



CHEQS MAGAZINE



June 2022



COTSWOLD TREES

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THE COLN VALLEY MIXED DOUBLES OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH CHEDWORTH GL54 4NE

A day of social and competitive tennis played on delightful local private courts. Celebrating its 40th year, this unique event raises funds for the club & the churches of Coln St Dennis, Coln Rogers & Chedworth. Early booking advised.

For full details and to enter
<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandVallyTC/Events>

colnvalleytournament@gmail.com
Caroline Baker 07733 322176

THIS AD SPACE AVAILABLE IN FULL COLOUR



**£150 per year from January
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Contact the editor
cheqsmagads@gmail.com

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landlord@thekeepersarms.co.uk

*Hello from...
Beryl Whiteley*



Fyfield is a small hamlet in the parish of Eastleach, but actually closer to Southrop. My husband Rick and I moved here 24 years ago. We'd been living happily in Highworth, but Rick said one day, "Shall we move?"

The boys had all flown the nest, so it was an ideal time. I said I would only move for something special and, after a lot of searching, we found it in Fyfield. About five years ago, a couple of barn owls also agreed that this place was ideal. We love watching them swoop in and out of our cart-barn, although they make a dreadful mess!

I was born in Essex, but left at eighteen to do VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas) and was placed in Tehran, Iran (or Persia as it was then, in 1966, and the Shah was still there.) This was a fascinating and challenging year. I was teaching English to young children, often in classes of fifty. At Nowruz (New Year festival) in the March we were able to travel to the ancient cities of Isfahan and Shiraz and see the wonders of Persepolis. Iran is such a beautiful country.

After my year in Iran, I went to Exeter University to study geography. I met Rick, three weeks in, at the Caving Club - and many wet, muddy trips down the Mendip caves followed. We married six weeks after I graduated. We couldn't celebrate our Golden Wedding as we wanted, because of the pandemic. Our planned party and lunch came down to a super BBQ with two sons, daughter-in-law and our two wonderful grand-daughters. Youngest son David was stuck working in Singapore, but we did see him at Christmas, after a two year gap.

That year in Iran influenced me hugely. Volunteering became a theme everywhere we've lived. My motto has always been "Why do nothing, if you can only do a little". I've been on various committees and set up a club for mothers of twins after I had our twins. At present, I chair Southrop Ladies, help with the Eastleach and Southrop Friendship Circle, enjoy our local Book Club, support Southrop Shop, and organise a weekly Sainsbury delivery in Fyfield that four of us share - it was so useful in lockdown that it has continued. Oh, and we run the gardening stall at Eastleach fete. Rick and I also hope to return to Coln Choir in the autumn. All worthwhile activities and through them we have made some really lovely friends.

Rick and I enjoy travelling. His work, as a scientist working on international fire standards, took him all over the world and after my retirement (from teaching and various marketing/customer service jobs) I was often able to go with him. Wherever we go now, we always enjoy returning to Fyfield. The quiet, the large skies, the river, the clapper bridge and the glorious countryside around make it a very special place.

CRAFT & PUDDING COMPETITION

Quenington, Coln & Hatherop
Jubilee celebration

Craft and Pudding competition

Children's Jubilee Craft Competition

- Create your own Jubilee crown
- Draw a Jubilee picture
- Write a Jubilee poem

There are three age categories: under 4's, 4-7 year olds and 7+.

Adult Jubilee Pudding Competition
Create your own pudding fit for the Queen!

Please bring all entries on the day before 2pm, Sunday 5th June

The Quenington, Coln and Hatherop Jubilee celebration has competitions for different age groups:

Children's Jubilee Craft Competition: Under 4 years, 4 - 7 years, and over 7 years.

You can:

- 👑 Create your own Jubilee crown
- 👑 Draw a Jubilee picture
- 👑 Write a Jubilee poem

Jubilee Pudding Competition: create your own pudding fit for the Queen!

Please bring all entries **before 2pm** on the day - Sunday, 5th June.

QUENINGTON, COLN & HATHEROP JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Sunday, 5th June from 1 - 5pm

An afternoon of fun for all CHEQS residents - in the field at the bottom of Quenington Hill:

- 👑 Beer tent
- 👑 Jazz band
- 👑 Bouncy castle & rodeo bull
- 👑 Giant slippy slide
- 👑 Tug-of-war
- 👑 Fun dog show
- 👑 Races - kids & adults
- 👑 Teas, cakes, ice creams
- 👑 Face painting
- 👑 Gilo's Food Van (cash only) or bring your own picnic.

Quenington, Coln & Hatherop
Jubilee celebration

Sunday 5th June 1-5pm

- 👑 Beer Tent
- 👑 Jazz band
- 👑 Ice Creams
- 👑 Bouncy Castle & Rodeo Bull
- 👑 Tug of War
- 👑 Fun Dog Show
- 👑 Giant slippy slide
- 👑 Kids and adult races
- 👑 Kids Craft Competition
- 👑 Teas & Cakes
- 👑 Face Painting
- 👑 Bring a Picnic or enjoy a burger from Gilos food van (cash only please)

In the field at the bottom of Quenington hill, at the start of the Bibury loop.

Come and enjoy a day of frolics!!

EASTLEACH PLAYING FIELD
EASTLEACH
frolics

Arrive for 11:30am

Thursday 2nd June 2022

12pm

CHILDREN'S FOOTBALL

12:30

CHILDREN'S & ADULTS TOUCH RUGBY

1pm

ADULTS FOOTBALL (MARRIED VS UNMARRIED)

Followed by...

2pm

CHILDREN'S RACES & OBSTACLE COURSE

BBQ/Bouncy castle and other activities throughout!

Victoria Inn Public House

5pm

FUN & GAMES THEN DOWN TO THE RIVER FOR...

FROLICS REGATTA

Make your own boat from recycled materials (no motors)!

Prizes for winners and 'best looking boat' - open to all ages!

£1 entry fee.

Finally,

THE LEGENDARY TUG OF WAR!

For further details, contact Dylan on dylan_jones93@hotmail.com

QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL - 100 CLUB - MAY WINNERS

1st prize (£15) No. 47 - Irene Smith 2nd prize (£10) No. 60 - David Smethurst

QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

No coffee morning in June



It was good to be able to hold the May coffee morning outside in the car park, with lovely sunny weather. £135 was raised for the **Trussell Trust**, who support Food Banks, and campaign to end the need for them in the UK.



QUENINGTON CAR BOOT SALE

No car boot sale in June. Other dates for the diary are: 3rd July & 31st July, 21st August, 18th September and 1st October.

SOUTHROP JUBILEE PUBLIC EVENTS

Thursday, 2nd June, 10am - 4pm, Southrop Village Hall

The village photographs and archives will be on display.

Friday, 3rd June 10am - 4pm, Southrop Village Hall

A display of working Hornby Dublo model railways - all are welcome, and can participate in the action!

COLN VALLEY MIXED DOUBLES OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Saturday, 25th June

If you enjoy playing tennis, and would like the opportunity to compete locally at a fun event which supports the churches of Coln St Dennis, Coln Rogers & Chedworth, contact Caroline Baker on 07733 322176 for information about how to enter. **This paid-for advert supports the CHEQS Magazine, so mention CHEQS Magazine when you book, so they know it's worth it!**



THE COLN VALLEY MIXED DOUBLES OPEN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH

CHEDWORTH GL54 4NE

A day of social and competitive tennis played on delightful local private courts. Celebrating its 40th year, this unique event raises funds for the club & the churches of Coln St Dennis, Coln Rogers & Chedworth. Early booking advised.

For full details and to enter
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colnvalleytournament@gmail.com
Caroline Baker 07733 322176

BABY AND ME

Being a parent is hard, and having a new baby can be overwhelming. 'Baby and Me' is a weekly postnatal group for parents with babies aged 0-6 months, run by the charity Home-Start Cotswolds. It is a great opportunity to build your confidence as a parent, share experiences and learn more about your baby's development in a friendly, supportive environment. Each week we cover a different topic, such as feeding, play and communication, baby massage and, of course, sleep! Here is some feedback we received from parents in the group that took place earlier this year...

"The Baby and Me classes were a highlight of our week. It provided a safe space to discuss any queries about looking after my baby or even just to get some moral support and share experiences with other new mums. The play and music session really inspired me and helped me grow in confidence when playing with my baby."

"It helped build my confidence. I learned a lot talking to other parents and realised a lot of things I was going through were normal, like loneliness and anxiety."

The group started on Friday, 20th May and ends on Friday, 15th July, with no session on 3rd June. It runs from **11am to 12.30pm** at **Fairford Library**, London St, Fairford.

Don't worry if you've missed some sessions - just call us on **01285 885391** or email **Groups@home-start-cotswolds.org.uk** to book your place. We look forward to hearing from you!



Baby and Me



Postnatal support
for new parents

We run weekly postnatal groups for parents
with babies aged 0-6 months.

This is a great opportunity for you to build your
confidence as a parent, share experiences and learn
more about your baby's development.

Topics include:

- Feeding
- Baby Massage
- Play and Communication
- Sleep

Fairford Library, GL7 4AQ
Friday 20 May to Friday 15 July
11am-12.30pm



To book your place...

Email: groups@home-start-cotswolds.org.uk

Tel: 01285 885391

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

From members of the Eastleach & Southrop Friendship Circle



Princess Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth on the death of her father, King George VI, in 1952, but the coronation took place on 2nd June 1953.

Sally: “We bought a television especially so we could watch the Coronation. My father was so proud bringing it in.”



Barbara: “I remember having a really great street party. Those were the days.”

Jean: “I was nursing in Trowbridge and we watched the Coronation in Matron’s sitting room, which was a great privilege.”

Mike: “I was working on the Northleas farm near Highworth and had to milk the cows at 4.30am on the morning of the Coronation. I worked on the same farm for 40 years and when I first started, we milked into buckets.”

Shirley: “In Eastleach we had a Mad Hatters Tea Party in the big dryer barn at the Manor Farm. I was a dormouse and had to keep my head down.”

Ann: “I remember watching TV on a small screen in a neighbour’s house – it was such a long ceremony!”

Val: “I remember the huge Queen of Tonga sitting a carriage in the pouring rain. She wouldn’t let them put the hood down!”

Margie: “We didn’t have a television so we stayed with my uncle and aunt, and watched in black and white on a tiny screen. The Queen was in a beautiful carriage going down the Mall.”





Eastleach Jubilee Celebration

Free Entry
Saturday 4th June 2022
Village Hall

2:30 - 5:30

Cake & Tea Dance (dress
vintage)

6:00

Locally sourced BBQ's
(vegetarian options available)



7:30 - 9:30

Bar & Local live bands
'Mouth of the Thames'
+ 'Periculum'

Dress code: red, white, blue, come as
your favourite royal



All proceeds to Eastleach village hall

All CHEQS residents are welcome. If you would like to eat, email
ncrowesis@gmail.com to say how many, and meat or vegan.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS



Hatherop Church of England Primary School

Caring, Believing, Achieving

website: <https://www.hatherop.gloucs.sch.uk/>

Life Education in the 'Lifespace' by Noah T:



“On Friday 29th of April the Lifespace Education came to school to teach us all about our body and how to keep it safe. Alex told us about how dangerous sugary drinks can be and we saw how the human body functions. We found out that your nerve travels at a speed of 250mph! Lastly, we helped Harold and Derik win the talent show by sorting out an argument. We really enjoyed seeing

Harold, Derik, Kiki and Alex and we can't wait to see them again next year!”

We recently had a Rabbi visit Skylark and Kingfisher classes. He explained that Rabbi meant teacher and that they all knew of one very famous Rabbi, Jesus. The children all listened carefully as he told them more about his religion. He brought in candles and explained how they were lit and blessed on Shabbat. He also had lots of family stories to share.



We are very proud of all the year 6 children who did their SATS in May. They worked hard all year and were more than ready for the assessments. They all enjoyed sharing breakfast together before school, which left them in good spirits and ready to start their tests. We know that they have all done their best and can now really enjoy their final term at primary school.

We currently have spaces in our Year 4,5 and 6 classes. If you are interested in a place and would like to have a look around the school, please contact the office on admin@hatherop.gloucs.sch.uk

VILLAGE CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCILS

Coln St Aldwyns (website www.colnstaldwyns.com/council.html)

Chair: David Hicks Beach 01285 750482

Clerk: Clare Brignall 01285 752662 colnsaparishclerk@gmail.com

Hatherop (website www.hatheroppc.com/)

Chair: James Hart

hatheropparishcouncil@gmail.com

Clerk: Jacky Sykes

as above

Eastleach (website www.eastleachparishcouncil.org)

Chair: VACANT

Clerk: Ann Tyldesley 01367 860130 eastleachpc@btinternet.com

Quenington (website www.queningtonvillage.uk)

Chair: Mike Scott 01285 750433

Clerk: Penny Ibbotson 01285 750000 queningtonpc@gmail.com

Southrop (website www.southrop.org.uk)

Chair: Tim Guest 01367 850189

Clerk: Vanessa Lawrence 07876 252398 spcclerk2017@outlook.com

VILLAGE HALLS

Eastleach eastleachvhall@gmail.com

Quenington www.queningtonvillage.uk

queningtonvillagehall@gmail.com

Southrop Caroline Simmons 01367 850171

southropvillagehall@gmail.com

Jubilee Close Andy Howarth 01367 850400



SCHOOLS

Hatherop C/E Primary School 01285 750318

Head, Taryn Hancock

Southrop C/E Primary School 01367 850246

Heads, Megan Davies & Julia McLellan

Hatherop Castle School 01285 750206

Head, Nigel Reed

OTHER VILLAGE COMMUNITY GROUPS

S & E Friendship Circle

Jane Jenkinson 01367 850393

Quenington Baby & Toddler Group (CHEQS+) Term time on Mondays - please book weekly, in the preceding week margaret.stranks@gmail.com 07729 129578 (WhatsApp preferred)

COLN COMMUNITY STORES



www.colnstores.co.uk
or 01285 750294

| | Shop | Café | Post Office* |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Monday - Friday | 8am - 4.30pm | 8am - 3.30pm | 9am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 4pm |
| Saturday | 8am - 2pm | 8am - 1pm | 9am - 11.30am |
| Sunday | 9am - 1pm | 9am - 12pm | CLOSED |

*NB the collection from the post box outside the Stores is at **4pm Monday - Friday**

BANK HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

| | Shop | Café | Post Office |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Thursday, 2 nd June | 9am - 1pm | 8am - 12pm | CLOSED |
| Friday, 3 rd June | 9am - 1pm | 8am - 12pm | CLOSED |

SHOP & POST OFFICE - SOUTHPROP VILLAGE HALL



Coffee Morning, Shop & Post Office
Wednesdays 8.45am to 11.45am

LLOYDS BANK MOBILE UNIT



The mobile bank is due to be in Market Place, Fairford on:
Wednesday, **8th June** and Wednesday, **22nd June**, from
10am to 12.15pm.

CHEQS DIARY 2022

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|---|-----|
| Wednesdays | 10.30am - 12pm | Talking Café, Fairford Community Centre | |
| Thur 2 nd June | from 11.30am | Eastleach Frolics | p3 |
| Thur 2 nd June | evening | CHQ Jubilee beacons etc | |
| Thur 2 nd June | 10am - 4pm | Southrop village archives, village hall | p4 |
| Fri 3 rd June | 10am - 4pm | Hornby Dublo trains, Southrop village hall | p4 |
| Sat 4 th June | from 2.30pm | Eastleach Jubilee Celebrations | p7 |
| Sat 4 th June | 5 - 8pm | Fresh Air Private View for CHEQS residents | p13 |
| Sun 5 th June | 1 - 5pm | CHQ Jubilee celebrations, bottom of Quenington Hill | p2 |
| Thu 9 th June | 3pm | E & S Friendship Circle, Southrop Village Hall | p16 |
| Sat 11 th June | 1 - 4pm | Southrop Village Fête | p18 |
| Sat 11 th June | 9.30am - 12.30pm | Lechlade Repair Café, Memorial Hall | |
| Sun 26 th June | 3pm | Walking for Wellbeing, Fairford Community Centre | p15 |
| Wed 29 th June | 2 - 6pm | Langford Downs Farm, open gardens | p17 |

CHURCH SERVICES

Check out the church websites, where available, for more information!



CHEQS CHURCHES:

[Coln, Hatherop & Quenington](#)

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 5 th June | 10.30am | Platinum Jubilee Service | St Swithin's, Quenington |
| 12 th June | 10.30am | HC - Trinity Sunday | St Nicholas, Hatherop |
| 19 th June | 10.30am | Holy Communion | St Swithin's, Quenington |
| 26 th June | 10.30am | Holy Communion | St John the Baptist, Coln |
| | 6pm | Taizé - prayer and meditation | St Swithin's, Quenington |

[St Andrew's Church, Eastleach](#)

| | | |
|-----------------------|------|---------------------------------------|
| 5 th June | 11am | Jubilee Thanksgiving with Gordon Land |
| 12 th June | 11am | Holy Communion with Rev. Jean Brown |
| 19 th June | 11am | Morning Prayer with Gordon Land |
| 26 th June | 11am | Morning Prayer with Gordon Land |

Details of readings and readers, will be available on the church porch notice board.

[St Peter's Church, Southrop](#)

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------|
| 5 th June | 10am | Jubilee Service |
| 12 th June | 9.30am | Morning Prayer |
| 19 th June | 9.30am | Morning Prayer |
| 26 th June | 6pm | Evensong |

[Williamstrip Chapel](#): Mass is usually celebrated on Sundays at 9.30am

FAIRFORD & LECHLADE CHURCHES:

[RC Church of St Thomas of Canterbury](#), Horcott Road, Fairford

Mass is usually held on Saturday 10am & 6pm, Sunday 11am, Wednesday 6.30pm, and Thursday 10am, but please read [the latest Newsletter](#) online before setting out, to check for any changes.

[Fairford United Church](#) Milton Street, Fairford
Sunday worship is at 10.30am.

[St Lawrence Church](#), Market Place, Lechlade
Sunday services at 8am, 10am & 5pm, and
Thursdays at 10am.



CHURCH CONTACTS

COLN ST ALDWYNS, HATHEROP & QUENINGTON CLERGY

Rev Simon Brignall The Vicarage, Church Lane, Coln St Aldwyns GL7 5AG
(Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun) 01285 752662 chqvicar@gmail.com

EASTLEACH & SOUTHPROP CLERGY

Rev Andrew Cinnamond The Vicarage, Sherborne Street, Lechlade GL7 3AH
(day off Tuesday) 01367 253651 vicar@stlawrencelechlade.org.uk
Gordon Land 01367 252050 walreader44@gmail.com
(Lead Minister for Eastleach)

C of E CHURCH WARDENS

CHQ VACANT
Eastleach Tim Lawson 01367 850756 or 07855 264360 timglawson@me.com
Southrop Jerry Hibbert 07766 084051 jerry@hibbertralph.com

C of E SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

CHQ Edwina Hicks 07970 799270 chqsafeguarding@gmail.com
Eastleach Nicole Backhouse 07780 605717
Southrop Rhona Reid 01367 850295

C of E YOUTH WORKER

CHEQS & beyond Chris Saunders 07918 732040 saundersc2014@gmail.com

CATHOLIC PARISH PRIEST

Father Michael Robertson 01285 712586 michael.robertson@cliftondiocese.com

WILLIAMSTRIP CHAPEL CHAPLAIN

Rev J Felix Stephens OSB 01285 740374 jfs.osb@ampleforth.org.uk

FAIRFORD UNITED CHURCH

Rev Wendy Tucker 01285 653655 Secretary: Rachel Emmerson 01451 844532

OTHER INFORMATION

HOSPITALS Fairford: out-patients only 0300 421 6470 Cirencester 0300 421 6200

SURGERIES Hilary Cottage, Fairford 01285 712377 Lechlade Medical Centre 01367 252264

PHARMACIES Boots, Fairford 01285 712350, Lechlade Pharmacy 01367 252285

GCC COMMUNITY WELL-BEING SERVICE 01452 528491

WORKING for WELLBEING 07555 738138 contact the coordinator for groups, info & help

POLICE non-emergency: phone 101 or email 101@gloucestershire.police.uk

Quenington Defibrillator outside Quenington Village Hall for use by anyone in emergency.
Trained volunteers available on **01285 610210** but ALWAYS RING 999 FIRST!

PLEASE LET THE EDITOR KNOW IF THE TIMETABLE NEEDS UPDATING (updated April 2021)

Bus Service 76 Mon, Tue, Thu: Southrop 09:16, Eastleach 09:24, Hatherop 09:30, Quenington 09:37 to Fairford & Cirencester. Return leaves Cirencester at 12:40 and Fairford at 13:28. Sat: **S** 09:47, **E** 09:54, **H** 10:00, **Q** 10:07, **F** 10:15 Return leaves Ciren 14:20 Fairford 15:05

Community Connexions Community Bus book in advance on 03456 805029 for the door-to-door service on Thursdays to Cirencester; free with a bus pass or £8 each way

The Trustees of the **Quenington Sculpture Trust** invite you
to the **Private View** of

FRESH **AIR** SCULPTURE 2022

at **Quenington Old Rectory GL7 5BN**
on **Saturday 4th June 5pm – 8pm**

Refreshments by **Gilbertine Kitchen**
Chedworth Silver Band from 6.30pm
Cash Bar run by **Hatherop Primary School PTA**



Exhibition runs from **Sunday 5th – Sunday 26th June 2022**

Quenington Sculpture Trust is a registered charity no. 1071956

www.freshairsculpture.com

@freshairsculpture

ALL CHEQS RESIDENTS ARE INVITED

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK 1ST - 7TH JUNE

Our villages are full of volunteers, giving their time and often money, to help various good causes - in the villages, in Fairford, Lechlade or Cirencester, or even further afield. This magazine would not be in your hands if it were not for the volunteers who deliver them each month!



One of the magazine's village coordinators, Rachel Coates, has recently been appointed as the Volunteer Coordinator for Working for Wellbeing (W4W). CHEQS Magazine has followed the progress of W4W over the past couple of years - from the research into what was needed, to it being set up, and to achieving charitable status.

Rachel writes: W4W supports various community support events, such as the popular Talking Café in Fairford Community Centre each Wednesday from 10.30am – 12pm which is free of charge and welcomes everyone. The volunteers ensure that everyone who walks through the door enjoys a big welcome and gets a cuppa too. We offer digital inclusion support and wellbeing walks, and had a hand in setting up the Fairford youth club. We supported the creation of the new Fairford Men's Shed and the Fairford Crafters. A Lechlade Talking Café starts on 9th June, and the list goes on...Keep an eye on social media or your local noticeboard to hear more!

We are a team of two staff, supported by our Trustees and a brilliant family of volunteers. Our volunteers are the beating heart of our charity, and we couldn't do any of our outreach without them. From our trustees to our digital buddies and coffee makers, each one is equally special and important.

Meet our volunteer Beth Verrechia



I live in Southrop with my two children, aged 11 and 14, and husband whose age I won't disclose! As well as volunteering for W4W as a Trustee, I am very lucky to work at Blue Cross Animal Welfare Charity as their People and Development Director. I adore skiing, I also run regularly and have recently completed a half marathon thanks to the support of the Southrop running and walking group. I also enjoy reading and attending a local book club.

During the pandemic I was very impressed with all the work W4W were doing to support the community, such as the wellbeing walks and café. It was great to see, and I felt proud that our community was so caring and proactive. I wanted to help and to be a part of it. If, as a community, we can all support and help each other just think what a difference we can make to each other's lives.

Meet our volunteer Lynda Tubbs

I've lived in Lechlade for 28 years with my husband and, for many years, my two daughters. Before retirement, I was a Key Stage 2 teacher and, latterly, an IT Manager, teaching Information Technology across the whole age range from 5-11. Post retirement, I've volunteered with Lechlade Community Library since 2012 and with Historic England, where I coordinate a team of volunteers on a digital project.

When I saw that Working 4 Wellbeing were planning to run their own digital project, supporting people to use technology more confidently, I felt that this would be a great opportunity for me to use my skills as a mentor while doing what I love. I find that volunteering provides an opportunity to meet and interact with new people – always an uplifting experience. I have always enjoyed working as part of a team and helping others to achieve their goals and, in this way, I hope that I can make a difference.

Comments from our other volunteers...

"I live in Fairford and wanted to volunteer because I understand how important it is to encourage people back into social situations after a couple of years of the pandemic."

"The Talking Café has been a great success - its popularity speaks for itself. In the last few months, I've noticed a positive change in some of the people who come regularly."

"The Café is a good excuse to have a coffee and a chat in a friendly environment, and to get information (or be pointed in the right direction) about issues that have been hard to find help with - from respite care, to help with heating costs, or technical issues."

"I found out about W4W having taken part in some of the creative classes on offer, and volunteering is my way of saying thank you and making a little bit of a difference in return."

If reading this resonates, and you would like to join our small family of volunteers, we would really welcome you. We are especially keen to hear from anyone willing to make a cuppa at our Fairford café, be a listening ear on our wellbeing walks or at our new Lechlade Talking Café which is starting on 9th June, or in fact anything that you feel you have to offer - we'd love you to join in. Please do get in touch with me by email: volunteercoordinator@working4wellbeing.org.uk or phone: 07385 569303.

WALKING FOR WELLBING

Sunday, 26th June at 3pm

All are welcome to join the volunteers and group for the walk which starts from Fairford Community Centre. For more information, call Mary Ann Dibbs on 07555 738138.



THANK YOU, FROM THE QUENINGTON BULLDOGS



The recent Quenington Bulldogs' Auction proved to be a great success, raising over £14,000 for local good causes including Hatherop Primary School PTA. Thank you to everyone who donated and, of course, to everyone who bid.

SUPPORTING UKRAINAIN REFUGEES

- The recent CHEQS fundraiser for the British Red Cross Ukrainian Refugee Appeal raised a grand total of £13,000 (donations plus Gift Aid). Many thanks to all who helped and participated by giving/buying.
- Ernest Cook Trust is setting up a house in Fairford for Ukrainian refugees, and the organisers are grateful for the donations given by local people for that.
- Several people/families from Ukraine have taken up offers of accommodation locally, and there may be lots of ways of supporting them, and helping them to settle here for however long they need to stay.



EASTLEACH & SOUTHROP FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Thursday, 9th June at 3pm, Southrop Village Hall



Join the Friendship Circle for company, tea and home-made cakes and sandwiches, and often some form of entertainment. Alternating between Eastleach & Southrop village halls, members are welcomed from all the surrounding villages. Small annual subscription, and a small charge for the tea. Contact Jane Jenkinson 01367 850393 for more information.

Members of the Friendship Circle were very sorry to say goodbye to Sally Parris at their May meeting. Sally is leaving Southrop to live nearer her daughter, but has been the main organiser of the Club for over a decade. As a token of the members' appreciation for all the fun and enjoyable times that Sally has helped to organise, she was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a garden token. Sally will be very much missed, but all the members wish her much happiness in her new home.



BUMPER CHEQS MAGAZINE ISSUE THIS MONTH!

It's a busy month, so this issue has more pages than usual. This is only possible due to our advertising revenue, so many thanks to all the businesses and groups who support the magazine. The image on the front cover is used with permission: Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.

HONOURING DICKIE SYKES 8TH MAY 1929 – 6TH JULY 2021

A new bench has been installed at Southrop Village Hall, to commemorate Richard Sykes who helped build the Hall in the 1950s. Building started in the Queen's coronation year, on land donated by Captain Richardson, the then owner of Southrop Manor. It opened in 1955 and has been a much used and loved facility for the community ever since.

Dickie sadly passed away in July last year at the age of 92, leaving behind his widow Hilda, a daughter and three sons. The bench was donated to the family by Southrop Parish Council (SPC) in honour of Dickie, and thanks go to the Village Hall for facilitating its location. The photograph, taken on what would have been Dickie's 93rd birthday, shows Hilda and Martin Sykes sitting on the new bench, flanked by Tim Guest, SPC Chairman, [right] and Colin Medley, of the Village Hall committee [left]. Dickie lived in Fyfield and Southrop all his life and he was a member of one of the several long-standing Southrop families who have done so much for the village over the years.



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Wednesday 29th June

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LANGFORD DOWNS FARM, LECHLADE - OPEN GARDENS Wednesday, 29th June from 2 - 6pm

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Tea and homemade cakes will be available.

Open as part of the National Garden Scheme, with support for the Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities.

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FOCUS ON FARMS



GLOUCESTERSHIRE FARMING FRIENDS

This month Chris Peachey, a retired local farmer, writes about a group which he helped develop, and of which he is the treasurer: Gloucestershire Farming Friends.

The Friends was started by Malcolm Whitaker of Syde, in 1991. His idea was to provide the physical help and moral support that neighbouring farmers used to give each other when there were so many more farmers and workers in the industry. In 1960 one man would work 100 acres, but now that one man, albeit with bigger machinery, can work 1500 acres. This has led to many fewer farming families, and near total isolation at work.



The 15 volunteer Friends, both male and female, vary in age from 25 to 85, and come mostly from a farming background. One of the most active is John Berry from Hatherop who, with Eric Freeman from Tibberton, visits up to 25 farming folk all over the county on a regular basis. Their visits are much appreciated, especially if you know about dairy cows or horses!

Chairman Sue Pullen, who also chaired Gloucestershire Magistrates, brings a wealth of connections in the Gloucester Vale, as well as farming and legal knowledge. We are also lucky to have pro bono advice from the solicitors Ladders. My speciality seems to be with DEFRA.

If we don't have specialist knowledge, we will know someone who does.

Our motto is "physical help and emotional support" for anyone in the rural community in Gloucestershire - totally free and confidential - for as long as it takes... years, sometimes. Because of confidentiality, I can't elaborate and give specific details of what the Friends do, but it can be anything from finding a relief milker, facilitating a BPS payment (Government money), to talking someone out of suicide. Sometimes, a single call to talk over a problem can suffice.

We are affiliated with the national helplines Farming Community Network, Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution and the Addington Fund. The Friends can't take referrals - the approach must be direct, not from a third party. We can be reached by email Info@gloucestershirefarmingfriends.org or by phone 08453 006886 or 07796 572364.



CHEQS Magazine is a free monthly community publication, funded by its advertisers, and delivered by volunteers to about 800 homes in Coln St Aldwyns, Hatherop, Eastleach, Quenington & Southrop.

Current & back-copies of the magazine are available online at:

<http://www.whichq.net/cheqs-magazine.html>

Contributions are welcomed **by the 15th of the previous month.**

They may be edited, and will be included at the editor's discretion.

Contact details for the editor, Margaret Stranks, are: cheqsmagazine@gmail.com
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