



Fairfield Village Community Association

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2018

IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE ACTION

Smart Water Protecting Our Community From Crime

Free Rollout of SmartWater® Kits – PLEASE ACTION

Fairfield Village Community Association has teamed up with Belbroughton & Fairfield Parish Council and West Mercia Police to make Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge a “We Don’t Buy Crime” community by supplying all households with a SmartWater® kit to protect their homes **FREE OF CHARGE**.

SmartWater® is an easy-to-apply liquid that enables the Police to trace valuables back to the owner. Full details of what’s Smart Water is can be found on page 3.

Two “drop-in sessions” are being held where villagers can collect their kits:

- Wednesday 19th September 7pm – 9pm Village Hall (Barton Room – Enter by the rear side door)
- Saturday 22nd September 10am – 2pm Village Hall

If you are unable to collect your kit on the above dates, please contact: email fvcommunityassociation@outlook.com or tel. 01527 833583 (evenings)



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SMARTWATER® HOME SECURITY PACK



Kits cannot be collected by people not residing at the address that the kit has been allocated to.

If you already have SmartWater® please do collect a second kit that has been assigned to your residence.

The Parish Council have obtained a grant from the Police Commissioner as well as part-funding the cost of the packs to provide them free of charge to all residents.

Our aim is to ensure that every household in Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge is equipped with a SmartWater® pack.

Subject to 80% of dwellings sign and return the SmartWater® registration form, there will also be signage installed in the village to send a clear message to criminals that our community is united and determined to protect our valuables against acquisitive crime. It is, therefore, vital that all residential properties support this initiative to help make our community safer.

In addition to SmartWater® and the signage, we need vigilance to deter criminals from visiting our community, if you are suspicious that a crime is being committed in Fairfield, Wildmoor or Stoneybridge, please help your community and contact West Mercia Police to report it. In an emergency use

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999. However, for less urgent matters for example; if your car has been stolen, if your property has been damaged, if you suspect drug use or dealing; or to give the police information about crime in your area please ring 101.

To share your suspicions with others and raise an awareness so that others do not fall victim of being a crime, Fairfield Village Community Association is the verified Neighbourhood Watch Group for Fairfield & Stoneybridge.

What is SmartWater?

SmartWater is a traceable liquid and forensic asset marking system that is applied to items of value to identify thieves and deter theft. The liquid leaves a long lasting and unique identifier, whose presence is invisible except under an ultraviolet black light.

As a SmartWater community we will have clear signage throughout Fairfield & Stoneybridge that SmartWater has been adopted by the community. **Communities that have adopted SmartWater have seen a decrease in burglaries.**

SmartWater has the backing of West Mercia Police, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and Neighbourhood Watch.



How do we become a SmartWater Community?

To become a SmartWater community 80% of dwellings need to sign up to Smartwater; i.e. we need a minimum of 80% of dwellings in Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge to sign and return their registration form.

What Is SmartWater?

SmartWater offers a unique combination of a brand that is feared by criminals and revolutionary forensic technology that provides robust traceability to your valuables and assets. The forensic liquid assigns your possessions with your own unique forensic code, allowing items to be traced back to you and criminals back to the crime.

Why do criminals fear SmartWater?

The most effective way of deterring criminals is to increase their chances of getting caught. Traceability makes it more difficult for a thief to sell on their stolen goods, because through traceability comes accountability - and the likelihood of proven guilt. Because the police regularly check for SmartWater on recovered stolen property and actively raise awareness of it, SmartWater is well known and feared by criminals. With hundreds of convictions and a 100% conviction rate in court, criminals are aware of our power to place them at the crime scene and secure a conviction. By displaying SmartWater deterrent stickers and having signage throughout our community we are sending out a powerful warning to any would-be thieves.



What can I use it on?

SmartWater offers a totally generic form of traceability, so it can be used to mark almost any asset - including items stored outdoors.

How can my property be traced back to me?

Your SmartWater forensic solution carries a chemical code which is unique to you - the makers of SmartWater never make the same SmartWater code twice. The SmartWater chemical code within your solution is stored, together with your details, on a secure database which is maintained to the highest international standards of ISO27001. Should your property be stolen and subsequently recovered by the police, forensic scientists can analyse traces of SmartWater on the item to identify the chemical code and link it back to you via the database, thus establishing the true owner.

Do I need to register my address?

When SmartWater is delivered to your property the solution's chemical code is assigned to your property. You will need to complete and return a simple registration form giving your contact details; in the event that any of your marked property is stolen and later retrieved, Police forces across the United Kingdom can contact you.

Do I need to reapply the SmartWater product every year?

No, SmartWater is designed to last. It will withstand extreme temperatures and weather conditions. SmartWater conforms to the highest possible standards of robustness (Grade A External specification, PAS 820:2012) and is guaranteed to last a minimum of five years if applied as instructed. It will

also withstand jet washing, so you will not need to reapply any solution after cleaning.

What happens if I get SmartWater on my skin during application, is it safe? SmartWater is a water-based solution and is categorised as non-hazardous. If SmartWater does come into contact with your skin the makers of SmartWater recommend you wash the area with soap and water. Please follow the 'Health and Safety' steps included in the Application Instructions supplied with your bottle of solution.



How do I dispose of SmartWater?

SmartWater solution is water-soluble and we have been informed is not harmful to the environment. The makers of SmartWater say that any out-of-date or unwanted solution can therefore be safely disposed of by thoroughly diluting the solution and pouring it down.

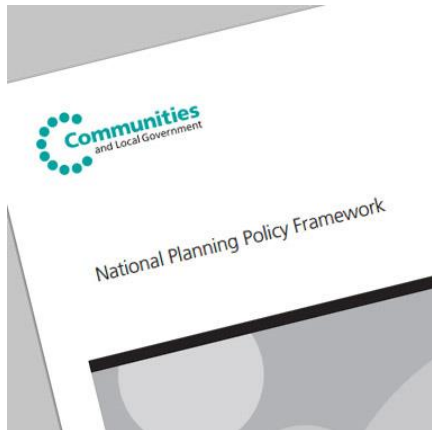
Can I buy more than one SmartWater pack?

The Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed to support one pack per property in the FVCA benefit area. Additional Smartwater kits can be purchased from SmartWater.

National Planning Policy & Bromsgrove Housing Review to shape Neighbourhood Development in Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge

Published at long last. The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and provides a framework within which locally-prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced.

Details on the new NPPF can be found at:



<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/revised-national-planning-policy-framework>

The Bromsgrove District Plan (adopted January 2017) is at the start of a review process and will provide a long term vision and strategy to meet the future needs for homes and employment across the District. It is important for everyone to have the opportunity to get involved and have their say on local issues that affect or interest them.

The first stage of the consultation will be seeking your views on the Issues & Options that you feel need addressing for the Plan. Subject to Bromsgrove District Council's approval, the consultation will take place at the end of September and will run for 7 weeks from the 24th September 2018 until the 12th November 2018.

Details on the Local Plan Review can be found at:

<http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/media/2433162/SCI-low-res-11-07-16.pdf>

This consultation will be important in defining the shape of our communities in the next few years. Belbroughton and Fairfield parish council will endeavour to keep parishioners updated on developments. Enhance the process with public meetings and help communicate these views in an effective and positive way.

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Be active, be aware, and become involved. Help shape your community for the generations to come.

Your parish council will be helping to bring this process near to your by organising public meetings and consultations.

The PC's own website and other local media sources will keep you informed
<http://www.belbroughtonandfairfield-pc.info/home-and-news.html>

Fairfield Village Community Association
<http://www.fvca.org.uk>

Belbroughton and Fairfield Neighbourhood plan
<https://b-m.facebook.com/BelbroughtonFairfieldNeighbourhoodPlan/>

Councillor Bob Morgan August 2018

Live Music at the Swan

On the last Friday of each month, the Swan will host live music, starting 31st August with Millie May from 9pm.

Further acts will be performing on:

Friday 28th September
Friday 26 October
Friday 30 November.- Stuart Bishop
Friday 28 December

If you are a soloist or duet and would like to take to the "stage", contact Jim at the Swan on 01527 837196 to register your interest.



Millie May will be singing 31st August

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Have Your Say – It's YOUR Community

Dates of future FVCA meetings (the bar will be open at meetings held at the Fairfield Villa Club House):

Saturday 1 st September	Village Hall	9.30pm for 10.00pm
Monday 1 st October	Fairfield Villa	7pm for 7.30pm
Saturday 3 rd November	Village Hall	9.30pm for 10.00pm
Monday 3 rd December	Fairfield Villa	7pm for 7.30pm

The Community Association works for a better and sustainable community; building and maintaining pride in where we all live. We look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings.

Keep up to date with FVCA community & Neighbourhood Watch news:

Register your email to receive e-circulars to email box – send your email address to admin@fvca.org.uk

Follow Social Media:

Twitter @Fairfield_Info

Facebook facebook.com/fairfieldinformation

Visit www.fvca.org.uk



Fairfield – Speed Enforcement

In June, regular speed enforcement along Stourbridge Road commenced as part of the Safer Roads Partnership's Community Concern programme.

At the request of the Community Association, speed surveys were carried out by the Safer Road Partnership and it was found that “15% of drivers are travelling above 36.8mph and 47% of all drivers are exceeding the 30mph posted speed limit”.



Since June, the Enforcement Officer has reported many vehicles exceeding the 30mph speed limit. Motorists exceeding the speed limit and driving under 50mph will face a fine and three points on their licence (if first time offence they could opt for a Speed Awareness Course). Motorists driving above 50mph (and there have been some caught driving at these speeds) will face court action, who could impose minimum fines of 125% of a weekly earnings, points on licence & a ban from driving.

Fairfield – Traffic Calming

Speed Enforcement is only part of the answer to slow down traffic. The community needs strategically placed engineering works that reduce traffic speeds throughout the community, initially along Stourbridge Road. Any works needs to be effective and have minimal negative impact.



At the time of printing this newsletter, Worcestershire County Council are reluctant to adopt engineer works for Fairfield. The Community Association have received the following from Mr. Richard Clewer, Senior Highways Liaison Engineer (14th August 2018):

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Following the residents association meeting we have discussed the request for engineering methods to reduce speeds through Fairfield with our safety and infrastructure team as promised.

The most recent speed survey records average traffic volumes of 7500 vehicles per day with mean average speed of 26mph and 85th percentile speeds of 32mph. These show that speeds haven't increased since the last survey and that there is still a reduction of 10%-15% following the introduction of the new lining and signage. New speed surveys have also taken place at the entry points into the 30 mph zone. At the northerly end the mean speed was 33 mph and the 85th percentile was 38mph; at the southerly end, the mean speed was were 33 mph and 85th percentile was 39 mph.

You stated that at a meeting of the residents group CC Bangham suggested traffic calming engineering methods were required. We have spoken with Tracy Onslow, the assistant to the Police and Crime Commissioner, and through her CC Bangham who does recall the visit, has said.

"In respect of the engineering solution, his recollection was that he commented that, on his drive into the area, there was no reminder of what the speed limit through the area was, ie, no signage, white gates, road markings, etc. He recalls that the discussion around engineering works was part of a wider conversation around what action could be taken, which included action by Police or Highways as appropriate."

A business case for funding of safety engineering measures relates directly to the potential for a reduction in casualty accidents. The data that we have for the last 5 years shows two accidents relating to vehicles pulling out of the Swan Public House car park into the path of vehicles travelling on the Stourbridge Road.

It is noted that at the Swan end of the 30mph limit zone, the start of the 30 limit includes a section of rural road banked either side by trees and no signs of building frontages. This may be reducing the impact of the 30mph zone as it is not clear to drivers why a 30mph has been set.

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We will be consulting the Traffic Management team to take a look at this and a 40mph buffer zone followed by the 30mph as the village buildings come into view.

If you still feel that speeding is an issue, then speed enforcement is the responsibility of the Safer Roads Partnership and of course you can approach them direct. I understand that some enforcement has already taken place.

You have asked for costs of speed tables and crossings. There are a number of issues to consider when installing such traffic calming; these include drainage, street lighting upgrading, high friction road surface, signage and sight lines. A budget figure for the installation of a speed table would be in the region of £30K, and substantially more if anti-skid surfacing was required. A zebra crossing, subject to finding a suitable place for this, would cost in the region of £50K.

As suggested at the meeting, we could look at gated entrances with additional lining on the approach to these at the entrance to the village. The estimated cost of this would be in the region of £5K per entrance. The preference here would be for these to be pursued through the parish council.

It is worth noting that the Safer Road Partnership hours of operation (enforcement) do not include early mornings or from late evening. Currently the Enforcement Officer is visiting Fairfield once a week, the frequency of these visits will not increase.

A Zebra Crossing may seem attractive. A Zebra Crossing only slows down traffic when pedestrians are crossing or about to cross, the Zebra Crossing does not reduce speeds if nobody is crossing or elsewhere along Stourbridge Road.

The Gated Entrance does look pretty, the purpose is to give the illusion of a narrowing road. Due to the width of Stourbridge Road at the village entrance, the likelihood of an illusion of a narrowing road is very minimal.

To help progress our desire for a safe and accessible community, the Community Association needs your help:

1. Does anyone know a lawyer with traffic management experience that could do some pro bono work for us?
2. Residents need to email the Cabinet Portfolio holder, Alan Amos, detailing their experiences and observations, encouraging Mr. Amos to have dialogue with the Community Association and to adopt the required strategically placed engineering works; e.g. works just before the entrance to the village and a traffic table in the centre of the village – AAMos@worcestershire.gov.uk

Any assistance will be gratefully received, please come to FVCA meetings to be part of the discussions.

The Community Association has requested copy of data results from recent traffic surveys.

Village Hall Gates

In response to anti-social behaviour and illegal activities, which has involved the police, the Village Hall trustees will be installing gates at the entrance & exit to the car park and parking post in the service road.

Gates will only to be opened for the duration of the hire period and will be locked at the end of each hire. This will prevent unauthorised vehicles accessing the car park and deter anti-social & illegal activities, which have included drug dealing.

To restrict vehicle movements during a hire period, hirers will be allowed to shut the gates.

With several users reporting near misses of vehicles using the service road to do a "u-turn" and an intervention by the local police, posts will be installed prohibiting vehicle access. The posts will only be retracted for emergency vehicles or with the authorisation of the trustees.

The Village Hall trustees appreciate that the gates may inconvenience some motorists, however, our duty is to provide a safe venue for Hall users.

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ENERGY INFORMATION & ADVICE SESSION	
PARKSIDE LIBRARY, BROMSGROVE	
on	
Thursday 13th September – 9:30am – 1:00pm	
Come & talk to us about	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants for Boiler Replacements GAS, LPG & OIL, Loft & Cavity Wall • Full Grants to install & Supply Gas Heating Systems from new • Fuel Bill Comparisons (bring your bills) • Energy Efficiency Advice • Criteria applies for the heating schemes – Grants are not always benefit or income based – find out if you qualify today 	
 <p>Bromsgrove District Council www.bromsgrove.gov.uk</p>	<p>OR CALL US FREEPHONE 0800 988 2881 www.actonenergy.org.uk</p>
 <p>warmer homes Energy Efficiency Improvement Scheme</p>	 <p>actonenergy</p>

There's No Such Thing As The Dog Poo Fairy

In response to residents' concerns, volunteers from the Community Association have cleared dog faeces from the cut grass verge along Brook Road.

For some having a dog leave its mess on the path, cut grass verge, recreation ground or on someone's garden appears to be a laughing matter. Last year an elderly resident stepped in some dog mess, unknown to the resident there was a slight cut on her foot and she became infected, subsequently requiring hospital treatment.



Please spread the word, clear up after your dog has defecated.

Place dog poo bags in the bin, not on a tree, hedge, railings, side of road etc.

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318 Bus Service

Kev's Coaches have been awarded the contract to operate the 318 Service from 2nd September.



Current 318 bus drivers, Dave & Gary, have been recruited by Kev's Coaches and will continue as the service drivers.

At August's meeting of the Community Association, Kevin Nind (Kev's Coaches) said that he would like to deliver a service where bus & passengers work together, asking that passengers contact him if there is an issue with the service and to phone him or the officer if the service is more than 10 minutes late; all buses have trackers on them.

The 318 route remains unchanged and there will be minimal change to the timetable. Time table and fares can be download from the Village website.

Kevin gave thanks to County Cllr. Shirley Webb for being helpful during the tendering process.

**Thank You Fairfield Post Office for providing
Box Office services for Village functions.**

Tea & Cake Raises Funds for Libby Mae's

Your generosity raised £278.00 for Libby Mae's Little Angels at August Afternoon Tea at the Village Hall.

50 people enjoyed elegant finger sandwiches, delightful cakes and glasses of Prosecco. Charlotte & Richard from Libby Mae's gave a presentation, which moved many people.

Thank you to everyone for supporting this event, including the people behind the scenes – organising the event, delivering flyers, baking cakes, making sandwiches and to Fairfield Post Office for acting as our "box office"- and to those people that dug deep in their pocket to help raise a fantastic amount of money for FVCA's nominated charity.



Swan Refurbished

The Swan re-opened in June after a £250,000 refurbishment, the Stourbridge Road pub's dining area has been completely redecorated, fitted with a new bar, and has now relaunched with a brand new food, drink and cocktail menu.

Jim Parsons, who took over the Marston's pub in January, said: "The pub looks completely and utterly different to how it did before.

"We've got a new bar and the pub has been split into a restaurant offering full table service and a bar area for those who just fancy drinks and nibbles.

"All the food on the new menu is freshly prepared and we now offer 30 different gins, and cocktails every day. We're also dog-friendly, which we weren't before."

The Swan's new food menu includes starters, sharing boards, grilled meats and desserts, as well as pub classics like beef lasagne, crumbed scampi, beef and ale pie and beer battered fish and chips.

It also offers vegetarian and vegan options.

Sue Rae, the daughter of Mr and Mrs Lees who ran the Swan in the 1950s, cut the ribbon to officially reopen the pub this morning.

The Lees retired in the mid 1970s and moved to nearby Bournheath Road, where Sue still lives today.

Sue told the Bromsgrove Advertiser: "I lived in the Swan from the age of seven until I got married in 1966, so I have many happy memories there.

"It wasn't as big as it is now and it didn't sell food in those days, but it was a real community hang-out and we had a lot of characters coming in.

"It's good to have a bit of a change sometimes and I think it looks really nice now and it still has a nice atmosphere in there.

"It's still my regular pub and I hope Jim does well there."

A willow tree, planted by Sue's mother to mark the birth of her first granddaughter Stella in 1967, remains on the site today.



New Address and Fresh Look website for the Fairfield Community.

The cost for hosting the old website has gone up, so we have taken advantage of another host and have created a new look website; www.fvca.org.uk

The website is a live resource, with regular additions of useful information.

If you have any material that others may find informative email admin@fvca.org.uk

Along with a new look website there is also a new email address: admin@fvca.org.uk

The Community Association can also be found on social media:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fairfieldinformation

Twitter: [@Fairfield_info](https://twitter.com/Fairfield_info)

Plus, you can get news & notices straight to your email inbox by subscribing to the e-circular; sign up at the bottom of the website Home page or email admin@fvca.org.uk

Monthly Luncheon

Each month, members and friends of our community meet up at a local pub for a hearty lunchtime meal, where they can meet new friends and catch up with old.

The next lunchtime gathering is on Monday 17th September 12.30pm at Lord Morton's Tea Rooms, Cutnall Green. For further information or to reserve a place contact Pat - 01527 832360

Dates & Venues of future lunches:

Monday 15th October, 12.30pm, Willowbrook Garden Centre

Monday 19th November, 12.30pm, The Swan, Fairfield

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BONFIRE RADICALS



"Raucous and eclectic, sheer merriment in a gorgeous set of ideas and influences, guaranteed to leave you smiling from ear to ear."

★★★★ SONGLINES

"One of the most exciting and eclectic musical groups
I have heard for a very long time."

ROCK SOCIETY

FAIRFIELD VILLAGE HALL (B61 9LZ)

Sunday 30 September 6:30 pm

£8.50 (Standard) / £5.00 (Under 16)

BOOK NOW: Fairfield Post Office, 81 Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove B61 9LY or call 01527 577286
shindig.org.uk



Shindig



www.fvca.org.uk
admin@fvca.org.uk

Beat the Grot

Each month volunteers donate an hour to keep Fairfield & Stoneybridge tidy, making our community a pleasant place to live.

Please donate an hour and join your fellow wombles.

Litter picks take place on the 2nd Saturday of each month, meet outside Village Hall 10.30am. The next litter pick is on Saturday 8th September. Wear suitable clothing & shoes. Litter pick equipment is provided.



A Blooming Entrance

With grateful thanks to all the volunteers that maintained the Village planters (watering & weeding); the entrance to Fairfield this summer has been Blooming Marvelous.



YOU CAN'T SEE THE PROBLEM?



YOU MAY THINK PARKING ON THE PAVEMENT IS HELPFUL TO OTHER DRIVERS. BUT WHAT ABOUT PEDESTRIANS? IF SOMEONE WALKS ON THE ROAD TO GET ROUND A CAR, THEY COULD GET INTO A SERIOUS ACCIDENT. YOU DON'T WANT THAT ON YOUR HANDS.

**think
pedestrian**



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Live Shows Coming To Fairfield Village Hall

Bonfire Radicals

One of the most exciting and eclectic groups on the folk/world scene will be performing at Fairfield Village Hall on Sunday 30th September.

Blending medieval and Celtic folk, raucous eastern European jazz-swing and punchy world-beats into a unique sound that truly beguiles; theirs is a boldly original and highly-spirited, at times gloriously chaotic, live stage show.

★★★ 'Raucous and eclectic, sheer merriment in a gorgeous set of ideas and influences, guaranteed to leave you smiling from ear to ear.' Songlines Magazine

'Quite staggeringly special.' Fatea Magazine

Birmingham-based Bonfire Radicals have emerged from the folk/world scene with a fresh approach to traditional tunes and a host of engaging traditional and creative original material.



One of the most exciting and eclectic musical groups, with joyous abandon they weave together delicate vocals, raucous recorder and clarinet, and soaring violin over a pulsating rhythm mix of guitar, bass and drums. Probably unlike anything you've heard before, they draw on many eclectic influences for their sound – a fusion of medieval melodies, jazz-tinged swing, folk-rock, klezmer and all points in between.

Known for their highly-spirited stage presence, the Bonfire Radicals' own enthusiasm for their music is undeniable.

'On this evidence, Bonfire Radicals are quite a discovery - grab the chance to go see them live.' Fatea Magazine

The show starts at 6.30pm and is show for adults and children aged 6 years and over. Tickets on sale from Fairfield Post Office: Adults £8.50, U16s £5.00.

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The 3 Little Pig Tails - A Festive Fairfield Event

Saturday 15 December 2018, 3.30pm

Delightful, warm-hearted puppet show from regular rural touring company. Designed for the very young and their grown ups. 3 cute beret-wearing French pigs see off the big bad wolf with lots of help from their friends in the audience.



"After a great performance of "Jack & the Beans Talk" at our local library last summer, we returned this year to see "Little Red Riding Hood" - it was brilliant! It's great to see how the performers interact with the children before, during and after the show! My daughter loved it! Thank you!"
Audience

"...trademark combo of adorable puppets, jokes and audience participation"
Time Out

A fresh and funny retelling of the traditional story and an ideal gentle introduction to theatre for ages 3 –7. From the company who have toured to us in the past with Shoe Kangaroo and the Big Bad Boot, Billy Goats Gruff and There's A Monster in My Piano. Garlic are an International award winning Puppet Company touring throughout the UK and abroad reaching annual audiences of 20,000 per year.

This is a brand new version of The Three Little Pigs set in Paris where the pigs wear dungarees and berets. A grumpy old wolf is a chef who wants some pigs' tails for his soup. Will the little piggies outwit the wolf and what kind of house will they build? A funny, warm hearted and interactive rustic tale to make you squeal with laughter, bristling with puppets, live music and lots of joining in.

The show has plenty of moments where you will be itching to join in and is funny and engaging throughout. Children and adults alike will love the skill and inventiveness of the puppeteer and the comedy of the puppets.

Tickets on sale mid-November. Adults £8.50, U16s £5.00

Other shows stopping off at Fairfield Village Hall

Long Shot

Sunday 10 March 2019, 6.30pm

1 athletic and engaging master-juggler versus lots of wacky contraptions firing balls at him – he's going to need help from his audience! Surprises galore in this clever family show that guarantees big smiles.



This impressive one-man show has been developed especially for rural touring and is suitable for a mixed age family audience to enjoy.

What marks this company as different from a standard 'juggling act' are their terrific bespoke contraptions which look like things created for TV's The Crystal Maze or QI. You can get a really good idea of these Heath Robinson goodies in the video trailer for the show.

In a nutshell, it's a skilfully and engagingly performed stripped-back circus show involving these handmade remote-controlled contraptions, comedy and juggling.

Tickets on sale early February 2019. Prices TBC

Bread and Milk can be purchased from Fairfield Café – please support this service.

You could be a 200 Club Winner

Only £1.00 a month, with jackpot prizes up to 200.00. All profits support Fairfield Village Hall. For an application form contact the Village Hall or Linda Garvin

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admin@fvca.org.uk

The Listening Project

Sunday 14 April 2019, 6.30pm

Championed by jazz-pop star Jamie Cullum, sassy double-bass playing singer-songwriter Kel Elliott is justly acclaimed for her rich and powerful voice and uplifting, genre-leaping story-songs, here based on stories and personal recollections gathered from historic and reminiscence projects.



Uplifting, wry, bluesy jazzy folky music from a literate, witty and sassy singer-songwriter - with the unusual distinction of being a double bass player - and her exciting quartet. Matching Kel Elliott's velvety vocals and trademark bass are endearing between-song banter and an impressive range of instruments, from guitar and bass clarinet, to sousaphone, saxophone, accordion, ukulele and percussion.

Following (River Avon boat-based) Kel's recent project work with Live & Local on the 'Discover: Chedham's Stories' heritage cyber story-trail - offering a unique insight into the Chedham's Yard blacksmith heritage site in Warwickshire - Kel has been focusing her songwriting on personal stories gathered from historic and reminiscence projects. Zigzagging through the very beat and pulse of human life, Kel uncovers the quirky, the fascinating, the weird and the wonderful.

A joy to listen to and true crowd-pleasers Kel Elliott & Her Three Man

Tickets on sale early March 2019. Prices TBC

The first two Live and Local show being held at the Village Hall (Bonfire Radical and The 3 Little Pigtails) are normally priced at Adults £10.00, U16's £8.50, we have managed to negotiate a discounted price for these two shows.

If we can get a large attendance at these two shows it will give us leverage to negotiate a discount for Long Shot and The Listening Project. PLEASE SUPPORT.

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Get to know other members of your community and exercise at the same time, whilst enjoying our local countryside. Walks are usually 3 to 4 miles, with occasional longer walks.

Join the Fairfield Walkers on:

- Friday 7th September, 10am, meet Fairfield Rec.
- Saturday 29th September, 10am, meet Fairfield Rec. (7 mile walk)
- Friday 5th October, 10am, meet Fairfield Rec.
- Friday 9th November, 10am, meet Fairfield Rec.
- Friday 7th December, 10am, meet Fairfield Rec.

Wear suitable clothes & foot wear, dogs on lead are welcome.

Kim Lennard, Holistic and Integrative Counsellor
is hosting an event called
'Conversations about Mental Health'

Saturday 8th September 2018
10.30 am to 12.30 pm
Fairfield Village Hall, Bromsgrove

Speakers

Camilla Lewington @justshutupdance camillalewington	Keith Fraser keithfraser2017
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Organisations confirmed so far Possum PT @possum_pt

£2 entry on the door or a voluntary donation - any profits to go to the Mental Health Foundation

for more information please contact Kim Lennard
E: kim_lennard@yahoo.co.uk



Fairfield First School

Stourbridge Road,
Fairfield,
Bromsgrove

Headteacher: Mr Scott Smith

Providing a happy and secure environment in which
everyone is valued and encouraged to
aim high, work hard, have fun and look after others!



Come and see us for yourselves:

Tuesday 25th September @ 9m
Thursday 27th September @ 1.30pm
Monday 1st October @ 10am
Friday 5th October @ 9am
Wednesday 10th November @ 2pm
Wednesday 28th November @ 9am



If you would like to come and see our wonderful school
please telephone to arrange a visit.

Tel: 01527 873081

Email: office@fairfield.worcs.sch.uk

For more information see our website:

www.fairfield.worcs.sch.uk



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admin@fvca.org.uk

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US

Are you a business? Reach 500 homes with an A5 advert, only £20.00; equivalent to 4p per household.

Meet Your Local Safer Neighbourhood Police Team

Bromsgrove North and Rural

Web: www.westmercia.police.uk

Email: bnr.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk



PC Ash Durkin
07811 748593



PC Barnaby Kelso
07976 936406



PCSO Simon Cadwallader
07773 044333



PCSO Joanne Evans
07773 046494

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SK Hair and Beauty have a strong team of professional stylists and beauticians. With regular special offers and promotions, pop in for a chat or telephone 01527 835912 (81 Stourbridge Road, Fairfield, B61 9LY

Fairfield Village Hall now has a Hearing Loop and PA system, this means that people that have hearing loss can engage with what's going on.



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Is this clear enough?

Zig Zag lines outside schools are there to protect YOUR children.

NO Picking up
NO Dropping off
NO Parking
NO Excuses!

Neighbourhood Watch News

Security Advice – Your Wheelie Is A Criminal's Aid



Did you know that wheelie bins can be used in the following ways by burglars and criminals?

As climbing aid to help them gain access to your property? Would be burglars can your wheelie bin and climb on top of it to help them scale your garden wall or fence.

As an indicator as to whether or not you are at home? Wheelie bins left out in the street can be an indication that you have not yet returned home from work. Consider asking a trusted neighbour if they would be kind enough to collect your wheelie bins from off the side of the road after they have been emptied.

As a removal aid to help take the items away that they have stolen? Burglars and thieves can use any insecure and accessible wheelie bins as a carrying cart to take away any items they have stolen from your property.

To find out information about you. Criminal can search through your wheelie bins looking for any personal information which may be contained in discarded letters and documents. This information can then be used to aid in identity theft. Ensure you destroy all discarded personal documentation, ideally by shredding it.

To start small fires. Criminals and vandals can use wheelie bins to help set small fires which can easily spread out of control and cause damage to your property and in extreme cases endanger life.

Make sure your wheelie bins are out of sight of burglars. Store or secure it away until collection day.

Do you know who is calling?



Don't part with any of your personal information, bank cards, money or valuables.

Remember:

Criminals may be calling.

Suspect anyone you don't know, regardless of who they claim to be.

Answer 'NO' to any personal questions.

Don't part with any of your personal information or money. Remember, the police and your bank would NEVER ask for such details as your PIN or account numbers over the phone.

Leave the conversation.

If you are suspicious or feel uncomfortable with the caller's questions, then end the call.

Let us know.

**If in doubt hang up and wait 10 minutes.
Then report to Action Fraud (0300 123 30 40
or www.actionfraud.police.uk)
or the police (101)*.**

*Report to the police if the crime is still happening, the suspect is in the local area or if you are vulnerable and unable to contact Action Fraud.

Please use this sticker
on your phone as a
reminder to CALL

**A genuine caller
will never ask to:**

- ☒ send a courier to collect cash, bank cards, or valuables
- ☒ ask for your PIN
- ☒ ask you to withdraw or transfer money

If in doubt hang up and wait 10 minutes, then report to Action Fraud (0300 123 30 40 or www.actionfraud.police.uk) or the police (101).



Warwickshire
POLICE



West Mercia
POLICE

www.warwickshire.police.uk
www.westmercia.police.uk

Not sure? Don't open the door!

Protect yourself from doorstep crime. Be aware of people who turn up unannounced, most genuine callers will have a pre-arranged appointment. If in doubt, keep them out!

Doorstep crime can include rogue traders offering home improvement or gardening services, or bogus callers who claim to be the council, police, health carers or energy companies.

Rogue traders may say they are in the area working on another property and they have spotted a problem with your home or garden. They may claim to have materials left over from another job, like paving or tarmac. They may try to pressurise you to buy goods or sign up for services on the spot. Unfortunately, all too often they may offer to carry out work cheaply, but charge an extortionate price after the work has been completed.



Bogus callers may claim to be working for the council, water, gas or electric company. They could also say they are a nurse, doctor or even from the police. Bogus callers may say they need to come into your home, or try to get you to go outside. They may try to distract you so they can steal your money. They can be male, female or even children.

A pedlar is someone who calls at your door to sell items that they have to offer, this can often include cleaning or household goods. These goods may be sold at an overpriced value. By law pedlars are required to carry a pedlar's certificate, which is issued by the police force in the area they operate.

If you are not sure who is at the door, do not open it. Check the identity of any caller. Confirm who they are by calling the company they work for by using the number from the telephone directory or from one of your bills. Do not call a number provided by them.

If caller does not leave your property when asked to do so, call the police.

Nominated Neighbour Scheme

**Do you or does anyone
you know feel vulnerable
in their home?**

It is an unfortunate fact that certain criminals target the elderly and vulnerable in their homes by posing as genuine callers. They seek to gain access to the house by deception to steal. Others will offer to do works to the house for problems that may not even exist for exorbitant sums and the work proves unnecessary or sub-standard.

The Nominated Neighbour Scheme seeks to protect potential victims by enrolling a willing person who is able to have callers referred to them by the potential victim so their identity can be verified.

If you think this may be helpful to you or someone you know more detail can be obtained by contacting Community Safety at Redditch and Bromsgrove Councils on **01527 534 187** or **CommunitySafety@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk**



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Reduce your chances of being burgled

Home security is the best way to reduce your chances of being burgled. A lot of burglaries are spur of the moment, as a burglar may see an open opportunity and take their chance.

Some things you may wish to consider if you are installing new doors and windows are to get ones that are certified to British Standard BS 7950 (windows) or PAS 24-1 (doors). Window locks, especially on older windows will help stop people getting in.

Remember to securely lock all doors and windows before leaving the house. It is easy to forget when you are in hurry, but its the simplest way for a burglar to enter your home.

Never leave your keys anywhere near the front door, including your letterbox; burglars know where to look.

A home that looks empty is far more likely to be targeted by a burglar, so its worth making sure your home looks occupied. Use automatic timer-switches to turn on a light and perhaps a radio when it goes dark, even if you are just out for a couple of hours.

If you' are going to be away for longer periods of time, cancel any newspaper or milk deliveries.

Remember that visibly and permanently marking your belongings helps you and the police to identify them if they are stolen. It can also make it difficult for the thief to dispose of the property.

Fit padlocks and additional hardware to shed and garage doors and ask a trusted neighbour or relative for help. Ask them if they could clear the post away from the door mat and open and close the curtains whilst you are away.



Prevent easy access to the back and sides of your home by installing locked gates, 2 metre minimum fencing or walls are recommended. Trellis topping also makes climbing very difficult.

Security lighting can be used to make offenders feel vulnerable and observed. It is suggested that you use dusk to dawn lighting. Visible burglar alarms are also a deterrent, there are many to choose from.

Protecting yourself from fraud

If you receive a request to provide personal or financial information, you need to take a moment to reflect and step back from the situation.

Even if they say they're the bank or other trusted organisation, you still need to take the time to stop and think about what's really going on. Deep down, you probably already know these basic rules on how to beat financial fraud - you just need to take a breath and stay calm enough to remember them.

1. Requests to move money:

A genuine bank or organisation will never contact you out of the blue to ask for your PIN, full password or to move money to another account. Only give out your personal or financial details to use a service that you have given your consent to, that you trust and that you are expecting to be contacted by.

2. Clicking on links/files:

Don't be tricked into giving a fraudster access to your personal or financial details. Never automatically click on a link in an unexpected email or text.

3. Personal information:

Always question uninvited approaches in case it's fraudulent. Instead, contact the company directly using a known email or phone number.

4. Don't assume an email or phone call is authentic:

Just because someone knows your basic details (such as your name and address or even your mother's maiden name), it doesn't mean they are genuine. Be mindful of who you trust - criminals may try and trick you into their confidence by telling you that you've been a victim of fraud. Criminals often use this to draw you into the conversation, to scare you into acting

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and revealing security details. Remember, criminals can also make any telephone number appear on your phone handset so even if you recognise it or it seems authentic, do not use it as verification they are genuine.

5. Don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision:

Under no circumstances would a genuine bank or some other trusted organisation force you to make a financial transaction on the spot; they would never ask you to transfer money into another account for fraud reasons. Remember to stop and take time to carefully consider your actions. A genuine bank or some other trusted organisation won't rush you or mind waiting if you want time to think.

6. Listen to your instincts:

If something feels wrong then it is usually right to question it. Criminals may lull you into a false sense of security when you are out and about or rely on your defences being down when you're in the comfort of your own home. They may appear trustworthy, but they may not be who they claim to be.

7. Stay in control:

Have the confidence to refuse unusual requests for personal or financial information. It's easy to feel embarrassed when faced with unexpected or complex conversations. But it's okay to stop the discussion if you do not feel in control of it.

If you've taken all these steps and still feel uncomfortable or unsure about what you're being asked, never hesitate to contact your bank or financial service provider on a number you trust, such as the one listed on their website or on the back of your payment card.

Report fraud

The first thing you should do if you've been a victim of fraud is to contact Action Fraud. You can report a fraud via their online fraud reporting tool, or by calling Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

If there is a crime being committed right now or if you are in danger you should call the police on 999.

Vehicle safety

Vehicle crime is not common in West Mercia and we are working hard to reduce it even further. A tiny minority of vehicles registered in the whole of Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Shropshire are involved in crime each year, but there are simple steps you can take to make life even harder for criminals.



Most vehicle crime is opportunistic and happens as a result of a vehicle being left vulnerable or unsecured, for example:

- doors or windows left unlocked
- keys left in the ignition
- personal belongings on display (e.g. handbag, laptop)
- sat nav and holder left in vehicle
- parked in a poorly lit areas
- vehicles being left unlocked with engines running to defrost during winter
- park in open well-lit and secure areas wherever possible
- ensure windows, sunroof and boot are all secured and doors locked when leaving your vehicle unattended, no matter how briefly
- take keys with you when leaving the vehicle unattended
- remove any valuables and personal belongings from the vehicle
- remove your sat nav and its cradle and wipe away any sucker marks
- fit an alarm or immobiliser
- activate the steering lock - whenever and wherever you park
- have the vehicle registration number etched on each of the windows
- postcode your vehicle stereo using an ultraviolet marker
- keep your vehicle in a garage if possible
- keep vehicle keys secure and out of sight
- fit a locking petrol cap and wheel nuts

Following these simple steps will help us to reduce vehicle crime even further and save you the hassle and expense of having to repair any damage caused during a vehicle break-in.

Take A Few Simple Steps To Avoid Becoming A Victim Of Burglary

- Set a timer switch to turn your lights on when it gets dark – unlit houses are a give away that no one is at home.
- Lock your doors, patios and downstairs windows - even when you are in. Make sure you double check them again before you go to bed.
- If you have a burglar alarm, make sure you set it when you got out and also when you go to bed.
- Don't leave car keys, ID cards or valuables near windows, doors or letterboxes, where burglars can reach through to steal them.
- Lock your garden gates and side entrances. Don't leave tools lying around in the garden which could be used to break in to your home.

If you have information about a burglary phone the police on 101



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Weekly Activities in Fairfield

Sunday:

Monday:

Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 3pm

Kicks Dance School, Village Hall, 3.30pm

Line Dancing, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday:

Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 3pm

Dancing, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Wednesday:

Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 12noon

Welcome Club, Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm (not Jan)

Thursday:

Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 3pm

Zumba, Village Hall, 7pm – 8pm

Friday:

Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 3pm

Taekwondo, Village Hall, 6pm/7pm/8pm

Bournheath Bakers Workshops

The first of the Autumn Beginners workshops will take place on: Sunday 7th October 10.00 - 2.00. Lots of hands on making and baking. Refreshments and lunch provided. Cost £58.00. As numbers are limited, to secure a place for yourself or gift one to a friend or relative please make contact by calling/texting 07817 187986 or message via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BournheathBakers/>

Diary

September

- 1st: **Community Association**, Village Hall, 10.00am
- 1st: **Charity Dance with Live Music**, Village Hall, Doors 7.30pm
- 7th: **Fairfield Walkers**, meet at the Rec, 10am
- 8th: **Community Litter Pick**, meet outside Village Hall, 10.30am
- 12th: **Women's Institute**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17th: **Fairfield Dining Group**, Lord Morton's Tea Room 12.30pm
- 26th: **Bingo, Village Hall**, 7.30pm
- 28th: **Millie May – Live Music @ The Swan**, 9pm
- 29th: **Fairfield Walkers**, meet Rec. 10am
- 30th: **Bonfire Radicals**, Village Hall, 6.30pm

October

- 1st: **Community Association**, Rec. Club House, 7pm for 7.30pm
- 5th: **Fairfield Walkers**, meet at the Rec, 10am
- 10th: **Women's Institute**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 13th: **Community Litter Pick**, meet outside Village Hall, 10.30am
- 14th: **Harvest Festival**, St. Mark's, 11.15am
- 15th: **Fairfield Dining Group**, Willowbrook, 12.30pm
- 17th: **Harvest Supper**, Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm
- 24th: **Bingo**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 26th: **Live Music @ The Swan**, 9pm

November

- 3rd: **Community Association**, Swan Inn, 10.00am
- 9th: **Fairfield Walkers**, meet at the Rec, 10am
- 10th: **Community Litter Pick**, meet outside Village Hall, 10.30am
- 11th: **Remembrance Sunday**, War Memorial, 10.45am
- 14th: **Women's Institute**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th: **Fairfield Dining Group**, Swan Inn, 12.30pm
- 28th: **Bingo**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 29th: **National Vegetable Society**, Village Hall, 7pm for 8pm start
- 30th: **Stuart Bishop – Live Music @ The Swan**, 9pm