



First Contested Parish Council Election in 20 Years with turnout of 40%

May 5th saw three elections in Fyfield which included a parish council election - the first since 1996! There were ten nominations with the last five being separated by only a few votes.

Your new council is:

Ian Hadley - Chair

Ken Webb - Vice Chair

Charlotte Apperley

Ray Balcombe

Barbara Saward

Grant Perry

Nancy Bridge

Tony Boyce was returned again as our District Councillor with **Roger Hirst** being elected as the Police & Crime Commissioner for Essex.



Archie Returns

See page 25

Fyfield Festival Takes Off!

Well Almost



Another successful Fyfield Festival took place on Saturday, 21st May with over £2000 raised on the afternoon for St. Nicholas' Church.

The weather was kind to us but the wind had its moments and took one of the large marquees unawares as you can see from the photo above. Luckily enough people were on hand to stop it flying off to Stansted and it was hauled back into position with no injuries or lasting effects.

For a full report see inside.

Village Diary 2016



02-Jun	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
06-Jun	Church Tapestry Planning Meeting	The Church, 8pm
07-Jun	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
08-Jun	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
13-Jun	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
16-Jun	Ascot Ladies Day	The Queen's Head, 12 Noon
24-Jun	Bingo Night	Village Hall, 7pm
27-Jun	Wimbledon Ladies Lunch	The Black Bull, 12.00 Noon
02-Jul	Poppets Day Nursery Open Day & Barbeque	Poppets, 11am
05-Jul	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
07-Jul	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
10-Jul	Village Hall Open Day	Village Hall, 11am
TBA	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
13-Jul	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
20-Jul	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1.30pm
02-Aug	Coffee Morning	The Church, 10am
17-Aug	Afternoon Tea	The Church, 1.30pm
01-Sep	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
TBA	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
14-Sep	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
October	Tea & Treasure	Village Hall, TBA
06-Oct	W.I. Meeting	Village Hall, 2pm
TBA	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
12-Oct	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm
TBA	Fyfield Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall, 8pm
09-Nov	Luncheon Club	Village Hall, 12.30pm

Many Thanks

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

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Fyfield Parish Council – Annual Production Costs

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The Black Bull – April/May 2016 Special Colour Edition

Donors:

Brian & Kim Carpenter, Alan & Carol Cox, Fyfield Carpet Bowls, Fyfield Coffee Morning and Poppets Day Nursery.

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



Our Church is a very important part of our village life and I am so pleased to learn that David Bessell has agreed to join Marcus Dain as a Church Warden. This is great news and the Church is very fortunate to have

David on board. We are so blessed to have a Church which is not only a place of worship but is a key part of our community – the monthly coffee mornings, the annual Fyfield Festival, the flower arranging team, music evenings, a food bank collection, etc. This month a Church Tapestry Project is starting and also a monthly Afternoon Tea opens for business carried out by the original Afternoon Tea Team – details are inside.

In addition to the above and all the regular activities we have in our village our lovely local Poppets Day Nursery are holding an Open Day and Barbeque on 2nd July. Nicola Walker from The Black Bull is holding a Wimbledon Ladies Lunch on the 1st Day of Wimbledon (she has been doing this for a couple of years but has kept it a secret!) and there is an Ascot Ladies Day and evening Barbeque at the Queen's Head – see adverts and the Village Diary for Details.

The Village Hall held their AGM in March and since then the Committee has grown in strength - they have a combined 355 years of village life - so our Village Hall is in very good hands. They are holding a Village Hall Open Day on Sunday, 10th July accompanied by some of the Clubs who run their activities at the Hall. So go along and meet the Committee and the Clubs and share your

interests and views with them and enjoy a complimentary cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake. Also, it's not too late to enter the successful 100 Club – see the Village Hall News inside.

This month I have had the pleasure of talking with Eleanor Spanton, who is a Fyfield Resident, and is a talented artist – learn about Eleanor in my article. We have so many interesting people in our village so we may start a regular column which features people of Fyfield. In our next publication we are starting a For Sale Page for the use of Fyfield Residents. This is something we have been requested to do for some time. We are still working on the concept but it is likely to provide residents with the opportunity to place small ads of items for sale at a very low cost – keep looking at the Focus Online for details before the next publication. One section which is flourishing is the Arts Section and I have to say this month the reviews are plenty, varied and the quality is exceptional – thank you and if there is anyone who would like to contribute to this section please do get in touch.

Finally, our village really has been disrupted by Gigaclear and the full road re-surfacing up Norwood End but it is looking like the end is in sight and a couple of happy customers have written to the Focus – see inside. Perhaps, if we love our village, the time is approaching when we should have a Village Tidy-up and Clean-up!

Have a great June and July (enjoy my Summer Recipes), support and enjoy all the events and activities in the village and I hope all Dads have a wonderful Fathers' Day.

Cheryl Hadley, Editor

Essex Girls Cricket at Fyfield



For 65 years the game of cricket has been played on the sports field at Fyfield and has been a cornerstone of the sports club and village life where local cricketers enjoyed their

sport on a prize winning cricket field.

It transpires that last year members of the Sports & Social Club had talks with Essex Cricket Ltd regarding the hire of the sports field as a home venue for the Essex Girls cricket team during the summer season.

The talks were clearly fruitful as in November, at a regular Fyfield Village Hall meeting, a representative of the Sports & Social Club and the ex Chairman of the Fyfield Parish Council, informed the Village Hall Committee that the Sports & Social Club were about to sign a contract with Essex Cricket that would allow:

- Cricket to take place mainly on Saturdays in the Cricket Season (May to August - approx. 20 dates), but occasionally on a Sunday
- Cricket training and practise matches mid-week
- Use of the Village Hall facilities (kitchen, ladies toilets) in addition to the S&SC facilities on all visits

The contract would be for a 5 year period ending in 2020.

The Fyfield Village Hall Committee felt aggrieved that they were not consulted before the contract was almost signed

especially as it committed the Village Hall to providing their facilities in a contract that they were not party to. The Village Hall Committee put forward the view that the proposed contract could adversely affect the income potential of the Village Hall as the use of the Hall's facilities by Essex Cricket could severely restrict private hire and village events during the summer months. It was also felt that the residents of Fyfield should not have a long term restriction imposed on them from an outside organisation on using a facility gifted to Fyfield in 1950 for use by the people of Fyfield for sports and recreation.

The current situation is that Essex Girls Cricket is going ahead for this season but will be reviewed with Essex Cricket in September by the Sports & Social Club, Fyfield Village Hall and Fyfield Parish Council.

It all boils down to this:

- a) Is having Essex Cricket use our sports field for home games more important than the residents of Fyfield having unhindered access to the Village Hall and Sports Field?
- b) Who has the authority to enter into such a contract without reasonable prior consultation and negotiation regarding the committing of facilities that they have no ownership of?

There must be a compromise where all sides can benefit!

In the meantime go and enjoy your cricket.

Ian Hadley

Fyfield Festival

A Thank You From St. Nicholas' Parish Church Council (PCC)

Well it didn't rain, and in spite of the flying marquee halfway through the afternoon all went well and we raised in the region of £2,000.

Enormous thanks to Carol Cox, the prime mover for this very successful event and to her assistants Margaret & Ron Cox and Julie Robinson.

Thanks to Jan and Les Hall for moving tables, pitching and striking marquees, to Steve McLaren for putting up and lending us his marquees and to all who helped.

To all the stewards manning the two gates, Paul & Joy Green, Peter Taylor, Ed & Colette Fanshawe, Howard Nicholson and Richard Stone.

To all the stallholders who ran stalls for the church - Jo & Ray Balcombe, Mary Ellis, Pam & Linda, Steve McLaren, Margaret and Ron Cox and their family, John & Angela, Jenny & Darren, Rose & Sophie, Carla, Marion Adams and family, Jenny Stone, Val Donoghue and Marion Alcock. I would like to thank everyone who made cakes for my cake stall. (I hope I haven't left anyone out!)

To the stallholders who supported us by hiring a stall at the event.

Thanks to Carol Gabriel, Jeanne Francis, Trish Jones and joined by Cheryl Hadley this year, for the excellent teas.

To Julie Robison and all her family for the super BBQ with the added choice of ham/cheese rolls made by Margaret & Carol Cox.

To Joy & Charlie for the ever popular dog show, lots of proud dogs walking round with rosettes.

Thanks to the talented flower arrangers for the magnificent floral displays depicting the Queen's 90 years. The church looked beautiful.

Thanks to the Tower ringers and to Alan Cook for the Bell Tower Tours.

To the Fyfield Hand Bell Ringers for their rendition of songs for every decade and Happy Birthday to Her Majesty as the finale.

To Lizzie Webster for providing the Car Park. Many thanks also to the people who arranged and manned The Tractor display – this was much appreciated

A message from Carol Cox – 'A big thank you to our new Parish Council Chairman, Ian Hadley, for all his help and strong support at the Festival'.

Raffle winners:

Voucher for Hudson Shoes - Lestrum, Fyfield	
Queen's Head voucher	- Ron Cox
Pamela's voucher	- Marion Alcock
Pamela's voucher	- Liselle Chisenhale-
Marsh	
Cut and Blow Dry	- Jenny Stone
Brett's Voucher	- Kathryn Perry
Basket of Fruit	- Visitor from Ongar
Lucky Programme Draw	- Terry Davies

Thanks to you all for coming to support us I hope you all enjoyed your day.

*Wendy Henshaw,
St. Nicholas' PCC.*

Photos on the Focus Web site

Fyfield Festival Dog Show 2016

The dog show was held on a blustery day and our gazebo finally succumbed! At least the rain held off until the show ended. We still attracted over 30 exhibitors.

Our Judge was Lyn Freeman and was ably assisted by her steward. The Class Winners were:

Class	Name of Dog	Details of Dog	Owner
Best Puppy	Ebony	6 month old Airedale Terrier	Wendy Dean
Golden Oldie	Ruby	16 year old Jack Russell	Amelia
Best Condition	Rev	Labrador Retriever	Joshua Looney
Best Crossbreed	Buster	Crossbreed	Sarah Cloughton
Brace		Standard Poodle & Cockapoo	Dawn
Waggiest Tail	Tarka	Labrador Retriever	Pauline Newman
Junior Handler	Indie	Jack Russell Cross with Shih Tzu	Mrs Read
Best Rescue	Indie	Jack Russell Cross with Shih Tzu	Mrs Read
Best in Show	Indie	Jack Russell Cross with Shih Tzu	Mrs Read

As you can see Mrs. Read had a very successful afternoon with Indie winning 3 classes including Best In Show.

Entries came from Fyfield and local areas, Chingford, Brentwood, Great Dunmow, Enfield and Rochford.

My thanks to Roy for setting-up the ring, Laura and Jan my registrar's on the day, and to Lyn our Judge and her steward. Many thanks to our Sponsors: House & Jackson Vets, Bubbles pet shop, Nikhil at the Fyfield Store and Mrs. Stockman Premier Badges for the donation of the rosettes. Last but not least all exhibitors who brought their dogs along.

Joy Davis

Ron Arrowsmith

We are very sad to announce that the well known character Ron Arrowsmith passed away on 1st June in Princess Alexander Hospital. Ron died peacefully and was surrounded by his family and will be sadly missed by us all.

The funeral service is being held at St. Nicholas Church on Friday, 10th June at 2pm.





Afternoon Tea Returns To Fyfield

Commencing on

Wednesday 20th July

1pm to 4.30pm

At St. Nicholas' Church

Jan, Marion, Julie, Ann, Pam & Linda

(from the original Afternoon Tea Team)

Will be serving a variety of homemade

Cakes & Scones with Tea or Coffee

Or

A full Afternoon Tea

The Afternoon Teas will be a monthly event – the 3rd Wednesday in the Month

All money raised will be for

our Village Church

and a Charity of the Month

chosen by an Afternoon Tea Customer



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Gigaclear and Boxcom Experience

For us the Gigaclear installation of the fibre optic cable to the "pot" at the end of our drive went smoothly. They had to lift a lot of block paving to lay the cable and, apart from the new "pot", it's difficult to tell they were ever here.

Through Gigaclear I asked for the pot to be connected to my home and they arranged for Boxcom to do this.

Boxcom engineers arrived on time and discussed with me where I wanted the cable to be laid and the location of the router in my home.

The fibre was installed in trunking to protect it and buried under the edge of our lawn and under a flower bed. They fed the fibre optic cable through a small hole in our front wall and onto the new router in my study.

They were very professional and did a very neat job indeed.

The Boxcom engineers activated the service and tested the speed on our PC and on my son's mobile phone in various locations in our home.

From an unbearably slow broadband before we now have 100Mb/s which we can upgrade to 1000Mb/s if we wish.

So from our home it's a big "thumbs up" for Gigaclear and Boxcom.

Les Lamb.



Stephen Lamb & Boxcom Engineers

Congratulations & Thanks

Fyfield Horse Riders Eve Bacon and Syd McCauley got through to this year's Royal Windsor Horseshow held in May and also performed at the Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration along with Luke Bacon who performed and trained during the events. Congratulations to you all on your continued success.

Family, Friends & Fyfield Residents.

Many congratulations to James Apperley who has been selected for the under 20's England Counties Rugby Squad and will be touring with them to Russia in June – well done.

Family, Friends & Fyfield Residents.

Many thanks to Carol Cox for all you do to make the Fyfield Festival such a huge success and an absolute pleasure for us all to get involved with; we are such a happy team and its all thanks to you.

The Fyfield Festival Team

Many thanks to Helen Simpson who has retired as a WI Secretary after 22 years.

Friends & Fyfield Residents.

A big thank you to all concerned for the extensive road re-surfacing up Norwood End. It is absolutely wonderful, was carried-out very efficiently and has made a major difference to our lives.

Trish Jones, Norwood End Resident.

(Your thanks have been passed onto the Parish Council Chairman to ensure all concerned receive your thanks.)

Many thanks to Dan Webster for developing and maintaining the Village Website for many years taking over from Marion Bradford who was responsible for initiating and maintaining the Website in the first instance. Our thanks also go to Marion.

Fyfield Parish Council, Fyfield Village Hall and Fyfield Residents

Many thanks to Sharon Levine (Village Store) for your daily help and cheerfulness for nearly 2 years at our lovely Village Store. We are all going to miss your friendship and you are going to be a hard act to follow. We are hoping to see you, Lawrence and your Mum at the Church Coffee Mornings and other Village events. All the best and keep in touch.

Friends and Fyfield Residents.



POPPETS OPEN DAY & BBQ

Saturday 2nd JULY 11.00am – 3.00pm

(Food served from mid-day)

1.30pm – DANCEMANIA & MELODY BEAR

Jo brings along her interactive activities to Poppets

FACE PAINTING ... throughout the day

Poppets Day Nursery invite you and your family to visit our beautiful setting. Whether you're looking for a full time place or a few days for your child, Poppets can provide a safe, caring and happy environment. We provide 52 week care (excluding weekends & bank holidays) for babies & pre-schoolers and our Log Cabin is available for breakfast, afterschool and holiday clubs.

Feel free to come along to our Open Day & BBQ and enjoy the fun ...
no appointment necessary.

"If you can't be there, we can"

Unit 10, Fyfield Business & Research Park, Fyfield Road, Ongar, Essex. CM5 0GN

The WD50+ Club – Six Years and Still Going Strong!

I am pleased to report that the WD50+ Club has continued to develop during the past year and at the time of writing we have 45 members plus a few 'occasionals'

who attend the Club infrequently. Our philosophy is to encourage older people to exercise safely, under professional supervision, in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Our annual membership subscription and session fees have remained at £12 and £2.50 (non-members £3.50) and we hope we will be able to continue these rates next season.

Our pay-as-you-attend policy is appreciated as it means people are not required to pay annually, monthly or by term fees in advance. The Big Lottery Fund awarded us a third grant in May 2015 that covered our major costs, for which we are extremely grateful. Our lovely Instructor, Clare Smith, continues to provide excellent tuition for the Club and looks after us all in a very caring but professional manner; we are very lucky to have her.

A new venture in 2015-16 was the introduction of WD50+ Club T Shirts. Bearing our Club Logo and in a variety of colours, they look and feel good and members seem to like them. Our WD50+ Leaflets have been updated and reprinted, and we hope to have our own website soon. Another initiative during 2015-16 is a series of Talks on topics related to well-being. So far we have had two very good visits Wendy Emberson of Stort Physio on how to avoid

pain and deal with it when it happens, and we also had an informative talk on Lasting Power of Attorney – a topic all people in our age group need to know about

On the social front we had a mini-Christmas Tea in December 2015 and 26 members celebrated the New Year in January 2016 with a special lunch at the Axe and Compasses at Aythorpe Roding, and we have an outing to see the baby Alpacas in Willingale and a trip further afield which is at the planning stage.

The Club has also supported the Fyfield Village Hall Harvest Fete with a Tombola Stall and WD50+ members are made aware of other activities taking place in the Village Hall and encouraged to take part.



We meet almost every Friday at 1.45pm – 2.45pm. The Club is managed by a small Steering Committee. One of our earliest, and oldest, members, Mr Doug Kelly, became our Honorary President at our last AGM, and we are very pleased that he attends as regularly as he can and continues to be a source of advice and wisdom for the Committee.

My special thanks go to June Phipps, Secretary, and Ron Barker, Treasurer, Liz Bird who organises our Refreshments, Pat Dodds and Geraldine Lawrence who arrange outings, plus Mary Boulton and Howard Nicholson for support.

The WD50+ Club is a very friendly group where newcomers and regulars are all made welcome. Our watchword is 'Keep Moving, Keep Happy!'

*Patti Nicholson,
Chair.*



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No. 46 Bus

In May, NIBS buses took over the no. 46 bus service. A new timetable, route and charges were implemented without anyone in Fyfield being told. A Fyfield resident advised me of the changes and provided me with a timetable to copy which was immediately put up in the bus shelter and at the shop. So please be aware of these changes (particularly some of the new bus times) if you have not already used the No. 46 Bus.

In the meantime, I will make further enquiries about why we hadn't been advised and will report back in August.

Thank you to the resident for bringing this to our attention.

Cheryl Hadley.



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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 Michelle Pateman for availability on 01277 365488 or by email

michellepateman@poppetsnursery.co.uk

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

Dr Walker's School Foundation

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

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

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

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



WD50+ EXERCISE CLUB

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

Monica Couling Room – Fyfield Village Hall

Enjoy a social cuppa afterwards

Instruction from qualified Physical Fitness Trainer

All equipment supplied

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

Free 'Taster' Session – just turn up!

The Club also holds social events and outings

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

Fyfield Village Hall

In each edition of The Fyfield Focus we like to give you a flavour of events we have held and what we have coming up. We will be doing this again in this edition, but we would like to take this opportunity to tell everyone a little about who The Fyfield Village Hall Committee is and what we do.



What brings us all together is a desire to adhere to our Mission Statement which is, 'The provision of a Village Hall for the use of the local community for the running of clubs, functions and meeting facilities'. We passionately believe the Village Hall should be one of the focal points in the village and should be available for everyone.

We are a Committee that is comprised of some wonderfully experienced members together with new members who bring a fresh perspective. So here is who we are. When combined, we have 355 years of living in Fyfield under our belt!

Wendy Henshaw – President
Marie Apperley – Chair
Patti Nicholson – Vice Chair
Debbie Smith – Treasurer
Debbie Spanton – Secretary
Elaine Tunnard – Booking Secretary
Mary Ellis – Representative of WI and Parish Church Council (PCC)
Ian Hadley – Representative of Fyfield Parish Council
June Phipps – Representative of WD50
Ann Jackson
Julie Read
Vanessa Minihane
Penny Ovel

So what do we do? Well, it costs about £1,400.00 a month to keep the Hall open

and maintained to a high standard. The majority of our income comes from the clubs that use the hall. They are very varied and include WD50 exercise club, Pilates, Bridge Club, Circle Dance, WI, Luncheon Club, Art Club and Carpet Bowls. We are very grateful to our loyal clubs; carpet bowls has been going for over 30 years. If you like the sound of any of them they are always looking for new members so why not give them a try? They are very well run by enthusiastic people who would love to welcome you to their fold.

In addition to the clubs, we hold regular fundraising evenings such as Bingo, Quiz nights, discos and recently a very classy Dinner Dance to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Not only do these events raise money, they are a great way of getting together with lots of other people from the village and having a jolly good evening out. So come along and have a great night out.

We also offer the facility of hiring out the Village Hall for your own special event. In the past year these have included baptism teas, funeral wakes, birthday parties (including an 80th), Anniversary parties, Elvis nights for Help the Heroes, Scout meetings, a charity cycle ride and a wedding reception. It is a versatile space, with either two different size rooms to hire individually, or you can combine the two for a large space

for that really special occasion. It is lovely to see local residents using our Hall to celebrate their memorable events. The hire charges along with the availability are on the Village Hall Website:

www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk.

We also run our very successful 100 club. It is only £1 a number per month (£12.00 per year) and you could win a substantial cash prize. We give away over 50% of the income we receive and last year local residents won over £1,196.00. The closing date was 31st May for this year, but due to some late entries we have extended the deadline until 22nd June and the draw for JUNE ONLY will be on the 24th June at the WD50 Club. So if you want to join and support us, please contact Marie Apperley at 34 Walker Avenue, 899386 for an order form.

Although we do so many varied things, we are also conscious that we need to cater for everyone in Fyfield, and so is there anything that you would like to see at the Village Hall? Are there any activities that you think you might like to take part in, or suggestions for fundraising evenings that will bring the village together for a good day or night out?

We continue to review the maintenance and ways that we can improve the Hall, and we have just applied, and been successful, for a Grant to install a new disabled toilet, to improve storage and possibly improve ramp access. However, do you have an hour or two to spare to help us with maintenance? If you do, we would very much appreciate it.

To make it easier for people to come and talk to us and make contact we will be having an open day on July 10th between 11.00am and 3.00pm. Come and have a

complimentary cup of tea and a piece of cake and let us know of your suggestions, offer your services or just use it to come and remind yourself how lovely the hall is now.

So do you have any ideas, want to get involved? Our contact details are below; please don't hesitate to get in touch. Our clubs always need new members, we have spaces on our Committee, there are always odd jobs that need doing or maybe you just have a great idea that you think would work. Please don't be shy. We are an enthusiastic Committee and we have a lovely, modern and spacious Village Hall that deserves to be used for all the things a Village Hall has been traditionally used for.

E mail – fyfield.villagehall@gmail.com

Wendy Henshaw - 899367

Marie Apperley – 899386, 34 Walker Avenue

Patti Nicholson – 899504

Debbie Smith – 899020

Elaine Tunnard - 899306

***** STOP PRESS Upcoming events**

24th June – Bingo Night

7pm £2.50 entrance fee includes a ploughman's supper, bring your own drinks. Tickets from Elaine, Marie, Debbie or Patti details as before.

10th July – Village Hall Open Day

11am – 3pm – come and have a cup of tea and a piece of cake and meet the Committee

October – Tea and Treasure –

Come and bring some of your personal items to be valued by an experienced auctioneer and have an afternoon tea too. More details to follow.

Fyfield Village Hall



Open Day 10th July, 11am – 3pm

We need your suggestions!

Please come along and meet the Clubs that use the Hall and the Village Hall committee and tell us what you would like to see!

We currently host a number of clubs and activities, including:

- *Carpet Bowls (afternoon and evening)*
- *Bridge club*
- *Pilates (three times a week)*
- *WD50+ Exercise Club*
- *Luncheon club*
- *WI*
- *Art club*
- *Circle Dance*
- *Quizzes*
- *Bingo nights*
- *Parish Council Meetings*

This year we have also held a Dinner Dance, Birthday Parties, Baptism Teas, Funeral Wakes, Afternoon Teas, a Wedding Reception and Anniversary Celebrations

Coming up we have another Bingo night (24th June), Open Afternoon 10th July and Tea and Treasure (October, our very own Antiques Roadshow) but what else would you like to see?

Please get involved and let us know what you would like to see at our lovely Village Hall.

E mail: fyfield.villagehall@gmail.com

Or contact Wendy 899367, Marie 899386, Patti 899504,

Eleanor Spanton

Eleanor is a talented art teacher & commercial artist who was born in Matching Green, moved to Ongar and then arrived in Fyfield when she was ten years old where she has lived ever since; Eleanor is now aged 24.

Her education began at our village school - Dr. Walker's C.of E. Primary School - and then continued at Brentwood County High before entering a University education at the University For The Creative Arts at Canterbury where she gained a first class BA (Hons) in Fine Art in the Summer of 2014.

Eleanor's main ambition is to pursue a career in Visual Development or Concept Art which covers areas such as animation, designing the look of a film or theatre through costume design or other types of design and she is building her portfolio to enable her to pursue her passion in what is a very competitive market.

Eleanor completed her first teaching assignment in April at Zinc Arts, Ongar, which was a 12 week evening course, advertised as a Life Drawing Course which consisted of 6 weeks life drawing using 2 models and also covered portraits, still life, focus on light and shadow, expression and gesture and the use of different drawing styles. Mediums used were pencil, ink, conte crayons (similar to pastels), charcoal and chalk. The course concluded with an Art Exhibition of the students work held at Zinc Arts over a 2 week period which finished on 18th May and was well attended and which Eleanor was very pleased with.

In relation to art commissions Eleanor has completed many private commissions such as people's pets, portraits and murals for children's bedrooms and has completed some

concept drawing through the photographer, Roy Strutt, for BCS Cloudmedia (digital signage).

When Eleanor is not teaching or doing commissions she is working at the Queen's Head and is a valued member of the Queen's Head front of house team.

We talked in general about art and different techniques and Eleanor is clearly very knowledgeable about art and she passed on some fascinating gems of information such as the difference of drawing what you see rather than what is in your mind!

Her next teaching assignment is again at Zinc Arts starting on 1st June for 3 weeks which will cover a variety of subjects and

there will be an optional 4th week of life drawing.

To-date the courses have been held in the Theatre at Zinc Arts which is an amazing space to work in but it restricts the medium she can teach, so she is hoping to be able to use one of the art rooms so she can offer painting courses. Eleanor and Zinc Arts are looking at holding some 1 day workshops during the Summer so do look out for news of these and you can always contact Eleanor direct for further information on eleanor.spanton@hotmail.co.uk

Mobile 07969040348. The Art Class also has a Facebook page: [facebook.com/zinkartclass](https://www.facebook.com/zinkartclass) I am so pleased Eleanor agreed to this interview and I can't help thinking as this interview draws to a close that in Eleanor's hands with her quiet and engaging manner, which makes you feel comfortable and confident, she could bring out the artist in anyone; even me who can't draw a cat!

Cheryl Hadley.





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Fyfield Art Group



Our meetings for the next two
months are 6th and 20th June and
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Wendy Henshaw

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Fyfield & District W.I.

April Meeting Our talk was about Women in Nelson's Navy. Mrs Boardman, our speaker, started by informing us that there were 40 women on board the Victory at the Battle of Trafalgar. The women who were allowed on board were wives and prostitutes. The women were not on the muster roll and therefore not fed by the Navy, their man had to provide for them. Ships carried passengers, wives and families of officers. Sailors were not paid until the ship docked so this was the reason many women smuggled themselves aboard as life was very hard if they were left behind with no money coming in.

Apparently Press Gangs didn't exist as told in stories but they would only round up seafaring men as ordinary men would not cope with the rigours of life at sea. Generally the sailors were well looked after health wise in the Royal Navy, vaccination against small pox was compulsory, there was always a surgeon on board and hospital ships set up in time of war. The women worked bringing up the gunpowder when in battle.

Wendy Henshaw

May Meeting - Annual Meeting and Resolutions For this important meeting when members consider and vote on the resolutions put forward by the National WI, branches are assisted by WI Advisors. Our President Wendy Henshaw introduced Mrs Lyn Brister who was our WI Advisor.

Mrs Brister outlined the background of the two Resolutions that the National WI would be making to the Government. The first was that 'this Government and the NHS to

provide facilities for carers to stay with people with Alzheimer's disease and dementia that have been admitted hospital. The second Resolution was to 'Avoid Food Waste, and Address Food Poverty' A vote was then taken on each Resolution separately and both were Not Carried.

Treasurer, Helen Abbey, made her Financial Report that showed Fyfield WI being in a healthy financial position to face another year.

Secretary Helen Simpson read the Annual Report noting the variety of speakers and events that had taken place during the year.

In her Report, Wendy Henshaw told members that two Committee Members were resigning. Helen Simpson has been Secretary for 22 years and was presented with a special Long Service Certificate and a gift of a beautiful orchid with thanks for her hard work over the years. Jo Balcombe had agreed to take on the post of Secretary. As members already knew, Annette King has resigned due to ill health, and Suzanne Miller has had to step down from Tea Hostess duties due to medical reasons. Wendy thanked Janice Barker and Vera Neville who organised the Sales Table and added her appreciation of all the effort put in by all the WI Committee members over the years.

Mrs Brister noted that there were 10 nominations for the Committee and three nominations for President, but of these, only one was willing to accept the office for another year, Wendy Henshaw.

Mrs Rita Barnard proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Brister for conducting the meeting and doing her best to explain the arguments

for and against the Resolutions, and to the Committee for all their work over the years. Tea was then served and members had the opportunity to admire the articles members had contributed to the Craft Exhibition.

Fyfield W.I. members enjoyed a River Cruise on the Stort canal on a perfect day weather wise and were enchanted to see families of Canada Geese as well as families of ducks and coots.

At our next meetings we have talks on ‘Only a button’ and ‘Turning my life around’ both intriguing titles.

We welcome any ladies who wish to join us as visitors 2p.m. on 1st Thursday in the month.

Patti Nicholson

Fyfield Luncheon Club

Yet again members enjoyed meals cooked by the Queen’s Head; Fish Pie in April and Fish and Chips in May. Many thanks to the Queen’s Head and also thanks to Carol, Margaret, Trish and Jackie for the delicious dessert in April and to Wendy, Mary, Veronica and Wendy S. for May’s dessert choice of Summer Pudding or plum crumble.

To book a lunch on the 2nd Wednesday of the month- 8th June and 13th July - phone Wendy on 899367. The lunch costs £4 and we have a raffle and hope to have enough to go for an outing in August.

Wendy Henshaw

Our Wonderful Village

It's St George's Day and the sun is in and out, clouds drifting, and the daffodils bobbing in the breeze. There is the wonderful sound of the bells of St Nicholas being rung for this special day, pealing out across our village, and yet again, I think to myself how lucky we all are to live here.

Just a few more thoughts to share.... walking our dog, Jess, allows me to enjoy the nature that is all around us here, and I must say how delightful the flower bed by the public seat next to the Church has been. The display of miniature daffodils has been such a joy and I believe we have the local Brownies to thank for this and back in November, how moving it was to see the

Remembrance Garden they had made. Thank you so much.

We are so lucky to have a wonderful view from our bedroom window, and one very cold, frosty morning with the sun just breaking over the Church, I spotted a bullfinch, perched in our apple tree, singing away, as if heralding the first glimmerings of Spring. As he sang, he stretched his neck further and further up, and as he sang his last few notes, you could see his breath in the cold air, spiralling up and disappearing. It was a sight I shall always remember, and in the words of the song, "and I say to myself, what a wonderful world".

Jenny Stone

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Out of Focus

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

So,! Did I really say 'so' Have you noticed, or is it just me, that many people who are interviewed on the radio start to answer a question with 'so'. e.g. Interviewer - 'What does the latest poll on Brexit say?' Interviewee 'So, the poll of polls etc. etc.'. For some strange reason this drives me mad and I hope I haven't spoilt your day by pointing this out so that you too will start to notice it and also become irritated. So, !!! Digaclear have been causing havoc in the village by digging up the roads, pavements and verges. Still, you can't make an omelette without breaking an egg, so as long as they clear up after the work has finished then it will all be worthwhile. Although, I can't help thinking that it would be good if all works of this type were coordinated with other utilities. For example, the gas supply stops short of the centre of the village. If it is ever extended to all of Fyfield it would mean more roads being dug up. We will probably find that out after Gigaclear has completed their work, the gas company will announce gas for all in Fyfield! My dog watches the TV which is unusual in my experience but he is an unusual dog, a Jack Russell! He sat on my lap for a full hour watching Crufts the other day. He used to think that the TV was another window onto the garden and if he saw another animal on it he would rush to the door to get into the garden. He now has realised that the TV is not the garden so he can relax in the knowledge that lions and tigers cannot get him. I went to see a concert at the O2 last month which made me wonder why do we allow sponsors to name well recognised locations after themselves. I mean, what's wrong with the Dome sponsored by O2. What happens when O2 go bust or merge or

change their name? What about 'The Emirates' and the 'First Direct' Arena in Leeds not to mention the 'Barclaycard' Arena in Birmingham.

Did you know that you can almost see the Dome from Fyfield! I was walking down



Willingale Road the other week and just past White Chicks Farm I saw a bright orange/gold light on the south western horizon between Ongar and Epping direction. It was the sun shining on the pyramid shaped top of One Canada Square in Canary Wharf, the second tallest structure in the UK. Normally you cannot see this as it does not stand out from the trees on the near horizon. So!!!, sorry, if the Dome was 50 stories high you could see it from Fyfield. However, this is nothing compared to the view you get of London on a sunny day from the bottom of Brentwood High Street and the decent of Brook Street hill. Check it out, it's wonderful.

P.S. The nights start to draw in on 23rd June! Book your Xmas turkey now before it's too late.

Ian Hadley
ianhadley@gmx.co.uk

Archie's Column

(Tails from the Riverside)



Hi, Archie here!

I am so glad to be back after all that cat stuff, Purrdah or whatever they call it. Trust a cat to mess things up. Any-

way, I spent a lot of time watching Crufts Dog Show recently and I have to say that you would not get me there at any cost.

All that combing and brushing would drive me mad. Dogs were not meant to be brushed or washed, especially washed.

We much prefer to roll in things that smell bad to humans

so we can disguise our natural scent to things like lions and tigers who may want to chase and eat



us. I have to admit that, as yet, I have not seen a lion or a tiger in Fyfield so I don't know for certain that they fancy me for supper but I am taking no chances and will continue to roll in things that don't smell like me. Trouble is, those indoors insist on washing it all off when I get home and make me smell like a bar of soap. There again, maybe lions and tigers don't like soap either so I could be safe from them or at least they may spit me out in disgust before they start chewing.

The Appleyard duck is still on the river and has now got a mallard mate. As the Appleyard is a domestic duck I expect that

the eggs will taste especially good. Of course, that monster eel will snack on a few of the chicks along with the rooks and crows so there may not be many who survive but it's probably just as well as otherwise we would be overrun by ducks. Who eats the Crows I wonder?

Anyway, I'm off to check out this Brexit stuff. A friend of mine told me that it was a new dog biscuit that you have to eat outside of Europe and that it is only available in the UK.

Bye for now,

Archie



Letter from Tony Boyce



May I take this opportunity of thanking those who voted for me in the recent local elections; my poll was a 20% increase on 4 years ago and was up to 360 votes.

I was surprised that some residents were

not aware of what I can do for them so you must never be afraid to ask for help on any matters that you might have regarding Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) or Essex County Council (ECC) - I will always be available to help.

For guidance, I detail below services provided by ECC and EFDC:

Services provided by ECC (County):

Education and schools, Health and Social Care, Transport and Roads, Waste Disposal (not collection), Libraries and Archives and finally On-street Parking.

Services provided by EFDC (District):

Local Planning Applications, Waste and Recycling Collections, Street Cleansing, Grounds Maintenance, Council Rates (including non-domestic), Housing, Licensing, Off Street Parking and Commercial Estate.

I hope the above helps with understanding who does what but as I have previously said please ring me if in doubt.

Tony Boyce

EFDC Councillor for Moreton & Fyfield

Call me on 01277 890298

Or email Tonyboyce@aol.com

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Letter from the Chairman

First, let me thank all of you who turned out to vote in the recent parish council elections. 40% is a really good percentage and shows that you care about local issues. Second, let me personally thank those of you who voted for me with the highest number of votes . It was this endorsement

that encouraged me to stand as chairman of the council and to make good the statements that I made in my election material. It's now time to move on and be a pro-active council that seeks to improve Fyfield at the same time as being transparent in all of our actions remembering that we are your representatives and we are the custodian of your public money. It was very encouraging to see so many residents at the AGM in May and I hope that you continue to attend and be a part of the activities and decisions made by the councillors on your behalf. On a personal note, I have to thank Susan Delu-



ca, Clerk to North Weald Parish Council for her work as Locum to the council after our own clerk resigned. Susan was also instrumental in advising us on areas where we as a council have fallen short in adhering to the governance that applies to Parish Councils. Over the coming year this council will comply to all requirements covering all areas. Susan has now moved on to concentrate on the North Weald Community Plan which is a demanding task. In her place, Derek Farr, a very experienced council clerk, will take over as Locum until the role has a permanent incumbent as well as applying for the position himself. The job advert has been issued on the new Council Web site, <http://www.essexinfo.net/fyfield-parish-council/>, and the notice board. Finally, please engage with what is happening in Fyfield, there are a few major issues that are coming up that you need to know about and have a view on. I am determined that everything that this new council does will be visible to all residents, warts and all! Best regards,

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

Fyfield Parish Council

Cllr. I Hadley (Chairman)	01277 899840	ianhadley@gmx.co.uk
Cllr. K Webb (Vice Chairman)	01277 899477	ken_awebb@yahoo.co.uk
Cllr. Ms C Apperley	01277 899386	charlotte_apperley@hotmail.com
Cllr. R Balcombe	01277 899141	ray@technicaldramadesign.co.uk
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Cllr. G Perry	07968819333	hmtrailers@btinternet.com
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David Bessell telephone: 07886 075889

A new pattern of services has been introduced for the duration of the interregnum, with special services, such as the Easter services, substituted as appropriate. Details are published on the church and parish notice boards.

June 5	11:00am	Morning Prayer
12	11:00am	Special Communion Service to celebrate the
		90th Birthday of Her Majesty, the Queen
<i>19</i>		<i>Services at Moreton, Bobbingworth and Willingale</i>
26	11:00am	Family Service
July 3	11:00am	Morning Prayer
10	11:00am	Holy Communion
<i>17</i>		<i>Services at Moreton, Bobbingworth and Willingale</i>
24	11:00am	Family Service
<i>31</i>	<i>9:30am</i>	<i>Family Service at Willingale</i>
Aug 7	11:00am	Morning Prayer

FOOD BANK

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

Food Bank provides food to families and individuals in desperate need who have nowhere else to turn. Food Bank works in conjunction with organisations such as Citizens Advice who arrange for food to be provided to people who, without it, would have, literally, nothing with which to feed their families. Partner charities, such as Citizens Advice use the limited time for which food aid is provided to help the recipient back on to their feet. Your kindness in donating to Food Bank is essential to helping people to become self-sufficient once again. Thank you again.

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

There is lots of useful information about a wide range of issues on the advice website:
www.adviceguide.org.uk

St Mary's Church, Moreton

June	5	9.30am	Holy Communion
	19	9.30am	Family Service
	26	6.00pm	Evening Service
July	3	9.30am	Holy Communion
	17	9.30am	Family Service
	24	6.00pm	Evening Service

St Germain's Church, Bobbingworth

June	5	11.00am	Family Service
	19	11.00am	Family Communion
July	3	11.00am	Family Service
	17	11.00am	Family Communion

St Christopher's Church, Willingale

June	19	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
	26	9.30am	Holy Communion
July	10	9.30am	Family Service
	17	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
	24	9.30am	Holy Communion
	31	9.30am	Family Service

Fyfield Coffee Morning (in the church)

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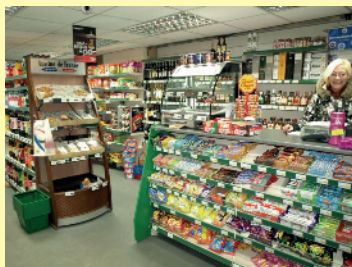
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Cookery Section



As promised, the cookery section has two perfect summer dishes which are very tasty. One is a starter or light lunch and I have included this for a special

resident who really enjoys the cookery section and wanted a recipe which contained aubergines – so here it is. The other recipe is a savoury tart which is mouth wateringly good and I think there is nothing better than a home created savoury tart for a summer lunch or dinner served with freshly made dressing drizzled on some salad leaves – enjoy!

Fig, Lardon & Dolcelatte Tart

Pastry:

8oz plain flour, plus extra for dusting

Pinch of salt

3oz walnuts, finely chopped

5oz chilled unsalted butter cut into pieces & extra for greasing

1 egg yolk

1-2 tblsp chilled water

Filling:

8 ripe figs cut into quarters

2 tsp olive oil

3 ½ oz lardons

5 oz mascarpone cheese

2 eggs, beaten

2fl oz mild

2tsp chopped fresh thyme, plus extra sprigs for garnish

5oz dolcelatte cheese crumbled

Salt & freshly ground black pepper

Serves 8

Lightly grease a 9 ½ x 3 in, 1 ¼ in deep tart tin, or a tin of similar dimensions

Make the pastry – place flour, salt & walnuts in a bowl and rub in the chilled butter until the mix resembles fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the egg yolk, then gradually add enough of the chilled water until the mix comes together to form a firm dough – add the water a little at a time to prevent the mixture from becoming too sticky. Roll the dough out on a floured surface and line the tin & chill in the refrigerator for 30 mins. Once chilled prick the pastry all over with a fork cover with a sheet of greaseproof paper and fill the tin with baking beans & blind bake for 20 mins, then remove the paper and beans and bake for a further 10 mins or until the pastry begins to turn golden.

Arrange the figs in circles to cover the base of the tart tin & put into the oven and cook for 10-12 mins or until then begin to soften.



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Heat the oil in a frying pan and lightly fry the lardons until they just begin to colour, remove & set aside.

Place the mascarpone in a medium sized bowl and stir to soften, then add the beaten eggs and milk and stir until you have a smooth mixture. Season with salt & pepper & add the chopped thyme.

Scatter the cooked lardons and the crumbled dolcelatte over the top of the softened figs, then pour over the mascarpone and egg mixture. Finally, sprinkle over some small sprigs of thyme and bake in the oven for 20-25 mins or until the filling is set and golden. Serve at room temperature with some lightly dressed salad leaves.

Cheryl Hadley

Melanzane alla parmigiana

(Aubergine, Tomatoes, Basil & Mozzarella)

10g fresh basil leaves, finely chopped

50ml extra virgin olive oil

Salt & ground black pepper to taste

2 tbsps of olive oil

1 large aubergine, cut into 8 x 1cm thick discs

2 large beef tomatoes, tops and bottoms removed and each cut into 4 rounds

A few Parmesan cheese shavings

2 large balls of mozzarella, each cut into 4 rounds

Serves 4

Put the chopped basil in a small bowl, pour over the extra virgin olive oil, season with salt & pepper and set aside to infuse.

Heat a large frying pan over a high heat and add the olive oil. Add the aubergine to the pan, season with salt and pepper and cook for 90 seconds on each side or until the slices are golden brown and tender. Remove from the pan and transfer to a tray in a warm place. Add the tomatoes to the pan and cook for 30 seconds on each side, then remove from the heat and season the salt and pepper. Place a disc of aubergine in the middle of each plate and top with some Parmesan shavings, then a tomato disc and then a mozzarella round. Repeat this pattern to finish with a slice of mozzarella. Once all four stacks are complete drizzle over some of the basil-infused olive oil and serve.

Cheryl Hadley

(This is a very tasty starter or light lunch served with crusty bread to mop up the lovely tomato, basil & olive oil juices!)

Despite the fact I have not exhausted serving this to family & friends I have included it specially for Collette Fancourt.)

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Light Hearted Monologues from a Local

And These Authors Also Have The Right To Vote!

Would the person who borrowed the ladder from the main stores please return it otherwise further steps will be taken.

I am writing on behalf of my sink which is coming away from the wall.

We welcome and exchange unwanted items so why not bring the wife along for a bargain.

For those who do not understand English please read the leaflet below.

Now that the village hall has been renovated we shall have to restrict the gentlemen's keep fit to one morning a week and ladies to two as long as the alarm is working.

Electrical repairs carried out here - please knock on the door as the bell does not work.

If the caretaker does not answer the door he is out.

On Friday there will be a coloured dress day - this is written in black and white for clarity.

It was not made clear in your brochure that we would be offered curries and spicy food at the hotel in India.

I only wore the golfing socks once and got a hole in one.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the clairvoyant meeting planned for Thursday has been cancelled.

Please do not feed the lions as we have to clear the road way later.

Have your clothes cleaned here and never worry about shiny trousers again - we will make them dull.

Wash the teapot in hot water before using and stand on the draining board.

Notice on Health goods shop "Closed due to Flu epidemic"

To assist prompt drying of this garment please stand in Bath.

If you are reading this then your sat nav has directed you incorrectly. Please return avoiding the pond.

Only the English!

Barry Betteridge

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ON LEAD**

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Arts Section

‘The Winter’s Tale’

at Sam Wanamaker Theatre, London



On a gloriously sunny day, the Pageturners went to see ‘The Winter’s Tale’ at this indoor theatre adjacent to the Globe. This intimate candlelit venue opened in 2014 and is

broadly based on the layout of the 17th century Blackfriars Theatre.

The play is one of Shakespeare’s later plays first performed at the Globe in 1611 and is a remix of Robert Greene’s ‘Pandosto’. Greene despised Shakespeare and called him an ‘upstart crow’ but as soon as Greene died, Shakespeare stripped the story down and wove his magic.

The play divides into two contrasting sections. The first revolves around the growing jealousy Leontes has for his longstanding friend Polixenes with regard to his pregnant wife Hermione. Leontes, played sensationally by John Light, fills that small space with so much anger that Hermione’s pain is palpable. No Iago-type character needed here to press the destruct button, Leontes presses it himself. The incredulity of the accused, Polixenes and Hermione (played by Simon Armstrong and Rachael Stirling) just fuels the situation despite the protestations of the wonderful Niamh Cusack as Paulina.

The second half sees the action fast-forward 16 years and is in sharp contrast, the mood being light and very funny. With actors rushing between the audience, it is

hard not to be totally immersed in the proceedings. James Garnon’s Autolycus oozing with mischief, engages the audience in his antics. Watch out if you are in the front row, especially if you wear glasses!

Our book group loved this performance and the theatre setting certainly enhanced the experience.

The Gap of Time (a prose version of The Winter’s Tale)

by Jeanette Winterson

This book is the first published as part of the Hogarth Project, where eight eminent



writers were asked to produce a prose version of a Shakespeare play to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death. Jeanette Winterson chose ‘The Winter’s Tale’ as she has felt an

affinity with the story since it revolves around a foundling and she too was adopted.

The story is set in the present. So, Leontes translates into Leo a hedge fund banker, an alpha male who does what he wants and is reckless with the lives of others. Polixenes becomes Xeno, a gay man who is a video-games designer living in New Bohemia. Together as boys, they shared the trauma of being sent to boarding school by their divorcing families and this experience leaves both of them scarred emotionally.

The book opens with a child being left in a Babyhatch, a secure place for unwanted babies. We later learn that this child is Perdita, the daughter of Leo and his wife Mimi. Leo, besieged with jealousy, believed that his daughter was fathered by his friend Xeno. Subsequently family and friendships implode.

In sharp contrast we then follow the life Perdita has with her adopted family where her father Shep is the polar opposite to her birth father. Winterson then skillfully weaves the two interconnecting parts to its conclusion over the time gap.

Our group enjoyed this book immensely and found it interesting to compare this adaptation with the performance at the Sam Wanamaker Theatre. Themes of jealousy, forgiveness and parenting however, are still as valid today as they were 400 years ago.

The other authors commissioned by Hogarth are Howard Jacobsen, Anne Tyler, Margaret Atwood, Jo Nesbo, Tracey Chevalier, Edmund St Aubyn and Gillian Flynn. No doubt, we will try another from the project and hopefully combine it again with a theatre trip.

Margaret Dines

Altan

*Garrett Session, Queens Head
19th April*

Jeff Lynn's ELO

*O2 Arena
20th April*

Kieran Goss

*Garrett Session, Queens Head
18th May*

An Evening with Elvis

Fyfield Village Hall



4th June

The Irish band **Altan** played at the Garrett Session on 19th April as part of their nationwide tour which continues with dates in UK plus Switzerland, Spain and USA. This is such an uplifting band with a worldwide following and music that makes you come alive at so many different levels. Combining Donegal fiddles, flutes, guitars and an accordion into a solid mixture of old time yet modern folk music. Indeed, you have to pinch yourself when you realize that they are actually playing to a small audience in Fyfield rather than their usual larger venues.

The O2 Arena is located in what was originally called the Millennium Dome, or Dome for short. Whatever, the connection is, it is clear to me both are venues for exceptional music. Both sell refreshments. The differences, the O2 has a concert capacity of 20,000, the Garrett Session, around 40, but the level of individual enjoyment is the same. Also, with the

Garrett Sessions you don't have to queue for the Jubilee Line afterwards as we did with **Jeff Lynn's ELO**



who played at the O2 on 20th April with musicians from Take That as his band plus a string section and Richard Tandy, the only other original member of ELO, on keyboards. Richard, like the rest of us, has aged normally, unlike Jeff Lynn who looks and sounds the same as he did in the 1970's. He cannot use the name ELO on its own due to licensing purposes, but he is, and always will be ELO to me and many others. His beautiful music from the ELO songbook filled the O2 and your senses with the richness of a dark chocolate profiterole covered with the richest cream ever made. Almost like your first meal in heaven, I hope. Old and new numbers fitted seamlessly together throughout the performance with the all-time favourite, the one that you hear often as the background for adverts and TV programmes, Mr Blue



Sky, taking up the pre-encore position and getting the best reception of the evening. This number was also chosen by the late and much missed Alan Cox as the final music at his funeral at St. Nicholas' Church. Whenever I hear this number it reminds me of Alan and thank ELO for giving many of us so much pleasure over the years. King Jeff, long may you reign.

Singer/song writer **Kieran Goss**, originally from Mayobridge, Co Down, and lives in



Sligo with his wife, Anne Kinsella, performed at the Garrett Session on 18th May to a fully appreciative audience already warmed up by the superb meal and beverages served before the main session of the evening. Kieran has an on-stage style of his own which features plenty of entertaining rapport with the audience between numbers. He can 'talk for Ireland' and if he wanted to, could probably talk for the whole session without repeating himself or picking up his guitar. When he does play however he entrances you with the deepness of the sentiment and insight into life and relationships. After the mid-session break, Kieran was joined by his wife, Anne, who added a tight fitting harmony part that gave a special depth to the music. Come back soon Kieran.

Not far from the Queen's Head is the **Village Hall** where the Forces Friends Group held their '**Evening with Elvis**' event. What a great evening with an Elvis impersonator, a ploughmans supper and plenty of dancing. All on the first sunny evening for a long while and with a £12 entrance fee there was nothing to dislike. The evening raised over £1500 and a good time was had by all. Now, it doesn't get much better than that plus you can walk home as well.

The Caretaker,
The Old Vic,
29 March 2016

This Harold Pinter early 1960 masterpiece has attracted Timothy Spall to tread the boards after a break of 24 years from Theatre. He has lost a large amount of weight (which I think suits him) to play the part of the tramp and loser Davies and is accompanied on stage by Daniel Mays (Line of Duty TV) who plays Aston a mentally damaged young man who is recovering from



shock treatment and George Mackay (The Outcast TV) who plays Mick, Aston's Brother. Aston has rescued Davies from a fight and brings him back to stay the night at his junk filled attic room which is in a crumbling building in West London owned by his brother Mick. All three are men in need and the play is staged entirely in the attic room and consists, in the main, of dialogue between Aston and Davies and Mick and Davies with some isolated mutterings from Davies. Some marvellous lines which are both painful and humorous. The stage design was brilliant and so was the costume design – Timothy Spall looked grimy, unwashed and unlaundered – your imagination could smell the stench from the stage. When Davies becomes anxious and stressed when Mick taunts him Timothy Spall's performance of this is outstanding. Excellent performances from all 3 actors and despite the lack of action in a play which is over 3 hours long with two 15 minute

intervals I was fully engaged throughout. I am very keen to see more of Harold Pinter's work and I am looking forward to seeing all three actors back on stage very soon and I am so glad Timothy Spall has returned to the stage; it's been too long.

Cheryl Hadley

Funny Girl, The Musical
The Savoy Theatre
25 April 2016

There were 3 reasons I went to see Funny Girl – Sheridan Smith, Sheridan Smith & Sheridan Smith. I am not a huge fan of musicals, although I have seen quite a few in my time, and this musical is not a 'wow' musical like Top Hat, Les Miserable, Buddy, Jersey Boys and We Will Rock You, but it kept my attention and my oh my what a Star Sheridan Smith is; her performance gave me



goose bumps. She has star quality running through her veins. She got a standing ovation and more and I have to say Darius Campbell, who plays her leading man Nick Arnstein, got, and deserved, a huge applause and neither of them once dropped their American Accents throughout the performance. Like many others, I only hope Sheridan Smith resolves her issues and we see her back soon.

Cheryl Hadley

Fyfield Carpet Bowls



Both sessions of the club are now struggling to keep going. The afternoon session have closed for at least a month due to illness, etc, and it is not clear when or if they will continue. The evening session is also struggling with, sometimes, only 6 or 7 players available. At most the evening session can field 9 to 10 players, but this is still not enough. So, as I have said many times before, if there is anyone out there who wants to try carpet bowls, PLEASE get in touch with me before it is too late. We will have our AGM in June, where we will discuss the future of the club – WATCH THIS SPACE!

On the County front, my news is not a lot better! We had our last match of the season against Suffolk, who were the current leaders. I think all four wheels came off at this game, with Essex losing with only 6 points to

Suffolk's 30! This is the worst result we have had against Suffolk, or any of the other four counties, in a long time. This pushed Essex down to 5th place in the league. The results were as follows: Suffolk 129 points, Cambridgeshire 93 points, Hertfordshire 92 points, Norfolk 81 points, Essex 75 points and Bedfordshire 70 points. As you can see, Suffolk was so far ahead no-one could catch them! To round off the season we had the Six Counties Champoinship on Sunday 10th April, held at Braintree Leisure Centre. Essex did fair a little better finishing the day in 4th place. Suffolk were again in 1st place, with Hertfordshire coming 2nd and Cambridgeshire 3rd, with Norfolk and Bedfordshire bringing up the rear. That's all I can report on for the County until the season re-opens in November with the National Championships at Potters Leisure in Norfolk. I hope there is better news for Fyfield Carpet Bowls Club in my next report.

Jacky Brown

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The New Fyfield Bridge Club



The Club is continuing to flourish and attract new players as well as keep existing members happy. At the recent Ongar in Bloom event held on

May 2nd in the Budworth Hall, the Club ran a Bottle Tombola stall that was a big success. All the bottles were given by members of the Club and the Committee very generously decided to donate half the profits to Fyfield Village Hall where the Club meets every Thursday evening. Our lovely Club Secretary, Janet Brindley, is a very community-minded person who helped to start the Ongar in Bloom group that aims to bring colour and beauty to the town with new planters brimming with flowers. Janet is also the Secretary of the Club, dealing with all the administrative work, so hats off to Janet, a dynamic lady, and to the Committee for their generosity. During the next few months, players will be entering the competition for the Summer Competition, The Endeavour Cup.

No – it isn't anything to do with Inspector Morse, or Shackleton's ice-breaker ship! Rita and Peter Barnard, founder members of the Fyfield Bridge Club, kindly donated The Endeavour Cup some years ago, for a Summer Competition. It will be awarded to the best two players playing on a regular basis during the months of April to September. Records will be kept on the first Thursday of these months and to qualify players will need to have taken part on at least four out of the six dates. The Endeavour Cup is being presented to the two best players (rather than the best pair) because people play with different partners over the year. So, all the more reason to come along and enjoy playing Duplicate Bridge at the New Fyfield Bridge Club, Fyfield Village Hall every Thursday evening, starting at 7.15pm promptly. Parking is easy and you will be sure of a warm, friendly welcome if you decide to come along. More information from Janet Brindley, Club Secretary, at fyfieldbridge@icloud.com.

Harry Heart, June 2016

Get Well Soon

Sending Annette King and Suzanne Miller get well wishes and just wanted you to know we continue to think of you both during your treatments and recoveries.

Fyfield Friends.



1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group

The Beaver Colony (5¾ to 8 years)

In the new term the Beavers have had a busy time. The first week back they made get well cards for one of their leaders who is in hospital. The following week Simon Mountney, our Archery Instructor, came in to teach them the rules for Archery. They all had three sessions of firing the arrows. They were all very well behaved and had an enjoyable evening. As part of one of their Challenge Awards the Beavers went on to the playing field and did bark rubbings and identifying the different trees. The following week they walked down to the Church and on the way did a mini beast hunt. Last week the Beavers all planted sunflowers and they left one pot at the Scout HQ and took the other ones home.

The Cub Pack (7½ to 10½ years)

The first week of term the Cubs planned how they were going to raise money for the Meningitis trust. They also learnt how to lay out their kit for camp ready for inspection when they attend the Centenary District Cub Camp. The following week Nathalie Elston-Hooper came to talk to the Cubs about her trip in the autumn to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and raising money for the Meningitis Research Foundation. Nathalie used to be a

young leader with our Beaver colony before going to University. She spoke very well and the Cubs asked lots of questions. The cubs then set up their stalls and encouraged the parents and friends to come and buy from them or compete in various competitions they had organised. It was a great night and the Cubs between them raised £116.24. This was a very good effort and a big thank you to those who supported them. Nathalie has promised to come back in the autumn and let them know how she got on. The next 2 weeks at Cubs was all about camp they pitched and checked the tents they were taking they also learnt how to pack their rucksack. As I do this report 17 of the Cubs are on Camp. I visited them last night and they were all having a fantastic time doing lots of activities and sleeping under canvas and when I left there was a huge camp fire with all the cubs joining in and enjoying themselves.

Scout Troop (10 to 14 years)

The first two weeks of term were spent in map reading games and a quiz. The following week the Scouts had 12 activity challenges's to complete. This was carried out in small groups of 3 or 4. These challenges were based on previous incidents encountered on the Waltham Walk Incident 2 day hike.

This was to prepare the Scouts for this event which is the weekend of 21st to 22nd May. The next week they checked the hike tents they would be using for the Waltham Walk and practised cooking on a Trangia. This last Friday they played Rounders on the playing field and then had Rowing (pulling) instruction on the parts of the boat and the commands. Today they are at the Docklands Scout Project in London learning how to row and working towards their requirements for an activity permit. This is all so that those going on summer camp to Dartmouth Royal Regatta in August get some practice before the event.

Explorer Unit (13½ to 18 years)

Half of the Unit are revising for exams this term so there has been a relaxed few weeks for everyone. They went to Top Golf and have done some map reading practical skills. 2 of the explorers are joining the Scouts on the Waltham Walk. This week they dismantled the stage in the HQ and generally helped out around the HQ. We wish the ones taking their exams good luck and see you all at the end of June.

The Scout Group

We had a very successful work party weekend on April 16th and 17th. We had many parents come along and lots of clearing out of the overgrown areas were completed. All the gutters were

cleaned and repaired. The garage was cleared out and a lot of rubbish disposed of. The inside of the HQ was given a deep clean as well. And all the paint work was washed and cleaned and the HQ inside and out is looking much cleaner and tidier.

On Saturday 7th May the band Redwood that practice in our HQ each week offered to run a dance for us. Redwood have practised in our HQ since before we had a roof on the building. We are very grateful to them for doing this for us. We had a great evening and everyone enjoyed themselves and there was a BBQ which Julie Read and her team of helpers worked really hard to make the evening go extremely well. So a huge thank you to the committee for running this event.



Mary Bacon

Chairman 1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group 01277 899052 mobile


07554933563

Marybaconx1@aol.com



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Longest Day



1st Moreton and Fyfield Scout Group



Beaver Scouts	Tuesday	6.00 – 7.15pm	6 - 8 years
Cub Scouts	Thursday	7.00 – 8.30pm	8-10½ years
Scouts	Friday	7.30 – 9.30pm	10-14 years
Explorer Scouts	Tuesday	7.30 – 9.30pm	14 -18 years

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

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

Fyfield Focus - Advertising and Editorial Details

Advertising in the Fyfield Focus

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

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

Distribution of the Fyfield Focus (370 copies) is done by a team of volunteers (17) who deliver a copy to every home in Fyfield and to a no. of key community points in Fyfield and surrounding areas. It is the aim of the Focus production and delivery teams to deliver the Fyfield Focus Magazine by the 1st of the month.

Advertising Rates

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

Contributing Articles to the Fyfield Focus

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

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