



Active in the local community

Serving Fairford, Lechlade and the surrounding villages.

Autumn Newsletter 2018

2018 has been another very busy year for the League with our volunteers working hard on fundraising and helping us to deliver our services to the community. We continue to be forever grateful to our volunteers and to the local community for their continued and generous support.

A brief summary of our activities over the year to date is set out below.

For full up to date information about the League including news, upcoming events and 100 Club winners please visit our website www.friendsoffairford.org.uk

*We are holding our
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
SATURDAY 17th NOVEMBER
10AM - NOON
AT
FAIRFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE*

Update on changing the legal structure of the charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and changing the name to 'Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities'

2017 saw the agreement to change the legal structure of the Charity and change its name to Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities. This required registering a new charity and the approval from the Charity Commission which has recently been received (Sept 2018). The Trustees will now organise and implement the actions required to operate the community services from the newly structured charity. The aim is to have it operational by the end of March 2019.

Rest assured there will be no change to the services we provide in the community. The support will be exactly the same. You will start to see the use of the new name, Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities, over the coming months linked with the existing League of Friends name.

This change strengthens the position of the Charity now and for the future reflecting how it has changed over 30 years, how its services have changed and are delivered and how Charity Law has changed.

It will not change what we do for the community and we look forward to your continued support.

FUND RAISING

Our supporters will have raised over £37,000 within the community this year which is an amazing result. Our thanks go to everyone involved and to all those in the community who continue to show their support through their generous donations. This has been raised through the following events:

- **2018 House To House Collection – raised £19,506 including Gift Aid.** *A big thank you to all our collectors and co-ordinators whose energy and commitment to this task has once again been magnificent.*
- **Charity Shop – expected to raise over £13,000 this year.** *This success is due to the team of shop volunteers and to Debbie Ash our shop manager.*
- **100 Club – raised £468.** *The final draw for 2018 will be made towards the end of November when two more lucky winners will be announced.*

- **Khushi's Curry night on 20 February – raised £605.** *Thanks go to Muj and his team for an enjoyable evening.*
- **Open Gardens at the Bull Pens on 26 June raised £546.** *Our thanks to Andrea Wilkinson.*
- **The performance of Much Ado About Nothing on 29 June raised £370.** *Thanks to Sally Boyd for donating the proceeds from this event.*
- **Thanks to the Coln Choir for donating the proceeds of £350 from their summer event.**
- **Jazz Swing Band Picnic on 7 July - raised £1,500.** *Thanks to Maureen Trudgill and her team for organising a very entertaining evening.*
- **Italian evening at Colosseo on 10 September - raised £854.** *Thanks go to Zeus, Giuseppe, and the team for their hard work and great food on the night.*

Please do not forget our next fund raising event:

The League's Christmas Bazaar at Fairford Community Centre, Saturday 17 November 10.00 till 12.00. There will be two new stalls – a Chocolate Tombola and a Festive Glitter /Nail Painting stall in addition to our usual bottle tombola, cakes, cards, bric-a-brac and refreshments.

Christmas cards and raffle tickets

These are now on sale at our Charity Shop, Hilary Cottage Surgery and Fairford Hospital. They can also be purchased at our Christmas Bazaar on the 17 November when the raffle will be drawn. There are over 18 prizes to be won thanks to the generous donations from our local businesses including:

£100 cash prize, vouchers from Fairford Opticians, Fairford Therapy Centre, Lechlade Garden Centre, Cutler & Bayliss, Cotswold Wildlife Park, The Bull Hotel, Cotswold Farm Park, RIAT tickets, The Christmas Shop, Lechlade Pharmacy, Fairford Butchers, Lechlade Motor Company, Fairford Physio & Sports Injury Clinic, Londis, The Codfather, New Inn Lechlade, Bibury Trout Farm and Dent Artwork Lechlade.

100 Club 2019

Subscriptions are now due for 2019. We really want to increase the number of members so if you have not set up a direct debit for the 100 Club please send your £12 to Andrena Miles (Treasurer League of Friends of Fairford Hospital), AMM Bookkeeping & Accountancy, 11 High Street Fairford Glos GL7 4AD.

If you want to set up a Direct Debit or have not yet joined and are interested in doing so, then please refer to our website (www.friendsoffairford.org.uk) or contact Christine Barker for further details. A Direct Debit will ensure being included in the draw every year. Please submit new applications and subscription renewals by 31 December.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

The League's primary services are its operations in the community and these activities are financed from the proceeds of the fund-raising events and from the donations that we receive. We continue to spend approximately £70,000 in delivering these services.

Home Nursing

The League of Friends Home Nursing service has continued its excellent work. Much of this deals with end of life care and is provided at no cost to the patients or their carers

We are very fortunate to have such an excellent Home Nursing Team who provide this level of support in the community and we are extremely grateful to Celia Kennedy, Emma Kennedy, Sally Salter, Christine Benzie and the team of Home Nurses.

Prospect Hospice

Our agreement with Prospect Hospice in Wroughton near Swindon has been renewed again this year. This costs the League £25,000 and enables access to Prospect's full range of palliative care services for the patients of both Fairford and Lechlade GP practices.

Family funding support

The League provides funding for health care support and short term respite care in areas of need for families and carers of all ages. This support typically ranges from providing funding for additional hours at specialist respite centres for children and young adults to funding for specialist activities that provide benefits to those in need.

Foot Care Clinic

We continue to fund the weekly Foot Care Clinic at Fairford Hospital and this service continues to be very popular and much appreciated.

Counselling

We have renewed our agreement to support student counselling services at Farmors School and have provided £5000 towards the School's student counselling costs this year. This has been well received by Farmors and it also helps the League to raise its profile within the community's younger generation.

Volunteer Car Service

The car service is as busy as ever with our drivers completing over 700 drives a year to the local surgeries; the Cheltenham, Gloucester, Swindon, Cirencester, Moreton, Oxford and Bristol hospitals. We always need more drivers to help patients get to their appointments so if you have some spare time and would like to help out please come and join us, you will be very welcome.

Edna Dawes Lunch Club

The Lunch Club continues to meet on Mondays and Wednesdays in Fairford Hospital providing the opportunity for those who find it difficult to get out to socialise with others. We are grateful to Shirley Rice and Kate Barnes for leading the Lunch Club so successfully and to the committed band of volunteers. The Club only survives because of the commitment from our volunteers.

If you think you can help either with driving the mini bus or with helping at the Club sessions, then please do get in touch with us.

First Responders

The First Responders help to save lives in our rural community, again staffed by trained volunteers who attend call outs which are very varied and not just to the most serious or life threatening. The League continues to provide funding support for equipment and training where necessary.

Fairford Young At Heart Lunch Club

The League continues to fund the Fairford Young At Heart Lunch Club which is organised by Memory Clubs UK C.I.C., a non-profit Community Interest Company. The Lunch Club is held every third Friday of the month at Beaumoor and runs from 10.00 till 2.00pm. It provides entertainment and social activities for people with memory problems and their carers. Lunch is available for £3.50. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Trustees

The Management Committee were delighted to welcome one new Trustee this year – Ros Godden. This will strengthen our Committee and will help us continue to deliver the services within our community.

REMEMBER – WE ALWAYS NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP DELIVER OUR SERVICES

We need:

- Drivers to help patients get to their medical appointments.
- Collectors and Co-ordinators to help with the annual house to house collection for 2019.
- Charity Shop volunteers who can donate 3 hours/week in our shop.
- Lunch Club volunteers and minibus drivers.

If you are interested in helping please contact Christine Barker our Administrator for more information.



Graham Hewitt

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HELP US MANAGE OUR COSTS

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