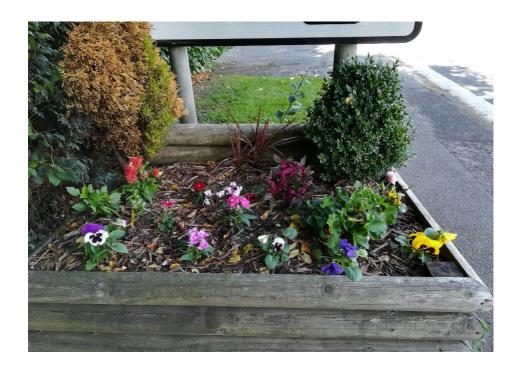


Fairfield Village Community Association

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2023



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

 ${\bf Like} \ \underline{{\bf www.facebook.com/fairfieldinformation}}$

 $Follow: \underline{www.twitter.com/fairfield_info}$

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

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

News in Brief

Collection times are now displayed on the new village postbox.

At the time of compiling this newsletter, we were not aware of any updates regarding the Wildmoor Quarry expansion.

Many residents will have noticed the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) that has been in the village, thanking motorists for keeping with the speed limit. This is a mobile VAS unit that is being shared with other communities.

Festive Thanks

Thank you to everyone who supported Festive Fairfield 2022, whether participating in the Village Advent Calendar (all the displays were all very good), attending the Crib Service, singing at Carols Around The Christmas Tree, coming to watch our Twixmas movies or performing in the Nativity at St. Marks'.



Fairfield Hosts the Stars of the Big Screen

During Twixmas week, Fairfield Flicks screened the multi-award winning animation Emily The Little Matchgirl, and were joined by some of the cast & crew, with one member of the cast flying in from Hong Kong. The head of the studio at Musical Motion Pictures, Matt Hickenbottom, wanted to support Community Cinema and was very impressed with our village initiative and the quality of the projection and sound.

Community Association Seeks New Treasurer



After 7 years, Robert will be stepping down as the Community Association treasurer at the Association's AGM on Wednesday 22nd March, which will be held at the village hall 7.30pm.

Robert will continue to support the Community Association in addition to pursuing his other interests.

We now need to find a new treasurer, the role is honorary, and the job is acting as the Association's Bookkeeper, preparing accounts for annual examination, renewing annual insurance policy and attending committee meetings (usually 6 a year and it is understandable that people may not able to make every meeting).

If you are interested in this role and wish to discuss, please email chair@fvca.org.uk.

If you take on the role, you will receive support from Robert and the rest of the team.

Join us for a Glass of Wine at this year's Community Association AGM

Toast our achievements at our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 22nd March 7.30pm at the Village Hall (NOT 29th as previously advertised).

Attendance at the AGM is open to all residents of Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge – it is YOUR Association – and during the meeting the annual accounts & report will be presented, plus the election of the committee for the year ahead.

We would love you to attend this meeting, to share your thoughts, perhaps you may even join the committee (approx. 6 meetings a year).

Let us all work together for the benefit of our community – it is where we all live.

If you are unable join us, have an idea or would like to help, email chair@fvca.org.uk

FREE EXERCISE AS YOU FIGHT GROT

We need you to join our team of Wombles to help keep Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge tidy. Across our community grot can be found on the edge of roads, in ditches & hedges and on open ground. Why not join our Community Litter Pick that take place on the 2nd Saturday of each month, our next litter pick will be on 11th March, starting at 10.30am, meeting



outside the Village Hall. All we ask is that you donate an hour for YOUR community, wear suitable clothing & footwear, and WE will provide you with the litter picking equipment. In addition to helping to fight the grot that blights our community, it is good exercise and a great way of meeting other people who also live in our community.



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

Celebrating the Coronation of King Charles



In our last newsletter and online, we asked for ideas on how we could celebrate the King's coronation. Most people responded suggesting an Afternoon Tea, like the event organized to mark Her Late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, and a community screening of the coronation, live streamed to the Village Hall. We have taken your suggestions onboard, and a community screening of the coronation will take place at the village hall, plus an afternoon tea. We will also be screening the Coronation Concert from Windsor Castle, during which our bar will be open.

At the time of writing, we do not know the timing of the coronation, Afternoon Tea or concert, once known we will share with you via social media, e-Newsletter and on the village hall noticeboard. Tickets for the Afternoon Tea will be available to buy online, at Foodie Fairfield or at Fairfield Flicks.



Permanent Commemoration of the Coronation

Ideas needs to mark this historic occasion, something that the majority of villagers have never witnessed before, and some may never witness again. Your suggestions are needed, something that we can do to permanently commemorate this occasion. Email admin@fvca.org.uk

Friends for Lunch

Join us on the third Wednesday of each month as 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:

20th March The Swan, Fairfield

17th April The Queen's Head, Stoke Pound

15th May The Royal Oak, Catshill 19th June Lord Morton`s, Cutnall Green

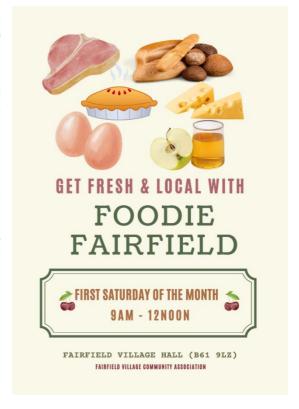
If you are interested in joining our lunchtime meal, or would like further information, please contact Pat on 01527 832360, or email pasteward7@outlook.com

Foodie Fairfield

Our monthly mini-food hall will be open again on Saturday 4th March at the Village Hall 9am – 12 noon, where you can buy freshly baked bread, vegetables, cakes, preserves, meat, beer, cider and more from local food producers & suppliers. There is even a Charcuterie.

The event is also a social occasion where you can stop for a cuppa, enjoy freshly made cake and catch up with friends.

NOTE: Due to the Coronation there will be no Foodie Fairfield on the 6th May.



Social Wednesdays To Resume

Our social event on the 2nd Wednesday of the month will resume on 8th March at Fairfield Village Hall.

There will be 5 social afternoons during 2023, with guest speakers & activities, 2pm - 3.30pm. Admittance is FREE, refreshments will be on sale.

8th **March – Confessions of a Bellman** with Bromsgrove's Town Crier, Kevin Ward (plus an introduction to Bromsgrove's Museum)



12th **April** – Gardening Talk with BBC

Hereford & Worcester's **REG MOULE**. Reg will also take your gardening questions.

10th May - TBC

The next activity/talk will be on 11th October followed by 8th November, details will be in our autumn newsletter.



Whether for the table or for show, get expert growing tips from the National Vegetable Society on Thursday 23rd February 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Fairfield Walkers – We are hoping to organize some social walks this spring & summer, if arranged they will be promoted online & on the village hall noticeboard.

Volunteer and Community Tree Planting to Extend Pepper Wood

Pepper Wood is an ancient and hugely valuable community woodland, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and has an exceptional diversity of trees and shrubs as well as a number of rare and uncommon flowering plants.

Thanks to the support of the community and successful fundraising Pepper Wood has recently been extended and work has begun to transform it into a new haven for wildlife. Through a combination of natural regeneration and carefully thought-out tree planting this land will establish a new landscape creating 250 acres of continuous, resilient native woodland.

To help with this ambitious target, the Woodland Trust held several planting days in December and invited a range of volunteers to plant new native trees. The planting team included volunteers from the local community and staff from



Lloyds Bank who partner with the Woodland Trust to help reduce the impact of climate change across the UK. There was also an enthusiastic team of children from Fairfield First School who between them managed to plant 100 trees. Headmaster Scott Smith felt it was a great experience for the children saying

'It was a wonderful experience for our children to be involved in. Pepperwood is an area that we use, as a learning resource, regularly throughout the year, so is well loved by our children and their families. We were delighted to be able to help with such an ambitious project that will change our local environment forever. We look forward to continuing our visits and watching the area develop.'

The site manager for Pepper Wood, Paul Jarczewski, knows that Woodland Trust have big plans for the site and in the coming years hopes to create new habitats, increase the bio-diversity and give the community a valuable area of green space.

'With the help of local people we have kick-started the creation of our new native wood next to Pepper Wood. During this planting event we managed to plant 2500 trees. We hope as the wood develops it will eventually become as interesting and diverse as Pepper Wood itself, and make a lasting contribution in our fight against climate change and nature loss.'

What's On at Fairfield Flicks

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

There is a licensed bar selling a selection of WINES, FRUITFIELD'S CIDER, WOODCOTE BREWERY BEERS as well as soft drinks.



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

Fisherman's Friends: One And All (12A) – 22nd February 2.30pm

The sequel to the 2019 hit UK comedy charts the next installment of the Fisherman's Friends uplifting true-story. Following the unexpected success of the band's debut album "No Hopers, Jokers and Rogues" we re-join them almost a year later, struggling with the pressures, pitfalls and



temptations of their newfound fame. FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS ONE AND ALL continues the journey with the loveable 'buoy band', as they navigate the choppy waters of fame, second album syndrome, and performing on the pyramid stage at Glastonbury.

Lyle, Lyle Crocodile (PG) – 23rd February 11.00am

Young Children to be accompanied by an adult



When the Primm family (Constance Wu, Scoot McNairy, Winslow Fegley) moves to New York City, their young son Josh struggles to adapt to his new school and new friends. All of that changes when he discovers Lyle – a singing crocodile (Shawn Mendes) who loves baths, caviar and great music-living in the attic of his new home. The two

become fast friends, but when Lyle's existence is threatened by evil neighbor Mr. Grumps (Brett Gelman), the Primm's must band together with Lyle's charismatic owner, Hector P. Valenti (Javier Bardem), to show the world that family can come from the most unexpected places and there's nothing wrong with a big singing crocodile with an even bigger personality.

Watcher (15) - 12th March 7.30pm

As a serial killer stalks the city, Julia — a young actress who just moved to town with her boyfriend — notices a mysterious stranger watching her from across the street in this terrifying thriller.



The Banshees Of Inisherin (15) – 15th March 7.30pm



GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD WINNER:

Best motion picture – musical or comedy

Best actor in a motion picture – musical or comedy: Colin Farrell

Best screenplay - motion picture

Set on a remote island off the west coast of Ireland, THE BANSHEES OF INISHERIN follows lifelong friends Pádraic and Colm, who find themselves at an impasse when Colm unexpectedly puts an end to their friendship. A stunned Pádraic, aided by his sister Siobhán and troubled young islander Dominic, endeavours to repair the relationship, refusing to take no for an answer. But Pádraic's repeated efforts only strengthen his former friend's resolve and when Colm delivers a desperate ultimatum, events swiftly escalate, with shocking consequences..

Films for the rest of March, April & May - see website

Keep checking our website & village hall noticeboard for details of Event Cinema & Live Entertainment that we are screening/hosting www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk

Help Us Bring More Great Movies to Fairfield Flicks

We would like to bring you NEW MOVIE RELEASES, this will require us to upgrade our equipment, costing £35K.

So far we have received pledges of over £12K, with a further £23K to reach our target, we have until 28 April to raise the money. If we do not all money pledged will be returned to donors.

Help us achieve our target, please make a pledge at Spacehive.com, and share the news. www.spacehive.com/fairfield-flicks

A link to the Spacehive website can be found on our Fairfield Flicks website.



Jack Goodall and the Kick

Saturday 4th March 8.00pm



After wowing our audience in 2021, JACK GOODALL AND THE KICK are making a return visit.

Singer, songwriter and band frontman Jack Goodall has taken a unique and contrary musical path, at times funky and bombastic and at other times delicate and sedate. Goodall, who has released three solo albums, has toured the UK, Ireland and Canada playing both solo and with band.

The Kick are Jack Smith on drums, David Rees-Jones on percussion and Emma Reading on guitar.

"Beautiful music, I love it" - Guy Garvey, Elbow, BBC 6 Music

"The best live act in the West Midlands, 2019" - Songwall

"Awesome" – Boris Palekh, Gogol Bordello and Hey Guy

Supporting JACK GOODALL AND THE KICK will be KATE THOMPSON

Kate Thompson (they/them) plays intimate songs on acoustic guitar dosed with fantastical offbeats to a lush 4 track backing of harmonies, glockenspiels and the casio microtone.

Admittance: £8.00 (Advanced) – £10.00 (On the door)

Empire of Lights

Saturday 25th March 8.00pm



From the depths of the countryside in mid-Wales Empire of Lights is a blistering hot power trio combining thunderous drums, deep bass, searing guitars and soaring vocals. Formed in 2018, they have racked up hundreds of thousands of streams on YouTube, Soundcloud, and Spotify.

"Empire of Lights makes you want to go on an intergalactic adventure in 'Chasing Stardust'. The track combines classic psychedelic tones with modern indie rock to propel you through the stratosphere." — The Other Side Reviews

"Empire of Lights utilise vivid storytelling in their lyrics as they paint a detailed celestial picture in the mind of the listener. This otherworldly imagery and prog rock sensibility brings to mind the work of Pink Floyd." — RGM

"Small towns in Wales seem to regularly turn up superb melodic rock bands, and Empire of Lights – with their new single 'Hit The Highway' is no exception to that rule. Sparse, echoey guitar, pounding drums, and driving bass are the order of the day here; there's a gothy vibe to the music, a feel of 'The Forest' or 'Jumping Someone Else's Train'-era Cure, mixed with Johnny Borrell Razorlight vocals from singer John Aziz." — A&R Factory

Tickets: £8.00 Advance, £10.00 On the Door

Anne-Marie Allen and Ben Okafor

Saturday 22nd April 8.00pm

Returning to Fairfield Flicks, after wowing the audience in 2022, is **Anne-Marie Allen**, a Birmingham-based singer-songwriter with a distinct vocal tone which captivates audiences who enjoy soul, funk, folk, and blues with a hint of tribal, punk, and psychedelic! Anne-Marie's unique musical style does not confine itself to one specific genre. Her lyrics are honest about the human condition, yet her music has an upbeat vibe to keep audiences smiling.



Anne-Marie's songs tell stories of freedom, capitalism, and human connection, presenting a lucid lyrical landscape with percussive guitar rhythms. Anne-Marie's debut EP "Intuition" was released in May 2018, presenting a fresh new tone to the original live music scene.

Over the years Anne-Marie has collaborated with a wide range of artists, DJ's, producers, and MC'S, performing gigs in the UK and abroad across various venues in a professional capacity. Anne-Marie is currently performing her gigs with Dominic James Hyde on guitar, occasional brass, and wind sections.

Her track "Zombie Paradise" was added to the Brum radio A list in April 2018 and was also selected to be played as part of the up and coming artists promotion for unsigned artists on Nova Radio station. Following the success of "Zombie Paradise" this track in addition to her track "Vibe Attracts a Tribe," was instantly selected by BBC Introducing and was played during two consecutive weeks on BBC radio West Midlands.

In 2019 Anne-Marie's track "I Like" was strongly shortlisted and performed at Thame Town Music Festival's songwriting competition. The judges included a wide range of industry professionals such as John Leckiec- Rock production Royalty who has worked with John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Pink Floyd and many more.

Anne-Marie's third BBC radio play was the title track for her debut EP "Intuition" in which BBC described the track as "Stunning...confident, and a lovely maturing sound that... takes you to another place."

Anne-Marie's latest song release "Rest Your Mind" takes on a psychedelic tribal vibe and captures the contentedness of deep connection and insight when faced with an otherwise chaotic world.

Supporting Anne-Marie will be **Ben Okafor**.

Ben Okafor is an internationally-acclaimed artist whose forte is the powerful use of his lyrical integrity and command over his multiple talents in music and the arts to communicate and educate. Ben is respected and renowned amongst his peers in his native Nigeria, USA, Europe and beyond. Ben has a sound reputation for empowering people to use their intellect in conjunction with their artistic skills to express their views on world issues peacefully yet effectively.



Ben considers his genre to be "Socio-spiritual consciousness." This genre goes beyond song writing, composing and/or performing music and seeks to keep exploring the potential roles of the arts in our modern world. Ben has released 12 albums and his latest recording "Politic Yoyo" will be launched this winter (2019). Ben's artistic accessibility and relevance has led to him performing in the UK, Europe, USA, India, Nigeria and South Africa at festivals such as Glastonbury,

Greenbelt, Liverpool, Cheltenham, Bristol, The Cambridge Folk Festival, Irish Folk Festivals and headlined for the Refugee Week Festival (UK) to name but a few. Ben has toured the US performing at festivals such as Cornerstone.

"Ben Okafor is the kind of counter-culture renaissance man that denies lazy pigeonholing. Call him a reggae musician, an actor or a political activist and you just won't catch the whole creative sweep of this passionate, articulate communicator and musician..." CROSS RHYTHMS

Admittance: £8.00 (Advanced) – £10.00 (On the door)

The Hey Yahs

Saturday 27th May 8.00pm

The Hey Yahs are a fun, lively party band showcasing a vibrant mix of classic and modern soul, pop & greatest hits to get you up dancing.

The Hey Yahs features fantastic male and female lead and harmony vocals, dynamic horns, and a floor filling rhythm section. Playing their trademark combination of medleys, mashups, and offering a lively theatrical performance, they guarantee a fun filled night with plenty of dancing on and off stage to keep you entertained for the evening.



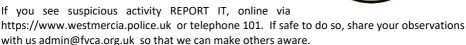
Admittance: £8.00



Neighbourhood Watch

Help Keep Our Community Safe

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



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.

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, fill in the Newsletter box on our website's Home Page, www.fvca.org.uk

Cost of Living Scams

Criminals are still using the cost of living crisis to scam the public – do not become a victim. Action Fraud are encouraging members of the public to be extra vigilant against fraud, especially in sharing your personal and financial details with people you do not know. Do not let the fraudsters cash in on the cost of living crisis, and please make sure you share this message with any friends and family who may be more vulnerable.

Common scams that are still circulating right now include:

- Energy Bill Rebates
- Cost of Living Payments
- Fuel Vouchers, Phone Bill discounts and Supermarket offers
- Fake Investment opportunities

Also beware of Non-Delivery and Non-Payment Scams.

 Non-Delivery Scam means a buyer pays in advance for goods or services online but those items are never received



• Non-Payment Scam means the seller sends goods sold via an online sales site but the seller never gets paid

Remember that criminals are expert at gaining your confidence and impersonating Government Agencies, Utility companies, Businesses and the Police.

As stated before, If it looks too good to be true it probably is.

Always be aware, and do not let Fraudsters and Scammers ruin your life.

Internet Sales Scam

Reports of Internet Sales scams continue to appear and anyone selling items through Online or Social Media market places really needs to be aware of this problem.

How does it work?

- · You, the seller will list an article for sale.
- The scammer will make contact and negotiate a price and will then appear to send the money, often through a WISE account.
- The scammer then tells the victim that, in order for the money to be released, a Tracking Number needs to be provided, but you cannot get a Tracking Number prior to sending the item
- · Once a Tracking Number is provided, this confirms to the scammer the item is on the way in the post, and there is little to nothing Royal Mail or any courier company can do to retrieve the item.
- The money has in fact never been sent by the scammer in the first place, and so the victim takes a double loss: the loss of money from the sale AND the loss of the item.

How can you avoid being scammed?

- 1. Research the buyer before you enter into any agreement or monies change hands. Check the website for any reports about the buyer you are dealing with
- 2. Never dispatch any item you are selling before you have received the payment and it is secured.
- 3. Take care not to provide unnecessary personal details that may give the Scammer access to your finances. Avoid giving out personal bank details to private buyers you do not know.

Looking to save money on a holiday or break?

Criminals use fake websites, listings, emails, advertisements, social media posts, texts and phone calls to trick you into buying and paying for what you think is a genuine holiday. Whereas what you might actually get is a disappointed family and no chance of getting your money back.

How to avoid a scam!

- Always do your research into accommodation, flights, cruises, package holidays or pilgrimages to check they are authentic. Trust Pilot and check a website on Getsafeonline.org are good places to check.
- Be wary of unusually cheap holidays and flights or high deposits.
- Check terms and conditions prior to making any payment.
- Keep confirmations and payment receipts and check your bank and credit card statements for irregular entries.

If you have lost money to fraud, always report it immediately to your bank.

Take Five To Stop Fraud...

- Stop: Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.
- Challenge: Could it be fake? It's 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 <u>actionfraud.police.uk</u> 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

Weekly Activities at Fairfield Village Hall

Monday: <u>Thursday</u>:

Line Dancing 7.30pm Zumba 7pm – 8pm

Tuesday: Friday:

Sequence Dancing 7.30pm Taekwondo 6pm/7pm/8pm

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



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

Bournheath Village Community Centre

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

February

22nd Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 2.30pm
 23rd Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 11am
 23rd Vegetable Society, Village Hall, 7.30pm

March

4th Foodie Fairfield, Village Hall, 9am-12noon

4th **Live Music**, Village Hall, 8.00pm

8th Social Wednesday, Village Hall, 2.00pm

8th Fairfield W.I., Village Hall, 7pm

11th Community Litter Pick, Village Hall, 10.30am

12th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm 15th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm

18th Rugby, Beer & Street Food, Village Hall, 3.00pm

20th Fairfield Dining Group, Swan Inn, 12.30pm

22nd Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 2.30pm

22nd **FVCA AGM**, Village Hall, 7.30pm

25th Live Music, Village Hall, 8.00pm

April

1st **Foodie Fairfield**, Village Hall, 9am-12noon 12th **Social Wednesday**, Village Hall, 2.00pm

12th Fairfield W.I., Village Hall, 7pm

17th Fairfield Dining Group, Queen's Head, 12.30pm

19th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 7.30pm 22nd Live Music, Village Hall, 8.00pm

26th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 2.30pm

May

3rd Village Hall AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Screening of the Coronation, Village Hall, TBC
 Coronation Afternoon Tea, Village Hall, TBC
 Coronation Concert Screening, Village Hall, TBC

10th Fairfield W.I., Village Hall, 7pm

13th Community Litter Pick, Village Hall, 10.30am
 15th Fairfield Dining Group, The Vine, Clent, 12.30pm

17th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 7.30pm
24th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 7.30pm
27th Live Music, Village Hall, 8.00pm