



# FAIRFORD TOWN COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2015

## Mayor's Introduction



Cllr Jennie  
Sanford  
Fairford Town  
Mayor  
Tel 713671

I would like to start by wishing you all a very merry Christmas.

Remembrance Day was held on November 8<sup>th</sup> this year. The parade started from Hyperion House and marched to the church. This event is organised by Fairford Town Council and supported by The Royal British Legion. Grateful thanks to all who supported and contributed to this important event.

By the time you read this, the Market Place will have been decorated by a team of volunteers. I would like to thank them all for their hard work. Each year they give up several days to make this a special event. The Festive Market will be held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December between 6.30pm — 8.30pm. Father Christmas will be in his new grotto this year. Do come and support this fantastic event.

There was a public meeting called to try to find ways to improve the safety of the school crossing in Leafield Road. The Town Council wishes to support any viable solutions to reduce the congestion and perceived danger in this area.

The Fairford Neighbourhood Plan is progressing, and shortly you will all receive a questionnaire asking for your views. I urge you to take a moment to complete this important document. More information can be found inside this Newsletter.

Lastly, I would like to extend my personal thanks to Albert Alder for his sterling work over the years. May I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

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LARGE PRINT VERSIONS OF THE NEWSLETTER CAN BE REQUESTED

## COUNCIL NEWS

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CONTACT DETAILS: Fairford Town Council, Community Centre, High Street, Fairford, GL7 4AF

Tel: 01285 713326/712344 Email: [clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk](mailto:clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk)

Website: [www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.fairfordtowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Town Council Meetings

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The next two Full Town Council Meetings will be on **Tuesday 8th December** and **Tuesday 12th January 2016** at 7pm in the Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre.

## Christmas opening hours

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The Council office will be closed from 24<sup>th</sup> December and will re open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. If you need to contact the Council urgently, please email [clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk](mailto:clerks@fairford-tc.co.uk) or call the out of hours number on the website.

## A big thank you!

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Fairford Town Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Albert Alder for all the lifetime of hard work and dedication he has given to Fairford. Although he is officially retiring from working with the Council, we hope that he will continue to play his very valuable part in keeping Fairford looking as good as it does.

Each one of us has benefitted from the pride that Albert has taken in his work over the last 26 years; from the upkeep of the flower tubs in the Market Place, to the clearing of leaves around the church. His contribution to the town has been, and will continue to be, exceptional and we thank him for it. Albert was nominated for, and won, National Council Worker of the Year in 2010. Fairford Town Council hope to similarly honour his hard work and dedication with an annual award presented in his name to a young citizen in Fairford who has demonstrated exceptional pride in their town in some way. Further details of the award will be published at a later date.

## Concerns at School Crossing

Following the loss of the Fairford School Crossing Patrol Officer (Lollipop Lady), safety at the crossing in Leafield Road has become a concern to many parents.

At a Public Meeting held at the end of October, around 50 people turned up to hear what solutions had previously been suggested and why they had not been implemented. Cllr. Jennie Sanford, Mayor of Fairford, pointed out that the Town Council had recognised the problem way back in April 2004 when it drew attention to the issues in the Council's bi-monthly Newsletter. There were lots of suggestions from the public on how to manage traffic along Leafield Road, reduce congestion and improve traffic flow. One of the favourite suggestions was that the speed limit should be reduced along Leafield Road and the Town Council is now going to request Glos County Council to introduce a 20mph speed limit in this area.

Since the meeting was called, Cllr Roberts has had another meeting with relevant officers and officials and there were some positive outcomes:

- Fairford Community Speed Watch team would be asked to monitor traffic speed along Leafield Road at peak times.
- It was agreed to investigate the introduction of a *voluntary* 20mph speed limit at peak times as part of a School Safety Zone.
- Enquiries would be made with RAF Fairford to see if a bus could be provided for pupils attending both Primary and Farmor's Schools to reduce some of the current car movements.
- Fairford Primary School and the Glos Road Safety Partnership agreed to set up a working group with parental involvement to execute the existing School Travel Plan.
- Glos Highways has suggested that physical measures be considered at the school crossing to make it safer for pedestrians to cross the road and to manage traffic flow. An initial feasibility study will be undertaken and, if appropriate, these measures, which would help reduce approach speeds and provide gaps in traffic to aid safer crossing, could be in place in a year's time.
- It was agreed to investigate the possibility of a walking bus from the town car park with pedestrians using the path through The Park (the main Farmor's School drive).

Fairford Pre-School

**Christmas Fair**  
**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**December**  
**10am-11:30am**  
 at Fairford Community Centre

Meet Santa in his magical grotto  
 Raffle to win family days out and festive treats  
 Children's Christmas craft activities  
 Chocolate and gift Tombola  
 Face painting Cake stall Refreshments  
 Christmas games and much more



# Community Update



There are three new picnic benches in the Walnut Tree Field. We hope you all enjoy using them.

New cycle stands have been installed outside the Post Office and at the top of the High Street. Our thanks to ParkThatBike.org for donating two of the stands.

The footpath that runs to the south door of St Mary’s Church has been re-pointed and the damaged stones have been replaced. We hope this will make the path safer and protect it from wear and tear for many years to come.

We hope you will join us in looking forward to a dazzling display of daffodils on the newly landscaped verge on the Eastern approach to Fairford in London Road. We urge you to please take care not to walk on the newly seeded and planted verge.

★ ★

★ Thank you to everyone who helped to put up the Christmas ★  
 ★ lights and the Christmas tree. Particular thanks must go to ★  
 ★ Gareth Hopkins, who gave up his time to wire in the lights ★  
 ★ along the High Street and London Road, to Paul Freebury for ★  
 ★ climbing the tree in the churchyard to add to the beautiful ★  
 ★ display of lights, and also to Adrian Griffiths who braved the ★  
 ★ conditions to help Cllr Boulton put the magnificent star on the ★  
 ★ tower. And once again, we would like to thank the Ernest Cook ★  
 ★ Trust for donating the magnificent tree in the Market Place and ★  
 ★ to Tom Paton and Peter Nicholls who helped to put the tree up. ★

Fairford is far more twinkly because of you all!

★ ★

The zip wire is now back up in the Walnut Tree Field. The Council would like to say a massive thank you to Les Webb and LR Engineering for making the zip wire, and to Jerry Dodds and JGD Construction for putting in the foundations. Your generosity has helped to make this project possible.

## Tourism Group

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The aim of the Tourism Group, which consists of representatives from the Town Council, the Fairford & Lechlade Business Club, the Church, members of the Neighbourhood Development Plan committee and businesses in Fairford, is to increase visitors to the town by either promoting the town as a lovely place to visit or by holding an event every month e.g. Fairford Festival, Christmas Market in order to increase the local economy. It is not intended to encourage mass tourism.

There have been a few positive steps forward for the Group and one exciting project is a photographic competition to showcase what is attractive about our town. More about the competition can be found in this Newsletter.

Cllrs Chris Roberts and Jennie Sanford recently conducted an audit of benches and waste/dog bins to identify places where more of these are needed. As a result of the audit, the Town Council is now considering providing three additional benches in various locations and four waste/dog bins. In addition, the Town Council will be making enquiries about providing more bins and benches on the new developments in Fairford.

In order to promote the Town, Rob Blake, Fairford's Town Crier, will be "crying" in the Market Place at 10am on the last Wednesday of each month. He will be letting everyone know what events will be taking place in the town for the forthcoming month. Why not go along and see/hear him. A good photo opportunity for the photo competition!

## Neighbourhood Plan - update

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As you will have seen from the last Newsletter, work on the Fairford Neighbourhood Plan (FNP) is going well. The Steering Group has now applied for a grant from the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (GRCC) which, together with the grant from the Town Council, will allow the FNP to bring in professional assistance for, in the first instance, Highways and Town Planning. A business questionnaire has now been circulated to Fairford businesses and in the next few weeks all Fairford households will receive their own questionnaire. This is your opportunity to have your say. **Your feedback is essential to the future development of your town.** So please take the time to fill in the questionnaire.

# Fairford Library - 01285 712599

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<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries>

## **Opening Hours:**

Monday & Wednesday 9.30am - 5.00pm, Thursday 9.30am-7.00pm, Saturday 9.30-1.00pm.

Mondays: TODDLER TIME: in term time 10am – 10.30am in Fairford Library. Too old for Baby Bounce and Rhyme time? Have fun with songs, rhymes and stories. For pre-school children aged approximately 2 years – school age and their grown ups

Tuesdays: STAY and PLAY @ The Children's Centre in Fairford Library: every Tuesday in term time 1.30pm – 3 pm. Free event. Messy play, arts and crafts, singing and music group for toddlers, pre-school children parents and carers to come and play together

Wednesdays: BABY BOUNCE AND RHYME TIME: 10.30am – 11am in Fairford Library. Sing along, wiggle and jiggle, for babies up to 2 years and their grown ups

Thursdays: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays: LIBRARY CLUB: 11am – 12noon in Fairford Library. Are you unable to get to the library, but would like to come to borrow books and have a cuppa and a chat at the same time? Or do you know of someone who is unable to get out and about and would like this service? Transport with disabled facilities is provided. If so, please contact us on 01285 712599

WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER – 2.30 – 3.30 P.M.

CHILDREN`S EVENT – ALL AGES

“LET`S GET READY FOR SANTA!!!”

Bookable event



**WIFI is available at the library.**

## Fairford Community Centre

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Once again there is a **Christmas Day Lunch** in the Community Centre for individuals and couples in Fairford, and surrounding villages, who would otherwise be on their own and would like some company. Please join us at Fairford Community Centre from Mid-day on Christmas Day. If you, or someone you know is interested in coming along then please contact Amanda or Mervyn Culley to reserve your place – 01285 712700. Lifts can be arranged. *Also if you are interested in helping out on the day please get in touch.*

All well as all the regular groups and activities, we have lots of events taking place at the Centre over the festive period. Please come and support your local community / groups, for further details and a list of events please go to our website [www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org](http://www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org) and go to the News Update link on the left hand side.

Tel: 01285 711571

Bookings@fccentre.co.uk      Manager@fccentre.co.uk  
[www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org](http://www.fairfordcommunitycentre.org)

## Palmer Hall

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If you are looking for somewhere to hold a fairly large event, such as a wedding reception, anniversary 'do', birthday bash or staging a play then consider the Palmer Hall, London Street, Fairford. (See pictures on our web site). It has a fully fitted kitchen with optional use of crockery and cutlery at no extra cost. There is a stage with new fully functional stage lighting and curtains; also a projector and a large screen for film/PowerPoint presentations.

Palmer Hall has a full drinks licence. It now has new and improved lighting.

To book telephone Steve on 712189 or Pam on 713087 or visit our web site [www.thepalmerhall.org](http://www.thepalmerhall.org).

### **Forthcoming films for the Palmer Hall Cinema:**

NO December film

Wednesday 20th January – Where Angels Fear to Tread

## Focus on Fairford Photo Competition

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Do you think Fairford is a lovely place to live? Would you like to capture the beauty of the local countryside, the Cotswold stone buildings, a community event or the riverside walks?

A really good photograph of a beautiful scene certainly entices people to visit the place where it was taken and that is exactly the purpose of a photographic competition being organised by the Fairford Tourism Group. The group, which is working in conjunction with the FLB Club, Fairford Town Council, Cotswolds Tourism and various local businesses, wants to encourage more visitors to the town and increase the town's economy and trade for local businesses.

The competition, entitled Focus on Fairford, will run between Christmas and Easter (1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016), during which time there should be lots of opportunities to take some really lovely photos. All digital entries should be emailed to FocusOnFairford@outlook.com by midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

There will be three categories:

Adult, Secondary School age & Primary School age

Thanks to sponsorship from Business West, a prize of £50 will be awarded to the winning adult and £25 each for the winning school children.

Photographs taken by the finalists from each category will be displayed in the Community Centre and the winners will be chosen by an independent panel of judges comprising Ian Mean of Business West; Peter Paredes of Paredes Photography and Jennie Sanford, Mayor of Fairford.

### Terms & Conditions

- You can submit up to five digital images (maximum of 1MB per image) taken within the timescale of the competition i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.
- The images should, in your opinion, best reflect the beauty and uniqueness of Fairford and can be anything from a local event to a fantastic view across a landscape, or a dry stone wall, historic building, ancient woodland or a beautiful river scene.
- Each image should include your name, address, telephone number, email address and, in the case of the children categories, your school year and date of birth.
- Each image should also include the date the photograph was taken and should have a title saying where it was taken.
- Entries should be emailed to: FocusOnFairford@outlook.com by midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Images received after that date will not be accepted.
- Images of places other than Fairford will not be accepted.
- By entering this competition, you agree to the Fairford Tourism Group using your images in all future media publicity.
- The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



## **It's time to start planning for Fairford & Lechlade Business Club's Business Awards**

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The date for the FLBClub Business Awards is **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2016** and it will be held once again at The Crown of Crucis Hotel, Ampney Crucis, GL7 5RS starting at 7pm. Tickets cost £32 for members and £37 for non-members. If you would like to book your place, please get in touch with [admin@flbc.org.uk](mailto:admin@flbc.org.uk). There is also a facility on our website [www.flbc.org.uk](http://www.flbc.org.uk) to book and pay on line. Businesses entering the Awards should either be members of the FLBClub or should be located in the GL7, GL54, SN6, SN7 or OX18 postcode areas. The Club welcomes entries from all types of company or organisation, whatever the nature or size of your business. You can either enter your own business or nominate someone else.

The categories are:

- Business of the Year
- Business Person of the Year
- New Business of the Year
- Most Innovative Business of the Year
- Most Outstanding Business Student Award (chosen from the Yr 11 Business Students at Farmor's School)
- The Howard Dowler Award (presented by the Chair to an individual or business that has demonstrated an outstanding contribution to the local community and is a current member of the FLBClub).

### **How to enter**

Entries are by way of a completed entry form, which is available to download online from [www.flbc.org.uk](http://www.flbc.org.uk) or by contacting [admin@flbc.org.uk](mailto:admin@flbc.org.uk). The closing date for submissions is 12 noon on **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015**.

## **Fairford & District Choral Society**

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Following November's final concert with John Read, the baton has now passed to a new conductor Marysia Gorska. Originally from Poland, Maria is a gifted musician, who comes with lots of experience playing (guitar, piano and violin), conducting and teaching both adults and children. Rehearsals resume on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at Fairford United Church, 7.30 – 9.30 pm and new singers are always very welcome! The choir will be preparing for the next concert – Handel's Messiah on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016. Please visit the choir's website for more details : [www.fairford.org/choralsociety](http://www.fairford.org/choralsociety).

## Christmas and New Year Waste collection

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Collections on all days are unchanged until Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December.

**Normal collection day**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December

**New collection day**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Collection will return to normal on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January.

## 50 Years of Fairford Preservation Trust

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The inaugural FPT meeting was on December 13<sup>th</sup> 1965 in the Palmer Hall and 180 members of the public attended. Dr Charlton Shaw was the driving force and founder. The first annual subscription was 2s 6d (OAP's 1s) with life membership of £5. Of the original Committee only Martin Lee-Browne (with the role of legal adviser) is still in the town. At that time many buildings were being torn down and new buildings erected. A need was seen to preserve old buildings and promote the sympathetic design of new ones and also to preserve the structure and life of the town. Over the years FPT has given donations to various projects and organisations, planted trees around the town, contributed to town celebrations and presented awards to well designed building projects and generally attempted to make Fairford a better place to live.

**To celebrate 50 Years of FPT, an event with refreshments will be held on Thursday 21 January at lunchtime, all former and present members as possible will be contacted and receive an invitation. If you have been or are an FPT member please put the date in your diary. More details to follow later.**

After 50 years FPT has realised that it is necessary to meet the needs of a changing community and at the 2016 AGM will change its name to 'Fairford Community Voice'. It will have much the same aims and aspirations as formerly but will also join with the Fairford Environmental Society and Fairford Planning Watch.

For more information please contact:  
Alison Hobson 01285 711768  
[info@fairfordpreservationtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@fairfordpreservationtrust.org.uk)

## Fairford Dial-a-Ride Timetable

*Cirencester: Thursdays departing Fairford 08.30am(1) & 09.00(2)  
returning 11.15am & 12.15 cost 3.80*

<b>January 2016</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Depart Fairford AM</b>	<b>Return PM</b>	<b>Fare</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Swindon Orbital	10.00	2.00	5.90
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Fairford Market - Villages	09.00	11.15	Variable
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Witney	09.00	1.00	7.20
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Carterton Market (Replaces Cirencester 1)	08.30	12.00	5.30
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Cheltenham (limited seats)	08.30	1.00	8.60
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Fairford Market - Villages	09.00	11.15	Variable
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Central Swindon	08.30	12.15	5.90
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Cheltenham	08.30	1.00	8.60
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Burford Garden Centre	09.00	12.30	5.50
<b>February 2016</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Depart Fairford AM</b>	<b>Return PM</b>	<b>Fare</b>
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Swindon Orbital	10.00	2.00	5.90
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Fairford Market - Villages	09.00	11.15	Variable
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Carterton Market (Replaces Cirencester 1)	08.30	12.00	5.30
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Witney	09.00	1.00	7.20
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Witney (Limited Seats)	09.00	1.00	7.20
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Fairford Market - Villages	09.00	11.15	Variable
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Central Swindon	08.30	12.15	5.90
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Cheltenham	08.30	1.00	8.60
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lechlade Garden Centre	09.00	12.30	3.70

### **All Departure Times are from Fairford Fire Station**

All departure times are from the Fire Station and NOT arrival at your home. To book seats please ring 01285 713852 (Jill or Clive) or pop into the Community Centre Office Mon-Fri 0800-1200.



# FESTIVE MARKET

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

**Fairford Market Place**

**6.30pm-8.30pm**

**Browse around a wide range of stalls in a  
friendly, festive atmosphere**

**Switching on the Christmas tree lights!**

**Hear A Splash of Red sing!**

**Street Entertainment!**

**Funfair!**

**Santa & Friends will be in the Grotto!**



**Christmas starts here!!**