



Fairfield Village Community Association

NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2022



For up-to-date Neighbourhood Watch and community bulletins (only some of our news items appear in this magazine):

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

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

Do You Love Our Community - Volunteer Needed

For over 6 years, volunteers have litter picked our roads & open spaces.

A volunteer is urgently needed to coordinate these monthly litter picks, including looking after the equipment & ordering replenishment stock. If you can help, please get in touch, admin@fvca.org.uk

Fight The Grot

Please donate an hour and help with our Community Litter Picks that take place on the 2nd Saturday of each, meet outside the Village Hall 10.30am. Wear suitable clothing & footwear, equipment will be provided. The more volunteers we have, the larger the area we can tackle to help keep our community tidy.

Join the Fairfield 200 Club?

The 200 Club helps provide much needed funds to help keep our Village Hall looking magnificent. It is only £1.00 p/mth, with a draw every month, and top prizes range from £25 to £200. Membership is limited to 200, and there are a few available numbers. Interested in joining? If you wish to join the 200 Club, please contact the 200 Club Administrator, Linda Garvin, 83 Brook Road, Fairfield, 01527 834935, alternatively download an application <http://fvca.org.uk/200-club>

Join us for lunch

Every month we visit a local pub or other fine eatery for a hearty meal and good conversation. The group includes (and is not exclusive to) residents of Fairfield, Bournheath, Dodford & the surrounding area. We meet from 12.15pm, for a 12.30pm lunch. Dates and venues for future lunches are:

19th September	The Golf Club
17th October	The Royal Oak, Catshill
21st November	The Nailers, Bournheath

If you are interested in joining our lunchtime meal, or would like further information, please contact Pat on 01527 832360, or email pasteward7@outlook.com

Village Hall Update

Thank you everyone who came the Hall's Annual General Meeting on 5th July, where reports and accounts were presented, elections took place to serve on the Hall's Management Committee, and Service User Representatives were noted; elected and representatives serving as the Hall's trustees. Following the AGM, the trustees held a meeting where Geoff Cotterill was chosen to serve as the Hall's Chairman.

Post Box Update

Royal Mail are considering proposed sites for a replacement post box, an outcome is expected towards the end of September.

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The Queen's Platinum Jubilee



Over the weekend 4th-5th June, three events were organized to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, bringing members of our community, family and friends together at the Village Hall.

On the Saturday we held an **Afternoon Tea and Live Stream of the Epsom Derby**, the sandwiches were fantastic, the cakes were magnificent, and the complementary prosecco flowed

In the evening we live streamed the **Jubilee Concert from Buckingham Place**, which saw people singing along to George Ezra's "Shotgun" and being spellbound by the Queen's sketch with Paddington Bear. The bar was provided by our friends at Woodcote Brewery.

To end the festivities, on the Sunday, there was the traditional **Platinum Jubilee Party** with games, a quiz and the live streaming of the Jubilee Pageant. People left with a complementary bottle of beer.

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone that came to our celebratory events and decked properties Red, White & Blue to help celebrate this historic event.

Another **HUGE THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who organized the weekend events, organized the scavenger hunt, made the sandwiches, baked cakes. washed up, the list goes on. Without **YOU** the events would not have happened and being a success that will be remembered for many years to come.

If you have any photographs of our community festivities, email them to admin@fvca.org.uk for archiving. If you have any information regarding who is in the photograph please share in your email.

In years to come people will be very grateful for your photographs, which will bring back many happy memories and will also be a reminder of who lived in our community.

Recording History – Still Time To Take Part

We invite households to send a photo of themselves, preferably of them outside their house, recording who was living in the village at the time of the jubilee. The photographs will be incorporated into a montage, which we hope will be put on display at the Village Hall, and digital copy held in archive. Residents may wish to provide some background information, such as names & any other information relating to the history of the property. Email photograph, address & any additional information to admin@fvca.org.uk. Addresses will not be shared, this will be to verify that you live in our community. We ask for your consent that addresses can be held in archive for future historical reference.

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Shop Update

16 site locations have been suggested by residents that have been assessed by the Shop Working Group and whittled down to a short list of potential site locations that may have a greater degree of viability, accommodating the needs of a shop and having minimal impact on existing site users & neighbours.

Landowners are being approached to see if in-principle they would be open to considering usage of their land for the purpose of a community venture. After discussion with the landowner(s), it may turn out not be possible to use a proposed site as it may already be in use or there may be restrictions.

If identified land is available and landowners are open to their land being considered, we will undertake a more detailed site assessment that will consider other factors, such as infrastructure, costings, etc. There will also be further engagement with residents to seek views.

If you have any site suggestions that have not yet been considered or a parcel of land that we could use, email shop@fvca.org.uk

Should we be in a position where there is no suitable site that is available, we will be unable to progress the project.

Community Association Update

The Association's AGM was held on the 20th July, during which reports and accounts were presented, and committee elected to serve for the coming year. Conrad Palmer was elected to as Chairman, Robert Garvin as Treasurer and Mary Gibbs as Secretary. Following the AGM, residents enjoyed watching *The Duke*, which was released earlier this year.

The committee is short of members and is in need of volunteers. If you can help, approximately 5 committee meetings a year please email chair@fvca.org.uk

Festive Fairfield 2022

After listening to feedback, we will again coordinate a **Village Advent Calendar** (1st - 24th December), there will be a prize for the best display, which will be decided by a judging panel. In October we will be asking for entries, look out for our social media notice.

A **Christmas Fayre** will take place on Saturday 10th December.

Carols Around The Christmas Tree will take place on Wednesday 21st December, with free mulled wine & mince pies.

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The Big Neighbourhood Pumpkin Trail!

During the school half-term break, from Monday 24th October, why not take part in our Pumpkin Trail?

All you have to do is paint or carve a pumpkin and leave it on display for other people to see.

During the week villagers and visitors can walk around the village admiring our spooky displays.

If you spot a pumpkin in the village, post it on Twitter, tagging in @Fairfield_Info

On **Saturday 29th October**, Fairfield Flicks will be screening **Beetlejuice** (12A)

Join us for our Annual Harvest Festival Service

It's a short service of thanks for all the food that our farmers have grown.

There will be traditional & modern songs that celebrate food & farming and we would like the children of the village to get involved, details will be published on our Facebook page nearer the date of the service.

There will also be a collection of food offerings, which will be donated to Dodford Children's Farm, and cash donations shared with the Children's Farm, WaterAid.

So join us on Sunday 9th October 11.15am at St. Mark's



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You Live Here, So Why Not Help Shape Where You Live?

We need three residents of Fairfield, Wilmoor & Stoneybridge to join the committee, meeting approximately 5 times a year, each meeting usually lasting an hour, in the evening at the pub. Your role will be to help provide the required checks on the Chairman & Treasurer, to act as a sounding board, put forward suggestions and represent the views of the community.

The Association has done a lot of good work in the community, whether it is organising events, keeping our village tidy, coordinating Neighbourhood Watch, SmartWater rollout and lobbying for improvements.



Please do give five hours a year for where you live. If you can help email chair@fvca.org.uk

Remembrance Sunday



WHEN YOU GO HOME,
TELL THEM OF US AND SAY,
FOR YOUR TOMORROWS
WE GAVE OUR TODAY.

Join us for our short act of remembrance on
Sunday 13th November
Fairfield War Memorial 10.50am
Donations to the Royal British Legion

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Foodie Fairfield

Fairfield Village Community Association is launching a new food market – Foodie Fairfield - to provide an opportunity for people in the Bromsgrove area to buy good quality local produce direct from the producers.

The stalls at Foodie Fairfield will show just how much great food is produced in or around the Bromsgrove area. There will be a wide range of locally-sourced bread, meat, cheese, eggs, vegetables and fruit along with a host of other items such as savoury pies, cider, fruit juices, honey, jams, cakes, and many other goodies.

A spokesperson for the Association said that local people are keen support local small businesses. Foodie Fairfield will help those people to reduce their food-miles by enabling them to buy food from local farmers and artisans.

Foodie Fairfield will be held in Fairfield Village Hall on the first Saturday morning of each month. The first event will be on Saturday, 3rd September. The event will be held in Fairfield Village Hall and the doors will be open from 9 o'clock until noon. There is ample, free parking behind the hall so buyers will not have to struggle carrying their purchases a long distance.



Lizzy Rogers (left) of Cooksey Quality Meats discussing the arrangements for Foodie Fairfield with Robert Garvin (right) of FVCA

Further details about Foodie Fairfield can be found on the village website (www.fvca.org.uk) or on our Facebook page.

Social Saturday

Whilst doing your Foodie Fairfield shopping, stop and have a cuppa; catch up with friends & other residents, discuss community issues, share your ideas, and get crime prevention advice from the occasional police surgery.

Coffee and Chat

*Join us for a
tea or a coffee
and a biscuit...*



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Fairfield Flicks – Your Community Cinema & Entertainment Experience

Please come along, make yourself comfortable and enjoy great movies and live music at your village hall. **If you have not been to one of our screenings before, you will be pleasantly surprised.**

Refreshments are available, and includes a selection of WINES, FRUITFIELD'S CIDER & WOODCOTE BREWERY BEERS!

Admission for film screenings: £5.00 for evening screenings, £4.00 for morning and afternoons. Admission price to Live & Encore Entertainment/Streaming events, see publicity notice or our website. 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.fairfieldflicks.org.uk



Our programme of events - great movies, live acts and event cinema - is growing, which means we need more volunteers. Give what you can. Why not try us out? Want to know more? <https://fairfieldflicks.org.uk/volunteer>

Andre Rieu 2022: Happy Days Are Here Again!

Saturday 27th August 7.30pm

The wait is over! After 2 long years, maestro André Rieu is performing from his hometown of Maastricht once again! We are proud to present André's brand-new summer concert – Happy Days are Here Again! The concert, which is being filmed in early July, will be a jolly and captivating summer event on the iconic Vrijthof square, featuring popular feel-good classics, show-tunes, and of course, joyous waltzes.



Together with the wonderful Johann Strauss Orchestra and very special guests, André is bringing an uplifting and romantic party to your local cinemas! They say absence makes the heart grow fonder and André's first summer concert in over 2 years will be a magical experience for everyone to enjoy.

We proudly invite you and your loved ones to André's unforgettable hometown concert in cinemas – let's sing, dance, share tears of joy and laugh together because...Happy days are here again!

Tickets are £15.00 each and includes a glass of wine. Running time: approx. 180 minutes

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Mamma Mia Here We Go Again Sing Along (PG)- 11th September 7.30pm



In 1979 young Donna, Tanya and Rosie graduate from Oxford University — leaving Donna free to embark on a series of adventures throughout Europe. On her journeys, she makes the acquaintances of Harry, Bill and Sam — the latter whom she falls in love with, but he's also the man who breaks her heart. In the present day, Donna's pregnant daughter, Sophie, dreams of renovating a taverna while reuniting with her mother's old friends and boyfriends on the Greek island of Kalokairi.

The Outfit (15) – 17th September 7.30pm (Saturday screening)

From the Academy Award-winning writer of The Imitation Game (Graham Moore) comes The Outfit, a gripping and masterful thriller in which an expert tailor (Academy Award winner Mark Rylance) must outwit a dangerous group of mobsters in order to survive a fateful night.



The Lost City (PG) – 21st September 7.30pm

Reclusive author Loretta Sage writes about exotic places in her popular adventure novels that feature a handsome cover model named Alan. While on tour promoting her new book with Alan, Loretta gets kidnapped by an eccentric billionaire who hopes she can lead him to an ancient city's lost treasure from her latest story. Determined to prove he can be a hero in real life and not just on the pages of her books, Alan sets off to rescue her.



Lancaster (PG) - 28th September 2.30pm (NEW AFTERNOON START TIME)



Lancaster is the story of the WWII icon told through the words of the last surviving crew members, re-mastered archive and aerial footage of the last working Lancasters in flight.

At the heart of the film are the recollections of the veterans. When interviewed, the youngest was 95 years old, the oldest over 100. Their recall of events from over 75 years ago is nothing short of incredible and is the last time

they will ever share their stories.

The 'Lanc' was responsible for some of the most famous missions in WWII from the Dambuster raids to the controversial bombing of Dresden.

A total of 55,000 airmen, half of all Bomber Command's aircrew, died in the skies over Nazi occupied Europe, with an average age of just 22.

Directed by David Fairhead and Ant Palmer, *Lancaster* features aerial footage from one of the world's top aviation photographers, John Dibbs, an original score from composer Chris Roe performed by the Central Band of the RAF.

Nomadland (12A) – 9th October 7.30pm

Following the economic collapse of a company town in rural Nevada, Fern (Frances McDormand) packs her van and sets off on the road exploring a life outside of conventional society as a modern-day nomad.

David Strathairn also stars in a supporting role. A number of real-life nomads appear as fictionalized versions of themselves, including Linda May, Swankie and Bob Wells.



"What's most striking about *Nomadland* is the almost incidental manner in which it tells its stories – eschewing strident dramatic crises or narrative lurches for something altogether more ambient." Mark Kermode, *Observer*

The Good Liar (15) - 19th October 7.30pm



Career con artist Roy Courtney (Ian McKellen) can hardly believe his luck when he meets well-to-do widow Betty McLeish (Helen Mirren) online. As Betty opens her life and home to him, Roy is surprised to find himself caring about her, turning what should be a cut-and-dry swindle into the most treacherous tightrope walk of his life.

TBC – 26th October 2.30pm

Checkout our website nearer the screening date, or the Village Hall noticeboard.

Emily The Little Match Girl (U) – 27th October 11.00am

Young Children to be accompanied by an adult

Based on the classic Hans Christian Andersen Fairytale 'The Little Match Girl', with the voices of David Bradley (Hot Fuzz and Harry Potter) & Lesley Joseph (Birds of a Feather and Night & Day)

After the sudden death of her Grandmother, Emily is taken to the local match factory by the towns corrupt Constable. Here, Harry 'The match maker' and his wife Mary, exploit the children to sell their matches in exchange for lodgings and a warm meal.



On Christmas Eve, Emily struggles to sell enough matches to keep Harry and Mary happy; and what money she has made is lost in a drain. Deciding to stay out, to avoid any punishment, Emily strikes a match to keep warm. The matches take her on a magical journey, eventually reuniting her with her Grandmother.

In the meantime, Emily's new friend Anna decides to leave the match factory in the middle of the night in search of Emily. On her journey she teams up with Richard, a well-to-do young gentleman who has ambitions to help the children after learning of their treatment.

Will Harry and Mary get away with their business endeavour and will the other children be saved? All will be revealed in 'Emily, the little match girl'

Following the screening – In person Q&A

Creator & director Matt Hickinbottom will be at Fairfield Flicks to take your questions.

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Beetlejuice (12A) – 29th October 7.30pm (Saturday screening)

After Barbara (Geena Davis) and Adam Maitland (Alec Baldwin) die in a car accident, they find themselves stuck haunting their country residence, unable to leave the house. When the unbearable Deetzes (Catherine O'Hara, Jeffrey Jones) and teen daughter Lydia (Winona Ryder) buy the home, the Maitlands attempt to scare them away without success. Their efforts attract Beetlejuice (Michael Keaton), a rambunctious spirit whose "help" quickly becomes dangerous for the Maitlands and innocent Lydia.



Operation Mincemeat (12A) – 13th November 7.30pm



It's 1943. The Allies are determined to break Hitler's grip on occupied Europe, and plan an all-out assault on Sicily; but they face an impossible challenge -- how to protect a massive invasion force from potential massacre. It falls to two remarkable intelligence officers, Ewen Montagu (Colin Firth) and Charles Cholmondeley (Matthew Macfadyen) to dream the most inspired and

improbable disinformation strategy of the war -- centered on the most unlikely of secret agents: a dead man. Operation Mincemeat is the extraordinary and true story of an idea that hoped to alter the course of the war -- defying logic, risking countless thousands of lives, and testing the nerves of its creators to breaking point.

TBC – 16th November 7.30pm

Checkout our website nearer the screening date, or the Village Hall noticeboard.

TBC – 23rd November 2.30pm

Checkout our website nearer the screening date, or the Village Hall noticeboard.

Why not give an Autumn MemberFlicks Pass as a gift?

A **MemberFlicks** Pass lets the bearer see great films at a discounted price whilst supporting your local community cinema! You could save up to £16.00 plus you get free tea/coffee.



<https://fairfieldflicks.org.uk/memberflicks/>

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Alex Ohm & Hannah Brown

Saturday 20th August 8.00pm

Alex Ohm's alternative, cinematic symphonies reflect the wide range of influences that inspire his work and come together to create his band's unique sound.

Midlands based songsmith, Ohm has become a renowned name on the local music scene and beginning to make a name for himself far and wide.

With several sold out shows already under his belt, Alex has also opened shows for the likes of Ian Brown, The Charlatans, Ocean Colour Scene and Peter Doherty to name a few as well as touring worldwide.

The band have been busy since releasing their Debut EP 'At first a drop' in 2017 which featured the single 'Through the storm' song that received huge praise from radio and press alike as well as becoming the soundtrack for the John Lewis promotional video for their Birmingham flagship store.

After winning the inaugural Pirate Studios 'Prodigy' competition in 2018, the band stormed numerous festivals across England including Isle of Wight Festival, Y Not Festival, Truck Fest and Tramlines.

2020 saw a triumphant start with sold out shows for BBC Introducing and Nottingham's Rough Trade, Alex released two singles with one of those (Hours) raising £700 pound for the mental health charity Mind and making the semi-finals of the International Songwriting Competition from 26,000 entrants. Despite the crippling pandemic, Alex managed to play sold out, socially distanced gigs as well as holding an online 'Ohm alone' tour.

2021 saw the release 'The Lost Persons Meeting Point' EP on February 12th. With over 50,000 streams, 13,000 video views plus additional 8,000 live video views it received great reviews from press and radio. The band played numerous live dates and festivals during the summer 2021 and released a single 'Joy' on 25th June which featured nationally on regional radio. On the



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track Ohm beamed, 'I think it's the happiest song I've ever written! I usually tend to write with some sort of underlying synoecism in my songs, but this is a real feel good, summer song.'

'I wrote it in the midst of the pandemic but looking to the future. Imaging a time when restrictions and constraints have eased. It's a song of hope and positive thinking.' Joy went on to be featured in an advert and received over 100K plays on Spotify.

Supporting Alex Ohm will be Hannah Brown

Hannah Brown is a talented singer/songwriter originally from Nottingham, currently residing in Birmingham.

Advance tickets: £8.00; On the door: £10.00

Rachel Mayfield & The Sitting Room

Saturday 24th September 8.00pm

Rachel Mayfield is a singer, writer and mixed media artist from Birmingham, who now lives in London.

In the 1990's she formed and fronted Indie Rock band 'delicious monster' being hailed by the NME as a 'Goddess of Indie Rock' and as 'exciting, unpredictable and dangerous as a ten legged Tyrannosaurus.

The band received critical acclaim for three top ten singles and one album placing them at the forefront of the cultured Indie Rock scene. Since then she has diversified into solo albums, Film and Art installations while continuing to develop creative collectives.



October 2017 saw the re-release of 'Winter of Desire' on Iron Man Records - the first element of a four part Art work that includes Music, Film and Poetry.

'An extraordinarily gifted singer songwriter - possessed of an exquisitely way-ward, multi octave voice.' Paul Lester - The Guardian

'Rachel Mayfield is one of the most important women in contemporary music. She is a bruised yet strangely sensuous woman.' Andrew Field - Anthem

'Rachel flings her head back, opens her mouth and this voice unleashes itself in all it's controlled, terrifying beauty.' Sarra Manning - NME

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'Rachel Mayfield has wit and nerve.' Time Out – London

Rachel's support acts will be **The Sitting Room** who will be providing some chilled and reflective songs with flair and originality, and energetic **Steve Ison**.

Advance tickets: £8.00; On the door: £10.00

Ricky Cool and the In Crowd

Saturday 22nd October 8.00pm

Red Hot Rhythm and Blues! Scintillating Ska and Blue beat! Sensational Soul! Ricky Cool and the In Crowd serve up a gorgeous gumbo of sounds, similar to those found in the clubs of Soho in the early years of Mod mania. Original numbers are interspersed with great arrangements of classics to give you a musical mix that will have your feet itching to dance.

Many will remember Ricky Cool fronting one of Birmingham's most popular combos, the legendary Ricky Cool and the Icebergs. Ricky has toured with the likes of Billy Connolly, shared a stage with George Harrison and played alongside Robert Plant. He is recognised as one of the most entertaining front men in the business.

The band members are all top class musicians with excellent pedigrees, who have worked with artists including Ruby Turner, The Beat, Carina Round, Linda Perry and Fine Young Cannibals.

As Ricky says, "The music we play is timeless and our show is enjoyed by young and old alike. The enjoyment we have on stage rubs off on our audience and a great time is had by one and all."



Advanced tickets: £12.00; On the door: £15.00

Coffee Mornings

1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month 10.30am - Noon

Bournheath Village Community Centre

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

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My Girl The River & Red Shoes

Saturday 19th November 8.00pm

My Girl The River - Created by Kris Wilkinson Hughes, My Girl The River was born out of a song. 'The Last Song' was the first song written for this americana, alt country, folk and roots project. Kris, hailing from Louisiana (and having lived in Jackson, MS and Nashville, TN) and English bassist Joe Hughes, have created a gorgeous collection of songs. As one fan responded 'it's like a delicately passionate love letter to the American South, soulfully crafted into something really special. Kris has a voice like sugared espresso, low and evocative with a sweet aftertaste and her eloquently confessional lyrics hit you right in the heart.'



Red Shoes - Soaring, passionate vocals, chiming acoustic guitars and a superb catalogue of original songs in the Folk/Roots/Americana vein by Birmingham's Carolyn and Mark Evans lie at the heart of the Red Shoes success story. They have become a live favourite on the Club, Theatre and Festival circuit over the years. Add to this the patronage of such legendary musicians as Dave Pegg, Dave Swarbrick, Joe Brown, Bev Bevan, Ric Sanders, Chris Leslie, PJ Wright, all of whom have guested on the three critically acclaimed albums by Red Shoes.

Advance Tickets £8.00 : On The Door £10.00

Festive Fairfield's Advent Calendar

This year will see the return of the Village Advent Calendar – Get your thinking caps on, we will be asking for participating properties in late October/early November, at our social gathering & via our Facebook page.

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

Then, during December, residents & visitors wander around the village, enjoying the festive displays. In late November, we will publish a map of properties taking part, this can be downloaded from our website.

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Neighbourhood Watch



Help Keep Our Community Safe

Life's safer when you know your neighbours and the community pulls together.

If you see suspicious activity **REPORT IT**, online via <https://www.westmercia.police.uk> or telephone 101. If 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.

Is Your Property Security Marked?

Over the past few years, residents of Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge have taken up the offer of receiving a FREE SmartWater kit, marking their property with this unique solution.

Please remember it is crucial that you put your SmartWater stickers in your doors & windows advertising that your property is security marked.

If you have moved into our community and would like a FREE SmartWater Security Marking Kit, email admin@fvca.org.uk

Fireworks...Please Think Again!

Each year, mainly in early November and on the 31st December, fireworks are being released that are causing unnecessary stress for livestock, horses & pets, with one cow dying last year. Please do not set off fireworks – you live in the working countryside – please go to an organized display.

There's Safety in Numbers

Be part of our Neighbourhood Watch Group, to join (it's FREE) sign up to West Mercia Police's Neighbourhood Matter and opt in to join our Neighbourhood Watch Group, www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

Also, subscribe to our Community E-circular for "non-policing" matters, to subscribe fill in the Newsletter box on our website's Home Page, www.fvca.org.uk

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Burglary - think WIDE(N)

WHEN IT COMES TO PROTECTING YOUR THINGS, TAKING THESE SIMPLE ACTIONS CAN MAKE YOUR HOME UP TO 50 TIMES MORE SECURE*

THINK WIDE(N)

W – WINDOWS: Keep your windows locked

I – INTERIOR: Put inside lights on a timer/smart bulb

D – DOORS: Double or deadlock your doors

E – EXTERIOR: Put outside lights on a sensor

(N) – NEIGHBOURS: Keep an eye out for your neighbours

Ensuring your home has a combination of the WIDE features is proven to be most effective – and can be done in any home on a variety of budgets. At Neighbourhood Watch we also believe neighbours keeping an eye out for each other is key to reducing burglary, so we've extended the WIDE acronym to WIDE(N).

WINDOWS - Keep windows locked



Ensure all windows are locked, not just closed, every time you leave home. Remove keys and keep them out of sight in a safe place. Most burglars will attempt to break in through the quickest, easiest, least visible and noisy route - usually a ground floor rear window. Other at-risk windows are those upstairs with access from a flat roof or drainpipe.

Fit all vulnerable windows with locks that use keys and make sure you use them. If you can, fit inexpensive window locks to your (wood or metal) windows or ask your landlord to. You can also add inexpensive window sensors or glass break sensors. They sit on the window frame and alert you as soon as the entry point has been broken.

INTERIOR: Put inside lights on a timer/smart bulb

One of the most effective ways to prevent burglary is putting your inside lights on timers when away from your house.

Set the timers so they come on and off in different rooms intermittently. Make sure that the whole place is not left in darkness at any one time. Having lights come on and off gives the impression that someone is moving about inside, and a light has not just been left on in one room. You can also use smart bulbs for this function. Affordable timers switches and smart bulbs can be found at high street stores like Screwfix, Toolstation, B&Q, Wilko, Argos or online at Amazon.

Additionally, smart home alarm systems can be effective in keeping your home safe. Especially, PIR motion detectors and indoor cameras can help you keep an eye on your valuables.

DOORS: Double or deadlock your doors

Double or deadlock all doors whether you are at home or out.

Deadlocking the door with a key, bolt, or turn means the door can only be opened from the inside or the outside using the correct key. Remove the key once you've locked the door to prevent a burglar from reaching through the letterbox or catflap or breaking a window and grabbing your key.

Depending on the type of door you have fitted and the materials it is made from, it will likely require a different type of lock. On PVCu or composite doors fitted with a multi-point lock, the act of pulling up the door handle or shutting the door will not secure the property; you must deadlock using a key or turn.

EXTERIOR: Put outside lights on a sensor

Good exterior sensor lights can be an effective burglar deterrent, especially when combined with other measures. They ensure that anyone approaching the house will be automatically illuminated, as well as the area around them, making them more conspicuous.



An efficient way to deter opportunists and catch them red-handed is to install a floodlight camera. This handy device looks like any other spotlight, which makes it perfect to discreetly monitor outside your home. The best floodlight cameras have a built-in PIR motion detector, which triggers a 950 Lumen light and recording. Thanks to the bright light and night vision, the device is perfect for the darker periods of the year.

NEIGHBOURS: There's safety in neighbours – keep an eye out for each other

We have added an N to the evidenced WIDE burglary prevention measures as we believe neighbourly communities are a key part of preventing burglary. Active Neighbourhood Watch schemes can be an effective crime prevention tool by:

- increasing awareness
- altering offenders' perception of risk, if an area is clearly marked as a Neighbourhood Watch area
- giving members handy, quick tips to protect themselves
- encouraging residents to consciously consider their own home security
- promoting social interaction and neighbourhood cohesion and inclusion

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST



Supported by

ERA

Leaving your home?

Use this handy checklist
to ensure it is left safe
and secure.

THINK WIDE(N)

- <E> WINDOWS **LOCKED**
- <E> INTERIOR **LIGHTS ON A TIMER**
- <E> DOORS **DOUBLE OR DEADLOCKED**
- <E> EXTERIOR **LIGHTS ON A SENSOR**
- <E> (NEIGHBOURS) **KEEP AN EYE OUT**

WINDOWS

- ☐ Are your windows closed and locked?
- ☐ Are your window sensors activated?
- ☐ Have you secured your garage and shed windows with locks?

DOORS

- ☐ Is your front door double or deadlocked?
- ☐ Are all the doors to your home locked?
- ☐ Are your door keys kept out of sight (but to hand in case of emergency)?

INTERIOR

- ☐ Are your inside lights on a switch timer or smart bulb with timer?
- ☐ Is your home alarm on?
- ☐ Are your valuable items such as jewellery, car keys, laptops, iPads, cash and phones out of sight?
- ☐ Are your chargers and cables for laptops/iPads out of view?
- ☐ Have you created a written and photographic record of any items of value (financial or sentimental)?

EXTERIOR

- ☐ Are your outside lights on a sensor?
- ☐ Have you cut down tall hedges around the outside of your home?
- ☐ Is all packaging from expensive items i.e. laptops, tablets, phones, games consoles out of sight?
- ☐ Are your vehicles locked and valuables removed?
- ☐ Are your sheds, side gates, garages and outbuildings locked?
- ☐ Are items that can be used to break in, i.e. bricks, rubble, ladders, garden equipment put away?

NEIGHBOURS

- ☐ If you are going away for a while, have you let your neighbours know?
- ☐ Have you joined your local Neighbourhood Watch group? [Find your local group here.](#)

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity
registered in England & Wales, CIO no. 1173349



For more advice visit
ourwatch.org.uk/burglary

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



BT Loyalty Bonus

There have been reports that fraudsters are calling people, pretending to be from BT.

They are offering a bonus for being a loyal customer and asking for bank details in order to process the loyalty bonus. –

STOP, THINK and PROTECT by refusing any calls out of the blue, with offers too good to be true and by not sharing your personal or bank details over the phone.

The fraudsters use sophisticated ways to get you to reveal information, so if you have given any details, contact your bank immediately.

If you are receiving lots of scam and nuisance calls, consider purchasing a call blocker to stop these calls getting through.

Personal Alarm Fraud

Another phone fraud reported recently is about emergency pendant/wrist alarms.

Fraudsters have been calling pretending to be from the NHS. They ask you how you are and how you are feeling in order to build a relationship with you. They then proceed to offer a free pendant alarm.

Many legitimate companies offer emergency alarms, but they are not free. Remember, if an offer is too good to be true, it usually is!

If you think you have been a victim of fraud you should report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Over 12 million suspicious emails reported by the public

What is phishing and how does it work?

You wouldn't let a thief enter your home, but what if the thief was masquerading as someone familiar, such as a postman, and tricked you into opening the door? Phishing works in a similar way - criminals impersonate trusted organisations by creating legitimate-looking messages and websites in order to trick people into opening the doors to their personal information. Once

criminals have this information, it can be used to perpetrate fraud and cyber against you, or in your name.

How big is the problem?

Phishing attacks are a common problem faced by both individuals and businesses on a daily basis.

As of 31st May 2022, the National Cyber Security Centre's Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) has received over 12mn reports from the public, and has removed over 83,000 scams and 153,000 malicious websites. The most impersonated organisations in phishing emails reported last year were the NHS, HMRC and GOV.UK.

Most phone providers are part of a scheme that allows customers to report suspicious text messages for free by forwarding it to **7726**. When a text is reported to **7726**, the provider can investigate the origin of the text and arrange to block or ban the sender, if it's found to be malicious. **As of May 2022, 13,000 scams have been removed as a result of suspicious text messages reported using the 7726 service.**

How can you protect yourself from phishing scams?

Most of the phishing scams reported to us have one thing in common, they started with an unexpected email or text message. Whether it's an email asking you to "verify" your bank account details, or a text message claiming you've been in close contact with someone that's got COVID, the goal of a phishing attack is usually the same - to trick you into revealing personal and financial information.

Here's some simple advice you can follow when it comes to dealing with phishing scams:

1 - If you have any doubts about a message, contact the organisation directly.

Don't use the numbers or address in the message – use the details from their official website. Remember, your bank (or any other official source) will never ask you to supply personal information via email.

2 - If you think an email could be a scam, you can report it by forwarding the email to: report@phishing.gov.uk. Send us emails that feel suspicious, even if you're not certain they're a scam - we can check.

3 - Most phone providers are part of a scheme that allows customers to report suspicious text messages for free by forwarding it to **7726**. If you forward a text to **7726**, your provider can investigate the origin of the text and arrange to block or ban the sender, if it's found to be malicious.

4 - If you've lost money or provided personal information as a result of a phishing scam, notify your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud: www.actionfraud.police.uk

For more advice on how to protect yourself online, visit: cyberaware.gov.uk

Telephone scam targeting vulnerable people

Phone calls are being made from fraudsters claiming to be police officers from London. They are attempting to persuade people to make bank transfers using several different fake reasons, including checking serial numbers and cloned cards.

Detective Sergeant Jon Cooper said: "No police officer from any force or department will ever ask you to make a payment, withdraw or transfer money or ask for your bank account details.

"These scams can be very elaborate and convincing but it's extremely cruel, often but not always targeting older, vulnerable people. Please let your elderly family, friends and neighbours know and what to look out for.

"We are currently investigating these scams and urge anyone who has received suspect calls to please get in touch.

"If you receive a call that you're not sure about, please simply terminate the call and also pass on the information to friends, relatives and neighbours and advise them what to do.

"Please remember the police will never contact you asking for your bank card or cash. If someone does, it's a scam – provide no details, hang up and report it immediately to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 123 2040."

"If you have recently provided bank details or handed over cards or cash, or the caller has arranged for someone to visit your address to collect items, you should call the police to report this on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency."

Payment in Advance Fraud

Also known as an advance fee scam, this is when you're convinced to pay an upfront fee in order to receive a prize/service, high-value goods or loans which never materialise.

How to spot a payment in advance scam

- You're asked to pay an upfront fee to receive money, a prize/service or goods that you weren't expecting
- You're asked to pay an upfront fee for a training programme or background check for a job that may not exist
- You're told that the fee is fully refundable and will be used as a deposit or an administrative charge

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- There are follow-up fees you may need to pay in order to secure the loan, prize/service or goods
- You are put under pressure to pay quickly by wire, bank transfer or cryptocurrency
- The domain name doesn't match that of the sender of the email e.g. gov.uk

What's app Scam

There has been a rise in WhatsApp scams where the suspect is pretending to be the victim's son/daughter and requesting payments made to their bank account.

The suspect applies pressure saying:

- They cannot take the call (when the victim tries to call them) as they are using a friend's phone
- The suspect will say their "phone" has been dropped down the toilet and they cannot access their online banking, so to send the payment to a friend's bank account
- They apply further pressure by saying the money is for an unexpected bill or a debt that needs paying urgently

The suspect may then make repeated requests to have the money transferred quickly.

So do not attempt to call back the "friend's" number provided, but use another number saved to your phone to double check with that relative before handing over any money.

Take Five...

- **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 okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.
- **Protect:** If you think you've been a victim of fraud, contact your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud online at actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

For further information visit:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

<https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

Church Services at St. Mark's

2nd Sunday 11.15 am Worship4ll - Family Service

4th Sunday 11.15 am Holy Communion



**SATURDAY
SOCIAL**

Share Your
Thoughts



Join us for a cuppa, catch up with friends, share your thoughts on community issues and get crime prevention advice

Village Hall

1st Saturday of each month: 10am – 11.30am

Weekly Activities at Fairfield Village Hall

Monday:

Line Dancing 7.30pm

Thursday:

Zumba 7pm – 8pm

Tuesday:

Sequence Dancing 7.30pm

Friday:

Taekwondo 6pm/7pm/8pm

Preschool: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am – 3pm, Wed 9am – 12noon

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Diary

August

- 20th **Live Music - Alex Ohm & Hannah Brown**, Village Hall, 8.00pm
- 25th **Vegetable Society**, Village Hall, 7pm
- 27th **Andre Rieu: Happy Days Are Here Again!**, Village Hall, 8.00pm

September

- 3rd **Foodie Fairfield**, Village Hall, 9am-12noon
- 10th **Community Litter Pick**, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 11th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14th **Fairfield W.I.**, Village Hall, 7pm
- 17th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 24th **Live Music: Rachel Mayfield & The Sitting Room**, V. Hall, 8pm
- 28th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 2.30pm

October

- 1st **Foodie Fairfield**, Village Hall, 9am-12noon
- 8th **Community Litter Pick**, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 9th **Harvest Festival**, St. Mark's, 11.15am
- 9th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12th **Fairfield W.I.**, Village Hall, 7pm
- 19th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22nd **Live Music: Ricky Cool and the In Crowd**, Village Hall, 8pm
- 24th-31st **The Big Neighbourhood Pumpkin Trail**
- 26th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 27th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 11am
- 29th **Halloween Film**, Village Hall, 7.30pm

November

- 5th **Foodie Fairfield**, Village Hall, 9am-12noon
- 9th **Fairfield W.I.**, Village Hall, 7pm
- 12th **Community Litter Pick**, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 13th **Remembrance Service**, Fairfield War Memorial, 10.50am
- 13th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 16th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th **Live Music: My Girl The River & Red Shoes**, Village Hall, 8pm
- 23rd **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 24th **Vegetable Society**, Village Hall, 7pm

December

- 3rd **Live Music: Katy Rose Bennet & David Freja**, Village Hall, 8pm
- 11th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st **Carols Around The Christmas Tree**, Village Hall, 7pm