



Faringdon Town Council Monthly Newsletter – June 2020

THE PLACE – EXCITING NEWS

The Place supports families in Faringdon with children under 5. The service was set up when children and family centers were closed across the county, and is funded by Faringdon Town Council and local fundraising, along with support from County Council. They currently hire rooms in The Pump House Project and the Baptist Church, but we have some exciting news! The Place will have a permanent home very soon in the Corn Exchange. Work will start shortly to convert the offices at the rear of the building to a purpose-built space funded by the Town Council, The Place Fundraising Board and the County Councillors Priority Fund. Carole Gough, Lead Worker, said, *'having our own space will make such a difference and allow us to do so much more!'* Keep an eye on social media and our website to follow progress. Support is currently being provided online. The Place is holding virtual sessions for parents. One to one support via telephone, text, and email is available for all families. Another service available to families is a clothes library including baby clothes and maternity clothes. The Place staff have been also been very busy supporting Faringdon Foodbank. For more info visit: www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk/the-place/ Or contact Carole Gough at cgough@spurgeons.org

FOOD BANK

The Food Bank is a volunteer-run service provided by Churches Together in Faringdon, supported by Faringdon Viral Kindness, Rotary, United Charities, FEAT and voluntary donations, and housed by the Town Council in the Pump House. It is open Monday and Wednesday 10am to 12pm. The Town Council staff, supported by The Place, have been operating the Food bank in a larger room during the COVID-19 crisis due to increased demand. For more information please contact: sally@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk or call: **07548 535855**

FARINGDON COMMUNITY AWARDS

We are delighted to announce the winners of our awards:

Clive Davis Community Award

Peter White for the Faringdon Folly Star.

Group Award

Faringdon Fire and Rescue Service.

Business Award

Pat Thomas Butchers and Stay Grounded.

Rick Ebsworth Community Volunteer award

Mairead Boyce Faringdon Food Bank

Environmental Champion

Matthew Adcock

To read more about the Community Awards 2020 please see: [Faringdon Town Council awards on our website.](#)

SOUTHAMPTON STREET CAR PARK

A team made up of 12 Earth and Faith volunteers has been busy in the car park and the re-planting of the flower beds was finished on Monday the 1st June. The volunteers carried out planting duties, being divided into a morning group and an afternoon group so that they could respect social distancing. After much digging and watering during the last two weeks of hot weather, they have now put in all the plants. The project has been funded by Faringdon Town Council and supported by their staff. The team thanked the town for the encouragement along the way. We hope you will like the results of their hard work.

FARINGDON VIRTUAL GARDENS

Due to COVID-19 restrictions Faringdon In Bloom has been replaced by the Faringdon Virtual Gardens Tour this year. People sent pictures of their gardens, terraces, patio, and allotments. The photos have been collated together making up a virtual tour of Faringdon gardens. Follow Faringdon Town Council on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to see photos of Virtual Gardens Tour.



TIDY TEAM

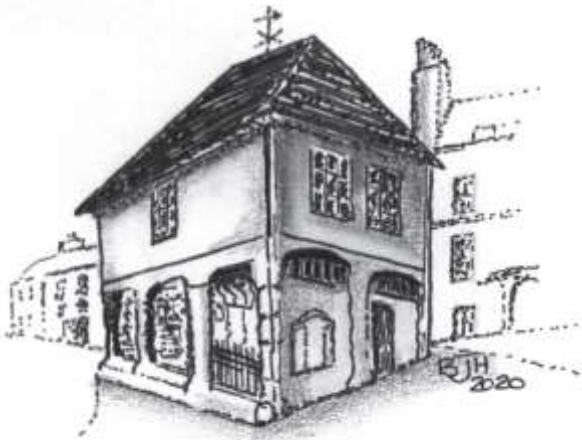
Tidy Team has returned to work around the streets of Faringdon to clear overgrowing vegetation and litter. If you know of a neglected area that needs a visit from the Tidy Team please write to Marzia@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk and we will investigate it. Alternatively, if you are interested in running a litter pick, individually or with family members, you can use our equipment. Please contact the email above to find out more information.

REGENT CINEMA MATINEE CLUB

The Matinee Club memberships will be extended by the amount of time lost due to the lockdown. For more information please write to Regentcinema@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk.

FARINGDON CIRCULAR WALKS AND HISTORY TRAILS

The Town Council is currently investigating new circular walks around Faringdon for both residents and tourists. Some of these walks will also be baby and toddler friendly. New updated maps and leaflets will soon be available to download from our website. In addition, Faringdon Town Council has created a leaflet with a brief guide to our lovely market town centre. The leaflet is beautifully illustrated (see below) with drawings by Belinda Harrison, a member of staff in the Information Centre.



For more information and updates on the publishing date visit the Town Council website or contact us at tic@faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

FARINGDON UNDER LOCKDOWN

By Cllr. Thomas

Life has changed so much for all of us over the last couple of months. Many people have had the opportunity to use this time to get jobs done around the home and garden and fresh paint jobs throughout the town. Others have been wrapped up with work, trying to get their heads around Zoom and Skype, homeschooling and coping with the kids, keeping fit while staying indoors and catching up with friends in video chats. Some residents have given their services voluntarily and we thank them – we are very proud to have the team at Faringdon Viral Kindness looking after our most vulnerable residents, and those at the Food Bank and The Place who are also working hard for our community. Because it is at times like this, that we can look at our community and the people who make our town what it is. I for one am so happy to be living here and am grateful for all of those who make Faringdon such a pleasant place to live. I am thankful not only for our key workers, but to the friends and acquaintances I see every day around the town. Even in lockdown our community is a great place to live, where we can smile to one another and share a socially distanced chat during our daily exercise. We are blessed with space, and beautiful countryside, not to mention the Folly Tower and Woodland that serves as a natural beacon of hope and positivity during these unusual times. I would like to be thankful to all of those who make Faringdon what it is, and for the natural beauty and community spirit that make our town such a pleasant place to live.

NEW FARINGDON APP AND BRAND-NEW WEBSITE

Faringdon Town Council has launched a new app available now to download on Apple App store and Google Play store. The app is a great way to stay in touch and access news and information about the Town Council and events in your town while on the move. Look at some of the great features it offers, including the ability to report issues.

We have also given the website a fresh new look. The design is modern, easy to navigate and more accessible. The structure, design and information on the website have been redesigned to make it much easier to use and more resident focused. Check it out and let us know what you think – www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

