



*Hello from...
... Helen Wade*

I'm delighted to have been asked to introduce myself in this edition of CHEQS. I'm an Essex girl who has lived in Eastleach with my husband Sam for the last 28 years. At Eastleach Downs Organic Farm we grow cereals, and farm free-range pigs - organically, of course. Areas of the farm are protected in environmental schemes preserving wildlife habitat. We've brought up two daughters in this beautiful landscape too!

A few weeks ago, we were at the Oxford REAL Farming Conference, attending various talks on the climate crisis, and hearing about what we as farmers can do to protect the planet for future generations. We all need to do our bit and although we can't do everything, we can all do something. We've been recycling at the farm and at home for many years but, armed with the shocking statistic that only 15% of the plastic we *think* we recycle is actually re-used, we've set ourselves the ambitious target of eliminating single-use plastic from our lives.

I also chair our Village Hall Committee and have been overwhelmed by the support and generosity of the residents of Eastleach in the challenge to refurbish our lovely playground, and this year the hall itself. Watch this space for further progress reports!

CHEQS DIARY 2020

Sunday, 2 nd Feb	6pm	Evening Prayer with choir, Eastleach
Thursday, 6 th Feb	8pm	Quiz Night at Keepers Arms (fundraiser)
Saturday, 8 th Feb	10.30am-12pm	Coffee Morning, Quenington Village Hall
Friday, 28 th Feb	7pm for 7.30pm	Coln Cinema - Wild Rose
Saturday, 29 th Feb	10am	Southrop litter pick - start on The Green
Saturday, 29 th Feb	2pm	Jumble Sale, Southrop Village Hall
Saturday, 29 th Feb	7pm for 7.45pm	Great Cabaret Safari, Quenington Village Hall
Sunday, 1 st Mar	10am	Southrop litter pick - start on The Green
Saturday, 14 th Mar	10.30am-12pm	Coffee Morning, Quenington Village Hall
21 st - 22 nd March		Southrop Archives in Southrop Village Hall
Friday, 27 th Mar	7pm for 7.30pm	Coln Cinema - Downton

NEW VICAR FOR CHQ CHURCHES



The Reverend Simon Brignall has accepted the role of 'House for Duty' priest for the united parish of Coln, Hatherop and Quenington. This means that Simon is given accommodation, but no stipend. He will be working on a part-time basis - his working days and precise responsibilities will be made known in due course. It is hoped that Simon will take up his appointment in the CHQ parish within the next few months.

Simon is married to Clare, and they have five adult children. Until recently he was Rector at Saint Paul's Cathedral in Valparaiso, Chile, and between 2015 and 2018 he was Chaplain to Saint Peter's Church in Viña del Mar, Chile. Before that Simon was a parish priest in Dorset.

EASTLEACH CHURCH

On Sunday, 2nd February at 6pm, there will be a special service of sung Evening Prayer with the choir of St Lawrence Church, Lechlade. The service will be led by Reverend Andrew Cinnamond, and all are welcome to join the regular congregation.

FAIRFORD ART SOCIETY

Thursday, 6th February, at 2.30pm, Fairford Community Centre

The Bristol-based watercolour artist and tutor, Jem Bowden, will give an interactive demonstration entitled "Direct and Dynamic Landscapes in Watercolour". Entry is £1 for members, and £4 for visitors. There will be coffee available, and also a raffle.

In addition: Get-Together sessions will be held on Tuesdays 4th & 11th and Thursdays 20th & 27th February at Fairford Community Centre at 1.30pm. This month the subject is Still Life. The cost is £3.00 per session. Visitors are welcome, but it would be helpful if you let Sallie know you are coming - call 01367 850385. Check out our website on www.fairfordartsociety.weebly.com for more information.

WHICHQ?

What's Happening In Coln, Hatherop & Quenington is a local website that will keep you up to date with events in the three villages. Not only can you find details of what is coming up in the local calendar, but you can also see photos and videos of past activities. So, go to www.whichq.net if you want to find out what is happening in CHQ!

Also, of interest to residents of all five villages, the CHEQS Magazine can be accessed via the links page of whichq.net - you will find just the main content pages - without the covers, village contacts and block adverts. You can also look at back copies of both the new community magazine, and the previous parish one.

EATING OUT IN CHEQS - THE VICTORIA INN, EASTLEACH

Over forthcoming issues, CHEQS Magazine will take a closer look at the people who run our local pubs/restaurants - starting with Thomas & Maya Gabbitas.



The Victoria Inn is a traditional Cotswold village pub, set on a rise overlooking the beautiful village of Eastleach. It was built as a private dwelling in the early 1700s and registered as a public house in the mid-1800s. Arkell's Brewery took it over from Courage in 1975. The customers are mostly locals during the week, with the addition of walkers, city folk and families at the weekends. The new terrace is a great place to eat outside in good weather.

Thomas & Maya started out in the restaurants, cafes and pubs of Bristol before moving to Eastleach seven years ago. They have been running The Victoria Inn for the last three years. Maya is in charge of looking after the accounts and HR, while Tom runs the 'front of house', with a great team led by Eppie, Zoe & Jed. They are fortunate to have long-serving, loyal staff from the village and surrounding areas. The kitchen is run by head chef Malcolm, ably assisted by Ashley. They like to keep the fare relatively simple and traditional, aiming at a timeless and classic ambience and menu, rather than anything too modern. The food is basically British, but influenced by classic French, Italian and Spanish cuisines, alongside the great pub classics.

The Victoria Inn also hosts an amazing slide blues guitarist, Will Killeen, every couple of months - as well as other live music throughout the year.

QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 8th February from 10.30am to 12pm

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy home-made cakes, tea, coffee or squash, and pleasant company and conversation. The Quenington archives are available upstairs to be looked at on request. And then there is the raffle... with almost certainly the highest probability of winning a prize of any raffle anywhere!

LECHLADE HISTORY SOCIETY

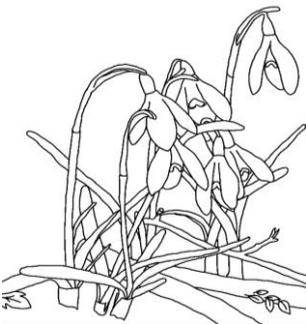
Monday, 17th February at 7pm for 7.30pm, at Lechlade Memorial Hall

This month the subject is The History of Policing in Gloucestershire. It is 180 years since officers of the Gloucestershire Constabulary first patrolled the towns, villages and highways of the county. Dr Tim Brain, police historian and former chief constable of Gloucestershire, will tell the story of those 180 years - including the background to the creation of the Constabulary, the first chief constable, the transition to modern policing, and major events such as the West Case and The Floods of 2007. Entry is £1 for members, and £4 for guests.

EASTLEACH ROADWORKS

Thames Water are to renew a 430-metre section of the water main, in the road from Eastleach to Oxleaze Farm (the Common). Works are due to commence on Monday, 17th February and should be completed by Friday, 20th March. The Eastleach website www.eastleach.org/road-closures/ has more information.

SNOWDROPS IN FEBRUARY



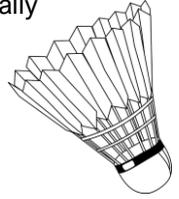
As well as Colesbourne Park, which we featured last month, other venues for enjoying snowdrops are:

- Cerney House Gardens
- Painswick Rococo Garden
- Batsford Arboretum
- Newark Park (National Trust)

Do check opening days, times & prices on their websites before you visit. And of course, the quality of the displays will be dependent on suitable weather conditions!

FAIRFORD BADMINTON CLUB

Have you picked up your badminton racket recently, thinking you really should start playing again? Badminton is a popular sport for people of all ages, and there are plenty of benefits of playing regularly, including:



- **staying fit** - using many different muscles in your body
- **losing weight** - an hour of playing can burn about 450 calories
- **increasing your muscle tone** - especially the arm and back muscles on the side you hold the racket
- **reducing stress and anxiety** - the increased production of endorphins, the brain's feel-good neurotransmitters, may improve mood and sleep patterns
- **reducing isolation** - enabling you to meet new people, and perhaps make new friends!

Fairford Badminton Club play from 8 to 10pm on Mondays (excluding Bank Holidays) at Farmor's Sport Centre and we would love to see some new faces. We are looking for people who want to play socially (and who have picked up a racket before), and also for more experienced players who might be interested in joining one of our league teams. Players need to be aged 14 and above. We are currently offering up to three free sessions, to see if you like it before joining the club.

For more information, visit our website www.fairfordbadmintonclub.co.uk or come along to a session at Farmor's Sports Centre, Farmor's School, Fairford GL7 4JQ.

APPLE RECIPES STILL REQUIRED



A reminder that in preparation for Quenington Apple Day 2020 a small team is planning to compile an apple themed recipe booklet. Many thanks to those who have already given us a recipe, but we do need more! Please put into an envelope:

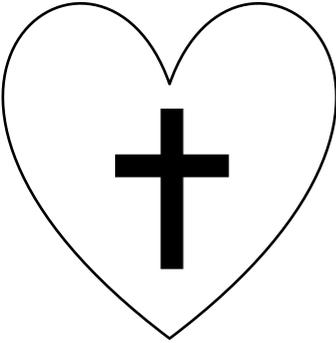
- a typed or handwritten copy - or a photocopy - of your recipe
- the reason you chose it - perhaps it has been handed down through the family
- if there have been any adaptations to the original
- your name (and contact details, which will not be published)

You can put it in the Quenington Village Hall letter box, bring it to one of the coffee mornings, or scan and email the above information to me:

Joan Grosscurth 01285 750560 j.m.freeman@btinternet.com

ST VALENTINE'S DAY

The romanticism surrounding St Valentine's Day can be fun. However, it can also make it a difficult time for some people. But what are the origins of the day?



Hazy history: There is some argument amongst scholars about the exact identity of the man after whom St Valentine's Day was named, but it seems that one candidate was a priest or a bishop in the Roman Empire who helped persecuted Christians. He was killed because of his faith on February 14th AD 269, but a feast day in his honour was not established until over 200 years later.

Invented ideas: It is thought that many of the current legends about Saint Valentine were invented in the 14th century in England, notably by Geoffrey Chaucer and his circle, when the feast day first seems to have become associated with romantic love.

Biblical basis: As part of the wedding ceremony, many couples choose a Bible reading from part of Paul's first letter to the Corinthian Church. This was not written about romantic love - but of selfless, godly love to be shown by each person to another. It is a great ideal, and gives us something to aim at in all our relationships - with friends, family, neighbours, acquaintances or strangers.

Love is patient, love is kind.
It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking,
it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth.
It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.
Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13: 4 - 8a



COLN CINEMA - WILD ROSE

Friday, 28th February, at 7pm for 7.30pm, Vicarage Cottage Barn, Coln

Wild Rose tells the story of Rose-Lynn Harlan (Jessie Buckley), a young, wild, free-spirited woman from Glasgow on a quest to become a country music star. After being recently released from one year in prison for possession of drugs, Rose, the young mother of two children, is determined to travel to Nashville, Tennessee to become a famous country singer.

Jessie Buckley was named by BAFTA as one of their rising stars. The film also features Julie Walters and Sophie Okonedo.

Certificate 15 Runtime: 101 minutes

THE GREAT CABARET SAFARI

Saturday, 29th February, doors open at 7pm, Quenington Village Hall



Come and celebrate the extra Leap Year day with an evening of laughter, singing and music from ShooShooBaby.

This talented musical duo, along with their pianist, perform cabaret songs and other music - from composers as wide-ranging as Cole Porter and Ed Sheeran. ShooShooBaby play a plethora of instruments from the kazoo to the Indian harmonium. They may also have an interesting selection of head-gear!

Doors open at 7pm to allow time for you to enjoy some tasty nibbles and buy a drink at the cash bar. Tickets (£10) are still available from Coln Stores, by emailing queningtonvillagehall@gmail.com or phoning Fran Huckle on 01285 750788.

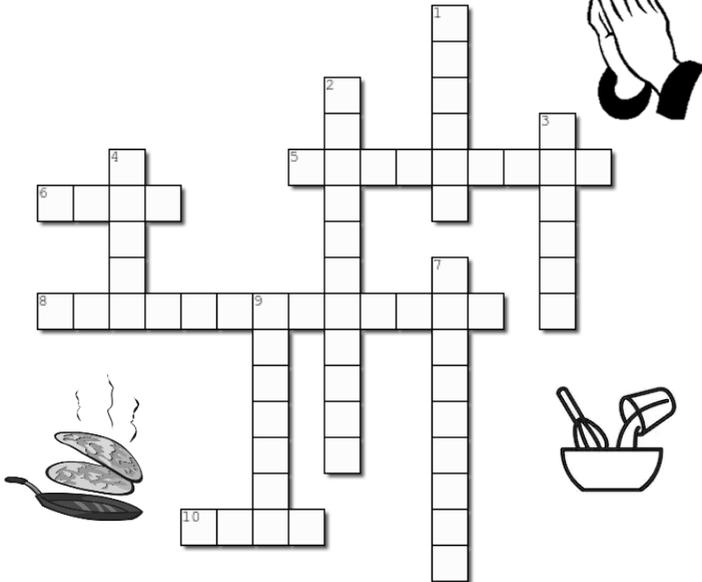
SOUTHROP ANNUAL LITTER PICK

Saturday, 29th February & Sunday, 1st March, at 10am

Do join us for an hour or so, if you can, and notice the difference we make! Meet on the village green by The Swan, either day at 10am. All equipment will be provided. For more information, contact Jerry Hibbert 850582 or Tim Guest 850189.

SOMETHING TO DO

Pancake Day Crossword



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

5. cookware item (two words)
6. white drink
8. proper name for Pancake Day (two words)
10. laid by hens

Down

1. to be sorry for things done wrong
2. given if someone is sorry for their wrong-doing
3. pancake mixture
4. used in bread-making
7. Hispanic name for Pancake Day (two words)
9. turning over in the air

Tuesday, 25th February is Pancake Day (its proper name is the answer to one of the crossword questions!). It is the day before Lent - a traditional time of preparation for Easter. People often give up their favourite food or treats in Lent, and pray or study the Bible more. Another idea is to do something extra to help others - give donations to the Food Bank, volunteer for a charity, raise funds for those in need, offer to do a job for a neighbour, or focus on becoming a better person. All these are great ways to prepare for Easter!

SOMETHING TO DO

LEAP YEAR

This is one of those years when February has an extra day. How many words of three letters or more can you make from the letters in 'Leap Year'? Perhaps you could let the editor know the longest word you were able to make! Thank you to Sheryl Moaby, who let me know her answer to last month's 'ladder' words.

LIGHT UP CHELTENHAM

Cheltenham's landmark buildings will be dramatically lit up to delight visitors this month. Starting on 1st February and finishing on 23rd February, over 30 buildings will be lit up in a way they have never been seen before. With the backdrop of the most complete Regency town in the UK, Cheltenham is certain to look spectacular. The street theatre drumming group **Spark!** will amaze crowds during the first night of the three-week event, and the town will go red for Valentine's Day. There will be a self-guided tour available for visitors to follow. Light Up Cheltenham offers a fantastic free event for families to enjoy, and a chance to see Cheltenham in a new light.

This year's Light Up Cheltenham will see the return of a giant observation wheel in Imperial Gardens, giving visitors the chance to see the lights from a whole new level.

Venue: Cheltenham town centre
Dates: Saturday 1st to Sunday 23rd February
Times: From 3pm to 10pm daily
Admission: Free, but with a charge for the observation wheel
Telephone: 01242 387492 for more information

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS

Southrop Church of England Primary School *Together we can fly*

Julia McLellan writes: Although we all enjoy the Christmas holidays, the return to school at the beginning of term is also lovely - especially when you are reunited with friends, and share a whole school trip to the pantomime Cinderella, at The Everyman Theatre. Swan Class have been studying the origins of pantomime (oh yes, they have!). The older children wrote some gripping newspaper articles about the prince's search for the mystery guest, with clever titles such as FOUND SLIPPER, MISSING GUEST by Ted.

One of our most important jobs at Southrop School is to keep our pupils safe. To learn some skills to do this for themselves, pupils in Years 5 and 6 undertook Bikeability training - similar to the Cycling Proficiency courses which people may have been involved with in the past. I am proud to say that the children showed great resilience as the weather was terrible, and all passed with flying colours. In addition, they are taking a course in water safety and lifesaving this term.

First thing in the morning, our pupils enjoy participating in Morning Move It - which is much safer since one of our parents recently gave the whole playground a jet-wash to remove the slime! We are very grateful to Mr Cooper for doing this. Our Year 6s have calculated that doing 40 laps of the playground is equivalent to running a marathon, and many of our pupils are well on the way to completing this. It is all great preparation for the cross-country competitions coming up later in the term - and also for beating the wintertime blues!

A BIG THANK YOU FROM PATTI PRICE...

...to everyone who donated to the Food Bank boxes over the Christmas period. They were gratefully received, but sadly, a few items were out of date and had to be discarded - Food Banks are only allowed to accept food which is within the use-by date.

It would seem that Food Banks throughout the country are trying to meet an ever-growing number of requests for help, so your donations are much appreciated.



FRIENDS OF FAIRFORD & LECHLADE COMMUNITIES

(formerly League of Friends of Fairford Hospital)



CURRY NIGHT

Tuesday, 25th February, 7.30pm at Khushi in Lechlade

This popular event returns this month. An Indian buffet meal, at £15 per head (excluding drinks), will be raising funds for the Friends charity. To get your tickets, please contact Ros Godden 01367 250322 or Ruth Berridge 01367 252706.

COULD YOU HELP WITH HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTIONS?

The House-to-House collection will take place from the 20th April to 5th May. Our thanks go to all our existing volunteer co-ordinators, and collectors. However, with the new housing in both Fairford and Lechlade we urgently need more people to deliver and collect the envelopes. If you can spare some time please get in touch with the Friends' administrator, Christine Barker 07767 408409 or email fairford.lof@hotmail.co.uk

MORE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

The Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities' volunteer drivers carry out more than 750 journeys a year between them, helping people to get to medical appointments at their GP surgery or hospital. More drivers are needed to help with this workload, especially in the Lechlade area and surrounding villages. Running costs for the trips can be claimed. If you would like to volunteer your help, please contact Val Harvey valharvey56@icloud.com 07540 798226.

NEW ONLINE BOOKING SYSTEM - QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL

You can now book the village hall directly online, using the Hallmaster Booking System. Simply go to the bookings page on the hall website (www.queningtonvillagehall.org.uk/page3.htm) and follow the instructions. You will be taken to a calendar where you can check availability before making a booking request. Requests will then be confirmed and invoiced by email. This will do away with the manual booking form, and hopefully make the booking system more convenient and streamlined! However, if you prefer, you can still email queningtonvillagehall@gmail.com or phone Fran Huckle (01285 750788) for further information or to request a booking.

EASTLEACH & SOUTHROP FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE JUMBLE SALE

Saturday, 29th February, at 2pm, Southrop Village Hall

Entry is just 50p - and you will be sure to find a bargain! Donations of jumble, bric-à-brac, cakes, books, toys etc. can be left at the hall on Friday, 28th (from 2 to 3.30pm) or on Saturday, 29th (from 10 to 11am). For more information, contact Sally Parris 01367 850321 or Jane Jenkinson 01367 850393.

QUIZ NIGHT AT THE KEEPERS ARMS, QUENINGTON

Thursday, 6th February at 8pm

Hatherop Parish Council and village residents are fundraising to rebuild the Hatherop playground equipment, which failed its annual safety inspection in 2019. A fundraising quiz night is being held at The Keepers Arms. Entry is £5 per person and there will be a raffle with great prizes on the night. Find some teammates and come along for a fun evening! More information on the playground rebuild can be found at www.gofundme.com/f/hatherop-playground-rebuild and online donations can also be made there. Please email hatheropplayground@outlook.com with any questions.

COLN STORES OPENING TIMES

	Store	Café	Post Office*
M-F	7am - 5.30pm	7am - 4pm	9am - 4.45pm
Sat.	8am - 2pm	8am - 1pm	9am - 12.30pm
Sun.	9am - 1pm	9am - 12pm	CLOSED

*Please note, last post collection on Saturday is at 11.20am



HIDDEN BUSINESSES

Behind the walls of some of our CHEQS residences people are busy running small businesses.



This month we put the

SPOTLIGHT ON...

...Helen Forbes & Olivia Southey



Olivia and I met initially through the annual CHEQS Summer Programme, but having children of a similar age, our paths soon crossed again through school and finally business. We both run online retail businesses from our respective homes in Coln and Hatherop but came together last September to try and solve the annual tradition of panic-bought, plastic-filled stocking fillers. Something that, with six children between us, we desperately tried to avoid every year but inevitably succumbed to.

A quick chat over coffee progressed swiftly into scouring the internet for suitable items to include in our stocking filler boxes, all of which were created to make less waste and more magic. "Help from the Elf" was launched in mid-November last year at the Beaufort Christmas Fair near Tetbury.

We've been so pleased with all the positive feedback we've received that we're now working on making it a year round gift business. While we get busy sorting out a new website, we've created a "secret shop" right in the heart of Coln. So if you have a child's birthday coming up, and would like to have a browse (prices start at just £2.50 for a pack of the most fabulous smelling, pink, sparkly flamingo bath bombs!) just send us a message at helpfromtheelf@gmail.com or contact Helen on 07795 095061.

**FAIRFORD
BADMINTON
CLUB**

We're looking for
3 FREE SESSIONS NEW PLAYERS

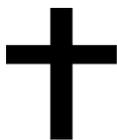
**FBC is a friendly and sociable club
where badminton skills blend with fun
and enjoyment.**

Just come along 8-10pm on a Monday;
Farmor's Sports Centre, Farmor's School, Fairford

www.fairfordbadmintonclub.co.uk

TO ADVERTISE OR MAKE AMENDMENTS, PLEASE EMAIL cheqsmagads@gmail.com	
HOUSE & GROUNDS	
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SN Complete Groundworks drainage, driveways, fencing etc. 07738937697	01367 850717
Keith Ford garden work - pruning & hedge cutting, sheds re-felted etc.	01285 750406
Alasdair Jeffries ajarborists.co.uk 07793 763535 alasdair@ajarborists.co.uk	01285 750874
The Garden & Plant Company design & landscape info@gardenandplantco.com	01285 712663
BSR Arboriculture general garden maintenance bsrarboriculture@outlook.com	07802 567452
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A Tilling decorating - interior and exterior	01285 810624
Will's Logs seasoned, sustainable hardwood (oak, ash) firewood FREE LOCAL DELIVERY	07771 867767
Plates a Plenty crockery, cutlery, glassware, linen hire: platesaplenty@gmail.com	01285 740679
Cotswold Oven Valeting Ltd professional cleaning of ovens (incl. AGAs) hobs etc	01367 850522
Window cleaning commercial and domestic traditional window cleaning, also pressure washing and gutter cleaning. For more info: steve.rix@hotmail.co.uk	01285 752703 07731 552250
Handy Man general property maintenance inc. carpentry & painting, inside & out	07791 345750
HEALTH & WELL-BEING	
Hayley Hurdle Fitness Quenington studio and trainer www.hayleyhurdlefitness.co.uk	
Bowen Technique & reflexology Southrop www.karenbenbow.co.uk	07786 971041
Unique Private Exercise Classes with Heather - improve your flexibility, balance, core strength and energy using the disciplines of Iyengar Yoga, Qi Gong or Tai Chi	01285 750751
OTHER	
The Keepers Arms Quenington, Jon & Michelle www.thekeepersarms.co.uk	01285 750349
Artist - Sallie Seymour original works, local scenes, cards, some prints available also individual or small group tuition can be arranged seymoursallie@gmail.com	01367 850385
Eimear Carvill - Stampin' Up! papercraft and cardmaking classes at QVH www.stampincolour.com	
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ANNUAL ADVERTISING RATES ARE:	
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CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES

Sunday, 2nd February

8.30am	Hatherop (HC)
9.30am	Southrop (HC)
11.00am	Coln (HC)
4.00pm	Quenington (EP)
6.00pm	Eastleach (EP with choir)

Sunday, 9th February

No service	Hatherop
9.30am	Southrop (MP)
9.30am	Quenington (HC)
11.00am	Eastleach (HC)
6.00pm	Coln (EP)

Sunday, 16th February

8.30am	Hatherop (HC)
9.30am	Southrop (MP)
11.00am	Coln (HC)
11.00am	Eastleach (MP)
4.00pm	Quenington (EP)

Sunday, 23rd February

No service	Hatherop
9.30am	Southrop (MP)
9.30am	Quenington (HC)
11.00am	Eastleach (MP)
6.00pm	Coln (EP)

HC=Holy Communion, MP=Morning Prayer, EP=Evening Prayer

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES

Williamstrip private chapel, the Chapel of Our Lady, is open to local residents for Mass at 9.30am on Sundays

Mass is also celebrated at the Parish Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Horcott Road, Fairford at 6pm on Saturdays, and 11am on Sundays (which includes a liturgy for children).

OTHER LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

ST MARY'S, FAIRFORD Sundays 8am Holy Communion, 10am Sung Eucharist (Family Service on last of the month), 6pm Choral Evensong. On second Sundays it is 'Funday Sunday' 4pm - 6pm with crafts, games, worship & a cooked tea.

ST LAWRENCE, LECHLADE Sundays 8am Holy Communion, 10am Morning Worship with children's activities (Holy Communion 1st, 3rd, 5th; Informal 4th, All-Age 2nd); 6pm Evening Worship (Evensong 1st, 3rd, 4th; Holy Communion 2nd; Healing 5th).

FAIRFORD UNITED CHURCH (CONGREGATIONAL/METHODIST) Sundays 10.30am. On Sundays when there is no All Age Worship, there is Sunday School provision for children. We meet at 79 Milton Street, Fairford.

LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH Sundays 10.30am Morning Worship (with prayer from 9.45am); 6pm Evening Worship (2nd & 3rd Sundays).