

October/November 24

FYFIELD



FOCUS



fyfieldfocus.wixsite.com/home

Village Diary

Date	Time	What	Where
Tue 1 st Oct	10.00am	Coffee Morning	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 6 th Oct	10.00am	Ramblers	From Village Hall
Fri 25 th Oct	6.00pm	Music Pizza Night	Village Hall
Sun 13 th Oct	10.30am	Community Worship	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 20 th Oct	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 3 rd Nov	10.00am	Ramblers	From Village Hall
Tue 5 th Nov	10.00am	Coffee Morning	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 10 th Nov	10.30am	Service of Remembrance	St Nicholas' Church
Sun 17 th Nov	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
Sat 23 rd Nov	7.00pm	Magic Night	Village Hall
Tue 26 th Nov	6.00pm	Christmas Tree lighting	Queen Street
Sat 30 th Nov	1.00pm	Senior citizens Christmas lunch	Village Hall
Sun 1 st Dec	10.00am	Ramblers	From Village Hall
Tue 3 rd Dec	10.00am	Coffee Morning	St Nicholas' Church

October 2004 - 20 years since the first park run

October 1999 - 25 years since the London Eye was built ready for the new millenium

Front Cover - Fyfield Footpath 10k winning men

Halloween



Halloween is celebrated each year on October 31st. The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in), when people would light sacred bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. When the celebration was over, they re-lit their hearth fires from the bonfires to help protect them during the coming winter.

The Romans brought Feralia, a day in late October to commemorate the passing of the dead, followed by a day to honour Pomona, the goddess of fruit and trees, whose symbol was the apple which may explain the tradition of bobbing for apples at Halloween.

In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1st to honour all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns from pumpkins, festive gatherings, wearing costumes and eating treats.



Fyfield Pumpkin Trail 2024

Thursday 31st October



The now famous Fyfield Pumpkin Trail returns for another year! This time, as Halloween falls in half term, it's for one day only.

This is such a lovely village event for all the family and we can't wait to see all your amazing decorations and expert pumpkin carvings! Please see the grapevine for full details, maps will also be available from the village shop.

Happy Halloween!



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Fyfield Parish Council News

Dear Residents

I am pleased to say that the village sign has been repaired and we are hoping to reinstall it shortly.

We would like to remind everyone that the Sports Field is always available for sports and recreation by villagers who can use the Village Hall's carpark while they are on the Field, but please bear in mind that hirers of the Hall have priority.

In June and September next year we are planning to have a Festival in conjunction with the Village Hall, St Nicholas' Church and other groups and individuals. Stalls, dog show, competitions, games, music and more!

One of the most beautiful features of our village is the River Roding. The Rivers Trust produce a Sewage Map <https://theriverstrust.org/sewage-map> that shows all the discharges across the country from sewage works. In 2023, 'storm overflow' from the Willingale sewage works spilled 133 times for a total of 2,213 hours (that is a quarter of the year!) into a stream that flows into the Roding.

The Council are considering what actions we can take to improve this problem.

Please come to the village Christmas Tree lighting celebration on Tuesday 26th November outside the Queen's Head. Mince pies and carols too.

Dan Webster
Chair

The next two Parish Council meetings will be held on Monday 7th October and Monday 4th November at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome.

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
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Cllr. Michael Brawn	07510 377435	fpcbrawn@gmail.com
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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	



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Village Hall

We are officially now into autumn and our Bangin' Friday BBQ's have finished. This year we were very lucky to have 'Band 47' and 'Tracey Q' entertain us on the terrace. I'm sure those who came along enjoyed them as much as we did and we look forward to seeing them again.

Although the BBQ's have finished, we plan to do a few Friday evening events through the winter. These will be advertised on the Grapevine, Focus and our new notice board, which is on the end wall by the car park. Whilst mentioning the notice board we have to say a huge thank you to the Shed men for doing an amazing job of revamping and putting up the notice board for us.

The next planned event on **24th November** will see the return of **Ilford Magic Circle for our 'Magic Night'**. It really is a brilliant evening with close up magic at the table followed by a stage act with feats of magic mystery and mind reading. Tickets are £17 which includes food and are available from our website, Steve 07894 884980 or Penny 07884 007865.

This year we have purchased a Christmas tree for the village hall. It would be lovely to include as many people in the village with a bauble to hang on it, so if you would like to donate a decoration, homemade or brought please contact Penny 07884007865.

The **Children's Christmas Party** with an entertainer is booked for **Sunday 15th December**. Tickets will be £8 per child including a Christmas tea. Spaces are limited so please book your tickets early.

After a number of years, our chairman Martin Baxter has announced his retirement. Martin, you will be greatly missed as chair and on the committee. Thank you for your hard work, time and other contributions over the last few years in taking the village hall forwards, in particular in the fundraising/events that both raised valuable funds and provided many opportunities for the community to get together. We wish you well and enjoy your retirement.

We have also lost George who recently announced his resignation. Thank you also for your time and contribution over the last couple of years.

This leaves us with a few vacancies for trustees. If you are interested in joining or just would like to be volunteer, please see a committee member.

Penny Ovel
Chair

MAGIC NIGHT!

A unique evening of mystery!

£17*

includes meal
tickets and info at
fyfieldvillagehall.org.uk/events

*Early purchase price until 10 November. £20 after



23 November
from 7pm

FYFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Charity number: 301304

District Matters

The big event for us all in October is the first budget of the new government and its implications on the EFDC Budget and on our lives. Whilst we have no control over this, we can report that the new waste disposal and re-cycling service will start on Tuesday, 5th November. Things should stay the same as we have today except the time of day the collections are made may change as the collection vehicles will be travelling from North Weald instead of from the Waltham Abbey area. The new vehicles will be painted white with the Terra Verde Services TVS logo prominent. Later in the year the small blue containers for glass and the recycling bags will be replaced by a large blue bin.

This will provide a simpler service and also save EFDC money. The changeover from the old to new service should be seamless but please be patient should there be any teething problems.

The new streamlined planning process is underway with more planning applications being determined by our Planning Officers rather than passing through a committee. Hopefully this will improve the planning process but will be subject to review after the first year of operation.

Look after yourselves, keep safe and get ready for the Christmas holidays!

Cllr. Ian Hadley - 07765882001

Cllr.ihadley@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Cllr. Ray Balcombe - 07774973611

Cllr.rbalcombe@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Cllr. Richard Morgan - 01279 731243

Cllr.rmorgan@eppingforestdc.gov.uk



Hot Off The Press!

Music Pizza Night

Friday 25th October 2024 from 6p.m.

at **Fyfield Village Hall**

Back by popular demand -

Tracey Q will be returning to the Village Hall singing Swing, Jazz, Sixties and much more.

Bar and Pizzas



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3 COURSE - 25

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3 COURSE - 30

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3 COURSES 30



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Cider

In an old booklet written by a previous vicar Peter Turner, there are descriptions of many parts of Fyfield and its history. We hope to include some snippets of these in future issues. Here is a suitably seasonal one.

It is autumn ... time to make the cider

One of our more famous rectors, the renowned Doctor Walker, leaves a wry recollection of his life in the village. Although a Puritan, the rector enjoyed the smaller luxuries in life – including the famed cider made by his wife Elizabeth. When friends dined with him at the Rectory, they would invariably compliment him on his delicious cider. To which Elizabeth would tartly retort, “His cider! ‘Tis my cider. I had all the pains and care and he hath all the praise – he who never meddles with.”



Elizabeth’s cider apples came from orchards, which supplied Herefordshire Redstreaks and Worcester Jennet-Moyles apples that give quite different tasting ciders. The rector evidently something of a gourmet, suggested to his wife that she might grind and press the two apple crops separately but the hard working Elizabeth would have none of this.

“My dear, thou knowest not the trouble of drawing off so many vessels. I’ll make a hogshead of them, putting them both together.” Doctor Walker evidently did not volunteer to help in the making of two batches of cider and let his wife take the easy way out. The result was the most famous cider for miles around.

When reading this, we have to admit to having some doubts about the authenticity of this story, but with great apologies to Peter, how wrong we were! We did our own bit of sleuthing and via the University of Michigan, Digital Collections, Early Books online discovered that Dr Walker in 1690 had written a short book titled

The vertuous wife: or, the holy life of Mrs. Elizabth Walker, late wife of A. Walker, D.D. sometime Rector of Fyfield in Essex:

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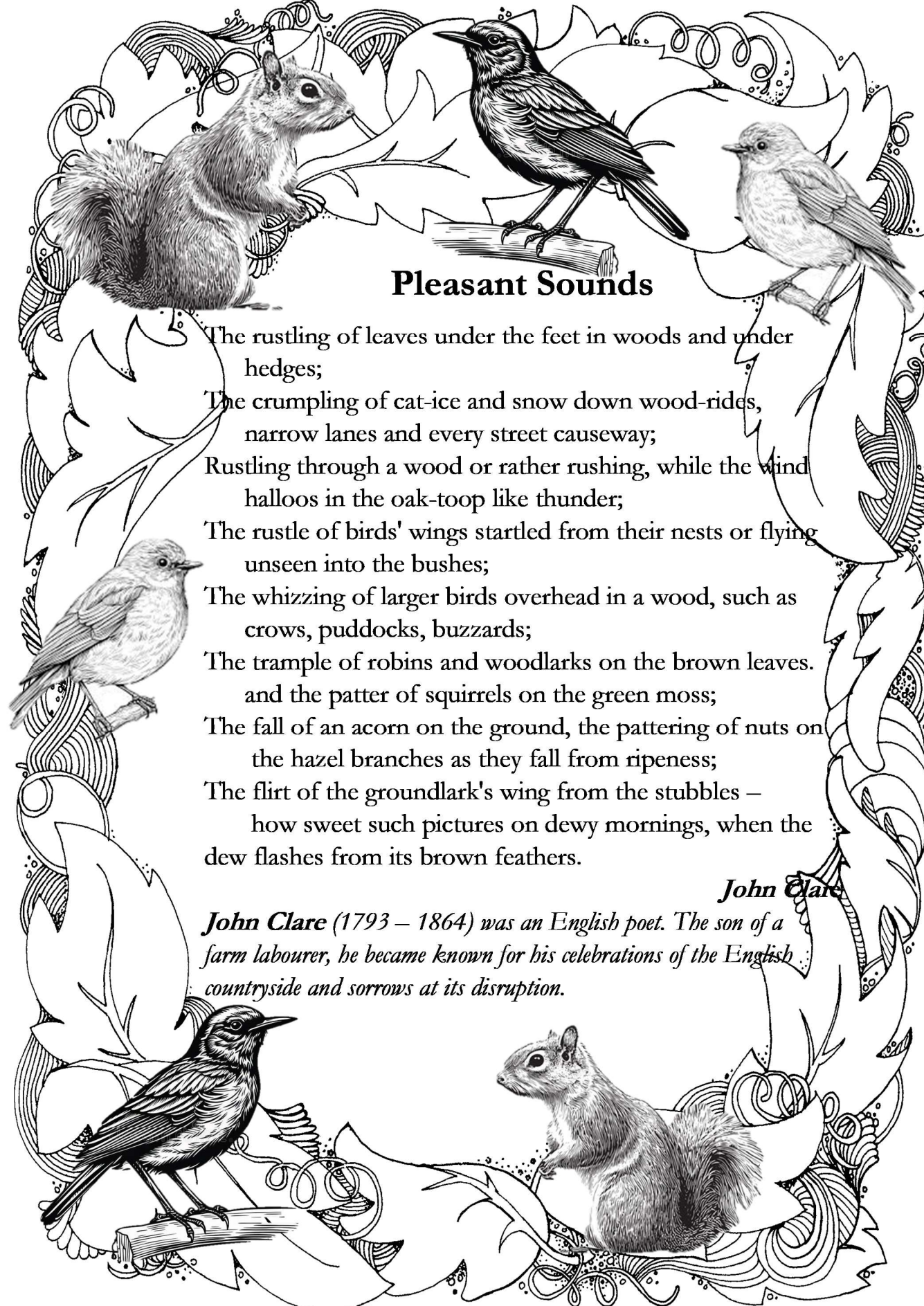
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Pleasant Sounds

The rustling of leaves under the feet in woods and under hedges;

The crumpling of cat-ice and snow down wood-rides, narrow lanes and every street causeway;

Rustling through a wood or rather rushing, while the wind halloos in the oak-toop like thunder;

The rustle of birds' wings startled from their nests or flying unseen into the bushes;

The whizzing of larger birds overhead in a wood, such as crows, puddocks, buzzards;

The trample of robins and woodlarks on the brown leaves. and the patter of squirrels on the green moss;

The fall of an acorn on the ground, the pattering of nuts on the hazel branches as they fall from ripeness;

The flirt of the groundlark's wing from the stubbles – how sweet such pictures on dewy mornings, when the dew flashes from its brown feathers.

John Clare

John Clare (1793 – 1864) was an English poet. The son of a farm labourer, he became known for his celebrations of the English countryside and sorrows at its disruption.

The Black Bull Inn, Fyfield



Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday
11.00 – 15.00; 18.00 – 23.00
Sunday 12.00 – 23.00

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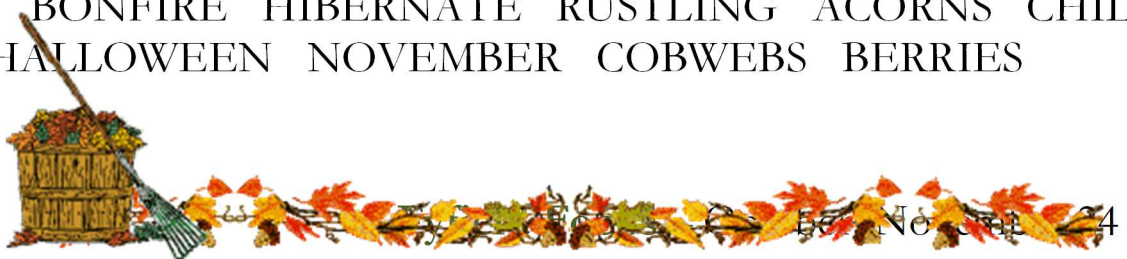


Puzzle Page

An Autumnal Word Search

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

CRISP OCTOBER PUMPKINS LEAVES EQUINOX STUBBLE
PUMPKINS CONKERS CHESTNUTS SKELETON GHOSTS
HARVEST BONFIRE HIBERNATE RUSTLING ACORNS CHILLY
APPLES HALLOWEEN NOVEMBER COBWEBS BERRIES
SPIDERS



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Dr Walker's Church of England Primary School

It has been a huge pleasure to welcome all the children and families back into school for the start of the new academic year. Every child has made a great start in their new classes and we have welcomed several new families to the school as well as some siblings.

Over the summer holidays there have been a number of changes around the school environment, some were needed for safety reasons, and others to give a face-lift to premises. Staff, governors (and husbands!) all worked tirelessly through the summer break to make this possible and we now have a freshly painted, bright foyer and reception area.



To further enhance the area, every child from Reception to Year 6 was able to create a lasting mural display piece for the main corridor, based on the book 'The Dot', with a focus around growth mindset. Thanks to Mrs Spanton's daughter for painting the line drawing for the children to add to.

Tree work maintenance also needed to be completed over the summer break; including the felling of one tree which, following a tree survey was found to be unsafe due to infection. Others required crowning and lopping.

The outdoor space in EYFS has been revamped in order to provide more opportunities for our young learners. We now have a fully functional outdoor classroom to extend and challenge the children's learning, which will enhance more child-led interactions and learning.

To embrace our local area and the lovely rural environment we are blessed with, we have chosen to rename our classes after trees. Reception/Year 1 will be Willow Class; Year 2/3 are Sycamore Class and Year 4/5/6 Maple Class. Other changes are that Mrs Jenny Dean is the new Head of School and will be supported by Mrs Hafise Nazif (Executive Head). We are very much looking forward to moving forwards with the changes that have happened.

Staff and Pupils of Dr Walker's School

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October 1969 - 55 years since the first Monty Python's Flying Circus was aired

October 1964 - 60 years since the first episode of Stingray broadcast

Fyfield Pre-School

Children have returned to Fyfield Pre-School and loved playing in their new sand area in the garden.

They have spent time digging and building sandcastles.



One of the topics this term is **All About Me** and the children made pancake faces and learnt about different facial features while using chopping skills to turn fruit into eyes, noses and mouths.



For more information about the term time Pre-school, visit www.villagepre-schools.com

Fyfield Pre-School

November 1989 - 35 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall. East Germany opened its checkpoints and allowed its citizens to travel to West Germany

November 1989 - 35 years since the Band Aid single was recorded



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St. Nicholas' Church

One of the reasons I love living in England is the existence of seasons. I love the start of each new season as it comes around and look forward to the changes that the new season brings. Having had our back door almost permanently open over the summer, I find myself shutting it and hunkering down in the darker evenings, wondering how long we'll last before putting on the heating.

In the book of Ecclesiastes in the bible, there is a passage that talks about the different seasons of life, the different rhythms that we live by:

'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven:a time to plant and a time to uproot.....a time to tear down and a time to build.....a time to weep and a time to laugh.....a time to mourn and a time to dance.....'

There is often some sadness when we leave a season behind, but the God of Love promises to be with us whatever the next season may bring. He created the natural world to change and grow, which we see clearly as the leaves on the trees begin to change colour, and he created us to do the same. If the season you are currently in is particularly difficult, know that God sees you and He will be by your side offering hope, peace and comfort as only he can, if only you'll invite him to.

Ali Burton
Church Warden

We are very pleased to be hosting two 'special' services. Firstly, the **Remembrance Service** on Sunday 10th 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 1944.

'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 15th 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

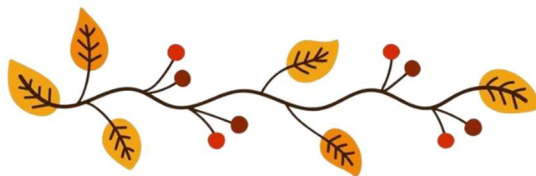
13th Oct 10.30am Community Worship

20th Oct 10.30am Holy Communion

10th Nov 10.30am Service of Remembrance

17th Nov 10.30am Holy Communion

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



St Nicholas' Church

Tuesday 1st October 2024

10am – 12 noon

Everyone welcome including children and dogs!

1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group and Dragonian Explorer Unit



All sections have returned to scouting after the long summer holiday and are looking forward to another fun packed term.

Scout Camp

Saturday 27th July saw 11 Scouts and our Leaders from 1st Moreton and Fyfield Troop embark on a week-long camp to Woodhouse Activity Scout Camp just outside Bristol.

After we had arrived on site and set up camp, we took a stroll across the Severn Bridge into Wales, where Dennis picked us up in the minibus and took us back to camp. In fact, we loved the walk so much, we asked to do it again, which the leaders allowed us to do at the end of the week!

Sunday took us into Bristol where we completed a mountain biking trek around Ashton Court, despite some grazes to legs and arms we all came back with smiles. We had an amazing time riding on some miniature steam engines whilst our leaders performed their 1st Aid skills when an elderly lady suffered a fall.



The fun continued throughout the week, with kayaking along the River Wye,



gorge walking, swimming in a marine lake and a visit to the Big Pit, a Welsh coal mine.

On site activities challenged our teamwork and our square lashing skills when building a Flintstone style cart. The high ropes were fun if not a little scary but we encouraged each other to continue around the mid-air assault course – even Rolf (the oldest leader) challenged himself to complete the course! Laser Tag was brilliant fun and we spent nearly 2 hours running around the woods trying to laser tag the members of the other team. We completed our version of F1 when racing Go-Karts around the racetrack.

During the week, we were well fed. We hired the on-site pizza oven and created some delicious pizzas for dinner one night. Eggy bread and bacon was a favourite breakfast and we enjoyed tucking into a great selection of yummy cakes and biscuits.



We all had a wonderful week away and enjoyed so many activities we wouldn't have done otherwise. As an added bonus on the way home, we had a brief stop at Reading services, where a lady selling some donuts donated us two boxes to share on the journey home.

A massive thank you to our leaders for organising and taking us away on the best Scout camp; we're all looking forward to the next one!

1st Moreton & Fyfield Scouts

Sandra Mead

Group Scout Leader

Tel: 01277 899519 Email: gemkia@aol.com

Fyfield 5K and 10K Run



Sunday 15th September saw the return of the Fyfield Footpath 5k & 10k – raising funds for our local Scout Group. We were blessed with ideal weather and a dry course and had over 200 registrations for the first time ever. The photo of the winning 10k men made the front cover – all putting in fast times. We also welcomed many runners from outside the community – including the Ladies from Benfleet seen here half way round the 10k.

This event is a community effort with too many names to mention, including Landowners, Sponsors, the Ramblers, Scout parents and leaders and our excellent Marshals. These were joined by a new and enthusiastic group of Scouts who made the day for the runners.

We will be back on 14th September 2025.





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The Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving

Marking the installation of the Stained Glass Window created in memory of Marcus Dain. 18th August 2024

The day dawned bright, sunny and warm for the wonderful, long-awaited service to celebrate Marcus' window, and how appropriate that was! Friends, family, and so many Fyfield folk filled the church to express their respect and affection for Marcus and to have a close look at the stunning stained glass window, now proudly shining out for ever, in his memory.

Readers of the Focus will know the long journey Pat has made from start to finish to achieve this wonderful tribute to Marcus, and as we all gathered to feast our eyes on the dazzling colours, and dazzling message contained within it, there was palpable joy in the air.

As we all took our seats, our church organ rang out the St Anne Fugue by J S Bach, a fitting, splendid piece for the occasion, beautifully played by David Pickthall. Looking round the church, it was so heartwarming to see neighbours, family and friends, some of whom had travelled back to Fyfield to acknowledge the huge contribution Marcus made during his lifetime, and the difference he made in Fyfield.

Rev. Sam led the service beautifully, encouraging us to bring to mind our own personal memories of Marcus. My own, one of many, was when he invited Richard to have a ride in Gumdrop, his beloved classic Ford Prefect, which now lives in Shoeburyness, and is enjoying another new chapter of life.

While folk went to the altar to receive Communion, the Hand Bell Ringers played a beautiful medley of pieces, and again, at the end of the service. Everyone was invited to stay and enjoy refreshments, which included Pimms and Prosecco, and savoury nibbles galore. Nearly everybody did!

It was, indeed, a joyful and memorable service. And if you weren't able to be there and would like to see the window "up close", the church is open every Wednesday and, of course, there are our services - check out our splendid new noticeboard for when they are.

Finally, you can see the window from the pavement! Stand between the pavement noticeboard and the gate, and you can see it through the clear glass window to the left of the porch. Its stunning colours and message are clear to see.

Jenny Stone

Fyfield Ramblers

Rambling continues, meeting on the **first Sunday** of the month:

Sunday 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December

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**:

1st October, 5th November and 3rd December

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 and, on a Tuesday morning from 11:40am – 12:10pm 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 -

1st October, 22nd October,
12th November
and 3rd December



Thank You Amelia

Well, you must have spotted it gracing the pillar box outside Fyfield Village Store and Post Office. Colourful, creative and made to make you smile.

It is thanks to Amelia Stanley who, home from university and a summer job not forthcoming, decided to be super creative and brighten up Fyfield.

So Amelia you should be proud, it did make us smile and yes, we straightened up the cyclist when necessary!



Here you can see a diver, surfer and swimmer in the outer water section and a cyclist, wheelchair racer and sprinter in the track section. The five Olympic rings complete Amelia's homage to the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics.

Thank you.

PS Fancy doing another one some time!

November 1969- 55 years since BBC1 launched a full colour service -An Evening with Petula (Clark) was the first transmission

November 1954 - 70 years since Hancock's Half Hour first aired



I would like to make an appeal on behalf of
St Clare Hospice, Hastingwood

Many of you reading this may have been affected by
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As a local business we have and continue to support the
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Willingale Village Hall Craft Fair

Saturday 9th November

11am -4pm

Free entry

Come and browse for Christmas gifts.

Tea, cake and hot food being served

Find the hall at CM5 0SN

Luncheon Club

I cannot believe the time for talking Christmas is upon us!



Just a short note to let you all know that our Christmas Luncheon Club meal will be on **Saturday 30th November 2024 at 1pm** in Fyfield Village Hall. We look forward to seeing you all there and if you would like to join us and have never been before, you will be most welcome.

Please phone Sandra Mead to book your place 01277 899519.

Jan Hall

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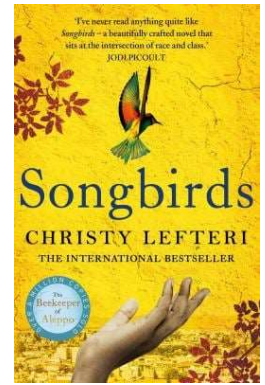
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Pageturners

Songbirds by Christy Lefteri

Songbirds is about a migrant worker Nisha who left her native Sri Lanka for Cyprus so she could continue to support her daughter and mother back home. She works long hours for Petra combining domestic duties with looking after Petra's daughter Alikí and at night she mothers her own daughter in Sri Lanka by the light of a phone.



Nisha disappears unexpectedly one night and her story is told from the point of view of the man who loves her Yiannis (a songbird poacher) and her employer Petra. It is Alikí who insists that Nisha would not simply disappear and as Petra learns how to look after Alikí herself, she comes to understand the woman she barely knew and realises only she and Yiannis will bother to look for her.

Songbirds is based on real events in Cyprus in which five female migrant domestic workers and two children disappeared. It's an exploration of race, class and how these workers are treated. They leave behind their families, desperate to provide for them and are then treated as though they are invisible. The authorities failed to investigate because it was assumed they had chosen to move on.

It additionally led to learning more about the Buffer Zone in Cyprus, which divides Nicosia where the story is set as well as the illegal trade of songbirds caught in glued nets and then sold to restaurants. There is symbolism and connection between the trapped birds and the lives of the domestic workers. The harder they tried to free themselves, the more trapped they became.

It is an easy read by the award-winning author of *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* and the author Christy Lefteri sums it up calling it 'a story about migration and crossing borders: it is about searching for freedom, for a better life, only to find oneself trapped. It is a story about learning to see each and every human being in the same way we see ourselves.'

The Rodings U3A

This is now held in Fyfield Village Hall –
postcode CM5 0RG

on the first Tuesday of each month, at 2pm.

Tea, coffee and biscuits are served on arrival.

There are thirty separate activity groups available to join within the club where members can share mutual interests which can be recreational, cultural or creative. Theatre trips are also organised.

On October 1st our speaker is Bernard Lockett whose talk is on Gilbert & Sullivan.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Fyfield Village Store & Post Office

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

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5th Dec; Thurs 12th Dec

Carol Services: 15th December (Fyfield) at 5pm and
22nd December (Moreton) at 5pm

Want to know more?

Contact Michael Pether on 01277890372

Or mpether1964@gmail.com



WD 50+

Exercise club for ladies and gentlemen 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 899323 for more information.



MORETON AND DISTRICT WI



Meetings normally held in Magdalen Laver Village Hall on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

On October 10th our speaker will be Amanda Sutherland who will be talking about 'Make Do and Mend'

Do come, you will be given a warm welcome. Delicious sandwiches and cakes are served following the talks.

£5 for a taster visit.



THE LAVERS & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



We normally meet in Moreton Village Hall on the 1st Monday of the month, doors open at 7pm.

On 7th October our speaker will be Dave Willett who will be giving a talk on 'The Royal Parks of London'

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

£5 for a taster visit so do come, you will be given a very warm welcome.

Contact Christine Davis if you would like more information: 01277890283 or email davis.christine.d@gmail.com

First Class Post increasing on October 7th

First Class stamps to increase by 30p to £1.65
so maybe buy some in.

Second Class stamps to remain at 85p



Christmas Fayre

St Nicholas Church, Fyfield
Saturday 7th December 2024

11am – 4pm



Christmas in the Church

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

Thank you

A big thank you to the Men's Shed for providing St Nicholas' Church with a wonderful new notice board situated in the porch. It is much appreciated.



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

We are now in Autumn and the Season of Creation which runs from 1st September to 4th October. This is when the Christian Family unites for a worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. We each share a common call to care for creation, and this year, the theme for the season is 'To hope and act with Creation' (Romans 8:19-25)

Pope Francis wrote: 'There is a growing sensitivity to the environment and the need to protect nature, along with a growing concern, both genuine and distressing, for what is happening to our planet. Our goal is not to amass information or to satisfy our curiosity but rather to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening in the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it. (Laudato Si19)

In the States, in response to the public outcry of the awareness of the many environmental insults being hurled at the nation, the environment and each other, Gaylord Nelson, who served in the U.S Senate (1963-1981) organised a nationwide teach-in about environmental issues. The outpouring of grass roots environmental activism marked the first Earth Day – a recognition of the importance of caring for the environment and accepting stewardship and responsibility for the nation's resources. The core values are: Lower Your Carbon Footprint; Reduce, Re-use and Recycle; Be Water Smart; Feed People not Landfills.

In the UK Prince William has also laid down five ambitious challenges for 2030 in the Earth Shot Challenge. Simple but universal, that if achieved, will repair the planet before irreversible damage occurs. Developed in collaboration with leading environmental experts, they are: Protect and Restore Nature; Clean our Air; Revive our Oceans; Build a Waste-Free World; and Fix our Climate.

Now we have come a long way and we are all well aware of these concepts and would all say we, 'do our bit' but it is easy to become complacent when we don't always see the fruits of our labour. However, if we go back and reflect on the overall message from Paul in Romans as he encourages us by saying that we should look forward to something we don't have yet and to do so with patience and confidence.

Lesley Denton

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

St Margaret of Scotland, Doddinghurst Road, CM15 0QJ

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

New to our parish. Please pop in and say hello to Fr Emile and fill in a Register/Census Form available in the Church Porch.

Services and Information

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

St. Helen's 11am Thursday followed by tea/coffee and a chat.

St. Helens 5.30pm Saturday

St. Helen's 8.45am – Sunday

St. Margaret's 10.30am – Sunday

Doddy drop-in. 2-4pm 2nd Tuesday of each month at St Margaret's Hall. All welcome for a cup of tea and a chat or a game of cards or Scrabble.



1st Moreton & Fyfield Scout Group



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

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Ongar Nature Watch

Wood Pigeon

The rotund Wood Pigeon is a familiar sight in gardens as it waddles along looking very purposeful. It is found almost everywhere in the country and is especially attracted to farmland. Their call is one of the best known and is a rhymical coo-coo-cooo-coo-coo-coo, repeated several times over.



In some local areas the common pigeon is not the Wood Pigeon but the Feral Pigeon, a much sleeker bird. These are descendants of domestic pigeons that have returned to the wild. The domestic pigeon was originally bred from the wild rock dove, which inhabits sea-cliffs and mountains. Feral pigeons find the ledges of buildings to be a substitute for sea cliffs.

Wood Pigeons are members of the Dove family and are closely related to the more delicate Collared Dove which you may also see in your garden.

Wood pigeons have red beaks with a yellow tip, and iridescent green and purple feathers on their neck together with a white patch. Their legs and feet are red. They have grey-blue plumage with a pink breast. and their eyes are golden or green. White patches on the wings can be seen in flight. When they take-off they make a characteristic clattering sound.

It is very difficult to distinguish males from females. They have a wingspan of nearly 80cm (approximately 30 inches) and weigh about 450g (just under a pound).

There are numerous pigeons in Ongar as their lifespan is longer than many birds, around 3 years, and they have an almost continuous breeding season. They can be seen all year round and their numbers may be added to as Wood Pigeons from the continent migrate to this country in the autumn and winter.

Wood Pigeons make their flimsy nests of twigs in hedges and trees from April to September in which the female lays two white, smooth, slightly shiny eggs.

Incubation is shared, although the female undertakes the major part. The young pigeons or squabs are fed on 'pigeon milk', regurgitated from a food storage area of the gut called the crop.

They feed on seeds, leaves, grains, fruit, peas and root crops and can become a serious agricultural pest.

Keith Snow

Ongar Wildlife Society (OWLS)



OWLS continues its programme of afternoon talks and on Monday October 21st, our speaker is Vicki Daws on the topic of *Plastic Pollution: is Zero Waste a Reasonable Solution?* We commence at 2pm.

A programme for the year has been arranged which includes talks on *A Countryside Winter* and *Travels in Argentina*. Visitors pay just £5 but you can become a member for an annual fee of only £25, covering all of the monthly talks.

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 new website and future talks and the latest news will appear there. Please visit *Ongarwildlifesociety.com*

Keith Snow

Probus Club of Fyfield



The Probus Club meets at 12.30 for 1pm on Wednesday 16th October at the usual venue, the Hunters Meet Hotel and Restaurant in Hatfield Heath when members will gather and enjoy conversation with their friends. They will also listen to a speaker, yet to be arranged.

If you would like to join us, please contact me for further details.

Probus Clubs are for retired or semiretired people from all walks of life. They are for either men, like ours, or women (but not both) and are non-sectarian and non-political and do not engage in fundraising or community sponsorship. Twice a year, in June and December, we are joined by our wives, partners and friends.

The annual membership subscription is £15 and the meal costs £25.

You are welcome to join us. For further information please contact me on 01277 366791.

Keith Snow

Secretary, Probus Club of Fyfield
366791

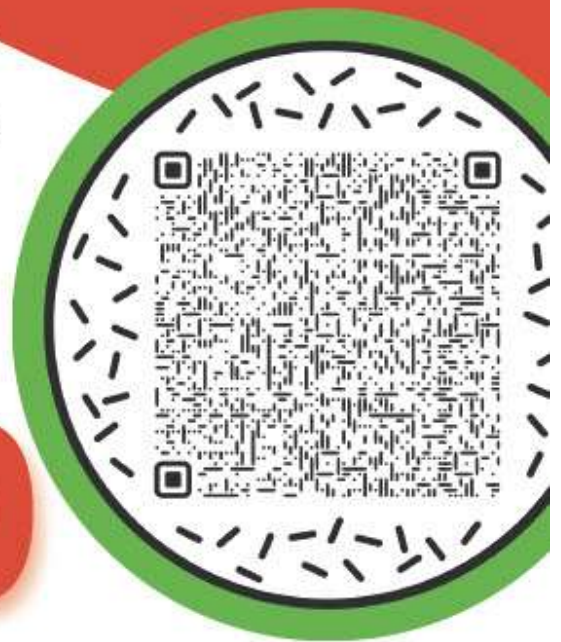


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Whether you have a few hours each month or more, join us as a volunteer at Essex Library Service.

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 - Code Club Volunteer
 - Customer Services Volunteer
 - Baby and Toddler Rhymetime Volunteer
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 - Memory Café Support Volunteer
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[Volunteer at your local library | Essex Library Service](#)

Printing on the Go

Library members are now able to send printing from their device (phone/tablet/laptop) anytime, anywhere and drop into Basildon, Chelmsford or Harlow Libraries to collect it.

Step-by-step guide to printing directly from your device. (Link: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/help-pages/direct-printing>)

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.

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Fyfield Useful Contacts

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Bell Ringers – Tower – J. Robinson	899557
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Coffee with Cops – B. Saward	07747 803829
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Ongar Wildlife Soc(OWLS) – K. Snow	366791
Pilates – C. Smith	07903 121003
Fyfield Ramblers – L. Lamb	07776 178794
Neighbourhood Watch– L. Lamb	07776 178794
Ongar & Villages WD50+ Exercise Club – P. Nicholson	899504
Church Coffee Morning – C. Cox	899245
Fyfield Luncheon Club – Bookings – S. Mead	899519
Ongar Villages Voluntary Care Group – General No.	365363

COUNCIL

District Council Rural East – Ian Hadley	899840
– Ray Balcombe	07774 973611
Fyfield Parish Council – Dan Webster, Chair	899405
– Kim Hanley, Clerk	07415 407915
Email - fyfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com	

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Church Warden – Lesley Wallis	899214

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Fyfield Village Pre-School – Lisa Carey	899678
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VILLAGE HALL

Chair – Penny Ovel	07884 007865
Bookings – Lizzie Webster	07956 440894
Secretary – Chris Collins	07920 520469