

## A few words from Michelle Williams, our Registered Manager & Director of Care

Since 2017, I have had the privilege of working with Fairfield, and my experience in Care Homes dates back to 1995. Although I began my career as a nurse, I no longer practice. My time with the Fairfield team has been both enriching and full of growth. The residents we have supported over the years have brought us great joy. Getting to know people who generously share their knowledge and life experiences has been incredibly rewarding. Every day, it is an honour to come on duty and connect with the unique individuals who make up our community. This shared experience is truly unparalleled. Our team consistently strives to uphold the values and principles of the Fairfield organization, giving their best effort daily. After a challenging period of recruitment in social care, we are pleased to announce a successful recruitment round with all care hours filled. The last three recruits are currently starting their training and induction periods. Additionally, we have successfully recruited for the housekeeping team, and one new member has joined the social wellbeing team. We are currently advertising for one further vacancy. We value being informed about your day and how we can better support you. Our goal is to help you enjoy life at Fairfield at a pace that suits you.

**Michelle Williams**  
Registered Manager/Director of Care



Michelle Williams with her Silver Award for services above and beyond during the COVID-19 pandemic Awarded by the Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care

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## Summer party:

On Saturday 16th June we had our annual Summer party. We enjoyed some wonderful food and music by 'The Satin Dollz'!



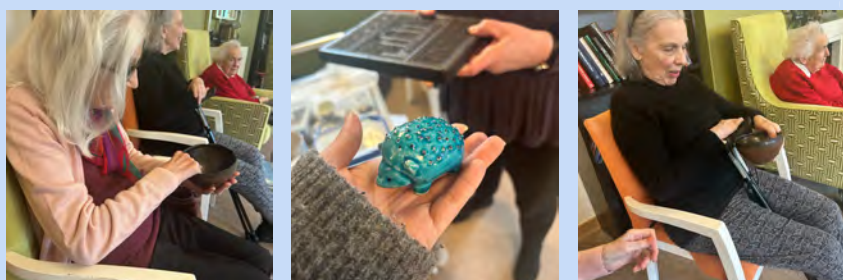
## Easter Celebration:

On Monday 1st April we had our Easter Celebration, many of you attended as did your family and friends. We all enjoyed a beautiful lunch and a performance by Jonty who played the flute.



## Recent talks

In recent months, we've enjoyed talks from the Ashmolean Museum and Waterperry Museum. At the Ashmolean, we handled real and replica artifacts and learned about the evolution of drinking utensils. Chris from Waterperry introduced us to Magic Lanterns, the earliest modern projectors



## Flying visits

We have had some special visitors to our home recently. We hope you all enjoyed watching the chicks hatch over the Easter period. It is surprising how quickly they progressed from eggs to chicks!

We also had birds of prey visit us. We saw rescued birds of prey and learned all about them. Some of the birds we saw were falcons and various breeds of owls.



## Did you know:

The Ashmolean Museum first opened its doors in 1683 as a 'cabinet of curiosities' and now has over 1,000,000 objects on display and over 39 galleries.

## Garden update:

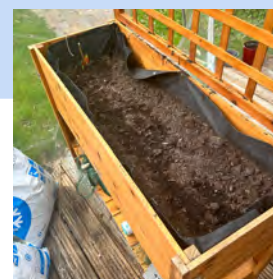
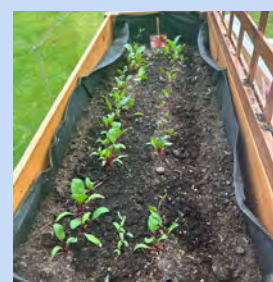
### What is growing in the ‘Greenhouse’?

As you may have noticed, Peter has been very busy in the greenhouse. Most of you would have tried his last harvest of spring cabbage, as it was incorporated in to many of your meals. Peter is now growing cucumber, beetroot, carrots and tomatoes in the green house.



### What is growing in the Terrace area?

Nora has been planting in her planter in the terrace area. She has planted various things including tumbling tomatoes, which are a different variation of tomatoes to the ones growing in the ‘Greenhouse’



### Did you know:

At this time of year the best things to plant are:

- Radishes
- Carrots
- Beetroot
- Potatoes
- Peas
- Scallions
- Kales

From top to bottom: Carrots, Beetroot and Tomatoes



## Raised Flowerbeds in the Terrace area

We now have raised flowerbeds in place and can't wait to see what residents plant in them! We took your opinions into account to ensure they are accessible for everyone to use.

## Book and Poetry Club:

As you may have noticed on your planners we now have regular book and poetry clubs.

Book club happens the first Tuesday of each month at 5 PM in the Lounge. Poetry Club happens on the second Friday of each month at 3 PM in the Lounge. These are reflected on the monthly planner.

### Can anyone join?

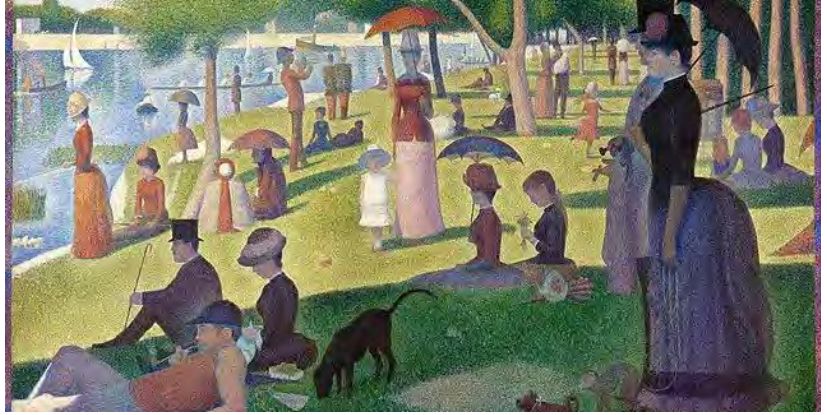
Yes! Anyone can join both Book and Poetry Club. Different books or poems are discussed at each session, so feel free to come and join in!



## A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte By George Seurat

George Seurat was a French Painter who was known for creating paintings in an unusual style. Seurat often used contrasting styles and merged them together to create his own unique style.

A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte was finished in 1886 and is considered to be one of the most iconic depictions of 19th Century France.



*A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte by Geroge Seurat*



## Religious services:

### What religious services are available to me?

We have been working diligently to expand the range of religious services available to support all residents. In addition to our bi-weekly visits on Sundays to St. Andrew's church service and our weekly online services, we have introduced several new offerings. Our Anna Chaplain, Charlotte, visits every other Wednesday, focusing on spiritual well-being. Her sessions are open to all residents.

On the first Thursday of each month, St. Margaret's Church, an Anglican church, provides a Holy Communion service for our residents. We are working to increase the frequency of this service to better meet your needs.

Father Rupert visits on the last Wednesday of each month to offer Holy Communion for our Catholic residents. He is happy to provide this service individually or in a group setting. If you would like support in arranging anything for other faiths or cultures, please let us know. We are committed to accommodating the spiritual and cultural needs of all our residents.



*The Anna Chaplin Charlotte with some of the Residents*

## Home -Thoughts, from Abroad

*By Robert Browning*

Oh, to be in England  
 Now that April's there,  
 And whoever wakes in England  
 Sees, some morning, unaware,  
 That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf  
 Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,  
 While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough  
 In England—now!

And after April, when May follows,  
 And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!  
 Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the hedge  
 Leans to the field and scatters on the clover  
 Blossoms and dewdrops—at the bent spray's edge—  
 That's the wise thrush; he sings each song twice over,  
 Lest you should think he never could recapture  
 The first fine careless rapture!  
 And though the fields look rough with hoary dew,  
 All will be gay when noontide wakes anew  
 The buttercups, the little children's dower  
 —Far brighter than this gaudy melon-flower!



Poem nominated by Sheila  
 Williams



Art work by Janet Bromet



### Did you know:

Art Class is held every Monday at 3 PM with Claudia, an external art teacher. Everyone is welcome to join. We also have our own art supplies available, so if you would like to use them for a solo art session, please let a member of staff know anytime!

## All about EPIC

### What does EPIC stand for?

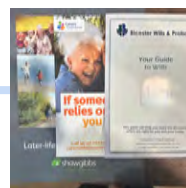
EPIC stands for Elderly People Information Centre. This means that all of the information booklets and leaflets are tailored to support elderly people and their families.

### EPIC, what is it and how can it help me?

You may have noticed that there are many leaflets and information booklets in the reception area (near the sofa). These are all from organisations who work alongside us to provide support for residents, friends and family members. The information booklets and leaflets can signpost you to relevant services that may be able to provide support through various circumstances.

### What companies are involved?

There are many organisations involved in EPIC and they are all local to Fairfield. They include The Co-operative, Age UK, Carers UK, Thames Valley Police, St Andrews Church, CS Boswells, Dementia Oxfordshire, Blake and Morgan, St Giles Dentist, Sarah Fenton, Shaw Gibbs and Bicester Wills and Probate to name but a few.

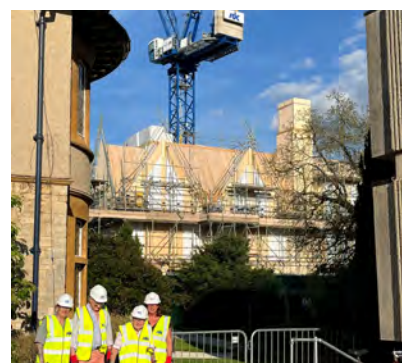


## SDC Building Project Updates

You may have noticed that there have been many changes to the building work around Fairfield. One of the main changes is that our drive way is now open for family and friends to use.

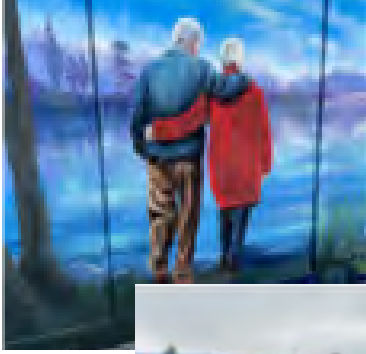
Some of our residents also went to visit the SDC building site and had a guided tour.

There will be another presentation by SDC on the 10th July at 2.00pm with a visit to the site which all residents are welcome to attend. The presentation will include updates on the building work around Fairfield and future plans and you will be able to ask any questions that you may have.



Pictures from the SDC tour, Sue (Team Leader), Chris Fields, Sue Moser and her daughter





## Mural Update

In our last newsletter we mentioned that Layla, who is a mural artist, will be coming in to Fairfield to do a mural on the second hoarding outside of Fairfield. Layla came in to visit us on the 4th June 2024 to discuss with you ideas for the new hoarding. Many ideas were shared and Layla will be coming in on the 1st July 2024 to paint the mural, this will be ongoing until the 12th July. Residents will be able to go and watch Layla create the mural, if they wish. Please speak to a member of staff who can assist you.

## Information from the Catering team

At the residents and trustees meeting in April, you requested information from the catering team. Below, Marcus shares insights about the curation of Fairfield's menus:

“We know that great food is at the heart of every home, which is why we take great care to source the finest ingredients and the freshest produce from reputable local suppliers. This allows our chefs to create fresh food for our residents every day.

We work alongside residents, management, and care staff at Fairfield, actively promoting and attending resident food forums to ensure all suggestions and concerns are addressed and residents feel their voices are heard.

In crafting menus for Fairfield, we draw inspiration from the rich tapestry of residents' lives, considering their diverse backgrounds, cherished memories, individual tastes, and dietary requirements. From comforting classics to innovative culinary creations, our menu reflects the vibrant personalities at Fairfield.

Of course, during the warmer summer months, we shift to lighter menus featuring more salads and lighter desserts, taking advantage of the wonderful array of soft summer fruits available. Root vegetables are replaced with fresh greens like tender stem broccoli, beans, and asparagus, along with more Mediterranean vegetables. Our ice cream and sorbet ranges are extended, as these prove very popular in the warmer weather.

Whether it's a hearty stew reminiscent of family gatherings or a delicate dessert that sparks joyous recollections of special occasions, every bite is infused with care and compassion. We believe good food not only nourishes the body but also uplifts the spirit, and it is with this philosophy that we create a dining experience that is both nourishing and enriching.

Our food promise is to provide a first-class experience for each resident by creating the finest food, using the freshest ingredients, a pinch of passion, a spoonful of skill, and a dollop of love.”

~ **Marcus Gardiner, Manager of Clockwork Catering**

## A Poem by Maureen

As some of you may know, we encountered an unexpected issue with our minibus on the way back from our boat trip in Henley. The Social Wellbeing and Care teams handled the situation well and as efficiently as possible. The residents were so impressed with how the team managed everything that they presented them with a thank you card for keeping everyone calm and well looked after. We are so pleased to have such supportive residents on the occasions when things don't go exactly as planned. Maureen, who was on the trip, even wrote a short poem about their experience!

**“ Oh dear, what is to become of us, six old ladies stuck in a minibus. We will be here until somebody rescues us, oh Lord let it be soon!”**

### Upcoming dates:

**Monday 1st July 2024:**  
*Wimbledon begins*

**Monday 1st July 2024:**  
*Layla begins the Mural*

**Monday 5th August 2024:**  
*Bank Holiday Monday*

**Monday 26th August 2024:**  
*Bank Holiday Monday*

### Upcoming Newsletters

**September 2024**  
**December 2024**  
**February 2025**

### Good to know



We have engaged a maintenance company called Caliber Ltd to look after the building. Brian will be here twice a week, with helpdesk support for urgent needs and a wider specialist team for additional support.



As the weather changes, so does our wardrobe! If you purchase or receive any new clothing items this season, please ask a team member to label them.



If you have a family event or outing and need extra support, we offer an escort service with a dedicated staff member for your trip. Please inform the team as early as possible so we can make the necessary arrangements



With the front driveway now reopened, we have resumed our normal allocation of 6 parking spots for visitors. Additionally, there is free 2-hour parking available on nearby roads such as Moreton Road, Rawlinson Road, and Linton Road.