

October/November 2025

FYFIELD



FOCUS



fyfieldfocus.wixsite.com/home

Village Diary

Date	Time	What	Where
Sat 4 th Oct	6.30pm	Quiz Night	Village Hall
Sun 5 th Oct	10.00am	Ramblers	From Village Hall
Tue 7 th Oct	10.00am	Coffee Morning	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 12 th Oct	10.30am	Community Worship	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 19 th Oct	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
Fri 31 st Oct		Pumpkin Trail	Around Fyfield
Fri 31 st Oct	5.00pm	Halloween Party	Village Hall
Sun 2 nd Nov	1.00pm	Paint and Plonk	Village Hall
Sun 2 nd Nov	10.00am	Ramblers	From Village Hall
Tue 4 th Nov	10.00am	Coffee Morning	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 9 th Nov	10.30pm	Service of Remembrance	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 16 th Nov	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
Sat 22 nd Nov	11am – 4pm	Christmas Fayre	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 14 th Dec	5.00pm	Carol Service	St Nicholas' Church



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Fyfield Parish Council News

What a wonderful day we had at the Harvest Festival on 6th September! The sun shone and there were so many happy and smiley people having fun. The field and hall looked great with the bunting flapping in the breeze. The bouncy castles were full of kids jumping, running and pedalling. The stalls and exhibits inside and out were very varied, the 3D printing surrounded by fascinated customers. Visitors couldn't get enough of the delicious cakes and scones. The bars and Giggly Pig barbecue and the top hatted MC fuelled enthusiastic children and adults to have a go at silly races and a serious but quick tug of war. We have a report on the blustery Dog Show on page 6. Some of Tracey Q's audience gave us a dance show to accompany her upbeat songs and the day was capped off with the popular Band 47.

Thank you to everyone who helped make it a great day!





The next Parish Council meetings will be on Monday 6th October and Monday 3rd November at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Dan Webster
Chair

All Fyfield Parish Council news and minutes can be found on the Parish website <https://fyfieldpc.wixsite.com/fyfieldparishcouncil> and on the Noticeboard.

Councillor Contact Details

Chair - Dan Webster	01277 899405	fpcwebsterd@gmail.com
Vice Chair - Sandra Mead	01277 899519	fpcmead@gmail.com
Cllr. Michael Brawn	07510 377435	fpcbrawn@gmail.com
Cllr. Gaillies Codd	07982 909159	fpccodd@gmail.com
Cllr. Jeremy Goodson	07980 272555	fpcgoodson@gmail.com
Cllr. Tim Wadey	07778 270362	fpcwadey@gmail.com
Cllr. Lizzie Webster	01277 899405	fpcwebsterl@gmail.com
Kim Hanley, Clerk		fyfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com
Burial Ground		fpcburalground@gmail.com

Fyfield Harvest Fete

THE DOG SHOW

Fyfield Village Vets felt honoured to be invited to judge the Dog Show at the Fyfield Harvest Festival. It was a pleasure to work with Joy who was taking the entries for the show and she did a fabulous job of organising us! We met so many lovely dogs who were all perfectly behaved. It was lovely to see so many happy waggy tails! Rosettes and prizes were awarded for 1st-4th place in each category.



Every owner always tells us their pet is the best and none of you are wrong! We wish we could have awarded you all first place for everything! It was a tough competition to judge as every dog who entered was in fantastic condition, waggy tailed and had a fantastic and unique personality. It was lovely to see the special bond the dogs had with their owners and touching to see the bonds so many children had with their dogs. How lucky are we to have so many gorgeous dogs in the village who enrich our lives.

The official 1st place winners from the 2025 show are

Ozzie	Best Golden Oldie
Coco	Best Young Handler (a special mention also to Marley who was extra cute and was awarded 2nd place in the best young handler round)
Rose	Best Condition
Brevis	Waggiest Tail
Pippa	Best Rescue
Honey	Best Treat Catcher
Ruby	Best Trick



COCO WON OVERALL BEST IN SHOW

Well done to you all!



Thank you so much to Vet Kathryn & Vet Nurse Chloe for making the classes fun and for their prizes to the entrants.

Congratulations to Coco our German Short Haired Pointer - Best in Show.

My thanks to those who helped me recover my destroyed Gazebo - it was a very blustery day!!

As requested by the Fyfield Parish Council, St Nicholas Church have received the entry fees.

Joy Davis



Village Hall

What a fantastic summer it has been at the Village Hall! A huge thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Bangin' Night BBQs. The atmosphere was brilliant and it was wonderful to see so many of you enjoying the food, drink, and good company. A very special thank you also goes to our amazing volunteers who helped behind the bar and on the grills – we truly couldn't have done it without you.

Our Village Fete, the Harvest Festival, at the start of September was another highlight of the season. After months of planning, with the Parish Council and the PCC, it was wonderful to see the community come together for such a successful and enjoyable day.

Behind the scenes, it has been a very busy summer with private bookings, and we've had some lovely comments from hirers about what a wonderful hall and surroundings we have here. A special thank you must also go to our cleaner, who often goes unnoticed but has done a brilliant job keeping the hall in excellent condition.

Looking ahead, we're pleased to share that our heating upgrade will begin at the end of September. Once complete, it should be more economical and efficient, helping us keep the hall cosy through the colder months.

There's lots more to look forward to this autumn and winter! Mark your diaries for the following events:

- **Quiz Night – Saturday 4th October**

Tickets are £8 per person. Please bring your own nibbles.

- **Halloween Event – Friday 31st October**

- **Paint & Plonk with Afternoon Tea – Sunday 2nd November**

Tickets are £40 including afternoon tea and are available via our website at www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk under **Events**, or from Penny Ovel (07884 007865) and Steve Turner (07894 884980).

- **Family Christmas Quiz – Sunday 21st December**

Details of all events will be shared on our website www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk, on posters inside the hall, on the notice board outside and via the Fyfield and Moreton Grapevine Facebook page. Be sure to follow the page so you don't miss the latest updates!

Thank you again for your continued support – we look forward to seeing you soon!

Get Involved!

We have spaces for new committee members and are always on the lookout for volunteers to help at events and behind the scenes. If you'd like to get involved, make new friends, and support your village hall, we'd love to hear from you.

Find out more at www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk.

On behalf of The Village Hall Committee

The Rodings & Ongar u3a

A world of new experiences is open to you at Rodings and Ongar u3a so what's stopping you?

The u3a gives you 'Active Retirement' opportunities to develop your interests, make new friends and have fun. There are more than 1,000 local u3as in the UK with members right here in Rodings and Ongar, making the most of life in retirement by continuing their creative, educational and social interest in a friendly, encouraging atmosphere.

Join us at a general meeting, usually the 1st Tuesday of the month, 2.00pm in Fyfield Village Hall. From walking to talking, ukulele to badminton to pool, or start a group to share your interest—with support—the choice is endless—and the decision about what to do is made by the members for the members.

Meetings start at 2pm, coffee and biscuits are served before the talk. Come along, you will be given a warm welcome.

On Tuesday the 7th October Jeff Page's talk will be 'Bazalgette and his Achievements'.

01277 362260 U3asites.org.uk/rodings-ongar/welcome

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Fyfield Pumpkin Trail 2025

Friday 31st October

This Halloween, Friday 31st October, join us for our annual Village Pumpkin Trail 🎃 Maps and a new word search puzzle will be available to download



before the event on the Fyfield & Moreton Grapevine facebook page, with a few printed copies also available at the village shop on the day. Every year we love to see all the decorated houses and carved pumpkins along the route, so please do join in again and help to make this year another fabulous family friendly event in Fyfield ✨ If you'd like to offer treats then please have a pumpkin visible so our trick or treaters know you're a good place to stop!

This year the pumpkin trail will again be accompanied by an even bigger and better Children's Halloween Party at Fyfield Village Hall! 👻 There will be fun games and crafts from 5pm to 7pm, followed by a Halloween disco from 7pm to 9pm, with a spooky buffet included to keep you all well fed! The bar will also be open for drinks. Please see the event poster for how to book tickets. And....if you complete the word search found along the pumpkin trail you can claim an extra sweet treat at the party!

Happy Halloween!



If we're not meant to have midnight snacks, why is there a light in the fridge?

FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Charity number: 301304

Halloween Party

Friday 31 October

5pm - 9pm

£10 CHILD
(UNDER 3 FREE)

£2.50 ADULT

TICKETS AT
FYFIELDVILLAGEHALL.ORG.UK/EVENTS

FANCY DRESS

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Fyfield Village Hall

ARTS & CRAFTS

COMPETITIONS & PRIZES

BUFFET FOOD

<i>1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group</i>			
Squirrels	Tuesday	4.45-5.45pm	4 - 6 years
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 contact Sandra Mead on 01277 899519 gemkia@aol.com			

Ghosts and Fashion by *Elaine Equi*

Although it no longer has a body
to cover out of a sense of decorum,
the ghost must still consider fashion —
must clothe its invisibility in something
if it is to “appear” in public.

Some traditional spectres favour
the simple shroud —

a toga of ectoplasm
worn Isadora-Duncan-style
swirling around them.

While others opt for lightweight versions
of once familiar tee shirts and jeans.

Perhaps being thought-forms,
they can change their outfits instantly —

or if they were loved ones,
it is we who clothe them,
like dolls from memory.



About this Poem

“Call me superficial, but if anyone tells me they’ve seen a ghost (or an angel or an alien), my first question is, “What were they wearing?” For the record, I’m quite sure I have seen a ghost - my grandfather after he passed away. He was wearing his usual work clothes, a short-sleeved shirt with baggy grey pants. I’m surprised he wasn’t smoking his customary cigar.”

Elaine Equi

Further extracts from the Fyfield WI 1975 archive:

Dr. Walker's Church School



This school, endowed by a former rector in 1657, is now under the Essex Education Authority, who have built an Open Plan School on the opposite side of Queen Street to the original building. Here, headmaster David Ellis, with no previous experience of open plan teaching, has made an excellent transition to this system which he finds far more challenging and

worthwhile. It keeps the staff on their toes and co-operating together and the children know all the teachers, so have no worries about moving up under an unknown and perhaps feared teacher. Problems are shared in a family atmosphere and parents are free to come and go and give their help in special activities, sometimes helping with the slow readers. The pupils, who average 80 – 90 in number, are free to move throughout the school and join in any activity except for the first session of the day, which they spend with their allotted teacher.

The school has been visited by students from Brentwood Teacher Training College, Further Education and Technical Colleges, foreign students, schoolchildren and a South African teacher on a university study course. Towards the end of the year, two teachers from the Ongar Comprehensive came to talk to the older children who also spent a day in the Comprehensive School. The children show little self-consciousness and rarely appear to be disturbed by these visits.

The pupils attended church on Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day and, on May 15th and 16th, took part in a Choir Festival at Ongar Comprehensive School.

Despite its small size, Fyfield has done well in the inter-school sports, particularly in netball and football. An Easter Garden competition was held and was judged by Mr David Adlam. Visits were made by the infants to the Natural History Museum and by the older children to Hedingham Castle, after which they produced a book on their visit.



Paint and Plonk Night

2ND NOV 2025

SUNDAY 1PM

Venue: Fyfield Village Hall, Houchin Dr, Fyfield, Ongar CM5 0RG

Tickets:
£40

per person
Includes Afternoon tea
& painting

Booking is essential and full
payment is required on booking.

You will be guided through a
painting, step-by-step, from start
to finish. At the end of the event
you can take your very own
masterpiece home.
This class is for everyone,
no experience necessary.
All materials included for painting
(refreshments not included).



Booking & payment through the village hall website:
www.fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk under the 'Events' section
Or Penny 07884007865 Steve 07894884980

District Matters

Well reader, there doesn't seem to be an evening or daytime TV programme which doesn't mention Epping or the Bell Hotel. One of the residents of the Bell Hotel was arrested and later convicted of assault. Following the arrest there were protests in the streets by local residents and violent far right activists which caused a lot of press coverage. Epping Forest District Council obtained an injunction requiring the hotel residents to be moved out. However, the government and the owners of the hotel appealed and the injunction was set aside. Epping then applied to the Supreme Court to reverse this. At the stage of writing this article nothing is totally clear except there will be a decision made during October. If nothing else EFDC's involvement on behalf of the residents of Epping has made the government speed up a final decision. I'm afraid I can't tell you much more about this at this point in time. To learn more just visit the EFDC website. We are going to give a full update over the next few weeks.

Local government reorganization is a big topic of the moment which I have mentioned a few times before. As yet, nothing has been decided but there should be some movement during September/October. Once again if you wish to keep up to date on this please go to the [EFDC website](#) for further information. In the meantime, have a good October and November.

Keep well and stay safe.

Ian Hadley

Cllr. Ian Hadley – 07765 882001 – Cllr.ihadley@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Cllr. Ray Balcombe – 07774 973611 Cllr.rbalcombe@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Cllr. Richard Morgan – 01279 731243 – Cllr.rmorgan@eppingforestdc.gov.uk



Why do they call it rush hour when nothing moves?"

You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen; it said 'Parking Fine.'

Fyfield Village Store & Post Office

Opening Times	Village Store	Post Office	
Monday	7am to 5pm	10am to 5pm	
Tuesday			
Wednesday		10am to 2pm	
Thursday		10am to 5pm	
Friday		10am to 12.30pm	
Saturday	8am to 4pm	Closed	
Sunday	8am to 12.30pm		

Tel: 01277 899201



Fyfield 5K and 10K Run



On Sunday 14th September the village came together to run another successful 5k and 10k. Numbers have settled at around 200 over the last couple of years - this year the 10k proving more popular for the first time. Although the week had been unsettled, we were also blessed with great conditions. We set no records but the front runners of both events set good times, Cam Gutterage and Emma Reeve in the 10k and Stephen Waites and Megan Coster in the 5k. The event is also about bringing people of all abilities together for an enjoyable day - and I think we succeeded in that.

Of course, this does not happen without the help of many people, too many to mention them all, and the ongoing support of the village organisations. Help comes from the Ramblers - coordinated by Les Lamb, who also sorts our parking and photos, the local farmers, Perrys, Allisons and Websters, a score of Scout leaders and parents and other volunteers and the Scouts themselves. We are also well supported by businesses with a village connection through sponsorship. The Queens Head and Black Bull are stalwarts, joined by Casual Tees, Fyfield Farms, GKM Aerospace, Wood International, Binder Loams and Fyfield Village Vets. This all helps us run a successful event, with any profit going into supporting the village Scout Group, providing some amazing opportunities for our young people.

We plan to return on 13th September 2026 - please mark your diaries.

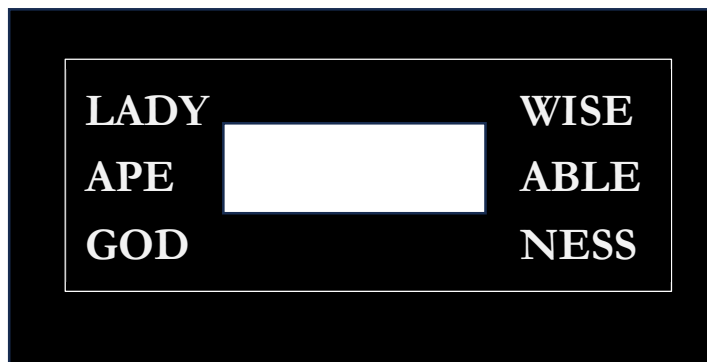
Tim Wadey



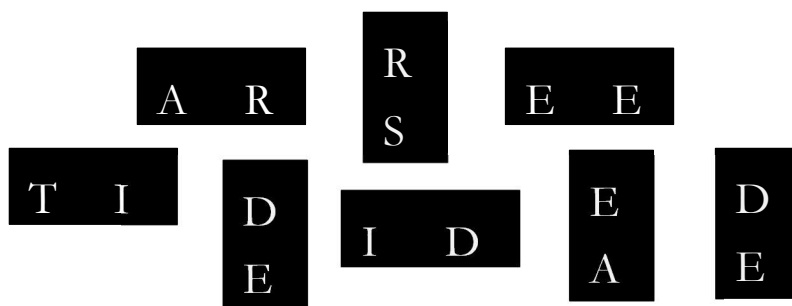


Puzzle Page

- Place an English word of FOUR letters in the empty space. This word when added to the end of the three words to the left and to the beginning of the three words to the right, will form six other words. What is the word?



- Arrange the tiles in the diagram so they form a square. When this is done correctly four words can be read down and across. What are the words?



Answers on Page 40

WD 50+

Exercise club for ladies and gentlemen of all ages, held in Fyfield Village Hall, postcode CM5 0RG on Fridays. Please arrive at 11.30am to start promptly at 11.45am for one hour.

Contact Liz Bird on 01277 899324 for more information.



ACTIVITIES AT FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Monday Adult dance exercise
Children's dance
Bridge club

Tuesday Pilates
U3A (monthly)

Wednesday Yoga
Adult dance
Lunch club (monthly)

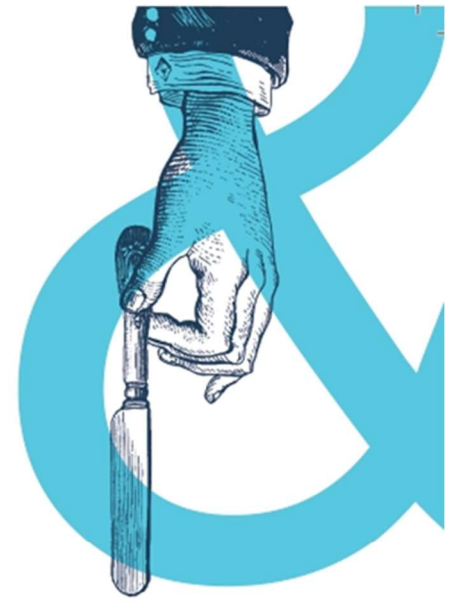
Thursday Community Hub
Children's dance
Bridge club

Friday Pilates
WD50+ exercise class

fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk



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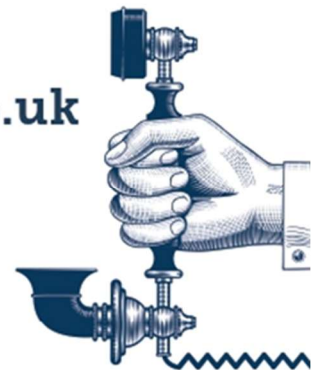
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Christmas Fayre

St Nicholas Church, Fyfield
Saturday 22nd November 2025
11am – 4pm



Christmas in the Church



Seasonal Refreshments

Stalls:

Crafts and Christmas Bits, Cakes,
Tombola, Raffle and Christmas
Garlands



Any offers of help would be most welcome. Please contact
Lesley Wallis on 01277 899214

Dr Walker's C of E Primary School

"Though your beginning was small, your future will flourish indeed." Job 8:7

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school for the start of a new school year, refreshed after the summer break and what a hot summer it was! Children and staff arrived back ready to begin this academic year on a new and exciting journey as part of the LIFE Education Trust family! At the beginning of term, staff met with fellow colleagues from the LIFE Mid-Essex schools for training, and this collaboration will continue through the year. As part of the Trust, we will be able to offer an even more enriched curriculum as well as shared activities, trips and exciting events and we are looking forward to being a part of the LIFE family with all the benefits it brings.

Classrooms are coming alive and are already beginning to showcase the children's learning and creativity and the children are getting used to being in their new classes with different teachers. We welcome our new little ones in Reception as well as children new to the school, all of whom have settled in beautifully.

Parents and carers have met with the CEO of LIFE Education Trust, the Executive Head Teacher and Head of School to talk about where the school's priorities for the year lie and were also able to attend a 'Meet the Teachers' session for their child/ren. Last year we introduced Together Tuesdays, where parents/carers were able to come into class in the morning for reading time with their children. This term, in response to parents'/carers' views we have also started Together Thursdays for shared reading time in the afternoon.

The new school website www.drwalkers.co.uk is now live and full of information about the school for anyone wishing to see how we operate.

There is currently a position for a School Governor, and we are looking for individuals who are passionate about the education of our children. Please see the information leaflet below and if you would like to know more about the role contact the Trust Governance Professional by emailing khardy@lifeeducationtrust.com You are also very welcome to contact the school for more information.

We are also welcoming prospective parents to an EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) Open Day on 11th November 2025 @ 11am. More information attached below.

With best wishes from staff and pupils at Dr Walker's School



School Governor

Are you interested in playing an important part in the quality of education at Dr Walker's Primary School? Would you like to work with other professionals to ensure the education we provide is of the best quality?

We are looking for individuals who are passionate about the education of our children and who, working with other school governors; monitor the quality of education, scrutinise the views of stakeholders, monitor information on pupil progress and attainment and monitor Safeguarding and SEND and progress towards school development priorities.

The Details:

- Governors are appointed by the Board of Trustees and serve a term of 4 years.
- There are generally 6 meetings a year (during term time in the evenings) and one Saturday training day.

How to Apply:

If you are interested and would like to apply to become a Governor, please write a letter of no more than one side of A4 and attach your CV. Prospective Governors will be invited to meet with the Chair of Governors, the Executive Headteacher and a member of the Board of Trustees of LIFE Education Trust.

If you would like to know more about the role or the Local Governance Committee prior to applying, please contact the Trust Governance Professional by email to khady@lifeeducationtrust.com




Open Day

11th November

11am

Join us to take a tour and see our school in action.

- Small friendly, community school with a family feel
- Christian values and regular worship
- SIAMS Good School
- Excellent SATS results 2025
- Large Outdoor Space
- Modern facilities and IT equipment

Dr Walker's is proud to be part of the LIFE Education Trust who strive to build great learning communities which unleash creativity and champion optimism, in a spirit of compassion.

"Though your beginning was small, your future will flourish indeed" (Job 8:7)

"The way in which all of the staff team work closely together, living out the Christian values of the school, means that pupils thrive and succeed."
SIAMS







Dr Walker's Church Of England Primary School
Walker Ave, Fyfield, Ongar. CM5 0RG
T: 01277 899298 E: admin@drwalkers.co.uk
www.drwalkers.co.uk




1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Dragonian Explorer Unit



All sections have now started back to a new exciting term with lots of activities.

The summer has been busy, with the Scouts supporting the Fyfield Harvest Fete and we also had stalls on the day.

We have just had our annual 5/10k footpath run/walk, which was very successful again this year. A big thank you to all the runners, helpers and sponsors, especially the many Scout leaders and parents who helped on the day. The weather was kind to us for the actual event but the setting up on the Saturday and packing down on the Saturday after the event was a bit more challenging with the weather. A big thank you to everyone involved.

We do have spaces in Squirrels ages 4 and 5 year olds, and Beavers age 6 to 8 year olds.

We also need adult help on a Thursday evening from 7pm until 8-30pm with the Cubs. If you can spare a couple of hours we would love to hear from you.

Sandra Mead

Group Scout Leader volunteer

1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group

Tel: 01277 899519 Email: gemkia@aol.com

The Scouts went to Kent for their Summer Camp. Needless to say, they had a brilliant time.





Life is like a ten-speed bike. Most of us have gears we never use.

St Nicholas' Church

As we move from summer to autumn it is traditionally the time of year we say thank you for the harvest. As I was thinking about harvest, it also came quickly to mind that the harvest was probably not as good this year as it has sometimes been, given the particularly dry weather over the last few months.

My thought process was perhaps typical of many of us, in that we may share a tendency to jump very quickly to the negative perspective on things. We so often focus on the things that are wrong, the problems we are struggling with and the things that we don't have, rather than taking time to be thankful for the many things we do have. It is very easy to spend our time grumbling and complaining and rarely focus on counting our blessings. This human tendency is not new, though it seems to be so particularly prevalent in society today. Jesus told about a time when he healed 10 people of leprosy - a hideous disease that meant those suffering from it were socially isolated and unable to live with their families, as well as being in great pain. Jesus noticed that only 1 of those he healed came back to say thank you for making him well.

I am challenged at this time of harvest to spend more time giving thanks for all of the many blessings I have received. It is good for the soul to recognize and give thanks for the good things in our lives.

***Ali Burton**
Church Warden*

We are very pleased to be hosting two 'special' services. Firstly, the **Remembrance Service** on Sunday 9th November at 10.30am.



The British Legion states that **remembrance** honours those who serve to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life, and are particularly remembering the courage of 1945.

'We unite across faiths, cultures and backgrounds to remember the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth'.

All the uniformed organisations will be marching from the Scout HQ to the Church to present their flags.

Secondly, the **Service of 9 Lessons and Carols** will be held at St Nicholas' on Sunday 14th December at 5pm. The Parish Choir will be singing and seasonal refreshments will be served. Everyone is most welcome.

Fyfield PCC

St Nicholas' Church Services

12th Oct 10.30am Community Worship

19th Oct 10.30am Holy Communion

9th Nov 10.30am Service of Remembrance

16th Nov 10.30am Holy Communion

Details of other services in our benefice are available on the church notice board.



THE LAVERS & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



We normally meet in Moreton Village Hall on the 1st Monday of the month, doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 pm start. On Monday 6th October Jonathan Forgham will recollect 'Lockdown 874 – A Year in my Garden'.

Delicious cakes, coffee or tea will be served following the talk and a raffle.

Please contact Christine Davis if you would like more information:

01277890283 or email davis.christine.d@gmail.com

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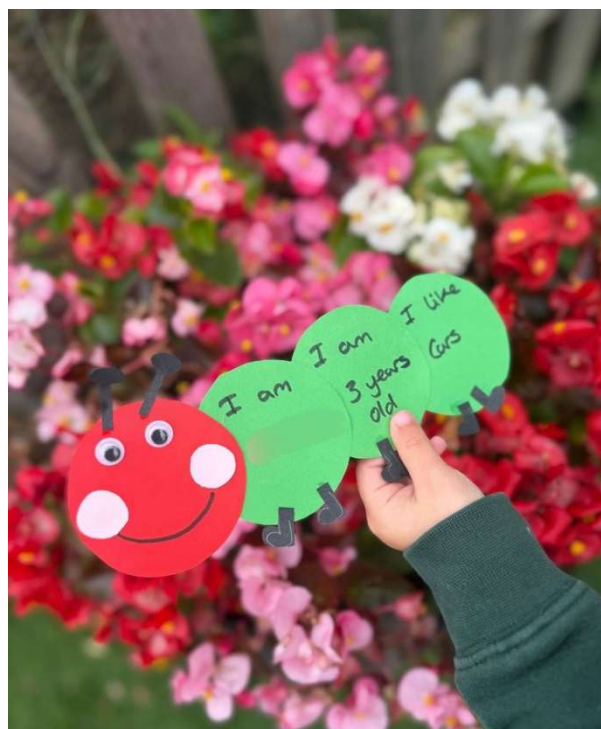
**Registered
Technician**

Fyfield Pre-School

Term has started again at Fyfield Village Pre-School with lots of getting to know each other activities and learning about themselves.



The topic *All About Me* saw the children getting creative with handheld mirrors and identifying details about their eyes, noses and more before drawing themselves to develop their fine motor skills.



The children also created a caterpillar by gluing together the circles and decorating the body before drawing different facts about themselves and what they enjoy doing.



The children made a camera with a picture from it of something that is important to them including family, friends and pets.



For information about the pre-school visit www.villagepre-schools.com

Fyfield Village Pre-School



CRAFT FAIR

Art and Craft Stalls
Tea, Cake and Hot Food Being Served
Come and browse for Christmas Gifts

Saturday, 8th November

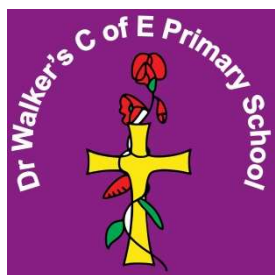
**11AM-3PM
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Willingale Village Hall

CM5 0SN



Dr Walker's Primary School Join LIFE Education Trust



Local primary school, Dr Walker's, recently joined the LIFE Education Trust, a multi academy trust (MAT) with schools across London and Essex. The school is already enjoying the benefits of being part of a MAT and Interim Executive Headteacher, Hafise Nazif said, *"We are very excited to be a part of LIFE and can already see the positive impact it is having on the school - providing opportunities for colleagues and pupils to flourish. Joining LIFE brings fresh ideas, investment in resources and a huge network of support for Dr Walker's."*

Trust CEO, Julian Dutnall said *"We are delighted to have Dr Walker's join the Trust and welcome all colleagues, governors, parents, carers and pupils to LIFE. Our mission is to build great learning communities where children flourish, and we look forward to bringing this ethos for education to the local community."*

The school are opening their doors to prospective families on **Tuesday 11th November** and look forward to showcasing the latest school improvements to the local community.

If you would like to know more about Dr Walker's Primary, please call the school office for information or to arrange a visit.

Find out more about the school and how to apply for a place on their brand-new website, www.drwalkers.co.uk, or call: 01277 899298 or email: office@fyfielddrwalkers.essex.sch.uk.



At the heart of the school is our commitment to providing an inclusive and nurturing environment where we support every single child to achieve

both academically and above all personally. We pride ourselves on striving to be *"An exceptional place to flourish"*.

Dr Walkers Cof E Primary School, Walker Avenue, Fyfield, Essex. CM5 0RG

Telephone: 01277 899298 or email: office@fyfielddrwalkers.essex.sch.uk

About LIFE Education Trust - lifeeducationtrust.com:

Our mission as the LIFE Education Trust is to build great learning communities where children flourish. Everyone at LIFE shares and demonstrates our beliefs:

Courageous optimism: It takes courage to hope for a better future. We champion a 'can do' attitude and encourage our pupils and colleagues to tackle challenges with resilience and perseverance as they reach for ambitious targets.

Boundless Creativity: Through captivating discoveries in the classroom and eye-opening adventures in the outside world, we give pupils freedom and promote varied learning experiences, which stimulate innovation and develop adaptability.

Heartfelt compassion: We show love and respect to each member of our community as we nurture a powerful collective spirit. In humility, we embrace difference and individuality, show forgiveness when necessary, and are united by compassion.

Christmas Choir

YOUR CHANCE TO JOIN OUR PARISH CHOIR
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Thurs 6th Nov

Thurs 13th Nov

Thurs 20st Nov

Thurs 27th Nov

Thurs 4th Dec

Thurs 11th Dec



Carol Services: 14th December (Fyfield) and 21st Dec (Moreton) at 5pm

Want to know more? Contact Michael Pether on 01277 890372 or at mpether1964@gmail.com



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For those who prefer to **dine at home**, we offer a **take away service**.

Opening Hours:

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11:30 - 14:30 (Food Served 12-2pm) We are closed on Tuesday lunchtimes	12pm - 20:30 (Food Served 12pm - 19:30)
18:00 - 23:00 (Food Served 6:30-8:30pm)	

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Fyfield Ramblers

Sunday 5th October and 2nd November

10:00am from the Village Hall

Our walks are usually 4 – 5 miles through our beautiful countryside. Everyone is welcome, including well-behaved dogs.



Coffee Mornings at St Nicholas' Church

We are delighted to be able to invite everyone to our Coffee Mornings, which take place on the **first Tuesday** of each month from **10am** till **12pm**:

7th October and 4th November

Do please join us for delicious cake and coffee, and the opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones!



Carol, Trish and Pam

Mobile Library

The Essex library visits Fyfield every three weeks on a **Monday** morning from the new time of **9.30 to 10:00am** in Queen Street. It parks just down from the back entrance to the school/playground. Did you know you can order books, magazines and more? And you can access lots digitally too.

See <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk> for updates

Next Dates -

**13th October,
3rd and 24th November**



Everything is changing. People are taking the comedians seriously and the politicians as a joke.



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Budworth Hall Ongar Doors open at 7.00pm

Concert starts at 8.00pm. £15 per person.

Refreshments are available from 7pm plus hot drinks, and the bar will also be open for drinks.



Come along, you will have a great time.

The proceeds from the raffle held during these evenings will be going to St Clare Hospice.

Tickets and further information at www.ongarjazzclub.co.uk

On the 17th October join us for an unforgettable evening of jazz with the sensational **Enrico Tomasso**, one of Britain's finest trumpeters, whose journey into music is as remarkable as his talent.

Enrico's love affair with the trumpet began at the tender age of five, inspired by hearing Louis Armstrong play 'Basin Street Blues'. His father, a renowned clarinettist, introduced him to jazz greats like Benny Goodman, Roy Eldridge, Oscar Peterson, Buddy Rich, and Dizzy Gillespie. Most extraordinary of all, a young Enrico played for Louis Armstrong during his final visits to England in 1968 and 1969, sparking a friendship that would last the rest of Louis' life.

A rich musical upbringing, studies at Leeds College of Music, and years of performing with the Pasadena Roof Orchestra, Ray Gelato, and many visiting American stars shaped Enrico into the world-class musician he is today. He's shared the stage with legends such as Scott Hamilton, Ken Peplowski, John Dankworth, and Bucky Pizzarelli, and has been celebrated with accolades like the British Jazz Award for Best Trumpeter.

Expect a night of extraordinary artistry, storytelling, and the kind of charm that only Enrico can deliver. This promises to be a truly special evening—an opportunity to see one of the UK's jazz treasures up close in our intimate setting. Don't miss it!

Knowledge is like underwear. It is useful to have it, but not necessary to show it off.

Catholic Parish of St Helen, Ongar & St Margaret of Scotland, Doddinghurst

In August the world marked the 80th anniversary of the ending of the war with Japan; the first, and last time, nuclear weapons were used in conflict. We are now approaching Remembrance Day in the UK when we reflect on the dead of all wars. Unfortunately, conflict continues in many parts of the world, and it is easy to feel depressed and powerless to help. For much of history warfare appears to have been the norm. The tradition of shaking hands when meeting people is truly ancient and shows peaceful intent as it makes it clear you have no weapon. Castles and fortifications are scattered throughout Europe. Lords and chieftains were constantly at war. Ordinary people suffered greatly and were wary of strangers. Today, you can still see remnants of fortified farms in France and walls were built around towns with gates being locked and guarded at night. The narrow part of the road going into Ongar is where the town gate once stood with the castle close by. Peace is a great blessing. It allowed people to plant and harvest crops and keep their family safe.

One of the reasons that King Alfred had the moniker 'The Great' is because people could travel safely during his reign as it was so peaceful in his kingdom. It is interesting how many times 'peace' is mentioned in scripture. In the nativity scene the angel says, 'peace on earth and goodwill to all men'. During the Catholic Mass we share the 'sign of peace' a handshake or a nod to those around us. This reminds us of Jesus's words to the apostles 'my peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you'. To live in peace is what we all desire. 'Peace be with you' is a traditional greeting in many cultures. We hope and pray that all may enjoy it.

B. Wrobel

St Helen's, 87 High Street, Ongar CM5 9DX

St Margaret of Scotland, Doddinghurst Road, CM15 0QJ

Parish Priest - Father Frank Westcott

Please contact the Parish office 01277 362645 for Information on Baptism, Funerals and Wedding Services. All information can be found on our website, www.catholic-parish-ongar.org.uk email: ongar@brcdt.or

Services and Information

St. Helen's 9am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,

St. Helen's 9am Friday followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St Helen's 4.30 – 5.15pm Saturday, Sacrament of reconciliation (Confession)

St. Helens 5.30pm Saturday

St. Helen's 8.45am – Sunday (tea and coffee served after Mass)

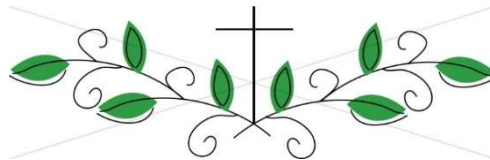
St. Margaret's 10.30am – Sunday (tea and coffee served after Mass)

Activities in the parish

Doddy Drop-in, 2-4pm on the second Tuesday of each month at St Margaret's Hall. All are welcome for a cup of tea, coffee, chat, cards, scrabble.

Events

November 22nd 12midday – Fun quiz and lunch at St. Margaret's Hall. All welcome.



Puzzle Page Answers

1. LIKE

2.

T	I	D	E
I	D	E	A
D	E	E	R
E	A	R	S



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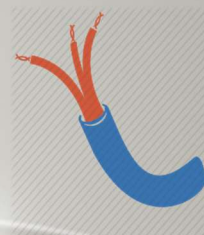


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Ongar Nature Watch

Kestrels and Sparrow Hawks



Kestrels and sparrow hawks are both birds of prey, so called because they hunt animals on the wing, using their keen sense of sight. They are equipped with strong, sharp claws called talons, and large, powerful beaks adapted for tearing and piercing flesh. They are also referred to as raptors, a term derived from Latin meaning to seize or overcome by force.

Although both kestrels and sparrow hawks are predators, they hunt in completely different ways.

The kestrel is a familiar sight all year round in this area, hovering some 10 metres or so above roadside verges with wings quivering and tail widespread, methodically searching the ground below for prey. When not in flight they may look for their small mammal and bird prey whilst perched on a branch high in a tree and on a telephone post or wire. Kestrels are attractive birds and have brownish upperparts, the male being more red with a blue-grey head and tail. In most cases, the females are considerably larger than the males.

Intensive management of farmland and habitat change have made kestrels less common over recent decades. However, man-made environments including motorway verges have come to their rescue and kestrels may now be found in urban as well as rural areas.

Kestrels often nest in church towers, old buildings and hollow trees, and sometimes they reuse deserted nests of other birds such as crows and magpies. The single clutch contains 3 to 6 eggs, white or yellowish-buff with red-brown markings.

Sparrowhawks are small birds of prey. They are adapted to hunt birds in confined spaces like dense woodland, so gardens are ideal hunting grounds. Male sparrowhawks have a slate grey back and white underparts, barred with orange. Females are larger and have brown upperparts and dark barring underneath. They have broad, rounded wings and a long tail and are perfectly adapted for weaving in and out of trees at high speed in pursuit of small birds on which they feed.



The quarry is eaten on the ground, the hawk standing with both feet on its victim; wings drooped to form a tent to prevent other birds of prey sharing its catch. They may be seen soaring high in the sky, but unlike kestrels, they never hover.

Sparrowhawks build their nests, a simple platform made from twigs, in trees and this is used to raise a single clutch of 2-7 eggs each year. The eggs are bluish-white with dark brown markings and, like kestrels, incubation is by the female only although both adults feed the young.

Keith Snow

Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)

With the climate changing so dramatically, wildlife globally and locally is being affected significantly. In order to follow these effects on animals and plants, we rely on biologists with in-depth knowledge of our fauna and flora to keep us informed of the current situation. A good way to keep updated is to converse with local experts.



Ongar Wildlife Society has access to such experts and invites them to talk to members in manageable groups where questions can be asked and discussions held. Sessions take the form of afternoon illustrated talks, which have been held for decades. The talks continue at 2pm on 20th October with *Wildlife of Costa Rica*.

Visitors pay just £5 to hear a talk but you can become a member for an annual fee of only £25, covering all of the monthly meetings.

To help you locate our venue, Toot Hill Village Hall, the address is 2 Toot Hill Road and the post code is CM5 9LR

OWLS has a website and future talks and the latest news will appear there. Please visit *ongarwildlifesociety.com*

Keith Snow

A balanced diet means a cupcake in each hand.

Probus Club



Probus meets at lunchtime on the third Wednesday of the month at the Hunters Meet Hotel and Restaurant in Hatfield Heath (CM20 7BQ). Members gather for a three-course meal from a wide choice together with drinks from the bar. They enjoy conversation with like-minded friends and the opportunity to listen to an entertaining speaker.

In August we heard Alan Pamphilon on *Mr Marconi and Radio*. In September was Stephanie Callister-Jarrold, an authority on *Owls*.

We have recently become a ladies' and a men's club and the ladies are thoroughly enjoying the meetings, especially the lunches. So, ladies, if you would like a lovely lunch once a month, meet new friends and hear a short talk by a speaker, then please join us. The next meeting is on **15th October, starting at 1pm**.

We are currently planning Christmas Lunch in December for members and guests.

If you are interested in joining Probus, please contact me for further details.

Keith Snow
Secretary 366791

Stay Safe and Well this Winter Fyfield

Wednesday 18 February. Arrive 10.45am to start 11am

Free event with information bag and lunch.

About the day

Informative talks from health and wellbeing advisors on how to stay safe and well over the winter months. Plus, a NEW interactive theatre performance about romance and friendship scams. Blood pressure checks subject to availability.

Booking is required

Please call 01992 564226 or book online: eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com to confirm your place. Booking lines open in December.

Fyfield Village Hall, Houchin Drive, Fyfield, Essex CM5 0RG

For further information please contact Karen Murray, Older Peoples Community Engagement Officer: 01992 564222.

Email kmurray@eppingforestdc.gov.uk



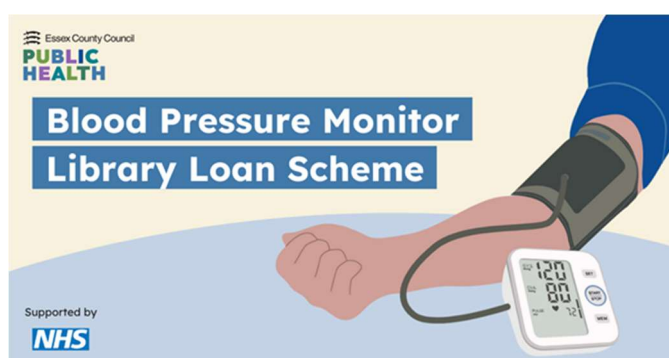
Borrow a Blood Pressure Monitor from Your Local Library

Stay on top of your health and check your blood pressure from home with Essex Library Service's new loan scheme!

Borrow a blood pressure monitor from any Essex library or mobile library from 8 September.

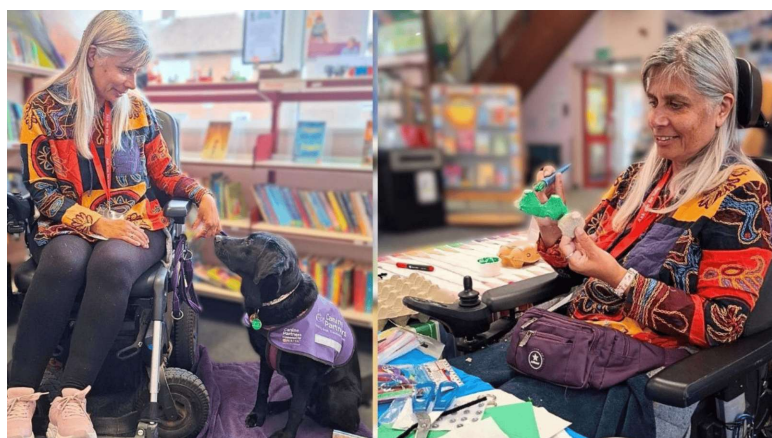
When you borrow a blood pressure monitor, you'll also get:

- Instructions on how to take readings and what to do with the results
- A blood pressure diary to record your readings
- Links to online resources, including instructional videos and further guidance



You don't need a GP referral, just a library card!

Link: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/blood-pressure-monitors-for-loan>



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Link: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/volunteer-at-your-local-library>

Find out what's available and how to register your interest.

Fyfield Focus – Advertising and Editorial Details

Advertising in the Fyfield Focus

The Focus is published bi-monthly, on the 1st of the month, with six issues a year covering Feb/Mar, Apr/May, Jun/Jul, Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov and Dec/Jan delivered to +390 homes.

Contributing Articles to the Fyfield Focus

We welcome contributions to the Fyfield Focus. Our deadline is 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 available space. No anonymous submissions will be included. The Editorial team's decision is final regarding suitability for inclusion and all material will receive joint editorial review.

Advertising Rates

Adverts can be as text, picture or PDF. We can help you design yours, if required. All adverts will be placed in the Fyfield Focus Magazine and via the PDF on our website fyfieldfocus.wixsite.com/home. All requests for advertising should be directed to Steve Turner, with requests to be received by email no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication (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).

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

The Fyfield Focus Team:

Production team: Margaret Dines, Sally Wallden, Dan Webster – fyfieldfocus@gmail.com

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

Delivery with thanks to: Liz Bird, Carol Cox, Eddie Fancourt, Elaine Griffiths, Fran Homersham, Ann Jackson, Les Lamb, David Mead, Katharine Perry, Heather Porter, Mary Simons, Jenny Stone, Steve Turner, Sue Veal, Mike Walker and Mary Woodrow.

Printing: Chelmsford Diocesan Print Unit

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Fyfield Useful Contacts

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Ongar Villages Voluntary Care Group – General No.	365363

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– Ray Balcombe	07774 973611
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– Kim Hanley , <i>Clerk</i>	07415 407915
Email - fyfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com	

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