



FWS Newsletter

News & What's On for Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge

AUTUMN 2026



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

COMMITTEE MEMBER

LITTER PICKING

FOODIE FAIRFIELD

**BROMSGROVE
ARTS/FAIRFIELD FLICKS**

ADMIN@FVCA.ORG.UK



Front page photo taken by Joanna

Do You Want a Village Hall & Community Association?

6 people attended the Village Hall AGM on 6th May, five residents (who are on the committee) and the vicar. There were a handful of apologies. This follows the low turnout at March's Community Association AGM, as reported in the summer newsletter

It does make you wonder why we bother, when people cannot attend an AGM, whether the Village Hall or the Community Association, or email in an apology; it is, as usual, a small group of people working hard for the benefit of the community, including people living in the community hiring the village hall at a discounted rate.

Please support your Village Hall & Community Association, whether as a committee member or supporting some of the initiatives delivered in our community, if support continues to be lacking, perhaps we should call it day and shut the doors.

Future of Worcestershire's councils decided

In July, the Government announced its decision on Local Government Reorganisation in Worcestershire, confirming the creation of two new unitary authorities serving North Worcestershire and South Worcestershire.

This brings clarity to the future shape of local government in Worcestershire and marks the beginning of the next phase of work. While implementation is not scheduled until April 2028, the decision enables all seven councils to move forward with detailed transition planning.

Now the decision has been made the seven Worcestershire councils will continue to work towards the following timeline:

- May 2027 - Elections to new shadow authorities
- May to December 2027 - legislation to confirm reorganisation decision in Parliament
- April 1, 2028 - Go live date for new authorities

A date for your diary - Friday 2 October 2026 at 7.30 pm in Dodford Village Hall. An evening organised by Dodford with Grafton Parish Council for the British Horse Society to talk about horse, rider and vehicle driver safety through Dodford and neighbouring parishes. More details to follow in September, and will be posted on our Facebook page & in the eNewsletter.

SOUP LUNCH

FREE



**WEDNESDAY
28 OCTOBER**

**FAIRFIELD
VILLAGE HALL**

12 NOON

Fairfield Village Community Association





Autumn Tidy – Be Part of the Gang

Litter Picking + Road Signs Cleaning

Date: Saturday 12th September

Time: 10.30

Meet: Village Hall

Litter Pick: Equipment provided

Road Signs Cleaning: Please bring bucket and cloths

Have pride in where you live

Thank You



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Bromsgrove B61 9LQ

*T&Cs apply. Excludes sharing plats and set menus. Not in conjunction with any other offer or discount.

When the Bishop & some Lambs came to lunch

Sounds like the start of a joke, but it isn't.

A brilliant, uplifting, Rogation Service was held on 10th May followed by our annual Community Spring & Share Lunch, with so much food that people will not need to eat for the next few days.

We went outside and blessed the fields & livestock, wishing our farmers a good harvest later in the year, and back in the hall there was lots of chatter.

Joining us were two-week-old lambs, which made the service interesting with their bleating (keeping people laughing) and we were also joined by the Bishop of Church of England Diocese of Worcester, Bishop Hugh, who took time to speak to everyone present, and he enjoyed the warmth he received from our community.

Some people came just to see the lambs, some just for lunch and others attended both events. It was nice to see people, young and not so young, coming together to keep this annual event alive.

To remind Bishop Hugh of his visit to our community, he was given one of our Fairfield Coffee Mugs.



Two Top Performances from the Midland Concert Orchestra & Guests



Marking VE Day 81, over the weekend of 9th – 10th May, the Village Hall hosted THE BLITZ BALL, with music from the Midland Concert Orchestra and their guests; on Saturday vocalist Keith Phillips & compere Peter Tomlinson, and on Sunday a trio of vocalists THE DC3s with navigation of the evening by Patrick Murphy.

Feedback from people leaving the Village Hall and on social media has been very complementary; the two evenings did not disappoint.

The Midland Concert Orchestra will be back Sunday 13 December with a festive concert.



HARVEST

Festival



SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER

11.15AM

FAIRFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Join us for our annual service of thanksgiving,
donations will be shared as followed:

Food donations will be shared between The Basement Project and
Dodford Children's Farm

The collection will be shared with the Farming Community Network

www.fvca.org.uk

Wildmoor Quarry

Since 2023 things have gone quiet, we understand that there are currently no imminent plans to submit a planning application, however, the idea of possible future work at Wildmoor Quarry and excavating adjacent County Council land is not dead and buried. We continually keep our eyes & ears open to any possible movement.

Shop Local and Support Your Community

Locally sourced & artisan foods are on sale at the Forfeld Store, YOUR Community Shop at Fairfield Village Hall. Profit from shop sales helps pay for this newsletter & community events. The shop is open:

- during Foodie Fairfield (1st Sat, 9am - noon) and
- 1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesday afternoon (1.30pm - 3.30pm)

Our stock includes Wildmoos milk, Netherend Butter, Hinton's Gin, Astley Wines, Franks Biscuits, Croome Cheese, Cotswold Gold Mayonnaise, Mathew's Flour, Emily Jams & Pickles, Two Farmers Crisps, Pimhill Porridge & Muesli, and much more.

Check out our prices, we are competitive, sometimes cheaper than the supermarket and other retailers.

Wombling For a Tidy Community

Yes, it is where YOU live!

The Wombles need your help – even if it is ONE HOUR A YEAR – to help keep Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge grot free; roads, ditches & open spaces.

Please join one of the Community Litter Picks on the 2nd Saturday of each month, meeting at 10.30am outside the village hall. We only ask that you donate one hour of your time to help keep where you live tidy. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear, equipment will be provided. If weather conditions are not favourable, the litter pick will be postponed until the following month. **Next litter picks:** 12 September, 10 October, 14 November.



Subscribe to our eNewsletter

If you want to keep up to date with what's going on in our community with more regular updates, and additional news and crime prevention advice, subscribe to our eNewsletter, which will be sent to your email inbox several times a week. To subscribe, fill in the Newsletter subscription box on our website www.fvca.org.uk or email admin@fvca.org.uk



Fairfield Village Community Association

HALLOWEEN

WITH

DIPPY THE CLOWN

Halloween Show & Disco

31 OCTOBER

6:30pm - 8:00pm

FREE ENTRY FOR FANCY DRESS
OTHERWISE £2.00 P/PERSON

Fairfield Village Hall

Bar will be open selling alcoholic &
non-alcoholic drinks and
confectionary



All Gathered In: Bailing Haylage on 2nd July 2026.

Photo taken by Alan G

Digital Switchover – Quick Reminder...

Please encourage anyone vulnerable to contact their telephone provider NOW

As you may know, by January 2027, the UK's old copper telephone network will be switched off. These changes will affect everyone who has or relies on a home phone, particularly for a telecare alarm, medical device, or burglar alarm. For older or vulnerable residents, it can be confusing and potentially risky as ignoring provider messages could mean the services people rely on may be disrupted. It's important people respond when BT, Virgin Media, O2 or their landline provider, like TalkTalk, Sky, Zen, EE, PlusNet or any other provider contacts them, or even better – DO NOT wait to be contacted and instead contact your provider today and they will be supported through the process. For most, it's as simple as plugging your phone into your router instead of the wall socket.

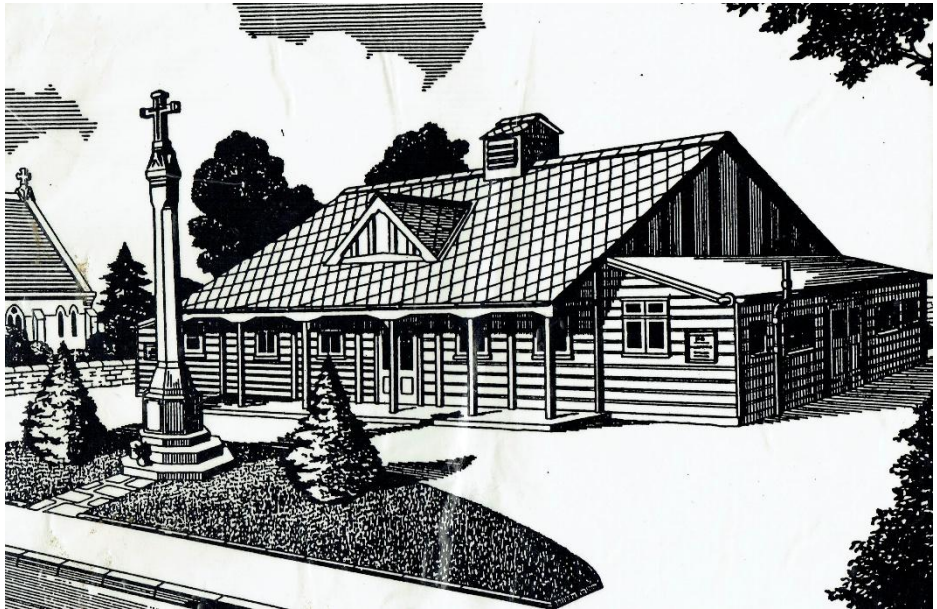
Fairfield Village Community Association, a group of residents working hard for Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge.

Like www.facebook.com/fairfieldinformation Follow: www.twitter.com/fairfield_info

Subscribe to the e-Newsletter: www.fvca.org.uk

Church Hall 100

Help celebrate 100 years of Fairfield Church/Village Hall.



Even though many of you will know the building that is currently standing as Fairfield Village Hall, its official name is Fairfield Church Hall.

In 1979 the old wooden Church Hall was knocked down and replaced by the Village Hall that stands today. The management of the hall was moved from St. Mark's to a Committee of Management, elected residents from the community and designated service users.

Back in August/September 1926 there was no Church Hall, with Village activities taking place at Fairfield School. A Church Hall "Building" committee, consisting of Trustees and residents had been formed, and they held their meetings at the school, coordinating fund raising activities, studying building plans & commissioning a contractor to erect the building. By the end of 1926 the Church Hall had been built and formally opened.

Opening Ceremony of St. Mark's Church Hall

The hall was formally opened on Saturday December 11th 1926 by Lady Georgina Vernon, who was supported on the platform by the Rector (the Rev. Douglas Alner Townsend), Mrs. Townsend, Messrs. W. H. Matty (Hon. Treasurer and Trustee), J. T. G. Davis (Trustee), H. S.

Stevens & F. Handley (Churchwardens), J. B. Nickols (Hon. Secretary), W. S. Webb, Mrs. W. Shakespeare Webb & Mrs. W. H. Matty.

Having briefly introducing Lady Georgina Vernon, the Rector asked her to formally Open the Hall, and she proceeded to the door on the west side (veranda door), and with a silver key presented to her by the Contractor (Mr. Grosvenor Workman of Birmingham) unlocked the door and declared the Hall open.

Speeches from the Rector and several other persons followed, and a full report of the opening ceremony appeared the "County Express" & "Bromsgrove Messenger".

Upwards of 300 people were present for the opening ceremony, the hall was filled to the utmost capacity. Many people had to stand as there was insufficient seating.

By hospitality of Mr. Matty everyone was served with tea, and a collection was taken for the Hall funds, which amounted to £10 10s 6d.

A concert followed the opening ceremony at 7pm, when the hall was again filled to capacity. Dancing was kept up until 11pm, and the day's proceedings then ended. Everyone being pleased with their achievements and confident of the Hall's future success.

Celebrating 100 Years of Fairfield Church Hall

As there is a lot going on in December, with our and other Christmas events, we will mark the centenary of Fairfield Church Hall on Friday 30 October with an afternoon tea, starting at 2.00pm, with a selection of sandwiches, cakes and lashing of tea. During the afternoon, there will be demonstrations from some of our current hall users, dancing & taekwondo. There will also be a display of photos and memories in the Hall foyer, including videos of past pantomimes. **Tickets are £8.00 each and can be purchased via our BARTS website (www.bromsgrovearts.org.uk) or from the Community Shop (open during Foodie Fairfield and The Wednesday Social).** The Village Hall bar will be open for people wanting something stronger than tea & coffee.

For people unable to attend the Afternoon Tea, the display can be viewed on Saturday 31 October from 5pm; before and during our Halloween event with Dippy the Clown.

Do you have any photos or memories that you can share?

Pop them down to the Hall during the morning of Friday 30 October, collect on Saturday evening, during the Halloween Family Event. We'd like to scan your photos and memories, so that they can be kept for years to come.

For catering purposes, deadline for buying tickets is Friday 23rd October.

Paddle & Pint

Wednesday 30th September

7.00pm — 9.30pm



Pop along to the Village Hall for a friendly game of Table Tennis or enjoy a relaxing drink from the bar and catch up with friends & neighbours.

****The Shop Will Also Be Open****





At July's Foodie Fairfield, *Ukes on the Edge* performed a selection of songs that had people singing along to. Thanks to everyone who donated to their chosen charity, Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity, they raised £113.00.

Church Yard Tidy

Saturday 5th September

Arm yourself with shears, secateurs and rakes, we need your help in keeping our village church yard tidy.

Stop by anytime during the morning, whether you can give 30 minutes or a couple of hours, your help in keeping our village church yard tidy will be greatly appreciated.



A big welcome to Spencer, who in late Spring took on the role of Manager at the Swan Inn

WILDMOOS



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CREAMY PASTEURISED
GOLD TOP MILK



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Gold top quality you
can taste.



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Reliable local deliveries
that fit your lifestyle.



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Wildmoos dairy



SUPPORT LOCAL • DRINK FRESH • LIVE WELL

Retrun of the Advent Calendar

It might be late summer but we have been working on another Fantastic Festive Fairfield and we need your help; get your thinking caps on.

This year Fairfield will once again recreate a neighbourhood Advent Calendar.

What is a Village Advent Calendar?

On a given date, something festive is placed in the window (or garden) of a property in Fairfield, that can be viewed by people passing by. The display staying in place until the end of Christmas day. Examples of displays are: Christmas wreaths, The whole Nativity Scene, Candles, Father Christmas, Twelves Days of Christmas, Santa & Rudolf in the snow, Winter tree wonderland, and so on.

How can I take part?

Email clare@vintdunlop.co.uk with your address details, your preferred “unveil” date (1st to 24th December) and an outline of your display. We will then confirm your calendar “unveil” date.

For the Advent Calendar to work, displays must not be unveiled until the stated “unveil” date.



Then, during December, residents and visitors can wander around the village, enjoying the festive displays. We will publish a map of properties taking part in late November, this can be downloaded from the village website's Festive Fairfield page Festive Fairfield – Fairfield Village Community Association (fvca.org.uk), a map will also get posted on the village hall (outside) noticeboard.

If you visit a display, take a photo and share on our twitter feed @Fairfield_Info or email it to us admin@fvca.org.uk

If you are looking for inspiration, checkout some of the previous displays, photos are on our village website and will be posted during Autumn on our Facebook page.

This is such a lovely way to celebrate the lead up to Christmas Day in the village.

FVCA

FOODIE FAIRFIELD

Supporting Local Food Producers

1ST SATURDAY
IN THE MONTH



9:00AM - 12:00PM



FAIRFIELD VILLAGE HALL, STOURBRIDGE ROAD, FAIRFIELD
BROMSGROVE, B61 9LZ

Shop Fresh, Local and Artisan



Flood Alleviation

In early July, the North Worcestershire Water Management team and the Natural Flood Management Officer from Worcestershire County Council were joined by The Woodland Trust volunteers and the site manager for Pepper Wood to help create leaky dams to reduce flood risk.



During the morning, 7 leaky dam structures were built within a tributary of the Hockley Brook within Pepper Wood.

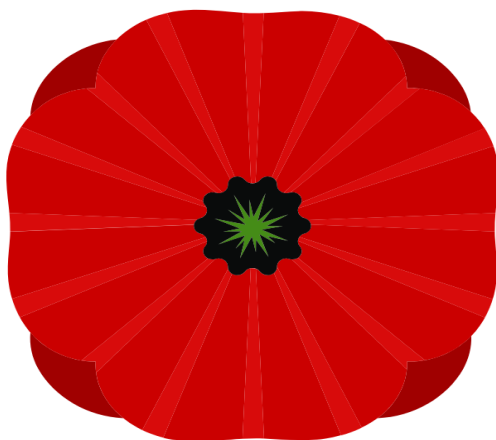
These structures are designed to allow base-flow to pass beneath, and during heavy rainfall will slow the flow and cause water to build upstream where it can safely spill out of bank into the woodland area; this will reduce the amount of water that reaches Dordale Road where it creates a flooding hazard.

Growing Fruit & Veg

Whether for the table or for show, get good growing advice from the National Vegetable Society, they meet at the Village Hall on the last Thursday in February, May, August & November, from 7.30pm

LEST WE FORGET

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



Commemorating the sacrifices of members of the
armed forces and of civilians in times of war.

**SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER
10.50AM**

FAIRFIELD VILLAGE HALL



Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us, including all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more! This means you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying.

If you haven't signed up to support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started!

You can find our easyfundraising page here:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fairfieldvillageca> Thank you!

Recycling Ink Cartridges: Good For The Planet, Good For Your Community

Pop your empty ink cartridges in the collection box at the Village Hall (sorry, not laser cartridges).

The box can be accessed during Foodie Fairfield, The Wednesday Social and during our BARTS events.

Every penny raised, recycling and shopping through Easyfundraising is used to support your Community Association and the many initiative the Association delivers, including helping to pay for the quarterly newsletters that residents receive.



THE Wednesday SOCIAL



A Very
Warm
Welcome



Warm



Welcoming



Free



Safe

Wednesdays at Fairfield Village Hall, 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

FREE activities for you to enjoy, plus FREE refreshments & biscuits. Join in with activity or just enjoy a natter.

The FORFELD STORE will also be open

1st Wednesday	Guest Speaker or Knit & Natter, and Indoor Curling
2nd Wednesday	Social Table Tennis, Knit & Natter
3rd Wednesday	No Social due to Movie Screening
4th Wednesday	Social Table Tennis, Knit & Natter

Fresh, Local Gold Top Milk Delivered

We're Wildmoos Dairy, based in Wildmoor and we're proud to produce rich, creamy Gold Top milk from our herd of mainly Guernsey cows, alongside a few Jerseys.

Known for its exceptional taste and quality, our milk is produced right here on the farm and bottled with freshness.

We're excited to announce that we are now starting local deliveries, bringing fresh Gold Top milk straight to your doorstep every Tuesday and Friday.

Support local farming and enjoy delicious, top-quality milk from Wildmoos Dairy.



- 📍 Wildmoor, Fairfield, Bournheath, Dodford and surrounding areas
- 🚚 Local deliveries every Tuesday & Friday
- 🥛 Fresh Guernsey Gold Top Milk
- 💷 £2 a litre
- ☎️ 07398349147

You can also buy Wildmoos milk from our community shop, open Wednesday afternoons and during Foodie Fairfield.

Treasurer STILL Needed

Due to the current treasurer moving out of the area, a new Treasurer is needed for the Community Association, ideally with basic bookkeeping skills. If you can fill this voluntary role, email chair@fvca.org.uk

Support Throughout The Year

If you need a chat, try calling one of the following who are available to listen:

- Victim Advice Line - 0800 952 3000
- West Mercia Women's Aid Helpline (available to help all victims) - 0800 980 3331
- Men's Advice Line - 0808 801 0327
- The Mix (for under 25s) - 0808 808 4994
- National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline - 0800 999 5428
- Samaritans - 116 123

BOOK SWAP

Books | Coffee | Friends

FAIRFIELD VILLAGE HALL

OPEN during
the Wednesday Social & Foodie Fairfield



Fairfield Village
Community Association

Neighbourhood Watch



Burglaries on the Rise

In the first five months of 2026 there were 4 burglaries in Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge; in the whole of 2025 there was one burglary and in 2024 there were 4 burglaries.

There have also been several attempted burglaries in recent months. Please:

- **REVIEW** your home and outbuilding security
- **PICK UP** a copy of the Neighbourhood Watch crime prevention booklet from Foodie Fairfield, Wednesday Social or other Community Association events.
- **TAKE PART** in initiatives that show that as a community we care; taking part in litter picks and washing street signs events makes Billy Burglar think twice.
- **REPORT** suspicious activity.
- **DO NOT** share photos or videos online of what you believe to be suspicious activity; for your safety these images should only be posted with the consent of the police.

If you are not already signed up, join our Neighbourhood Watch Group and subscribe to our eNewsletter. For more information, visit our village website or enquire at one of our community events.

Other News

- Local Policing team are aiming to get to Foodie Fairfield (not May 2026), 10.00am – 10.45am. Residents are encouraged to meet the team and to raise any issues with them, or seek crime prevention advice. The team are also popping into the Bournheath Coffee Morning on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.
- Thanks to vigilant residents, in May police were made aware of some young men knocking on doors in the village touting for business e.g. roof & guttering repairs. If you receive similar visits, politely say no and close the door, or if you need that type of work being done to your property, ask for their card/flyer and get them verified, and say that you will call them.
- Are your contact details & preferences up to date? Log into your Neighbourhood Watch account, www.ourwatch.org.uk, to make sure you are getting the correct messages.

Help Keep Our Community Safe

Life's safer when you know your neighbours and the community pull together. If you see suspicious activity **REPORT IT**, online via <https://www.westmercia.police.uk> or telephone 101. If it is safe to do so, share your observations with us admin@fvca.org.uk so that we can make others aware.

What is Suspicious Activity?

If a vehicle/person feels out of place please report to the Police as suspicious activity, tel. 101. Even if something seems trivial to you, it's worth reporting as it could be important/vital information. Please remain vigilant at all times, and not just during anyone incident.

Crime Data

Recorded crime in the Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge area for the first 5 months of 2026. Please remain vigilant, report suspicious activity, let's work together for a safer community.

	Burglary	Violence & Sexual Offences	Criminal Damage & Arson	Public Order	Other Theft	Drugs	Vehicle Crime	Anti-social Behaviour	Possession of a weapon	Other Crime
Jan	1									
Feb	1							2		
Mar		2		1	1					
Apr	1	1								1
May	1	1								

Is it Really The Police Calling You?

There has been a significant rise recently of cold callers phoning residents and claiming to be Police Officers. This not only applies to West Mercia area but nationally as well.

One of the more common identities claims to be a Detective from Holborn Police Station in London though they very often mispronounce the word "Holborn".

Fraudsters impersonate the police to scare you into action by pretending to be a voice of authority.

"You have been a victim of fraud" - some Fraudsters will tell you that they are contacting you due to a fraud investigation where you are the victim. They may say they have found a counterfeit item, such as a passport, with your name on it. Other times, they will say that there has been unauthorised use of your bank account or your credit card. You are then asked to provide your details to confirm that it was your card that was stolen.

After the fraudster receives the details, they will use them to withdraw money from the victims' accounts.

In some cases, they may use the storyline that they are investigating a fraudulent member of the bank staff and ask you to withdraw a sum of money in notes from your bank for someone to come round and collect. Ignore such requests and put the phone down.

They may then tell you to dial “999” to check their identities but as they are able to keep the line open, you are still speaking to the same person or one of their partners.

Police officers will never contact you out of the blue and request personal or financial information. If an officer contacts you in person then they will show you their Warrant Card first.

Similarly, before contacting your bank to report the fraud, wait at least ten minutes to ensure the line is clear. You can also clear the line by calling a friend or family member or by using a different phone than the one on which you were contacted.

However, if you have accidentally shared your bank details or handed over your card to a courier, call your bank immediately. You can reach your bank’s fraud department directly by dialling 159.

Take Five to Stop Fraud

- **STOP:** Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- **CHALLENGE:** Could it be fake? It’s OK to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- **PROTECT:** Contact your bank immediately if you think you’ve fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud

ALWAYS REMEMBER:

- Avoid disclosing security details
- Emails, Phone Calls and Texts may not be authentic
- Always make direct contact with any organisation by using a genuine phone number
- Stop and Challenge any unexpected requests
- Protect others by reporting Fraud and Scams

How You Can Help Stop Fraud

- **If you’ve fallen for a scam, report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via actionfraud.police.uk**
- **Scam Text messages can be forwarded to 7726** to help phone providers take early action and block numbers that generate spam on their networks.
- **You can also report Scam mobile calls by texting 7726 with the word “Call” followed by the scam caller’s phone number.**
- **Forward Fake Emails received to report@phishing.gov.uk**
- **If you think your bank account or personal banking details have been used fraudulently, then use the short phone number - 159 - to contact the Fraud Prevention Department of most major UK banks.**

Scam Alert

The police will **never** ask
you to hand over any **money**
or purchase **vouchers**

If you ever get a call from anyone asking
you to transfer money or pay with vouchers

STOP!

Hang up #TakeFive Verify #Tell2



ActionFraud
Report Fraud & Internet Crime
actionfraud.police.uk



www.westmercia.police.uk

Doorstep Pedlars – It could be a scam



Who are Nottingham Knockers?

They are doorstep callers who target areas offering small household products for sale. These callers may claim to be ex-convicts attempting to mend their ways, however they are not part of any recognised rehabilitation scheme.

Please warn your neighbours, particularly elderly or vulnerable neighbours, not to open the door to strangers or buy or sell on the doorstep. Some doorstep callers may offer poor quality goods at inflated prices and if a caller is not genuine, they may be gathering information for future crime.

Please keep in mind that if cold callers don't get any sales in your area, they are less likely to return.

How they work

The sellers may say that they are on a "rehabilitation course" arranged by probation services or other organisations trying to find people work. This is not the case and often they are known criminals. Probation services do not run such schemes.

They may show a card which claims to be a “Pedlars Licence” or work permit.

A bag of household products (including the typical tea-towels!) is supplied at a minimal sum by the person who employs them. Once they sell enough to cover the cost of the products they get to keep anything else earned.

Usually they are deposited in an area from a transit van and given a list of streets to work. An hour or so later they are picked up and dropped off in another location. They often work from 9am to 9pm.

They will knock on a door, offering cleaning items which they know are cheap and of very poor quality; the householder also knows they are rubbish but that is part of the scam. Many people will purchase items and pay them something, just to get rid of them. There have been cases of elderly residents handing over large sums as these lads can be very persistent and confrontational.

The price for whatever has been purchased usually comes to a note; usually £10. The householder disappears to get the money, this is when the scam begins. When the note is handed over, the lad examines the condition and how long it took the person to get it. If it is crumpled, they accept it and move on. If it is crisp flat and new, they are much more interested and may engage the person in more conversation, to obtain details about them. As they leave they will smell the note. If it is slightly musty, this is an indication that there is more in the property. Those addresses are noted. The addresses of elderly / vulnerable / gullible people are all noted.

These are handed to the employer and there is a small amount of cash handed over for each one.

These addresses are then sold in prisons and pubs. If there is a later break-in, the employer expects a further cut of the proceeds.

These lists are purchased by all sorts of people including; tarmacers, tree workers, roofers, dodgy builders etc., and can be shared amongst the travelling community. Once on a list, your address could be sold on and on. Hence the repeat nature of these persistent callers.

TURN THEM AWAY

REMEMBER if cold callers don't get any sales in your area, they are less likely to return.

Fraud Alert

GIFT CARDS

Despite the addition of warning notices by several retailers now on Gift Card display stands, criminals are still successfully getting victims to make payments by Gift Cards under various pretexts, and the reports of losses through Gift Card scams continue to come in.

As the name suggests, Gift Cards are a useful way to send a gift to a friend or relative. However, they are an equally handy way for Fraudster to extract money from an unsuspecting victim, and there is very little chance for a victim to get any reimbursement of the money lost.

What are the commonest types of Gift Card Frauds?

- Emails claiming to be from Government Agencies such as HMRC, DVLA, or a Utility company demanding overdue payments with immediate reimbursement of the sums due by Gift Cards – would such an organisation really accept payment by Gift Card?
- Urgent email or text from a person claiming to be a family member or friend by cloning their identity. They may spin out a hard luck excuse for a reason they cannot get out and buy the Gift Card themselves so ask you to purchase the card, then pass on the code off the back of the card. Always double check with that person by contacting them on a trusted number to make sure they had actually made that request.
- Romance Fraud victims are often asked to send money via Gift Cards after the Fraudster has spun out some hard luck story to gain the victims sympathy, and once again asks them to then pass on the code off the back of the card.
- Fake Prize Draws/ Competitions - you have won a major prize! You are then asked for a payment by Gift Card to cover the delivery costs of this fake prize, and once again your money is lost.

Always remember.

- The criminal does not need the actual card to redeem the money, just the code scratched off the back of the card
- Never make payments by Gift Card to someone you have never met
- Always check that the Card has not been tampered with when you purchase it and always ask for a receipt for the value of that card. Unscrupulous retailers may also switch the card at point of payment and hand over a valueless card.
- You can always report the fraud to the Gift Card company, but you are only likely to have any chance of reimbursement if the fraudsters have not used the card details and drawn down the funds using the code sent to them

TV LICENCE RENEWAL FRAUD

TV Licence Scams are circulating again.

The fake emails use authentic TV Licensing logos, but the URL promoted is clearly fake. In addition, they may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

One of the current emails in circulation claims to come from the “Broadcasting Compliance Directorate” with a long and complicated email address. The attached message has an authentic look of an official TV licence notification and then claims your TV licence has expired and carries a veiled threat of a £1000 fine.

Genuine emails and letters from TV Licensing are personalised to include information such as your name, part of your postcode or your licence number.

Never click on any links in fraudulent emails like this – if in doubt contact TV Licensing via their genuine contact details from the Internet or on your TV licence.

Nominated Neighbour Scheme

The Nominated Neighbour Scheme is a community initiative designed to protect vulnerable individuals from unwanted and unverified callers. It involves a trusted neighbour, friend, or relative who can check the identity of callers and accompany them to the homeowner’s address if necessary. This scheme aims to enhance safety and reduce the risk of scams and burglaries by ensuring that genuine callers do not have to speak to the homeowner directly.

To participate in the scheme, individuals can nominate a trusted neighbour or offer to be their Nominated Neighbour. The nominated neighbour will then be able to handle any unrecognised callers on behalf of the homeowner, ensuring their safety and security. The scheme is particularly beneficial for elderly or vulnerable members of the community, providing them with peace of mind and protection from potential threats.

For further information, contact the Safer Bromsgrove Community Safety Team:

Telephone: 01527 534187

Email: CommunitySafety@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

Why don’t we share photos of suspected suspicious activity?

There are some social media sites where people share images of what they believe to be suspected activity, such as a photo or a doorcam video footage, yet we do not, why?

We follow police and Neighbourhood Watch guidance, this protects people who may be behaving suspiciously and are innocent, and the individuals that have sent in the image; e.g. the footage that you send in may easily identify a property, we would not want any future visits by an unsavory character or their friends. This also applies to times when we share warnings and appeals, sometime people ask for more information, not because they have seen something, but because they just want to know who & where something has happened.



Weekly Community & Recreational Activities at Fairfield Village Hall

Recreational & Community Activities

Sunday: Church Services (2nd & 4th Sun)

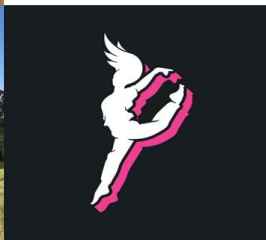
Monday: Line Dancing 7.30pm

Tuesday: Supreme Stars 4.00pm; Simply Strictly 7.00 & 8.10pm

Wednesday: Wednesday Social 1.30pm (not 3rd Wed)

Thursday: Ignite Academy of Dance 4pm; Zumba 7.30pm

Friday: Ignite Academy 4pm; Taekwondo 6.00pm & 7.00pm



THE
Wednesday
SOCIAL

Church Services at St. Mark's (services in the Village Hall)

2nd Sunday 11.15 am Worship4ll - Family Service

4th Sunday 11.15 am Holy Communion

It's Not All Jam & Cake at Fairfield Women's Institute

With interesting activities & speakers there's something for everyone.

Meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7pm at the Village Hall



Support Your Village Hall – Join the 200 Club



Not a member, why not join?

For only £1.00 month, you will be supporting the Village Hall, and there are cash prizes to be won!

For an application form & further information visit:

<https://fvca.org.uk/200-club/>

Bournheath Village Community Centre

1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month



10.30am – Noon

Meet & Catchup with other residents from the Fairfield-Bournheath Community



7.30pm – 9.00pm

Social Table Tennis

Bromsgrove Arts – the home of Fairfield Flicks, Music & Drama



Welcome to **BROMSGROVE ARTS**, a Community Entertainment initiative that is delivered by a brilliant team of volunteers.

Thank you for your support we are able to bring people together and help reduce loneliness and social isolation.

Our programme continues to be varied, with recent movie releases, quality live music on our stage, touring drama and Event Cinema productions. We aim to keep admission prices affordable, sometimes we control the price, and at other times we do not, and we will try our best to keep prices as low as possible for all of you. **If you book online, we do not charge a Booking Fee.**

Some of our screenings are very popular, so advanced booking to avoid disappointment is advisable.

For further information and to book advance tickets visit www.bromsgrovearts.org.uk, alternatively tickets can be purchased from our community shop or before/during the interval of any of our screenings/events.

Our licensed bar sells a selection of WINES, CIDERS, WOODCOTE BREWERY BEERS as well as soft drinks, and our volunteer team will offer you a warm welcome.

NEVER MISS WHAT'S GOING ON

For updates on What's Coming to Bromsgrove Arts, why not subscribe to our e-Newsletter?

We will not share your email address, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

To subscribe, email hello@bromsgrovearts.org.uk or fill in the subscription form that can be found on our website.

VOLUNTEER WITH US

If you would like to join our flexible volunteer team to help deliver our growing Bromsgrove Arts programme, serving behind the bar, helping with lighting, promoting our events, do get in touch hello@bromsgrovearts.org.uk

Have you got a camera and can you take High Quality photographs for media publication? We need your assistance, drop us an email.

We also need some muscle, supporting our live music events (setting up: usually 3pm -4pm on day of gig, and clearing the hall: after the show). Your help would be appreciated.

OUR AUTUMN BARTS PROGRAMME

ENTERTAINMENT AT FAIRFIELD VILLAGE HALL

For full details of each of the below shows/screenings, visit www.bromsgrovearts.org.uk or pick up our What's On programme booklet from the Village Hall.

19th Aug	8.00pm	Live Music: Willow Hill
26th Aug	7.00pm	Andre's Summer Concert
6th Sep	7.30pm	Now You See Me, Now You Don't
12th Sep	8.00pm	Live Music: Catlea
16th Sep	2.30pm	You, Me & Tuscany
16th Sep	7.30pm	You, Me & Tuscany
23rd Sep	7.00pm	National Theatre Live: The Misanthrope
26th Sep	8.00pm	Live Music: Found in a Field
3rd Oct	8.00pm	Live Music: The Pocket Choral Society
4th Oct	7.30pm	Don't Go Into The Cellar: A Pandemonium of Poe
17th Oct	8.00pm	Live Music: Katey Brooks
21st Oct	2.30pm	French Film Festival 2026 - Ride Away / À bicyclette!
21st Oct	7.30pm	Hadestown: The Musical
28th Oct	7.30pm	Stratford Theatre Company: Three Men In a Boat
29th Oct	11.00am	Junior Flix: See website for details
1st Nov	7.30pm	See website for details
18th Nov	2.30pm	See website for details
18th Nov	7.30pm	See website for details
21st Nov	8.00pm	Live Music: Brass Beatz
25th Nov	7.30pm	Tales of the Underworld plus Q&A
28th Nov	8.00pm	Live Music: Bringing On Back the 60s
6th Dec	7.00pm	Andre's Christmas Concert
9th Dec	2.30pm	Andre's Christmas Concert
13th Dec	7.00pm	Midland Concert Orchestra Christmas Concert