

Fyfield Focus

June/July 2019

www.fyfieldfocus.org.uk



Changes at the Fyfield Parish Council

At the recent FPC AGM Chair of the Council, Ian Hadley, announced that he was standing down from the Parish Council and nominated Cllr. Les Lamb as the new Chair. Cllr. Liselle Chisenhale-Marsh then nominated Cllr. Jan Hall as the new Vice Chair. Neither positions were contested and the Chair and Vice Chair took their positions for the next 12 months term prior to scheduled elections in May 2020.

Why Were the French Gendarme in Fyfield During July 2014?



Answer:

the Tour de France visited us.

Best Kept Front Garden Contest



This year's Best Kept Front Garden Contest has concluded its judging stage and the results

have been recorded. The winners in first, second and third places will be announced at the Fyfield Parish Council Meeting on Monday 3rd June.

Fyfield Night Landing Ground

On 7th June at the Fyfield Village Hall's Summer BBQ, there will be the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate the Fyfield Night Landing Ground. The Harlow Air Cadets Band will be attending and marking the ceremony at 7pm. The Night Flying Ground which has long since vanished was established in 1917 by the RAF forerunner, the Royal Flying Corp. and never used since 1918. Inside we have re-printed an article about the Night landing Ground from a few years ago also an article about the other airfield near us, Chipping Ongar WW2 Airfield.

Village Diary 2019

| | | |
|--------|---|-----------------------------|
| 02-Jun | Fyfield Festival | Church, 12 noon |
| 03-Jun | Fyfield Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall, 7.30pm |
| 04-Jun | Coffee Morning | The Church, 10am |
| 05-Jun | Fyfield Litter Pickers | Village Shop, 9.30am |
| 06-Jun | WI Meeting | Village Hall, 2pm |
| 07-Jun | Fyfield Village Hall - Family Fun Evening and BBQ | Village Hall, 6pm |
| 09-Jun | Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk | Village Hall Car Park, 10am |
| 10-Jun | Ongar Health Centre PPG - Carers' Coffee Morning | Ongar Health Centre 11am |
| 12-Jun | Fyfield Luncheon Club | Village Hall, 12.30pm |
| 12-Jun | Friends of St. Nicholas' Church - AGM | Church, 8pm |
| 14-Jun | Ongar Health Centre PPG - Carers' Coffee Morning | Ongar Health Centre 11am |
| 16-Jun | Coffee With Cops | Village Hall, 12pm |
| 21-Jun | Fyfield Village Hall - Family Fun Evening and BBQ | Village Hall, 6pm |
| 24-Jun | E.F.D.C. - Life Walk | Village Hall, 9.30am |
| 01-Jul | Fyfield Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall, 7.30pm |
| 02-Jul | Coffee Morning | The Church, 10am |
| 04-Jul | WI Meeting | Village Hall, 2pm |
| 05-Jul | Fyfield Village Hall - Family Fun Evening and BBQ | Village Hall, 6pm |
| 08-Jul | E.F.D.C. - Life Walk | Village Hall, 9.30am |
| 10-Jul | Fyfield Luncheon Club | Village Hall, 12.30pm |
| 14-Jul | Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk | Village Hall Car Park, 10am |
| 19-Jul | Fyfield Village Hall - Family Fun Evening and BBQ | Village Hall, 6pm |
| 26-Jul | Coffee With Cops | Village Hall, 4pm |
| 05-Aug | Fyfield Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall, 7.30pm |
| 05-Aug | E.F.D.C. - Life Walk | Village Hall, 9.30am |
| 06-Aug | Coffee Morning | The Church, 10am |
| 11-Aug | Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk | Village Hall Car Park, 10am |
| 14-Aug | Fyfield Luncheon Club | Village Hall, 12.30pm |
| 02-Sep | Fyfield Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall, 7.30pm |
| 03-Sep | E.F.D.C. - Life Walk (All day) | Village Hall, 9.30am |
| 05-Sep | WI Meeting | Village Hall, 2pm |
| 08-Sep | Fyfield Ramblers - Monthly Walk | Village Hall Car Park, 10am |

Many Thanks

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

Sponsors – 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020:

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

Donors – 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019:

Brian & Kim Carpenter, Church Lunch & Afternoon Tea, Fyfield Bowls Club and Fyfield Parish Council

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



The first of the village events is the Fyfield Festival which is on Sunday 2nd June and is our Village Church's main Fund Raiser. Lots planned for everyone, including

the ever popular dog show and the flower festival in the church – see their advert for details.

Following on from last year's success with the Family Fun Evenings and Barbeques the Village Hall are holding the first of the season on 7th June. These are a really good evening for all families and friends to meet up at our lovely Village Hall & use the sports field for family games. A plaque to commemorate the WW1 Fyfield Night Landing Ground is being unveiled at the event and we will be joined by local air cadets and their officers. So come along and watch the unveiling and learn about a piece of WWI history in our village.

Friends of St. Nicholas are holding their AGM on 12th June so if you are interested in hearing what has been achieved and what is planned everyone is welcome to join the meeting – see the village diary and their advert for details.

Fyfield Litter Pickers are out again on 5th June so why not join them – meet up outside the Village Store & Post Office at 9.30am. The Ongar Health Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG) is holding two coffee mornings for carers – see the Village Diary.

Our advertisers' support is greatly appreciated and are key in enabling the Focus to be delivered to every home in Fyfield free of charge. Last month we said hello again to Carol who is offering her

dog grooming service during the Summer months and up to and including September. Danny Webb's Plumbing and D&G Windows joined the Fyfield Focus Advertising team last month – please see their adverts for more details on what they offer.

This month we are joined by Fish by Michelle who is providing home delivery of fresh fish from Billingsgate, Alfie of Franklin Trees, a Fyfield based Tree Surgeon and Adventure Tots a Soft Play Monday session which started at the Village Hall in May – please see their adverts for more details of what products and services they provide.

I announced in February that both Ian and I were stepping down from our Fyfield Focus positions in December. To-date no one has come forward and shown any interest in taking on these roles. This will mean that the December Focus will be our final publication and without a new Editor or Design and Production person this village will be without a community magazine after there being one for 40 years. Please don't let this happen – it really has been and continues to be a very valuable community asset. We have a very good team of people wanting to continue to support the new members to the team, the magazine is financially stable and with some hard work we have managed to make the Editor role in particular less onerous – reducing the production effort from 5 days to 2 days. So please get in touch if you are interested in either of the 2 roles.

*Cheryl Hadley,
Editor.*

A vintage biplane is shown in flight, angled upwards from the bottom left towards the top right. The background is a soft-focus landscape with green fields and a blue sky with light clouds. The text is overlaid on this image.

Fyfield Village Hall

**Summer
BBQ Evening**

with Games for the Kids

BBQ & Bar

Friday 7th June

7 pm

**Also the Unveiling of a
Plaque to commemorate
the World War 1**

**Fyfield Night
Landing Ground**

RAF Fyfield Night Landing Ground



Not many people know this but to combat the Zeppelin and first night bombing raids over London and the south east, the Royal Flying Corps, predecessor to the RAF, set up a number of night

fighter units. Whilst based at key airfields, their work was supported by a large number of Night Landing Grounds which acted as dispersal sites where aircraft could operate from.

39 Squadron was set up to undertake defence duties of London and the surrounding area and for a while was based at North Weald. Supporting this work was a dispersed site just to the south of Fyfield and close to the main road that leads to Ongar (adjacent to Bundish Hall). The 25 acre site had no permanent buildings and was operated

by a small contingent of RFC officers and men. It was opened in early 1917 and was closed in 1919, initially operating Royal Aircraft Factory BE2 aircraft.

The first German Zeppelin to be shot down in the war was over Cuffley in Hertfordshire on the night of 2/3rd September. It was downed by Captain William Leefe Robinson who was based at Suttons Farm airfield later to become RAF Hornchurch which, in the 2nd World War helped to protect the country from aerial attacks along with North Weald, Biggin Hill and other RAF stations in the south east.



Who knows, Captain Robinson, a real hero in his time who was awarded the Victoria Cross, may have touched down at Fyfield before his untimely death from the Spanish Flu epidemic in 1918.

*Ian Hadley
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk*



*Reproduced from Fyfield Focus
June/July 2016*

June 25th

70 years ago

The Tiger-Striped Marauders Arrive



The 387th Bombardment Group (Medium) was one of eight U.S. Army Air Force B-26 equipped medium bomber groups deployed in the European Theatre of Operations during World War II. Known as the "Tiger-Striped Marauders" or "Tiger Tails" because of the distinctive diagonal yellow and black stripes painted on the tails of its aircraft. The group was comprised of four tactical squadrons: the 556th, 557th, 558th and 559th Bombardment Squadrons, Medium. In England the group was first assigned to the Eighth Air Force, VIII Air Support Command, 3rd Bombardment Wing and stationed at the newly built airfield between Ongar, Fyfield and Willingale. The group flew its first mission, a diversion, on July 31 and its first bombing mission on August 15. The Eighth Air Force saw its mission as a strategic one aimed at destroying the German capacity to make war and thus wanted to focus on long-range missions against industrial targets deep inside

Germany. Although the twin-engined B-26s carried the same bomb load and flew faster than the four-engined heavy bombers, they had a much shorter range. Accordingly, during its tenure with the Eighth Air Force the bulk of the group's missions were attacks on Luftwaffe airfields in occupied France and Belgium intended to relieve pressure on the heavy bombers. The Martin B-26 Marauders were affectionately and alternatively known as the 'Flying Coffins', 'Widow Makers', 'Flying Torpedo' and 'Flying Pigs'.

Chipping Ongar airfield, designated Station 162, (Matching Green was Station 168) was the home to over 2700 USAAF personnel who must have made a huge effect on Ongar, Fyfield, Willingale and the other local villages for the short time that they were there. They left for France in July 1944.

How they travelled to Chipping Ongar.

The Air Crews went to Selfridge Field, Michigan to pick up new B-28's on May 23, 1943 where they proceeded to fly to Chipping Ongar as follows:

- a. To Hunter Field, Savannah, Georgia for B-28 modifications and is the official Port Debarkation - 8/10/43.
- b. To Langley Field, Virginia - 12/6/43.
- c. To Presque Isle, Maine but had to land at Grenier Field, New Hampshire because of bad weather 14/6/43 and left on 16/6/43.
- d. To Goose Bay, Labrador on 19/6/43.
- e. To BW1, Greenland on 20/6/43.
- f. To Iceland on 21/6/43.
- g. To Prestwick, Scotland on 23/6/43.
- h. To Aldernaston, England on 24/6/43.
- i. Arrived Chipping Ongar, England on 25/6/43.

Letter from the Reverend Christine Hawkins



I want to begin this letter by thanking the 40 people who attended the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 8 April. It was a record turnout for Fyfield and it was

heart-warming to see so many people interested in the life of our church. Thank you all.

There were many questions about the church's finances. It was clear that people were not aware of how much money the church needs to raise each year in order to stay open. Several of those attending stated that they would be willing to support the church, financially, through regular giving (via Standing Order for example). The PCC and I appreciate those generous offers.

Some of those attending the meeting offered to serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for St Nicholas. I was encouraged that folk desire to serve in this way, however, the Church of England's Church Representation Rules state that only communicant members of the church may serve on the PCC. Furthermore, individuals who wish to stand for election to the PCC may only do so after they have been on the church's Electoral Roll for six months. Therefore, sadly, we are unable to admit people to the PCC at the present time.

I am pleased to tell you that the Archdeacon of Harlow and our Area Dean will be meeting with the current PCC very soon, to listen to them and to discuss some options for the future of St Nicholas. I will be in a better position to follow-up all the offers of help and support after that meeting. Meanwhile, please know that both the PCC and I are grateful to all of those who came to the meeting, or who have contacted me to convey their concerns for the church and their desire that it should be kept as a place of worship for the village.

It seems that there are rumours that the church is going to close. Please be assured that has **never** been discussed and that neither the PCC nor I wish to see the church closed. The purpose of my letter in the last magazine was to be honest about the outlook for St Nicholas and to seek a response from the village. Clearly, the letter achieved its objective and I could not be more pleased that it did. Congregation numbers have improved since the APCM and that is hugely encouraging.

Whilst writing, I would like to apologise for the closure of the church on Easter Sunday. Unfortunately, I was taken ill on the Monday of Holy Week and remained unwell for two weeks. Despite the efforts of neighbouring clergy in our Mission and Ministry Unit (MMU) nobody else was available at the time to officiate on Easter Sunday. It was agreed that everyone in our two benefices should worship at St Mary Magdalen in Magdalen Laver as that service was

already scheduled. I appreciate that a few residents of Fyfield were unhappy with the decision to move the service, but I hope you will all understand that every effort was made to find cover but, sadly, to no avail. Those who attended worship at Magdalen Laver were delighted to be there to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The congregation numbered over 100 people and many of them commented how joyous it was to part of such a large crowd of worshippers.

We are still in the season of Easter. There is much to give thanks for and to celebrate in our beautiful village. Signs of new life are all around us at this time of year. I trust that our faithful, patient and loving God will walk alongside all of us as we discuss the future of our beloved church; that all things are in God's hands; that God creates nothing in vain and that, in the end, all shall be well if we can just keep faith with our great God of new beginnings.

Every blessing to you all

Chris

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

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Services at St Nicholas' Church, Fyfield

Priest in Charge:

Reverend Christine Hawkins 01277 286113

June & July

Please see Church Notice Board for Service Details

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, MORETON

June & July

Please see Church Notice Board for Service Details

ST GERMAIN, BOBBINGWORTH

June & July

Please see Church Notice Board for Service Details

ST CHRISTOPHER, WILLINGALE

June & July

Please see Church Notice Board for Service Details



PUZZLE PAGE

Summer Word Search



S N J T V C C W H Y M S R Y S
Z U P U K U A Y G Q S A A K Y
L F N M J R G N T U E N I M A
I N Y T M D I B N S U D N E D
T R T T A M U B B E P C B R I
D N H T M N A X Q S E A O B L
D I E I H T L F A O I S W T O
Z R W C H G H O O R R T Y C H
V S P I S Y I U T X E L M T E
M L N S F X Q L N I R E R O U
I G E Z E E R B N D O S A E K
S P O L F P I L F U E N K C F
S E A S I D E U S A S R J Z T
K V X E R K B E T M E A W I G
G V Q X T H N S G L L C Y Y O

BREEZE FLIPFLOPS HOLIDAYS RAINBOW ROSES SANDCASTLES
SCENT SEASIDE SUNBATHING SUNLIGHT SUNTAN LOTION SWIM-
MING THUNDER WARMTH

Some letters have been used more than once.

Be Mirthfulness Owl Mom Rot, is an anagram for

Flowers that bloom in Summer

Can you sort out the summer flowers from these anagrams?

hued min mil
anoit arc
gird loam
alchemy aids aims
chummy hens art
ewe tapes
sore
xlhop
yeah grand
pangs adorn



(answers on page 12)

Fyfield Spring Festival



ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

SUNDAY 2ND JUNE 2019

12NOON TO 4.30PM

BBQ & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

TEAS & COFFEES

FUN DOG SHOW

Register between 12noon and 1pm

STALLS

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH

THE FYFIELD HANDBELL RINGERS



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Annual General Meeting

**will be held on Wednesday, 12th June 2019
at 8.00pm in the church.**

**All members are, of course, invited and other interested persons
will be welcome to attend and observe proceedings.**

**Any questions with respect to the meeting or to the Friends
should be addressed to the Chairman, Mrs Julie Robinson,
on 01277 899557**

Answers to summer flowers anagrams

Hued min mil
anoint arc
gird loam
alchemy aids aims
chummy hens art

DELPHINIUM
CARNATION
MARIGOLD
MICHAELMAS DAISY
CHRYSANTHEMUM

ewe tapes
Sore
Xlhop
yeah grand
pangs adorn

SWEET PEA
ROSE
PHLOX
HYDRANGEA
SNAPDRAGON



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xxx

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environment
xxx



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Ongar Health Centre PPG



The Ongar Health Centre PPG has had a busy couple of months with plans afoot to establish a Carers' Network in Ongar and the surrounding areas.

The PPG will be hosting a series of coffee mornings at the surgery to which carers from the local area will be invited to come along and meet others over a hot drink and slice of cake. It is hoped that through the coffee mornings a support network can be established which will in turn offer an understanding ear or friendly face when needed as well as providing information on the services available to assist carers. If you, or anyone you know, would benefit from this initiative then please do come along.

Our first two coffee mornings coincide with Carers Week, organised by Carers UK, and will be held at Ongar Health Centre on Monday June 10th and Friday, June 14th (11am-noon). We plan to hold more coffee mornings in the future.

Our Chair, Jenny Juttner, together with our Secretary Roberta Abbott, were very grateful to have been invited to speak at the Ongar and District Healthcare League of Friends AGM. It was a great opportunity to speak about the PPG and to also learn more about the role of the League of Friends.

The surgery has had many items of equipment purchased by the charity over the years, and their continued support is of great benefit to all patients.

The PPG recently published the third edition of its newsletter. The newsletter is

also available in digital format and patients who have registered to receive the e-newsletters electronically will have received this by email. If you are not yet on our digital distribution list and would like to sign up to receive the e-newsletters, please email ongarppgnews@gmail.com. Alternatively, hard copies are available at the surgery and we are looking to increase our hard copy distribution points soon.

Hopefully you will have heard that Ongar Health Centre is now one of the locations from which out-of-hours hub appointments in the area can be booked. The appointments are available between 8am and noon on a Saturday and must be pre-booked. The surgery itself will not be open and only those with pre-booked appointments will be able to enter the ground floor of the building.

The PPG is very pleased that out-of-hours appointments are being offered in Ongar as we are a large patient population and until now, patients of the practice have had to travel to other areas for such appointments. As with anything, the provision of the service will be guided by demand so please do use the service if it would be of use to you. If demand for the service proves to be high, then this could add weight to calls for greater out-of-hours availability in Ongar.

Finally, thank you for all of your comments and communications about the PPG, we really appreciate your continued support and input. If you would like to find out more about the PPG, or get involved yourself, please email ongarppgnews@gmail.com or leave any communication for our attention at the surgery.

Ongar Health Centre PPG Committee

‘Coffee with Cops’ At Fyfield Village Hall



All residents of Fyfield, Willingale, Moreton & The Lavers are invited to join us at this informal meeting.

This is your opportunity to

come and chat to raise any issues or concerns you may have with a member of our local police force, or simply listen to the flow of information over a cup of coffee and cake.

The next dates are as follows: Sunday 16th June 12pm – 1pm, Friday 26th July 4pm – 5pm.

Please do support this valuable resource by attending the meetings when you can. As well as the useful sharing of information, there are often practical security resources on hand for distribution amongst those that attend.

For further details please contact Cllr. Barbara Saward – email: barbara128@ymail.com or Tel: 07747803829

Local Policing Contact Details

Our local PC Paul Harrison is frequently out on patrol in and around Ongar and the surrounding villages. 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 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](https://twitter.com/PcPaulHarrison)

Or call **101**

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Fyfield Litter Pickers



The last Litter Pick was on 10th April. A fine, bright sunny day. Volunteer

numbers were down so I won't quantify the haul. Sufficient to say it looks better in a wheelie bin than on the grass verge.

A surprising benefit of wandering the local roads and lanes in search of litter is the insight into the unexpected it gives you. I still smile about the time we found 116 empty Mateus Rose bottles in the verge on Moreton Road. In 1976 Mateus Rose was a sign of sophistication, but in

2019 it is a sign of.....I'll leave you to fill in the gaps yourself.

This Litter Pick, the unexpected was vast numbers of bird feathers in clumps of two or three feathers on pavements and under bushes. No injured birds, just little groups of four inch long feathers in shades of white through grey to nearly black. Then I realised, it's that time of year when the birds have been doing the dance of the seven veils!

The next Litter Pick will be on Wednesday 5th June. Meet at the Village Shop at 9.30am. All welcome.

Fiona Baxter and Heather Porter

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Opening Times

Village Store

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
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| Tuesday & Thursdays | 7.00am to 5.00pm |
| Saturday | 8.00am to 2.00 pm |
| Sunday | 8.00am to 12.30pm |

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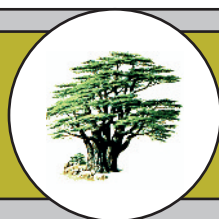
| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
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| Sunday | Closed |



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- 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

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| Gatwick | £85 | £100 | £125 | £155 | £175 | £185 |
| Heathrow | £85 | £105 | £130 | £170 | £185 | £195 |
| Luton | £80 | £98 | £115 | £125 | £140 | £150 |
| City | £50 | £65 | £85 | £95 | £110 | £120 |
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amandagilford@yahoo.co.uk



Fyfield *Luncheon Club*



Since the last edition of the Focus we have enjoyed two delicious meals. The main course being provided by The Queens Head, and the deserts provided by our lovely helpers.

If you would like to join us, our next two meetings are on the 12th June and the 10th July in the Village Hall at 12.30pm. Please contact Sandra on 01277899519 by the Friday before the lunch on the following Wednesday if you would like to attend.

Sandra Mead and Jan Hall

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Ongar *Wildlife Society (OWLS)*

In April, wildlife enthusiast and photographer, Liz Huxley gave a splendid talk to the Ongar Wildlife Society entitled *Tales from the River Bank*. She gave a broad overview of the variety of wildlife inhabiting our rivers and riverbanks accompanied by magnificent photographs. As well as photographing animals and plants, Liz also showed several artistic shots featuring reflections from the surface of moving water. She delighted us all by giving insights into how she captured these magnificent images, telling us about the equipment that she uses and the techniques involved.

One of Liz's photographs of a Kingfisher is shown below. Naturally, the original is in full colour and extremely lifelike. Other photographs that she showed included water voles, otters, pike, grass snakes, butterflies and pond skaters, together with many of her favourite birds, such as buzzards, herons, egrets and swallows.

What's next?



On Saturday 22 June Ongar Wildlife Society will be holding its annual Garden Party and AGM at a splendid local venue. It is for members only but there is still time to join.



The next monthly meeting of OWLS is not until 16 September when Brian Eversham from the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northants Wildlife Trust will focus on *Climate Change*, a topic in the news at the moment.

Other OWLS meetings in 2019 are: 21 October *Insect Trends. Is it all bad news?* Rosie Earwaker; 18 November *Wildlife and Landscape Photography* Andrew Bailey and 9 December *Christmas Corals* Brian Rosen.

All meetings are held at 8pm at Jubilee Park Pavilion, Love Lane (off High Street), Ongar CM5 9BL. You may wish to join OWLS and learn more about other aspects of the natural world. Visitors pay £5, **but why not join - only £20 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.

For more information, please take a look at our [website: www.ongarwildlifesociety.org.uk](http://www.ongarwildlifesociety.org.uk)

Keith Snow

Fyfield *Village Hall*



With the lovely Easter that we had and hopefully some more nice weather to come, we have been looking forward to the summer at the Village Hall.

Our first event, and one that is for everyone, is on 7th June. We are going to combine our first BBQ and Family Fun Evening with the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the World War One night landing ground that was here in Fyfield. We are hoping to have some representatives from North Weald and also from the local cadets. It would be great if as many people from the village could come along and have a sociable get together to show our support. We will be doing a BBQ from about 6.30pm and the cash bar will be open. There are outdoor games for children too.

Following on from the evening of 7th June, we are hoping to make these Friday night get togethers a regular event while the weather is good and we will be holding them on 21st June, 5th July and 19th July. It really is a good opportunity for everyone of any age to come along and meet other people from the village, have a drink and spend a couple of hours coming together as a community.

If you don't know many other people in the village, do come along and meet some of the other lovely people that live here. Everyone is welcome, young and old and those in between. There is no charge; we just want the Village Hall to continue to be one of the focal points in the village for us all to come together. Please do show your sup-

port, as we are so lucky to have such a beautiful facility here.

Another event that we are hoping to hold is a beer-tasting evening with a local brewery in September, more details to follow. If anyone has any other ideas of events that you think would be good fun for the community, please do let us know.

We held a Bingo evening on 11th May, and I would like to thank Roy and Geoff, Richard and Christine who work so hard to make these evenings a success.

Don't forget the Life Walks that I mentioned last time, and Coffee with Cops. There are posters on our notice board with the details.

As mentioned before, we have a vacancy for a resident to join our committee. We meet once a month and no experience is needed. If you feel you want to give a little bit of your time to help keep the Village Hall open and a great resource for the whole community, why not give it a go? If you want any more information, just give me a call, details below, or e-mail at Fyfield.villagehall@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who supports us. We give our time and energy as volunteers to make sure we have a village hall to be proud of.

Marie Apperley
Chair
01277 899386

100 Club Winning Numbers are:

| | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| April | 7 | 77 | 29 |
| May | 53 | 23 | 3 |

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June 21st



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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



Mr Carl Merry came in April and talked about the traditional role of the storyteller.

Interestingly the same stories, in

different guises appear in many other cultures around the world.

Our Annual Meeting took place in May and we welcomed Mrs Myra Amos as our new President and wished her every success. Summing up the year, we recollected the variety of speakers and demonstrators we have enjoyed and the dramatic meeting when we relocated to the church when the field was invaded by Travellers. An unusual sight from my landing window to see caravans all lined

up around the football pitch and the washing flapping from the goal posts!

Looking ahead, we are planning an outing in August to a garden centre and a mouth-watering fundraiser called "Just Desserts" in September. This will be a selection of delicious homemade desserts served with tea or coffee.

Our next meeting is on the 6th June when Kayla Conley will talk to us on 'The Hidden Messages in Dreams' which sounds like a fascinating topic, so do come and join us. Phone 01277 899223 if you would like more information.

Pat Turnpenny, Secretary.

Fyfield Coffee Morning (in the church)

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



4th June, 2nd July & 6th August
10 am to 12 Noon
Marion, Carol & Tricia

Out of Focus

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

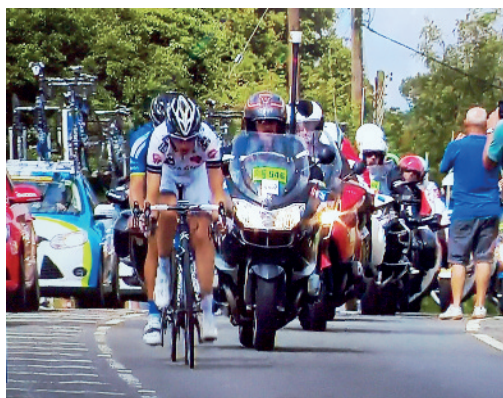
What time is it? I hear you say. The trouble is, I don't really know. In the days BI (Before Internet) it was easy. You could check the time by tuning into the radio or TV both of which agreed on the time. That was until satellite TV came along and there was a 23 second delay while the signal went from the UK to the AS-TRA satellite cluster over Africa and back; around 22,000 miles. This is why Freeview TV is always ahead of satellite TV in transmitting the same programme.

Then, of course Digital radio also has a delay and even my PC and phone do not agree on the time! It's like the old saying 'a man with two watches never really knows the time'. But does it really matter? I have a clock from the 1700's when having an hour hand only was acceptable. Not only that, but until 1840 the UK had local times and it was with the advent of the railways that the Great Western Railway introduced 'London Time' (GMT) across their network and time became synchronised with London. Needless to say this was not popular in the beginning with towns in the West Country but the benefits soon became obvious. If you plan to catch a train or any other form of transport then it's pretty important.

On July 7th, 2014, Fyfield had the privilege of having the Tour de France pass by on its way to the stage finish in London and eventually Paris. Those who were here then will agree that it was a fantastic

day for Fyfield. Will it ever happen again? I doubt it but you never know! Maybe the Giro d'Italia could visit us one day although I don't expect the Tour of California to pass by unless they get seriously lost.

Ian Hadley
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk



Archie's Column

(Tails from the Riverside)



Hi, Archie here,
All I can say is that Prince Harry must read the Focus and named the new baby after me! I am now expecting a call from the

Duchess of Sussex to ask me if I will be a dog parent. They could even give me a title! I would like to be called Archie, Earl of Essex.

There are always plenty of Jack Russell Terriers on TV adverts but at the present time they are popping up everywhere. They are on adverts for LV, M&S, Land Rover, GoCompare, Shell Energy and Halifax. There is also a pug called Archie on a Voltarol advert so I will count him in as an honorary Jack Russell. The TV people haven't called me yet but as I am losing my colour and going grey I suspect that I might get a call for a dog version of SAGA. It's not that I am that old; it's just that I need more sleep than the normal 12 to 14 hours a day. Having said that, unless I am eating or walking then there isn't much point in being awake. I just have to make sure that I bark every now and again just to prove to my parents that I am earning my keep as a canine door bell and not spending my life sleeping.

One of my friends said that it was going to be another record breaking year for

summer heat. I'm thinking of getting an all over shave and some sun tan cream so I can enjoy the sun while I drink my prosecco by the riverside.



Anyway, I'm off to check out some 'Just for Dogs' hair die. I'm thinking of going green or I might go Brexit!

Bye for now,

*Lord Archie.
Earl of Essex*



Light Hearted Monologues from a Local



This year celebrates the 75th anniversary of D-Day (6th June 1944). Here's some typical humorous soldier-speak as an affectionate tip of the hat to our soldiers i.e. Tommy Atkins.

Annie Laurie = put on any lorry, **Amen Wallah** = army chaplain [both from WW1]
Infantry cheggars = unimportant person.

C.R.O.W. = can't read or write.

Vortex = a disorganised soldier. **Biff chit** = sick note excusing from PT.

B.I.M.B.L.E. = basic infantry manoeuvre but lacking enthusiasm.

Blanket stacker = storeman. **Bouncing bomb** = sleeping bag.

Brylcream boys = RAF personnel. **Bubbleheads** = serving on submarines.

Elsie = L.C. or Lance Corporal.

Wooden tops = soldiers from the British Army Household Guards Division.

Pull up a sandbag/spin a dit = tell a story.

Dhobi dust and **Dhobi machine** = washing powder and washing machine.

D.M.S. boots = direct moulded soles or "*dems moi shooz*".

In his pit = in bed. **Horror bag** = Army packed lunch - best avoided!

Sawbones = doctor. **A long time 'til nosebags** = ages until food.

A head of solid bone = stupid. **Charlie foxtrot**=chaotic situation.

Ball of chalk = situation deteriorated beyond repair. **Clacky** = chocolate.

Banjo eating = holding a fried egg sandwich in one hand and raising it to ear height while wiping squirted egg yolk from your uniform with a strumming action with the other hand.

Examples from an early army instruction book for Sar'nt Majors addressing troops - "**Oi yew lot risan shaine**" = Please would you consider joining us when it suits you. "**Bai the lai-eft cu-wik march**" = Left foot forward lads if you don't mind.

"**Yew 'orrible excuse for a 'uman being**" = I say that man in the front there!

"**When I nod my 'ead, fire!**" = At the pre-arranged signal please point the gun at that pretty target and operate the bullet release mechanism.

"**Get yor flipping 'aircut**" / "**Your barnet needs mowing**" = Please tidy yourself up.

"**Ooh asked yew to spick?**" = Wait your turn please?

End Ex=Soldiers' favourite phrase which means the end of an event or exercise and therefore the first shower to be had in weeks.

BarryBetteridge

Fyfield Village

Pre-School

Children at Fyfield Village Pre-School took part in a traditional Easter Bonnet parade. Hats featuring bunnies, chicks and even a ship and Peppa Pig made an appearance on a variety of hats for the pre-school's Easter show for parents.

The children took part in an egg hunt in the garden and sang songs for their families. The event raised £153 from the

sale of refreshments and raffle tickets. Owners Lisa Carey and Charlotte Kearney said: "We will be buying the children some toys and resources. Thank you once again for supporting us."

The pre-school, based in the Scout Hut, is open during term time and can be contacted on 01277 899678 or visit www.fyfieldvillagepre-school.com

Michelle Breavington





With the results of the recent council elections and the EU election where the BREXIT Party was very successful against the traditional parties, the Conserva-

tive led Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) finds itself in interesting times. Not quite as drastic as Chelmsford City Council where the Conservative lead was decimated by the Lib Dems but bad enough to concentrate the minds of the Conservative group. Recognising that the group will have its work cut out in the future and especially in the lead up to next year's council elections, which is a total unknown area for us all at present, I took the decision to stand down from the Parish Council thereby freeing up my time to concentrate on District responsibilities. As you will see elsewhere in the Focus, Cllr. Les Lamb and Cllr. Jan Hall are now Chair and Vice Chair respectively and I am sure that you will give them your full support as you have given me over the past eight years.

The EFDC committees I sit on are:

- Audit & Governance Committee
- District Development Management Committee
- Licensing Committee
- Licensing Sub Committee
- Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- Area Planning Sub Committee East
- Stronger Communities Select Committee
- Stronger Place Select Committee
- Full Council

Despite this unsettled period the EFDC has continued to perform very well at looking after the best interests in the area, which to remind you, extends from Waltham Abbey in the west to Willingale in the east and Matching in the north to Chigwell in the south. Some of the achievements worth mentioning are:

- Zero Council Tax increase in 9 of the last 10 years
- Funding of three Police Officers based in the Civic Offices to give priority to our area
- Investing in leisure centres in Waltham Abbey, Ongar and a new centre in Epping
- The current council housing stock of 6500 to be increased by 300 in the next 5 years
- Discussions with Essex County Council to devolve some Highway responsibilities to EFDC so that we have more control
- Discussions with other local councils to plan to benefit from the Oxford/Cambridge Arc by promoting economic development in our area

On top of these things the members are also responsible for scrutiny of the strategy and decisions made by the staff of the EFDC in the course of providing a service to the community.

*Cllr. Ian Hadley
Epping Forest District Council,
Moreton & Fyfield Ward
01277 89984
07765882001
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk
www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk*

Letter from the Chairman



At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), held in June, Ian Hadley resigned as Chairman of the Fyfield Parish Council (FPC) due to an increasing workload as a District Councillor.

Ian has been a member of the FPC for many years and became Chairman in May 2016 working through good times and some difficult periods, such as the illegal traveller encampment last year.

The FPC would like to thank Ian and to pass on their best wishes to Ian and Cheryl who continue to volunteer their time to help make Fyfield a better place for us to live.

I am pleased to have accepted the position of Chairman and congratulations to Jan Hall in her new role as Vice-chair.

We are both looking forward to continuing to work with councillors Barbara Saward, Liselle Chisenhale-Marsh and Dan Webster.

The FPC now has two vacancies so if you are interested in becoming a councillor we will be very pleased to hear from you.

On a completely different topic, you may have seen on TV that parish councils have the opportunity to purchase their red telephone boxes. Ours is seldom used but BT still charge us £350 per year. We are taking up the offer and will purchase (for £1) our box to do with it as we wish. A resident proposed making ours into a book exchange. If you have any other ideas please let us know.

I hope I can live up to Ian's high standards and will work hard with Jan, Liselle, Barbara and Dan to help improve our village further.

Please do contact us with any ideas, suggestions or issues you may have.

Les Lamb

Chairman Fyfield Parish Council

leslamb@hotmail.co.uk

Mobile 07776178794

Fyfield Parish Council

Cllr. L. Lamb (Chair)

Cllr. J. Hall (Vice Chair)

Cllr. L. Chisenhale-Marsh

Cllr. B Saward

Cllr. D. Webster

Derek Farr, Clerk

0777 6178794

01277 899808

01277 899262

07747 803829

01277 899405

07783 505906

leslamb@hotmail.co.uk

janet.hall@bopenworld.com

lisellecm@icloud.com

barbara@saward.uk.net

dan@fyfield.uk.com

caliban@gmx.co.uk

Fyfield Parish Council – Annual Report 2018

Who Are We

- Your Councillors are local residents who volunteer their time to try to make our village a better and safer place to live.
- There are seven Councillors and a salaried Parish Clerk.
- There is a Council Election every four years and an internal Council election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman at the Annual General Meeting.
- The Parish Clerk is appraised on performance and re-appointed each year.

Managing Your Council

- Your Council meets monthly using a published agenda and provides meeting minutes. You can read these on the Parish Notice Board and on the Council Website.
- The meetings are open to residents who have the opportunity to speak and raise questions and/or issues.
- Because tax payers' money is involved there are strict legal processes to follow and our Parish Clerk ensures we follow them to the letter!
- Decisions made, financial controls and management of the Council processes are subject to internal and external audit.

Some Key Responsibilities

- Review Planning Applications and feedback concerns from Councillors and residents to the Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) Planning Office. Note that your Council **have** no powers to either approve or deny a planning application.
- Although your Council **have** no powers to prioritise the work of the Highways, Police, Planning and Environmental agencies we do communicate with them often and try to progress local issues.
- Ensure the sports field and church grounds are well maintained, dog bins emptied and the play area is safe to use.
- Progress initiatives and propose new projects concerned with the village and the wellbeing of residents.
- Represent the Council in other organisations and committees e.g. Fyfield Village Hall and Dr. Walkers School.
- Ensure tax payer funds are wisely spent on local matters.

Highlights For 2018

Illegal Encampment

In early 2018 your Council dealt with an illegal encampment of travellers on the sports field. They were quickly removed thanks to the team work of your Council, Fyfield Village Hall, Essex Police and EFDC. Our Parish Clerk advised the Council that without the focused efforts of all involved the

travellers could have been encamped there for weeks; stating that in other parishes it has cost many thousands of pounds to remove them and clear up the mess. Although the sports field was left in a terrible mess thanks to volunteers and specialist workers from EFDC all the rubbish was removed in time for a wedding in the village hall.

Health and Wellbeing

- Your Council started a Film Club where residents can watch a film and have lunch. It's proven to be a real success with people socialising and having a good time.
- Your Council fully supports the EFDC Lifewalks programme and 13 walks were held in 2018. These help people from all over the Epping district to improve their fitness.
- A further 12 informal village walks were organised for residents to explore our beautiful rural countryside.
- Your Council supports a programme to improve our footpath network. Our 22 miles of paths and bridges have been transformed in 2018 due to the work of your Councillors in co-operation with landowners, West Essex Rambles and Essex Highways.

Environment

- Issues with flooding on the Dunmow Road continues to be a

problem. The Fyfield Parish Council (FPC) is in regular contact with Essex Highways and the Environment Agency, but it is very frustrating that no real progress has been made. It's an on-going issue the FPC will keep working on.

Crime prevention

- Your Council joined Fyfield to the regional Neighbourhood Watch scheme. You may have noticed new Neighbourhood Watch signs installed on the roads into Fyfield.
- Also we have recently joined forces with Moreton and there are now 280 people reading and posting crime and other information onto our members' only Facebook page.
- Your Council facilitates the "Coffee with Cops" sessions at the village hall. It's your chance to talk directly to police officers about issues that concern you and our village and also share experiences.

Financial Highlights

- The Council invested in new playground equipment and picnic benches.
- We identified that the charge for a burial was much lower in Fyfield than in other local parishes. So a tough decision was made in 2018 to increase the charges to be in line with those of Ongar.

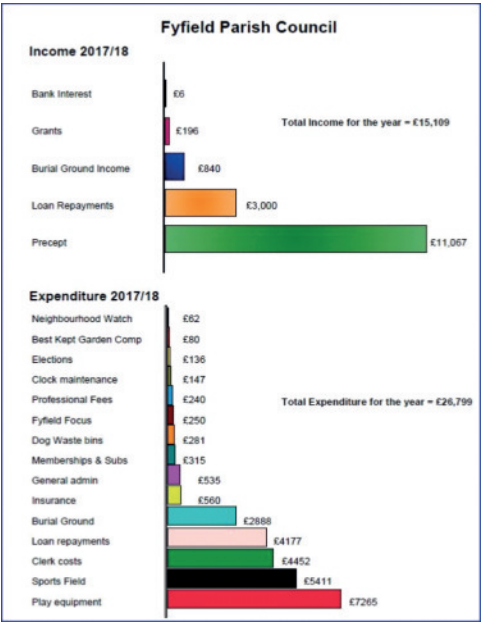
Building Developments

- During 2018 the Council kept a close eye on the development of the EFDC Local Plan. There was a significant change made by EFDC for Fyfield in cancelling a larger development for the proposed smaller Gypsy Mead site.

Council Focus For 2019

- Your Council are committed to keeping the sports field and playground equipment well maintained for your enjoyment. However, the income generated is small compared to the costs and this is a concern going forward. The Council and the village hall are working together to identify opportunities to increase the use of the sports field and village hall to generate more income. If you have ideas for social events, sporting activities or would like to volunteer to help please let us know. PLEASE help us by coming to the various events being organised for you in 2019.
- Ensure maintenance contracts provide good value for money.
- Ensure planning applications, in particular Gypsy Mead, are assessed and feedback submitted to the EFDC Planning Department.
- Within a short time the church burial grounds are likely to reach capacity. The Council will survey the grounds and develop a long term plan.

- Create a Parish Appraisal questionnaire for residents to give their views on what’s important for Fyfield going forward.
- Assess the benefits and potential location of a memorial tree area.
- Assess the best use of Council owned land.
- Continue the voluntary work in support of Council run initiatives such as the Film Club, Christmas tree event, Neighbourhood Watch, Footpath Improvements and Lifewalks.



Please note this is a summarised version of the 2018 Annual Report. The full version is available on the FPC Website (www.essexinfo.net/fyfield-parish-council).

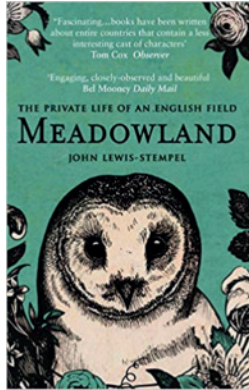
Pageturners

Meadowland: The Private Life of an English Field

by John Lewis-Stempel

John-Lewis Stempel is a farmer and an award-winning writer predominantly known for his books on nature and history. He lives in Herefordshire, with his wife and two children, on the very edge of England before it runs into Wales, and within a stone's throw (*with a decent gust of wind*) from where his family were farming in the 1300s.

Meadowland gives a unique and intimate account of an English meadow's life from January to December, together with its biography. In exquisite prose, John Lewis-Stempel records the passage of the seasons from cowslips in spring to the hay-cutting of summer and grazing in autumn, and includes the biographies of the animals that inhabit the grass and the soil beneath: the badger clan, the fox family, the rabbit warren, the skylark brood and the curlew pair, among others. Their births, lives, and deaths are stories that thread through the book from first



page to last. There is barely a creature in *Meadowland* that we didn't learn at least one interesting new fact about (*the occasional tendency of badgers to hold funerals for one another is a particular favourite*).

Not only is this book beautifully written, it is full of amazing observations and great knowledge. A normal person looks at a field and sees grass, weeds, hedges, trees, possibly a few bugs and nondescript birds flying tree-to-tree. Mr. Lewis-Stempel breaks that top-level view down and explains what is actually happening below the surface. I can no longer take my daily walk with Martha, through our nearby meadow, without looking at it in a completely different way.

The book is interspersed with poetry, folk lore and historical snippets of country living and farm life. The author is obviously very well-read and much is drawn from his own love of the land, memories and considerable knowledge and experience.

We all loved this book!!

Sally Wallden

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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)**

Fyfield *Carpet Bowls Club*



On Sunday 7th April, Dot Letchfield, Mary Wilkinson, Hannah and Sharon Birch travelled to Braintree to take

part in the English Open Rinks.* This competition is run by the English Carpet Bowls Association and different counties take turns in hosting it. This time it was down to Essex to host. There were mainly Essex clubs attending, but a few teams from Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Sunderland also attended.

The Fyfield four were runners up in their group and went on to play for an extra prize, 'The Plate'. They played extremely well and got through to the quarter-finals, where they were knocked out, but it was a good day's bowling by all four players. Beryl Shuttleworth and I were in a team with two High Easter members. We were lucky enough to win our group and also got through to the quarter-finals of 'the Cup', where we were knocked out by the eventual winners!

On the County Squad front, Essex had one match left to play in the Eastern Counties League, which was a home match against Norfolk on Sunday 17th March. Essex won the match comfortably with 22 points to Norfolk's 14. This lifted Essex into 4th place, with

86 points, just missing out on third place to Norfolk, who also had 86 points, but with 10 more shorts than Essex. Suffolk were again Eastern Counties champions with Cambridgeshire in second place, Hertfordshire in fifth and Bedfordshire in sixth place.

On Sunday 14th April, Essex travelled to Littleport in Cambridgeshire to take part in the Six Counties Championship. The squad played well, but only achieved 4th place again, with Suffolk 1st, Cambridgeshire 2nd and Hertfordshire 3rd, with Norfolk and Bedfordshire bringing up the rear. This ended the Eastern Counties' competitions for this season. We start again on 22nd September with the Six Counties Team Bowl, again at Littleport.

The competition season has also finished for local clubs. The first tournament being the Ladies v Gents on 4th August, Fyfield can now just enjoy their club nights.

That's all I can report on this time, but can I remind everyone that if you would like to come and join us on a Tuesday evening, we would love to see you.

Jacky Brown

**Apologies for referring to this competition as the Essex Open Links in the previous edition of the Focus*

Fyfield, Ongar & District *Bridge Club*



Fyfield Ongar & District Bridge Club is a friendly sociable club for members who enjoy a relaxed approach to playing bridge.

If you would like to play bridge in a welcoming environment, then do come along and give us a try. Full details can be found on the club's website:

www.bridgewebs.com/fyfield

Marie Hatch
Treasurer

There are two sessions each week, on Monday afternoon and Thursday evening. These are held at the Fyfield Village Hall off Houchin Drive. Attendance is constant with six to eight tables on Mondays and six to nine tables on Thursdays.

The club has electronic scoring which is very user friendly and provides each member with their final position at the end of play. The results are uploaded to the website and are available to view by the time members have returned home.

Charity events are also planned throughout the year with monies donated to Children in Need and/or other charitable organisations. The latest event took place on 20th May in aid of St Claire Hospice in Harlow and a further report will be given in the next issue.

We are in the process of organising an outside tutor to run a series of monthly refresher classes on a Wednesday afternoon and there may be room for non-members to attend. If anyone is interested, please make contact via our website.

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1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Explorer Unit

The Beaver Scout Colony - 5 and three quarters to 8 years old- Tuesday 6.00pm to 7.15pm

After a busy Spring Term, the Beavers were awarded two activity badges. The first was their Safety Badge. This involved:

- Learning their Green Cross Code and having a practical demonstration in Ongar High Street by using the pedestrian crossing;
- The Water Safety Code;
- Knowing what to do if approached by a stranger
- Identifying dangers around their homes and explaining how to deal with them
- Knowing what to do in the event of a fire, taking part in a fire drill and understanding how to get help from the emergency services.

The second activity badge they all gained was the Global Issues badge. The syllabus for this badge was:

- Learn about how to save energy or recycle. Decide on three ways your Colony could save energy or recycle to help save the environment.
- Try different Fairtrade products and talk about the benefits of Fairtrade to the world.
- Learn about endangered animals and transform your Colony into endangered animals by making

masks or costumes. Why are they endangered and how could we save them? This included polar bears, Siberian tigers, white rhinos, mountain gorillas and loggerhead sea turtles.

- Use a bottle to create a water filter using sand and pebbles. Talk about the problems some people have finding clean and safe drinking water

They have all worked and played hard and nearly all the older Beavers have gained challenge awards as well.

Four Beavers swum up to Cubs on the 7th May and Charlie Long, Henry Petterson and Charlie Cook were awarded their Bronze Award.

The Beaver leaders are planning to spend as much time on outside activities this summer term and this will finish with a sleepover on the 6th and 7th July.

The Colony has two spaces for any child aged between five and three quarters and seven years old. Several of the Beavers will be attending the Scout Groups Family camp with their parents and siblings in June. This will mean more activities to go towards their Challenge Awards.

Cub Scouts – 8 to 10 and a half years – Thursday 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Scouts - 10 to 14 years of age - Friday 7.30pm to 9.30pm

Explorer Scouts – 14 to 18 years old – Tuesday 7.30 to 9.30pm

The older sections of the Scout Group - the Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts and the leaders - have all been preparing for the Waltham Walk which is an incident hike run by the Boys Brigade and 2019 is its 50th year. Our Scout Group have taken part in this event since 2002. From the start of the term they have been learning map reading skills, writing out route cards, and gaining practical experience using local walks. The older Scouts and Explorer Scouts practised Trangia cooking and the Cubs tried out their menu for the evening meal of pasta and bolognese sauce. The Cubs learnt how to put up the hike tents they would be sleeping in which was a new experience for the younger group.

Participating this year, we had ten Cub Scouts, seven Scouts, three Explorer Scouts, three leaders and three parents in seven teams.

This event is run over two days and includes twelve incidents at the twelve checkpoints along the route. These are varied incidents, normally team building exercises, some skills based and some strength based. All the teams were given a map reference for the next checkpoint once they had completed their incident. They then set the route they were to follow. When they arrived at checkpoints the teams had points gained or deducted for timing and they also lost points for the number of years they had entered the Waltham Walk.

All our seven teams really enjoyed this experience. The Teenie Trek (*under 12 years*) and the Mini Trek (*12 to 14 years*)

all hiked 9.9 miles on the Saturday and another 8.1 miles on the Sunday.

The three Teenie Trek teams comprising 10 cubs and 1 scout were remarkable. They had an adult walking with them to help with the map reading, but only the young people took part in each incident as the adults walking with each team were in supervisory roles.

All the teams camped in hike tents at Skreens Park activity centre in Roxwell. Paul Speller and Sarah came to Skreens Park and cooked the evening meal for the Cubs and helped them with their tents as they were all very tired after their 9.9-mile hike. The Mini Trek and Explorer Scout Teams cooked with Trangia's and had ration packs.

The Scout leaders - Rolf and Jack and Steve all managed the Veterans hike (*a one-day hike*) which was 16 miles on the Saturday.

The Explorer Scouts also hiked the 16 miles that first day but with full packs. They completed the 8.1 miles on the Sunday also with full packs. The route they followed on Saturday was from High Easter Village Hall to Pleshey Village Hall, then to Chignal Smealey Church before heading to Great Newarks and Newlands Hall before finishing at Skreens Park Activity Centre. On the Sunday morning they started from Skreens Park, headed to Blows farm and then to Hands farm, after this checkpoint they walked to Parsons Spring and then on to Mill Green Common finishing at Blackmore Village Hall.

Once all the teams had arrived, checked in, handed in their checkpoint cards and the items they had to collect on the way, there was a BBQ for all the competitors.

The closing ceremony was at 3.00pm. Our three Teenie Trekker teams were not in a competitive event but they were still awarded with a certificate and a 50th celebratory cake and a cloth badge.

The two Mini Trek teams also received certificates, cake and badge. Our Alpha Team of Chloe, George and Horus were awarded with the highest placed Scout Team Trophy and the Beta team of Finlay, Jack and Thomas won the Mini Trek Silver cup, finishing in second place. The Explorer Team was also given a certificate, a metal badge and a celebratory cake.

Rolf, Jack and Steve came second in the Veterans event they also received a certificate, badge and cake and were presented with the Boys Brigade walking stick trophy.

It was a great weekend and although all were tired and some not walking very well at the finish, they all completed the event!!

Well done to all our competitors!!

Mary Bacon - Chairman 1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group.
01277899052, 07554933563 email:
marychristinebacon@aol.com



| <div>1st Moreton and Fyfield Scout Group</div> | | | |
|---|----------|---------------|--------------|
| 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 the Editor and adverts must be received by eMail no later than the **10th of the month** prior to the publication date (i.e. January, March, May, July, September and November). Payment for all adverts is to be received in advance of publication (full advertising terms and conditions are sent out with all invoices). The Fyfield Focus also provides a 'Leaflet Stuffing Service' – contact Cheryl Hadley for details.

Distribution of the Fyfield Focus (**385 copies**) is done by a team of volunteers (**18**) who deliver a copy to every home in Fyfield and to a no. of key community points in Fyfield and surrounding areas. It is the aim of the Focus production and delivery teams to deliver the Fyfield Focus Magazine by the 1st of the month.

Advertising Rates

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

Contributing Articles to the Fyfield Focus

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

The Fyfield Focus Team:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
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Printing:

Chelmsford Diocesan Print Unit

Fyfield *Useful Contacts*

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Bell Ringers - Hand | Pat Turnpenny | 899223 | Parish Council | | |
| Bell Ringers - Tower | Allan Cook | 899240 | Chair | Ian Hadley | 899840 |
| Pageturners | Debbie Spanton | 899317 | Clerk | Derek Farr | 07783505906 |
| Bookworms | Jane Davenport | 899389 | Poppets Day Nursery | Michelle Pateman | 365488 |
| Bridge Club | Marion Alcock | 899432 | Scouts & Guides | | |
| Carpet Bowls | Jacky Brown | 899076 | Rainbows | Veronica Riches | 364604 |
| Church Coffee Morning | Carol Cox | 899245 | Brownies | Jane Davenport | 899389 |
| Dr Walker's School | Miss N. Willis | 899298 | Guides | Alison Lavender | 365842 |
| Friends of St Nicholas | Allan Cook | 899240 | Rangers | Veronica Riches | 364604 |
| Fyfield Focus | Cheryl Hadley | 899840 | Beavers | Mary Bacon | 899052 |
| Fyfield Litterpickers | Fiona Baxter | 899342 | Cubs | David Gordon | 896321 |
| Fyfield Luncheon Club | | | Scouts | Mary Bacon | 899052 |
| Club Co-ordinator | Jan Hall | 899808 | Explorer Scouts | Vicki Wood | 07977111894 |
| Lunch Bookings | Sandra Mead | 899519 | St Nicholas' Church | Rev. Christine Hawkins | 286113 |
| Fyfield Village Pre-School | General No. | 899678 | Warden | TBA | TBA |
| Neighbourhood Watch | Les Lamb | 07776178794 | Village Hall | | |
| Ongar & Villages | | | Chair | Marie Apperley | 899386 |
| Voluntary Care | General No. | 365363 | Bookings | Elaine Tunnard | 07956440894 |
| Pilates | Claire Smith | 07903121003 | Womens Institute | Pat Turnpenny | 899223 |
| | | | WD50+ Exercise Club | Patti Nicholson | 899504 |

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



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