

DEPUTY MAYOR'S INTRODUCTION

As we currently watch the water in our very high River Coln flow past and move on to its next destination, we also see two of our fellow council members moving on to new things. Fairford Town Council would like to thank Vicky Lipscombe-Kettel and Tim Lafford for their time and contribution to the Town as well as contributing to the running of the council and also, its meetings. They will both be missed, and I hope you'll join me in wishing them luck for the future. Please do stay in touch both. I'd also like to say thank you to Vicky for being a pleasure to work with as Deputy Mayor in the last year and keeping me up to date with all the town-based information needed to undertake the role!

Moving on I'm sure we're all hoping improvement will soon come with the changing spring weather, the river level dropping, the sun will come out and we'll be able to enjoy walking around our many river and lakeside paths once again. As you do, look out for such sights as kingfisher, our beloved water vole and, as I was lucky enough to see last autumn over Lake 104 shortly before it returned to Africa after summering in the UK, the stunning Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). This is a rare, but native to Britain, fish eating bird of prey and a sight I hope to see in the skies over Fairford in increasing numbers over the next decade and beyond.

Finally, after the departure of Vicky and Tim I'd like to highlight there will be opportunities to join the council as a councillor in upcoming elections. If you have an interest in the town, are interested in helping the towns management moving forward positively or have a skill you could bring to our committees please do look out for further information.

Best wishes,

Marcus Stroud



Cllr Marcus Stroud
Fairford Deputy Mayor
marcus@fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

APRIL 2024

ELECTION FOR 2 NEW COUNCILLORS

An election will be held in May to fill the two vacancies on the Town Council.

Would you like to help make decisions that shape the future of Fairford?

Are you interested in your community and the infrastructure of your town?

Do you have some time to offer your community?

Why not choose to be a Town Councillor and take an active positive step towards creating the community you want to live in now, and in the future.

Key dates:

Notice of Election will be published on 22nd March.

Nominations can be submitted from 25th March up to the deadline of 4pm on **Friday 5th April.**

Nomination papers will be on the website or contact us for paper copies to be posted.

Make sure you can vote.

Anyone who is not already registered can do so before the deadline of Tuesday 16th April (register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) If anyone would like a postal vote they can register online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote by 5pm on Wednesday 17th April

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH COUNCIL NEWS

Find us on Facebook - search for Fairford Town Council.

Fairford Town Council,
Community Centre,
High Street, Fairford,
GL7 4AF
Tel: 01285 713326/712344

If you would like to contact us then please email:
clerks@fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Or visit our website:
fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk

NEXT MEETINGS

The next two Full Town Council Meetings will be on Tuesday 9th April and Tuesday 14th May at 7.00pm in Fairford Community Centre.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY 2024

- ❖ Thursday 23rd May – Annual Meeting of the Town.
7.00pm, Fairford Community Centre. Come along and hear from:
Your Town Council, your District and County Councillors, the local Police, your local schools, RAF Fairford, The Ernest Cook Trust, Fairford Community Voice and others.
Annual Citizen Awards will be presented.



NEWS FROM ST MARYS FAIRFORD

DVOŘÁK - MASS IN D & FAURÉ - REQUIEM



Fairford & District Choral Society

Music Director
Nia Llewelyn Jones
Organ Accompanist
Ian Crabbe

Soloists
Charlotte Newstead
Nicole Boardman
Nicholas Drew
Nicholas Perfect

St Mary's Church
Fairford

Saturday 13 April 2024
7.30pm

Tickets £15, under 18s £5

Available from Fairford
Opticians, 11 High Street,
Fairford, 01285 713313, or by
calling 01285 713681. Also
available on the door (cash only).

After a changeable old winter, it's been lovely after the last few weeks to get the first clear glimpses of full spring on the horizon. Buds are opening on the trees, the Blackthorn Winter has been and gone, and finally we can enjoy the warmer temperatures and lengthening days.

As you read this we'll have just celebrated Easter – and we wish you the happiest of Easter Seasons from all at St. Mary's! The celebrational atmosphere will continue for the next several weeks, all the way through to Pentecost on the 19th May, so if you have a moment, do pop into the church to enjoy the beauty of our little jewel in the Cotswolds. Easter flowers will be decorating every part of the church, the stained glass windows will be shining in the spring sun, and the peace and warmth of our wonderful

church is for all to enjoy. Come to explore the amazing history of the church, to take a moment of quiet, to light a candle, to pray, or just to be. All are welcome.

Now the clocks have gone forward, St Mary's is open from 10am to 5pm, so come along in!

St. Mary's is also yours to use for your celebrations – Weddings and Christenings will be going on all through the year, and we'd love to celebrate your special occasion with you as well. Just contact Rev'd Caroline or the Parish Office for more information!

Vicar: Rev'd Caroline Symcox - 712467, carolinesymcox@googlemail.com

Associate priest: Rev'd Canon Denise Hyde - 713285

Parish Office: Heather Gorton - 712428, fairfordpcc@gmail.com



www.working4wellbeing.org.uk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for a new **Chair of Trustee** (voluntary role with a minimum commitment of around a day per month).

If you have a passion for helping and building communities, have strong leadership skills and knowledge of charity governance then this could be the perfect role for you. You must have an interest in promoting mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and want to make a difference in the community.

For further details on the role or to apply, email your CV and statement of interest to volunteering@w4w.uk.

Lots more volunteer roles available!

Scan the QR code or get in touch with our Volunteer Coordinator on the above email address and number to learn more.



GET IN TOUCH!

07385 569303

PALMER HALL CINEMA

The Palmer Hall community film in April will be **Wonka:**

With dreams of opening a shop in a city renowned for its chocolate, a young and poor Willy Wonka discovers that the industry is run by a cartel of greedy chocolatiers.

Date: Wednesday 10th April.

The Palmer Hall community film in May will be **Gran Turismo:**

It tells the true story of British teenager Jann Mardenborough, a teenage Gran Turismo player who became a professional racing car driver.

Date: Wednesday 8th May.

Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Admission £3.50 to include tea and biscuits. Glass of wine £3.00.

**FAIRFORD HISTORY
SOCIETY**
Thursday 18th April at
7.30pm
at Fairford Community
Centre

The Retreat Asylum: the
patients' stories
by Chris Hobson

and

Thursday 16th May at
7.30pm
at Fairford Community
Centre

Cotswold Walls: or why
didn't I use my eyes when I
was younger?
by Chris Peachey

Visitors are welcome to
attend meetings at £3 per
session.

For further information
contact Alison on
01285 711768
or email:
enquiry@fairfordhistory.org.uk
or visit
www.fairfordhistory.org.uk



FAIRFORD COMMUNITY VOICE

A game of two halves this month. Firstly, another look at the Fairford Neighbourhood Plan which has a new 'Design' element. In the past construction in the Cotswolds has taken place within the parameters of the Cotswold Design Code which is general for the entire area. However, Fairford now has its own, more specific, design policy: FNP12 'Achieving High Standards of Design'. For example, the stone of this area is the 'light, white/cream-coloured stone (not the yellow stone of the northern Cotswolds) with a light-coloured pointing'. Or, all 'solid fencing/walling should contain a 13cm square hole to enable the passage of hedgehogs and small mammals'. Several of the provisions are clearly aimed at larger developments but if you are considering an extension or renovations then please consult Policy FNP12 early in your planning process.

Secondly, a big thank you to all those of you who last month made it to the launch of the River Coln Trail, a 33 mile walk from the source of the River Coln, near Winchcombe, to its meeting with the River Thames, at Inglesham near Lechlade, following public rights of way. You can also do it over time in nine separate circular walks. A guide book offering route descriptions and maps will be available in local outlets and online from the walks page on www.winchcombewelcomeswalkers.com/walks.

We would like to take this opportunity to recognise everyone who has helped bring this project to fruition: we have had volunteers walking, mapping, checking, putting up signage, designing and producing a booklet, negotiating and so on. A lot of work, so many, many thanks to you all and we hope we will see lots of residents walking the River Coln Trail for many years to come.

We are keen to develop a list of volunteers who would be willing to come and help us with some of our work so if you would like to become involved in any way at all, please contact us - email info@fairfordcv.org.uk. Our website is www.fairfordcv.org.uk for information about our activities.



Friends of Fairford and Lechlade
Communities
Registered Charity Number: 1180059

PATIENT TRANSPORT

To arrange your next drive please contact Val Harvey
transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk
07540798226

www.FriendsOfFairford.org.uk
Registered Charity Number 1180059



FAIRFORD GARDENERS CLUB



Saturday 13th April 2024
Fairford Community Centre
SPRING SHOW
Entries from 11a.m.
Children's section
Garden on a plate
Craft Item
VISITORS WELCOME

For more information contact
Beth Dennis 01285 712195
bethandgeoff@yahoo.com
Meriel McHugh 01367 850041



Wine Tasting

Indulge in a range of fine wines and expand your palate. Join us for an evening of educational wine tasting.

Saturday 27th
April, 2024

Fairford Community Centre.
£25 per person. Doors open 7pm.

BOOK NOW

Contact Us:
admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk
www.friendsoffairford.org.uk



ERNEST COOK TRUST

Opening the outdoors to young people

'Opening Outdoors' is one of three key themes in The Ernest Cook Trust's ambitious new Learning Strategy. It's all about tackling barriers to outdoor access and participation, which are faced by many young people.

The Trust wants every child and young person to feel able to connect with nature, particularly those facing mental health difficulties or with neurodiversity; those from minoritised ethnic groups or lower income backgrounds. One way the Trust does this is by working with young people in small groups, as part of its Nature in Your Stride programme. In fact, the Trust has been putting Nature in Your Stride into practise, through a volunteering programme to help reinstate the ecologically rich habitat of the River Coln, along the 2.86 mile stretch that it manages. Over the course of seven weeks, young adults aged from 18 to 30, have been given the opportunity to learn practical conservation and green skills; they are helping to restore the river, they are reconnecting with nature, and they are gaining valuable knowledge.

More about The Ernest Cook Trust's Learning Strategy is in its annual report for 2022/23.
www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk/.



FAIRFORD STEAM SHOW

There are two new exciting events at the Fairford Steam Show for 2024:

- A new Lego area run by Fairford Primary and Pre School. Called The Brick, there will be lots of Lego for children in these age groups to play with and there'll also be changing and feeding areas to make life easier for parents.

If you have any Lego that you or your child no longer want, would you please consider donating the bricks to Fairford Steam Show? Please contact Brian Wells: 01295 710076 or Chris on: 01285 712150.

- Also new for this year, the Ken Fox Wall of Death with a 20ft high vertical wall of death show.

The Fairford Steam Show's popularity has sky-rocketed since returning to Fairford last year after nearly 10 years away. The numbers of exhibits and traders wishing to be part of the show are already way above last year's numbers.

The organisers are working with the land-owner to improve access points, widen gateways, laying hardcore and creating bigger car parks, more water points and 50% more toilets.

At the time of writing this, people coming to the show can expect to see 27 full-size engines, 2 classic organs, around 40 miniature engines, a huge selection of tractors, motor bikes, classic and modern commercial vehicles of all shapes and sizes, over 100 classic cars and a selection of motor sport vehicles.

There will also be static displays, a fantastic selection of stationary engines, trade pitches, some fantastic food vendors and the beer tent provided by Fairford Cricket Club.

Go online for your Early Bird tickets at:
www.fairfordsteamshow.co.uk.

24HR ACCESSIBLE DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS:

There are 7 publicly accessible defibrillators in Fairford. These are at the following locations:

- Fairford Fire Station, Hatherop Road.
- The Bull Hotel, Market Place.
- Fairford Youth Football Club, Horcott Road.
- The Old Phone Box, Milton Street.
- Bowls Club, East End.
- Queensfield Phone Box
- Keble Fields Estate

Other defibrillators are available during operating hours at:

- Fairford Community Centre;
- Hilary Cottage Surgery;
- Fairford Town Football Club &
- White Cottage Dental Practice.
- The Palmer Hall





FAIRFORD CRICKET CLUB ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR A NEW PAVILION COME ALONG TO THE LAUNCH ON FRIDAY 19TH AND SATURDAY 20TH APRIL

Fairford Cricket Club would like to invite the local community to an exclusive sneak preview of the plans for a brand new pavilion, which will not only serve the players and their families throughout the cricket season but will also be an exciting new venue for the whole community to enjoy throughout the year.

Boasting Fairford's best beer garden, our friendly club welcomes both playing and social members, so even if cricket isn't your bag, our doors will be open for everyone to enjoy our fully stocked bar, peaceful surroundings, and friendly atmosphere.

Plans for our new pavilion, due to be completed in 2025/2026, will be on display over the weekend and our committee members will be on hand to answer your questions.

So, whether you love playing or watching cricket, are looking for a venue for your next celebration, or just fancy a drink, Fairford Cricket Club is the place to be.

Social membership is just £20/yr. and sign-up will be available over the weekend.

Junior nets

We are also kicking off our outdoor junior nets and practice on Friday 19th April from 6pm for U11s (Yrs 5/6), U13s (Yrs 7&8) and U15 (Yrs 9/10). If your child is interested in playing cricket, please bring them along.

Friendly cricket match

Weather permitting, there will be a friendly cricket match taking place on Saturday 20th April from 1pm so come along and support our players, meet with new and existing members, and view our exciting plans! An open nets session will also run from 1-4pm for anyone wishing to refresh their skills or try their hand at a new sport. We are also offering a free BBQ on both days for all new social members!

For more information, email: fccsocialmedia@outlook.com

ANNUAL CITIZEN AWARDS

Fairford Town Council is inviting nominations for the Annual Citizen Awards: Citizen of the Year and The Albert Alder Award. The Citizen of the Year award is to recognise an outstanding contribution to Fairford. The Albert Alder Award is to recognise an outstanding contribution to the environment in Fairford. To be eligible for either Award, the nominee can be of any age, must be a resident of Fairford and their contribution must be voluntary and not paid. Each winner will receive a financial prize.

To nominate anyone for any of these Awards, please write to the Town Clerk on clerks@fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk by Sunday 7th April.

The winners will be announced at the Annual Town Meeting in May.