# MAGAZINE



March 2023

## COTSWOLD TREES

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contact Joe: 07799877122 email: info@cotswolddrystone.com

## CD COTSWOLD PROPERTY

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01451 509380 www.cotswold-property.com

## Hello from... ... Alun Davies



Known locally as 'the dog man', I've lived in Quenington for the last five years. I own Barking Mad Cotswolds, which advertises on the back of the CHEQS Magazine each month. The business celebrates its 10-year anniversary this year, and I was thrilled that this coincided with being announced as the winner of the Great British Franchisee Award.



Prior to this I worked in Local Government. I decided to follow my passion and love for dogs and submerged myself in a doggy business. There are obvious advantages of working with our furry friends – unconditional love and they very rarely answer back!

I have two sons, the youngest currently doing his A levels and the other in his first year at Gloucestershire University.

When I'm not busy with canines, I do have other interests: I'm an avid sport follower, and I enjoy fishing, and keeping fit and healthy in the gym I built during lockdown.

The sense of belonging and community, living in the heart of the Cotswolds, has been very real and is reminiscent of my upbringing in rural Carmarthenshire. Never was this sense of community more apparent than during the pandemic.

Supporting local businesses is important to me. We are surrounded by wonderful pubs and restaurants, we even have the best fish and chips delivered almost to our doorsteps, and you can procure top quality caviar in the Coln Community Stores!

On a more serious note, I notice that there is far too much dog excrement which is being left to spoil our countryside. It not only impacts on our enjoyment of being outdoors, but can also be a health hazard to both livestock and people. Perhaps a Spring CHEQS clean-up amongst the local dog owning community can act as a catalyst to encourage everyone to pick it up. See page 6 for more information!

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:

https://cheqs.weebly.com/cheqs-magazine.html (note: new web address)

Contributions are welcomed by the 15<sup>th</sup> 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: <a href="mailto:cheqsmagazine@gmail.com">cheqsmagazine@gmail.com</a>
01285 750402 or 07729 129578 3 Old Orchard Court, Coneygar Road, Quenington



## **EASTLEACH & SOUTHROP FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE**

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 3pm, Eastleach Village Hall

This month's activity is MUSIC, with Alan Pettifer. Please contact Jane Jenkinson 01367 850393 or Caroline Simmons 01367 850171 for more information. Annual membership is £5, plus £2 per meeting.

## **FAIRFORD ART SOCIETY**

Thursday,  $2^{nd}$  March at 2.30pm in the Farmor Room, Fairford Community Centre

Nicky Hunter will be demonstrating how to capture 'Spring Flowers in Watercolour'. Visitors welcome - £4. Nicky will also be running a workshop on the same subject, on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> April, from 10am - 4pm. For workshops, a non-refundable deposit of £10 is required, to be paid when names are entered on the list. The balance of £25 will be due four weeks before the event, paid by cheque to Fairford Art Society and sent to John Hewett.

## Farmer George

has a good stock of well-rotted, screened horse manure.

Give your garden the treat it deserves and next summer, may your raspberries be as big as buckets and your roses be prize winners.

For a prompt delivery and service with a smile, please call or email

07970 692292

george@ponsonbyfarms.co.uk

## Farmer George's wheat straw

is beautiful, clean and golden and is exceptional value compared to shavings.

Small bales for easier handling in stables.



Get in touch with Farmer George, he will be keen to do a deal: 07970 692292

george@ponsonbyfarms.co.uk

## FRIENDS OF FAIRFORD & LECHLADE COMMUNITIES

Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March Quiz and Curry Night, 7pm for a 7.30pm start: Round up a group of friends for a night of trivia and fun! £10 per head (includes meal), teams of 6. There will be a bar on the evening. Contact Kerry on admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk or 01285 707300 to book.

**Tuesday, 21st March** AGM, 7pm: Please come along to hear about our achievements in the past year and our plans for the next over a glass of wine / hot drink. Our speaker will be Stephen Andrews, who will give a short talk and demonstration on defibrillators. Fairford Community Centre in the Farmor Room.

**Friday, 31**st **March** Coach trip to Windsor: £20 per person, coach leaves Fairford at 10am and returns approximately 7pm. During your time in Windsor, you'll be free to do as you please (no activities arranged – transport only). Places limited so don't hesitate to book: admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk. All proceeds will go to the charity.

## **COLN ST ALDWYNS, HATHEROP & QUENINGTON**

Sunday, 5th March, Quenington Village Hall from 4 to 5.30pm



A fun-filled time for all ages, with food provided. Roger Scoones will be talking about the very early life of Moses - we'll have songs, craft, and a great time together.

Everyone is welcome!

For more information: heatherwalker39@hotmail.co.uk



## **LECHLADE GARDENING CLUB**

Wednesday, 8th March, Lechlade Memorial Hall, 7.30pm

Lechlade Gardening Club is open to all residents in the town and the surrounding area. This month, Oliver O'Dell from Longcot, near Faringdon, will talk about 'Aquaponics' – do come along to find out more. The current membership fee is £5. The monthly meeting entrance fee is £2 for members and £3 for visitors.

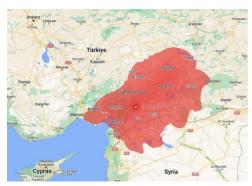


## **COLN ST ALDWYNS PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY**

Civically-minded members of the Coln St Aldwyns community are needed to stand for election to the parish council. There is also a need for a new treasurer. To put your name forward, or to find out more, please contact the parish clerk on colnsaparishclerk@gmail.com

## QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 11th March from 10.30 - 11.45am



You can chat to neighbours, meet new people (possibly!) and enjoy



free hot drinks and home-made cakes. Also see the Fairtrade item below.

This month's charity donations will go to support those suffering in the aftermath of last month's devastating earthquake in Türkiye (Turkey) and Syria.



## **BRING A BOTTLE!**

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 27<sup>th</sup> February to 12<sup>th</sup> March this year so, to celebrate it, Clare Brignall will have a stall at the Quenington Coffee morning on 11<sup>th</sup> March. There will be a quiz, information, and



Fairtrade products to buy, such as shampoo, washing-up liquid, toilet cleaner, and floor cleaner. Please bring your own plastic containers to fill, to cut down on single use plastics.

## **QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL - 100 CLUB - FEBRUARY PRIZES**

1<sup>st</sup> prize £15: No. 19 Rita Dooley

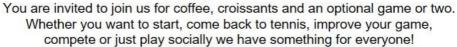
2<sup>nd</sup> prize £10: No. 14 Anne Goddard



## Hill & Valley Tennis Club Chedworth OPEN MORNING

## OPEN MORNING Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm

For all ages and abilities



## We look forward to seeing you!

Please let us know you are coming, use QR code or follow the link below clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/Events

## REPAIR CAFÉS

## Both on the same days - second Saturday of each month

Take broken items for repair at either of our local Repair Cafés, in return for a donation - a great way to prolong their useful life, and cut the use of new resources.

## Saturday, 11th March

Lechlade Repair Café: Lechlade Pavilion Hall, Oak Street, 9.30am – 12.30pm Cirencester Repair Café: Cirencester Baptist Church, 10am – 1.30pm



## **FAIRFORD HISTORY SOCIETY**

## Thursday, 16th March, at 7.30pm, Farmor Room at Fairford Community Centre

Kathy Haslam will speak about Kelmscott Manor. Have a look at their informative website for more items of local interest: <a href="https://www.fairfordhistory.org.uk/meetings/">https://www.fairfordhistory.org.uk/meetings/</a>

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

If anyone isn't yet involved in the local community, and would like to be, do consider offering your time – there's quite a range of options in this month's magazine, and volunteers are always needed to keep our valued community support groups and fun events going!

Also, if you want to see the colour version of the magazine, including back copies, go to <a href="https://cheqs.weebly.com/cheqs-magazine.html">https://cheqs.weebly.com/cheqs-magazine.html</a> (a new web address).



## **EASTLEACH LITTER PICK**

Saturday, 11th March at 10am

Meet at the Victoria Inn - bags and litter picking equipment etc will be provided.

## DO YOUR BIT FOR THE LITTER PICK (COLN ST ALDWYNS)

Saturday, 18th March at 9.30am

We will meet under the chestnut tree by Coln Stores at 9.30am. Do come and join us, as our combined efforts make such a difference to the verges as you enter the village. Pickers, hi-viz waistcoats and bin bags will be supplied. Please bring your own gloves if required. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

## QUENINGTON SPRING CLEAN

Saturday, 18th March at 10am

Quenington Parish Council requests the assistance of parishioners with the annual spring clean. Please meet at the Village Hall, where gloves, hi-viz jackets and bags for collection of rubbish around the village streets and grass verges will be available.

## **SOUTHROP LITTER PICK**

Saturday, 25th and Sunday, 26th March at 10am

Southrop Parish Council writes: We'll meet at the village green, by The Swan, at 10am on either day. You'll be provided with a hi-viz vest, litter picking stick and black bags, and given a specific section of road to cover (probably with a partner). Children welcome. Last year's litter pick was a great success, so please do come along!

## CALLING ALL RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS!

Alun Davies would love to do something to reduce the amount of dog poo found in our villages. If you would like to help him, please get in touch on 01285 711650 or 07770 887950 to see what he has in mind.

## CHQ CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Patti Price writes: Every 6 years the Anglican Church electoral roll gets updated. This year is such a year, so shortly there will be notices on all the church doors inviting those interested to join or re-join their parish church list of members (**the current list has to be scrapped**). There will be further information at the Sunday services. Electoral forms will also be available in church or from the vicar.



## & CHILLI NIGHT!

Southrop Village Hall

Friday 17th March 2023

- Doors open 7.30pm for an 8pm start
- Tickets £10 includes quiz entry and chilli\*
  - Full bar, soft drinks and snacks available
    - Maximum of 6 people per team
    - Cash and Card payments accepted

Tickets available via PTA@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk

All proceeds to Southrop C of E School PTA \*Please let us know of any dietary requirements

## GOVERNOR SOUGHT FOR SOUTHROP C/E PRIMARY SCHOOL

There is a vacancy on the governing body of Southrop C of E Primary School. As a small school, finding a person with the time and skills to dedicate to the role is a real challenge. Are you willing and able to make such a commitment? Being local is not essential, although occasional visits to the school would be beneficial. Ideally, the new governor will have experience in the role, or in leadership in an educational setting. However, if you lack experience but are interested in becoming involved, and are able to commit the time needed to do the role justice, please get in touch. Governors are given external training, as needed, along with access to excellent additional resources and support, to help them fulfil this challenging but rewarding role. The governors are a friendly and supportive group, who all want the school to be the very best it can be. To find out more, contact <a href="mailto:chair@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk">chair@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk</a> or the school office <a href="mailto:admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk">admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk</a> or the school office <a href="mailto:admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk">admin@sou

## **RED NOSE DAY (COMIC RELIEF)**

Friday, 17th March

The schools often have events to support Comic Relief, so you may have an opportunity to support this charity fundraising event, which happens every two years, with Sports Relief filling in the alternate years. There is usually a new red nose designed each year, and this year it is a special folding out one!



There are also red noses which grow – filled with seeds of flowers which bees or butterflies love.

To find out about the projects funded around the world, go to:

https://www.comicrelief.com/what-your-money-does





## **HELP URGENTLY NEEDED**

The Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities will have its house-to-house collection this year, from 17<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> April.

A coordinator and/or some collectors are needed in the **Coln St Aldwyns** area: people who would be happy to deliver envelopes to local residents. The house-to-house collection is the charity's biggest fundraiser and enables such support as end-of-life care and patient transport to people living in the village.

If you are interested or have any questions please contact Kelly Smith, General Manager, <u>GM@friendsoffairford.org.uk</u> or Kerry Simms, Administrator, <u>admin@friendsoffairfrod.org.uk</u>

## MOTHERS' DAY - SUNDAY, 19<sup>™</sup> MARCH

This year, Mothers' Day does *not* follow the night when the clocks go forward! So, mums will get their normal amount of sleep (whatever that might be!) before their special day. It is good to celebrate mothers and motherhood, but also to remember...



## **SOUTHROP VILLAGE HALL EVENT CHANGES**

The dates previously advertised for the March and April events have been swapped:



Saturday 25th March will be a GAMES NIGHT

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April will be a BARN DANCE with the Brimstone Band.

For further details, please check the posters locally.



## **FETES - HELP NEEDED!**

Coln St Aldwyns Children's Group Team writes: The Coln St Aldwyns Children's Fete & CHEQS Produce Show will be making a very welcome return this year, on Saturday 2nd September and once again, by kind permission of Earl St Aldwyn, it will be held in the beautiful grounds of The Mill House.

It will be a fabulous fun day out for children and their families and will raise muchneeded funds for local children's charities.

The fete will open at 12.30pm with a BBQ lunch, bar, a tea & cake tent, a variety of stalls and live music. There will be lots of activities and games for children of all ages, participation will be free for children and they will be able to win prizes!

On display will be the finest veg, flowers and homemade condiments in the area, along with art and craft exhibits from pre-school children upwards - all competing for the wonderful array of trophies and silver cups. Your produce show preparation can kick-off with purchasing our official seed potatoes for the Walter Raleigh Challenge over the Easter Weekend!

We are always in need of volunteers, the fete and produce show is a great community event. If you would like to lend a hand please send an email to <a href="mailto:colnfunday@gmail.com">colnfunday@gmail.com</a>

James Sweeting writes: It is hoped that the Quenington Village Fete will return this year. Help is needed! If you could help with planning the event, or offer your time on the day (which is yet to be decided) please contact me 750345 or email: <a href="mailto:idfsweeting@gmail.com">idfsweeting@gmail.com</a> Thank you!



## VILLAGE CONTACTS

## **PARISH COUNCILS**

Coln St Aldwyns (website <a href="https://www.colnstaldwyns.com/council.html">www.colnstaldwyns.com/council.html</a>)

Chair: David Hicks Beach 01285 750482

Clerk: Clare Brignall 01285 752662 <u>colnsaparishclerk@gmail.com</u>

Hatherop (website <a href="https://www.hatheroppc.com/">www.hatheroppc.com/</a>)

Chair: James Hart hatheropparishcouncil@gmail.com

Clerk: Jacky Sykes as above

Eastleach (website www.eastleachparishcouncil.org )

Chair: Stephen Wells 01367 850028 <u>Stephen@eastleachparishcouncil.org</u>
Locum Clerk: Vanessa Lawrence 07876 252398 <u>clerk@eastleachparishcouncil.org</u>

Quenington (website <u>www.queningtonvillage.uk</u> )

Chair: Mike Scott 01285 750433

Clerk: Rita Walsh 01285 750000 <u>queningtonpc@gmail.com</u>

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 (Taryn Hancock) admin@hatherop.gloucs.sch.uk 01285 750318

Southrop C/E Primary School (Megan Davies & Julia McLellan)

admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk 01367 850246

Hatherop Castle School (Nigel Reed)

admissions@hatheropcastle.co.uk 01285 750206

## OTHER VILLAGE COMMUNITY GROUPS

## S & E Friendship Circle

Jane Jenkinson 01367 850393 or Caroline Simmons 01367 850171

**Quenington Baby & Toddler Group (CHEQS+)** Term time Mondays – book weekly, in the preceding week <a href="mailto:margaret.stranks@gmail.com">margaret.stranks@gmail.com</a> 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                       |

<sup>\*</sup>NB the collection from the post box outside the Stores is at 4pm Monday - Friday



## SOUTHROP SHOP, POST OFFICE & COFFEE MORNING



Wednesdays 8.45 - 11.45am - check out Facebook for updated information.

## LLOYDS BANK MOBILE UNIT

The mobile bank is due to be outside the Community Centre, High Street, Fairford on: Wednesdays 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March, from 10am to 12.15pm. To check on the day, call the mobile branch hotline on 0345 601 6943.





## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

The CHEQS representative: Marion Crawford <a href="mailto:mazerawford@hotmail.com">mazerawford@hotmail.com</a>

## **CHEQS DIARY 2022**

| Wednesdays                | 11am -12.30pm    | Talking Café, Fairford Community Centre          |     |
|---------------------------|------------------|--|-----|
| Wednesdays                | •                | Edna Dawes Lunch Club, Fairford Hospital         | p22 |
| Thursdays                 | 10.30am -12pm    | Talking Café, Baptist Church, Lechlade           |     |
|                           |                  | villages' Spring Clean – various dates & times   | p6  |
| Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar | 2.30pm           | Fairford Art Society, Fairford Community Centre  | p2  |
| Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar | 3pm              | Friendship Circle, Eastleach Village Hall        | p2  |
| Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar   | 4 – 5.30pm       | Messy Church, Quenington Village Hall            | р3  |
| Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Mar   | 7.30pm           | Lechlade Gardening Club, Memorial Hall           | рЗ  |
| Sat 11th Mar              | 10.30 – 11.45am  | QVH Coffee Morning, Fairtrade (bring containers) | р3  |
| Sat 11th Mar              | 9.30am - 12.30pm | Lechlade Repair Café, Lechlade Pavilion Hall     | р5  |
| Sat 11th Mar              | 10am - 1.30pm    | Cirencester Repair Café, Ciren Baptist Church    | р5  |
| Thurs 16th Mar            | 7.30pm           | Fairford History Society                         | р5  |
| Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | 7.30 for 8pm     | Southrop PTA, Quiz & Chilli Night                | р7  |
| Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | 7 for 7.30pm     | Games Night, Southrop Village Hall               | p9  |
| Fri 31st Mar              | 7 for 7.30pm     | Coln Cinema - Benediction                        | p17 |

## THURCH SERVICES

## **CHEQS CHURCHES:**

## Coln, Hatherop & Quenington

|                        |            | _                       |                                |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> March  | 10.30am    | Holy Communion          | St Swithin's, Quenington       |
|                        | 4 – 5.30pm | Messy Church            | Quenington Village Hall        |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> March | 10.30am    | Holy Communion BCP      | St John the Baptist, Coln      |
| 19th March             | 10.30am    | Mothering Sunday Family | Service, St Nicholas, Hatherop |
| 26th March             | 10.30am    | Holy Communion          | St John the Baptist, Coln      |

## St Andrew's Church, Eastleach

| 5 <sup>™</sup> March   | 11am | Matins with Gordon Land                               |
|------------------------|------|---|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> March | 11am | Holy Communion with Andrew Cinnamond                  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> March | 11am | Family Service for Mothering Sunday, with Gordon Land |
| 26th March             | 11am | Matins with Gordon Land                               |

## St Peter's Church, Southrop

| 9.30am | Holy Communion   |
|--------|--|
| 9.30am | Morning Prayer   |
| 9.30am | Morning Prayer (a family service for Mothering Sunday) |
| 9.30am | Morning Prayer (The Annunciation)                      |
|        | 9.30am<br>9.30am                                       |

Williamstrip Chapel: Mass is usually celebrated on Sundays at 9.30am

## **FAIRFORD & LECHLADE CHURCHES:**

Check out the church websites for more information.

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 check the latest Newsletter online before setting out.

<u>Fairford United Church</u> Milton Street, Fairford Sunday service is at 10.30am.

<u>St Lawrence Church</u>, 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 & SOUTHROP CLERGY**

Rev Andrew Cinnamond (day off Tuesday)

The Vicarage, Sherborne Street, Lechlade GL7 3AH (vicar@stlawrencelechlade.org.uk

Gordon Land 01367 252050 walreader44@gmail.com

(Lead Minister for Eastleach)

## C of E CHURCH WARDENS

CHQ James Sweeting idfsweeting@gmail.com David Hicks Beach 01285 750482

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 <a href="mailto:chgsafeguarding@gmail.com">chgsafeguarding@gmail.com</a>

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 ifs.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** Located outside Quenington Village Hall - for use by anyone in emergency, 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



Two eco-tips this month, as many people get the urge to spring clean and sort out their possessions:

**Simplify** your life as much as possible, in terms of 'stuff'. Keep in mind the words of William Morris, the one-time resident of Kelmscott Manor, who said, "Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful." Taking those unused or unwanted items to a charity shop means that someone else can enjoy them, and the charity will benefit from the sale.

**Reduce**: In general, think before you buy any product - do you really need it? How did the production of this item affect the environment, and what further impacts will there be with the disposal of the item (and associated packaging materials)?



## DOG WALKER

Local dog walking and pet sitting service from £15 per hour for one dog £20 per hour for two (detailed price on enquiry)

Contact Michelle: 07936 082122 or Cotswoldconfidante@gmail.com

Friendly professional service

Full DBS and references



## **QUENINGTON CRAFT FAIR**

Quenington Craft Fair will be held in the village from 8.30am until 1pm, with set up from 7.15am. There are a limited number of tables available: 8ft tables @ £10 each, or 6ft tables @ £8 each. There will also be space for up to seven 2x2m gazebos on



hard standing: supply your own gazebo and weights, and your own table, for £12.

The planned dates are: **Sundays**: 14<sup>th</sup> May, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> July, (**not** now in August), and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep. If you are interested in having a stall, email <u>tracey8173@icloud.com</u> with a brief description of your items, to minimise duplications.



## A FILM ABOUT BOOKS...

## ...and an experience of 'collective false memory'?

Margaret Stranks writes: Recently, my husband and I rewatched the classic film 'You've Got Mail' from 1998. It was interesting to be taken back to a time when email was a real

novelty, and smartphones were a thing of the future. The story revolves around the owner of a small, people-centred bookshop, and its threat of closure from a large, money-orientated book chain superstore opening nearby. Both family businesses, but with huge differences of ethos. The interesting thing for us was that when the film ended, we were both waiting for the final scene. However, the scene we had in mind didn't appear. We waited for the credits, to see if it was one of those films which has a bit after the credits... but no, nothing. We were both convinced that the scene we 'remembered' was there when we'd seen the film before, but after some intense internet research, it seems that there has never been a different ending.

Curiously, it also appears that many other people have been in the same situation as us, and thought there was an extra scene, and what they describe is similar to what we thought would be there. I won't say what that is, because I'd be interested to see if anyone else 'remembers' an additional scene – if so, let me know, and describe what the scene was.

This type of collective false memory is sometimes referred to as the 'Mandela effect' (named by paranormal researcher Fiona Broome, who reported having vivid and detailed memories of news coverage of South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela dying in prison in the 1980s, despite Mandela actually dying in 2013 after serving as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999).



As in 'You've Got Mail', books and bookshops or libraries are a recurring theme for writers and film makers:

- The Book Thief (book 2005 by Markus Zusak, film 2013)
- The Bookshop (book 1978 by Penelope Fitzgerald, film 2017)
- Fahrenheit 451 (book 1953 by Ray Bradbury, films 1966 and 2018)
- 84 Charing Cross Road (book, true story, 1970 by Helene Hanff, film 1987)
- The Jane Austin Book Club (book 2004 by Karen Joy Fowler, film 2007)
- The Library (book 2021 by Bella Osborne)
- The Lost and Found Bookshop (book 2020 by Susan Wiggs)

If you would like to write a feature about books or reading, or to write a book review, get in touch with the editor (contact details on page 2).

## **Coln Cinema presents** Come and join us on Friday 31 March Benediction A British period gem and a critics' choice from last year, Benediction is the story of the turbulent life of the famous war poet Siegfried Sassoon (Jack Lowden). Broken by the horror of war, he made his life's journey a quest for salvation, trying to find it within the conformity of marriage and religion. [Cert 12A, 137 minutes] Vicarage Cottage Barn, Coln St Aldwyns Enter via the churchvard and follow signs. Bring a torch. Why not join us for a drink beforehand? Doors open at 7pm with the film starting at 7.30pm We ask for a £4 donation per person on the door and all proceeds go to our parish church, St John the Baptist

## **NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS**



**Southrop Church of England Primary School** 

Together we can fly

Website: www.southrop.gloucs.sch.uk/

Facebook page Southrop C of E Primary School



Julia McLellan writes: We've had a great start to the year, embracing our value for last term which was *creativity*. Our Maths Coordinator, Mrs Dawson, organised another very successful Number Day. The children enjoy using an online system called Times Table Rockstars to encourage them to develop immediate recall of the times tables facts, so the Swans and their teachers all came dressed as rockstars, ready for some times tables battles. The Cygnets were Numbots and Rupert even came as a rubot! Activities included baking number cookies, decorated with the correct number of raisins, writing numbers on the playground, estimating the number of sweets in the jar, tricky number puzzles, and much more. As well as having a whole lot of fun, we were raising money for the NSPCC, so the day ended with a fabulous cake sale.





Year 1 to 6 had an inspiring trip to Oxford to visit the mosque at the Centre for Islamic Studies (CIS) and then going on to the Ashmolean to look at the Islamic art. CIS is an astonishing and beautiful building which opened after 10 years of crafting in 2017. It is filled with ornate hand carved wood and marble, donated from Islamic countries



around the world. The door covering from the Kaaba surprised us and gave an idea of the huge scale of the building in Mecca. We also saw a beautiful cover from the tomb of Mohammad which is embroidered with real gold and silver thread. We would recommend a visit if you ever get the opportunity. The education officer, Caroline, told us the fascinating story of her journey from an English-born non-believer

to her conversion to Islam. We then got to spend some calm and reflective time beneath the immense dome of the prayer hall.

Creativity has been used across the curriculum, writing our own traditional stories with a twist, myths and poems, as well as finding our own unique solutions to maths problems. In Computing the Y5&6s have been enjoying exercising their creative skills to develop stop motion animations.

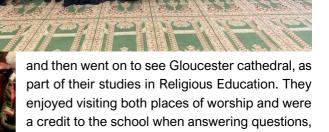
We are always excited at this time of year, as more sports events appear on the calendar. At the moment, we are preparing for a Swimming Gala for the Y5&6s and Multi-Sports festival for Y3&4.

Please take a look at our website and Facebook page to keep up-to-date with what is going on in school.



## Hatherop Church of England Primary School Caring, Believing, Achieving website: https://www.hatherop.gloucs.sch.uk/

Taryn Hancock writes:
As part of their studies in Religious Education, Kingfisher class visited the Masjid-E-Noor Mosque in Gloucester,



and participating in the workshop.



Thanks to a very kind donation, we were able to purchase some new books to expand our inclusive library. They were carefully chosen to show the diversity of our country's population - in race, culture and family setup. There are simple picture books for our younger readers and more detailed chapter books for our older children.

We have also recently bought some new play equipment which the children have been enjoying at playtimes.









## **CLOCKS GO FORWARD**

British Summer Time officially starts on **Sunday**, **26**<sup>th</sup> **March**, so our clocks should go FORWARD by one hour during the previous night.

## TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO ENJOY LOCAL CHOIRS NEXT MONTH

## FAIRFORD & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY

Saturday, 1st April at 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Fairford



The choir will perform works by Stainer: Crucifixion, and Magnificat and Nunc Dimitis in B flat. The conductor is Marysia Gorska-Saj, the organist Robin Baggs, and the soloists David McKee (tenor) and Nicholas Drew (bass).

Tickets cost £15 and are on sale at Fairford Opticians.

## **BURFORD SINGERS CLASSIC CHORAL FAVOURITES**

Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, Church of St John the Baptist, Burford at 7.30pm

Burford Singers with Cotswold Chamber Orchestra will perform Fauré's Requiem and Haydn's Nelson Mass. Tickets reserved at £25 (sold out), £20, £15, and unreserved £10. <a href="www.burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/">www.burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/</a> online booking until 31st March (booking fee), booking in person (unreserved tickets only): until 31st March at The Madhatter Bookshop, 122 High Street, Burford, and on the door. Details on the website <a href="www.burfordsingers.org.uk/events/">www.burfordsingers.org.uk/events/</a>

## ONGOING SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN PEOPLE IN THE UK

The Methodist Church has produced resources for churches to use, marking the first anniversary of the war in Ukraine, which includes a summary of the situation:

On 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022, Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. This came eight years after the illegal annexation of Crimea and the beginning of conflict in the Donbas region. It is difficult to estimate how many people have died as a result of this war, but it is likely in the hundreds of thousands. Around 8 million Ukrainians have been internally displaced, with a similar number seeking refuge abroad. The loss of homes and lives has been truly devastating.



While combat is now concentrated on particular areas in the east and south of Ukraine, Russia has increasingly targeted missiles on critical infrastructure and cities across the country. Air raids and blackouts have become a regular part of life for many Ukrainians, who have been enduring a cold winter with limited power, fear for their loved ones on the frontlines, and grief for those they have lost.

The CHEQS communities have helped support Ukrainian refugees in various ways during the past year. People have welcomed families or individuals into their homes, donated goods and money to help set up accommodation, or to help in international relief efforts. They have run coffee mornings, helped with English lessons, and given support in working through the complications of social services and the NHS.

However, after a year, there is a risk of compassion fatigue. Some people feel that Ukrainians should now either be returning home or managing on their own. Some locally-hosted families have indeed gone back to Ukraine, although not perhaps to where they lived before, and some have managed to find work here and settled into their own homes. But some are still largely dependent on the support of local people. In addition to fleeing from a country at war, and leaving their homeland, family, friends, and neighbours, people have also had all the normal challenges of life to deal with. There are still opportunities to offer practical kindness and caring support to the Ukrainians in and around our communities.



The editor would welcome articles from any Ukrainian guests who would like to share their experiences, or news of any projects or activities which are helping to show compassion to the Ukrainians who are still in our communities.



## **EDNA DAWES LUNCH CLUB**

We have now reopened our much-loved Edna Dawes Lunch Club. This currently runs on Wednesdays to provide a hot meal, activities and social interaction for isolated elderly people. Transport can be provided.

Please do get in touch for more information: <a href="mailto:admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk">admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk</a> or 01285 707300. We are also in need of volunteers so please do get in touch if you can help.

## **BEREAVEMENT CAFE**

We continue to run our Bereavement Café on the first Friday of every month, for people who have suffered a loss and would like to talk. Our nursing team will be present to welcome you with a hot drink and some refreshments. Please do drop in, between 10:00 and 12:00 at The Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre.

If you have any questions, please call 07938244335 or email admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk

## COMMEMORATIVE TREE IN SOUTHROP

Long-time residents of Southrop, Shelagh and Roy Benfield, have very kindly planted a copper beech tree on Jubilee Field to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The plaque reads: 'This tree was planted in the year 2022 to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee'.





## QUENINGTON CAR BOOT SALES



The car boot sales will be starting again in **April**, so you still have time to sort out boxes of items to sell. Set up from 8.30am (not before, please) and still only £5 to sell (no need to book).

The dates for this year (please note changes to April & August):

23<sup>rd</sup> April, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> July, (not in August), 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1st October.



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