



TOWN TALK

OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

GREENING FLEET

Tackling Climate Change Together!

In September Fleet Town Council launched an exciting new project within Fleet called The Greening Campaign. Put simply, the campaign aims to encourage and support local people and businesses to take easy and straightforward steps to reduce energy consumption and waste and tackle the immediate global challenges at a community level. The Greening Campaign is already working with other communities right across Hampshire.

To kick off the campaign, on the 4th September we held a public meeting at The Harlington where Terena Plowright, Founder of The Greening Campaign, explained the campaign, its aims and how you can get involved.



Energy Efficient Warmer Homes	Only fill the Kettle to a level of water you will use and save £37 a year.
Health Impacts from Climate Change	Have 3 conversations in your community or with your family about climate change. Talk about how you feel and the concerns you may have.
Cycle of the Seed	Grow your own packet of seeds - find out more at the launch event or google 'garden organic/ seed saving guidelines'.
Waste Prevention	Reduce your food waste by storing food correctly. Check your fridge is set to the correct temperature, keep all fruit, and veg (apart from onions, bananas and whole pineapples) in the fridge. Rotate your stock to use oldest items first.
Space for Nature	Create a 1m square window box or garden space for nature.

The next step is to tackle the more serious issues below known as the FIVE PILLARS – Space for Nature, Health & Wellbeing, Energy Efficient Warmer Homes, Waste Prevention and Cycle of the Seed.

At the meeting attendees were asked to vote which practical challenges should be included on Challenge Cards that will go out to all households in Fleet in early 2024. The aim is to encourage people to take steps to reduce, reuse or make a difference. Households committing to these actions can proudly display them in their windows. The Greening Campaign will then measure the community's efforts and feed back. The challenges picked are listed to the left. Continued on Page 2...



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Continued from Page 1... If you were unable to attend the meeting, a recording is available on our YouTube channel - a link to which is available on our website www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/greening_fleet

On the 16th October an online meeting was held to 'meet the experts' who will be supporting us through this campaign:

- Health Impacts of Climate Change - Supported by Anthea Cooke (Consultant)
- Energy Efficient Warmer Homes - supported by the Sustainability Centre and Environment Centre
- Cycle of the Seed - supported by Garden Organic
- Waste Prevention - supported by Hampshire County Council Waste Prevention Team
- Space for Nature - supported by Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

The next step is for any residents interested in working alongside Fleet Town Council and these experts, to join one of the Pillar groups they're particularly interested in.

These groups will be writing an activity plan to prepare for the launch event next year. The Launch Event is to showcase to everyone in the community what is happening over the next year and how they can take part.

If you're interested in joining a group please contact us on Email: info@fleet-tc.gov.uk or Tel: 01252 625246.

Fleet Repair Café

Fleet Town Council is very excited to announce that in 2024 we will be launching Fleet's very own Repair Café!

What is a Repair Café?

A Repair Café is a community initiative that brings together people with skills to repair and those who want items repaired. People are invited to bring their broken items and volunteers attempt to fix them. It's fun, social and values the expertise of volunteers to help to reduce waste and consumption.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteer fixers who know their way around one or more of the areas listed below and would be happy to volunteer one Saturday a month. If interested or you have any questions please contact us on Email: info@fleet-tc.gov.uk.

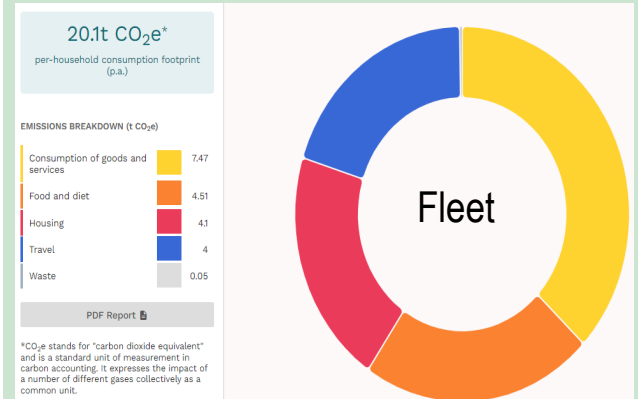
- Tool and knife sharpening
- Old cameras and slide equipment
- Photographic and digital images
- Textiles – sewing, knitting, darning
- Garden equipment
- Wooden items
- IT support
- Pottery
- Toys
- Jewellery
- Electronics



Carbon Footprint

You can view Fleet's (and other areas) Carbon Footprint and emissions breakdown using this C02 Impact Tool:

www.impact-tool.org.uk/footprint/search



Harlington Development Update

A lease for The Harlington has been drafted by Hart District Council, which once signed, will guarantee Fleet Town Council use of the building for the next 99 years. As a result Fleet Town Council has decided to initiate a refurbishment of the existing building.

Regrettably, interest rates and building costs have increased in recent times and so a Feasibility Study will be undertaken to explore what can be done within the overall funds available.

Fleet Town Council has also partnered with Hart District Council to apply for a Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Grant. If successful, the grant will fund a new sustainable heating system, which will not only help us in our Carbon reduction mission but allow more money to be put towards the building refurbishment.

We are still in the early stages of planning but we will keep you all updated as things progress and hold a public consultation at the appropriate point.



Christmas Office Closure

Fleet Town Council's Offices will be closed for Christmas from 12 noon on Friday 22nd December 2023 until 9am on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Fleet Connect

As part of a Hampshire wide re-branding for community bus services, the former Fleet Link service is now 'Fleet Connect'.

The service offers a door-to-door minibus transport service for all residents of Fleet and Church Crookham who may struggle to use public transport or live more than 400m from a bus stop and do not have access to a car.

The service is currently running Monday to Friday, 9:00am - 14:45pm and Saturday 9:00am – 13:55pm. You can be collected from home and taken to Fleet high street or to Morrisons. On certain days there are also trips to Camberley and Farnborough.

You can book up to 6 days in advance by calling the Bookings line on 01252 398451 (Monday – Friday, 9:30am–12:30pm) however it is necessary to register before using the service. The registration form can be found on www.rvs.org.uk/transport but if you don't have internet access call Fleet Town Council on Tel: 01252 625246 and we can post you a form.

Fleet Connect use specially adapted buses with handrails, low steps and wheelchair lifts which means it is also ideal for anyone with a mobility or sensory impairment which means they are unable to, or experience difficulty/discomfort in using regular buses.



South & South East in Bloom Awards

South & South East in Bloom is the largest horticultural campaign in the region. The aim is for participants to create lasting improvements to their local environment for the benefit of those that live, work and visit. We are pleased to announce the following awards won at the 2023 Awards:

Small Cemetery	Fleet Cemetery	Gold
Small Conservation	Basingbourne Park	Gold
Small Conservation	Oakley Park	Silver
Small Park	Basingbourne Park	Gold
Small Park	Oakley Park	Silver
Large Park	Calthorpe Park	Silver
Small Park	The Views	Silver

We'd like to say a massive thank you to all the Friends of Groups and to our grounds maintenance team for all their hard work.

A Safer Fleet

Fleet SpeedWatch

Fleet SpeedWatch are looking for volunteers.

Their role is to remind drivers of the speed limits. Small teams of volunteers work at the side of the road, recording details of passing vehicles that are speeding.

Each volunteer might take part in two, one hour sessions a month. Teams use a device that displays in large numbers the speeds of passing vehicles.

When a passing vehicle is traveling above a certain speed, volunteers record its details and pass them on to the police who will contact the vehicle's Registered Keeper - but it's for education only; no tickets, points, or fines.

Volunteers must be 17+, have reasonable eyesight and be able to stand at the side of the road for an hour. Being able to recognise vehicle makes/models is an advantage but not essential. Training will be given. Register your interest at www.volunteernorthhants.org



Your Local Neighbourhood Watch

You have probably heard of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes all over the Country.

Fleet is an area of low crime but houses still get burgled, cars stolen and sheds broken into. Doors are left unlocked, keys left within easy reach or laptops left on view in cars.

This is where Neighbourhood Watch acts as a reminder not to let your guard down at any time.

Little happens without someone seeing it and by sharing information and promoting good neighbourliness we really can make a difference to the security of our area. Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch has hundreds of households as members and distributes newsletters by Email, reporting on local crime and informing people of any problems that may arise. There is also a website that's regularly updated: www.fleetnhw.co.uk

Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch urges people to join an existing scheme in their area or set one up. This way we can all watch out for each other and report anything suspicious. If you think you would like to join or start a group, firstly talk to your neighbours and see how much interest there is. Then contact Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch on the Email below and they will either inform you if one already exists in your area or set up a meeting with a local representative.

New members are asked to subscribe £2 per household and in return you will receive a welcome brochure with full information, regular quarterly newsletters and street signs. That's all there is to it, but it could make quite a difference to your own safety, and that of your neighbours and perhaps even your insurance premiums.

If you would like to know more please contact the Secretary John Guerin on Email: secretary.fleetnhw@gmail.com or Tel: 01252 811155.



New Websites

Fleet Town Council is progressing with plans to re-develop both the Fleet Town Council and The Harlington websites to be more modern and improve functionality and accessibility. A Specification and Design brief has been drafted and will be sent out to web developers in October with the hope to have the new sites designed and live to the public by approx. April 2024.



Broadband Roll Out

Fleet Town Council has been made aware that a new broadband provider has plans to rollout "full-fibre to premise" broadband to Fleet and Church Crookham.

We wanted to make you all aware that the organisation will be applying to the local planning authority, Hart District Council, for permitted development rights for any infrastructure that they may require to carry out their plans. This may include street furniture such as cabinets and telegraph poles although the use of existing infrastructure will be maximised. Unfortunately Hart District Council only have 14 days to respond to any planning application for the installation of infrastructure.

Fleet Town Council has requested regular updates so we can keep residents in the loop so please keep an eye on our website and social media.



As a resident you may also be contacted by the organisation to inform you of their plans on your street, so please look out for any communications coming through your door as this will be your limited opportunity to comment on the planned installations.

Fleet Community Pantry

Coming soon...

Fleet Community Pantry is a new venture, working alongside Hart Foodbank to provide the community of Fleet with support for those most in need.



"The community pantry is a source of food, advice and education to help people help themselves, a hub at the heart of our community and led by our community. We don't judge, we listen. We don't assume, we ask. We don't insist, we encourage. We don't ignore, we choose to walk alongside."

Located in the grounds of Fleet Baptist Church, this pantry will provide access to groceries at a lower cost than supermarkets/shops, offering a range of fresh, frozen and general foods which can change on a weekly basis. Community Pantries offer access by membership where for a small weekly contribution, members receive food to a significantly higher value.

When this is up and running, details will be made available at www.hart.foodbank.org.uk

Christmas Day Lunch 2023

Subject to acquiring a Chef, Fleet Town Council will once again be holding a free Christmas Day Lunch for those in Fleet, Elvetham Heath and Church Crookham who would otherwise spend Christmas Day alone.

If you've not attended before this includes: canapes & welcome drinks, Christmas Dinner, Dessert, entertainment and a gift from Santa himself. Transport can be provided upon request.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in attending the event, please contact us on the following Email: info@fleet-tc.gov.uk or Tel: 01252 625246 so you can be kept up to date with plans.

If you are interested in volunteering at the event, be it Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or both, please contact us on the same details above.



Remembrance Day 2023

Sunday 12th November 2023

11.00am - Two Minutes Silence at The War Memorial in Gurkha Square.

2.30pm - Civic Service of Remembrance. This year the service returns to All Saints Church.

3.20pm - Parade from Church Rd Car Park to Gurkha Square for Act of Remembrance and wreath laying.

Afterwards Fleet Town Council will provide refreshments in The Harlington.

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Calthorpe Park Tennis

If you're looking to get in more exercise or love Tennis, why not sign up for our Tennis Membership scheme?

You can play as much as you like for just £40.83 per year! The membership fee entitles each household to a code that can be used to access the Courts after making a reservation online! Pay to Play is also available! Visit: www.calthorpeparktennis.com





FLEET CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

MARKET ★ GROTTO ★ GIFTS ★ FOOD
LIGHTS SWITCH ON ★ ENTERTAINMENT

Wednesday 22nd November 2pm - 9pm

www.fleetchristmasfestival.org



Thank You to our Sponsors:



What's happening in Fleet Road?

This year the Christmas Market will have 100+ stalls selling festive food, drink and gifts. There will be children's rides, street entertainers and more. Lots and lots of Christmas magic for all the family!

What's happening in Hart Shopping Centre?

The fabulous Hart of Craft Christmas Market, plus activities with local voluntary groups, entertainment and, as an extra bonus, a free glass of wine and mince pie! Santa's Post Office will also be returning - visit the elves and write a letter to Santa!

What's happening in Gurkha Square?

From 4.30pm the Stage will be packed with live music and entertainment including performances from local school and community choirs and a special performance by the cast of Fleet's Pantomime, Dick Whittington. There will also be a variety of community stalls and Mobile Christmas Farm.

Don't forget the Christmas Tree Light Switch On at 6.30 pm!!

PLUS INSIDE THE HARLINGTON:

Visit Father Christmas in his Winter Grotto and new for 2023, local Crafters at their own mini market.

PARKING AND TRAVEL:

Except Gurkha Square, car parks will be open to the public throughout the Festival - **PLEASE NOTE** normal charges will apply.

Fleet Road will be closed to traffic between Kings Road and Reading Road 10am – 10.30pm on **Wednesday 22nd November 2023**. The only vehicles allowed will be event and emergency vehicles.

Buses: Buses will divert from Fleet Road to Albert Street and will stop at temporary bus stops to drop off and pick up passengers.

Taxis: Will operate as usual, although taxis may be further back from taxi ranks due to road closures.

Fleet Christmas Tree

A big thank you to: **Natta** for kindly sponsoring this year's Christmas Tree in Gurkha Square, **Cedardale Arboricultural Specialists** and **Buckland Farming and Contracting** for their professional service and for once again agreeing to undertake the installation of the Christmas Tree and **Hart District Council** for allowing the tree pride of place in the Square!



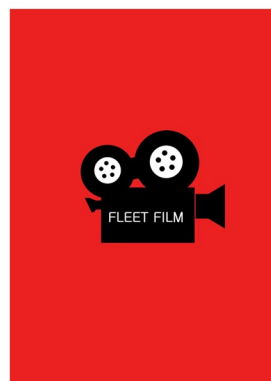
The Harlington is home to, and supports a wide variety of organisations, activities and events for the benefit of the Community. These include:

- Various music, drama, dance and fitness classes for a range of ages including: *Monkey Music, Rock Choir, Ceroc, Funtime Dance & Drama, Rebecca Fraiz Classical Ballet, Salsa Steps, Yoga with Cate, Bodyline Aerobics, Over 50's Aerobics and Vicky Ewen Fitness. More details can be found at: www.theharlington.co.uk/courses_and_classes*
- **NHS Baby Weighing Clinic** - Book in service (most Tuesdays) - Tel: 01252 813842 or Email: hp-tr.fleetandyateley@nhs.net
- **National Blood Donors** - Upcoming sessions are: January 9th & 30th, February 19th & March 12th 2024. You can check your eligibility and register to give blood at myblood.co.uk
- Clubs/lectures: **Fleet Townswomen's Guild** (www.the-tg.com) held every 1st Wednesday of the month
The Arts Society (www.tas-hart.org.uk) every 2nd Wednesday of the month
U3A (<https://flu3aweb.wixsite.com/fleetu3a>) every 3rd Wednesday of the month
- **Sasha's Project**: a drop-in crisis centre for young people who are struggling with their mental health
Tel: 07741 117655 or Email: angela.forster@sashasproject.charity
- **Fleet Phoenix**: a local charity that co-ordinates music projects, youth clubs and mentoring projects as well as community outreach programmes to youths within Hart. Tel: 01252 812308 or Email: info@fleetphoenix.co.uk
- **Fleet Baptist Preschool**: Preschool for children aged 2+. Visit www.fbpreschool.co.uk for more info
- Not for profit, committee run events such as **Fleet Film Club** and **Fleet Jazz Club** (more information on these below)



Fleet Jazz Club
Various artists
3rd Tuesday of the month
8.00pm

Fleet Jazz Club holds monthly jazz performances from some of the UK's finest jazz musicians on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, in a "jazz club" environment at The Harlington in Fleet. The club has an enthusiastic and growing membership since it started in January 2013, and we are always very happy to see new people too.



Fleet Film
Mon: Oct 9th & 23rd, Nov 13th & 27th, Jan 8th & 22nd, Feb 12th & 26th, Mar 11th & 25th at 8.00pm

Fleet Film is an award-winning film society serving Fleet and district with a unique programme of films from around the world, including many acclaimed films that rarely reach mainstream cinemas. We also show short films, annually present awards to local film students and have other special events, including outdoor cinema. Why not come along and see how different we are from the average cinema?



Dick Whittington
(Starburst Charity number: 1152478)
9th-29th December
Various Times

Dick Whittington, a plucky young man from the country, arrives in London to make his fortune, with his trusty feline sidekick in tow. Little does he know, his journey could fulfil an ancient prophecy and Queen Rat will do everything in her power to stop Dick in his tracks. Come along on a whirlwind journey through the streets of London and across the seas!



Marti Pellow
Pellow Talk, The Lost Chapter
Sunday 19th November
7.30pm

I've been thrilled with the response to Pellow Talk. It has been the most intimate show I've done..... I wanted to do some more shows in this way and The Lost Chapter is a reimagined show that connects you, the audience, with me, the songwriter. It's Pellow Talk – The Lost Chapter, an exploration of the songwriter, and the songs that make the man. VIP packages are available, even a meet & greet option!



Stand Up for Saturday Comedy Club
Saturdays: Oct 21st, Nov 18th, Dec 2nd, Jan 20th, Feb 17th & Mar 16th at 8.30pm

Coming to The Harlington each month (excluding August), Stand up for Saturday Comedy Club is a fantastic night of live comedy entertainment. With new guest stars each month the show is a massive hit and often sells out in advance - so be sure to purchase your tickets early!

Acts subject to change



The Bohemians
Friday 27th October
8.30pm

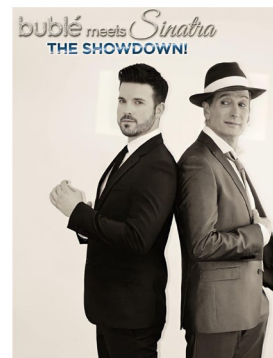
The world's most exciting Queen tribute band. Formed in 1996, The Bohemians produce a show that combines the musicianship, costumes and energy of the world's greatest band. The show is a high-energy comprehensive re-enactment of Queen's Greatest Hits, featuring the back catalogue of one of the world's most popular and iconic rock acts of all time, brought to you by Internationally renowned Queen Tribute band The Bohemians.



Big Country - 40th Anniversary Tour
Friday 10th November
8.00pm

Big Country broke massively worldwide with the release of the album's classic singles 'Fields Of Fire', 'Chance' and signature song 'In A Big Country'.

'In A Big Country' went on to become huge worldwide, selling over two million copies and driving 'The Crossing' to three prestigious Grammy nominations in the USA. The album reached no.3 in the UK and overseas it hit no.4 in Canada and no.18 in the US.



Buble meets Sinatra
Saturday 11th November
8.30pm

Michael Bublé and Frank Sinatra fans can experience the next best thing to the superstars themselves in exhilarating tribute musical show. An electrifying evening that sees Frank Sinatra transported from his mid-1950s zenith to meet the sensational Canadian modern-day contender for his crown. So who will be your favourite when the worlds of these two superstars collide in the concert that never was...so let the showdown begin!



80s Rewind - The Christmas Party
Friday 24th &
Saturday 25th November
8.30pm

The Wild Boys are back in the house!! Organise your troops and rewind back to the 80s for a night out as big as your crazy perms! Blast back to the past with live music from the UK's best live 80s party band 'Wild Boys'. Their live renditions of all your favourite 80s records includes massive hits from Prince, Elton John, Frankie Goes To Hollywood and more. There really is something for everyone.



AC/DC UK
Friday 26th January
8.30pm

Fronted by the most authentic Angus Young, and 80's era Brian Johnson in the business; AC/DC UK deliver up to a 2 hour powerhouse show, featuring all the AC/DC hits; with a few fan favourites thrown in to boot! All the AC/DC gimmicks are brought out to whip the crowd into a frenzy! From Angus' famed striptease, Brian's iconic flat cap, a giant inflatable Rosie, and fully firing cannons to salute those who are ready to rock!



Stayin' Alive
Saturday 27th January
8.30pm

"Stayin' Alive" - The Bee Gees Tribute is the greatest production of the Bee Gees in the world. Capturing a full history of the Bee Gees, "Stayin' Alive" includes songs from "To Love Somebody", "Massachusetts", "I Got to Get A Message", "Jive Talking", "More Than A Woman", "Night Fever", "You Should Be Dancing", "Tragedy", "Stayin' Alive" and many more.



Stayin' Alive
Friday 2nd February
8.30pm

Marc Bolan, with his band T.Rex, was one of the most flamboyant and charismatic stars of the original glam rock era. With Bolan's special ingredient of Rock-a-Boogie songs, the band had a string of huge hits throughout the 1970s including Love to Boogie, Telegram Sam, Jeepster and 20th Century Boy. Truly a rock'n'roll concert for all ages - If you would like to know exactly what a Marc Bolan concert was like in the 1970s, this show is for you!

Your Council

On our website you can find a list of what each Council (Town, District and County) is responsible for, their contact information and details of your local Councillors. If you don't have access to the internet or you have a query and are unsure who to ask you can contact us on Tel: 01252 625246 or Email: info@fleet-tc.gov.uk.

FLEET TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATES

OCTOBER

4 - Council
9 - Planning
18 - Policy & Finance
23 - Planning

DECEMBER

6 - Council
18 - Planning
20 - RLA

FEBRUARY

7 - Council
12 - Planning
21 - Policy & Finance
26 - Planning

NOVEMBER

1 - Council
8 - Establishment
13 - Planning
27 - Planning

JANUARY

3 - Council
8 - Planning
22 - Planning

MARCH

6 - Council
11 - Planning
20 - RLA
25 - Planning

EVENTS 2023 - 2024

Save the Date

www.fleet-tc.gov.uk/events

4 NOV	Lions Fireworks Fiesta <i>Calthorpe Park</i>
12 NOV	Remembrance Sunday <i>Fleet</i>
22 NOV	Fleet Christmas Festival <i>Fleet High Street</i>
25 DEC	Christmas Day Lunch <i>The Harlington</i>
24 MAR	Fleet Half Marathon <i>Around Fleet</i>
26 MAR	Annual Residents' Meeting <i>The Harlington</i>

funtime
dance & drama
presents...

SANTA'S GROTTO

Wednesday 22nd November 2pm-7.30pm
Saturday 2nd and 9th December 9am-12noon
at The Harlington, Fleet.

Step into Santa's Magical Workshop and embark on a heartwarming journey with the assistance of our jolly Funtime Elves!
Children will be able to take part in activities such as;

- Reindeer Food Making (to take home)
- Biscuit Decorating
- Christmas Letter Writing
- Christmas Colouring
- Meeting Santa and receiving a gift.

£8 per child (+£1 booking fee)
Book via www.theharlington.co.uk
All proceeds will go to **Stepping Stones DS**

THE HARLINGTON

WE ARE HIRING

● Casual Bar Staff / Ushers

APPLY NOW! www.theharlington.co.uk