

Fiddington News

APRIL 2024

We are grateful to Hinkley Point B Power Station, EDF, for printing this Newsletter

Village Hall Committee News

Chairman's introduction

Hello Everyone,

I would like to say a big Thank You too all that gave up their time and helped with the Jumble Sale last Month. And of course thanks to everybody that attended. You all made it a great success even with the rain on the day.

The Village Hall and its committee rely on events like the Jumble Sale to keep The Hall's doors open.

On April 6th We will be holding the Usual Book swap followed by, A Plant Bring and Buy sale

Bacon Butties will also be available to purchase along with hot Beverages.

(See the Back Page of this issue)

Happy Easter to all

James U'Dell

(Chair of the Village Hall Committee)
www.fiddingtonvillagehall.co.uk



NEW in this issue:

<i>Concert at the Hall</i>	<i>page 3</i>
<i>All about the Flower Show</i>	<i>page 5</i>
<i>DID YOU KNOW?</i>	<i>page 8</i>
<i>Road closure</i>	<i>back page</i>

*AND instead of April Fools(just for fun)
How many Easter Bunnies can you find
in this issue? (answers on back page)*

**Dates for the Diary on
the back Page**

Report from Fiddington PC

Our last parish council meeting was held on the later date of 28 th March and so missed the April newsletter.

A new planning application 28/23/00004 for the installation of a dormer window to the annex roof at Little Whitnell Cottage was unanimously supported.

Application 28/22/00003 for the development of 58 additional touring pitches and the continued use of 53 existing pitches for HPC workers at Mill Farm was granted at a SDC Development Committee meeting held on 7 th March.

At our meeting Wayne Hawley resigned as a parish councillor. Wayne has been a great asset to the council, he was a very supportive and effective councillor. This has created a vacancy. The statutory notice has been put on the notice boards and there were no requests for an election so, we will be able to co-opt a councillor at our meeting to be held on 25 th May.

If you are interested in becoming a councillor, please contact the clerk (details below) by 19 th May.

Our next meeting is the Annual meeting of the Parish Council and will be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 25 th May in Fiddington Village Hall, this will be followed at 8.00pm by the Annual Parish meeting

Tina Gardener
Clerk to Fiddington Parish Council
clerk@fiddington-pc.org.uk
www.fiddington-pc.org.uk
01278 652642



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NFU Mutual
INSURANCE | PENSIONS | INVESTMENTS

On approval subject to underwriting. The NFU Mutual Group (the Group) is a member of the NFU Mutual Group (the Group) and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (the FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (the PRA). The Group is a member of the Financial Conduct Authority (the FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (the PRA). The Group is a member of the Financial Conduct Authority (the FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (the PRA).

Ian Barrow Photography
Events, Portraits, Wedding

www.ianbarrowphotography.webs.com

Sunday April 7th Eucharist 9am

Sunday April 14th Eucharist 9am

Sunday April 21st Eucharist 9am

Sunday April 28th Family Service 9am



Everyone is very welcome to any service or come and share a friendly cuppa after the service has finished. Coffee, tea and biscuits are always served from about 10.10am

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

April 4th at 10.30am in Fiddington Church

Everyone who lives in the Parish of St Martin of Tours is welcome to attend. At this meeting the Churchwardens and PCC for 2024 will be decided and church reports given.

A Date for your diary: **Saturday May 11th**

Not to be missed, Book your tickets early!

A concert by Gregory Steward (Tenor)

at

7.30pm in Fiddington Village Hall

*Gregory will be performing popular Tenor solos from opera,
lighter classical and the shows.*

There will be a cash bar (wine, beer and soft drinks)

Cost £12.50 per ticket

Proceeds to Fiddington Church.

Contact Jenny Kinahan on Tel: 732190 or Jenny.kinahan@hotmail.co.uk



200 Club – Draw Results

The March draw was made at the very enjoyable Spring Sausage Sizzle & Quiz. The winning tickets were:

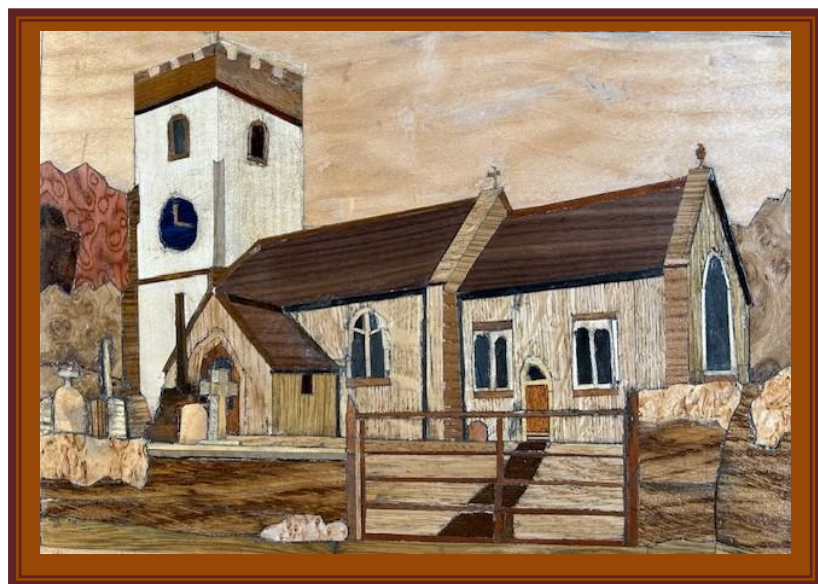
£30 – No 94: Pat Isaac

£50 – No 103: Derek Buller



The Rectory Ramblers

Victors at the Quiz part of a successful Sausage Sizzle & Quiz evening



Art

A first for the Fiddington Art Group with this excellent representation of our parish Church of St. Martin of Tours in marquetry by
John Patterson

Denizen of the Dapples

A few butterfly species are able to survive the winter as adults. It is not usually until April that the first new, freshly-emerged butterflies appear, breaking out of chrysalids that have lingered, precariously and utterly dormant, all winter long.

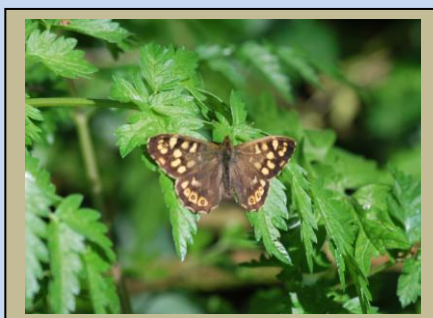
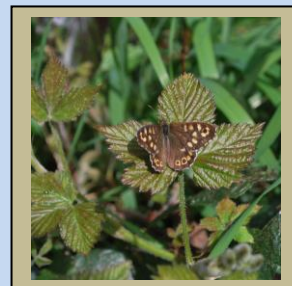
Here in Fiddington, apart from the first of the Small Whites, the likeliest emerger is the Speckled Wood – named a couple of centuries ago as the Wood Argus.

Both names give a good idea of the likeliest places to find this insect, for its favourite haunts are shady lanes, rides in woods and the borders of such – places of dappled sunlight.

The markings of the wings have evolved brilliantly to imitate such conditions. This is a butterfly that avoids bright sunshine.

If the adult butterfly avoids being showy, the caterpillar is even more elusive, being of the same green colouring as the grasses upon which it feeds – for, being one of the so-called “browns” (the Satyridae), this species is dependent upon grasses for larval foodplants.

The female tends to lay her eggs – singly – on plants in more sheltered spots where the ambient temperature is that little bit more sympathetic. There are at least two broods during the course of the year, and even a partial third brood, so that once these butterflies appear on the wing they seem to be around continuously – a business that is further helped by some of the caterpillars surviving as such throughout the winter, not pupating until the early spring.



Rod Cole.



The Fiddington Show



Saturday 13th July 2024

Show to be opened at 3.00pm by
Fern Britton

Many of the customary categories will be staged again. **There are some changes, and the ones you need to know about in good time are as follows:**

Young Person's Sections: two age categories, namely 3-7 years and 8-12 years (as of the day of the show)

Photo: farm animal/s

Model made from contents of the recycling box – max. 30 cm cube

Best decorated hat

Drawing/Painting based on your favourite book

Horticultural:

Maximum diameter 30cm pot for pot plant floral and pot plant foliage

Maximum diameter 40 cm pot or basket for display of annuals

For this year only:

Floral Table Decoration for a Wedding (maximum size 60 x 60cm)

Creative:

Cake made by gentleman, as per details supplied separately

Best decorated boot

Photos: farm animal/s, and the Quantocks (2 categories)

The soft toy category is again replaced by homemade toy – any media (thus including wood or whatever)

Details of all other categories will be given in the usual schedule, later on.

Potatoes: seed potatoes will be available as from 1st April, dispensed by Paul Crosland at the gate of Old Rectory Gardens @ 30p per tuber, cash.

We're back with Sunflowers this year:

collect seeds from same source, free. Do leave your name and contact details when collecting stock! Otherwise the judges will be gloriously unaware of all your efforts to grow prize-winners.

Jenny and Rod Cole

Recipe for Class 37 – Cake made by a Gentleman Somerset Cider Cake.

Cooking time 1 hour to 1¼ hours – oven temperature 180°C/gas4 (then 170°C/gas3).

Ingredients

12oz mixed dried fruit
½ pint sweet cider
10oz self-raising flour
2oz walnuts (chopped)
6oz soft brown sugar
2 eggs (beaten)

Method

Soak fruit in cider overnight.
Put fruit and cider in a pan and bring to the boil – leave to cool.
Mix flour, sugar and walnuts.
Add the eggs and fruit mixture.
Mix well.
Turn mixture into a greased and lined 2lb loaf tin.
Bake at 180°C for 30 minutes.
Reduce oven temperature to 170°C/gas 3 for further 30 to 45 minutes until cake is golden brown and firm.
Cool in tin.

GOOD LUCK!

Ruth Brazier

Travels (without my father)

by Jane Zambra

Part 2

After our visit to St Simeon we carried on to Aleppo, one of the oldest continually occupied cities in the world - it dates back to the 6C BC.

The citadel dominated the city, it was much restored when we were there, but I believe that it was completely destroyed during the civil war of 2012 - 2106. The wonderful souk was also destroyed, but then you could buy anything from diamonds and gold to silks and rose petals (sold by the kilo for rose water) to brown paper bags. I bought a beautiful, very fine, long silk scarf that I often still wear. The archaeological museum was full of treasures, many that I recognised from illustrations in a book that I had as a child called *Everyday life in Bible times*. Great lions with curly beards and high hats and little plump men wearing skirts seemingly made of feathers.

The next day, after a very early start we went to Ebla, a site dating from the 3rd C BC, little to see, but a glorious hillside situation. The only sounds being larks and a small boy across the valley singing to his goats.

From Ebla it was on to, what at that point, became the highlight of the trip. A small plain where Thutmose 111 of Egypt came to hunt elephants, where Hannibal came to teach the Syrians how to use elephants in war. Here, in the middle of nowhere, was Apamea. A Greco Roman site, with not much left except a road about 2kms long lined with pink barley sugar marble columns topped with white Corinthian capitals. They stand in the middle of fields of waving corn and poppies growing up between the cobblestones. It was hot and quiet and we stood in wonderment.

From there we entered desert country. Not the sand dunes of the *Beau Geste* movies but flat hard sand with rocks and stones and Bedouin goats who, it would seem, can live on practically anything - plastic bags included. We arrived in the city of Palmyra (home of the legendary queen Zanoibia) about 4.30. A perfect time sun-wise. The light and shadows were perfect on the great temple of Ba-al. The following morning it all looked dull and lifeless. The other only thing of note there was a race course! Mostly for camel racing.

The next day we had a long hot bumpy drive across the desert to Bosra. Here, there is a great, wonderfully preserved black basalt stone theatre. Just there in the middle of the town - a 15000 seater, no entrance gates or fees, but mothers sitting on the steps gossiping and doing their knitting whilst their children rode their bicycles and played in the arena.

From here we went on to Jordan - which lacked the charm, peace and lack of tourists which made Syrian so special I have had to leave out so much, this has had to be reduced from 10 pages of notes!



Out-n-About

STOGURSEY FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉ
JUBILEE ROOMS, CASTLE STREET, STOGURSEY
FORTNIGHTLY ON WEDNESDAYS 10.30 – 12.00

Upcoming Café Dates:

Wednesday April 10th
Wednesday April 24th
Wednesday May 8th
Wednesday May 22nd
Wednesday June 5th



We will be at BurtonFete on Sunday 26th May with our annual fund raising Tombola. A traditional village fete with lots of extras!! Lots to see and do for children and adults, including a dog show and live music. Hoping to see you there.

Forget-me-Not Cafés provide support, companionship and a warm welcome to those who are recognising issues with their memory, as well as their carers, family, and friends.

There are a variety of activities, some involving existing local groups, such as music, singing, arts, crafts, poetry, bingo, quizzes, or if preferred, just a quiet chat over a coffee. We are a voluntary group, financed by donations and fundraising events.

The Café runs twice a month, planned so that the cafe is open the alternate week to Watchet Forget-me-Not Cafe.

Many friendships have been made over the years.

Please come along and see what we do.

People from all the surrounding villages are welcome.

What we did in March: A relaxing time making Easter cards and ornaments.



For more information please contact:

Helen: 01278 733451 cuttelhelen@gmail.com

Rose: 07507 374234 rosechalk@icloud.com



SPRING / SUMMER FASHION SHOW & AFTERNOON TEA

Enjoy a wonderful homemade afternoon tea with a glass of Prosecco in the lovely setting of Greenway Farm whilst watching the spring / summer fashions presented by ALISE & LOUIE.

SATURDAY 18TH MAY
2 - 4.30PM
GREENWAY FARM

Tickets £15.
Available from Alise & Louie or
Greenway Farm

lifeatgreenwayfarm.com



Meetings 3rd Thursday of each month 7.30pm
St. Mary's Church Centre Nether Stowey
(Join for £25 for the year or visit for £5 – more details below)

Coming up:

Thursday 18th April **Vegetable growing** A talk by John Addison

Tuesday 7th May Car visit to **Postbox Cottage**, West Bagborough

Thursday 16th May **Fragrance in the garden** A talk by Jenny Short

Saturday 18th May **Plant sale** Thomas Poole Library,

Wednesday 5th June Car visit to **Model Farm**, Perry Green, Wembdon

Thursday 20th June **Climbing & wall shrubs** A talk by Felicity Down

June (TBC) Coach trip **RHS Garden Rosemoor**

Thursday 11th July Car visit to **Brandon Farm** Isle Abbots

Thursday 18th July **Women in Horticulture**, A talk by Claire Forster

For more information about our vibrant club, contact secretary Lucy Haswell 01278 671289 shbassoon@aol.com. Or visit - <https://sites.google.com/site/stowey-gardeners>



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EASTER WORDSEARCH

Can you find 18 words associated with Eastertime?
No need to think too hard *

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

**Abject apologies for last month's blunder! The 'winds' got blown away by a ferocious Northerly thus leaving the grid covered in wading birds for a second month.....eek!
(well spotted Mike! Ed)*



Hot Cross Buns
Celebrations
Caterpillar
Good Friday
Butterflies
Rainbow
Primrose
Bunnies
Nesting
Buds
Basket
Lamb
Egg Hunt
Calf
Chocolate
Cuckoo
Bees
Seeds



Young Lambs by John Clare

The spring is coming by a many signs;
The trays are up, the hedges broken down,
That fenced the haystack, and the remnant shines
Like some old antique fragment weathered brown.
And where suns peep, in every sheltered place,
The little early buttercups unfold
A glittering star or two--till many trace
The edges of the blackthorn clumps in gold.
And then a little lamb bolts up behind
The hill and wags his tail to meet the yoe*,
And then another, sheltered from the wind,
Lies all his length as dead--and lets me go
Close bye and never stirs but baking lies,
With legs stretched out as though he could not rise.
*ewe

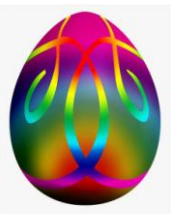


Did you
Know?

**"The first vicar in Fiddington was appointed in 1316.
His name was Richardus Anselme de Nywebure"**

Perhaps you have some hidden facts or secrets about people or places in the area would like to share with readers.? They can be anything >>>> trivia , history, personal (within reason!) Please send them to me and we'll have some fun finding out more about our community past & present.

Juliet Harkness Email: fiddingtonnews@gmail.com



from the Village Cook's Kitchen ...

Moules Mariniers

1.75kg (4lbs) Mussels (scrubbed and beards removed)
50g unsalted butter
1 medium onion, finely chopped
50 mls dry white wine
1 tablespoon of coarsely chopped parsley



1. Put the mussels, butter, onion and white wine into a very large pan. Cover and cook over a high heat for 3 - 4 minutes, shaking the pan every now and then, until the mussels have opened.

2 Spoon the mussels into 1 large or 4 smaller bowls, add the parsley * to the remaining juices and pour all but the last remaining juices (which might contain grit or sand) over the mussels. Serve with crusty bread

* If you wish you can add *beurre manie* ($\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{2}$ butter and flour mixed for thickening) and double cream at this point

Our Master of Wine recommends

Almost any flavoursome and fresh white wine will go with this. For the fun of it, I am going to suggest two wines with exotic names.

First from the Marche region of Central Italy, a Verdicchio Dei Castelli Di Jesi. Both Sainsbury's and Morrison's have one on offer £6.75 and £6.50 respectively. The wines have a lively almond and lemon flavour and will go well with this dish. For those who like to make lamp stands out of wine bottles, they come in a pretty skittle shaped bottle.

Second to the Mediterranean Coast in France, a Picpoul de Pinet. The fresh appley white wines are delicious and light. The Wine Society has the Picpoul de Pinet, Domaine Felines Jourdan at £9.75.

Imagine sitting at one of the many fish restaurants at the quaint Port of Sete with a bowl of mussels and a bottle of chilled Picpoul de Pinet. Bliss!

Dates for your Diary

- **Sat April 6th 10-12 Book Swap** (Easter Breakfast with Plant Sale- see below)
- **Sat May 4th 10-12 Book Swap**
- **Sat May 11th 7.30 pm CONCERT** (contact Jenny Kinahan tel: 732190)
- **Sat June 1st 10-12 Book Swap**
- **Sat July 13th Fiddington Show 3pm**

Deadline
for May Issue
is **April 20th**

all copy & info to
Juliet Harkness 01278 733245
fiddingtonnews@gmail.com

APRIL BRING AND BUY PLANT SALE
Saturday April 6th 10-12
ATTENTION ALL GARDENERS !!

Ruth Brazier will be offering **Bacon Butties and Hot-Cross Buns**
(1 of each for £4)

Robin and Jenny Kinahan will be doing a **Plant Bring & Buy Sale** -
they would be grateful for **any plant donations to sell**.

Plus the usual tea/coffee and biscuit -
(£1 entry if you do not want the breakfast)

So that Ruth has an idea of numbers, please contact her to
request a breakfast - 01278 734565 / 07721 012178 (can leave a
message), or email: ruthbrazier@live.co.uk

ROAD WORKS

Two days between April 1-5
Between 9am-5pm there will be
drains work on Fiddington Lane.
There will be some flexibility
and drivers will be let through
where possible.

The Marion Evered Trust

If you see this early enough then a reminder that our
Easter bingo is on 1st April at Over Stowey
village hall, Eyes down 7.30

A reminder that we have rebooked Two Tone
to replace the cancelled event in February. See
dates below for info.

200 club: if you wish to join the monthly draw then
contact Pauline on 01278 732522.

February winners:
£20 – Pat Thatcher, £10 – Freda Barrow, £5 - Libby
Habberfield

Dates for your diary:

1st April - Easter Bingo at Over Stowey village hall,
doors open 7pm eyes down 7:30

27th April Two Tone at Stogursey village hall £12.50
includes draw entry, Bring own nibbles.

Tickets available from 07984943464 or 01278
732522 or 07415868531

June 8th / 9th Big Bash Charity cricket weekend in
conjunction with Over Stowey CC.

The Marion Evered Trust
presents

Two Tone
duo

Enjoy a evening of music
from 60's to 2024

New Date

Sat 27th April from 7pm

Victory Hall, Stogursey
Tickets £12.50 also includes entry to raffle
Bring your own Nibbles
call 07415868531 or 01278732522 or 07984943464 for tickets

How many BUNNIES? **13**