



# Fairfield Village Community Association

**NEWSLETTER**  
**WINTER 2022/23**



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

Like [www.facebook.com/fairfieldinformation](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldinformation)

Follow: [www.twitter.com/fairfield\\_info](https://www.twitter.com/fairfield_info)

Subscribe to the e-Newsletter: [www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)

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

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

## Post Box Update

After seven months of waiting, the village now has a replacement post-box, which has been sited on the footpath next to the waste bin outside the former shop. The replacement post-box is smaller than the previous pillar-box.



## Fight The Grot

Please donate an hour and help with our Community Litter Picks that take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month (except December), 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>

## Help Plant a Tree to Help Extend Pepper Wood

Volunteers are needed to help plant some trees in the new Pepper Wood extension.

- Afternoon of Weds 7th Dec (from 1.30pm until 4pm)
- Morning of Saturday 10th Dec (10am until 2pm)

If volunteering, please park at the village hall and walk to Swan Inn car park where site directions will be given.



# Coffee & Natter

## Refreshments at the Hall

Coinciding with the Pepper Wood extension tree planting (dates above), refreshments will be served at the Village Hall, for people volunteering or just want to pop in for a cuppa & chat.

In the Hall will be some Woodland Trust information, including a plan of the new extension.

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

## 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:

16th January	The Vine, Clent
20th February	Bromsgrove Golf Club
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](mailto:pasteward7@outlook.com)

## Recording History – Disappointing Response Received

A disappointing seven families responded to this initiative to record who was living in our community at the time of the Her Late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. The contributions from these families will be held in archive for future generations. We'd like to thank those families that took part.

## Wildmoor Quarry

If a formal planning application is submitted, a public consultation should take place. As soon as we are aware of such consultation we will publish on our website and social media accounts. We will endeavor to get a note put through letter boxes, dwellings across Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge, but this will depend on volunteer availability.

## Next Community Association Committee Meeting

The next Community Association Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 7.30pm at the Village Hall (Barton Room).

On the agenda will be updates on community issues and planning for future events.

We would love to hear your ideas on how we can celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III

Perhaps join us and help shape where you live. Let's work together for the benefit of Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge.

If you are unable join us, have an idea or would like to help, email [chair@fvca.org.uk](mailto:chair@fvca.org.uk)

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

# Cost of Living: Let's Work Together



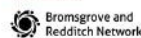
**Everybody will be facing a change in their circumstances this Winter as the cost of living is set to increase.**

Through this leaflet we wanted to provide the contact details of organisations & agencies across Bromsgrove & Redditch, who can offer expert advice & support & signpost you to the correct help which you may need. Whether you receive benefits or not, there is support & advice from trusted services available to you.

## Take action ASAP

- If you're experiencing financial difficulties, it's always better to deal with them straight away. Acting quickly could make a big difference to you.
- Let your relevant agency or creditors know you are struggling. You may be able to agree with them a temporary reduction on your payments. It is always better to pay something than nothing.
- Help is available, it's best to face things head on & get in touch with the relevant agency as soon as possible.
- Prioritise essential household bills like rent, mortgage, Council Tax, gas & electricity above credit cards & loans - let creditors know you are struggling.
- If you can't keep on top of gas & electricity payments, please continue to pay what you can & talk to your supplier.
- Make sure the advice you are given is from a trusted & official source.

**Work Together**  
Please share  
information with  
neighbours, friends  
& colleagues.  
**Let's Work  
Together.**



**Bromsgrove  
District Council**  
www.bromsgrove.gov.uk



## We're here when you need us

### Act On Energy

Energy advice - including energy efficiency tips; billing issues; grants & funding for energy efficiency measures & grants for broken heating systems & help with fuel bills & energy debt.  
Freephone 0800 988 2881

[www.actonenergy.org.uk](http://www.actonenergy.org.uk)

### Age UK Bromsgrove, Redditch & Wyre Forest

Free & confidential advice for people over 50.

01527 570490

[enquiries@ageukbrwf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ageukbrwf.org.uk)

[www.ageuk.org.uk/brwf](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/brwf)

### bdht

bdht can support its residents with budgeting, employment & generic support. Contact us if you are struggling financially or worried about paying your rent.

0800 0850 160

[contactus@bdht.co.uk](mailto:contactus@bdht.co.uk)

### Bromsgrove and Redditch Network (BARN)

Signposts to a variety of voluntary sector services & helps find the right service if you need help to access food, furniture, school uniform, money advice, support when facing homelessness, disability advice & more.

01527 60282

[office@barn.org.uk](mailto:office@barn.org.uk)

### Libraries

Free PC access, WiFi & activities.

01905 822722

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/libraries)

### Citizens Advice Bromsgrove & Redditch

General information & advice & specialist debt support.

0808 278 7890

[www.cabr.org.uk](http://www.cabr.org.uk)

### Bromsgrove District Council

We are here to support you so please keep in touch.

01527 881213

[benefits@bromsgrove.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@bromsgrove.gov.uk)

[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/benefits)

### Redditch Borough Council

We are here to support you so please keep in touch.

01527 534050

[hbenefits@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:hbenefits@redditchbc.gov.uk)

[www.redditchbc.gov.uk/benefits](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk/benefits)

It is very important that you continue to pay your rent, so please get in touch.

01527 587000 Option 1

[housingrevenue](mailto:housingrevenue@redditchbc.gov.uk)

[@redditchbc.gov.uk](mailto:@redditchbc.gov.uk)

[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk/costofliving)

[www.redditchbc.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk/costofliving)

### Here2Help Worcestershire

01905 768053

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help)

Need this information in another language/format? Call 01527

548284 or email [equalities@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk)

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



## Foodie Fairfield



Foodie Fairfield is a success, attracting residents from Fairfield, Wildmoor, Stoneybridge, Bournheath and the surrounding area, all wanting to buy Fresh and Local.

Stalls include Freshly Baked Bread, Fruit & Veg, Apple Juice & Honey, Bouquets of Flowers, Preservatives, Cakes, Cheeses, Meat and more.

Foodie Fairfield is held in Fairfield Village Hall on the first Saturday morning of each month, doors open from 9 o'clock until noon.

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

**December's Foodie Fairfield will very festive, in addition to some tasty festive foods on sale, there will also be a visit from Father Christmas who will take up residence in our grotto.**

## Social Saturday

After doing your Foodie Fairfield shopping, stop and have a cuppa; catch up with friends & other residents and get crime prevention advice from the occasional police surgery. A member of the Community Association committee will be available should you wish to discuss community issues or share your ideas.

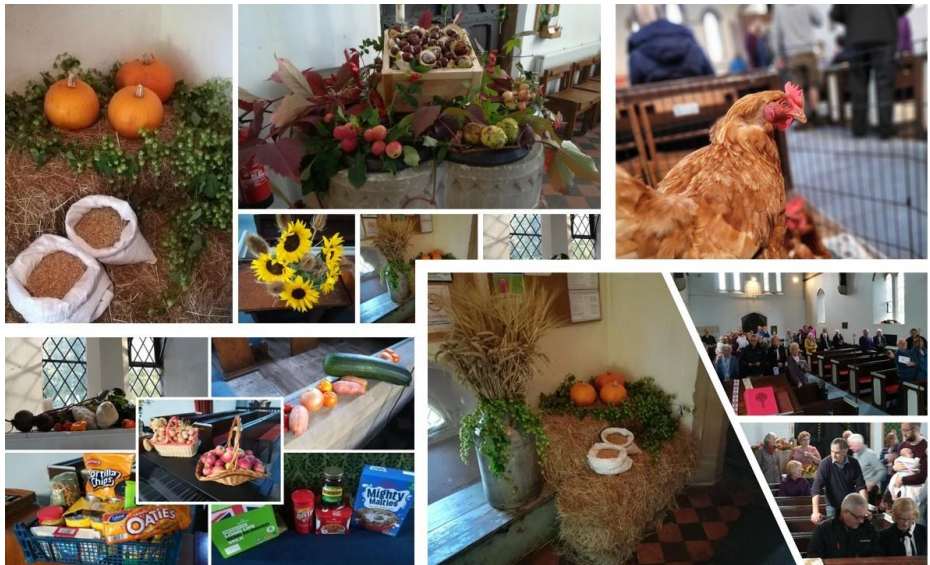
[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

## Thank You For The Harvest

There was a good turnout for our annual Harvest Festival, with Dodford Children's Farm receiving the food donated and the collection being shared with Dodford Children's Farm and WaterAid

The hens were well behaved and so were the humans. It was nice seeing the children having fun, and there were also several farming families able to join us.

Thank you to everyone who came, and a big thank you to everyone involved with the service, decorating the church, donating food, reading poems, serving refreshments, etc.



## Ricky Cool and the In Crowd are coming back!!

After the success of October's show that filled the village hall, Ricky Cool and the In Crowd will return on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The show starts at 8pm, ticket prices are £12.00 Advance, £15.00 On The Door, and can be purchased from [www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk](http://www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk)

Feedback from audience members has been overwhelmingly good and Ricky reports that he and the guys enjoyed playing at our venue.



[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



HEREFORD & WORCESTER  
**HWFR**  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



**PREVENTION**

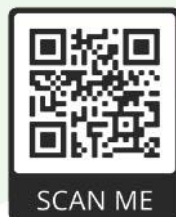
# HOW SAFE ARE YOU?

Complete your **FREE** online Home Fire Safety Check now!

[www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc](http://www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc)

For further information about a **FREE**  
Home Fire Safety Visit call us on

**0800 032 1155**



SCAN ME



[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)





## SMOKE ALARMS

Get it, fit it, test it



## ELECTRICS

Switch it off



## CIGARETTES

Put it out, right out



## COOKING

Take care when cooking



## CANDLES

Never leave unattended



## ESCAPE PLAN

Plan a safe escape

Complete your **FREE** online Home Fire Safety Check now!

[www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc](http://www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc)

For further information about a **FREE**  
Home Fire Safety Visit call us on

**0800 032 1155**



HEREFORD & WORCESTER  
**HWFR**  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



## PREVENTION

[www.hwfire.org.uk](http://www.hwfire.org.uk)



[twitter.com/hwfire](https://twitter.com/hwfire)



[facebook.com/hwfire](https://facebook.com/hwfire)

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

## PLEASE LOOK AFTER YOUR HEDGES

As I am sure you will all agree, Belbroughton and Fairfield are wonderful places to live, and the Parish Council would like to keep it that way for all our parishioners.

As bird nesting season is now over and it might be the time of year but in various locations around the parishes there are examples where hedges or shrubs have grown so much, they are breaking beyond garden boundaries and overhanging pavements and walkways.

In some cases, pedestrians are made to step into the road to navigate around them. This is not safe and is especially hazardous to wheelchair users and to those people with pushchairs or prams and small children.

Could we kindly ask that you look at the front of your property/fields and where necessary give all those hedges and shrubs a trim. Not only will this improve the appearance of your villages, but it will help to ensure the safety of your neighbours.

To look up the full guidance on hedge cutting please visit the Government website:  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-hedgerows-regulation-and-management>

Thank you for your support

Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council



[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

# Festive Fairfield 2022

## Festive Fairfield's Community Advent Calendar

It's back, our village advent. On each of the 24 days leading up to Christmas Day, a property in our community will open a special Advent Calendar display.

For list of properties and the date their display gets unveiled visit the Village Hall noticeboard or visit our website [www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)

If you see a display, take a photo and post on Twitter tagging in @Fairfield\_Info, message our Facebook Page or email it to [admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



# CHRISTMAS INDIE NIGHT



**KATY ROSE BENNET &  
DAVID FREJA**

**3RD DECEMBER 8PM**

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

ADMISSION: £8.00 ADVANCE - £10 DOOR  
[WWW.FAIRFIELDFLICKS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.FAIRFIELDFLICKS.ORG.UK)



[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)





JOIN US FOR

# *Festive Foodie Fairfield*

SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER

9AM - NOON

VILLAGE HALL

**Bread, Preserves, Cakes,  
Meat, Pies, Fruit & Veg,  
Flowers, Cheeses and more**

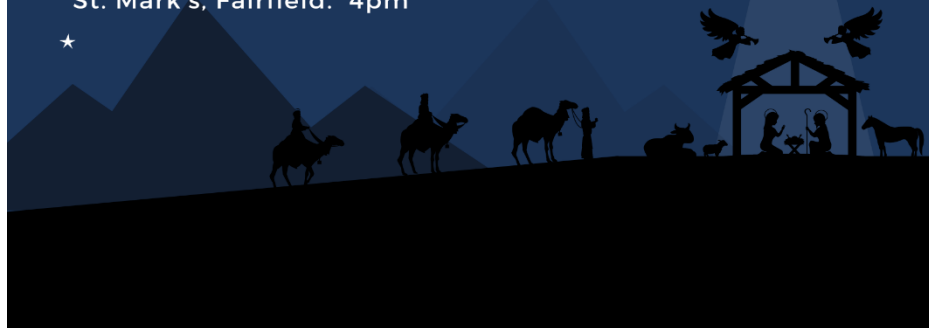
**PLUS  
SANTA'S GROTTO**



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ★

# CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE

St. Mark's, Fairfield. 4pm



Christmas is a time of year for family and friends and of course the all-important Christmas tree. We all love a real tree until the time comes to dispose of it after Christmas. Instead of having all those Christmas tree needles in the back of your car, why not ask the **Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust** to pick it up for you?

This campaign is eco-friendly and incredibly sustainable as the collected trees are chipped down at Chessgrove Wood Chip, Dormer Plant Hire and at Shire Farm at Hawford with support from Gardens of Reflection and the Worcestershire Federation of Young Farmers Club.

All you need to do is register for a collection and they will pick up your tree on the 11th, 12th, 13th or 14th January, visit <https://www.gkcc.org/treecycle>. It is as simple as that!

The Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer Trust receives no statutory funding so is reliant on our fantastic fundraisers and donors to help us continue our vital work.

Deadline to register your Christmas tree is Monday 9th January 2023 at 10am.

The charity are also looking for volunteers to help with our treecycling so if you can spare some hours or can donate a van please call the team on 01905 885777 or drop them an email.

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



# Christmas Eve Communion

24 December 2022

11.00 pm (TBC)

St. Mark's, Fairfield



[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

A festive border surrounds the central text, featuring colorful balloons (red, blue, yellow, green, pink) and multi-colored confetti (stars, diamonds, circles) on a black background.

*Have a  
Movie New Year*

**"WHAT'S  
UP,  
DOC?"**

**WITH THE SOUNDS OF '70S**

At Fairfield Flicks

Saturday 31st December from 9pm

Tickets £10.00 includes Light Buffet

Under 16's FREE

Licensed Bar

Advance Tickets : [www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk](http://www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk)

Limited number of tickets available

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



## 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](http://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>**

### Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris (PG) - 11th December 7.30pm

In partnership with the House of Dior, MRS. HARRIS GOES TO PARIS tells the story of a widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress, and decides that she must have one of her own. After she works, starves and gambles to raise the funds to pursue her dream, she embarks on an adventure to Paris which will change not only her own outlook, but the very future of the House of Dior.



### Emily The Little Match Girl (U) – 27<sup>th</sup> December 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.

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[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

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'

**This film was screened during the October half-term break, the audience thought that the storyline, animation, music & songs were brilliant.**

### **The Railway Children Return (PG) – 28<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm**

Inspired by one of the most beloved British family films of all time, RAILWAY CHILDREN is an enchanting, moving, and heart-warming adventure for a new generation. 1944 — As life in Britain's cities becomes increasingly perilous, three evacuee children — Lily (Beau Gadsdon), Pattie (Eden Hamilton) and Ted (Zac Cudby) Watts — are sent by their mother from Salford to the Yorkshire village of Oakworth. There to meet them on the train station platform are Bobbie Waterbury (Jenny Agutter, reprising her iconic role in the original film), her daughter, Annie (Sheridan Smith), and grandson Thomas (Austin Haynes), and with their help the evacuees are soon settling into their new life in the countryside. When the children discover injured American soldier Abe (KJ Aikens), hiding out in the railyard at Oakworth Station, they are thrust into a dangerous quest to assist their new friend who, like them, is a long way from home.



### **DC League of Super-Pets (PG) – 29<sup>th</sup> December 11.00am**



Reclusive author Loretta Sage writes about In "DC League of Super-Pets," Krypto the Super-Dog and Superman are inseparable best friends, sharing the same superpowers and fighting crime in Metropolis side by side. When Superman and the rest of the Justice League are kidnapped, Krypto must convince a rag-tag

shelter pack—Ace the hound, PB the potbellied pig, Merton the turtle and Chip the squirrel—to master their own newfound powers and help him rescue the superheroes.

During November, joining cinemas across the country, Fairfield Flicks screened two movies as part of the French Film Festival UK, with our film screenings listed nationally.

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

## Where The Crawdads Sing (15) - 18th January 7.30pm.



From the best-selling novel comes a captivating mystery. *Where the Crawdads Sing* tells the story of Kya, an abandoned girl who raised herself to adulthood in the dangerous marshlands of North Carolina. For years, rumors of the “Marsh Girl” haunted Barkley Cove, isolating the sharp and resilient Kya from her community. Drawn to two young men from town, Kya opens herself to a new and startling world; but when one of them is found

dead, she is immediately cast by the community as the main suspect. As the case unfolds, the verdict as to what actually happened becomes increasingly unclear, threatening to reveal the many secrets that lay within the marsh.

## The Lost King (12) – 25th October 2.30pm

*The Lost King* is a 2022 British comedy-drama film directed by Stephen Frears and written by Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope. It tells the story of Philippa Langley, the woman who led the search to find King Richard III’s remains under a car park Leicester. The film stars Sally Hawkins, Coogan, and Harry Lloyd.



## TBC – 12<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm

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

## TBC – 15<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm

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

## TBC – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2.30pm

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

**Keep checking our website for details of Event Cinema & Live Entertainment that we are screening/hosting [www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk](http://www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk)**

## Help Us Bring More Great Movies to Fairfield Flicks

Fairfield Flicks is fundraising on Spacehive!

We seek to reach out to more people by enhancing our programme with new film releases with the installation of equipment to play DCPs (Digital Cinema Package).

To help us achieve our target, please make a pledge at [Spacehive.com](http://Spacehive.com), and share the news. [www.spacehive.com/fairfield-flicks](http://www.spacehive.com/fairfield-flicks)

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



## Christmas with Katy Rose Bennet & David Freja

**Saturday 3rd December 8.00pm**

Katy Rose Bennett has been writing and performing her idiosyncratic brand of folk for over 20 years. October 2020 saw the release of her 6th solo album: 'Where Does It Hurt? An Introduction to Katy Rose Bennett'.

"Powerfully delicate...absolutely stunning"  
Maverick Magazine



"Gentle acoustics from the Nick Drake school... literate songs which ride youth's emotional rollercoaster... strikingly original." UNCUT

"Sophisticated mix of folk, jazz, pop and rustica." Independent

There was a time in the early 2000s when Katy Rose Bennett (or KTB as she used to be known) was on the cusp of breaking through: she had been a finalist in the BBC Young Folk Award, she had performed on the main stage at Truck Festival with a 16-piece band and she had been invited to play at SXSW Festival in Austin, Texas on the back of the critical success of her quirky debut album, *All Calm In Dreamland*.

But then, aged 20, it all went a bit sideways – Katy's mental health suddenly declined with the start of a cycle of brief manic episodes followed by seemingly endless months of silent depression, which continued for several years. All while she was theoretically studying for a music degree.

During these turbulent years, Katy wrote and recorded her second album, the aptly titled 'Bluebird' receiving glowing reviews, performing across the UK and again almost reaching that next level of success. However, her fragile mental health continued to hamper her career and confidence. She says of that time:

"One thing I remember so clearly was that, even though I could sometimes barely string a sentence together, I could still perform and sing every word of my songs."

And what of those songs? Brought up on Patsy Cline, k d lang, The Beatles and whatever else her dad or older brothers were listening to, Katy began crafting her own particular brand of folk

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[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



song in her early teens. She writes at the piano or guitar or a cappella and has a fondness for multi-layered vocals and jazz-infused harmonies.

After finishing her degree, and with her mental health improving, she continued to write, perform and record, releasing (with little fanfare) the rich and varied *Indelible Ink* in 2009. Resigned to the thought that musical success comes in your youth or not at all, Katy decided to turn her attentions elsewhere – she got married (well, civil-partnered), trained as a music therapist, got a proper job, started running community choirs, bought a house and became a parent. Songwriting and gigging became a hobby. On occasional weekends, over two years, Katy and her brother and long-time collaborator Joe Bennett (of *Goldrush* and *Dreaming Spires*) recorded a 4th album, the joyful and tender *Songs of The River Rea* (2016) inspired by life alongside Birmingham's hidden river. Katy self-released the album – it got a few good reviews. And that was the end of that.

Except it wasn't. A year later, Katy's life imploded with the sudden onset of a bizarre and little understood condition, Functional Neurological Disorder. In Katy's case, it caused her legs to stop functioning properly for significant periods of time, causing her to be often unable to walk. It changed everything. Katy quit her job as a music therapist and she found herself living with a friend for a peppercorn rent in a dilapidated, Victorian park keeper's lodge in the centre of Birmingham.

"It was a strange time. In some ways the hardest period of my life, and yet also one of the most musically fruitful. I must have written nearly fifty songs in the year I lived there."

With some of those songs, Katy released her 5th solo album, the raw and emotional 'The Meantime' in 2019, recorded live and mostly in first takes in Bristol with her friend Jim Cornick of Ersatz. What Katy realised was that, for her, writing songs and being a creative artist are not occasional hobbies.

"They are my reasons for being and my purpose in life. Connecting people through song is what I live for!"

Alongside the release of the new album, which comprises of songs from Katy's considerable back catalogue and one new song, Katy will be releasing three singles and touring the UK. She will also be working with theatre-maker Francesca Millican-Slater to develop a music, song, story-telling and spoken word solo piece about her and others' experiences of Functional Neurological Disorder.



Supporting Katy Rose Bennett will be David Freja, singer/songwriter with deep meaningful words at the heart of the melody. Influenced by Neil Young, Radiohead, Nick Drake, Nick Cave, Portishead, Sigur Ros and forward this to contemporary to being inspired by what's new, inventive & sometimes obscure.

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

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



## André Rieu in Dublin

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm**

Start 2023 in style with André Rieu in Dublin. Exclusive to cinemas this celebratory concert is the best way to welcome in the new year!

André and his Johann Strauss Orchestra will delight you with romantic melodies, popular classics, party tunes and beloved waltzes. André Rieu in Dublin is the maestro's first recorded concert in the Irish capital for more than 20 years – it is a truly special event not to be missed.

Bring your loved ones to Fairfield Flicks and enjoy an evening of music and dance on the big screen with André Rieu. Happy New Year!!

Tickets are £15.00 Adults & £12.00 U16s

## Village Picnic 2023

Our Village Picnic will be on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July, at the Recreation Ground. It is always a good afternoon. Put this event in your diary.

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



## Returning Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March: Jack Goodall and the Kick

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

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

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# 2023 FIXTURES



## RUGBY, BEER & STREET FOOD

**Fairfield Village Hall**  
**(B61 9LZ)**

**3pm—9pm**

**4TH FEBRUARY**

**England v Scotland**

**4.45pm**

**18TH MARCH**

**Ireland v England**

**5.00pm**



# PANCAKE RACE

## COMMUNITY FUN FOR ALL

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**SATURDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 10.30AM**

**Fairfield Recreation Ground**



**RACES FOR:**

**MUM — DAD — CHILDREN —  
OLDIES — FAMILY RELAY—  
FANCY DRESS**

**BRING YOUR OWN PANCAKES  
& FRYING PAN**



[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

### New Year Fireworks...Please Think Again!

Each year, mainly in early November and on the 31<sup>st</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.fvca.org.uk)

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



# Not sure? Don't open the door

Protect yourself from doorstep crime. Follow our advice to reduce the risk of being scammed.

Always be aware of people who turn up unannounced. Most genuine callers will have a pre-arranged appointment.

**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 and have spotted a problem with your home or garden; claim to have materials left over from another job, like paving or tarmac; try to pressurise you to buy goods or sign up for services on the spot; offer to drive you to a bank so you can withdraw money to pay them; provide false names, addresses or telephone numbers.

## Shed Security

Many people don't secure their shed or garage in the same way they do their homes - often using an easy-to-break lock or padlock to protect valuable contents such as a car, bike or lawnmower.

An opportunistic burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main house.

### **Shed and outbuilding security: first steps**

First off, check that your insurance covers the contents of your shed or outbuildings from theft.

### **Think like a thief**

Take a look at your shed and consider how you would break in. It's worth having a good padlock on the door with no exposed screws. Pay attention to hinges, as these are sometimes easily removable. If you have windows then these could be vulnerable unless they're secured with wire mesh or grills. And keep it locked at all times.

### **Alarm it**

Consider a battery-operated shed alarm. They look low key but they respond to movement or door contact with an extremely loud siren.

### **Lock it, hide it or mark it**

Don't give them the opportunity or the tools to commit a crime. Lock everything away securely. Tools can be locked inside a locker or box or secured with a chain.

Secure your bike to the ground or a lockable stand within a locked shed or garage. Visit [Sold Secure](#) to search for ground anchors and other locks designed to fix to floors and walls. It's always worth draping an old sheet or blanket over the top of mowers or bikes to keep them covered from view.

Although it might sound like stating the obvious, never leave your garage or shed door unlocked if you're not around.

Property marking your items is advisable and some tools can be painted with your name or postcode. Forensic marking is also an option.

### **The top five most common items stolen from sheds**

- Bikes
- Mowers
- Sports equipment
- Power tools
- Garden tools

## Premium Rate Telephone Number Scam

### **What is it?**

Scammers will try to trap people trying to search the internet for Government Services and other providers. e.g. DVLC They will show an advert with the phone number of the service, or department that the person is looking for, and these may appear high on a search engine lists as an "Advert".

However this will come with a heavy charge as a Premium Rate Call, often up to £30 per call.

Even if you do finally get through to the right department, you have paid an unwarranted high charge.

Remember, most of these Advice Lines should be free of charge.

### **What to watch out for.**

- Always avoid using numbers prefixed with 084, 090, 091, or 098, no Government Department will use such numbers
- Take care when searching for such things as Car Tax and Driving Licence renewals, as well as HMRC enquiries and returns.

And finally, when looking for Government Department contact details, always use the official Government Services Website – GOV.UK

## Energy Bill Rebate Scheme Scam

Several recent Warnings have been issued about possible scams as this scheme comes into play. However it is worth remembering the following points about this Scheme to avoid being trapped by the Fraudster's texts and emails which are already circulating.

- Direct Debit customers will receive the Energy Bill discount automatically as a deduction to the monthly Direct Debit amount collected, or as a refund to the customer's bank account following Direct Debit collection during each month of delivery
- Standard credit customers and payment card customers will see the Energy Bill discount automatically applied as a credit to standard credit customers' accounts in the first week of each month of EBSS delivery, with the credit appearing as it would if the customer had made a payment
- Smart prepayment meter customers will see the Energy Bill discount credited directly to their smart prepayment meters in the first week of each month of delivery

· Traditional prepayment meter customers will be provided with redeemable EBSS Energy Bill discount vouchers or Special Action Messages (SAMs) from the first week of each month, issued via SMS text, email or post. Customers will need to redeem these at their usual top-up point

· Customers will NOT need to apply via any government link, website, rebate company, share-scheme; nor will they need to provide their bank account details or make contact with their energy supplier

## 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](https://actionfraud.police.uk) or by calling 0300 123 2040.

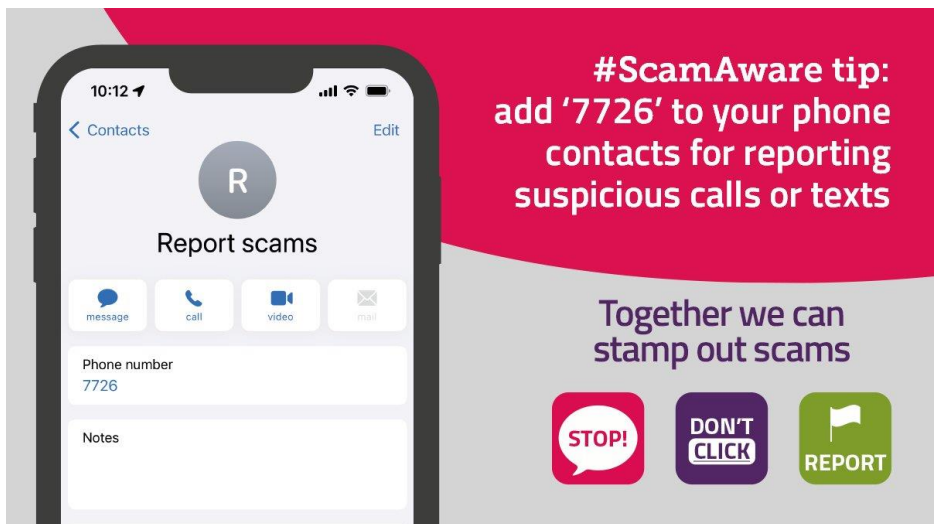
For further information visit:

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

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

## What happens when you report a Text Scam?

When you text 7726 to report a scam text or call, it triggers your mobile provider to investigate and potentially block the number.



**#ScamAware tip:**  
add '7726' to your phone  
contacts for reporting  
suspicious calls or texts

Together we can  
stamp out scams

**STOP!** **DON'T CLICK** **REPORT**

[www.fvca.org.uk](https://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)



## Church Services at St. Mark's

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 11.15 am          Worship4ll - Family Service

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11.15 am          Holy Communion

## 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

### Coffee Mornings

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month 10.30am - Noon

Bournheath Village Community Centre

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

## ADVANCE NOTICE

**The Community Association's AGM will be on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm**

**At the AGM, residents of Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge elect their committee: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and up to Six Committee Members.**

[www.fvca.org.uk](http://www.fvca.org.uk)  
[admin@fvca.org.uk](mailto:admin@fvca.org.uk)

## December

- 3rd **Foodie Fairfield**, Village Hall, 9am
- 3rd **Live Music: Katy Rose Bennet & David Freja**, Village Hall, 8pm
- 7th **Coffee Afternoon**, Village Hall, 1.15pm - 4pm
- 7th **Pepper Wood Extension Plant a Tree**, 1.30pm - 4pm
- 10th **Coffee Morning**, Village Hall, 10am - 2pm
- 10th **Pepper Wood Extension Plant a Tree**, 10am - 2pm
- 11th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14th **Fairfield W.I.**, Village Hall, 7pm
- 21st **Carols Around The Christmas Tree**, Village Hall, 7pm
- 24th **Crib Service**, St. Mark's, 4pm
- 27th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 11am
- 28th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 2.30pm
- 29th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 11am
- 31st **NYE – Have A Movie New Year**, Village Hall, 9pm

## January

- 7th **Foodie Fairfield**, Village Hall, 9am-12noon
- 8th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 11th **Fairfield W.I.**, Village Hall, 7pm
- 14th **Community Litter Pick**, Village Hall, 10.30am
- 16th **Fairfield Dining Group**, The Vine, Clent, 12.30pm
- 18th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 25th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 2.30pm

## February

- 4th **Foodie Fairfield**, Village Hall, 9am-12noon
- 4th **Rugby, Beer & Street Food**, Village Hall, 3pm – 9pm
- 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 **Pancake Race**, Recreation Ground, 10.30am
- 20th **Fairfield Dining Group**, The Vine, Clent, 12.30pm
- 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
- 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, 3pm – 9pm
- 20th **Fairfield Dining Group**, The Vine, Clent, 12.30pm
- 29th **FVCA AGM**, Village Hall, 7.30pm