


## Christmas in the Square

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
at 4:00pm

*Come along and join  
in this Christmas  
Celebration*

- 
- *Watch the church perform an outdoor Nativity Play*
  - *Sing carols with the Aylesbury Community Band and a joint school choir*
  - *See Father Christmas arrive on his sleigh and visit him on the bandstand*
  - *Visit our outdoor craft stalls*
  - *Enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie served by the WI*



## Your Coldharbour Parish Councillors



### Chairman

Cllr Andrew Cole  
Tel. 01296 334651  
cllr.cole@googlemail.com



### Vice Chairman

Cllr Sally Pattinson  
Tel. 01296 331822  
sally@buskrigg.co.uk



Cllr Adam Poland  
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polando@hotmail.co.uk



Cllr Sarah James  
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Cllr Steve Wadlow  
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Cllr Caroline Baughan  
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Cllr Sarah Walland  
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Cllr Rio Harper  
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Cllr Nick Blandford  
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### Clerk to the Council

Keith Gray JP, CILCA, FSLCC  
Coldharbour Parish Council  
The Fairford Leys Centre  
Hampden Square, Fairford Leys  
Aylesbury HP19 7HT  
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keith.gray6@btopenworld.com

## BRIMMERS WAY PLAYPARK PROVISION – New Equipment Installation

Fairford Leys currently has 11 playparks across the village. Many of these were first installed 15 years ago and despite ongoing maintenance, are starting to show their age.

The parish council are currently in the process of reviewing all the playparks across Fairford Leys.

We have an opportunity to repurpose the playpark on Brimmers Way to a family fitness park suitable for all ages. Plans are underway to take this project forward, to apply for funding from the Aylesbury Community Board and receive quotes for equipment and installation.

Plans are moving ahead and we now have a design for Brimmers Way Playpark, with proposed equipment, to be considered and approved by the parish council.

A working group has been established to look at the refurbishment of the other parks.

## ALLOTMENTS & ALLOTMENT GARDENS

We are lucky to have land available, rented from the Ernest Cook Trust, for allotment plots for residents of Fairford Leys. Our site is not a Statutory Allotment site covered by regulations laid down in the Allotment Act by the Secretary of State. It is land used for an allotment site – allotment garden land. The parish council has complete control in how it manages its allotment site and the rent it charges.

Allotments have become popular over the last couple of years and there is a waiting list. Some plots look fantastic, with tenants spending a lot of time and money on design and planting. Overall, it is a great community asset to have and tenants the space.

Unfortunately, some tenants have struggled over the last couple of years and a number of plots have been handed back, or taken back by the parish council for not being worked on. Looking after an allotment can take a

lot of time and effort so it's important to make sure you can do the work before you take on a plot.

The parish council manages the allotments through its Clerk to the Council who's responsibility it is to make sure the plots are being worked and the overall land site is maintained as best as it can be. We manage the sites in line with good practice and guidelines but it takes time to take back an allotment plot as we make sure that the tenant has been given sufficient time to address any issues of concern or carry out work on the plot. We try to deal with people fairly and we are supportive to those who may have been ill and cannot visit the site as often as they did before. We give people time to get better and start working the plot. We will issue a notice to take back the plot if it cannot be worked, even if illness is the reason and it's clear the tenant cannot manage the plot. The allotment plots must be worked on according to the contract signed by each tenant. It can be difficult to hand back a plot especially when you have spent a long time looking after it. It's also not pleasant for us to take back the plot and we don't do it lightly.

If you, as a current tenant, a future tenant or someone walking through the public footpath and bridleway site which the land adjoins, have any concerns or questions over the management of the allotments, please contact Keith Gray (Clerk to the Council) or Andy Barnett (Community Centre Manager) who works with the Parish Clerk on the administration of the allotment site. Contact details are on the allotment site notice board as well as in Coldharbour News.



# Parish Council News

## LAND TRANSFER – Riverine Corridor

We are pleased to let residents know that the land transfer continues and we now have phases 1,2 and 3 transferred to us. Ultimately we will be responsible for all land areas in Fairford Leys, except the path (with its hedges and trees) running along Eyre Close and Cooks Road. Bucks Council may transfer this land area to us and it would be sensible to do so.

We have a plan for the maintenance of the riverine corridor and we are currently doing winter works by opening up some of the vistas, clearing branches off the wooden bridges and crowning and pollarding some of the trees. We have had a tree survey carried out so we are aware of which trees need work doing on them. This will take some time to do and our maintenance team have plenty of scheduled work as well as carrying out any emergency works. Please bear with us as we continue to manage the land areas and be aware that some works are not considered urgent but will be added to our works list.

## LIGHTING WORKS – New Lamp Post and Lighting

The works to replace the lamp posts have started again on Fairford Leys and we have asked for the various fencing and rubble to be removed as quickly as possible.

## Meet your new Councillor – Nick Blandford

I have lived in Fairford Leys since 2001. I am a keen gardener and enthusiastic home baker. I joined the parish council as I have a particular interest in the health and wellbeing of our community through access to nature, green spaces and building a sense of connection and community between people.

**Cllr Nick Blandford**

## 20mph SPEED REDUCTION ON FAIRFORD LEYS ROADS

The Parish Council was asked to formally support a proposal, from Buckinghamshire Councillor Peter Cooper, regarding raising with Buckinghamshire Council the need for a reduction in road speeds on inner roads in various communities and villages across Buckinghamshire. He specifically asked the Parish Council to support the following:

- Welcome having the option of introducing 20mph zones in your parish or town
- Pursue this option with Buckinghamshire Council / Transport for Bucks, if it were available.
- Support the widespread adoption of 20mph zones in residential areas across Buckinghamshire

The parish council resolved, unanimously, that the Parish Clerk write to Cllr Cooper stating that we fully support a 20mph speed reduction both in Fairford Leys and also on roads across residential areas in Buckinghamshire.

Cllr Cooper will now raise and propose this with Buckinghamshire Council.

**Continued on page 4**



## Chairman's Message

A warm welcome to the winter's edition of Coldharbour News. I do hope you have managed to enjoy the summer. It was strange not being able to meet with residents at our usual community event 'Fair in the Square' again this year due to restrictions. It was also an odd evening hosting 'Music on the Square Screen' and not being in the square enjoying the music with you. We did however have a great evening of live-ish music and at one point we had nearly 300 residents viewing the stream.

My thanks as always to the parish council and the performers who helped make the evening happen. A special mention to Buddy Ash who brought his music and humour to the event and of course our local talented singers Chloe and Holly who again show what talent we have in our midst. I really do hope we can get back to some sort of normality and host both Fair in the Square and Music in the Square in person next year.

With this in mind I am delighted to announce that plans are already in place for 'Christmas in the Square' and that unless there is a change in government advice this will go ahead on Saturday 11th December. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more information and times, you can also find out more about the council as well as meetings and events by visiting our new website at [www.coldharbour-pc.gov.uk](http://www.coldharbour-pc.gov.uk).

With the nights drawing in we notice things such as streetlights that are not working, don't forget you can report faulty lights either by downloading the 'fixmystreet' app or visiting [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com). Problems can also be reported to your Councillors or the Clerk (contact details are in the Newsletter). You are also welcome to come to our parish council meetings which are held every first Thursday at 8pm in the community centre (excluding January and August).

I do hope to see you at Christmas in the Square.

**Councillor Andrew Cole – Chairman  
of Coldharbour Parish Council**

# Parish Council News - continued

## ANTI-SOCIAL, DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL PARKING

### Where do you park on Fairford Leys?

Parking can be a nightmare for most communities, especially if there are not enough parking spaces available. We are better off than some communities in that Fairford Leys has a unique design and every property has allocated parking.

The parish council receives a number of complaints on a regular basis about anti-social / inconsiderate parking. We are noticing that some people are parking very close to junctions which causes other vehicles to cross over onto the right side of the road to be able to see clearly and pass safely. This has caused some near-misses and we are becoming very concerned that a serious accident may occur. We would like to remind residents about dangerous parking and especially at junctions. In the latest edition of the highway code it is stated that the nearest you can park to a junction is 10 metres (or 32 feet). This is to allow drivers emerging from, or turning into, the junction a clear view of the road they are joining. It also allows them to see hazards such as pedestrians or cyclists at the junction.

The parish council will raise parking matters with the local policing team and we will request that vehicle owners be contacted if their vehicle is parked incorrectly.

### BOLLARDS! Why do we have them?



There are many bollards around Fairford Leys and sometimes you just wonder why they are there.

The vast majority of the bollards are in place to enable emergency access to certain areas of Fairford Leys, but prevent the routes becoming rat runs to regular commuter traffic. As these areas are for Emergency access, they should not be used for parking. In fact, if you want to park in the gap, you need to mount the pavement in order to do so, which no one should be doing! Parking is not allowed in these closed off areas and everyone who has property facing these particular areas has allocated parking at the back of their properties, including garages.

The parish council has received a number of complaints about parking in these areas especially when vehicles are mounting the pavements to access the area.



A number of lamp posts have been damaged by vehicles entering these closed areas as well as large delivery vehicles driving very close to properties near the bollards/pavement access which is causing some property owners concern as it could lead to property damage. Curb sets and pavements can be damaged over a period of time if this continues and the cost to replace them is significant and may mean an increase in council tax.

We are reminding and asking that residents, visitors and especially large delivery vehicles not access and park

in these bollarded off areas. Bucks Council Highways and enforcement teams are aware of what is happening and have asked us to remind residents. Further action may need to be taken if highway assets continue to be damaged.

The parish council have the powers to install additional bollards and planters, should we wish to do so, to block access across the pavements so that vehicles cannot enter the areas and park.

The parish council is to discuss this matter further and make any necessary change decisions to resolve the concerns raised.

## HS2 - MEETINGS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL

At our recent HS2 Liaison Meeting there were 2 main points of discussion, Flood Risks and Traffic Increase. We were joined by various representatives from EKFB, HS2 and also the Ernest Cook Trust representative. An HS2 Liaison Officer from Buckinghamshire Council, at the request of your local, Buckinghamshire Council, Councillors, was also present as well as the Leader of Aylesbury Town Council, Cllr Richard Lloyd. Cllr Andrew Cole (Chairman of Coldharbour Parish Council) and Keith Gray (Town Clerk of Aylesbury and Clerk to the Parish of Coldharbour) was also present. These people represent Fairford Leys at all these meetings to ensure that the community is updated and our concerns and comments are taken seriously by HS2. These meetings are important and we are working with HS2 to ensure that certain mitigation works, such as large scale tree planting between the railway and Fairford Leys, is carried out. We also discuss current and future works on sites near to us and the impact this may have on the local community.

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# HONORARY FREEMAN OF THE PARISH OF COLDHARBOUR for Steven Lambert



Coldharbour Parish Council has awarded the Honorary Freeman of the Parish of Coldharbour to ex-Parish Councillor and Fairford Leys resident, Steven Lambert.

At a special meeting of the Coldharbour Parish Council, held on 3rd June 2021 it was unanimously agreed to make the award. The award will formally be

presented to Steven, by Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Andrew Cole, on 2nd December at a special get-together of councillors and staff.

Steven is no longer a Parish Councillor, but he still represents Fairford Leys as a Buckinghamshire Council Member and is still supporting and representing the community where he lives.

The title of "Honorary Freeman" is the highest honour the Council can bestow on anyone. The Honorary Freemen of the Boroughs Act 1885 authorised the granting of the title "Honorary Freeman" to persons "of distinction" who had "rendered eminent service" to the town or borough.

Coldharbour Parish Council has the power by section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, to confer the title to persons of distinction and persons who have in the opinion of the council, rendered eminent services to the Parish of Coldharbour.

It was decided to honour Steven for his continued and steadfast commitment to the work he has done, and is still doing, for the community of Fairford Leys and for the Parish of Coldharbour, helping to build and maintain our community and for his work as a local councillor representing the people of Fairford Leys in the positive way he does with passion, assertiveness and commitment. Steven has helped many people in Fairford Leys, carrying out case-work for individuals and families helping them deal with difficult situations and liaising with council officers, police and other stakeholders to assist people resolve problems.

The parish council considers Steven to be an example of someone who has dedicated himself to working with and supporting the local community, which has had a positive impact on individuals of the parish and has strengthened our community.



# Parish Council News - continued

## HS2 – MEETINGS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL - continued

### Flood Risks:

Local councillors have continued to push for more knowledge on how the water courses being changed, particularly around Wendover, would affect the Riverine corridor through Fairford Leys. We have specific flood defences in Fairford Leys which work very well. Even when the riverine corridor looks full of planting and reed beds, these flood defences do their job and we have not experienced any flooding of homes on Fairford Leys from the riverine corridor. The paths and areas near the riverine are designed to flood and the Hartwell Ditch (part of the riverine network) take additional water when needed. HS2 have constantly assured local councillors that there would be no negative impact from their works to water levels to Fairford Leys/Coldharbour and the Willows estate. Unfortunately, this cannot yet be proven as the models have not been completed as both HS2 and the Environment agency (EA) appear to be going round in circles. The temporary plans cannot be approved until HS2's permanent plans are approved by the EA. Until all this happens, the models cannot be made. Your local Cllrs expressed their concern that HS2 did not know that this would be part of the agreed plans and is delaying the whole process and reassurances for our area. This will continue to be an item on our agenda moving forward and until we can unravel responsibilities and liabilities.

## Traffic Management and Modelling:

Local Councillors have raised the issues of delays on the roads due to HS2 starting work before their agreed start time of 9.30am. This was an 'exceptional' circumstance. We would ask local residents to let us know if they encounter HS2 works before 9.30am in the next month, to see how exceptional is "exceptional".

The long-term plan is for HS2 to place a signalised junction across the 'trace' of the line halfway between the Coldharbour roundabout and the Bugle Horn. This would allow traffic to enter and leave their site as well as site traffic to cross the Oxford Road. Your local Cllrs are incredibly concerned that there has been NO modelling done on how this would affect the traffic. This is due to HS2 not being 'there yet' in terms of the work to be prepared. Cllr Adam Poland-Goodyer queried what would happen if Buckinghamshire Council declined permission for this due to the importance of Oxford Road at a strategic level. We were told that HS2 have significant powers, granted by Parliament, to do whatever is required to ensure HS2 proceeds and is built. So, no matter what, there will be a signalised junction on the Oxford Road, and there is nothing that anyone can do about it, as they have been granted the power by the Government to do it.

We asked about the two Public Rights of Way (PROW's) and they have agreed to see if they can allow limited access during works, potentially evenings and weekends. They cannot have them open when work is taking place.

## Other Matters:

Permission has been obtained for HS2 to remove the listed wall by Hartwell House. This means that they will build an entrance onto their site from the Oxford Road and not use Andrews Way. They are using Andrews Way as they did not seek planning permission far enough in advance to remove the wall. On a related note, Cllrs Adam Poland-Goodyer and Cllr Sarah James, in a recent meeting, asked the Transport team to increase their inspections of Andrews Way due to HS2 driving HGVs on that road.

## Moving Ahead:

We have on the agenda for the next meeting - Noise Levels and continued focus on Flooding amongst other items (yet to be finalised).

Your local Buckinghamshire Councillors and Parish Councillors continue to represent Fairford Leys on these matters, and many others, to ensure our community is protect.

## Keith Gray – Clerk to Coldharbour Parish Council

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## Traffic Regulation Orders

We are aware of the issue with parking on Arncott Way, close to the junction of Coldharbour Way. Our local Buckinghamshire Councillors are working hard to try and resolve this tricky legal issue. It is not illegal to park there as there are no regulations in force saying you cannot. At present they have managed to get Arncott way onto an Aylesbury Wide double yellow line painting scheme. Once this is in place we would then be looking at enforcement. Arncott way is a standing item on their monthly meeting with the local transport team.

**Cllr Adam Poland-Goodyer - Buckinghamshire Council**

# Maintenance Update 2021

## Grounds Maintenance Update for Autumn 2021

- 1:** The grass cutting has now finished, we are starting to cut back the hedges and open up the bridges, doing this allows the timber to breathe and not stay damp and potentially rot. We are also going to start opening up some areas to allow views of the riverine when the residents walk around the village.
- 2:** Summer bedding is now coming to an end, we hope you have enjoyed seeing them on your daily journeys, will be replaced with the winter bedding in early November.
- 3:** Weed spraying is on- going, as and when the weather allows.
- 4:** In the winter months we will try to grit when the weather is severe to help keep the residents moving, using our tow behind gritter.
- 5:** We have a new staff member who joined us a few months ago, his name is Benny Orlandi, please say hi to him if you see him on your travels.
- 6:** We do try hard to keep the village tidy and free from litter and dog waste, but if you see anything that concerns you please do leave a message and we will try to help if we can. (01296 422800).
- 7:** In the coming months we will be removing the failing cherry trees along the verges of Rickman Walk, Pitcher Walk, and surrounding pathways and will replace them with something more suitable.

Below are some pictures of the work that Steve and Benny have been doing.

**Steve Webb - Grounds Maintenance Manager for Fairford Leys.**



# Village News

It is good to see that Fairford Leys is slowly recovering from the damages that Lockdown caused. You will see from Andy Barnett's article that most classes at the Fairford Leys Centre are now up and running again and we are able to look forward to Christmas in the Square in December.

## Community Events



### Remembrance Service

We were pleased to be able to hold our annual Remembrance Sunday tribute to those who lost their lives in conflicts past and Present. The laying of wreaths was led by Cllr. Andrew Cole followed by representatives of Buckinghamshire Council and various local community groups. The service was led by Revd Anthony Howells.

## Christmas in the Square



As you will see from the front of this newsletter, we are delighted to be holding our annual Christmas in the Square event again this year. (Covid restrictions permitting) There will be the usual Carol singing led by Aylesbury Community Band, and combined choirs from St Marys and Berryfields Primary Schools. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served by the WI and there will also be some craft stalls. Father Christmas has promised to pay us a visit and this year he will be sitting on the bandstand, so that everyone will be able to see him. Little ones will still be able to go and talk to him and receive a gift of sweets. Do come along and make this a start to the festive season.

**We are pleased to tell you about changes of management at 2 of our most popular eateries.**

### 1. Change of Ownership at Salt and Vinegar

Everyone must have noticed the eye-catching new exterior to our local fish and chip shop – Salt and Vinegar. New owner Raj Paranthaban says “I came to the United Kingdom in the early 1990s from Sri Lanka when I was just 19 years old, and have held various positions in retail and hospitality ever since.”



Raj got to know Fairford Leys when he was a partner in the local Off Licence, and moved on to open another Off Licence in Aylesbury. He goes on to say “Though I started businesses in other places my heart has always longed to come back to Fairford Leys to make that connection with the local community and when Salt and Vinegar became available, I took the opportunity to buy it and have become much closer to the residents.

Salt & Vinegar has adopted the following policies to benefit local residents.

1. To fill vacancies with local people, and to help youngsters to get their first employment.
2. To support the events and projects undertaken by Coldharbour Parish Council.
3. To invest in the growth of the local area.
4. To offer discounts to Blue Light Card holders to show gratitude for their selfless hard work.
5. To offer discounts to senior citizens.”

Finally Raj says “Having discovered the pleasure in supporting the local community, a massive thank you to Fairford Leys residents for their kind support.”

### 2. The Honey Bee

If you haven't been to our local pub, The Honey Bee lately, it is certainly worth a visit. New manager Rob Hucker is determined to make a difference and has started with a thorough deep clean and freshen up. The children's area has been reinstated complete with new screens and some new attractions. A separate area has been set aside for those wishing to purchase food. Various evening entertainments including Bingo, Quiz night, live music and Karaoke are being organised. Rob is striving hard to make the Honey Bee a true village pub with something for all the family.





# and Events



## Play Time for Babies and Toddlers

Are you looking for somewhere to take your little ones on Fairford Leys, where they can play and both mothers and babies can make new friends? And even better there is no charge. The group run by local resident Catheryn Blunt, is held on Tuesday afternoons in the hall next door to the Church on Fairford Leys. See details below.

**\*All are welcome!\***

**The Church on  
Fairford Leys Hall**

**Tuesday  
Afternoons**

FairfordLeysChurch.org.uk

**1-3pm**

Tea and Coffee

Toddler Toys

Conversation

Biscuits!

(PS it's free! 😊 )

# Photograph Competition



You will have noticed from the last edition that we published the results of our photograph competition. At our meeting in September Chairman Cllr Andrew Cole presented them with their prizes and certificates.

Here they are together with their pictures.



**1st**  
**The Tulips!!**  
**Ian Morris**



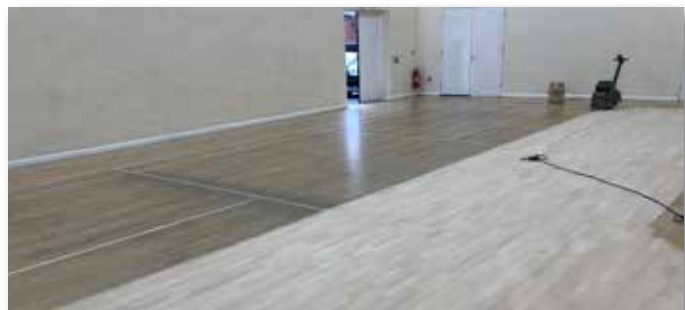
**2nd**  
**The Pond!!**  
**Michael Vaughan**



**3rd**  
**The Winter Trees**  
**Naomi White**

# Fairford Leys Centre News Update

I am pleased to say I can approach this centre update far more positively than the last one among other things we have recently been able to get both the hall floors refurbished and as the photo below showing the difference is nothing short of amazing.



We have gradually seen classes return and I am happy to say we are now back up to around 85% of our pre-covid levels for regular classes. A couple of the remaining groups have indicated that they will be restarting in the new year so hopefully we will be back where we were before too long.

Additionally, we now have a completely new Children's group 'Monkey Music' at the centre on Thursday mornings.

We have also started to see the return of private parties although at the moment we are restricting the type and size of parties that we are able to host. When deciding on the viability of a party we will consider as far as possible the current guidelines set out by the government, as at 1st November 2021 this includes:



- Identifying poorly ventilated areas and taking steps to improve the ventilation in these areas, typically this will mean doors and windows remaining open
- Ensuring any staff or hirers who are feeling unwell do not attend the centre
- Continuing to provide hand sanitiser and ensuring that areas being frequently touched are kept clean
- Encourage the continued use of face coverings in crowded or enclosed settings where individuals come into contact with people they do not normally meet.

This list is clearly not exhaustive but illustrates that whatever the papers might say there is still guidance to follow.

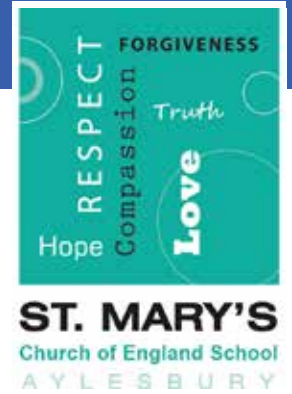
The centre timetable has been included below and if you have any questions about any of the classes the centre can be contacted on 01296 422800 or [info@fairfordleyscentre.org.uk](mailto:info@fairfordleyscentre.org.uk) we look forward to meeting you soon.

**. Andy Barnett - Fairford Leys Centre Manager**

## Current Class Timetables

Day	Ernest Cook Hall	Coldharbour Hall
Monday	09.00 – 15.30 Monday Contact Club 16.00 – 18.00 Available for hire 18.45 – 19.45 Fergie's Fitness 20.00 – 21.00 Yoga Class	09.30 – 14.00 Adventure Babies 16.30 – 17.30 Premier Sports Futsal (4-6 Yrs) 17.30 – 18.30 Premier Sports Futsal (7-10Yrs) 19.00 – 20.45 Bounce Class 21.00 – 22.00 Available for Hire
Tuesday	09.30 – 12.00 NHS Diabetes 12.00 – 15.00 Available for hire 15.40 – 18.15 Claydons Dance Academy 18.30 – 20.00 Gentle & Therapeutic Yoga 20.15 – 22.30 Swing Dance MK	09.00 – 10.45 Available for hire 11.00 – 12.00 Badminton (Private) 14.00 – 14.30 Claydons Tots 15.40 – 18.15 Claydons Dance Academy 19.00 – 20.30 JBD Fitness
Wednesday	10.30 – 11.30 JBD Fitness 11.45 – 12.45 Yoga (U3A) 12.45 – 14.30 Available for Hire 15.40 – 18.15 Claydons Dance Academy 18.30 – 21.00 Seido Karate	09.00 – 14.30 Available for Hire 15.40 – 18.15 Claydons Dance Academy Cheerleading 18.30 – 19.30 Seido Karate 20.00 – 21.00 Bounce
Thursday	09.00 – 13.00 Monkey Music 13.30 – 18.30 Available for Hire 19.15 – 22.00 WI (3rd Thursday Only) 19.00 Parish Council Meeting (1st Thursday of every Month only)	09.45 – 11.00 JBD Fitness 12.00 – 15.00 Available for Hire 16.00 – 17.00 Little Dragons (ZKS) 17.00 – 19.45 Childrens Martial Arts (ZKS) 20.15 – 21.00 Bounce
Friday	09.30 – 11.30 Weeniebeans Soft Play 13.30 – 16.00 50+ Friendship group 16.15 – 18.00 ZKS 18.30 – 22.00 Available for hire	09.00 – 10.15 Available for Hire 10.30 – 11.30 Badminton (Private) 12.30 – 13.30 Badminton (Private) 17.15 – 18.15 Badminton (Private) 18.30 – 22.00 Church Badminton Group
Saturday	9.00 – 10.00 & 10.30 – 11.30 Yoga	10.00 – 12.45 ZKS Martial Arts
Sunday	9.00 – 10.00 Bounce	Available for Hire

# St Mary's CE School



## Covid 19

At the time of writing this article for the Coldharbour News, we are already half way through the Autumn Term. Like last academic year, we are still trying to keep the impact of COVID to a minimum and we are very grateful to all members of our school community for their continued support. I am, as I am sure you all are, hoping that there is no need to bring in additional restrictions if we all do our best to keep ourselves and community safe.

School life has returned to nearly normal with some tweaks that we have learnt from the lockdown that have proved successful. These include staggering breaks and lunch times which give the children more time to play and virtual parent's evenings which allows the parents to meet with their child's class teacher without the need to leave their home or in some cases place of work.

## Parking outside School

One thing that we have noticed is that we have far more families walking to and from school or parking a bit further

away, which is fantastic to see. However, we still do have a lot of families parking very close to the school and in some cases parking very inconsiderately. I encourage members of the St Mary's School community and wider Fairford Leys community to report any incidents of inconsiderate parking or dangerous driving to the police on the non-emergency website. I have also raised this matter with the Parish Council and the local PCSOs several times and hopefully we will be getting involved in a new initiative shortly.

We are also hoping, as our community begins to open up, to be involved in more events and occasions. When they do happen I hope to see some of you there.

Take care and stay safe

**David Liddle – Headteacher St Mary's CE School**

# St Mary's C of E School Nursery



We are now  
accepting  
applications for  
funded places for  
St Mary's  
Nursery  
January  
2022

Applications available from:  
St Mary's CE Combined School  
Keen Close, Fairford Leys, Aylesbury

01296 482094

Website:  
<https://www.st-marysaylesbury.bucks.sch.uk>

Twitter:  
[@stmarysayles](https://twitter.com/stmarysayles)

# A Christmas Message from the Church on Fairford Leys

**“The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine.” Isaiah 9:2**

Two thousand years ago, a family faced problems with transport, government bureaucracy, accommodation shortages, and lack of access to basic health care. Jesus was born into the midst of conflict, poverty and turmoil. As we approach this Christmas, we might say that not much has changed. The daily reporting of COVID-19 statistics has moved down the agenda, and has been replaced by news of fuel and food shortages, soaring energy costs, and economic uncertainty.

So what is different today from Bethlehem, all those years ago? Only the biggest change since the start of human history. A change of approach, and the arrival of a new set of possibilities. A change which really did bring a lasting solution. Of course there have been many such turning points along the way. Speaking about the recent COP26 conference, one commentator described how humanity's lot had remained more or less unchanged from the end of the ice age until about 250 years ago. The industrial revolution signalled the start of our move towards a more productive, affluent, and perhaps more fulfilling lifestyle. The problem is it also marked the start of what we now call the climate emergency. One step forward and two steps back? This so often seems to be the case as we try to tackle the big problems. And we know that even if we take action today, the problem will remain with us for centuries if not millennia.

The world of Bethlehem and Nazareth also faced a long-standing problem. A quick fix, an instant correction was not possible. But the foundations were laid for a way forward. It still requires us to be involved, but even when we get it wrong, it's now a case of two steps forward and one step back. It will be a sad thing if we face a shortage of turkey, tinsel or toys. It may dull our celebrations a little. But it will have no effect on the fundamental meaning of Christmas - that God began his rescue plan for the world, and that life changed forever, for the better. Sometimes shortages or hardships are no bad thing. They force us to focus on what we do have, on what is truly important. That is the reflection of so many people as we consider the past two years. Whatever style of Christmas celebration we are allowed or is possible this year, let's remember that it is a time of thanksgiving and rejoicing that the light of Christ came into the darkness of the world, and that his light can never be extinguished.

**Revd Anthony – The Church on Fairford Leys**



## The Church on Fairford Leys Christmas Programme 2021



<b>5th Dec</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> <b>4.00 pm</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Christingle Service</b>
<b>Saturday 11th</b>	<b>4.00 pm</b>	<b>Carols in the Square</b> <b>and outdoor Nativity</b>
<b>12th Dec</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>19th Dec</b>	<b>9.15 am</b> <b>10.30 am</b> <b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Quiet Communion</b> <b>Morning Worship</b> <b>Carols by Candlelight</b>
<b>26th Dec</b>		<b>No Service</b>
<b>Fri 24th Dec</b>	<b>4.00 pm</b> <b>11.30 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Crib Service</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sat 25th Dec</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b> <b>Family Service</b>



**We invite you and your family to join us for worship over the Christmas season.**

# Fairford Leys WI

## Goodbye to Jane and Welcome to Beverly

Hello Everyone

Here we are again at my favourite time of year. Fairford Leys is looking beautiful with all the autumn colours and our WI is now able to meet in person. It's been so lovely to get back together and Fairford Leys WI celebrated our 21st birthday back in September. We can't wait to be there at the festive Christmas in the square in December too.

This year I decided to step down as President after 4 years, and in October our members voted for Beverly Edwards to take over. Beverly has been a member for 15 years and on the committee for nearly as many. Beverly is passionate about our group and its members and is a warm, enthusiastic and supportive person. I know she will lead our WI into next year and beyond. Many congratulations to Beverly.

We have lots of events planned for over Christmas and into the new year so why don't you come and join us? Our Meetings



are on the 3rd Thursday of every month in the community centre at 7.30pm. You will be very welcome.

**Jane Rice Fairford Leys WI**

## COMMUNITY KNIT AND NATTER

The Fairford Leys Community Knit and Natter Group is up and running again and how wonderful it is to see all the familiar faces and lots of new ones.

The main aim of The Group is to provide a space for people to join together in knitting, crocheting, sewing or, if none of these appeal, just nattering! We enjoy supporting local good causes, one of the most popular being the Baby Unit at Stoke Mandeville and have donated handmade baby hats, bonding squares, blankets and cannula covers which have been received with great delight at the hospital. For Freemantle, also at Stoke Mandeville, we have donated lap blankets, tea cosies, twiddle muffs and a selection of flowers and animals for a woodland display.

We are made poppies for The Royal British Legion to sell alongside their traditional poppies in their annual fundraising and to make sure we get into the Christmas spirit are knitting little Christmas puddings to put chocolate in for the WI tombola at 'Christmas in the Square' in December



## Appeal for yarn

Above are just a few of the charities we support and to help us continue with this we are happy to accept any surplus yarn you may have hanging around that is looking for a good home!

"Knitting....I don't knit", we often hear said; please don't let that stop you coming along for some company and a natter. We get together on the first Thursday of the month – 1pm to 3pm; cost £1 which includes tea or coffee - We would really love to see you. If you need any more information contact: Sandra on 07769995620 or Sylvia on 0770979931

**Denise Sikora Knit and Natter**

## From Your PCSO

HAs the clocks go back and the evenings start to get darker we tend to see an increase in burglaries. This is due to the lack of lights being on highlighting whether or not anyone is currently in the property. Getting a timer switch is an easy way to ensure that you are not advertising to any opportunistic individuals when your house is unoccupied. These switches can turn on items such as lights, a radio or TV. Additional items, such as CCTV, Ringdoor bells or lights with movement sensors are also extremely useful in deterring those individuals who would rather remain unseen, whilst the addition of a gravel pathway makes a silent approach extremely difficult! Please ensure if you do have CCTV that you have

notices advertising that you have it and that it only covers your property unless you have permission from any other individuals whose property is captured. We also recommend checking that you ensure that there are no tools or items (such as a bin) left in areas which would enable people to use them to climb over garden walls or otherwise gain access to the property.

As the world starts to reopen, many people are taking the opportunity to have a winter get away. Avoid tagging yourself at the airport and save posting your holiday photos until you come back. Some people do this and are then burgled and some holiday insurance policies can become invalidated if you do this

**Stay safe and enjoy the Christmas holidays.**



**PCSO Catriona Wilshere**  
**Your Local neighbourhood team**





## Creative Fun and Financial Learnings at the Jonathan Page Play Centre

It's hard to believe that October Half Term has been and gone. It feels like we only just went back to school! We had a fantastic five days at JPPC bringing out our inner artist, using string and watercolours to create pictures, making our own marble run, painting rocks and making yarn wrapped monsters.

But that's not all we did. We also met Sharon from HSBC, who taught us how to be "money smart" in a fun way. We learnt to distinguish between what we want and what we need, how we spend money but also how we can save it. Some of us older children learnt how easy it is to get "carried away" with spending money when we are on a day out. We planned a day out and realised how easy it is to forget all the extras that may be involved

such as train tickets or petrol. We are sure some of our parents are pleased that we got a better understanding of money now, but we can always learn more.

When we weren't being creative or learning about being money smart, we played with our friends indoors and outdoors, played games as a group, read books and lots more.

Our Christmas Playscheme is just round the corner and we can't wait to come back and see our friends and the team again. There may even be a visit from Father Christmas if we are good between now and then...

Why don't you come and join us for some **Christmas Fun from 20-24 December and on 4 January 2022?**



## Useful Numbers

### Arriva Buses

01296 468730

### BT Fault Line

0800 800151

### Childline

0800 1111

### The Church on Fairford Leys

01296 424980

### Clerk to Coldharbour Parish Council

01296 422800

### Doctors Surgery

01296 424488

### Eastgate Dental Practice

01296 433222

### Electricity - Power loss

0800 3163105

### Fairford Leys Centre 01296 422800

### Fairford Pharmacy 01296 485050

### Gas - Emergency

0800 111999

### N.H.S. Out of hours 111

### Silver Rider – Red Rose travel

01296 747926

### Stoke Mandeville Hospital

01296 315000

### Thames Valley Police 101

### Thames Water

0800 714614

### Train Times

08457 484950

## Monthly Meetings of Coldharbour Parish Council

Full parish council meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of every month at 8pm at the Fairford Leys Centre. There are no meetings in January and August. These meetings are open to all, so do come along and see for yourself how your parish council works.



# Your carriage awaits with Cinderella this Christmas!

The cast of **Cinderella** at **Aylesbury Waterside Theatre** from **Fri 3 Dec 2021 – Sun 2 Jan 2022** are promising a whole lot of fun, slapstick and giggles galore as they prepare to give audiences the ultimate festive treat!

CBBC presenter **Mark Rhodes** will be playing Dandini alongside panto favourites **Andy Collins** (BBC 3 Counties Radio) – complete with his bra for three(!) and the most glamorous Fairy Godmother of them all, Britain's Got Talent's **La Voix**. The cast are joined by director **Chris Nelson**, who is appearing on stage himself as Ugly Sister alongside **Kristopher Milnes**. Leading Lady Cinderella played by **Gemma Naylor** completes the dream

team line-up ready to give you a show to remember this Christmas.

Andy Collins gave a few hints as to what audiences can expect from this year's sensational show: 'We're going big this year! We owe it to our audiences to give them the ultimate escape from what's been a difficult year for so many. We have amazing singers in the show, incredible dance routines being choreographed as we speak, massive hit songs, brand new costumes and of course a few surprises up our sleeves! I personally can't wait to get back on that stage with a like-minded cast who just want to entertain and show mums, dads, nans, grandads and the little people a flipping good time!'



Get ready to make up for lost time (before the clock strikes!) You shall go to the ball this Christmas with the Fairy Godmother of all pantomimes full of sparkling sets, lavish costumes, amazing song and dance numbers, and bags of audience participation.

Make sure you book your tickets early to secure the best seats at the best prices and get ready to have a ball this Christmas. Visit [www.atgtickets.com/aylesbury](http://www.atgtickets.com/aylesbury) or call 0844 871 7615\* (\*calls cost up to 7p per min plus your phone company's excess charge).

**Alison Trimming -  
Aylesbury Waterside Theatre**



## New Year at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre:

- Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World ..... Wed 5 – Sat 8 Jan
- UK Pink Floyd Experience ..... Sun 9 Jan
- Moscow City Ballet: Swan Lake and The Nutcracker ..... Mon 10 – Tue 11 Jan
- Hello Again - A Tribute to Neil Diamond ..... Sun 23 Jan
- Groan Ups ..... Mon 24 – Sat 29 Jan
- Jack Dee – Off The Telly ..... Sun 30 Jan
- Kevin Clifton – Burn The Floor ..... Mon 31 Jan