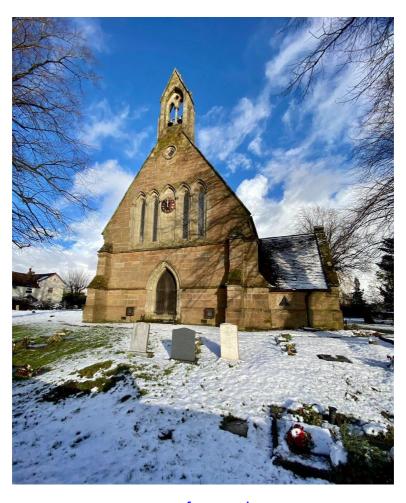


Fairfield Village Community Association

NEWSLETTER WINTER 2021



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

Keep Up To Date With The News

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

Like www.facebook.com/fairfieldinformation

Follow: 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.

Community Litter Picks

There will be no Community Litter Picks during December, the next scheduled Community Litter will be on Saturday 8th January, then on Saturdays 12th February and 12th March. Volunteers are needed to help tidy our roads and open spaces. All we ask is that you donate an hour, the more volunteers the more we can do. Meet outside the Village Hall at



10.30am. Wear suitable clothing, litter picking equipment will be provided.

See It - Report It

Are you fed up with potholes in the road? The poor state of footpaths? Overgrown shrubbery? Etc etc. Then report it online it's easy and only takes a few moments. Let's get thing done! Just go online! Worcester County Council. Report it.



https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it

Social Saturdays

First Saturday of each month (except January 2022), pop down to the Village Hall for Coffee & Natter with friends, community updates, share your views/concerns, there will be crime prevention films, guest speakers plus visits from our Local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Join the Fairfield 200 Club?

Members of the 200 club buy one or more numbers which go into a monthly draw. There are 200 numbers in total and it is only £1 per month for each number. Over the course of the year £1500 is given out as prizes and the remainder (up to £900) goes into Fairfield Village Hall funds. Twice per year the top monthly prize is £200.

You may have been resident in the Fairfield area for a number of years and never got around to joining or you may be new to the village.



Either way, please consider giving your support by joining the 200 Club. Most members pay £12 annually for each number.

Further details and application forms can be found on the website http://fvca.org.uk/200-club/. Alternatively, please contact the Administrator (details below).

If you wish to join the 200 Club, please take the completed form(s) and subscriptions to the Administrator or contact her and she will collect them.

The 200 Club Administrator is: Linda Garvin, 83 Brook Road, Fairfield, 01527 834935

Do you have land drains or a culverted watercourse passing through your property?

If so, you will be classed as a riparian owner, and will be responsible for ensuring these pipes are kept well maintained to accept the proper flow of water.

Sometimes, drains and culverts can become obstructed, either due to a collapse or, more likely, a blockage.

Blockages can form over time, and generally will be made up of silt or sediment from upstream, or roots from nearby trees. When a blockage forms, a specialist contractor may be required to help - using high powered jets and root cutting blades to clear the blockage and get water flowing again.

Blockages are often found when flooding occurs, so it's a good idea to periodically check culverts to avoid the impacts of flooding and potentially large repair bills.

For further information contact North Worcestershire Water Management, Email enquiries@nwwm.org.uk or Tel 01562 732191.

Pepper Wood Appeal Update

Paul Jarczewski, Woodland Trust Site Manager (West Midlands), says "we are getting quite close to our fundraising target, and my fundraising colleagues seem confident that we will reach this fairly shortly".

"We're not quite there yet, but overall the appeal has gone extremely well."

If you would like to donate £10.00 to help double Pepper Wood or would like further information about this project search "Woodland Trust Pepper Wood Appeal" or visit the village website for links.

Fairfield Dining Group



Make new friends and catch up with old at our lunchtime gathering, touring fine eateries in and around Bromsgrove.

Lunchtime gatherings are on the 3rd Monday of each (no gathering in December).

November 15th The Fox, Chaddesley Corbett (12 noon)

Venues for 2022 meals are to be confirmed and will be posted on the village website.

If you are interested in joining our lunchtime meal, please contact Pat on 01527 832360, or email patricia@steward7.plus.com

Free Safe and Well Check

What is a Safe and Well Check?

A Safe and Well Check is a FREE home safety visit that is tailored to an individual's needs. All residents over the age of 70 years are automatically eligible for a visit. Vulnerable residents are also eligible.

The visit, which is conducted by Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, includes a home safety check to help reduce the risk of fire in the home, including the checking and fitting of smoke alarms where required. This includes alarms suitable for those with a hearing impairment and giving advice on a fire escape plan.

It will also identify any health and care needs that require signposting to local services to help ensure safety and wellbeing.

A Safe and Well Check maximises the opportunity to help individuals stay safe and independent and include advice on the following:

- Fire safety in the home
- Falls prevention
- Winter Warmth
- Social Isolation and Ioneliness
- Crime prevention
- Smoking

How can I arrange a Visit?

Contact the Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk team via their on-line form (www.hwfire.org.uk) or call 0800 032 1155 for advice.



Stay ahead of the chill this Winter

Ensuring your home is energy efficient can help you stay warm in winter.

Age UK Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest are offering FREE home energy checks for older people who are finding it difficult to keep their homes warm in winter.



As part of the Energy Check:

- One of Age UK's Bromsgrove, Redditch & Wyre Forest's handypersons will visit your home at a time that is convenient for you
- During the free assessment they will check the temperature inside your home and whether there are any draughts. They will inspect your heating system and any insulation measures you have
- Depending on the outcome of the assessment the handyperson will fit appropriate energy saving equipment, such as energy saving lightbulbs, reflective panels behind the radiator, socket timers and night lights free of charge
- The handyperson will also offer you some practical tips on how you can save energy and keep you fuel bills down without compromising on the warmth of your house.
 They may also inform you of other Age UK services available in North Worcestershire

The check will take between 60 and 90 minutes.

Please note that although this service is FREE, availability is LIMITED. To avoid disappointment and to book an appointment, please call:

Sam Jones on 01527 570490

Age UK Bromsgrove, Redditch & Wyre Forest

Registered Office: 51 Windsor Street, Bromsgrove, B60 2BJ Registered Charity No. 1165891

Kickstart the Christmas Season with Live Music at the Village Hall.



Headlining the evening are **Jack Goodall And The Kick**, who play their own kind of music, and **Rob Peters** as support act.

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.

In September 2021, the band released their new album "Out Of Here", which has received many positive reviews.

If you like Indie Music, you'll love this band.

"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

Rob Peters is a songwriter and performer with several albums under his belt and another about to be released, "The Moon Who Thought It Was The Sun". Peters is a seasoned musician and has played the drums for "The The" and "Everything But The Girl". When he isn't singing his own songs, Peters performs cover versions.

Jack Goodall And The Kick plus Rob Peters will be playing at Fairfield Village Hall (B61 9LZ) on Saturday 27th November 8pm (doors open 7.30pm).

Tickets £8.00

Local beers from Woodcote Brewery and cider from Fruitfields will be on sale.



Fairfield Flicks



Bromsgrove's Community Cinema

Fairfield Flicks is a voluntary run Community cinema experience showing top films for you to enjoy. Our goal is to bring our community together.

Please come along, make yourself comfortable and enjoy a cinematic experience at your village hall. If you have not been to one of our screenings before, you will be pleasantly surprised.

The nights are long, and the days are chilly, so why not bring your slippers and favourite cushion to Fairfield Flicks and watch some great movies. Refreshments are available, and now includes WINE!

Admission for £5.00 for evening screenings, £4.00 for morning and afternoons. For further information and to book advance tickets visit www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk

Our Autumn film schedule finishes off with

Finding Your Feet (12), Wednesday 17th November 7.30pm. On the eve of retirement a middle class, judgmental snob (Staunton) discovers her husband has been having an affair with her best friend and is forced into exile with her bohemian sister (Imrie) who lives on an impoverished inner-city council estate. Starring Imelda Staunton, Celia Imrie, Joanna Lumley and Timothy Spall.

Breakfast at Tiffany's (PG), Wednesday 24th November 2.15pm. A young New York writer sponsored by a wealthy woman falls in love with the charming, impulsive and eccentric call girl that lives next door. Based on a story by Truman Capote. The winner of 2 Academy Awards including Best Song. Stars Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Mickey Rooney.

FairfieldFlicks

Fairfield Village Hall, Stourbridge Road, Fairfield, B61 9LZ

www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk

Daytime £4.00—Evenings £5.00

Advanced Booking Advisable to Avoid Disappointment



17th Nov	7.30pm	Finding Your Feet (12)
24th Nov	2.15pm	Breakfast at Tiffanys (PG)
27th Nov	8.00pm	Jack Goodall and The Kick
12th Dec	7.30pm	Black Nativity (PG)
29th Dec	11.00am	Stardog and Turbo Cat (U)
31st Dec	9.00pm	What's Up Doc? (U) - NYE Party
27th Oct	2.15pm	Alone in Berlin (12)
9th Jan	7.30 pm	The Courier (12A)
19th Jan	7.30pm	The Last Letter From Your Lover (12A)
26th Jan	2.15pm	The Personal History Of David Copperfield (PG)











Fantastic Films for Christmas and the New Year

On Sunday 12th December 7.30pm, a feel-good musical drama to help get you in the Christmas spirit, **Black Nativity (PG)**, starring Forest Whitaker, Angela Bassett, Tyrese Gibson, Jennifer Hudson, Mary J. Blige, Jacob Latimore, Vondie Curtis-Hall, and rapper Nas. Struggling to pay the bills, single mom Naima (Jennifer Hudson) sends her teenage son Langston (Jacob Latimore) to live with his estranged grandparents, Reverend Cornell and Aretha Cobbs (Forest Whitaker and Angela Bassett) in New York City. At first Langston resents their strict household, but with the help of new friends — and a little divine intervention — he embarks on an inspirational journey of self-discovery that brings the whole family together.

This Twixmas, a film for the family, **Stardog and Turbo Cat (U)**, on Wednesday 29th December 11am. A madcap animated adventure featuring the voices of Luke Evans, Nick Frost and Bill Nighy; new friends Buddy and Felix set out to find Buddy's lost owner... and discover their inner superpowers along the way!

New Year's Eve, a Screwball Comedy, **What's Up Doc? (U)**. The accidental mixup of four identical plaid overnight bags leads to a series of increasingly wild and wacky situations. Starring Ryan O'Neal and Barbara Streisand. The evening will include music from 1972 and a light buffet. Tickets £10.00 each, Under 16's FREE.

Start the new year with a true-life spy thriller, **The Courier (12A)**, on Sunday 9th January, 7.30pm. Released this year (2021), this film is the story of an unassuming British businessman Greville Wynne (Benedict Cumberbatch) who is recruited into one of the greatest international conflicts in history.

Later in January,

The Last Letter From Your Lover (12A), on Wednesday 19th January 7.30pm. Released in 2021, this film is an adaptation of JoJo Moyes' best-selling novel 'The Last Letter From Your Lover', a passionate, dual-narrative love story set in the French Riviera and London during the 1960s and present day. The film stars Joe Alwyn, Felicity Jones and Callum Turner.

Ending the month, **The Personal History Of David Copperfield (PG)** on Wednesday 26th January 2.15pm. From birth to infancy, from adolescence to adulthood, the good-hearted David Copperfield is surrounded by kindness, wickedness, poverty and wealth, as he meets an array of remarkable characters in Victorian England. Starring Hugh Laurie, Dev Patel, Tilda Swinton

For details of all films, Advance Tickets and to sign up to our newsletter, visit www.fairfieldflicks.org.uk

Admission: £5.00 Evenings, £4.00 Daytime, £10.00 New Year's Eve

Before each film refreshments are on sale, including a selection of wines and homemade popcorn.

New Year's Eve

This year...something different

Go back in time 50 years

A Screwball Comedy & Music from 1972

Plus a light buffet

Tickets £10.00, U16's FREE

Fancy dress optional (go on wear the flares)

See overleaf for more details, get your tickets early to avoid disappointment





CAROLS AROUND

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

DECEMBER 15TH @7PM | VILLAGE HALL

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 Marked?

Over the past three 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

Preventing burglars from stealing a piece of you Christmas



Now more than ever we will all be spending more time at home which may mean purchasing games console, computers, tablets, games and other expensive items to keep everyone occupied at home. This means there are even more items to keep safe. The best way to do this is to follow our tips for keeping your home secure this festive period.

- Mark your property. We hold special bike marking events which are
 worth looking out for if you have got a new bicycle for Christmas. You
 can mark all your gifts including jewellery, tools etc and can place a
 sticker on your window to state that your property is parked. Marking
 your stuff makes it difficult for thieves to sell on, and so less desirable.
- Register all of you good on the Immobilise Property Marking Register.
- Avoid posting photos of your gifts and purchases on social media and be careful not to identify your address in your posts.
- If you are going out for the whole of Christmas day to form a bubble as per the regulations, ask a trusted neighbour, family member or friend to keep an eye on your home, and do the same for them – don't'

forget to leave your lights on a timer switch to make it look like someone is at home in the evening.

- Try and place your Christmas tree out of sight of street fronted windows
- When Christmas is all over don't leave the boxes to your valuable gifts
 out by the rubbish bin, this lets burglars know what you have in your
 home. Take them directly to your local household recycling centre or
 think about keeping the broken-down boxes in a garage or loft
- Don't keep presents in garden sheds etc and allow someone else to do their shopping at your expense.
- Do not leave house or car keys near to your letterbox.

Inspector Ram Aston said: "Burglars often target homes specifically and although we will still be patrolling and are here to help you, we urge you to take these steps to protect your home.

"If you leave you home for the day make sure the house is locked up before you go and the burglar alarm is set. Right now the advice during the pandemic is to keep a window open for ventilation but it is really important you take a couple of minutes to check these are closed before leaving your house. Hide any valuable items from view from the outside and don't leave anything in the garden that could potentially be used to gain entry into your home. Be mindful of where you store your wheelie bin too and consider if it could be used for someone to climb on and access an upstairs window or used to climb over into the garden. If you're leaving the car at home and have a garage, park it in the garage while you're away rather than on the drive and if you've got gates close and lock them with a good quality lock.

"If you are victim of a burglary and your property is stolen, if the items are Smart Water marked we can ensure they are returned to you if they are found. This is particularly important with high value items such as games consoles, computers and bikes. It is also incredibly useful to take photos of your valuables so if they are taken you can supply us with an accurate image, This is particularly helpful with jewellery and family heirlooms."

For more advice on keeping your home safe from burglars visit the West Mercia Police website.

Be Cyber Safe this Christmas



Shopping online for gifts?

- Remember to research retailers before making your purchase
- \mathbf{Y} If an offer seems too good to be true it probably is
- Consider paying with a credit card or PayPal for greater buyer protection
- Keep your anti-virus software up-to-date
- Use strong passwords that differ across websites

Visit www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home for more advice on how to stay safe online this Christmas.

Nominated Neighbour Scheme

This is a free scheme to deter cold callers and rogue traders and help vulnerable and elderly people feel safer in their own homes.

It is funded by the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner to help reduce doorstep crime.



Nominated Neighbour uses bright yellow window stickers to show potential house callers that that they will only been seen if accompanied by a known and trusted person after their identity has been verified by that person.

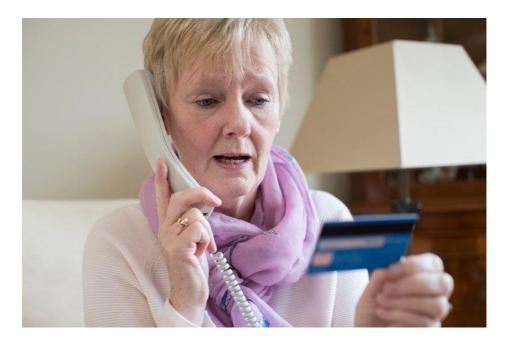
All it takes is a neighbour, family friend or family member to agree to be nominated and have callers directed to them.

The scheme deters scam callers, who will not want their identity to be checked. In addition to the window sticker, a pack containing useful information on keeping safe is also provided.

To join the scheme or if you have questions, contact the Redditch and Bromsgrove Community Safety Team at CommunitySafety@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk or call 01527 534187.



New 159 fraud hotline launched to counter threat



If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details...

...**Stop, hang up and call 159** to speak directly to your bank.

Last year criminal gangs stole over £470m by pretending to be your bank or other service provider.

159 is the memorable, secure number that contacts you directly to your bank if you think you're being scammed.

159 works in the same way as 101 for the police or 111 for the NHS. It's the number you can trust to get you through to your bank, every time.

159 will never call you. Only a fraudster will object to you calling 159.

When should I call 159?

Call 159 if:

- Someone contacts you saying they're from your bank even if they are not suspicious
- You receive a call asking you to transfer money or make a payment even if it seems genuine
- You receive a call about a financial matter and it seems suspicious

Remember, 159 will never call you. But you can rely on 159 to get you through to your bank.

Who is behind 159?

159 has been set up by banks and telephone companies who want to fight fraud. It's a pilot scheme at the moment. The following banks are part of it:

- Barclays
- Lloyds (including Halifax and Bank of Scotland)
- NatWest (including Royal Bank of Scotland and Ulster Bank)
- Santander
- Starling Bank

That covers over 70% of UK primary current account holders.

Will it definitely work on my telephone?

Almost all major consumer telephone companies are participating, and over 80% of UK mobiles and landlines will be able to use 159 at the outset. We are working to grow this reach to 100% during the pilot.

The telephone companies are:

- BT, including EE and Plusnet
- Gamma

- O2, including giffgaff
- TalkTalk
- Three
- Virgin Media
- Sky

What happens if 159 doesn't work, for any reason?

You should contact your bank in the normal way, using the number on your bank card.

How much does it cost to call 159?

Calling 159 will cost the same as a national rate call; usually part of the included minutes in most phone tariffs.

What's the idea behind the 159 pilot?

159 is a pilot scheme – the idea is to collect evidence to show that calling 159 helps fight fraud. Then we want to make 159 a universal number – available on all phones and for all banks.



Diary

November

15th Fairfield Dining Group, Fox @ Chaddesley, noon

17th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 7.30pm 24th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 2.15pm **Vegetable Society**, Village Hall, 7pm

27th **Jack Goodall and The Kick,** Village Hall, 7.30pm

December

4th **Social Saturday**, Village Hall, 10am – 11.30am 8th **Fairfield W.I**, meet Village Hall, 10.30am

12th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 7.30pm

15th Carols Around The Christmas Tree, Village Hall, 7.30pm

29th **Fairfield Flicks**, Village Hall, 11.00am 31st **Movie New Year**, Village Hall, 9pm

January

8th Litter Pick, meet Village Hall, 10.30am 9th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 7.30pm 12th Fairfield W.I, Village Hall, 7.30pm 17th Fairfield Dining Group, noon 19th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 7.30pm 26th Fairfield Flicks, Village Hall, 2.15pm

February

5th **Social Saturday**, Village Hall, 10am – 11.30am 9th **Fairfield W.I**, meet Village Hall, 10.30am

Weekly Activities at Fairfield Village Hall

Monday: <u>Thursday</u>:

Line Dancing 7.30pm Zumba 7pm – 8pm

<u>Tuesday</u>: <u>Friday</u>:

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

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