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AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

Ripples

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE



March 2018

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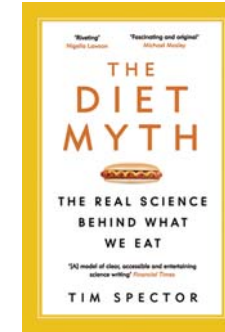
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Gut feeling

About March, many will be regretting New Year's resolutions broken before they really got going. Given that a fifth of Brits are 'on a diet' at any one time, I'd bet my monthly food bill that failed diets top the score.

Aiming to rectify a few niggling ailments, I was recently advised by a dietitian to switch to a diet dictated by my blood type – O negative. The Blood Type Diet was outlined by The New York Times best-selling author Dr Peter D'Adamo. The dietitian said that our blood type links us to the food groups that our ancestors ate. I am sorry to report that I found it so restrictive to be unworkable. Yet others have apparently achieved success with it.

There is an amazing array of diets – Atkins, non-dairy, gluten-free and so on – foisted upon a bamboozled population desperate to cope with bulging waistlines. And it's big business, according to Professor Tim Spector who claims there are 'well over 30,000 books available, with their own websites and merchandising, promoting diet regimes and supplements ranging from the sensible to the dangerous'. What are we to make of it? The first clue is in the title of his book 'The Diet Myth – the real science behind what we eat'.



Much of what Professor Spector has to say resonates with me. 'I thought changing my lifelong dietary habits would be my greatest challenge – but ... finding out the truth about food was an even greater one.' Although I was unable to accept the blood type diet, that dietitian has sure got me thinking. The second clue lies in the book's dedication: 'To my family and other microbes'. Prof Tim reckons our bodies contain 100 trillion of them, weighing over four pounds in our guts alone. And if they're not happy, we're not happy.

It's a fascinating, entertaining and compelling read. He outlines what science tells us about fats, carbohydrates, sugars, fibres and so on. He explains why excessive caffeine and alcohol are not good for us. And about allergies, antibiotics and the latest fad – probiotics.

I've not quite finished it yet, and I hope he'll tell me how to keep those critters happy.

Adrian Young, editor

The Diet Myth was published in 2015 by Weidenfeld & Nicholson. ISBN 978 1 780 22900 3

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COVER PICTURE:
Pupils of Hatherop Primary
School extending
generosi-tea to their guests
(see page 41).
Photo: Chris Roberts.

REMINDER:
The deadline for our April
edition is 12 noon,
Friday 9th March.

Ripples Community Magazine

Published by Adrian Young and Graham Fry

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Ripples Magazine is published 10 months a year during the first week of the month; we take a break in January and August.

The deadline for contributions and advertising is 12 noon on 2nd Friday of the month before publication.

Opinions expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of the publishers.

Contributions may be published in the magazine, on our website or on social media. Make clear any limitations about what, how and when we may publish your contribution.

We reserve the right to edit contributions and to not publish any contribution or advertisement that is either unsuitable for

our format or inconsistent with our editorial policy.

Make sure you are writing for a general audience, not just your own organisation. Contributions up to 150 words are preferred. If it is too long, we may ask you to cut it down. We may publish longer contributions, but get in touch first to avoid the annoyance of a rejection.

Photographs and artwork should be clear with good contrast. JPEG electronic format is preferred but we can scan from good quality prints. Make sure any identifiable people in photos agree to the photo's publication. Get parent's consent in the case of minors.

Email is preferred for contributions, otherwise by post.

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Highworth, Swindon SN6 7FB

Please inform the editor if you spot a mistake in Ripples so we can rectify it in a future issue.

Fairford Community Voice

EDITOR: *Recently I attended a meeting of the Fairford Community Voice committee in Fairford's fine Community Centre. The breadth of what they do and their relationship with the Town Council inspired this article to bring readers up to date.*

What is Fairford Community Voice?

Fairford Community Voice (FCV) was formed in 2016 bringing together Fairford Preservation Trust, Fairford Planning Watch and the Fairford Environmental Society to raise and monitor local issues that concern Fairford residents.

A potted history

Fairford Preservation Trust (FPT) was set up in 1965 by Dr Charlton Shaw who saw the need to preserve the old buildings and promote the sympathetic design of new ones and to preserve the structure and life of the town. FPT sought to stimulate public interest in the care for the beauty, history and the character of the area and its surroundings. At its 50th AGM in 2015, it was agreed that the Trust would merge with Fairford Planning Watch and the Fairford Environmental Society to form Fairford Community Voice and this group was formed at their 2016 AGM.

Who's active in FCV?

David Perry is the president of FCV. The committee comprises Malcolm Cutler (Chairman), Gill Compton (Treasurer), Alison Hobson (Secretary), Sarah Basley (Fairford Planning Watch), Margaret Bishop, Dr Stewart Benzie, Greg Phillips, Ian Westlake and Sue Hughes.

The Committee meets five or six times a year to consider issues in the area that have come to their notice. A watching brief is kept on local planning applications (Fairford Planning Watch), footpaths, trees and local amenities in the area plus any issues reported by FCV members and other Fairford residents.

Fairford Community Voice aims to...

- Encourage greater public interest in, and care for, the unique character and history of Fairford, and the immediate surrounding area.

- Encourage the preservation, maintenance and improvement of historic buildings, structures, green spaces and other areas of public interest, in Fairford and the immediate surrounding area.
- Monitor proposed new developments for Fairford in liaison with the Fairford Town Council, Cotswold District Council and other relevant organisations, and initiate appropriate action concerning the need for new development, positioning, architecture, infrastructure etc.
- Monitor new developments in Fairford, during their construction phase, to ensure compliance with the agreed plans and conditions concerning architecture, access, infrastructure, timing etc.
- Work with Fairford Town Council, Cotswold District Council and other relevant organisations, to ensure the introduction and maintenance of the general infrastructure in Fairford and surrounding areas, including water supply, drainage/sewage systems, highways, footpaths (urban and rural) and other public amenities.
- Support all activities which will maintain and increase the pleasure of living in Fairford for all existing and future residents, including the monitoring and action, regarding all environmental issues in Fairford and the surrounding areas.
- Pursue these ends through meetings, presentations and other forms of publicity, including social media e.g. website, e-mails, Facebook etc.

Next month, we'll report on initiatives FCV is pursuing, including Walkers are Welcome, Local Planning, the River Coln Environment and the Fairford Award.

How to contact or join Fairford Community Voice

Web: www.fairfordcv.org.uk
Email: info@fairfordcv.org.uk



CONTACT RIPPLES COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

For news, events and announcements

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Lechlade and surrounding villages

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EASTER SERVICES & EVENTS

LECHLADE CHURCHES TOGETHER

Monday 26th March: 7.30pm Celebration Service for Ecumenical Lent Groups – at the Baptist Church

ANGLICAN

ST MARY'S FAIRFORD (Tel: 01285 712467)

Palm Sunday 25th March: 8am Holy Communion (Prayer Book); 10am Palm Procession followed by All-age Family Eucharist; 6pm Evensong

Monday 26th March: 7.30pm Compline

Tuesday 27th March: 7.30pm Sung Compline

Wednesday 28th March: 7.30pm Compline

Maundy Thursday 29th March: 7.30pm Holy Communion with foot washing followed by vigil in the Lady Chapel

Friday 30th March: 12 noon Churches Together Act of Witness; 2pm Holy Hour

Holy Saturday 31st March: 8pm Service of Light

Easter Sunday 1st April: 8am Holy Communion (Prayer Book); 10am Sung Eucharist, with provision for Children; 6pm Evensong

ST LAWRENCE LECHLADE (Tel: 01367 358 653)

Palm Sunday 25th March: 8am Holy Communion; 10am Family Communion – procession starting at 10am at St Lawrence Primary school; 6pm Evensong

Maundy Thursday 29th March: 7.30pm Maundy Thursday fellowship meal (to book a free place: 01367 358 653)

Good Friday 30th March: 10am Reflection on the Cross – quiet meditation

Easter Sunday 1st April: 8am Holy Communion; 10am Holy Communion (10am Easter Service at The Trout Inn); 6pm Evensong

COMMUNITY

(Tel: 01285 712043)

Please contact Paul and Carrie for our Easter meetings (phone as above) or email paulandcarrieboden@gmail.com

BAPTIST

LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH
(Tel: 01285 711551)

Palm Sunday 25th March: 10.30am Guest Speaker: Mr. Bill Eteson;

6pm Communion Service

Good Friday 30th March: 10.30am Communion Service led by Mr David Duffey

Easter Sunday 1st April: 10.30am Guest Speaker: Rev. Courtney Harris

6pm Songs of Praise

CATHOLIC

(Tel: 01285 712586)

Palm Sunday 25th March: Mass and Blessing of Palms; 9.30am at St Mary's, Cricklade and 11am at St Thomas', Fairford

Tuesday 27th March: 7pm Mass at St Mary's, Cricklade

Wednesday 28th March: 11am Chrim Mass at Clifton Cathedral (8am coach from Fairford)

Maundy Thursday 29th March: 7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Thomas', Fairford

Good Friday 30th March: 3pm Liturgy of the Passion at St Mary's, Cricklade

Holy Saturday 31st March: 8.30pm Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter at St Thomas', Fairford

Easter Sunday 1st April: Mass 9.30am at St Mary's, Cricklade and 11am at St Thomas', Fairford

UNITED

FAIRFORD (Tel: 01285 711033)

Palm Sunday 25th March: 10.30am Palm Sunday Service

Good Friday 30th March: 7pm Good Friday Meditation

Easter Sunday 1st April: 10.30am Easter Sunday Service

Farmor's founding day reunion

The Farmor's School Reunion 1958-1963 held in September 2016 in Fairford Community Centre was so popular and well attended that organisers are considering holding a follow-up event. This will be a reunion on Saturday 24th November to celebrate the 280th anniversary of the founding of Farmor's School on 24th November 1738!



Jayne Chamberlain, Sylvia Thompson and Pete Nicholas.
Photo supplied by Richard Staniforth

It is hoped that old friends, colleagues from far and wide, past and present students, staff and governors will want to share memories as well as seeing how much things have changed over the years. So please save the date and the time, which will be 2-5pm in the Learning Resource Centre at Farmor's School.

If you would like to attend and/or get updates about this exciting reunion, please email Richard Staniforth: rmdf@btinternet.com. You can also help to spread

the word through any ex-students and staff that you are in contact with. The organisers are also hoping to compile a book of anecdotes, memories and photographs to commemorate this historic anniversary.

If you have anything you would like to contribute, please send it to Emma White: ewhite@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk. Any photographs sent in will be copied and returned.

If you would like to be informed of any future event involving the 1958-1963 pupils' reunion, please send your email address to Richard Staniforth. In addition, if you were at the Reunion in 2016 and took photos, could you kindly send copies of them to Richard in order for him to compile a historical record of the event?

Story by Chris Roberts

Lechlade Lions' Christmas Parties – a roaring success

Following their successful fundraising events in December, the Lechlade and District Lions Club hosted their annual Senior Citizens' Christmas Parties on Saturday 13th January at Lechlade's Pavilion and Fairford's Palmer Hall.

Over 100 people attended and enjoyed an afternoon tea and entertainment. The raffle raised a total of £373,



Senior Citizens' Christmas Party in Lechlade

which will be split between the Wiltshire Air Ambulance and the Great Western Hospital Brighter Futures Radiotherapy Unit.

The Lions will be making this amount up to £1000, which will be divided equally between both causes.

Story: David Sharp,
Publicity Officer,
Lechlade and District
Lions Club

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Ten years of serving Swindon



HRH The Duke of Kent after his visit to SWINDON 105.5

Swindon's Community Radio Station, SWINDON 105.5, launched its unique service to the town on 15th March 2008 and will be celebrating its 10th anniversary at Swindon Town Football Club.

From there, it provided its service for two years, later moving to the Bentley Centre in Stratton and, after a further six years, to the Liden Centre, continually developing its community reach and involvement. Thousands of people of all ages and abilities have come through the station doors, developing skills and becoming volunteers or going on to further education or employment.

Acknowledgement of the Station's success came in 2014 with a royal visit. HRH The Duke of Kent delivered the Queen's Award (MBE for organisations) in person and various awards have been made since to individuals and the Station – including the High Sheriff of Wiltshire's Award to Station Manager, Shirley Ludford and, more recently, the 2018 South West Business and Community Award for Service to the Community.

A celebratory party is being held on **Saturday 24th March** at Swindon Town Football Club's Legends' Lounge. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets cost £10 in advance from SWINDON 105.5 studios or call 01793 611555. Disco by Presenters, entertainment and light buffet.



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New website for Lechlade Memorial Hall

An exciting new website – www.book-online.co.uk/lechlade – has been developed to showcase the new hall and enable bookings to be taken online. Features include a calendar to show when rooms are available and detailed information about all the facilities. When the hall is completed, 360° images will be added to the site, so you can take a virtual tour of the hall before deciding which room will best suit your needs.

The Lechlade Memorial Hall and Recreation Charity (1056163) that manages the community facilities on the Memorial Hall site on behalf of the residents of



Lechlade has changed from a Trust to a new Charitable Incorporated Trust. This new structure was introduced by the Charity Commission to replace the personal liability of individual Trustees (all volunteers) with a limited liability – in the same way as a Limited Company protects the interests of individual

directors. The working title is Lechlade Village Hall and Recreation CIO (1175718) which reflects the Charity Commission's definition of community-owned halls as village halls.

We are still a charity and the hall and other facilities on the site will continue to be run for the benefit of local people. Hire charges will be kept as low as possible for local residents and especially for community groups such as the Tuesday Club, who use the hall on a weekly basis. We do hope to attract some commercial bookings, but these will be charged a higher rate so that income from these bookings can subsidise local use and priority will always be given to local residents.

The official opening of the hall will be on **Sunday 20th May** at 1pm as part of the weekend of activities that comprise the Lechlade Extravaganza Weekend – **18th-20th May**. Look out for a special 'pull out and keep' programme in next month's *Ripples*.

Story: Sue Coakley

Qualifications, skills and passions – Cascading Cups

Rose Codling was pursuing a successful and varied teaching career when she heard someone say: 'The first part of my life I worked using my qualifications, the next part I shall be using my skills and passions.'

This made her stop and think. She decided that the time was right for her to do just that and so she resigned and began her new venture, 'Cascading Cups'. Rose admired her mother's beautiful bone china tea sets, but didn't want to use them, so wanted to give the cups and saucers a new purpose by renewing rather than recycling or upcycling.

She has developed a unique range of table decorations using the china combined with her own hand-painted silk flowers and is forming a totally ethical and environmentally-friendly business, including the packaging used to send her creations through the post! Her work is suitable for weddings or any special occasion and a number of her decorations have been used as cake toppers.

Rose is full of energy, ideas and enthusiasm and is now selling her work at the 2nd and 4th Saturday Craft Markets in Cirencester and via the internet: <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CascadingCupsByRose>. If you want to know more, contact Rose: 07881 208076, Rose.CascadingCups@gmail.com.



Rose and Sweep with some of her 'Cascading Cups'

Story and photo: Margaret Hing



Muj Ali hands over cheque to Helen Jones

Khushi Restaurant, Lechlade hosts record-breaking fundraiser!

Once again Khushi Restaurant, Lechlade was the splendid venue for the St Lawrence Church Restoration and Maintenance Appeal annual fundraising dinner.

Muj Ali and his staff fed 110 happy diners with a delicious curry buffet in two sittings. The food was freshly prepared and delicious, the service attentive. It was a convivial evening and a lovely way to relax among old friends. Muj donated the generous sum of £825 to The Appeal.

The committee's thanks go to all who joined them to make the evening such a tremendous success, to Muj for his generosity and to his staff for looking after everyone so well.

Story by Pat Magill

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Walkers are Welcome!

Walkers are Welcome (WaW) is a UK-wide, community-led network of towns whose purpose is to develop and promote walking in areas with something different to offer. Today, there are over 110 Walkers are Welcome-accredited towns and villages in England, Scotland and Wales that have something special to offer walkers.

Walkers are Welcome towns work with Footpaths:

- Ensure that public footpaths remain open and maintained for the benefit of local people and visitors.
- Promote effective liaison arrangements with local councils and agencies responsible for footpaths. Members provide a focus for co-operation.
- Help to create new footpaths and walking groups.
- Encourage preparation of local walking guides and signage.
- Promote the health benefits of walking and being in the countryside.
- Give local people and visitors the opportunity to learn about the culture, history and biodiversity of the towns and surrounding countryside.
- Help ensure that footpaths and facilities for walkers are kept in good condition.



Being a Walkers are Welcome town also attracts more people to visit the area to enjoy local walks and brings economic benefit for local shops, B&Bs, hotels, pubs, cafés, restaurants, etc. through increased footfall.

The WaW National Committee recently conducted a survey to collate the many achievements of current members across the UK in the last 10 years. Together, they have created new walking routes – over 1200 routes covering over 6,400 miles; opened up routes that had been abandoned; launched walking festivals – representing 115 days per year and involving nearly 9,000 people; maintained thousands of miles of paths; promoted the use of public transport; publicised a wide variety of walking opportunities for all ages and abilities; and considerably helped to boost their local economies.

Fairford was launched as a Walkers are Welcome town on Saturday 9th September 2017 at the Fairford Heritage Day and the WaW membership certificate was presented to Fairford's Deputy Major, Mark Dudley. The certificate will be displayed in the Fairford Community Centre.

Fairford Walkers are Welcome will continue work to bring the pleasures and benefits of walking to an ever-wider audience, and to offer a warm welcome to locals and visitors who, in turn, help to sustain our local businesses and facilities.

By Margaret Bishop

Barrow Skate Park finished on time and in use

Simon Paul was delighted to announce that the new skate park had been completed and on time last month.

The news was greeted with enthusiastic youngsters making good use of it. They thought it fantastic and were contemplating requesting floodlights, so they could use it in the dark evenings! They realised this would be a 'big ask'!

The barrow skate park is so named after the archaeological investigations on the area last summer. The dig uncovered a site of significant importance showing 'barrow' burials from settlements dating back to the prehistory iron age, around 4,000 years ago as well as remains from an Anglo-Saxon settlement of a mere 2,000 years ago.



Story and photo: Margaret Hing

Miserable weather does not dampen enthusiasm for new skate park!

The 50plus workforce gets the job done

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For more information on The 50plus, to see our prices or to book an appointment online, please visit www.the50plus.co.uk.

To speak with a member of the team call: 01865 527037.

Local clubs for gardeners

2nd Wednesdays: **LECHLADE GARDENING CLUB:** 7.30pm in the New Inn (Long Room).
Contact: 01367 253121,
www.lechladegardeningclub.org

2nd Thursdays: **FAIRFORD GARDENERS' CLUB:** 7.30pm in the Farmor's Room, Fairford Community Centre. Contact Marion Lloyd: 01285 850280 or Chairman Geoff Denis: 01285 712195

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Garden clippings with Tina Owen



Marching past February

I love every season and, as one turns to another, I look forward to the emerging plants, but always feel a twinge of sadness too; no less so as winter wanders away.

All too soon in a mild year, you notice the delicate mauve-pink

Crocus tommasinianus laying ragged and flattened as the grass begins to grow in dark green tufts. The last of the beautiful pearly-white snowdrops flowering steadfastly as others, swelling with seeds, are swamped in a froth of Geranium and Corydalis leaves.



Honey bee on Cardamine quinquefolia

shrub and tree buds held tight for months, swell daily then burst with fresh colour. Fritillary buds develop and straighten, and Celandines sprout from every available space!

Bird song is enchanting, and thoughts are turning to seed sowing.

The winter pruning done, perennials and grasses cut down, a deep sigh for the last of winter's beauty, then onwards to the delights of the rapidly unfolding spring.



A pretty Euphorbia seedling

One day the sun's warmth is sufficient to make you take your coat off and you become aware of the new growth happening all around the garden. A glorious spring day that brings a smile to your face and a rash of weed seedlings to the borders!

Big bumble bee queens upend in Pulmonarias, honey bees at work over Viburnums, violets and Cardamine quinquefolia. Bright patches of daffodils alongside shrimp-like Euphorbia leaves whilst blush-pink blossom on the prunus cerasifera nigra have opened as your gaze was elsewhere. Mounds of primroses and clear blue Anemone flower in dappled shade;



Lesser celandine, ficaria 'Brazen Hussy'

ADVERTISING FEATURE

The greener way to a greener lawn

Nic Wade, Gardener

It is widely believed that the best and easiest way to look after a lawn is to simply cut it short every couple of weeks or so and then, when it starts to yellow or fade, add lots of water and a Nitrogen-Phosphate-Potassium fertilizer with a high nitrogen content to make it green again.

However, this is about the most un-green way to go about it. Cutting and collecting grass removes approximately 17% of the lawn nitrogen each time. The cut grass with its nitrogen and other organic contents is then put into a council recycling bin to be collected by a fossil-fuelled truck and driven around the country.

Why? Grass is the easiest waste to recycle. It literally recycles itself either by being put into the lawn owner's compost bin and then having the correct mix of other waste matter regularly added, as well as turning it to keep it oxygenated. Or simply cut and mulch it straight back into the lawn. Modern mowers with mulching blades are now capable of doing this increasingly well. These blades can cut at different heights and keep throwing the grass back into the blade. Some also have extra cutting edges, which is what we use.

Ideally, this style of mowing regime then needs to be run in conjunction with more frequent mowing – perhaps weekly, not being cut quite so short and a lawn fertiliser with lower levels of N-P-K but, importantly, with high levels of micro-nutrients to assist the breakdown and recycling of the cut grass.

We use a 4-3-4 fertilizer with more than half of the formulation derived from cold pressed seaweed and manure specifically to stimulate microbial activity. This breaks down the organic matter (cut grass) returning the nitrogen to the soil and reducing plant 'stress' and aiding root development.

Added to a lawn that is a little longer – about an inch high – creates an environment where grass is the dominant plant. Less weeds, almost certainly no moss, and less requirement for watering in dry spells.

Now, isn't that greener than using a recycling truck, high levels of chemicals and pesticides added to desperate watering at the first sign of a dry spell. I'd be fascinated to know the carbon footprint difference as I'm convinced it would be substantial.

Nic Wade is the proprietor of Nic's Mowing, based in South Cerney. Tel: 07710 234235

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Interview with a local artist
 My passion for insects started like this...

Why did you start the project?
 I already knew too many people who shot large creatures, but little to none who shot the small creatures. I felt the compulsion to. The countryside is surrounded with insects and are easily found in your backyard.



A young green shieldbug, hiding in its habitat



A bumble bee collecting pollen from wild lavender

What was the first insect you captured?

It was a blow fly. The majority of people are disgusted to be near this fly because they carry disease, but they are actually rather wonderful to look at. They have a combination of a purple and blue shine and their eyes have minor curves.

What made you expand?

After photographing the fly, I was intrigued to capture other 'shameful' insects, so I photographed larvae, spiders, beetles. I began documenting the insects and I wrote factual information about each one to help improve people's view on insects.

Courtenay Florence Mudd is a Cotswold macro-photographer, living in Fairford, specialising in water and insect photography.

Story and photos by: Courtenay Florence Mudd

Having a splashing time

It's not quite warm enough for swimming yet, but Fairford's acclaimed ladies' choir, A Splash of Red, are again dipping their toes in the water of song this Spring with 'That's Entertainment' – a concert of popular music for the whole family.

The event is being held at St Mary's Church, Fairford at 7pm on **Saturday 24th March**. Entertainment it will indeed be with the ladies' choir as well as The Malmesbury Concert Band, Fairford Primary School Choir, friends and guests.

Tickets are £5 (under 16s free) from 7a Coffee Shop, Fairford; Fairford Primary School and sorcomsec@hotmail.com. All the proceeds will go to the church and children's projects at the school.

The ladies' choir has been going for some ten years and has gone from strength to strength. It will be singing at The Royal Albert Hall later this year. One might say that the ladies certainly know how to make a splash!



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Music by Lucy Simon
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Directed by Dominic Shaw

Barn Theatre - Beeches Road, Cirencester
Registered charity no.1174253

NEW: The Barn Theatre, Cirencester

The Barn Theatre is a new entertainment area in the heart of the Cotswolds having benefitted from £4.5m of private investment enabling the acquisition and complete renovation of the site and its historic buildings.

The development has been funded by businessman and local resident, Ian Carling and his wife, Chrissie. Ian is Chairman and Founder of the charitable trust that will now be charged with operating the theatre.

The Barn Theatre, which was formerly a WWII Nissen Hut, has undergone a complete transformation and is now equipped with a 200-seat air-conditioned auditorium space, a new stage and orchestra pit beneath, and the latest in lighting, sound and projection technology. A newly built atrium joins the theatre to the adjacent Ingleside House, providing a contemporary theatre bar and foyer space, and through access for audiences and visitors to the beautiful Ingleside House and gardens.

The venue also includes a stunning, new stand-alone

restaurant and piano bar (Teatro) with talented chefs offering excellent food in amazing surroundings. Pre-theatre dining options and a varied programme of live music at the 50-seat restaurant mean that Teatro is ideal for a full evening's entertainment on theatre nights or at any time.

The Barn Theatre officially opens on **Monday 19th March** with a production of the Tony Award-winning musical, *The Secret Garden*, based on the 1911 book by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The musical's script and lyrics are by Pulitzer prize winning playwright, Marsha Norman with a score by Lucy Simon.

Tickets cost £14-£28 and are available from: 01285 648255, <https://barntheatre.org.uk/>.

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Mark Gatiss to star at Fairford Festival of Fiction 2018

Sherlock star and co-creator, Mark Gatiss, leads a stellar line-up for the 2nd Fairford Festival of Fiction taking place on Saturday 2nd June at Fairford Cricket Club as part of Fairford Festival.



Gatiss is known for starring in and writing The League of Gentlemen, Sherlock (in which he plays Mycroft) and many episodes of Doctor Who. He has also appeared in Games of Thrones, Gunpowder, Little Britain, Wolf Hall and Taboo.

He will be joined at the Fairford Festival of Fiction by Life on Mars co-creator, Matthew Graham, a TV writer (Doctor Who, Eastenders, This Life) and who now works in Hollywood, but still has family in Fairford. In addition, there will be three other award-winning writers at the Festival of Fiction: crime novelist Sarah Hilary (Quieter Than Killing), children's author, Ross Montgomery (Alex, the Dog and the

Unopenable Door) and poet Chrissy Williams (Bear).

Making a return to the Fairford Festival on Sunday 3rd June, will be children's author and artist, Sarah McIntyre as part of the main Festival programme.

Tickets are £8 for all of Saturday, limited to 150 and can be obtained now from 7a Coffee Shop, The Coffee Post and Fairford Primary School or online (with added service charge) from <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fairford-festival-of-fiction-2018-tickets-42865940181>.

Story by: Chris Roberts

Lechlade's Swing into Spring Weekend

A group of like-minded individuals have formed a committee with the sole purpose of providing a weekend, celebrating and showcasing Lechlade's many talented businesses.

The weekend will start with a Spring Ball on Saturday 21st April and conclude with a Sunday Funday on 22nd April. Lechlade Cricket Club have kindly donated the use of their land for the entire weekend and The Lakes by yoo have generously stepped up as sponsors.

Lechlade VIP Events hope to make this an annual occasion and something that the entire town can get

behind, look forward to and talk about, till the next one rolls around.

There will be some fantastic food and drink on offer, live music, magic, a vintage car show, a fun dog show, a tea dance, a tug of war and much, much more. For more information and details on how to book tickets, please find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/Lechlade-Swing-into-Spring-Weekend](https://www.facebook.com/Lechlade-Swing-into-Spring-Weekend), or call 07494 269900.

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For further details and ticket information follow us on Facebook
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Fairford Town Council News

WEDNESDAY MARKET:

The Wednesday Market is under new management. The official launch will take place at the beginning of April but, in the meantime, new stalls are being introduced on a weekly basis. We hope that you will all visit the new expanding market.

WEDNESDAY MARKET BUS SERVICE:

The Town Council will be continuing to subsidise a bus for a further six months. The service runs weekly on a Wednesday picking up people from Greenacres, Meysey Hampton, Kempford, Whelford, RAF Fairford (main gate) and Horcott. The bus will pick you up from your home once you have booked your seat.

To book, contact Community Connexions: 03456 805029. The cost is £1 each way. It is hoped that people will be encouraged to visit the Fairford Wednesday markets, both in the Market Place and in the Community Centre and also use some of the other services available in the Town.

FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL APPEALS FOR VOTES TO BAG A SHARE OF TESCO'S BAG FUND:

Fairford Town Council is bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

Three groups in every Tesco region have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and shoppers are being invited to head along to Tesco stores to vote for who they think should take away the top grant. Fairford Town Council is one of the groups on the shortlist.

In 2017, the Town Council put on a range of free-to-attend children's activities over the summer holidays. Working with World Jungle and the Ernest Cook Trust, who ran the forest schools, the Town

Council provided a timetable of workshops over four weeks in August. These were aimed at young people aged 6-14 years. The uptake was phenomenal, and we realised that there was a real need in Fairford for activities like this that wouldn't impact on family finances but would give young people a chance to meet up with other young people in a safe and positive environment.

Look out for us in the Cirencester Tesco stores from 1st March.

Voting is open in all Tesco stores throughout March and April. Customers can cast their vote using a token given to them at the check-out in store each time they shop.

LITTER PICK:

CDC are running a Cotswold Clean Up competition with prizes of £500, £300 and £200. Fairford Town Council will be entering this competition and will be holding the litter pick on **Saturday 10th March**. Should we be lucky enough to win, we will be dividing up any winnings amongst any community groups that take part. Please contact the Council office if you are interested in getting involved.

Alternatively, if a Community Group would like to enter separately, please contact: 01285 623123, cdc@cotswold.gov.uk.

ANNUAL CITIZEN AWARDS:

Nominations are invited for the three Annual Citizen Awards: Citizen of the Year; The Geoff Chick Award and The Albert Alder Award. To nominate someone for any of these awards, email clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk by **Friday 6th April**.

The next meeting of the Town Council is: **Tuesday 13th March 2018**.

Fairford Town Council Office, The Community Centre, High Street, Fairford GL7 4AF

Tel: 01285 713326 / 712344 Email: clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk

Website: www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk



Find us on Facebook. Search for Fairford Town Council.

Opening times: 10am-1pm. Councillors' contact details are available on website.

Forthcoming full council meeting: Tuesday 13th March at 7pm

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Lechlade Town Council News

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR – COUNCILLOR STEVE TROTTER:

Good progress is being made by King Builders and the internal finishes are being installed ready for completion in April. The new building is over 50% bigger than the previous building and has more meeting rooms, social space and an enhanced kitchen. It is being completed on time and on budget.

We are looking forward to opening the building from **1st May** and bookings are being taken on www.book-online.co.uk/lechlade.

From **18th-20th May**, there is the Extravaganza Weekend with wine tasting, valuations morning, tea dance, Ukey D'Ukes concert, fête, hog roast and dog show.

The official opening of the new Memorial Hall takes place on **Sunday 20th May** with a guest celebrity.

The new Lechlade Skate Park opened on 12th January and has proved very popular with its users.

LECHLADE ON THAMES TOWN COUNCIL PRECEPT 2018-2019:

A precept of £185,614 was agreed at the January

Council meeting. The precept request to Cotswold District Council forms part of the Council taxes levied on each household in the town. The precept of a Band D property will be £121.51 per year, which represents an annual increase of £5.61 or £0.47p per month.

The precept is used by the Council towards the annual upkeep of local amenities including play areas, the cemetery, maintenance of local verges, some green spaces, buildings and trees and provision of the Council office. Council is planning to invest in a CCTV camera in St John's Street, improving the Christmas lights and seeking additional external funding for the design development study of the Town Centre traffic management scheme and other traffic calming measures as set out in the Neighbourhood Plan.

In April, the Town Council is planning to move into the new Memorial Hall after nearly 22 months in the temporary cabin.

TWO CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR VACANCIES:

We welcome and encourage interest from any eligible elector who is considering becoming a Town Councillor. For more information please contact us: 01367 252338, clerk@lechladeonthames.co.uk.

Next full Council meeting: Monday 12th March in The Pavilion at 7.30pm.

Lechlade Town Council Office, New Memorial Hall,

Oak Street, Lechlade, GL7 3AY. Tel: 01367 252338

Email: clerk@lechladeonthames.co.uk Website: www.lechladeonthames.co.uk

Councillors' contact details are available on the website.

Forthcoming full council meeting: Monday 12th March at 7.30pm

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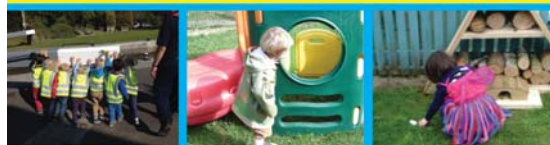
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Springtime by Jean Higgs

Jean Higgs' first publication was in 1962 in the Cork Examiner. She was a member of Cotswold Writers' Circle and wrote for the Standard. Jean was personal assistant to a local entrepreneur for 30 years.

She waits with seductive demeanour, as they all do. Her flowing hair falling to her waist, catching the pale sunlight as she moves, turning her locks into a cascade of gold.

Her diaphanous gown falls in multi layers of shades of green, overlaid with white and cream. There are touches of red and blue, yellow and mauve. The colour palette is exciting, it is the promise she brings of a Nirvana.

We must be patient.

Her dainty slipped feet tread firmly upon the hard earth. the time is not yet here. The sun's rays need to strengthen.

But she will know.

She moves quickly on, bare brown branches interlock in thick complexity...although...although...tiny shoots are peeping through almost unseen. She brushes them lightly with her fingertips caught in her green layered gown. Drifts of snowdrops stretch endlessly...she smiles as she moves.

It is the beginning.

Through the fields and woods she roams, through gardens and water meadows. Little copses and giant forests, over mountains and through the valleys. She must ensure that every leaf and every flower is ready for her.

So it is that our trees burst into a multitude of acid green, of tender young shoots bursting with joy that this is their time. Wildflowers nod in the cool breeze. Springtime has much to accomplish. She needs to stay.

For many days she travels; when her work is finished our woods are hazed with blue 'neath canopies of green, cream and pink. Blossom will hang heavy on the bough and golden trumpets of daffodils vie with multi-coloured tulips to excite the eye and senses.

A heady fragrance laces the air. It is intoxicating.

Springtime has brought a new beginning.

By Jean Higgs

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Beanstalk, the children's literacy charity, launches in Gloucestershire

Beanstalk, the children's literacy charity, celebrated moving into Gloucestershire with an evening of talks and networking in the heart of the Gloucester Docks at Dr Foster's Liquor Co. on Thursday 25th January.

Beanstalk recruits and supports volunteers who are placed in primary schools to work with children who have fallen behind in their reading. Beanstalk, a nationwide charity, is now growing into Gloucestershire after a successful launch into the South West of England.

Volunteers (reading helpers) recruited by Beanstalk support three primary school children, two times a week for 30 minutes in a local primary school for one academic year. These one-to-one sessions enable the reading helper to tailor each session to the child's specific needs and to pass on the magic of stories and books.

Councillor Dawn Melvin welcomed the attendees and encouraged them to enjoy the evening and to find out as much as possible about this 'worthy' charity.

The attendees of the event included potential reading helpers and schools as well as well-known local faces, including illustrator Leonie Lord, children's author John Dougherty and Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, Dame Janet Trotter DBE CVO.

BBC Radio Gloucestershire's Dominic Cotter was there to record part of the launch and will be discussing Beanstalk over the coming months on his programme.

Area Manager, Amelia Shaw, explains that 'in 2016, we made the move into the South West and I know Beanstalk will

make a real difference to those children in Gloucestershire who need that extra bit of support.'

The charity is now calling for local members of the community, especially in Gloucester and South Gloucestershire, to volunteer with Beanstalk enabling children in schools to read, grow and thrive. To find out more about the charity, volunteers are urged to contact Beanstalk directly: 0845 450 0307, info@beanstalkcharity.org.uk, w.beanstalkcharity.org.uk.



Beanstalk launch in Gloucester with Ginny Lunn (CEO Beanstalk) and Jamie Pike (Chair of the Board of Trustees of Beanstalk)

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Spring fun stuff on your doorstep

The range of activities on offer in the Cotswold Water Park is quite amazing, with something for everyone – the young, the not so young, and everyone in between. In fact, there are so many things to do this spring, that it pays to get to know the Water Park's website at www.waterpark.org.

Here, under THINGS TO DO, you will be spoilt for choice. The following summary is just a taster; it's all on our website.

Pick up the free CWP 'Leisure map' at the Gateway Centre or download under MAPS.



AERIAL ADVENTURE

Head 4 Heights: This is the perfect place to be Tarzan or Jane of The Jungle! www.head4heights.net

ANGLING

Walters Lake: A 3-acre match lake of predominantly carp fishing and large, airy Waterside Café. www.lakeepochard.co.uk

Lechlade & Bushyleaze Trout Fisheries: Excellent day ticket fly fishing in beautiful Cotswold countryside. Corporate hospitality available. www.lechladetrout.co.uk

South Cerney Angling Club: With waters to suit the match, pleasure and specimen angler. www.scac.org.uk

Tackle Den: Carp and coarse fishing specialist shop. www.tackleden.co.uk

ARCHERY

Old Downs Pursuits Archery Range: Our Archery BG coaches will guide you through the whole experience. www.old-downs-pursuits.co.uk

South Cerney Outdoor: See WILDERNESS SKILLS

The Cotswold Range: Instructed archery lessons. www.thecotswoldrange.co.uk

Waterland: See CANOEING, etc

BIRDWATCHING

In April and May, warblers and hirundines arrive back in the area along with the Nightingales and Hobbies, often 25 or more, and occasionally with a Red Footed Falcon in tow.

There are several bird hides and other viewing points shown on the CWP 'Leisure map'.

The Cotswold Water Park Trust runs guided walks throughout the year, so keep a look out for details and dates.

BOAT HIRE

Cotswold Country Park and Beach: See CANOEING

Cotswold Water Park Hire: Lake 86 hire rowing boats, stand up paddle boards, kayaks and canoes. www.cwphire.com

Go-By-Cycle: See CYCLING

South Cerney Outdoor: See WILDERNESS SKILLS

Waterland: See CANOEING, etc

CANOEING, KAYAKING, INFLATABLE RIDES & PADDLEBOARDING

Cotswold Country Park and Beach: Try loads of watersports! Enjoy the new WIBIT AquaVenture! www.cotswoldcountryparkandbeach.com

Cotswold Water Park Hire: See BOAT HIRE

Lakeside Ski & Wake: See PADDLEBOARDING & WATERSKIING

South Cerney Outdoor: See WILDERNESS SKILLS

Waterland: activities for companies, schools & youth organisations. www.ukwatersports.co.uk

CYCLING

Bainton Bikes: Rent a bike anytime 24/7 through an app. www.baintonbikes.com

Go-By-Cycle: Cycle hire, cycle sales and cycle repairs centre as well as camping. www.go-by-cycle.co.uk

GOLF

South Cerney Golf Course: A parkland golf course and indoor and outdoor driving range. www.southcerneygolfcourse.co.uk

HORSE RIDING

Rein and Shine: Ponies and horses with riding instructors. For all ages from 4 upwards. www.reinandshine.co.uk

RALLY DRIVING

Gloucestershire Rally School: Experience the demanding, exciting sport of rally driving. www.glosrallyschool.co.uk

RUNNING

The CWP Trust has produced a new running routes map, showing some suggested circular running routes around the Western Water Park, near South Cerney and Ashton Keynes. Download the CWP 'Running routes map' under MAPS.

SAILING & WINDSURFING

Bowmoor Sailing Club: A wide range of facilities, an extensive youth membership and an excellent clubhouse. www.bowmoor.co.uk

Cotswold Sailing Club: All year racing, leisure sailing, RYA approved training to suit the whole family. www.cotswoldsc.co.uk

South Cerney Outdoor: See WILDERNESS SKILLS

South Cerney Sailing Club: New clubhouse and excellent sailing for racers and beginners. www.southcerneysailingclub.org.uk

Waterland: See CANOEING, etc

Whitefriars Sailing Club: A full racing programme with leisure sailing, training and social events. www.whitefriarssc.org

SCULPTURE PARK

Elemental Sculpture Park: Meandering paths that take you on a journey through contemporary Art. www.elementalsculpturepark.com

SHOOTING

Old Downs Pursuits: 'Have A Go' sessions through to

courses in air rifles and clay target shooting. www.old-downs-pursuits.co.uk

The Cotswold Range: Instructed Air Rifle Lessons. www.thecotswoldrange.co.uk

SWIMMING

Waterland: See CANOEING, etc

Cotswold Country Park and Beach: See CANOEING

South West Swim: Open water coaching at Waterland and Lake 32. www.southwestswim.co.uk

WAKEBOARDING & WATERSKIING

Lakeside Ski & Wake: Expert friendly waterskiing and wakeboarding coaching with family-friendly sports bar/brasserie & gym. www.lakeside-ski.co.uk

4 Lakes Waterski School: Waterskiing and wakeboarding for beginners to international competitors. www.4lakes.co.uk

WALKING

There is plenty of choice of routes for walkers in the area, along with great wildlife, peaceful villages, and sporting action on the water. The CWP 'Walks Guide' can be purchased at the Gateway Centre for only £1 or download under MAPS.

WILDERNESS SKILLS

South Cerney Outdoor: Team building, orienteering and bushcraft experiences. www.southcerneyoutdoor.co.uk

Waterland: See CANOEING, etc

Cotswold Forest School: Embrace the outdoors through various hands-on survival techniques, such as bushcraft, fire lighting, shelter building and more! www.cotswoldforestschool.co.uk

Become a member of the Cotswold Water Park Trust

If you're a serious Water Park user then Spring is a good time to consider the benefits of becoming a member of the Cotswold Water Park Trust, while helping us make this a better place for wildlife and people. It's all under JOIN US.

With 12 months membership from just £18, you get:

- Free parking for 12 months at all CWP Trust run car parks: Neigh Bridge Country Park, Clayhill, Bridge, Lakeside, Waterhay and Riverside Park in Lechlade
- 10% discount at Cotswold Outdoor

- 15% discount off all purchases from Relish café at the Gateway Centre
- Priority booking for events
- Members' newsletter
- Voting rights at AGM
- A car sticker.

All this for less than £2 a month.

There is Single membership (= one vehicle) and Joint & Family membership (= two vehicles).

Honouring the WWI fallen

We are publishing records of local servicemen who lost their lives in the First World War, 1914-1918, kindly supplied by Fairford History Society and Lechlade History Society.

If you have photos or further information about any of these servicemen, please write to the editor. (see details on page 3).

Lechlade

20225 Pte William Frederick LAPPINGTON, 1st Bn Dorsets. Killed in action on 8th March 1918. Buried in Poelcappelle British Cemetery, Belgium

36637 Pte Percy George COOPER, age 27, 8th Bn Royal Berks. Killed in action on 21st March 1918. Commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial, France. His name is on parents' grave in Lechlade cemetery. Also on Kintbury war memorial

6841 Sgt George MOULDING, age 32, 1st Bn Wilts Regt. Died of wounds on 25th March 1918. Buried in Puchevillers British Cemetery, France. An Old Contemptible. Related to John Onion. Circumstances of his death related in The Kaiser's Battle by Martin Middlebrook

53727 Pte Andrew SMITH, 1st Bn King's (Liverpool Regt). Killed in action on 26th March 1918. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Frederick Andrew Smith is correct name

24661 Pte Ernest MOSS, 8th Bn Gloucesters. Killed in action on 28th March 1918. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. One of three Moss brothers who died in the war.



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Neighbourhood Watch

What is it?

Essentially it concerns crime prevention but, just as importantly, it involves neighbours working together as a community to make their area a safer place. This in turn instils a sense of security in the residents, knowing their homes and other properties are being cared for by their neighbours. This and an improved social contact are the hallmarks of a successful watch.

Say hello to your neighbour

Our modern way of life often means the strength of many communities have been weakened. People can lead isolated lives, living next door to people without getting to know them. Neighbourhood Watch can put an end to this by bringing people closer together, but in a way that does not intrude.

Improve the quality of life

Whatever the problem in your neighbourhood, you have the power to do something about it, but a lone voice can go unheard. Success can be achieved when several people act together as a group. That is where Neighbourhood Watch comes in because it provides a nationally recognised opportunity to act together to tackle local concerns.

Who runs it?

The Police do not organise Neighbourhood Watch. It is run by members of each Watch in the way they consider most appropriate for their community. The local Cotswold Division Neighbourhood Watch Field Officer will provide information packs and provide guidance once the co-ordinator has set up their Watch (scheme).

What do we get out of it?

- A stronger community
- Share information about what is happening in your area
- Support neighbours acting together to prevent crime
- A reduction in the fear of crime
- A chance to improve the quality of life in your area

What does it cost?

Neighbourhood Watch is free to join. Currently Neighbourhood Watch road signs in the Cotswolds are provided free of charge.

Are there any financial benefits?

Hopefully, the reduction in crime in your area is the greatest benefit, but there is also an opportunity to get reductions on household insurance premiums.

How do I find out more about it?

Email: keith.handley@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

He will be able to explain all about Neighbourhood Watch and advise on any schemes in your locality or offer advice on how to start one. Ideally the scheme co-ordinator should have email facility.

Or write to:

Neighbourhood Watch Office, Cirencester Police Station, The Forum, Cirencester GL7 2PG

or Visit Gloucestershire Constabulary Website.

More information can be found on: www.ourwatch.org.uk

STOP PRESS

As from 31st January 2018, Gloucestershire Constabulary will go over to a new form of messaging system – 'Neighbourhood Alert'. You can sign up to this system by logging into www.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk and sign up to receive local information.

This is in addition to the service provided by your local NHW co-ordinator.



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*T & C's apply, Monday – Friday only during March 2018

Three sportsmen, three sports, one cause

Rugby, cricket and football will be represented in the shape of guest speakers Nick Wood, Mark Alleyne and Paul Bodin at a special charity fundraiser at Fairford Town Football Club on Friday 16th March. All the money raised will go towards the Movember Foundation, which is a global charity committed to men living happier, healthier and longer lives.

The evening is being organised by Chris Tanner, who is running the London Marathon on **Sunday 22nd April** to raise at least £2,500 for the cause, which is very close to his heart. His dad, Mike Tanner, who is President of Fairford Town Football Club, was diagnosed with prostate cancer a couple of years ago.



Chris Tanner preparing to run the Marathon (inset with Mike Tanner).
Provided by Chris Tanner

'It should be a great evening' said Chris, who will be taking part in his first ever marathon. 'All three guys are giving their time for nothing. It will be a Q&A with three people who have achieved an awful lot in sport.'

They certainly have. Nick Wood made his name as a prop with Gloucester, making a club record 278 competitive appearances for the Cherry and Whites. Mark Alleyne was the mastermind behind Gloucestershire's remarkable run of success in one-day cricket in the late 90s and early to mid-noughties, and was good enough to play white ball cricket for England as well. Welshman Paul Bodin, was a cultured left-back in the 80s and 90s who served time with clubs such as Cardiff and Swindon and was capped 24 times by his country.

Tickets for this special evening are priced at £20 and includes food. There will also be a Golden Ticket raffle on the night with some high-profile items up for grabs. To book, call Chris Tanner: 07815 579784.

Story by Chris Roberts

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PEOPLE FOR YOU

People For You provides a free volunteer befriending service offering regular companionship to the older and vulnerable people in the community.

We will be at Lechlade and Fairford libraries on every third Thursday of the month: Lechlade 10am to 11am / Fairford 11.15am to 12.15pm
If you feel this service might be of interest to you – or you are interested in volunteering, please get in touch.

Contact Sue Black 07810 630167 / 01452 528491 or email: sue.peopleforyou@grcc.org.uk

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Gloucestershire Retirement and Care Home Group combine International Flair with Classic Flavour to the Dining Experience

A celebrated chef and Michelin recognised restaurant manager has joined retirement and care specialists, Aura Care Living, as its first ever hospitality director in what will be a major shake up to the industry.

Arnaud Peccoux, 43 trained under international chef and restaurateur Alain Ducasse before taking his skills to the South of France to Monte Carlo, where he ran Rampoldi as well as set up Cipriani in Monaco, one of the most revered Italian restaurants in the area. Alongside these achievements, he found time to look after an extremely well-known American actor, as his personal chef, as well as run pop-up restaurants at the International Cannes Film Festival.

A chance meeting with Aura CEO, Linda Lloyd last year has brought his talent to the UK and specifically to the retirement and care industry, a sign of the intention of Aura Care to transform the sector.

The Painswick-based company is not even two years old and has already been awarded second place in the estate agent's, Knight Frank's, prestigious Luxury Care Home Awards for this year.

Aura Care Living currently operates two sites – one Care Home, Kings Lodge, in Camberley (Surrey), which has been open since the summer of 2017 and Stratton Court in Cirencester, which is both a retirement village and nursing home. Stratton Court has an onsite restaurant, The Kensington Café Bar, which will also be open to the public as well as residents.

'We want to bring a five-star service to this industry,' said the French hospitality expert, Arnaud. 'I want to introduce modern service, providing an all-day menu for our residents using fresh ingredients; we even have plans to grow the produce with the help of the residents on our sites. The ever-changing menu will offer dishes like puttanesca linguini, slow-cooked pork belly with cavolo nero, a warm Oriental duck salad, fresh lemon tart with berries, a crème brûlée and so much more – I am extremely excited to get going!'

'This is a challenge I could not resist once I had spoken to Linda (Lloyd). I share her vision for revolutionising care. If you are used to high standards in your life, why should this change later in life?' Arnaud added.

For more information, please contact: 01285 283132, enquiries@auracareliving.com.



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AURA
CARE LIVING

Nanny Lander's cheese gets MPs' vote

A goats' cheese from the Ernest Cook Trust's Hatherop Estate featured at a recent House of Commons event to showcase the best from British farmers and brewers. Nanny Lander's Cotswold Organic goats' cheese, made by Tom Lander at Home Farm, Quenington, was on offer at a special tasting for MPs. The event was organised by the National Farmers' Union in partnership with the All Party Parliamentary Beer Group, to highlight the importance of British cheese and beer to the economy.

Tom Lander said it was a real accolade to have his cheese showcased at the House of Commons event. 'It went down really well – everyone liked it,' he said. 'I was asked lots of questions about it and there was a great atmosphere. The occasion was a real tribute to the quality of produce coming from Britain's food and farming community.'

Generations of the Lander family have farmed in the village of Quenington for almost a century, traditionally grazing pasture for milk production. Ten years ago, Tim and Paula Lander took the difficult decision to sell their dairy herd of Jersey cows and turned instead to raising organic Aberdeen Angus beef. Their son Tom started working on the 600-acre organic farm in 2013 and, as a way of diversifying, he suggested keeping goats to produce milk and cheese. 'Before I worked on the farm, I worked in hospitality and catering and I was aware that goats' cheese was a big seller,' he said.



Tom Lander with his goats – photo supplied by Tom Lander

As well as a reference to the goats, the name Nanny Lander's is also an affectionate nod to previous generations. Tom's great grandmother, Thirza - known as Nanny Lander – was the first at Home Farm to produce dairy products. A generation on, Tom's grandmother Catherine was a familiar face delivering milk around Quenington.

Since their launch four years ago, sales of Nanny Lander's goats' cheese and milk have grown steadily. They are sold mostly at the farm, but are also available at local shops, pubs and restaurants. To find out more about Nanny Lander's goats' cheese visit: www.nannylanders.co.uk.

From generosi-tea at home to dining around the world

Children from Reception class to Year 6 at Hatherop C of E Primary School recently enjoyed a Whole School Cooking Day with The Kitchen Club.

Each pupil was involved in making a delicious afternoon tea of home-made food including roasted vegetable quiche, posh egg & cress and ham & cheese sandwiches, pesto & Mozzarella pinwheels, fruit scones, Victoria sponge cake and fruit tartlets. The afternoon tea was to reflect the school's value for the term 'generosity' and the children were demonstrating their generosity by inviting older members of the community to enjoy the high tea they had prepared earlier.

The Year 6 pupils acted as hosts serving tea and coffee and generally looking after their guests. Four of the pupils, Mollie Freebury, Harry Court, Poppy Symonds and Theo Pymar, waited patiently outside the school door to welcome the 30 invited guests from the Fairford Edna Dawes Lunch Club and the CHEQS Open the Book Team.

Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 led by Lizzie Skinner entertained the guests with their beautiful singing of A Million Dreams from The Greatest Showman, after which some of the Year 6 girls performed an energetic

tea dance.

Headteacher, Caroline Burton, said: 'I think all age groups from the very youngest of our pupils to the more senior guests enjoyed our generosi-tea!'

From the end of February and carrying on through March, The Kitchen Club will be encouraging pupils to grab their food passport and go on a journey of 'cooking around the world'. Each Saturday for five consecutive weeks, The Kitchen Club will be showing children how to cook four servings of a starter and main course to take home to share with the family.

The first class explored Italian food; the second course on **Saturday 3rd March** involves Japanese cooking; then it is Mexican on **Saturday 10th March** followed by Greek food on **Saturday 17th March**, finishing up with Indian food on **Saturday 24th March**.

These courses take place in the Cookery Classroom at Farmor's School, Fairford from 10am till 12 noon. To find out more, contact Melissa: Melissa@thekitchenclub.org.uk or visit www.thekitchenclub.org.uk.

Story and cover photo: Chris Roberts



Fairford & Lechlade Business Club News

by Chris Roberts 01285 712150 or email admin@flbc.org.uk

FLBClub Business Awards 2018

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THE RESULTS!

The Fairford & Lechlade Business Club Business Awards were held at the end of January at Cotswold Hoburne in South Cerney. Once again, there were a record number of entries, as the event becomes more and more popular with businesses from all over the Cotswolds, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire. Nearly 120 business people attended the Awards Dinner hosted by BBC Radio Gloucestershire breakfast show presenter and Cotswold Life writer, Mark Cummings.

The judges were extremely impressed by the quality of the entries, which showed passion and enthusiasm. The great range of businesses taking part made the judging process even more difficult in selecting both finalists and eventual winners. So difficult that, this year, there were four runners up as well as a winner in each category!

All winners receive:

- A framed certificate
- A year's free membership of the FLBClub
- The opportunity to speak about their business on the one hour Swindon 105.5 FM radio show 'Mind Your Own Business'

Business of the Year

Sponsored by:

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Presented by: Verity Manners

Business of the Year is the premier award and is open to any business that can demonstrate a successful track record of excellence and achievement. This year, there were 14 entries for this award and all were outstanding businesses. But there can only be one winner!

Finalists: Bulldog Websites, Fairford

Fairford Roof Tiles

The Coffee Post, Fairford

The New Inn Hotel, Lechlade

Winner: Green Hills Cleaning, Highworth

The judges were again impressed with all the businesses. However, they agreed that Green Hills Cleaning Ltd is a



Verity Manners, Amy Bedford and Les Bedford.
Photo by Paredes Photography

special business. Created with a standard of ethics that is central to the running of the business, encompassed by the strapline: 'Ethical Cleaning Without Compromise'. As ethical employers, all 12 team members benefit from contracted hours, great rates of pay, holiday pay, mileage allowance, bonus scheme, workplace pension scheme, free DBS checks, free uniform, and free NVQ training.

The ethical cleaning is to the highest standards using plant-based detergents from renewable sources to minimise the impact on the environment. And ethical profit: supporting local community group, Highworth Community Clean Up, which organises volunteer groups to litter-pick in and around Highworth from March to October. Green Hills donate a percentage of profits to help them maintain this service and their donations go towards much needed equipment and promotion of the group to raise awareness. A very worthy winner of Business of the Year 2018.

Business Person of the Year

Sponsored by: Cotswold Boat Hire

Presented by: Greg Wheeler

Business acumen should be recognised and encouraged and this Award highlights the skills and ability of a business owner or employee. There were 15 entries for this Award this year.

Finalists: Anthony Clarke of Lechlade K9

Alice Douglass of Grosvenor Consultancy, Highworth

Allison Murray of Allison Murray Design, Eastleach

Kayla Williams of KJ Accounts, Fairford

Winner: Andy Cole of Andy Cole Magic, Fairford



Greg Wheeler and Andy Cole. Photo by Paredes Photography

What a fantastic selection of business people there are in this area of the Cotswolds! However, Andy Cole was selected as the winner by the judges for his determination to make his hobby and life-long dream a viable business. And you can't just become a magician overnight! Particularly impressive was Andy's recent achievement, which is quoted below direct from his Award submission:

'It took a while to be accepted among the world's most elite working magicians, gaining entry into the Magic Circle definitely helped with this. Many apply, but few make the grade. It took me over three years to be awarded the degree of 'Andrew Cole MMC' (Member of the Magic Circle). I cannot put into words what this means to me, one of only 1500 people in the world are good enough, and I am blessed to be one of them.'

New Business of the Year

Sponsored by: Voneus Broadband

Presented by: Steve Leighton



Steve Leighton, Lisa Weeks and Darren Weeks.
Photo by Paredes Photography

This category is open to all new ventures started within the last 2 years with those entering showing how their business has progressed from an idea to a trading business. There were 11 entries for this Award this year.

Finalists: EveryWhichWay Photography, Lechlade
Lazy Slippers, Lechlade

Morton Strong, Fairford

Revitalise with Lucy, Fairford

Winner: The Cotswold Chippy, Quenington

Wow! That was the response from the judges on reading all the 15 entries for New Business award that have started in the last two years. Again, they are all worthy winners, taking the plunge and starting a business from scratch is not easy. However, they were unanimous about the winner and that The Cotswold Chippy was a great idea, executed well with a great brand, vehicle livery and, most importantly, good quality tasty food delivered to local villages on a regular basis. And not without challenges with regard to the Council trading licence but, now this is resolved, the judges thought that The Cotswold Chippy was well on the road to success!

Most Innovative Business of the Year

Sponsored by: Bluestone Insurance Services

Presented by: Pauline Rushton



Pauline Rushton with Rebecca Ackary.
Photo by Paredes Photography

All businesses are innovative in some way, so entrants had to illustrate how they have managed successfully to introduce new ideas, products, customers, techniques or technology to help grow their business. This category was a very, very close run thing, so all the finalists should take comfort from that!

There were 15 entries for this Award this year.

Finalists: Elitonia, Highworth

Fairford Therapy Centre,

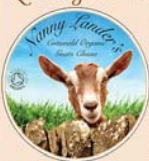
Jesse Smith, Cirencester

Wrag Barn Golf Club, Highworth

Winner: Sweetness & Pea, Fairford

The judges thought that all 15 entries in this category were innovative, so it was very difficult to choose the winner, but Sweetness & Pea edged ahead as they are innovative in lots of ways. Especially the original idea of a cloth nappy online shop and then expanding into

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other ethical and eco-friendly products to suit the whole family including organic toiletries and wooden toys. Continued product research and innovation is key to this business keeping its uniqueness and the judges really appreciated this approach.

Outstanding Business Student of the Year

Sponsored by: *The RAF Charitable Trust Enterprises (Air Tattoo)*

Presented by: *Helen Webb*



*Helen Webb, Jessica Ponting, Lilly Chambers and Lizzie Dawson
Photo by Paredes Photography*

The entries for this award were from Y10 Business Students from Farmor's School and each of the three students had written a business case for a new business.

- Finalists:** Lilly Chambers – Phone covers
Jessica Ponting – Smoothie shop
- Winner:** Lizzie Dawson – Dog biscuits

The winning entry was from Lizzie Dawson, who impressed the judges by identifying a gap in the market for soft dog biscuits for ageing dogs that have trouble with their teeth. With so many people in the UK owning dogs, this is a unique idea and potentially a huge market.

The Bob Warren Hospitality Award

This was a new award for last year, which was set up in memory of Bob Warren, former landlord of the Trout Inn, Lechlade, and long-time supporter of the FLBClub.

Thirty nominated venues were asked to encourage their customers, friends and family to vote for the hospitality venue (café, pub, restaurant, B&B or hotel etc) that best demonstrated the spirit of Bob Warren – offering great hospitality, excellent customer service, a warm and friendly atmosphere and provided a fantastic all-round experience. There were nearly 600 votes for the nominated businesses.



*Penny Warren, Maxine Hastings and Georgia Bayliss.
Photo by Paredes Photography*

- Runners up:** Colosseo, Fairford
Lynwoods, Fairford & Lechlade
The New Inn Hotel, Lechlade
The Railway Inn, Fairford
- Winner:** **The Coffee Post, Fairford** (with nearly a third of all votes)

The Howard Dowler Award

In memory of Howard Dowler, one of the founding members of the Business Club, this is a special Award made by the Chair to the person or business that has made an outstanding contribution to the local community. Howard's son, Neil, was attending to present the Award.



Neil Dowler and Giuseppe Miliano. Photo by Paredes Photography

Winner: Zeus and Giuseppe from Colosseo, Fairford.

Acknowledgements

The Fairford & Lechlade Business Club would like to sincerely thank Cotswold Hoburne for hosting the event, Mark Cummings from BBC Radio Gloucestershire for being compere, Piers Critchlow from Moore, Allen & Innocent for conducting the grand auction. Thank you also to all sponsors and donors of prizes without whom the event would not take place:

Lakes by you, Wrag Barn Golf Club, Cotswold Boat Hire, Voneus Broadband, Bluestone Insurance Services, RAFCTE (Air Tattoo), Fairford Roof Tiles, Hyperion House, The Marlborough Arms, The Cotswold Chippy, Morris Owen, Ripples Magazine, Wilts & Glos Standard, The Coffee Post.

Photos available to buy

If you were a winner, finalist, sponsor or guest at the Awards Night dinner, Peter Paredes Photography has taken some amazing photos that are available for you to buy. The images will be available to view at www.paredesphotography.com/FLBCAwards.

FLBClub's next meeting

The next FLBClub meeting is a breakfast meeting on **Thursday 22nd March** at 8am at Wrag Barn Golf Club, Highworth. This is another opportunity to hear from Kellie Peters of Databasix about what businesses need to do to be compliant with the new legislation GDPR, which comes into force in May 2018. The meeting is free to attend, but a full English breakfast costs £10. Booking is essential at: www.flbc.org.uk/Events or email Chris: admin@flbc.org.uk.



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Lots of miles and smiles

On Monday 18th December, the Monday Walking for Health group said farewell to their walk organiser, David Lawrence, who has led the group for nearly 15 years. The group is part of the 'Walking for Health' national movement, encouraging people to walk two miles to help them lead a more active lifestyle and improve their mental and physical well-being.

David started the group after answering a request from the Health Development Officer at Cotswold District Council for a volunteer to start a group in Fairford. It currently has 44 members and there are usually around 20 to 25 people who turn up for the weekly walk in Fairford, Ampney Crucis, Coln St Aldwyns or Lechlade. Before David hung up his walking boots in December, he compiled a programme of walks for the group right up until August 2018 with the leadership for each walk being split between a number of keen walkers and with a back-marker allocated to walk with the slower members of the group.

The group, which appeals to people of any ability, usually walks no more than two miles, but this distance is reduced in extreme weather. Most members are retired and women outnumber the men by around three to one! Some years ago, David introduced the Annual Smartie Championships. The winner was the 'smartie' who attended the most number of walks during the year and received as their prize a large tube of Smarties. Competition has been intense and most years the winner has walked over 40 times!

David remembers that, on one walk in Ampney St Peter, the group came to an abrupt halt to stand and



David's farewell Smartie cake – Photo: Joanne Roberts

watch Laura Bechtolsheimer (now Tomlinson) and her horse Alf practising their dressage skills before going on to win a Gold Medal in the London 2012 Olympics.

David said: 'I am really proud to have started this group, which has become more than a walk. It is a group of friends, who look forward to seeing each other. Some say it is a really nice start to the week.'

The group will continue to meet outside the Fairford Community Centre on Mondays at 10.30am and then enjoy a coffee (cost 50p) and a chat afterwards in the Centre. To find out more, contact Kay Hobbs: 01285 713203.

Story: Chris Roberts

Book your doctor appointment online

Hilary Cottage Surgery now has a new website designed by the Patient Participation Group (PPG) and the Primary Care Foundation to make it easier for patients to book an appointment.

It is hoped that more people will use the online system as it will be easier to get an appointment for the same day as well as booking ahead. Strangely enough, young people use their mobile phones and the internet for socialising, but not for booking appointments. Older people tend not to use the internet very much, so it is the younger and older people that the PPG is appealing to.

You may find it easier to get a same day appointment via the website rather than by phoning the

receptionist at the surgery, as the appointments show up online as soon as they are free. You may be lucky enough to log on just at the right moment when an appointment becomes available. The new system will also increase availability to speak to or see your usual doctor, ensuring your continuity of care.

You can also order your prescription online and get advice about and apply for foreign travel inoculations.

The new website is www.fairfordsurgery.co.uk. Go to the Online Services Section at the bottom of the page and request an appointment – you do need to be registered to use this service, so ask at Reception for details.

Story: Chris Roberts

News from The League of Friends of Fairford Hospital

Change of Trustees

Treasurer, Paul O'Shaughnessy has now retired from The League of Friends and we thank Paul for his dedication and commitment over the last 7 years. His contribution has been invaluable, and it has helped the League develop into a stronger organisation within the community.

We are delighted to welcome Andrena Miles as a new member of the Trustees and, in addition to becoming a Trustee, Andrena will take over the role as Treasurer. Andrena lives in Fairford, runs a local business and has been a Community First Responder for many years. She will be known by many of our supporters and we are pleased to welcome her as a Trustee.

We are also very pleased to welcome Ros Godden as a Trustee. Ros has served on the Fundraising Events Committee for a number of years and is also a House-to-House volunteer.

House-to-house 2018 dates

The League of Friends House-to-House fundraising event will take place from **9th-22nd April 2018**. Our thanks to all our existing volunteer co-ordinators and collectors.

With the new housing in Fairford and Lechlade, we urgently need more volunteer collectors to deliver and collect the envelopes in your local area.

Volunteer drivers required

We need more volunteer drivers, particularly in the Lechlade area and surrounding villages.

We do over 750 drives a year helping people get to their medical appointments at their GP surgery or hospital. Running costs for the trips are paid.

Do you think you can help?

If you can spare sometime to deliver and collect the envelopes for the House-to-House fundraising event or become one of our volunteer driver,s please get in touch with the League Administrator, Christine Barker, contact details below.

If you need further information about The League of Friends, please contact Christine Barker: 07767 408409, fairford.lof@hotmail.co.uk.

Your continued support is very much appreciated

Graham Hewitt, Chairman



The League of Friends of Fairford Hospital

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A Message-in-a-Bottle can save a life

The Edna Dawes Lunch Club has been running for over 10 years and meets each Monday and Wednesday from 10.30am till 1.45pm in Fairford Hospital. It is funded by the League of Friends of Fairford Hospital and aims to provide company, fun activities and a hot meal for people who live alone in the local community.

At one of the Lunch Club meetings recently, members taxed their mental powers trying to complete a crossword based on winter weather and a word grid quiz about winter. Everyone helped each other and there was quite a buzz of excited conversation trying to find out who had the correct answers!

Afterwards, Sally-Ann Bauer from the South Cotswold Frailty Centre and Rhys Hancock from the South West Ambulance Service gave a talk about services that are in place to help improve the quality of life for frail people and manage their health and well-being. One of the services is the Message-in-a-Bottle scheme introduced by Lions International and which is a simple idea that encourages people to keep their basic personal and medical details in a plastic bottle that can easily be accessed in an emergency. The bottle is kept in the fridge and the emergency services will know that you have a bottle because you will have previously fixed a label on the inside of your front door and on the door of the fridge. It is reassuring for people living alone and their families to know that important information can be readily available to the emergency services should they suffer an accident or sudden illness.

People can apply for the free Message-in-a-Bottle kits by completing a form which is available from doctors' surgeries, chemists and health centres.

The Edna Dawes Lunch Club currently needs volunteers to help at the twice weekly sessions. This help includes serving hot drinks, supporting and chatting to the members during the activities, helping to serve lunch and clearing away.

Eighteen year old Will Spurway volunteered at the Lunch Club for one hour per week for a year as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. He so enjoyed being involved with the elderly members that he continues to keep on coming, giving his time freely even though his volunteering year ended in November.

The Lunch Club also needs help to escort the members on the minibus to and from the hospital as well as more volunteers to actually drive the minibus. If you feel you can help in any way, please contact Shirley Rice: 01367 253096 or Kate Barnes: 01285 851084.



Members holding a Message-in-a-Bottle (Will Spurway standing centre back)

Story and photo: Chris Roberts



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A year in the life of a sheep

A fitting story for a sheep dog, resisting any puns ewe may know!

Brian Simpson has been looking after sheep for around half a century proudly calling himself a 'sheep doctor' offering all shepherding services. Many of his clients have just two or three sheep so are grateful for Brian to tend to worming, shearing and sheep pedicures!



The sheep year starts in the autumn when the ewes are treated with wormer and a mineral drench and put to nice pasture with the ram. Lambs are born five months later. In February, they are wormed again and vaccinated to ensure that the first milk the lambs receive will also give them antibodies for protection against disease.

Brian likes to see that lambing takes place under cover and says that 99.9% of the time, the births are trouble-free. He says that the lambs must be with their mothers for three days to bond, otherwise they will be rejected. After a week or so, they can go out into the fields, penned to start with and then the mothers will be able to recognise their own young.

By May, it's the beginning of shearing time and the fleeces are banded into bags of around 20-30. These are bought by the Wool Board and the fleeces are used for carpets and insulation. The farmers are paid around 50p per fleece. Apparently British wool is not of a high enough quality for anything else. Brian is sure that his sheep have beautiful wool!

Brian is happy to shear sheep in flocks of one or two up to several hundred! He also provides a fencing service and, again, no job is too large or small! Call Brian Simpson: 01666 861178 or 07903 112352.

Story and photo: Mollie Collie

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Meet Andy Arkell

The new lock-keeper at St John's

As part of their rôle, lock and weir keepers are expected to make themselves available to work out-of-hours more often than not, as sometimes weirs need to be adjusted after the normal working day has finished or some form of incident might need to be attended to.

The Environment Agency's flood forecasting centre in Reading monitors river levels and uses rainfall forecasts, groundwater levels and extensive modelling data to support water level management decisions. Lock-keepers generally make these decisions themselves, based on their training, experience and judgement but, when they finish for the day, the forecasting centre takes over.

Although the aim is to account for any forecast rainfall by adjusting weirs during normal working hours, that's not always possible, especially at the top of the river where the channel is narrower and shallower and, as a result, levels are more volatile. St John's is also the first weir on the river and, therefore, affects adjustments downstream. So, Andy has to have his wits about him!

Andy comes from Reading and is delighted with the very different world here in Lechlade. What attracted Andy Arkell (nothing to do with the brewing family) to lock-keeping? Andy explained that he left school and, after working on various odd jobs here and there, he 'fell into' lock-keeping! He started by becoming a summer assistant at Caversham Lock at Reading and then at different locks over the next few years. He was then employed as a summer relief worker before his post at St John's, Lechlade. He also said that he has tried office work, but it wasn't for him and he just enjoys the outside life on the river. He has been constantly surprised at the slower pace of life here in contrast to his life in Reading, but he is able to find the time to work on small projects.



Andy Arkell, lock-keeper at St John's

During his first winter at the lock, Andy has had a fairly quiet time until the snow fell. When this melted and after a spell of rain, the water levels rose quickly and there were many nights when the lock-keepers had numerous call-outs to operate weirs and maintain steady water levels.

It can sometimes be a fine balancing act, not letting so much water through that the section is drained nor holding too much back, which could cause flooding. Andy answered three calls in one night and had to work both Buscot and St John's. Overall, Andy believes his first winter has passed well. He has had a trip out in his canoe and is trying to find quiet cycle routes.

Lechlade is totally new to Andy and he thinks it is a

lovely town with some intriguing shops to explore. He spends his spare time walking, cycling, canoeing and is considering some wild camping. Andy is keen to work with the community and is open to suggestions for small 'do-able' improvements he may make.

Andy is hoping to settle here and be around for a good few years. He is after volunteers to help at the lock, which is a very enjoyable way of being outdoors, staying fit in a relatively gentle way, and meeting lots of lovely people. If this appeals to you, he would be delighted if you went along and made yourself known to him – or just make yourselves known to him, even if you are not interested in being a volunteer! He looks forward to meeting you.

Andy says: 'Things have been intermittently busy, but rainfall not being huge, it's been enough to keep us on our toes, but not enough to cause concern. I'm still finding my feet and looking forward to my first season here. It has been a surprisingly quiet winter for me – not that that's a bad thing!'

Story and photo: Margaret Hing

EVENTS notices are intended for local, not-for-profit, community organisations. A notice is typically 20-30 words. We accept events up to 15th day of the next month. So, for example, notices in April edition extend to 15th May.

Email notices to editor@ripplesmag.co.uk or write to *Ripples* (see page 3).

VARIOUS DAYS

CORINIUM MUSEUM, CIRENCESTER: Various adult & children workshops throughout February. Details at: www.coriniummuseum.org

CIRENCESTER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY: visits to various places including factories, power stations, wildlife reserves & museums, always with special attraction for people interested in science & technology. Details at www.cirensce.org.uk

ROYAL AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY: Swindon Branch. Details from Colin Irvin: 07740 136609, raeswindon@gmail.com or visit www.aerosociety.com. £20 membership, 16-18 free accompanied by an adult (also free). Generally, 1st Wednesdays 7.30-8.30pm at The Defence Academy, Shrivenham
Wednesday 7th March: Joint Air Delivery Test and Evaluation Unit (JADTEU)
Wednesday 4th April: The Sir George Greenhill Lecture

SATURDAYS

Saturday 10th March: **CONCERT IN ST MARY'S CHURCH:** At 7.30pm, John Ridgway will play the newly refurbished organ to raise funds for Christian Aid. Tickets £8 from Mitchell & Sarjent in the Market Place

Saturday 17th March: **ST PATRICK'S DAY DINNER & DANCE:** Being held at Wrag Barn Golf & Country Club at 7.30pm in aid of Lechlade Memorial Hall. Dancing to Felix and the Funk. Dress smart casual and something green. £45pp includes transport from Lechlade. Contact Jane: 01367 253655, aljanemcscherry@aol.com

Saturday 24th March: **A SPLASH OF RED:** That's Entertainment - a concert for the whole family at 7pm in St Mary's Church, Fairford. Plus the Malmesbury Concert Band and Fairford Primary School Choir. Wine, soft drinks, raffle. Tickets £5 (under 16s free) from 7a Coffee Shop, Fairford Primary School and sorcomsec@hotmail.com

Saturday 21st April: **RACE NIGHT:** At Southrop Village Hall at 7pm. First race 7.30pm. Tickets £7.50 to include a ploughman's supper. Cash bar. Details: Caroline: 01367 850171, southropvillagehall@gmail.com

Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd April: **LECHLADE SWING INTO SPRING WEEKEND:** Showcasing Lechlade's many talented businesses and sponsored by the Lakes by yoo. Spring Ball on the Saturday with Sunday Funday on the Sunday at Lechlade Cricket Club. Food, drink, live music, magic, vintage car show, fund dog show, tea dance, tug-of-war. Bookings: 07494 269900, www.facebook.com/Lechlade-Swing-into-Spring-Weekend

Saturdays: **STORIES ON DEMAND:** every week in Lechlade Library, from 10am-1pm volunteers will read stories to children

of all ages - just drop in with your children and stay as long as you like

Saturdays: **BEANS COFFEE SHOP:** Saturdays, 10am-12 noon at Lechlade Baptist Church. Chat, make friends and eat great cake! Everyone welcome

Saturdays: **KELMSCOTT MANOR:** (April to October) visit the house and gardens 11am-5pm. Last admission 4.30pm. Tel: 01367 252486, www.kelmscottmanor.org.uk

Saturdays: **BINGO CLUB:** 7pm at St Birinus Court, Gassons Road, Lechlade. Tel: 01367 253462

1st Saturdays: **BOOKS, BICKIES & BEVERAGES:** 10am-12 noon in Poulton Village Hall. Come along for a chat over a coffee and homemade biscuit and buy a second-hand book

2nd Saturdays: **PALMER HALL DANCE CLUB FOR MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING:** 7.30-11pm in the Palmer Hall, Fairford. Also Thursdays, 8-10pm (except for the Thursday before the 2nd Saturday of the month). Contact: pcorinium@tiscali.co.uk or visit www.fairfordsequence.org.uk

3rd Saturdays: **MAKING SPACE:** From 2-4pm at Fairford Community Centre. Family crafts and coffee shop. Time to create, time to think, time to enjoy, time to be. Cost £2 per child (max £5 per family) with concessions available. Contact Maureen Partington: 01285 712480.

Saturday 17th March: Theme - Puppets

SUNDAYS

Sunday 11th March: **MESSY CHURCH:** Between 4-6pm in St Mary's Church, Fairford. Crafts, games, worship, cooked meal for families. No need to book, but it would help to know numbers and any dietary requirements for catering. Contact Sarah: 01285 712074, stmaryslmt@gmail.com.

Sunday 18th March: **THE AVEBURY VOCAL ENSEMBLE:** Performing Charles Gounod Seven Last Words of Christ; J S Bach Cantata 23 and other choral works for Lent and music by Stainer, Chilcot and Ireland at 7.15pm in St Mary's Church, Fairford. Conductor: Peter Tims; Organist: Simon Dinsdale. Admission £10, under 18s free. Entry by programme on the door. Details: www.aveburyvocal.org.

Sunday 15th April: **FAIRFORD & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY:** An extra rehearsal from 1.30-4.30pm in St Mary's Church. Details Jane Read: 01285 713681, jane_read@me.com

1st & 3rd Sundays: **FARINGDON FOLLY:** 11am-5pm Climb the 100ft Tower and spend time finding the sculptures in the woodland. Info: www.faringdonfolly.org.uk

2nd Sundays (except August): **MESSY CHURCH:** 4-6pm in St Mary's Church, Fairford. Crafts, games, celebration and a cooked meal for families. Please let us know of any dietary requirements for the meal, otherwise just turn up on the day. For further details, Sarah: 01285 712074 or stmaryslmt@gmail.com

3rd Sunday: **LECHLADE COMMUNITY CINEMA:** 7.30pm in Lechlade Pavilion. Enjoy the film on the big 3m wide screen. Doors open: 7pm for refreshments. Tickets cost £3.50 which includes 50p voluntary donation to the Lechlade Memorial Hall Fund. Reserve a seat: 01367 253633

Sunday 18th March: Manchester by the Sea (Cert 15) - winner of two Academy Awards. Starring Casey Affleck

4th Sundays: **SUNDAY FUNDAY:** 2-4pm in various locations. South Cotswolds Parent Carers Support Group of parents in the Lechlade and Fairford area who all have a child or young person with a disability. Contact Karen Robinson: 07762 882328 or Elizabeth Uttley: elizabeth.uttley@gmail.com

MONDAYS

Monday 2nd April: **KENCOT OPEN GARDENS (Part of the National Gardens Scheme):** Open from 2-6pm. Entry £5. Proceeds to NGS, which includes Macmillan. Teas and home-made cakes on sale in the Village Hall. Raffle. Info: <https://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/17814/>

Mondays: **JOB CLUB:** every week from 10am-12 noon in Lechlade Library. Support for those seeking employment including job search, CV writing and interview skills

Mondays: **QUENINGTON BABY & TODDLER GROUP:** 10-11.30am in Quenington Village Hall (term-time only). Meet other local parents/carers and toddlers and have some fun at the same time! £1.50 per family includes drink and snack for children, tea or coffee and biscuits for adults

Mondays: **FAIRFORD MONDAY WALKING GROUP:** Mondays except Bank Holidays, 10.30am, outside the Community Centre. We are a small friendly group that never walks more than two miles and has tea or coffee and a chat afterwards, cost 50p. Contact Kay Hobbs: 01285 713203

Mondays: **BINGO CLUB:** 2pm at St Birinus Court, Gassons Road, Lechlade. Tel: 01367 253462

Mondays: **FAIRFORD BRIDGE CLUB:** Class for improvers, 2-4pm in Fairford Community Centre. Contact Margaret Bishop: 01285 238834

Mondays: **1st FAIRFORD CUBS:** 6.30-8pm at the Fairford Scout Hut, Horcott Road (term time). For boys and girls aged 8-10½. All welcome. Angie Wright: 01285 851685

Mondays: **SWINDON MALE VOICE CHOIR:** rehearsals 7.30pm at New Century Club, Gorse Hill, Swindon SN2 8BU. Information: www.swindonmalevoicechoir.co.uk

1st Mondays: **LECHLADE ART SOCIETY:** Demonstrations in The Pavilion 1-3pm. Refreshments. Non-members £4. New members welcome and most demos are followed by a 'sign up' workshop by the artist. Details: Janice Mitchell: 17mitchell.janice@gmail.com, www.lechladeartsociety.co.uk
Monday 2nd April: Colin Palmer - Line and wash demonstration

1st Mondays: **LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH HOBBIES & HANDICRAFTS:** 2-4pm in the church. There is no charge

2nd Mondays: **LECHLADE PHOTOGRAPHERS:** 7.30pm at Riverside Pub. Visit Facebook 'Lechlade photographers'. Contact Mike Read: 01367 252023

2nd & 4th Mondays: **LECHLADE LADIES MORRIS SIDE:** 7.30pm-9.30pm Kencot Village Hall. Instructor-led Morris dancing. Contact Jay Matthews: 01367 860869, jaymathews124@mac.com

3rd Mondays: **LECHLADE HISTORY SOCIETY:** 7.15pm for 7.30pm in the Pavilion. Guests welcome £4. Contact Marian Winckles: 01367 252851, www.lechladehistory.co.uk
Monday 19th March: Hailes Abbey and the Mystery of the Holy Blood. David Aldred will consider the founding of the Cistercian Abbey, life within the monastery and the impact of the Holy Blood

Alternate Mondays: **HA'PENNY BRIDGE SINGERS:** We are a small group of female close harmony singers with a repertoire of unique arrangements of 20th century classics. We meet alternate Mondays in the Lechlade area and are currently looking for new members. We have great fun and really enjoy our music, so if you'd like to learn more, please get in touch with Peter: 01367 253200

4th Mondays: **HIGHWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY:** 7.30pm at United Reformed Church, High Street, Highworth
Monday 26th March: The Mistresses of Charles II by Chris Scott. The stories of some of these women, many of whom obtained wealth and power for their families. Barbara Villiers, the most beautiful woman of her day. Did a marriage between Charles and Lucy Walter really take place?

TUESDAYS

Tuesday 13th March: **FAIRFORD ART SOCIETY:** Painting session at 1.30pm in Fairford Community Centre. The subject is: Birds in any medium. Visitors welcomed. Contact Sallie Seymour: 01367 850385.

Tuesdays: **LITTLE LAMBS BABY & TODDLER GROUP:** 10-11.30am (term-time) at Fairford Community Centre. Friendly group - all welcome. Arts & crafts, singing, stories and baby corner. First visit is free, £1.50 per family each visit after, with refreshments for adults and children included. Contact Julie: 07710 604143, littlelambsfairford@hotmail.co.uk. Having a party? Children's tables and chairs available for hire for £10. All proceeds to Little Lambs. Contact as above

Tuesdays: **YOGA FOR ALL:** 10-11.30am in the Fairford Community Centre. Contact Becky Barry: 07816 289034, sparkle1000@hotmail.com

Tuesdays: **LECHLADE TUESDAY CLUB:** (in term time) 10.30am-3pm. Contact Sylvia Dennish: 01367 252477

Tuesdays: **BROWNIES:** 6-7.30pm (term time) in Kempsford Village Hall. Lots of fun activities and crafts for girls aged 7-10. Contact: 01285 810730

Tuesdays: **ADVENTURE PLUS ADVENTURE CLUB (for ages 8 and over):** 6-7.30pm term time only at Windmill Farm, Clanfield OX18 2SN. Archery, climbing, fencing, circus skills and more. First session free, then £5. Email: ta@adventureplus.org.uk, www.adventureplus.org.uk/adventureclub

Tuesdays: **TS RALEIGH:** 7-9pm at Fairford Fire Station. For girls and boys aged 8-18 years. Contact Jaime Hughes: 07780 827987, colin-jaime.hughes@hotmail.co.uk

Tuesdays: **FAIRFORD BRIDGE CLUB:** 7.15pm for 7.30pm in Fairford Community Centre. Bridge players required, newcomers and visitors welcome. Contact Phil Hardy: 01285 850563

Tuesdays: **CORINIUM BADMINTON CLUB:** 8-10pm at Cotswold Leisure, Cirencester. Need men and ladies for Swindon Division 2 & 3, Men's and Mixed teams. Contact Trevor Dukes: 01285 659785

Tuesdays: **ROYAL ANTEDILUVIAN ORDER OF BUFFALOES - Grand Lodge of England:** Tuesdays - VWH Pelican Lodge No 8849 meets at Welford Club. Members past, present and future welcome. Contact Andrew Bartlett: 01285 750746

1st Tuesdays: **FAIRFORD & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A):** 2.30pm in the Palmer Hall. Membership secretary, Sue Jonson: 01285 713756, membershipsec@fairfordu3a.org.uk

Tuesday 6th March: Caroline Symcox: A week in the life of a vicar

Tuesday 3rd April: AGM and Tim Healey: The Green Man

1st Tuesdays: **KNIT & NATTER GROUP:** a free group for people of all ages and all abilities, who want to do some knitting or crocheting and have a chat with old and new friends. From 2.30-4.30pm in Fairford Library. Tea and coffee. Children welcome. Just turn up or phone Ann: 01285 712560

1st Tuesdays: **LECHLADE WI:** 7pm in the Baptist Chapel. Contact Dorothy: 01367 252362 and Twitter [@LechladeWI](https://twitter.com/LechladeWI)

2nd Tuesdays: **LECHLADE ART SOCIETY:** Demonstrations in The Pavilion 6-9pm. Refreshments. Non-members £4. New members welcome and most demos are followed by a 'sign up' workshop by the artist. Details: Janice Mitchell: 17mitchell.janice@gmail.com, www.lechladeartsociety.co.uk

Tuesday 13th March: Dr Susan Carr - The Pre-Raphaelites lecture

2nd Tuesdays: **POULTON WI:** 7.30pm at Poulton Village Hall. Visitors welcome. Information from Elinor Davies: 01285 851218

2nd Tuesdays: **TATT (Tunes at the Trout):** 8pm in the Creel Bar, Trout Inn, Lechlade. Join us for good fun and relaxing folk music sessions. You need to play an instrument and read a bit of music. Or come and just listen! Free admission. Contact Ian Andrews: pesthous@btinternet.com

3rd Tuesdays: **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION FAIRFORD BRANCH:** 7.30pm at The Bull Hotel. New and old members will be made most welcome. Contact Evelyn Webb-Carter: 01285 713315, evelynwc@hotmail.com

WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday 7th March: **FAIRFORD WI FIRECRACKERS:** At 7.30pm in the Palmer Hall. Guest speaker is Kate Lee talking about Crafting with Kate. Visitors welcome. Contact Jean Moulden: 01285 713308

Wednesday 14th March: **FAIRFORD WI FIRECRACKERS:** At 7.30pm in the Palmer Hall. Mountaineer, Kenton Cool, who has climbed and summated Mt Everest 12 times, will be the guest speaker. Visitors welcome. Contact Jean Moulden: 01285 713308

Wednesday 4th April: **FAIRFORD WI FIRECRACKERS:** At 7.30pm in the Palmer Hall. Guest speaker is Mike Bottomley talking about 'The Life and Loves of a Gloucestershire Queen'. Visitors welcome. Contact Jean Moulden: 01285 713308

Wednesday 28th March: **COLLECTIVE MACHINERY SALE:** Bradborough Farm, Southrop. Agricultural machinery, equipment, plant, vehicles, new tools and estate requisites. For entry forms and information Emma Buse: 01285 648115, emma.buse@mooreallen.co.uk

Wednesdays: **FAIRFORD OUTDOOR MARKET:** 9am-2pm. A wide variety of products for sale. For stall rental, contact Fairford Town Council: 01285 712344

Wednesdays: **FAIRFORD COUNTRY MARKET:** 8.30-11.30am in Fairford Community Centre. Home-baked goods, preserves and chutneys, vegetables, plants and craft items on sale. Refreshments available. Contact 01285 810168

Wednesdays: **SOUTHROP COMMUNITY SHOP & POST OFFICE:** 8.30-11.30am at Southrop Village Hall. Groceries and local produce

Wednesdays: **BABY BOUNCE & RHYME TIME:** 10.30-11am in Fairford Library. Sing along, wiggle and jiggle, for babies up to 2 years and their grown ups

Wednesdays: **COFFEE MORNING:** 10.30am at St Birinus Court, Gassons Road, Lechlade. Tel: 01367 253462

Wednesdays: **STORY TIME:** every week at 11am in Lechlade Library. Songs, rhymes and stories for children of all ages and their grown ups

Wednesdays: **KELMSCOTT MANOR:** (April to October) visit the house and gardens 11am-5pm. Last admission 4.30pm. Tel: 01367 252486, www.kelmscottmanor.org.uk

Wednesdays: **CRAFT CLUB:** 2pm at St Birinus Court, Gassons Road, Lechlade. Tel: 01367 253462

Wednesdays: **FAIRFORD RAINBOWS:** (in term time) 4.15-5.15pm in the Farmor Room of Fairford Community Centre. Contact Louise Vass: 01285 711626

Wednesdays: **FAIRFORD BROWNIES:** (in term time) 5-6.30pm at Farmor's School, Fairford. Contact Annette Stannard: 01285 712529

Wednesdays: **ADVENTURE PLUS CANOE CLUB:** 6.45pm at Windmill Farm, High Street, Clanfield OX18 2SN. Kitting up, then drive to Thames. All levels welcome, equipment supplied, first week free. Contact: 01993 703308, canoe.club@adventureplus.org.uk

Wednesdays: **BALLROOM & LATIN AMERICAN DANCING:** Learn to dance with friendly, experienced teachers whose aim is to make dancing fun. Classes in Burford (Warwick Hall) on Tuesday evenings, Filkins village hall on Wednesday evenings, Wanborough on Thursday evenings and Cricklade on Sunday afternoons. Private lessons also available. Contact Simon Paul for more details. 01367 253633, www.thameschoolofdancing.co.uk

Wednesdays: **ROYAL ANTEDILUVIAN ORDER OF BUFFALOES - Grand Lodge of England:** Thames Lodge No 9233 and St Aldwyn Lodge No 6723 meet at Southrop Village Hall.

Members past, present and future welcome. Contact Andrew Bartlett: 01285 750746

Wednesdays: **FAIRFORD & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY:** Rehearsals 7.30-9.30pm in Fairford United Church, GL7 4BW. Contact Liz Berry: 01793 721322

Wednesdays: **FAIRFORD U3A SCOTTISH REELS:** Poulton Village Hall at 7.45pm. We meet monthly on the 3rd Wednesday. We are a friendly informal group and we welcome all standards including beginners. For details, please contact Richard or Carol Thompson: 01285 712123, richard@RichardAndCarol.net

Wednesdays: **CIRENCESTER SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB:** 8pm at the Bingham Hall, King Street, Cirencester. Contact Maurice: 01666 860481, mm.jhampton@btinternet.com

Wednesdays (fortnightly): **LECHLADE & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB:** 10.30am at the New Inn, Lechlade. Probus welcomes retired or semi-retired men for chat and then a talk. Info from Glyn Worthington: 01285 713301

1st & 3rd Wednesdays during term time: **LITTLE LIGHTS PRAM SERVICE & TODDLER PLAY:** 1.45pm in St Lawrence Church Lechlade. For pre-school children and their parents or carers. New babies very welcome. No charge. Just turn up! Kathy Newton: 01367 252543

2nd Wednesdays: **MOTHERS' UNION:** 'Christian Concern for Families Worldwide'. Lechlade with Fairford branch: 2pm in the Lechlade Baptist Church with speakers or discussions

2nd Wednesdays: **LECHLADE GARDENING CLUB:** See 'Local clubs for gardeners' in 'Home & Garden'

2nd & 4th Wednesdays: **LECHLADE VOICES (no experience necessary):** 7-8pm in Lechlade Baptist Church. Come and join us. It's good fun. £2. Contact moira@take2-music.co.uk or Jay Matthews: 01367 860869, jaymathews124@mac.com

3rd Wednesday: **U3A FIVE RHYTHMS DANCE:** 10am in Palmer Hall, Fairford

3rd Wednesdays: **PALMER HALL CINEMA:** At 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm. Details: 01285 713087, www.thepalmerhall.org

THURSDAYS

Thursday 15th March: **FAIRFORD ART SOCIETY:** Painting session at 1.30pm in Fairford Community Centre. The subject is: Birds in any medium. Visitors welcomed. Contact Sallie Seymour: 01367 850385

Thursday 15th March: **FAIRFORD HISTORY SOCIETY:** At 7.30pm in the Farmor Room of Fairford Community Centre. The talk is on 'John Keble: Fairford's most famous son' by Allan Ledger. New members £5 and visitors £3. Contact Alison Hobson: 01285 711768 or Geoff Hawkes: 01285 712053, enquiry@fairfordhistory.org.uk

Thursday 22nd March: **FAIRFORD ART SOCIETY:** Painting session at 1.30pm in Fairford Community Centre. The subject is: Birds in any medium. Visitors welcomed. Contact Sallie Seymour: 01367 850385

Thursday 22nd March: **FAIRFORD & LECHLADE BUSINESS CLUB:** Breakfast meeting at Wrag Barn Golf Club, Highworth. Speaker: Kellie Peters from Databasix providing another

opportunity to find out what businesses need to do to be compliant with GDPR. Booking is essential. A full English breakfast with tea/coffee costs £10, tea/coffee only costs £2 and the meeting is free. To book: register at www.flbc.org.uk/Events or email admin@flbc.org.uk

Thursdays: **LECHLADE COUNTRY MARKET:** Thursdays, 8.30-11.30am in the Church Cottage. Everything home-made. Contact Alex Wylie: 01793 740620

Thursdays: **AFTERNOON TEA:** 2pm at St Birinus Court, Gassons Road, Lechlade. Tel: 01367 253462

Thursdays: **PILATES CLASS FOR BEGINNERS:** 6.10pm at Southrop Village Hall, GL7 3PB. Volunteer-run. £8 in the pot towards hall hire and qualified instructor. Class is free when there is an excess! Enquiries: 07773 080125, kate@approvedpilates.co.uk

Thursdays: **LECHLADE BRIDGE CLUB:** 7.30pm in The Pavilion, Lechlade. Contact John Elsey: 01367 252983

Thursdays: **LECHLADE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING:** in Southrop Village Hall from 7.30-9.30pm. New members welcome. September to end of May every year. Details Shirley Jenkins: 01367 252623

Thursdays: **PALMER HALL DANCE CLUB FOR MODERN SEQUENCE DANCING:** Thursdays, 8-10.30pm in the Palmer Hall, Fairford except for the Thursday before the 2nd Saturday. On the 2nd Saturday of each month, meetings are 7.30-11pm. Contact: 01285 712232 or 01285 657917, visit www.fairfordsequence.org.uk

1st Thursdays: **MINI PRAISE:** 1.45pm at St Mary's Church, Fairford for pre-schoolers & their carers. A lovely free session with stories, songs, crafts and snacks

1st & 3rd Thursdays: **KENCOT & DISTRICT UKULELE GROUP:** 7.30pm-9pm in Kencot Village Hall. Contact Jay Matthews: 01367 860869, jaymathews124@mac.com

2nd Thursdays: **KEMPSFORD VILLAGE HALL MONTHLY CAFÉ:** 12 noon-2pm. Home-made Soup and Rolls, Speciality teas and home-made cakes. Enjoy a relaxed break. All welcome

2nd Thursdays: **MINI FIXERS CLUB:** 7.30pm at The Trout Inn, Lechlade. Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance (RPM) of this much loved, iconic motor car. Contact Rob: 07973 578884, www.minifixers.co.uk

2nd Thursdays: **FAIRFORD GARDENERS CLUB:** See 'Local clubs for gardeners' in 'Home & Garden'

3rd Thursdays: **LIBRARY CLUB:** 11am-12 noon in Fairford Library. Are you unable to get to the library, but would like to come to borrow books and have a cuppa and a chat at the same time? Or do you know of someone who is unable to get out and about and would like this service? Transport with disabled facilities is provided. If so, please contact: 01285 712599

3rd Thursday, eight meetings a year: **FAIRFORD HISTORY SOCIETY:** 7.30pm in the Farmor Room at Fairford Community Centre. New members and visitors (£3) welcome. Contact Alison Hobson: 01285 711768, or Geoff Hawkes: 01285 712053, enquiry@fairfordhistory.org.uk

Thursday 15th March 2018: **FAIRFORD HISTORY SOCIETY:** John Keble, Fairford's most famous son by Allan Ledger

3rd Thursdays: **MEYSEY HAMPTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:** 7.30pm in the New Memorial Hall. New members welcome. Contact Marion 01285 850280

3rd Thursdays: **THE COTSWOLD OIL ENGINE & PRESERVATION SOCIETY:** 7.45pm for 8pm (except June-August when we attend events where we show our restored machinery) at Quenington Village Hall, GL7 5BS. Contact Doug Newton: 01285 713688, www.cotswoldoilengine.co.uk

FRIDAYS

Friday 2nd March: **CHURCHES TOGETHER AROUND FAIRFORD:** Mark's gospel as part of The Fairford Gospels in Lent at St Thomas's Church, Horcott from 12.30pm onwards. Come when you can. Lunch and crafts will be available in the Parish Room. Parking space at the church

Friday 2nd March: **STRICTLY DANCE NIGHT:** In Southrop Village Hall. Doors open at 7.30pm for Prosecco reception. Dancing starts at 8pm. Learn to Cha Cha Cha; Quickstep and Jive with Southrop's own Ballroom Blitz instructor, Kate Holland. Tickets £10 in advance of £12 on the door and includes a glass of Prosecco, dance lessons and a bowl of chilli. Book: 07853 344099, southropschoolpta@gmail.com

Friday 2nd March: **QUIZ NIGHT AT THE TROUT INN:** The World's Biggest Pub Quiz. 7.30pm for 8pm start. Cost £8 includes a special one course quiz meal. Teams of up to 4. Raffle. Details 01367 252313. Proceeds to Lechlade and District Lions

Friday 2nd March: **QUIZ NIGHT AT THE PALMER HALL:** Organised by the Friends of Fairford Primary School. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Maximum of 8 people per team. Tickets £10 to include supper from 7a Coffee Shop, The Coffee Post, Lynwoods or Primary School Office

Friday 9th March: **CHURCHES TOGETHER AROUND FAIRFORD:** Luke's gospel as part of The Fairford Gospels in Lent at St Thomas's Church, Horcott from 12.30pm onwards. Come when you can. Lunch and crafts will be available in the Parish Room. Parking space at the church

Friday 9th March: **CLASSICAL GUITAR & VOICE RECITAL:** In St Lawrence Church, Lechlade at 12noon. Two talented young musicians from Birmingham Conservatoire perform works by Villa-Lobos, Rodrigo. The artists will join the audience for a light lunch after the recital. Donations sought in aid of the Church Restoration and Maintenance Appeal. Programme and parking: www.stlawrencelechlade.org.uk

Friday 16th March: **CHURCHES TOGETHER AROUND FAIRFORD:** John's gospel as part of The Fairford Gospels in Lent at St Thomas's Church, Horcott from 12.30pm onwards. Come when you can. Lunch and crafts will be available in the Parish Room. Parking space at the church.

Friday 16th March: **FAIRFORD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB FUNDRAISER:** Raising money for the Movember Foundation, a Q&A session with three sportsmen from three different sports. Starts at 7.30pm at Fairford Town Football Club, Cinder Lane, Fairford. Tickets cost £20 to include food. Golden Ticket raffle.

To book, contact Chris Tanner: 07815 579784

Fridays: **THE PROBUS CLUB OF CIRENCESTER:** Meets for coffee, a chat and a talk. 'The retired man's oasis of calm'. Details: www.cirencesterprobus.org

Fridays: **LECHLADE JOLLYTOTS:** 10-11.30am in the Pavilion. Mums, dads, grandparents & carers come along to our fun & informal sessions. From bumps to pre-school, £1 per family the (first session is free). Tea/coffee for adults. Juice for children. Contact Steph Williams: 07500 908245

Fridays: **FAIRFORD TINY TOTS BABY & TODDLER GROUP** meets during term time at the United Church Hall, Milton Street, Fairford. 10-11.30am. Baby & toddler activities, toys, crafts, painting, playdough, singing. Refreshments. Come and chat and make new friends. £1 per family, first visit free! Contact Victoria Campbell: 07796 303089, tinytotsfairford@hotmail.com

Fridays: **ARMCHAIR AEROBICS & QUIZ:** 2pm at St Birinus Court, Gassons Road, Lechlade. Tel: 01367 253462

Fridays: **INITIAL FREE JUNIOR COACHING:** 3.45pm at Fairford Tennis Club. LTA qualified coach. Watch our Facebook page. Info: fairfordtennischairman@gmail.com

Fridays: **CIRENCESTER (Brass) BAND:** The Band Room, Bingham House, Dyer Street, Cirencester. 7pm Training Band for beginners and 8pm for Main Band. Free loan of instruments and tuition. Ian Hartnell: 01285 656662

Fridays: **1st LECHLADE SCOUTS:** 7-9pm at Lechlade Pavilion. For boys & girls aged 10-14 years. Call Simon Black: 01367 252876

Fridays: **1st FAIRFORD SCOUTS:** Fridays 7.30-9.30pm at the Scout Hut in Fairford. Boys and girls 10-14 welcome. Call Geoff McKay: 01285 713981

1st Fridays: **FAIRFORD YOUNG AT HEART MEMORY CLUB:** 10.30am-2.30pm in the community lounge at Beaumont Place, East End, Fairford GL7 4BH. This is a free friendly club for anyone with memory difficulties & their friends, families and carers. Lunch £3.50 booked in advance and carer respite service available. Details from Kelly: 07707 787580 or email: enquiries@memoryclubs.co.uk

1st Fridays: **THE CONTACT GROUP:** 12.30-2.30pm at the United Church, Milton Street, Fairford. Meet friends old & new over tea/coffee and light refreshments

2nd & last Fridays (be careful of months with 5 Fridays!): **RIVERFOLK ACOUSTIC:** 8pm in the Creel bar at the Trout Inn, Lechlade. All players and listeners welcome. £2. Contact Jay Matthews: 01367 860869, jaymathews124@mac.com

4th Fridays: **LECHLADE YOUNG AT HEART MEMORY CLUB:** 10am-2pm at St Birinus Court, Lechlade GL7 3BU. Lunch & carer Respite available - please call for details. Call Kelly: 07707 787580, enquiries@memoryclubs.co.uk

4th Fridays: **HIGHWORTH COMMUNITY CINEMA:** 7.45pm in St Michael's Hall, Lechlade Road, SN6 7HQ from September to April (except December). Details: www.highworthfilms.org.uk

4th Fridays: **EMBRACE:** meetings at 8pm. Contact: embracefairford@gmail.com

CONTACT NUMBERS

Police	NON-EMERGENCY	101		
Medical	NON-EMERGENCY	111		
Police, Fire, Ambulance	EMERGENCY	999		
Gas	EMERGENCY	0800 111999		
Electricity	EMERGENCY	08000 727282		
Water	EMERGENCY	0845 920 0800		
Samaritans		0845 7909090		
LAW AND ORDER				
CRIMESTOPPERS	0800 555111	FLYING START NURSERY SCHOOL	01285 711711	HIGHWAYS, & STREET LIGHTING
		KEMPSFORD PRE-SCHOOL	01285 811000	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY
		LECHLADE LITTLE LEARNERS	01367 250278	LIBRARIES
DOCTORS		MANOR FARM NURSERY	07760 788081	FAIRFORD LIBRARY
HILLARY COTTAGE SURGERY	01285 712377	PRIMARY SCHOOLS		HIGHWORTH LIBRARY
LECHLADE MEDICAL CENTRE	01367 252264	DOWN AMPNEY PRIMARY	01793 750294	LECHLADE LIBRARY
HOSPITALS		FAIRFORD PRIMARY	01285 712543	PUBLIC TRANSPORT
CHELtenham GENERAL HOSPITAL	03004 222 222	HATHEROP CASTLE (PRIVATE)	01285 750206	COMMUNITY BUS
CIRENCESTER HOSPITAL	0300 421 6200	HATHEROP PRIMARY	01285 750318	FIRST GREAT WESTERN
FAIRFORD HOSPITAL	0300 421 6470	KEMPSFORD PRIMARY	01285 810367	MEGA BUS
GLOUCESTER ROYAL HOSPITAL	0300 422 2222	SOUTHROP PRIMARY	01367 850246	NATIONAL RAIL ENQUIRIES
GREAT WESTERN HOSPITAL	01793 604020	ST CHRISTOPHER'S, LANGFORD	01367 860318	STAGECOACH
JOHN RADCLIFFE OXFORD HOSPITAL	0300 304 7777	ST LAWRENCE, LECHLADE	01367 252356	NATIONAL TRAVELINE
SOCIAL SERVICES		SECONDARY SCHOOLS		VILLAGE HALLS
CITIZENS ADVICE (COTSWOLDS)	0808 800 0511	BURFORD SCHOOL	01993 823303	DOWN AMPNEY
CITIZENS ADVICE (SWINDON)	0844 488 4114	FARMOR'S SCHOOL	01285 712302	FAIRFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE
TRADING STANDARDS		RECREATION		KELMSCOTT VILLAGE HALL
GLOUCESTERSHIRE TRADING		COTSWOLD LEISURE CENTRE,		KEMPSFORD VILLAGE HALL
STANDARDS	01452 426201	CIRENCESTER	01285 654057	KENCOTT VILLAGE HALL
COLLEGES		FAIRFORD SPORTS CENTRE	01285 713786	LANGFORD VILLAGE HALL
CIRENCESTER COLLEGE	01285 640994	FARINGDON LEISURE CENTRE	01367 241755	LECHLADE MEMORIAL HALL
HARTPURY COLLEGE	01452 702132	HIGHWORTH REC	01793 762602	MARSTON MEYSEY
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE	01285 652531	COUNCILS		MEYSEY HAMPTON
PRE-SCHOOLS		COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL	01285 623000	PALMER HALL, FAIRFORD
BROADSHIRES PRE-SCHOOL	01367 860729	FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL	01285 712344	POULTON VILLAGE HALL
DOWN AMPNEY PRE-SCHOOL	07706 726865	GLOUCESTERSHIRE CC	01452 425000	QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL
FAIRFORD PRE-SCHOOL	01285 713176	LECHLADE TOWN COUNCIL	01367 252338	
FILKINS NURSERY	01285 860594			

Community Connexions Transport

We provide pre-bookable transport solutions for groups and individuals to all destinations.

There is a regular, pre-bookable bus service 72F – The Fairford Shopper into Cirencester every Thursday from Fairford and Gloucestershire villages including; Ampney Crucis, Ampney St Mary, Ampney St Peter, Poulton, Meysey Hampton, Quenington, Fairford, Coln St Aldwyns, Hatherop, Sunhill, Whelford, Kempsford and Lechlade. Concessionary bus passes are accepted on this service.

For monthly excursions within Gloucestershire see below – a minimum number of eight passengers is required for these excursions to go ahead. Seats are allocated on a first come first served basis.

Witney – 1st Friday – £12.50

Swindon Orbital & Central Swindon – 3rd Friday – £12.50

For groups or individuals wishing to travel further afield we are able to provide quotes upon request.

For more information visit our website www.communityconnexions.org.uk.

To book a trip call 0345 680 5029 or email info@communityconnexions.org.uk.



Residential, Nursing and Dementia
Care Home in the Heart of the Cotswolds

Hyperion House Nursing Home extending in the New Year!

In the beautiful village of Fairford, Hyperion House has been a focal part of the community for over 300 years. Over the last 25 years we have been providing **compassionate care** and support to the elderly and their families.

Since the beginning of 2017 the home has undergone a complete transformation of management and we are now very proud of our “**Good**” CQC rating, which we feel is a credit to our dedicated team.

In a climate of constant change and uncertainty, Hyperion will be proudly committed to providing **traditional care** in a family orientated environment. We are a small, cosy family run care home which endeavours to reassure and support our residents and their families throughout the challenges of care.

We continue to further improve our facilities and have exciting plans for a 31 bed extension. We will always remain true to our roots of providing “**traditional compassionate care**”.

Hyperion House Nursing Home is a small, family run care home with nursing and dementia care.

- Local Authority Placements available
- Stimulating social activities
- Picturesque market town setting
- Excellent freshly home cooked food
- Traditional compassionate care
- Do visit us



Diva Care Ltd | Hyperion House Nursing Home | London Street | Fairford
Gloucestershire | GL7 4AH | Telephone: 01285 712 349 | www.divacare.co.uk



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