk on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The team played well, but were unable to beat a good Norfolk side. However, it was a close result, with Norfolk winning 19 points to Essex's 17. Our next match was to be against Hertfordshire at home at Great Saling on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017. We awoke to a light falling of snow, which quickly turned into quite a heavy downpour. Some of us struggled through the drifts and eventually arrived at Great Saling, only to be told that the match had been called off, due to heavy snowfall in the Hertfordshire area. Those of the Essex squad that had made the effort decided to have a 'friendly' roll-up and really enjoyed the time there, finishing early, to enable us to get home in the light. The new date for this match is Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Before this, Essex will meet Suffolk, away at Needham Market. It will be a hard match, but we will do our best (as usual). I will report on both matches next time.

*Jacky Brown*

## **Guiding News**

Congratulations to one of Fyfield Ex Brownies now a Guide, Olivia Oakhill, who has been selected to represent guiding in Austria at a Jamboree and home hospitality in August this year. Well done Olivia.

*Wendy Henshaw*

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## Light Hearted Monologues from a Local

---

### *Frothy Extracts from the Pale Ale Annual of Allegations and Legends - Part Three*

An Italian Vineyard Owner had his plants scientifically tested as he claimed that on humid nights he would hear vivid whispers from them whilst ensuring that the irrigation systems were operating. These whispers appeared to be in a far eastern tongue-perhaps Chinese. No evidence of such a capability was discovered or any *raisins* for them. Effects of *Fermentation* were suspected. May have been the origin of "Heard it on the Grapevine". Among artefacts unearthed at an early Roman settlement were remains of chariots complete with wheels. On one well preserved vehicle, a *quadriga* which required four horses, was a slate board adorned with chalk hieroglyphics. Latin scholars have translated the figures which read "Parking fine-for obstructing footpath to the baths" by order of *Urbanae - Special police force of Rome*. Nearby were remains of horseshoe shaped coconut shells which were affixed to hoofs.

Miss Hilda Zoot, working at the Roney Coney Dutch Institute of Triffids and Man-eating Plants was attempting to cross a Triffid with a cabbage, when she was devoured by a hitherto friendly Triffid in her laboratory. A terrified colleague, Arie Stottle, said "that he was watching from behind a glass screen and then heard a loud burp followed by popping sounds as Miss Zoot's wooden clogs fell to the floor". "She had always hoped that if she succeeded, the Triffids would learn to eat themselves, and perhaps if she had been wearing a complete set of wooden clothing she would have been saved." This one will be transported to the ever-growing Zoot Hall at the Dutch Tropical Gardens. Another attempt that was unsuccessful was cross germinating Bamboo plants with Sugar Cane to make them edible. She was Bamboozled as they refused to respond showing little signs of Obedience. An early case of Caine mutiny?

Silas Bodgit, a suburban dentist, had mounted in a glass case a wooden mallet fixed to the wall. He would comment that this was used as an early form of anaesthetic so as to try and calm his patients down prior to administering novocaine before surgery. Famously one frightened patient, during treatment, grabbed the dentist's tie and tugged his head downwards causing Dr. Bodgit to hit the metallic shade on his inspection light. A loud clang ensued. If people forgot his name at least they would remember that his face rang a bell.

Stone Age cave drawings discovered in middle France depict a man attempting to feed a baby *Pterosaur*, a now extinct flying reptile living around the time of the dinosaurs, presumably suspecting that the reptile had been abandoned. Subsequent etchings show what appears to be the same stone age dweller being carried aloft by a very large *Pterosaur*; these early flying birds had wing spans that could reach up to 36 feet. Speech bubbles are shown in continued sequences with the same sound sign repeatedly going on and on. We can only speculate that as they flew he was trying to assure the reptile that he did not mean any harm. Possibly the first man to fly or the earliest Drone?

Wurrays were a tribe of early stone age trouble makers and banned from drinking holes, cave parties and dinosaur races. Guards with wooden clubs would allow Saxons to drag their ladies by the hair into these venues and signs were carved in stone forbidding Wurrays to participate. This tradition has passed down through the ages. Now a currently widespread expression of reassurance used in place of phrases like: *My pleasure; Only too pleased to help; Any time; Don't mention it and is* ..... **NO WORRIES.**

Barry Betteridge

# 1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group

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## **1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Explorer Unit The Beaver Scout Colony - 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 8 years - Tuesday 6.00pm to 7.15pm**

The Beavers as part of their Skills Challenge Award had to design and make a machine at home and then bring the model/machine into the colony meeting and explain to the rest of the Beavers how their invention worked. We had many variations and some impressive designs. All those who brought in a machine were able to talk about the machine and show how they had made it and how it worked. We had a crane and a puzzle and a water pump and a very long wooden train from one piece of wood and a moving robot made from Lego and a recycling centre and a very simple machine made of pencils which worked as a catapult. An impressive display from them all. The rest of the term the Beavers made Christmas crafts which they all enjoyed.

December the 12<sup>th</sup> the Beavers had their Christmas party they played lots of games and then sat down for their party food. Everyone brought in something to share and this was enjoyed by everyone. At the end of the evening they were all given a puzzle present. The lodge with the most points were given a prize as well.

The winning lodge was Blue Lodge, in second place was Green Lodge, in third place was Red Lodge and Yellow Lodge came Fourth.

The first meeting of term the Beavers had a Log Chew. This is when they sit down on the floor and talk about what they did in the holidays and talk about things they would like to do at Beavers. The Colony then played their favourite Hockey game which was a little bit noisy. They were learning how to work as a small team in their lodges this is all part of the Teamwork Challenge Award. We also had two new Beavers start at the beginning of term. This brings the Beaver colony up to 23 members.

## **Cub Scouts - 8 to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ years - Thursday 7.00pm to 8.30pm**

In November the Cubs started making flags from Scotland and choose Clan names and other craft for St Andrews day on the 30<sup>th</sup> November. The celebration of St Andrews day on the 30<sup>th</sup> November was to hold a Highland Games evening. They did all the traditional games from Scotland and the Cubs also had various food from Scotland that they brought in to share. They played tossing the haggis, Hammer throwing, Tossing the pole and tug of war.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> December they had a Christmas craft night. Laura and Stella a parent and a grandmother came in to show them how to make a snowman toy, a bookmark, a Christmas tree bauble, and a card. So, a very busy night. The following week was the Cubs Christmas Party. This was a fun night for everyone they played lots of party games and they sat down to have their food. At the end of the night the Cub with the most points won a Puzzle this was Daniel Spence.

The first week back in January the Cubs held a sixer forum and wrote down all the other activities that they do which they may be able to get an activity badge from. There was a huge selection of activities. After this the Cubs played Bench Football a great favourite with them all. We also had a new Cub start with us who had just moved into the area. On January 18<sup>th</sup> the Cubs will have a lot of different problem solving tasks. They love anything like this as they enjoy being challenged. The Cubs were also given a letter inviting them on an adventure weekend at the end of March starting at Duxford and then staying overnight in Rayne and then having a mystery hike on the Sunday and finishing with activities. So, lots of exciting things happening with the Cub Pack.

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

We had 19 Scouts and 2 young Leaders attend Back to Basics camp at Edward V11 Scout Campsite in Danbury. Dennis Sweeting and Peter Wick organised this camp and they were helped by Rolf Bassnett, Victoria Woollard and Jack Riggs.

They left Fyfield at 9.30am and travelled to Danbury. They then pitched their tents and started collecting wood for their fires. The evening meal had to be prepared. This was partridge which they had to completely get ready for the table. Some of the scouts were a bit squeamish but generally they coped very well. They all had the partridge stew and all of them said it was delicious. They kept their fires going all the time they were there. In the evening they had a wide game throughout the site. This seemed to involve a lot of setting of rockets and trying to beat the leaders and not giving up a life. Our new Assistant Scout leader Jack Riggs had his first taste of Scout camping. He had a great first experience of camping and was involved in everything that happened over the weekend. The following Friday the tents were taken out to air and pack away for another camp. A fun games night then took place. On December the 8<sup>th</sup> the



Scouts made sausage rolls and mince pies and paracord bracelets. The following week was the Scout party night the Scouts were having a Science party. They were entertained for the two hours by Dr Dowds assistant who showed them all sorts of experiment's and how to send current through to light up a lamp another scout was holding. They finished by making a pot of slime each to take home. Once the science party finished they all tucked into the sausage rolls and mince pies they had made the previous week. A good end to an exciting term.

The first week back in the Spring term was spent on problem solving games as part of their teamwork challenge Award. The following weekend the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> January 16 scouts went to Thriftwood for the Pedal Car Olympics. They were in teams of four and there were over 120 other teams competing as well. There were 8 different types of race: Pursuit, Relay, Blind, Moon Buggy, Doughnut track, Gun Run, endurance, and team relay. Also, every activity on site they could take part in. They all had a spectacular weekend. To make it all worth while we won the Blind Driving Race with Shannon Watkins, Jessica Lee, Emma Wheldon and Horus Watkins. We also got third place in the Moon Buggy. So well done to everyone.

Whilst the 16 scouts were enjoying camp the six scouts that did not go were taking part in Ready Steady Cook Evening. Rolf and Dennis took 3 scouts each and the plan was that they chose blind what they were having. So, ingredients were wrapped up in foil and any tins had the labels taken off. The teams chose an item and when all the items had gone they had to go back to their cooking area and then see what they had to cook. There were some very imaginative plates of food produced. Eileen Devereaux was asked to come in to judge the food for taste and presentation. Dennis' team started with toasted Brioche roll with sardine and toasted Brioche roll with salad and hardboiled egg. Their main course was creamed chicken with Rice noodles and a stir fry and their dessert was Semolina with apricots and dried figs. All very imaginative. Dennis' team members were Joseph, Jamie, and Matthew.

Rolf's team started with Sardines on Toast, this was followed by Beef casserole with carrots and peas and potato. The dessert was pineapple and custard. Rolf's team were Jessica, Daniel, and Jack. Eileen selected Dennis' team the winners by a small margin. What a great weekend the Scouts have had.

They are now looking forward to Brass Monkey in February the annual night in a bivi in the forest.

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

The Explorer unit had several weeks off in the winter term as they all had mock exams for the GCSE later this year. They came back to have a Christmas Cooking evening making their own Pizza some were very imaginative. The first week back they started planning for their annual brass monkey competition. As they won the explorer section last year they are hoping to retain the trophy again. So best of luck to them all.

Finally, 1<sup>st</sup> Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Dragonian Explorer Unit have three members of the Group and Unit selected to be part of the 117 Essex contingent representing the United Kingdom at the next World Scout Jamboree in July and August in 2019. This is to be held in the USA,

Canada and Mexico. In addition to this we have a Scout who has been offered a place on the Australian Scout Jamboree in January 2019. This is an amazing achievement for the Scout Group and Unit and the four members are all under pressure to raise an enormous amount (£14,200) to get them there - **please see our advert for help with this enormous task.** If you have been following our news about our poor mini bus well we have raised £11,500 and have been promised an additional £3,000 so we are nearly there which is just as well as the mini bus gave up on us during the weekend of 14 January!

*Mary Bacon - Chairman 1<sup>st</sup> Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group*  
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 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Moreton and Fyfield Scout Group</b> 			
Beaver Scouts	Tuesday	6.00 – 7.15pm	6 - 8 years
Cub Scouts	Thursday	7.00 – 8.30pm	8-10½ years
Scouts	Friday	7.30 – 9.30pm	10-14 years
Explorer Scouts	Tuesday	7.30 – 9.30pm	14 -18 years

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

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

## Fyfield Focus - Advertising and Editorial Details

### Advertising in the Fyfield Focus

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

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

Distribution of the Fyfield Focus (370 copies) is done by a team of volunteers (16) who deliver a copy to every home in Fyfield and to a no. of key community points in Fyfield and surrounding areas. It is the aim of the Focus production and delivery teams to deliver the Fyfield Focus Magazine by the 1st of the month.

### Advertising Rates

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

### Contributing Articles to the Fyfield Focus

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

#### The Fyfield Focus Team:

Editor & Advertising:

Cheryl Hadley – [fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk](mailto:fyfieldfocus@gmx.co.uk)

Production & Website:

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#### Distribution:

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

# Fyfield Useful Contacts

Bell Ringers - Hand	Pat Turnpenny	899223	Parish Council		
Bell Ringers - Tower	Allan Cook	899240	Chair	Ian Hadley	899840
Pageturners	Debbie Spanton	899317	Clerk	Derek Farr	07783505906
Bookworms	Jane Davenport	899389	Scouts & Guides		
Bridge Club	Janet Brindley	362037	Rainbows	Sophie Kelly	TBA
Carpet Bowls	Jacky Brown	899076	Brownies	Jane Davenport	899389
Church Coffee Morning	Carol Cox	899245	Guides	Alison Lavender	01277 365842
Cricket Club	Nancy Bridge	899503	Beavers	Mary Bacon	899052
Dr Walker's School	Mrs. N. Larkin	899298	Cubs	David Gordon	896321
Friends of St Nicholas	Allan Cook	899240	Scouts	Mary Bacon	899052
Fyfield Art Group	Wendy Henshaw	899367	Explorer Scouts	Simon Mountly	07939 158980
Fyfield Focus	Cheryl Hadley	899840	St Nicholas' Church	Rev. Christine Hawkins	286113
Funtime Friday	TBA	TBA	Warden/Allotments	Marcus Dain	899590
Ongar & Villages			Warden	David Bessell	07886075889
Community Care	Mary & Roger Rolls	365363	Village Hall		
Luncheon Club			Chair	Marie Apperley	899386
Bookings	Wendy Henshaw	899367	Bookings	Elaine Tunnard	899306
Team Co-ordinator	Jan Hall	899808	Box Office-Events	Patti Nicholson	899504
Pilates	Claire	07903121003	Womens Institute	Wendy Henshaw	899367
Poppets Day Nursery	Katie Holloway	365488	WD50+ Exercise Club	Patti Nicholson	899504
Pre-School	General No.	899678			
	Lisa Carey	07917763369			

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

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