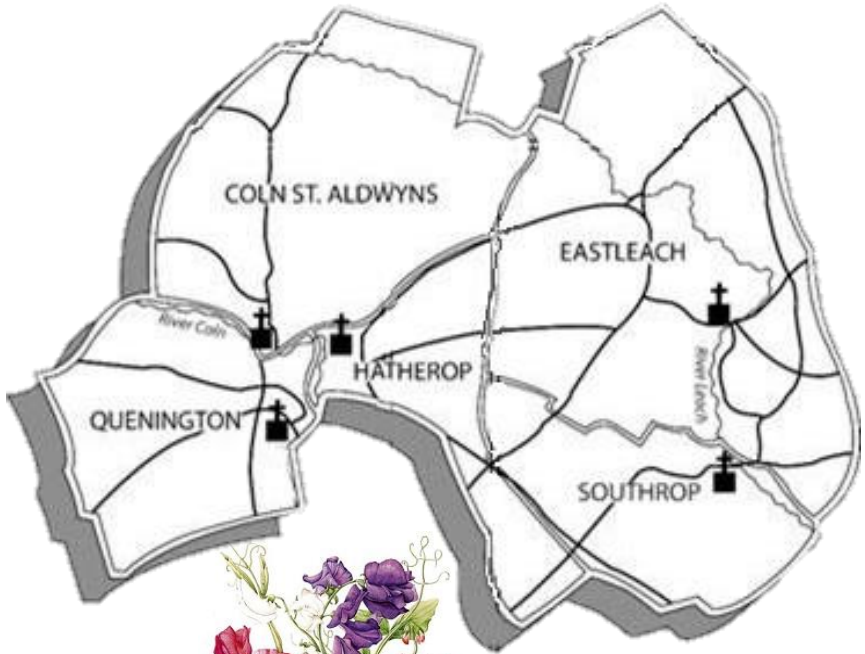


CHEQS MAGAZINE



July 2023

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*Hello
from...
...Rob Forbes
(and family)*



Hello from us all! Clearly, the CHEQS Magazine is struggling for content this month, as we've been given the honour of introducing ourselves! Probably best recognised from our gaggle of scruffy children being chivvied across Coln fields to and from Hatherop Primary, or out running the local trails and streets, we've been living in Coln St Aldwyns for a very happy 10 years now. During that time, we've renovated our house at the bottom of the hill below the pub (causing months of building chaos), had four kids, filled a landfill site with nappies, launched a couple of businesses (Helen), consumed countless burgers and pints in the New Inn (Rob), and recently spent nine months living in Argentina and adventuring across South America.

I'm an ecologist, a former competitive food eater, and a running addict, while Helen used to work as a civil servant for Defra and is currently running her own children's gift company.

Despite our best efforts at living a quiet country existence, we are actively involved in various aspects of village life: Helen is on Coln's Parish Council, and we're helping to organise the upcoming Coln Swing Band Picnic (**Saturday, 1st July**) and Village Fete (**Saturday, 2nd September**), both kindly being hosted by Micky St Aldwyns at the Mill House. Talking of mills, we're also looking to get the old watermill opposite our house back to grinding flour again (if the bats and otters allow us!). The kids (Heath, Otis, Ophelia, and Heidi) are currently on the case selling honey from our bees to help fund the project (or more likely line their pockets), so please stop in for some liquid gold and a taste of Coln life, next time you're passing.

We look forward to meeting many more of you over the years to come. In the meantime, if you spot any errant dogs, chickens, or children around Coln, please try to instill some manners in them and put them back through the gate.

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>

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

01285 750402 or 07729 129578 3 Old Orchard Court, Coneygar Road, Quenington

COME ALONG AND JOIN THE SWING BAND PICNIC

Saturday, 1st July picnic from 5.30pm, The Mill House, Coln St Aldwyns

Swing Band Picnic

Saturday 1st July
Concert starts 6.30pm
Gates open 5.30pm

Enjoy melodic jazz and swing with the Gleum Big Band. Dancing encouraged!

Bring your own picnic and something to sit on.

Proceeds to:
Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities

**The Mill House
Coln St. Aldwyns**

Admission on the gate
Adults £10, Children £5
Kids under five go free
Sorry, no dogs.

GLEUM BIG BAND
www.gleumbigband.com

**SEE & FEEL
THE NEW INN**

The Swing Band Picnic returns this year with an evening on the banks of the River Coln at the Mill House in Coln St Aldwyns (by courtesy of Earl St Aldwyn). This year, the music will be provided by the **Gleum Big Band**, a not-for-profit group based in Gloucester. They will play old favourites from the likes of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Woody Herman, Stan Kenton, Ted Heath, and Antonio Jobim etc.

The gates open at 5.30pm for pre-concert picnics, and the music will start at 6.30pm.

Proceeds will be given to the Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities. So, bring a picnic and drinks, and rugs or seats - and perhaps a group of friends - and enjoy a great evening of music... and maybe even some dancing.

Free parking will be available adjacent to the site and entry, payable at the gate, will be £10 for adults and £5 for children aged 5 – 14 (under-5s free).

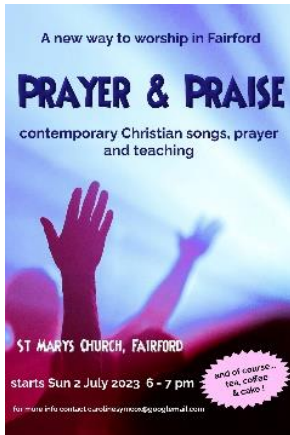
CHQ MESSY CHURCH – ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday, 2nd July from 4 – 5.30pm, Quenington Village Hall



The theme this month is Moses and the Ten Commandments. Everyone is welcome, and a meal is included. For more information, contact Heather: heatherwalker39@hotmail.co.uk





PRAYER & PRAISE

Sunday, 2nd July from 6 – 7pm, St Mary's Church Fairford

A new service in Fairford – contemporary Christian songs, prayer and teaching. Everyone is welcome, young or old, from Fairford, Lechlade and the surrounding villages.

Maybe you've not been to church for years, or perhaps you've never been. Maybe you've never found a church that feels 'just right'? Come and see if this is for you!

Contact carolinesymcox@googlemail.com for more information.

LECHLADE GARDENING CLUB

This month sees the group outing to The Laskett garden, Much Birch, Herefordshire on Thursday, 6th July.

For more information, contact: Neal Cotton (Chair) 01367 252495 or Barbara McNaught (Secretary) 01367 252286.



EASTLEACH & SOUTHROP FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Thursday, 6th July at 3pm, Eastleach Village Hall

This month's activity is **BINGO**. Contact Jane Jenkinson 01367 850393 or Caroline Simmons 01367 850171 for more information. Annual membership is £5, plus £2 per meeting.

WALKING TENNIS FOR ALL IN CHEDWORTH

Info & Taster Session, Friday, July 7th 2.30-4pm



If you can't manage the regular way of playing tennis or haven't played for a while due to a health condition, injury or you're recovering from an op or post childbirth, this gentler game of tennis is perfect to get you going again, improve your fitness and mental wellbeing. It is relaxed and fun and you can go at your own pace. You only need a pair of trainers: we can provide rackets and balls or you can just come and watch.

We will have tea and cake afterwards!

www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/HillandValleyTC/WalkingTennis



WILLIAMSTRIP CRICKET CLUB

The fixture list has been made available just in time for the final month of play and you would be very welcome to attend the matches and cheer on the Williamstrip eleven. The Williamstrip ground can be found via the footpath from Coln, past the estate lodge, or via the entrance from the road as you leave the village, just before the Salt Way turning to Bibury. Home matches are in bold type.

Saturday, 1st July from 1.30pm

Williamstrip CC – 1st XI v Cirencester CC – 4th XI

Saturday, 8th July from 1.30pm

Williamstrip CC – 1st XI v North Cerney CC – 1st XI

Saturday, 15th July from 1.30pm

Charlton CC – 1st XI v Williamstrip CC – 1st XI

Saturday, 22nd July from 1.30pm

Bibury CC – 1st XI v Williamstrip CC – 1st XI



QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL - 100 CLUB - JUNE PRIZES

1st prize £15: No.63 – Jackie Cullum 2nd prize £10: No.73 – Tani Phillips

REPAIR CAFÉS

second Saturday of the month

WELCOME TO
LECHLADE
Repair Café
 Throw It Away? No Way!!

We meet the 2nd Saturday of the month.
 9:30 to 12:30pm.
 in the Lechlade Pavillion Hall
 Oak Street, GL7 3AY

10th June, 8th July, 12th August, 9th September,
 14th October, 11th November 2023

Our volunteer repairers will try to repair your portable household appliances & items.
 Kettles, toasters, handdryers, vacuum cleaners,
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We will give it a go.
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 on the number below, or email.
 Your generous donations help keep us running.

For further information
 email: lechlade.repaircafe@gmail.com
 or call: 01554 230323

Saturday, 8th July

Lechlade:

Lechlade Pavilion Hall,
 9.30am – 12.30pm

Cirencester:

Ciren Baptist Church,
 10am – 1.30pm

CIRENCESTER
REPAIR
CAFÉ

We can try to mend toys, clothes, small electricals, household items and bikes

13TH MAY, 10TH JUNE, 8TH JULY,
 12TH AUGUST, 10AM - 1:30PM

**CIRENCESTER BAPTIST CHURCH,
 CHESTERTON LANE, CIRENCESTER
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0752 667 6822 or facebook.com/cirenrepaircafe
 for further information

friends of the earth
 see things differently

21



QUENINGTON CAR BOOT SALE

Sunday, 9th July, set up from 8.30am, Quenington Village Green

No need to book – you can set up from 8.30am (not before, please) and it's only £5 to sell. It's weather-dependent, so check the Facebook page if in doubt. Other dates: (**not** in August), 3rd September, 1st October.

QUENINGTON CRAFT FAIRS

Sunday, 9th July, from 8.30am to 12pm, Quenington Village Hall

Stallholders can set up from 7am. There are no tables left for this event. Do come along and support local crafters! Free entry.

Future dates: (**not** in August), and 3rd September.



NEWS FROM THE ERNEST COOK TRUST

Court Farmhouse: New headquarters for The Ernest Cook Trust

Work should be getting underway in September to redevelop Court Farmhouse, Quenington, and turn it into a new headquarters for The Ernest Cook Trust. Planning consent has been granted by Cotswold District Council, and the Trust is now working with the council to satisfy the required pre-start conditions. There will also be a minor amendment requesting permission to reduce the size of the private terrace at the rear of the property. A site manager is being recruited to oversee the works, and at the end of the summer the Trust will also be looking for local tradespeople to help with the renovations. The work will take around 12 months, and the Trust hopes to move in during autumn 2024.

Court Farmhouse was bequeathed to The Ernest Cook Trust by The Frank Gollins Charitable Trust. The project entails the redevelopment of the existing house, garage and stable block; terrace and external works; and reorganised parking space within the existing courtyard at the front of the house. When complete, it will provide open-plan offices, meeting rooms, boardroom, toilet block and staff rest areas. The aim is to create a location conducive to collaborative working for the charity. An options appraisal is underway to determine the future of the current headquarters in Fairford.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Smith, Maintenance & Construction Manager at the Trust, by emailing estates@ernestcooktrust.org.uk and look out for ongoing updates on the Quenington Parish Council website.

[The Ernest Cook Trust is a UK-wide educational charity which creates outdoor learning experiences for children, young people and their families, on its own estates and with partners across the country. The Trust's vision is for an environmentally engaged society with stronger connections with nature.]

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](#)

The Swan class has been particularly inspired by their study of the Tudors, thinking about whether Henry VIII and Elizabeth I were good monarchs. Rather than our customary visit, we decided to have a Tudor Day and banquet. Everyone came dressed in sumptuous Tudor outfits, complete with nosegays to distract from the foul Tudor odours! It all contributed to the atmosphere of the day.



We had a fabulous time at the village hall preparing a banquet - with the help of Kitchen Club - of pottage, beef paste, mustard coated pork, potato salad and sweetmeats for our monarchs, Queen Millicent and the Sneddon Princes! Their loyal subjects sang to the royal gathering to earn their board and afterwards performed a Tudor dance. In the afternoon the children enjoyed writing Tudor messages, sealing them with wax and studying and drawing Tudor artefacts from the museum.



The Cygnets are studying the author Nick Butterworth and his series of books based around Percy the Park Keeper. They have been to visit the play park in Southrop, created maps and used simple compass directions to describe locations of features and routes. Later in the term they will be comparing and contrasting our village park with a big city park in Cheltenham, when they take an exciting trip to Pittville Park.

The Year 5&6s recently participated in the Mock Trial in Cheltenham. The impressive surroundings of the court room enabled everyone to inhabit their role and play their

part to the best of their ability. Our defence solicitors asked insightful questions; our witnesses withstood the fierce probing of the prosecution team; our usher upheld the formality of the court; our court reporter described all events as they unfolded; our court artist provided a snapshot of the action; our magistrates did their best to remain neutral. After dramatic twists and turns, the verdict was given... GUILTY!



Fortunately, our defendant was allowed to return to school a free man, but we all learned many valuable lessons about the justice system and rule of law (although, for some, the best part was the juice and biscuits at the end!). We were delighted to receive the results - Southrop won four out of the six prizes available: best individual performance for Guy; best Court Reporter for Morgan; best individual costume for Millicent; and best team costumes.

NEW CLERK TO THE GOVERNING BODY SOUGHT

Southrop C of E Primary School Governing Board is looking for a new Clerk. The position involves organising and attending full Governing Body meetings (evenings) to take minutes and undertake clerical work linked to these meetings. The Clerk would maintain accurate records of the Governing Body and its membership attending termly clerk briefings. The Clerk acts as the official channel of communication to and from the Governing Body and enables the Governing Body to function smoothly and efficiently. This role is for 96 - 115 hours per annum and training will be provided to the successful candidate. Competitive salary dependant on experience.

Southrop C of E Primary School is committed to safeguarding pupils and the post is subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure. For a copy of the job description and application pack please telephone the school office on 01367 850 246 or email admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk. If you would like to arrange an informal chat about the role please contact the Chair of Governors, Judith Giles at chair@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk. Early applications are encouraged - we would ideally like to have our new clerk present at our July Full Governing Body meeting as part of a handover with our current Clerk.



Hatherop Church of England Primary School

Caring, Believing, Achieving

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

We are very proud to say that our Ofsted report, following our March inspection, has now been published and can be read on our website (see above).



Year 5/6 pupils had a residential trip to Abernant Lake in Wales. While there, the children took part in many different activities including kayaking, raft building, abseiling, and canoeing. It was a great opportunity to spend time together, especially for Year 6, after completing their SATS. A highlight of the trip seemed to be the huge choice of food, as well as the big rooms they got to stay in.

Last term, members of the PTA gave up their time to come in over a weekend and give the courtyard a good clean, tidy and paint! This was all in preparation for the refurbishment that happened during half term. We have had a new grass surface fitted and some new equipment installed – all funded by the PTA.



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

Clerk: Jacky Sykes

hatheropparishcouncil@gmail.com

as above

Eastleach (website www.eastleachparishcouncil.org)

Chair: Miranda Lawson

Locum Clerk: Vanessa Lawrence 07876 252398

miranda@eastleachparishcouncil.org

clerk@eastleachparishcouncil.org

Quenington (website www.queningtonvillage.uk)

Chair: Mike Scott 01285 750433

Clerk: Rita Walsh 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 ETC.

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 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	9 – 12.30pm & 1.30 – 4pm
Saturday	8am – 2pm	8am – 1pm	9 – 11.30am
Sunday	9am – 1pm	9am – 12pm	CLOSED

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



SOUTHROP SHOP, POST OFFICE & COFFEE MORNING



Wednesdays 8.45 - 11.30am – check out Facebook for updated information.

DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

Coln – in stone telephone box opposite Coln Stores; **Hatherop** – shelter by school T-junction; **Eastleach** – outside back door of Victoria Inn; **Quenington** – outside the village hall, The Green; **Southrop** – in covered area at back of village hall.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The CHEQS representative: Marion Crawford mazcrawford@hotmail.com

CHEQS DIARY 2023

Sat 1 st July	from 5.30pm	Swing Band Picnic, The Mill House lawn, Coln	p2
Sat 1 st July	from 1.30pm	Williamstrip Cricket Club match	p4
Sun 2 nd July	4 – 5.30pm	Messy Church, Quenington Village Hall	p2
Sun 2 nd July	6 – 7pm	Contemporary prayer & praise service, St Mary's	p3
Thurs 6 th July	3pm	Friendship Circle, Eastleach Village Hall	p3
Sat 8 th July	from 1.30pm	Williamstrip Cricket Club match	p4
Sat 8 th July		Repair Cafés	p4
Sun 9 th July	8.30am	Quenington Car Boot Sale, village green	p5
Sun 9 th July	8.30am – 12pm	Quenington Craft Fair, village hall	p5
Sat 15 th June	10.30 – 11.45am	Coffee Morning, Quenington Village Hall	p13
Sat 26 th Aug	2pm	Eastleach Fete	p16
Sat 2 nd Sept	12.30 – 4pm	Coln Village Fete	p17
Sat 9 th Sept	2 – 5pm	Quenington Fete	p17

CHURCH SERVICES

CHEQS CHURCHES:



Coln, Hatherop & Quenington

2 nd July	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Quenington
	4pm	Messy Church	Quenington Village Hall
9 th July	10.30am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Coln
16 th July	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Quenington
23 rd July	10.30 am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Coln
30 th July	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hatherop
	6pm	Evening Prayer BCP	St Swithin's, Quenington

St Andrew's Church, Eastleach

2 nd July	11am	Matins with Gordon Land	
9 th July	11am	Holy Communion with Gareth Griffith	
16 th July	11am	Informal Pets' Service with Gordon Land - all pets and well-behaved owners welcome!	
23 rd July	11am	Matins with Gordon Land	
30 th July	11am	Matins with Gordon Land	

St Peter's Church, Southrop

2 nd July	9.30am	Holy Communion	
9 th July	9.30am	Morning Prayer (Sea Sunday)	
16 th July	9.30am	Morning Prayer	
23 rd July	9.30am	Morning Prayer	
30 th July	6pm	Evensong	

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.

[Fairford United Church](#) Milton Street, Fairford

Sunday service 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 James Sweeting jdfsweeting@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 chqsafeguarding@gmail.com
Eastleach Lesley Uzzell Parish Office 01367 358653 or email
 Safeguarding@stlawrencelechlade.org.uk
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@clifondiocese.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 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

QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 15th July from 10.30 – 11.45am

You can chat to neighbours, meet new people (perhaps!) and enjoy **free hot drinks and home-made cakes**.



There's also an opportunity to contribute to the raffle by bringing suitable prizes (i.e. anything you'd like to win!) and buying raffle tickets. The money from this, plus any donations, will be given to the allocated charity for the month.



This month's charity is Dorothy House. Their website describes their aims: "We believe every life is incredibly precious, and no-one should face death alone. At Dorothy House, we provide exceptional personalised care to people in our community who are approaching death. That means we've got you: we're here for our patients and their loved ones, as much or as little as they need us. Our standard of care reaches deep into our community. Through ten locally-focused Dorothy House care teams, we help people prepare for the end of their lives and equip more people to provide the care each of us deserves."



CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE

Last month, the CHQ churches joined in with a national initiative to look at and record the wildlife found in churchyards. Churches Count on Nature is a joint initiative promoted by Caring for God's Acre, the Church of England, the Church in Wales and A Rocha UK. Over 27,000 wildlife records have been submitted during this dedicated week over the past two years, and many of the records are submitted to The National Biodiversity Network - a collaborative partnership created to exchange biodiversity information.



Clare Brignall writes: We had a very peaceful morning in Coln churchyard, where there is soon to be a dahlia bed, followed by an energetic day in Hatherop with the children from the primary school. We hunted bugs, made bug houses and bird feeders and listened to bird song. We also made collages with bits and pieces from the churchyard and counted flowers and grasses, and worms. Some of the children showed an impressive knowledge of birds and flowers. We also visited Quenington churchyard to see how the wild flower patch is doing there.



KATE HICKS BEACH AWARDED A BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL

Kate Hicks Beach, of Coln St Aldwyns, has received the British Empire Medal in the first birthday honours of King Charles III. Although the king's actual birthday is 14th November, his official birthday will be celebrated on the third Saturday of June each year. The British Empire Medal is awarded for a 'hands-on' service to the local community.



As many CHEQS residents know, Kate and her husband, David, are very involved in the life of Coln St Aldwyns and the adjacent villages, but it is especially Kate's charitable work which has led to the award. She is the Director of Volunteer-led Services at Mindsong, a Gloucestershire charity which supports people with dementia, and other similar challenges, through music and song. Kate has been commended for gently but confidently developing these services, a task which became especially challenging – and especially needed – during the Covid pandemic. Of course, not only does she serve as a trustee, but she is also very active in taking groups of local singers into care homes around the county, bringing music and laughter to the residents. In addition, her work with the Coln Choir gives joy to so many – both the singers and their audiences.

Kate is also a much-valued trustee of the Summerfield Charitable Trust. Ronald Summerfield was an avid (bordering on obsessive) antiques collector who set up the framework for the Trust just weeks before he died in March 1989. At the time, only his few closest friends were aware of the legacy he was to leave behind in his Cheltenham premises. It took a team of 10 people four months to sort through and catalogue the two million items stored at his shop and home including paintings and artwork, silverware, jewellery, textiles, clocks, ceramics, statues, furniture and books. The treasures went under the hammer at a series of auctions, raising a total of £7 million. Virtually all of the money raised was left to the Trust, which - through careful investment - has an annual distribution of approximately £400k in grants to good causes in Gloucestershire benefiting the arts, the natural heritage and environment, community projects, education, recreation and sport, and vulnerable and disadvantaged people. Kate brings a vitality and breadth of interest to the role of trustee, and a joyful energy to all the endeavours in which she is involved.



PET SERVICE AT EASTLEACH

Sunday, 16th July at 11am

St Andrew's Church, Eastleach

LECHLADE REPAIR CAFÉ

The Repair Café launched in March 2022, so has now celebrated its first year. Founder Colin Thompson looks back over the year:

As with all new community volunteer led ventures, it can be a nervous time. Getting the word out to Lechlade and surrounding communities took a couple of months, especially as the Covid pandemic was still having its effect.



The main objective of the Lechlade Repair Café is to give as many household appliances and other items an extended working life, avoiding them going to landfill wherever possible - not always easy. Manufacturers over the past 20 years have been allowed to make it difficult to take appliances apart, causing built-in obsolescence. They don't supply replacement parts, and appliances are uneconomical to repair.

With dogged determination and, thankfully, our very trusting customers, I'm pleased to report our small group of

volunteer repairers have had a really good year, and have achieved an above average UK repair success rate for a Repair Café.

For our first meeting in the Memorial Hall in March 2022, we had just five customers with a variety of household items for repair, such as a 35-year-old beside lamp, a kettle, and a juice-making machine.

By November 2022, our growth in volunteer repairers and increased customer demand necessitated a larger workspace, requiring us to move into the Pavilion Hall. February 2023 saw a big jump in customer repairs. In one morning, we took in 16 customer repairs. By the end of the year, we averaged 9 customers per meeting. For our first year this has been very rewarding.

We celebrate our first year with some interesting statistics:

Total items accepted for repair 112, total repaired 81 – a 72% success rate (UK average is 65%).

Sadly, 31 items did go to landfill, the majority being carpet and vacuum cleaners, pressure washers and a large garden shredder - we couldn't get the replacement parts, or it was simply too expensive to repair.

Two important aspects to consider when measuring our success rate are: how many items did we save from going to landfill and, most importantly, the equivalent savings in carbon dioxide release from either disposal or new item manufacture. For

example, the total weight of repaired items saved from landfill is 306kg. Using a conversion calculator this translates into the equivalent of 2,671kg (2.63 imperial tons) of carbon dioxide not being released into the atmosphere – the equivalent of:

- not driving an average family car for 11,867 miles (≈ car off the road for a year)
- not showering 1,786 times (≈ 150,000 litres of water and 9180kWh energy saved)
- not flying 17,424 air miles

If you have a household appliance that needs fixing, are interested in joining our small group of volunteer repairers or in learning a new skill, please give me a call or drop in for a chat. The Repair Café runs every second Saturday of the month in the Lechlade Pavilion Hall. We would love to have more volunteer repairers, so please do get in touch: lechlade.repaircafe@gmail.com 07554 230323

Facebook: LechladeRepairCafe



If you'd like to offer your help, but don't know who to contact, please ask the editor.

EASTLEACH VILLAGE FETE

Saturday, 26th August 2pm, at Eastleach Village Hall

The fete will once again be on the Saturday of the last Bank Holiday weekend of the year, with all the usual fun, including a BBQ, tea and cakes, ice creams, homegrown produce, Pimm's and beer stalls, children's games, books, white elephant, tombola and a grand draw with over a dozen prizes. We will also be able to take card payments this year, along with cash.

Stall holders welcome donations in advance – please contact them to check details.

White Elephant Stalls: donations can be dropped into Clumber Cottage, The Quarry.

Childrens White Elephant: toys, books, games can be taken to Orchard Cottage or dropped into the village hall every afternoon between 1pm-5pm from Monday 21st August.

Tombola: Please support with bottles, cans, chocolates and gifts you would like to win. Organisers to be confirmed but please gather together any donations well in advance so they can be delivered to the village hall every afternoon between 1pm-5pm from Monday 21st August.

Garden Stall: plants, cuttings, seedlings, tools, garden furniture, ornaments all welcome to Baxters Barn, or the village hall every afternoon between 1pm-5pm from Monday 21st August.

Home Produce: jams, jellies, eggs, apples, plums are all welcome. Donations of sugar in advance also welcome at 35 Eastleach, for Maureen to make her wonderful jams from her own garden produce.

Books: all donations to the village hall from every afternoon between 1-5pm from Monday 21st August.

Teas and Cakes: LOTS NEEDED! Home-made scones, cakes (large and small), biscuits, flapjack, gingerbread. Gluten-free and /or sugar-free offerings are useful. All can be left in advance [to be frozen, if you may be away] at No 3 or 4 Eastleach Downs Cottage or brought to the village hall on the day.

Grand Draw Tickets:

There will be at least 12 top prizes in the Grand Draw with tickets once again only £1 each. If you would like to buy tickets in advance of the day, please contact Susannah.

COLN VILLAGE FETE

Saturday, 2nd September, 12.30 – 4pm on Mill House lawn

The famous Coln St Aldwyns Children's Funday and Produce Show is back! It will be returning, by kind permission of Earl St Aldwyn, to the beautiful grounds of The Mill House. Entry for children under 14 is free and there will be an array of traditional village fete attractions. Come for a BBQ lunch, followed by a homemade slice of cake, all to the music of local favourites, The Ukey Dukes. Why not enter one or several of the many categories in the Produce Show? You can see this year's entry classes in the brochure inserted in this CHEQS edition, or you can visit www.colnfunday.com where you can also download an entry form. All the money raised goes to support local children's charities.

QUENINGTON FETE

Saturday, 9th September from 2 – 5pm, Quenington House garden

The fete this year (the first since 2019) is being held in the back garden of Quenington House, Mawley Road. All are invited to come and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon for the benefit of St Swithin's Church and other local community groups.

We're planning to have traditional stalls, games, activities, refreshments and perhaps a few surprises!

For more information, to volunteer or to donate raffle prizes, please contact: Annabelle Barton 07855178382.



NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF FAIRFORD & LECHLADE COMMUNITIES

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EDNA DAWES LUNCH CLUB

Our much-loved Edna Dawes Lunch Club provides a hot meal, activities and social interaction for isolated elderly people. Transport can be provided. The Club is open on Wednesdays, and we are hoping to reopen on Mondays so if you are interested or know someone that would like to attend, please do get in touch edlc@friendsoffairford.org.uk 07713 607106.

PATIENT TRANSPORT SERVICE

Our volunteer car service vital service is a lifeline to many and our wonderful volunteer drivers provide a personal service for a very low cost. There is a small fee to cover the volunteer's fuel and running costs. We would welcome more volunteers, especially over the summer months. To arrange a journey or if you think you can help people get to their medical appointments, please get in touch with Val on transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk 07540 798226.

SEEKING 'PROMISES'

Can you help us raise money by offering a skill or "money can't buy" experience for our Auction of Promises being held on Friday, 24th November? We're seeking generous people to volunteer their time and skills for the Charity that others could bid on in our fundraising auction in November. Please get in touch with Kerry to discuss: admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk 01285 707 300.

SATURDAY HELP NEEDED

Can you help us in the Charity Shop on a Saturday? We are busy on Saturdays and would appreciate volunteers to assist on a rotation. Please get in touch with Linda on shop@friendsoffairford.org.uk 01367 252189.

CHARITY RECIPE BOOK

Want to see your name in print? We're creating a Community Recipe Book! We'd love submissions of your favourite personal and 'secret' family recipes (images welcome too!). Books will be available to purchase before the end of the year. Please send submissions to Kerry at admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk

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 10am and 12pm at The Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre. If you have any questions, please call 07938244335 or email admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk



UPCOMING EVENTS OUTSIDE CHEQS VILLAGES

GLOS. VINTAGE & COUNTRY EXTRAVAGANZA

4th - 6th August (South Cerney airfield)

A huge collection of steam vehicles, classic cars, country activities, crafts etc.

FAIRFORD STEAM CLASSIC & RETRO SHOW

19th and 20th August (Lady Lamb Farm, off the A417 west of Fairford)

The return of this popular, local steam engine rally, with added extras.

FFF&B PLOUGHING MATCH

Saturday, 30th September, Black Bourton Road, Bampton

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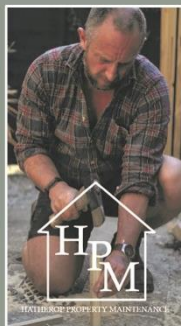
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