

# Fiddington

# NEWS



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

## **Chairman's Introduction**

Hello everyone,

March has officially arrived and with it comes Spring.

Snow drops have already appeared and will soon be followed by flowering daffodils. Longer days are on the horizon which with a bit of luck should be warmer.

But best of all the March brings with it Fiddington's 1st jumble sale of 2025, doors open at 2pm on the 22nd March

Please remember donations for the jumble will be gratefully received.

The hall will also host the usual book swap on the 1st March, along with a fantastic cooked breakfast for those that have pre ordered.

Please also Look out For Rod Coles Fiddington Show update in this newsletter.  
Take care all

### **In this Issue**

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James U'Dell  
(Chair of the Village Hall Committee)  
[www.fiddingtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.fiddingtonvillagehall.co.uk)

If you want a cooked breakfast  
at Book Swap  
Don't Forget to BOOK well in  
advance!!  
01278 734565

**Dates for the Diary  
On the Back Page**

# Sunday Services for St Martins, Fiddington for March



Sunday March 2nd Eucharist 9am

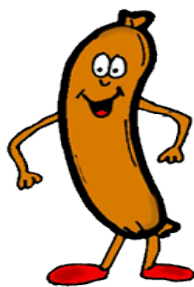
Sunday March 9th Eucharist 9am

Sunday March 16th Eucharist 9am

Sunday March 23rd United Benefice Eucharist at 10am at Stolford

Sunday March 30th Mothering Sunday Eucharist 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 at Fiddington.



## Sausage Sizzle and Quiz

Saturday March 8th 2025

Fiddington Village Hall

6.30pm for 7.00pm

Tickets £10.00

A delicious supper of local sausages, jacket potatoes and onions, a selection of puds followed by a quiz.

Please contact [Jenny.kinahan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Jenny.kinahan@hotmail.co.uk) or Tel: 01278 732190

*If you would like to come as it helps for catering. Let me know how many you are booking for (a team of four or a couple or individual, all are very welcome) also please let me know if you have special dietary requirements.*

## World Day of Prayer

**St Audrie's West Quantockshead**

**Friday March 7th at 2.30pm**

*This year the service has been written by the women of the Cook Islands. Everyone is very welcome.*

## 200 CLUB – DRAW RESULTS

The first draw of 2025 was made at the February gathering for Tea & Chat in the Village Hall.

There is just one prize this month and the winning number is:



**£30 – No 66: Wayne Hawley**

## Our Local Wedding Venues are reaching a wider public!

Nell Barrington has sent us an article soon to appear in the Somerset county Gazette and other papers :- here are two extracts

### Affordable, Family-Friendly, DIY Celebrations with Pretty Church Next Door, Fiddington



If you want to keep costs down and take charge of all the details, [Fiddington Village Hall](#) offers a blank canvas. Set at the end of a peaceful lane surrounded by fields, you are free to organise your own food, décor, drinks and party. This well-equipped hall (max numbers 120 but with additional marquee available in summer) has a stage, built-in surround sound system and playground outside making it very family friendly. Next door, a small, lime-washed church dating from the 13th century provides a beautiful ceremony setting.

### New Canapes and Fizz Package and Idyllic Intimate Ceremony, near Bridgwater

[Greenway Farm](#) is a cosy, rustic venue run by the friendly Martin and Sue. Perfect for an informal, relaxed wedding, licenced for up to 60, in their restored stone wedding barn, or in summer in a beautifully decorated marquee, complete with chandeliers. Choose from two or three-course meals, hog roasts, grazing boards or new for this year a special, simple ceremony package with canapés and fizz. The quirky bar, wildlife pond and pretty gardens lend themselves to stunning photos and while there's no on-site accommodation, plenty is available nearby.



## The Marion Evered Trust

We have a few things going on in 2025 some dates confirmed as shown below and some still to confirm so watch this space.

On **May 10th** Ian Barrow and a group of lads from Hinkley C are taking on the Carten100, a 100 mile bike ride from Cardiff to Tenby in South Wales. It is being done in aid of our cause please see the

Marion Evered trust facebook page for a link to donate towards this challenge.

The 200 club is now up and running and if you haven't received a reminder/invitation to be in the draw then please contact Pauline Barrow on 01278 732522 for details.

### Jan draw

£20 Paul Gower £10 Heidi Chappel £5 Arthur Barrow

### Dates for the diary

**21st April** Easter Bingo Over Stowey Village hall

**7 th -8 th June** Big Bash Cricket Weekend at Over Stowey cricket ground

*Good Luck Jan and mates!*





## So how did we do in 2024?

In 2024 we received 3882 vouchers for adults and 2773 for children. A little down on 2023. Remember that each voucher could cover a number of adults or children. We distributed 49.5 tons of food. We continue to be reliant on the generosity of people and it's worth noting that donations of food dropped significantly in 2024 and we had to buy much more food than in the past - Aldi helps with a discount. Thanks to the generous money donations that we receive we have robust finances that allow us to just about cope with this situation. (In Feb this year we are already having to buy food).

Thank you Fiddington folk for your generous support over 2024.

Robin Kinahan



**Meetings - 3rd Thursday of each month  
7.30pm at Nether Stowey Church Centre**

The aim of the club is to offer gardeners, from around the Quantock area, whatever their enthusiasm, a chance to get together with other gardeners in the locality, to their joint advantage and mutual interest. We enjoy a guest speaker, raffle, plant table (season dependent), tea, coffee & home-made cake. Members free (annual membership £25), guests £5

### Coming up:

**Thursday 20th March** Greencombe Gardens, Porlock A talk by Rob Schmidt

**Thursday 17th April** Gardens of Madeira A talk by Jonny Hartnell

**Tuesday 29th April** Car visit to Fairfield, Stogursey

**Sunday 11th May** Coach trip to RHS Malvern Spring Show

**Thursday 15th May** The Newt in Somerset: History & recent developments, A talk by Arthur Cole

**Thursday 22nd May** Car visit to Wick Gardens, Langport

May Plant Sale @ Thomas Poole Library, Nether Stowey – Date TBA

**For more information contact secretary Kate Houghton: [stoweygardeners@yahoo.com](mailto:stoweygardeners@yahoo.com)**

Or visit <https://sites.google.com/site/stowey-gardeners>

## FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉ JUBILEE ROOMS, CASTLE STREET, STOGURSEY FORTNIGHTLY ON WEDNESDAYS 10-12

### Café Dates:

**Wednesday 12 th March**

**Wednesday 26 th March**

**Wednesday 9 th April**

**Wednesday 23 rd April**

**Wednesday 7 th May**

**Wednesday 21 st May**

**Wednesday 4 th June**



**FORGET-ME-NOT CAFÉS** provide support, companionship and a warm welcome to those who are recognising issues with their memory, as well as their family, friends or carers. 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 café is open the alternate week to Watchet Forget-me-Not Café.

Many friendships have been made over the years.

Please come along and see what we do, you will receive a warm welcome

### .VOLUNTEERS

We always need extra help at the Forget-me-Not Café, why not pop in one Wednesday and meet everyone, and see if you'd like to volunteer.

**People from all the neighbouring villages are welcome.**

**For more information please contact:**

**Helen: 01278 733451 [cuttellhelen@gmail.com](mailto:cuttellhelen@gmail.com)**

**Rose: 07507 374234 [rosechalk@icloud.com](mailto:rosechalk@icloud.com)**



*We are on Facebook and Instagram*

## KITCHEN RESTYLING

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07872 173391

[claire@thefurniturerestylist.co.uk](mailto:claire@thefurniturerestylist.co.uk)



*Claire Hill*

THE FURNITURE RESTYLIST



## USE YOUR VILLAGE WEBSITE

### SPREAD THE WORD!

You may not be aware, but Fiddington Village Hall has its own website. If we don't get a replacement for our Newsletter Editor, this might be the only way of finding out what's going on in the village, so take a look! You can find it here...

<https://www.fiddingtonvillagehall.co.uk/>

You can find all you need to know about the hall, including:

- Useful contacts
- What's on, events and bookings diary
- Facilities on offer
- Cost of hire
- Special wedding deals
- A Gallery with lots of great photo ideas on how to make use of the hall.
- Fiddington News Letters – (but see above.)
- Contacts and photos of the church.
- We also have a Face Book page which you can find here...



<https://www.facebook.com/fiddingtonvillagehall/>

## *The Fiddington Show cometh!*

**Make a note of the date: Saturday 19th July**

So it is time to get planning and planting and designing and modelling, and knitting and painting and so on...

**Oh, and it is time, come April 1st ,**

to form an orderly queue outside Old Rectory Gardens to collect your seed potato/es and your sunflower seeds, part with the few shekels involved, and enter your name and contact info on the list (vital, when it comes to the judging).

The more the participants, and the bigger the number of entries, the greater the event!  
Who is the celeb being lined up to open the show....?

***Ah! Village cliffhanger!***



Copse working party



Great morning's result!



# Unusual Wind Instruments



## Windy Wordsearch

Can you find 17 unusual wind instruments in the grid?

Go on - it's easy

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

Shawm  
Sackbutt  
Oliphant  
Didgeridoo  
Buccin  
Piccolo  
Euphonium  
Ophicleide  
Cor Anglais  
Bagpipe  
Ocarina  
Tin Whistle  
Cornetto  
Xun  
Gemshorn  
Serpent  
Erke

Can you name these? (Answers on the back Page)



a) 15<sup>th</sup> century –  
from the Ocarina family



b) Chinese vessel flute,  
made of clay



c) Aboriginal instrument  
that dates back 40,000  
years



d) Named as it looks



e) Ancient Roman  
instrument



f) French 19<sup>th</sup> century  
keyed instrument



## Cassoulet

Serves 4

1 tbsp olive oil  
450g pork belly slices  
4 pork and herb sausages  
100g pancetta lardons  
1 onion, roughly chopped  
2 carrots roughly chopped  
2 cloves of garlic, roughly chopped  
400g cannellini beans  
1 tsp dried thyme  
a little salt and freshly ground pepper  
2 tbsp sun dried tomato puree  
250 mls hot chicken stock  
100mls red wine  
2 tbsp chopped parsley  
100g fresh white breadcrumbs



- 1) Preheat the oven to 180c (350f, or gas 4) Heat the oil in a 2 litre flameproof casserole over a medium heat and brown the pork belly. Transfer to a plate lined with kitchen paper. Add the sausages to the casserole and cook, turning to brown them on all sides. Transfer to the plate.
- 2) Add the lardons, onions and carrots to the casserole and gently fry, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes. Add the garlic, beans and thyme to the casserole. Season and stir well
- 3) Combine the tomato puree, stock and wine in a jug, and stir well. Pour it into the casserole and stir. Arrange the pork belly and the sausages in the vegetable mixture. Cover and bake in the oven for 1 hour.
- 4) Mix the parsley into the breadcrumbs with plenty of pepper. Remove the casserole from the oven and sprinkle with the breadcrumbs. Return to the oven and cook, uncovered for 30 minutes.
- 5) Spoon onto warmed plates making sure that each portion gets some of the crispy crumb topping, and serve with crusty bread ( and lots of good rich red wine ideally from south west France!)



## Our Master of Wine recommends. .

*This is a rich dish, but not massively spicy, so either a rich or spicy white or softer red will do well.*

*If you want to play it safe buy the ever reliable Casillero del Diablo Reserva Chardonnay or Merlot from Chile. All the supermarkets have them at £8.50 .Despite their huge production these wines are remarkably decent.*

*To be a little more adventurous try the white light and spicy Gruner Veltliner from Austria - Sainsbury Taste the Difference £11 and Morrisons The Best £10 or ,for a red, a Cotes du Rhone Villages. Morrisons 'The Best '£9.75 comes from the lovely village of Sablet and should be worth a try.*



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Book Swaps are on the First Saturday of the month - All welcome

**Sat Mar 1<sup>st</sup> Book Swap**

**10-12** (cooked breakfast available **01278 734565**  
or Hot drink & biscuits)

**Sat Mar 21<sup>st</sup> Jumble Sale**

**2pm**

**Sat April 5<sup>th</sup> Book Swap**  
+ Plant Sale

**10-12** (as above)



Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Mar  
Don't forget  
to  
Spring  
forward an  
hour

## PLANT AND PRODUCE BRING AND BUY SALE

### AT THE BOOK SWAP APRIL 5TH

Please bring and buy seedlings, jams  
cakes and many things.  
Profits to Friends of Fiddington Church

## Tea & Chat

In the Village hall  
Thursday March 20<sup>th</sup>



**3 pm - All very welcome**

fiddingtonnews@gmail.com

### Deadline for the April 2025 Issue is March 20<sup>th</sup>

Please send articles/photos/letters by  
email or by post to  
Juliet Harkness  
Redwood, Whitnell, TA5 1JE

## The Disinterested School

by *Norah Reis Ferreira* (aged 11)

This is for the disbelieving-  
the ones who stare into the abyss,  
the ones who have one thousand thumping thoughts in their head,  
for the ones who say 'I can't do this!'

This is for the discouraged-  
the ones who complicate it,  
the ones who think too much,  
who let their weight pull them down.

This is for the dismissed-  
the ones who let their emotion flow,  
the ones who are banging to get out,  
the ones who open up.

This is for the discontented-  
the quiet ones with big imagination,  
the ones who rush outside,  
the ones who live their life.

And this-  
this is for the day they get out,  
the ones who lean back,  
bashing and wanting to get back in,  
to wake up, to listen, to believe.

*You are rightly proud of this, Norah - keep writing! (Ed)*

### Unusual Instruments

- a) *Gemshorn*
- b) *Xun*
- c) *Didgeridoo*
- d) *Serpent*
- e) *Biccun*
- f) *Ophecleide*



Wardrobe

**FREE**

Contact Jim or  
Mary: 01278  
733055