



## Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities

(Reg. Charity No: 1180059)

Together with The League of Friends of Fairford Hospital  
(Reg. Charity No: 1006416)



### **Joint Annual General Meeting**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026, 6.30pm

Farmers Room, Fairford Community Centre

### **Trustees Annual Report 2026**

#### **Home Nursing Team**

Number of patients per month during 2025:

January	3
February	3
March	1
April	1
May	0
June	2
July	2
August	1
September	2
October	1
November	3
December	2
Total	23

In comparison to previous years:

2021	18 patients
2022	33 patients
2023	34 patients
2024	39 patients
2025	23 patients

In 2025, we welcomed one new member to the nursing team and two members left. Both Nursing Managers resigned as CQC Registered Managers, which led to a proposal of restructure and review of our CQC registration. We were able to operate our service without a CQC Registered Manager as our General Manager remained the Registered Nominated Individual. Recruitment for a Nursing Team Manager took place at the end of the year with the successful candidate accepting the role and starting in 2026.

Our patients are all end-of-life, as per our criteria for care. Occasionally we have provided care to patients longer than our usual timeframe and this has enabled us to build a good relationship with the patient and the family. Throughout the year we saw 23 patients which is 16 less than the 39 we saw in 2024. Four patients died before we saw them and we grew increasingly aware referrals were arriving later than we can deal with or have previously dealt with. The NHS brokerage service became easier to engage with, which means a better exchange of information between us and the NHS.

The Nursing Team Managers continue to attend meetings with other hospice at home providers which allows great support for them and us. These include Sue Ryder, Longfield, Great Oaks and Camden Home Nursing. We

maintain good communication with both surgeries in the local area and other external support teams, including the district nurses.

Our intranet supports the Nursing Team online with every member of the team being able to access our policies, audits and training. This was introduced in 2021 and has made training much easier to manage for the Nursing Team Managers. The Nursing Team continues to hold regular meetings as well as attend relevant training sessions.

We continue to work closely with Prospect Hospice, our nearest hospice, and our donation to them in 2025 was £20,000 (2024: £20,000). This allows patients in our area to access their services at home, on the phone and also in the Hospice, despite the Hospice not being in our NHS Trust area.

The Bereavement Café celebrated its fourth year in 2025 and continues to be a huge success. Each monthly café has around 20 regular members and at least one or two new people each month. There are usually three nurses, plus two volunteers making tea and coffee. There is no charge for attending the café, but most people donate in the collection box each visit. The Bereavement Café continues to run on the first Friday of every month and is incredibly successful thanks to the dedication and commitment of the team.

### Patient Transport Service

Patient Transport 2025												
Month	Local Drives			Other Drives		Total Number of Drives	Number of Patients Transported	Number of Drivers used	Total number of miles covered	Prescriptions		Number of hours worked by coordinator
	Fairford Hospital	Fairford Surgery	Lechalde Surgery	Hospital Drives	Other medical drives Opticians/Dentist					Number Delivered this month	Number of drivers required	
January	1	4	6	56	13	80	76	55	2602	32	1	51
February	3	7	10	45	17	82	73	59	2325.5	30	1	45
March	1	15	14	53	34	117	99	62	2953	40	1	53.5
April	2	5	13	72	37	129	97	63	4193	34	1	57
May	0	9	11	84	28	132	102	69	4190.5	41	1	59
June	0	6	13	58	25	102	91	63	2804.5	30	1	60
July	4	14	10	64	25	117	108	69	3521	28	1	60
August	0	13	8	69	16	106	91	62	3120	20	2	60
September	0	19	13	60	22	114	99	56	3312	49	1	60
October	0	14	12	83	14	123	96	63	3773	0	2	60
November	0	12	3	66	12	93	69	59	2809	29	1	60
December	0	8	2	56	15	81	74	40	2787	26	1	60
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>1276</b>			<b>38390.5</b>	<b>359</b>		<b>685.5</b>

Number of Drives:

2022 966  
 2023 1001  
 2024 1212  
 2025 1276

Our Patient Transport Service continues to grow from strength to strength. The number of drives in 2025 of 1,276 is another amazing achievement and we are pleased at the positive impact this has had on our local community. The above table outlines the data captured throughout the year. It gives a very good overview on the impact we are having and the need for the service.

We currently have around 25 volunteer drivers based over Fairford, Lechlade and the villages. We are ever so grateful to all of our drivers for being so willing and able to fulfil all requests we get.

Our free prescription service has now had time to establish further and has become hugely successful, proving to be much needed in our community. We deliver prescriptions every two weeks to an increasing number of people within our local area.

### **Edna Dawes Lunch Club**

In 2025 we held 84 Lunch Club sessions, an increase of 17 compared to 2024. Each session had an average of 9 to 12 members and 2 to 4 volunteers. Members pay £10 per session and can give a donation if they wish. The Charity has not been asked to fund any member to date.

We have had a successful year overall; most notably, we increased the awareness of the Lunch Club in the community which has meant both our Monday and Wednesday sessions have been full for most sessions throughout the year. This has led to donations from various events, individuals fundraising and business donations to the Charity have increased. Our volunteer numbers remained steady and strong throughout the year and the members have thoroughly enjoyed the creativity, interaction and care that the Lunch Team Leader, Freya Barlow, has shown.

Towards the end of the year, we received a resignation from our Team Leader. Recruitment took place in December with the new Team Leader starting in early 2026.

We are very mindful that this service costs the Charity money, rather than providing an income; however the benefit our members get from attending the sessions is of the highest value we could provide.

### **Lechlade Charity Shop**

Our Charity Shop had its best year ever in 2025 making its biggest income of over £48,454. Looking at all the other annual income figures, we can see an improvement each year from 2022. Looking at pre-covid profit figures, the average profit for the Shop was around break even, so to have grown so significantly in such a short period is an incredible achievement. I hope you will join me in thanking the Shop Manager, Linda Woodward, and her team of volunteers, for which we are truly grateful. 2025 has also been our first year using Kudos, our new electronic point of sale system, which has improved the shop experience for both the volunteers and customers.

We held a pop-up shop and a clearance sale where our main aim was to reduce stock in our lock up. This was a success as we covered all costs and made a profit.

Shop Gift Aid from for 2023 and 2024 was claimed in 2025. Two people asked for the funds made in the shop to be repaid back to them, rather than donated to the Charity. The total Gift Aid claimed for 2023 is around £7,500 and for 2024, about £8,300.

Choice, who collect textile items that we cannot sell in the Shop, continues to decrease the amount they will be paying for their collections, which is common throughout the sector. We are very conscious that the service we get from them taking this is beneficial in our operations, so that we do not have to pay so much to have our rag removed. However, we have increased our service from Smiths to ensure we are able to manage our other rubbish and recycling items.

At the very end of the year, a new sign was hung on the front of the shop, removing the old League of Friends of Fairford Hospital charity name, and replacing it with the Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities name. Please see our Facebook page for a photo.

Our Shop Volunteers Meeting was held at the end of the year, which was very well attended and positively received by all volunteers. We had good discussions and answered many questions some volunteers had.

We received a resignation from our Shop Manager and have recruited for her replacement in 2026.

We continue to work on trying to increase footfall into the shop by using Facebook and social media posts, showing people what we have for sale. We are still receiving a huge volume of donations and the footfall through the door is very high. We currently have up to 10 volunteers per week.

### **Grant Funding**

Our funding streams available are Family and Community Funding.

In 2025 we provided funding for one Family application and five Community applications which included Young at Heart Memory Club and Southrop School PTA. We continue to work with and support the local defibrillator programme.

Our Foot Care Clinic was terminated at Fairford Hospital at the end of 2024. In April 2025 we made an agreement with Fairford Therapy Centre to provide funded treatment for local people. We approved 19 applications and funded 38 appointments. Appointments cost £40 each and patients are encouraged to make a £10 donation to the Charity.

In 2025 we reviewed the impact of our funding towards the counselling service at Farmors School in Fairford. We agreed to terminate this funding and introduced Young Person's short-term counselling, provided by Cotswold Counselling, held at Fairford Therapy Centre. The contract with Cotswold Counselling was agreed and the process was set up. The service is open to children aged 11 – 18 living in our local community. In 2025 we received five successful applications.

We continue to work with and support the local defibrillator programme. During 2025, the Charity held funds from Cotswold District Council and the Community, and local organisations for the purpose of purchasing Automatic External Defibrillators for the community. These funds are shown under restricted funds in the accounts. As at 31 December 2025, the Charity held £4,712 of such funds.

### **Events and Fundraising**

<b>Events 2025</b>	<b>Amount Made</b>
Wine Tasting, April	£306.71
Pop-Up Shop, May	£40.69
Craft Fair, May	£439.62
Eastleach House, Open Gardens	£1457.90
Langford Downs, Open Gardens	£376.46
Clearance Pop-Up Shop	£51.11
Coln Choir Carol Concert	£1,322.00

In 2025 we held 10 fundraising events, only two less than last year. In addition to the above we also held a Wine Tasting in November, our Annual Raffle and Christmas Card sales. In total we raised just over £5,000 through events we have held.

We are so appreciative of the time and effort we receive from our volunteers to make these events such a success. A huge thank you goes to Margert Pursch for all her help with the Open Gardens and Ruth Berridge with the Raffle and Christmas Cards. In addition to these we also have income from monthly donors, 100 Club members, and donations into collection pots located around our area.

Our House-to-House licence this year ran from 5<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May. We had 18 coordinators and 58 collectors covering Fairford, Lechlade and 11 surrounding villages. A total of 76 volunteers. This was a significant decrease of 57 volunteers when compared to the previous year.

Donations were collected as cash, cheques and online, broken down as follows:

Cash	£8,530
Cheques	£4,435
Online	£980

The total amount of donations raised was £13,945.

For the second year we utilised the Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme, which means we are able to claim Gift Aid on any donation less than £30, without any information from the donor. The total amount of Gift Aid we were able to claim from the House to House donations was £3,343. This gives a combined total of donations, plus Gift Aid of £17,288

The outgoings total is £2,476 and is broken down as follows:

Printing (Generic Flyer, Events, Bookmark and Envelopes)	£2340
Mileage	£136

Taking off the outgoings from the combined donations and Gift Aid total above, this gives us a total of £14,812.

6000 envelope bundles were delivered to the coordinators and additional areas we targeted with donation buckets and pots. 832 envelopes were returned, which is 221 envelopes less than last year. 231 were not gift aided and 569 were gift aided.

The areas we received less donations from were Lechlade and online. Lechlade had £749 less, and online we saw £975 less compared to last year. Fairford donations were £690 less, however, the villages showed a healthy increase of £382. This was significant in the totals from Meysey Hampton, Southrop and Quenington, who all got the most donations of the past four years. Despite a lack of coordinator for Eastleach, the village still did very well. Unfortunately, Poulton did not do as well this year. This year we did not include any of the Just Giving income in our online total, we did however continue to include any Standing Orders received in the dates allocated.