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St Mary's Freeland



June 2023

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ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FREELAND

Sunday 28th May 10.00am Service of the Word

Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch

Preacher: Rev. Heather McCulloch

Sunday 4th June 10.00am All Age Family Holy Communion

Leader: Andy and Val Richens, and Rev. Steve Stewart

Preacher: Rev. Steve Stewart

Sunday 11th June 10.00am Service of the Word

Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch

Preacher: Matt Cripps

Sunday 18th June 10.00am Whole Benefice Service at Christ Church
(as large number away at weekend in Dartmoor National Park)

Sunday 25th June 10.00am Whole Benefice All-Age Family Service at St Peter and St Paul

(Rev. Heather McCulloch's ordination as priest 10.30am at Dorchester Abbey)

Sunday 2nd July 10.00am All Age Family Holy Communion

Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch

Preacher: Rev. Heather McCulloch

Sunday 9th July 10.00am Service of the Word

Leader: Rev. Mike Madden

Preacher: Rev. Mike Madden

Sunday 16th July 10.00am Holy Communion

Leader: Rev. Steve Stewart

Preacher: Rev. Steve Stewart

The above information is correct on the date published (21/5/2023). Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found on our website below.

**St Mary the Virgin is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm/dusk.
Please enjoy the space to look around, for prayer or for quiet reflection.**

See our website at www.hfchurch.org.uk

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCHYARD

The churchyard is currently open for both burials and ashes interment. The space for burials is limited. We will provide notification on our website and in the Grapevine when the graveyard reaches its capacity.

For further information or to contact the church, please see our website www.hfchurch.org.uk or use the QR code.



Freeland Parochial Church Council

The front cover shows the lychgate at St Mary the Virgin, taken by Dawn French



Freeland House & The Lodge



Situated in the friendly village of Freeland, 11 miles from Oxford, on the edge of the Cotswolds, set within beautiful grounds overlooking the Oxfordshire countryside.

Both homes offer a variety of care services including nursing, residential, respite, dementia, convalescent and palliative care.

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tel: 01993 881258 | email: manager.freeland@minstercaregroup.co.uk

Useful contact details:

Rector: Rev. Steve Stewart
01993 881270

The Rectory, Swan Lane
Long Hanborough OX29 8BT
Email: rector@hfchurch.org.uk

Associate Rector: Rev. Mike Madden
Email: associate.rector@hfchurch.org.uk

Curate: Rev. Heather McCulloch
Email: heather.mcculloch@hfchurch.org.uk

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Clive Berry 01993 882080

Hugh Dalton Emeritus 01993 881742

Churchwarden:

Colin Griffiths
01993 357336

Contact via website www.hfchurch.org.uk

Flowers in the Church:

Janet Dalton
01993 881742

Weddings: Rev. Steve Stewart 01993 881270 rector@hfchurch.org.uk
administrator@hfchurch.org.uk

You will find all sorts of interesting information about St Mary's on the "A Church Near You" website: www.achurchnearyou.com/5863

You can see a virtual tour of St Mary's on Google Street View at:
<http://goo.gl/g53NJH> Thank you to Nikhilesh Haval for allowing the use of the images.

Children and Youth Work - families are really welcome at all our services. At St Mary's the first Sunday of the month is a Family Service where everyone stays in church together. At the other **10am** services the young people have the opportunity to take part in youth friendly activities at the back of church.

Babies & Toddlers at Christ Church Hanborough & Freeland Church welcomes all Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers and their pre-schoolers to this group that meets each **Wednesday** in term time from **10.00 – 11.30am**. We provide the opportunity to play and chat, with a variety of toys and activities for children aged 0-4 years and each session finishes with refreshments, a Bible story and song time.

For more information, please contact Alice on **01993 886833** or Steve on **01993 881270** or contact us through the Church website: www.hfchurch.org.uk

Hitchhikers If you have children at secondary school (or are one yourself!), you are welcome to join us every other week between **5.30pm and 7pm on Sundays** to have snacks and hot chocolate, catch up with friends, play some board games, and share a short thought from the Bible. It is usually held in our home, so do phone us for dates and more information if interested. Sarah and Nigel Knights Johnson (**01993 359 572**) on behalf of the Youth Team.

The above information is correct on the date published. Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found on our website at: www.hfchurch.org.uk

FROM THE REGISTERS AT ST MARY THE VIRGIN

Wedding: Carl Douglas Johns and Suzanne Marie Phelps 29th April 2023



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Letter from our Curate, Rev. Heather McCulloch:

Created Intelligence - Fearfully and Wonderfully Made!

As I write this article, news of Dr Hinton's resignation from Google over the use of the Artificial Intelligence which he helped to create, has just been released. Quoted by the BBC, Hinton says: *"I've come to the conclusion that the kind of intelligence we're developing is very different from the intelligence we have"*.

In May, Snapchat released its own chatbot 'My AI' for free use on its social media platform. The bot can provide answers on a vast range of topics in a conversational manner and grows more intelligent every minute. My older son showed me a chat he had had with the bot which was disturbing on two levels; firstly, the tone was friendly in an emotionally intelligent way, making it super engaging and slightly too much like your best mate – only cleverer. Secondly, the maths problem he set for it, the bot got wrong – although my son reassured me this was a common mistake. I don't feel good about machines with that degree of intelligence making 'common' mistakes!

Perhaps you were wondering what all the fuss was about when Elon Musk and other leading brains in the AI world recently started a petition to pause AI development for 6 months. I am not an expert, I don't fully understand what is at stake, but clearly something is. A quote from the petition on futureoflife.org: *"AI labs [are] locked in an out-of-control race to develop and deploy ever more powerful digital minds that no one – not even their creators – can understand, predict, or reliably control."*

I find it fascinating that we (rightly) fear the power of this thing we have made, to make up its own mind, to march to its own tune, and to impact our world with devastating consequences. And yet our creator God, shows no such fear. He doesn't attempt to control us but permits us the freedom to make up our own minds about right and wrong. We have chosen to march to the tune that suits our individualistic self the best ('you do you' as the popular saying goes), and we have impacted God's created world with devastating consequences. Still God has not intervened to shut us down, he has not chosen to control our wayward and selfish self-will, he does not limit our freedom but allows us to feel the consequences of our decisions.



It is astonishing that God chooses to go on loving us unconditionally even as we prove our unworthiness over and over. That he invites us into a personal loving relationship with him and bears the pain of our rejection. That he knocks on the door of our heart with an offer of hospitality, and yet never forces his way through the door. Rev 3:20; ***"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."***

How very different we sometimes are from the God who made us. I wonder how very different the robots will be from we who create them.

Rev. Heather McCulloch, Curate Hanborough and Freeland.

Photo credit: Possessed Photography – unsplash.com

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THERE'S STILL TIME TO DONATE!

Soaring costs are affecting people here and around the world.

Families in Malawi are paying the price of this global crisis. Food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees have doubled in price in the last 12 months. And hard-working farmers are seeing their harvests fail as the climate crisis brings increasingly erratic weather.

The impact of the recent Cyclone Freddy in Malawi has been devastating. Floods have washed away crops, over 500,000 people have been displaced and hundreds have lost their lives. Donations made during this Week's appeal mean that Christian Aid can be there long after the flood waters recede, helping families build back.

Christian Aid also campaigns for climate justice, standing up for those worst affected by the climate crisis. It works with partners to support those affected by war, earthquakes and other disasters in many parts of the world, including Afghanistan, Ukraine, and Syria.

Christian Aid works with people of all faiths and none, to stand up for dignity, equality and justice.

How to donate: Online through our Freeland village e-envelope at <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/freeland-oxon> or this QR code:



Thank you for considering making a donation.

Fiona McGrady - Freeland Christian Aid Group Organiser

ST MARY'S BELL RINGING REPORT

The bells will be rung at the following times:

Sunday 4th June 9.30am - 10.00am

Saturday 24th June 3.30pm - 4.15pm visiting band from St. Bartholomew's, Ducklington

Sunday 2nd July 9.30am - 10.00am

Practices are held on **Monday** nights from **7.30pm to 9.00pm**

Please contact the Tower Secretary, Michael Probert (**882687**) should you wish to discuss any bell ringing matters.

You can see more about Freeland Bell Ringers under the "Clubs and Groups" section of the village website www.freelandoxon.co.uk

THAMES VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET CO-OPERATIVE

Witney 08.30 - 13.30 Fri 26 May Fri 23 June

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All services are in the chapel. A warm welcome awaits you all.

Sunday 28th May 10am Rev. Jason Cooke
Sunday 4th June 10am Rev. Charles Harris (HC)
Sunday 11th June 10am Local arrangement
Sunday 18th June 10am Martin Hannant
Sunday 25th June 10am Mr Karl Williams
Sunday 2nd July 10am Mrs Kathleen Skinner

Please see www.westoxfordshiremethodists.org.uk for all the latest information.

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Website: www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk

THE CHURCH IS OPEN for Public Masses on **Saturday at 5pm** and **Sunday at 10am**. For any Weekday Masses, please see the webpage.

BRIDEWELL GARDENS OPEN DAYS 2023

Bridewell Gardens provides a mental health recovery service for West Oxfordshire, supporting people who have experienced severe and enduring mental illness. Bridewell is a creative and inspiring walled garden and vineyard where people can find hope in recovery, gardening and working with nature.

We look forward to sharing our beautiful gardens with you this year.

The walled garden and vineyard are open to the public for our Open Days: Sundays 18th June, 16th July, 10th September 11am to 4pm

Pop-up café in the garden for tea and cake. High quality plants for sale, home produced jams and chutneys and our acclaimed organic sparkling wine. Make a day of it, bring a picnic blanket and relax in the vineyard with friends and family. Speak to Bridewell staff about the recovery service and the support provided at the gardens. Dogs on leads are very welcome. Families and children are encouraged to explore the site.

No booking required. Suggested donation **£5** per person. Charity No. **1158456**

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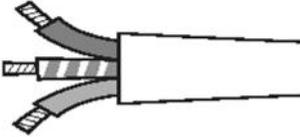
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FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

Botley West Solar Farm

The next consultation stage is expected before the summer. Please make sure that you are informed about how this might affect the local countryside.

Useful information can be found on the dedicated page on WODC website, www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/botley-west-solar-farm/.

It is also worth looking at the following website: stopbotleywest.com which has information gathered by volunteers from local villages opposing the plans. Please email fayf.fpc@gmail.com to let the Parish Council know if you are either opposed or supportive of the Solar Farm to help us ascertain villagers' views on this.



Working Groups

We wish to thank all those who attended the recent working groups. If anyone else wishes to help support the future of Freeland please email fayf.fpc@gmail.com.

We are in the process of arranging the next two meeting dates for the community and sustainability groups.

Councillor Resignation

We would like to pass on our sincere thanks to former Councillor, **Amy Jackson**, who resigned in April. She made an invaluable contribution, not least in her role in the dismissal of the Inspired Villages Appeal, where she prepared and gave evidence on local issues under tough cross examination. She also set up the village survey and subsequent working groups, as well as being involved in the organisation of the Platinum Jubilee event last year. Her commitment and energy will be greatly missed on the council.

Councillor Vacancy

As a result of Amy's resignation, we are looking to co-opt a new Councillor for the remaining months until the next elections in May 2024. If you believe that you can help shape Freeland Village please contact fayf.fpc@gmail.com

Sustainability - How can I help.

As part of the sustainability drive within Freeland it was suggested that it would be a great idea to start putting "green tips" in the Grapevine. Most of us now realise the seriousness of the climate and biodiversity crisis, but sometimes it just feels like there is nothing we can do. At times like this it's great to remember that lots of individual changes can add up to something big.

Green Tip No. 1: The suggestion for this month is a simple one, but also very satisfying. Change your search engine from Google to **Ecosia**. The reason for this is that Ecosia use the money they earn from your searches to plant trees rather than accumulating profits. So far, they have planted over 173 million trees and have 20 million active users. The proposer of this tip says "*I changed to Ecosia several years ago and have used it both professionally and academically without issue, and it's great to see the number of trees planted in my name adding up.*"

Continued.....

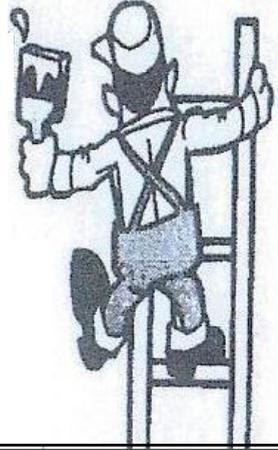
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Continued.....

Artist needed

Are you a local professional artist in the village? Please can you get in touch with us at fayf.fpc@gmail.com

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

On 9th May the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held prior to the regular monthly meeting. Roger Faulkner was re-elected as the Chairman for the next year, additionally Mary Ann Canning was re-elected as our Vice-Chairman. Full details of this meeting can be found on the Parish website.

Fix My Street

We urge you to continue reporting pot holes on “Fix My Street” (fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk), where you can report any issues to the County Council. Additionally, if you would like to become a ‘Super User’, which will help speed up the process of repairs, then email fayf.fpc@gmail.com for further details.

Planning Applications

All planning applications can be viewed on the Parish Council website at www.freelandpc.org.uk (under Planning Tracker) or on the WODC website at publicaccess.westoxon.gov.uk/online-applications/

You can also contact the Planning Team at WODC on **01993 861420** and view the documents at Woodgreen Council Offices.

Applications Approved:

23/00240/HHD 162 Wroslyn Road, Freeland

Installation of two air-source heat pumps at the rear of the property

Applications Received:

23/00579/HHD Taunton Cottage, Wroslyn Road, Freeland

Removal of conservatory, erection of single-story rear and side extension, garage conversion internal works

23/01041/S73 Land between Wychwood House and Malvern Villas, Witney Road Freeland.

Variation of conditions 12 and 13 of permission **16/01353/OUT** to allow changes to ensure surface water drained to SUDS facility/pond and a pathway around SUDS facility (Retrospective).

Applications under consideration:

23/00493/HHD 151A Wroslyn Road, Freeland

Single storey rear & side extension, loft conversion with roof-lights, proposed car port.

Applications refused:

23/00092/HHD 97 Wroslyn Road, Freeland

Two storey front extension and erection of two-bay carport within front garden

22/03356/FUL Chapel Meadow / Land East Of Wroslyn Road, Freeland

Development of 80 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), community shop/cafe (Use Class E), allotments and site access, plus open space, drainage, landscaping and associated engineering works. **See update from Friends of Freeland 2 (FF2) on page 21 of this issue.**

Continued.....

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Continued.....

Playpark

Please report any issues or incidents (should one unfortunately occur) to me at fayf.fpc@gmail.com

Contacting the Council & Date of Next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 12th June 2023 at 7.30pm**, in the Newell Room.

Please note this time and venue is subject to change; please check the village website and noticeboards for the final agenda up to five days before the meeting in case of alterations.

If you wish to contact the Parish Council about a particular matter and have access to the internet, please have a look at the Council website where lots of useful information is held. The website can be accessed via www.freelandpc.org.uk You can follow us on Facebook ([@freelandpc](https://www.facebook.com/freelandpc)) or Twitter ([@freeland_pc](https://twitter.com/freeland_pc)). Alternatively, please contact me between the hours of **9.00am – 4.00pm, Monday to Friday - Fay Friend, Parish Clerk on 01993 357851 or email: fayf.fpc@gmail.com**

1st HANBOROUGH FREELAND SCOUTS GROUP



It's been another action-packed month here in Hanborough and Freeland!

Beavers had an activity to commemorate the King's Coronation; they held an egg-drop contest; visited Blenheim; and worked towards their gardening badge. On **10th June** they will be going camping!

Cubs visited Ardley Energy Recovery Facility to learn all about recycling, and have been busy making planters out of wood. They're also going camping on **10th June**, along with the Beavers.

Scouts did some open fire cooking over at Eynsham Park Estate; held a Taskmaster event; and developed their first aid skills. A group of Scouts also had an exciting caving trip.

Explorers have been singing and dancing away with karaoke and Just Dance, as part of their self-designed programme of activities.

The activities that we do stay with these young people as they grow into teenagers and young adults; they form new friendships, experience new things that they otherwise would not have access to, and they learn a whole range of new skills that enrich their lives.

To help us keep providing these fantastic opportunities, we need more volunteers like you: so step up, get involved, and be an adult that changes lives.

To join our wonderful Scouting community please contact Steve, our Group Scout Leader, via email gsl@hfscouting.org.uk to find out more.

Matthew Ruddle (Publicity Rep)

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SPITFIRE HOMES – update

Background

Many of you will recall that Spitfire Homes submitted a planning application to build 80 houses on Chapel Meadow on the corner of Wroslyn Road and Pigeon House Lane. (You can find it on the WODC planning portal publicaccess.westoxon.gov.uk/online-applications, reference **22/03356/FUL**). This was an opportunistic application from a Birmingham developer taking advantage of a temporary shortage of land supply for housing in West Oxfordshire.

Many of us are in favour of an affordable housing supply to meet local needs to boost overall village vitality. But this is the wrong development in the wrong place. The proposed development would cause irrevocable harm to the landscape and character of the village, increase the population by 13% and traffic by approximately 30%. It would also destroy a well-loved wildlife habitat and corridor.

Freeland Parish Council (FPC) strongly objected to this application. “Friends of Freeland Two” (FF2) also fought the application with tremendous support from the village - there were 184 independent objections.

The good news

We are pleased to report that following the Planning Officer’s recommendation, the application was unanimously refused at the Uplands Area Planning meeting on 25 April. FPC and FF2 both gave short speeches at this meeting.

The bad news

Unfortunately, this is a just one step in the process. At the only public meeting held by Spitfire Homes, they told us that they would ignore objections and will file an appeal. We expect this to commence soon. They will probably also submit a revised application with a slightly lower number of houses and some small concessions. But this will not change the scale of the proposed development, the impact on the landscape, heritage and wildlife.

The owner of Chapel Meadow is Witney Town Charity (WTC). WTC, Spitfire and their agents (Savills) continue to refuse our offers of consultation. Armed with barristers, consultants and a hefty budget they think they can win an appeal.

What can you do?

We will continue to keep everyone updated via the Grapevine and the Nextdoor app. And please let us know if you are willing to help in fighting the appeal. You can contact FF2 via Steve Liddell at liddells@me.com.

The fight is on!

FREELAND WALKING GROUP

The Walking Group is always on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The June walk is on **Wednesday 21st June**, led by Dennis Rowley and Sue Hall and is a local walk straight from Freeland Hall, meeting at the Hall at **9.30am**. Any person wanting to join the Walking Group please contact me on hjdalton43cv@gmail.com so I can put you in contact with the group leader for that month.

The July walk is on **Wednesday 19th July**.

Janet Dalton



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QUIZ NIGHT

2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

**PROCEEDS GO TO FREELAND
CRICKET CLUB AND SOBELL HOUSE**

Six rounds including a photo round
General knowledge, problem solving & bonus round. CASH PRIZE!
£3.00 per person // Max 6 per team

WEDNESDAY 14th June at 8.30pm
in the Oxfordshire Yeoman



LITTLE FREE LIBRARY NEWS

It's been another busy month! The primary school ran a sponsored "reading bingo" challenge during the Easter holidays so there was a higher demand for children's books than usual; it was great to see so many books flying off the shelves.



As you know, there is no limit to the number of books you can take from the Little Free Library, so please do help yourself and take as many as you like. You don't even need to return them!

One of the biggest benefits of the Little Free Library is the opportunity it provides for people to stop and chat with each other. There have been so many times, for example, when members of our community have chatted to myself or our team of volunteers, and expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to swap books and to start conversations with other people in the village. Books aren't just for reading; they help to foster a sense of community.

Thank you again for all your support and goodwill that our community demonstrates towards our book exchanges.

Matthew & the Little Free Library volunteers (Fi, Sue, Caroline and Jenny)
01993 359 543 ruddlem@gmail.com

EXCITING NEWS!

The new Freeland Under 10s Football Team have spaces for new players! If you are interested please contact Emma on **07471 508 043** or **emmawylie54@hotmail.com**. Your child will need to be in current school **Year 4**, ready to start as an **Under 10** next season. We look forward to hearing from you.



FAIRFIELD BUILDING SERVICES LIMITED

We are a Freeland based company that aims to provide the highest quality Maintenance and Garden Design services to house owners.

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All of the company's maintenance work is covered by a six month guarantee period. Client References available on request.

If you would like to discuss any of the above services, please call

Tod Fairfield on (P) 01993 882217 (M) 07717 062512 - Thank you

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FARMERS' MARKET at the Village Hall Car Park

SUNDAY 28th MAY 10am - 1pm

Please pop down to show your support for the stallholders
and to check out their products.

£80 was donated to the Heart Unit at the JR from the April Market.



We're on Facebook: Freeland Farmers' Market

The next Market will be on Sunday 25th June

FREELAND COMMUNITY BUS TIMETABLE EVERY THURSDAY - AVAILABLE TO ALL

£2 each way. Or you can use your bus pass.

Outbound pickup:

Freeland Village Hall ----- 10.00 am
Little Free Library – 138 Wroslyn Rd ----- 10.05 am
Nash Lane ----- 10.05 am
Freeland Primary School ----- 10.05 am

With drop off at:

Waitrose car park, Witney
Sainsbury's supermarket, Witney

Return pickup:

Sainsbury's supermarket, Witney ----- 12.30 pm
Waitrose car park, Witney----- 12.40 pm

With drop off by request anywhere along Wroslyn Road

INFORMATION

For more information or to volunteer as a driver or helper please contact:

Cllr. Alaa Al-Yousuf – Bridleway End, The Green, Freeland OX29 8AP

T: 01993 880689 M: 07768 898914 E: alaa.alyousuf@westoxon.gov.uk

MORE DRIVERS AND HELPERS WANTED!

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COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN FOR ZERO CARBON ENERGY

A small group of Freeland residents attended a meeting in Eynsham Village Hall to hear about the Community Action Plan for Zero Carbon Energy. This is the first local energy plan developed in the UK as a contribution towards the National commitment to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

It covers the Parishes of Cassington, Eynsham, Freeland, Farmoor, Hanborough, North and South Leigh and Stanton Harcourt all of which are served by the primary electricity sub-station on Cuckoo Lane near the A40. Of these only Freeland is completely within the area served by this sub-station. Modelling has suggested that it can be possible with a combination of renewable energy generation and energy savings to generate all of the energy used in this area over the course of a year. Measures proposed include a greater installation of roof top PV panels, replacement of gas boilers by heat pumps and improved insulation.

The implementation of this plan will require the active cooperation of Parish and District Councils, householders and local businesses. More details can be found in leaflets in the entrance hall of the Yeoman and pinned on the notice board outside the Village Hall. There is more information on the websites listed below. If you would like to join a small group to discuss how Freeland can contribute to this initiative please contact me, Colin Smith: tel: **01993 881704**, email: **csmithprivate@hotmail.com**

You will find information on sustainability initiatives in Oxfordshire at:

lowcarbonhub.org

eynsham.org.uk/GreenTea

energysolutionsoxfordshire.org

cosyhomesoxfordshire.org

co-wheels.org.uk/Eynsham

firstandlastmile.org.uk

www.eci.ox.ac.uk

COMBE MILL 'In Steam', SUNDAY 18th JUNE,

Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe OX29 8ET

It's Father's Day. Themed event 'Classic Wheels'.

We have invited Vintage Tractors, Cars, Motor Cycles, really anything on wheels including some models. Bring along all the fathers, we would love to see them.



Free Cream Tea/Cake or Coffee for every father group accompanied by a child

Combe Mill, a late 19th Century Grade II Listed Water Mill on the Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode, in its day the workshop for Blenheim Palace estate, will be open 'In Steam' with all machinery working, it's not to be missed.

Tea Room will be open for refreshments to enjoy in the Picnic area by the River Evenlode. Browse our **Mini Market** too. Dogs Welcome.

Have you an interest in Engineering, or would like to volunteer at Combe Mill, we are always ready to welcome Volunteers, come to Combe Mill any Wednesday or 'In Steam' Sunday to see exactly what goes on, you might just like to join the team.

Adults **£9.00**, Seniors **£7.50** Children are now **FREE**. Website: **combemill.org**

Open every Wednesday from the **22nd March** to end of October self-guided tours and Tea Room open. Adults **£5.00**, Seniors **£4.00** and Children are **free**.

There is no admission charge for only visiting the tearoom on a Wednesday

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www.oxfordshirepestcontrol.uk

WORRIED ABOUT COSTS?

Are you worrying about how to manage the cost of living? Or do you know a neighbour or relative who lives in the Parishes of Eynsham or **Freeland** (Ancient Parish of Eynsham) who is struggling to make ends meet?

Eynsham Consolidated Charity provides small-medium sized grants to local residents who are in need of financial help.

Please apply in total confidence via the Clerk, Catherine Barton, by emailing **eynshamcharities@gmail.com** or by writing to the Trustees via the Clerk, 60 Dovehouse Close, Eynsham, **OX29 4EX**

THE UNACCEPTED FREELAND RAMBLERS 14/5/2023

“Twas a sunny/cloudy day...a Wednesday.....no a Thursday, Saturday....oh I'm all of a puzzlement now! Eight people and a very well behaved dog set off on a meandering, and in places somewhat muddy path, to the land of the legendary Vincent's bluebells. Sadly Tik and Tok readers had beaten us to it this year and there really wasn't that much blue to be seen as trails had been created willy-nilly throughout the woods, which is disappointing to see...but we're not ones to moan, are we.



Moving in a circular style route with a left hand lean, we marvelled at the fields of bright yellow buttercups, dotted with field Forget-me-Not, Cow Parsley and Daisy with the odd Poppy and Dandelion thrown in for good measure.

I realise I haven't mentioned any animals this month so here goes, a Nanny is a female goat and as we all know Ray Parker JR ain't afraid of no Goat (Ghost Busters 1984)at least I think that's what he said?

Turned out nice again.

Next month's local Ramble will be on **Sunday 4th June at 10am** from the bus shelter across the road from the Yeoman pub. **All are welcome to join us.**

David Dellamy (wummiging aound).

FREELAND CRAFT CLUB

For our next craft meeting, we thought we would try the ancient Roman craft of mosaic tiling, but I think our samples will be a bit smaller than a floor or wall covering!

Have you ever been a “crafty” person or would like to learn something new? Why not join us in the Newell Room of the Freeland Village Hall. We meet each Wednesday from **2.00pm to 4.00pm** and there is usually a subscription of **£1** per meeting.



For further information, or someone to go with, please contact: Helen Molden **01993 882305** or Margaret Wright **01993 881316** (**margaret.wright160@gmail.com**)

Margaret Wright

COTSWOLD GARDEN DESIGNER

- Looking to improve your outside space but stuck for ideas on how to make the most of it?
- Want somewhere to entertain?
- A space for your children to play?
- Or maybe you just need a quiet place to relax, a calming, scented corner, just for you?



I can provide a full garden design, planting plans or a simple garden report - some ideas of how you could best use your outdoor space and the types of plants that you like and would suit the environment.



CONTACT LORRAINE:

lorraine@cotswoldgardendesigner.co.uk

07516262560

www.cotswoldgardendesigner.co.uk

The Breakfast & After School Club is now open at Freeland Primary School!

We are open Monday - Friday: Breakfast Club 7.30 - 8.45am and
After School Club 3.15 - 5.15pm.

We offer a wide variety of activities including indoor and outdoor play. It is all about playing and having FUN!

We also have a Holiday Club at Aston & Cote Primary School which is open during all holidays from 8.30am - 5pm. We offer a variety of activities and the chance to make new friends! Bookings now being taken for the Summer holidays.

We are recruiting for Playworkers at our other sites - please see our website for more information.

If you would like more information about the Breakfast, After School or Holiday Clubs please contact:

Vicky Hickman Tel No: 07887 711454

Email: info@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

website: www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

Please see our website for current job opportunities across the Clubs

FREELAND FOOTBALL CLUB

As the season draws to a close we have recently held our End of Season Awards Night. We would like to thank the Yeoman for catering on the night and for all their support throughout the season.

The winners were:

Clubman:	Ethan Simlett and Gary Williams
First Team Manager's player:	Regan Pritchard
First Team players' player:	Robbie Nicholson
First Team supporters' player:	Robbie Nicholson
Reserves Team Manager's player:	Ben Wheeler
Reserves Team players' player:	Ben Wheeler
Reserves Team supporters' player:	Doug Mingham



We would also like say a big Thank You to all those who have helped and supported us this season, especially the Managers, and to Jon Langford and Phil Panting.

Next season we hope to be able to continue to run both Men's sides as well as two **Under 17** sides and an **Under 10s**.

If you wish to get involved in any of the sides please get in contact as both Men and Youth sides are looking for players.

The **Under 10s** Coach is Emma Wylie - emmawylie54@hotmail.com

The **Under 17s** Manager is Stuart McNaughton - stu.mac@aol.com

Ben Symonds - Secretary: bensymonds@hotmail.co.uk

Simon Hole - Chairman: Si_hole@hotmail.com

www.pitchero.com/clubs/freelandfc/

Twitter: [@freeland_fc](https://twitter.com/freeland_fc)

Ben Symonds

FREELAND WINE CLUB - FRIDAY 28th JULY **at 7.30pm in the VILLAGE HALL**



The next Freeland Wine Club meeting on **Friday 28th July** will be the cryptic "How well do you know your Better Half" presented by our very own Chris Onslow.

FREELAND WINE CLUB

Chris says it will be an evening of intrigue, charm and hopefully tact as you work as a group to extract the hidden secrets of each others' 'better half' and try to avoid the embarrassment of 'six of the best' by surprising those around you just how much, or perhaps how little, you know about their origins, wine tastes and pedigree!

The following meeting will be on **Friday 29th September** when we will have a professional sharing some Italian wines and then our member social will be on **Friday 24th November**.

Freeland and other local residents are very welcome. For details and to register for invites, please email FreelandWineClub@gmail.com



FREELAND PRE-SCHOOL

A safe, nurturing and stimulating environment - where all children are given the opportunity to learn through play, socialise and develop.



A combination of our experienced staff, large outdoor play area, forest school-style lessons (in the local woods) and partnership with Freeland Primary School makes Freeland Pre-School a popular choice for families from Freeland and further afield.



Taking children from 2 - 5 years old.
Get in touch today for more information!

✉ freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk ☎ 01993 882945
www.freelandpreschool.org 📱 @freelandpreschool

FIRST AND LAST MILE

No need to struggle on the long walk up Wroslyn Road!

The **411** will take you to and from the Freeland Turn where you can catch the new **Stagecoach S7 service to Witney; or to Hanborough Station, Woodstock, Kidlington, Oxford Parkway and Oxford; or to Eynsham to catch the Stagecoach S1 to Oxford and Witney. Bus passes accepted. www.firstandlastmile.org.uk**



We still need paid and volunteer drivers or volunteers to help with fundraising, social media, etc. If you can help: **07584 927 050** or **info.firstandlastmile@gmail.com**

Timetable, effective 3rd JANUARY 2023

Services run Mon-Fri only

Service 411 Eynsham to Hanborough via Freeland

NOT Bank Holidays

Eynsham Church	8:45	10:30	12:30	14:30	17:05
Eynsham, Surgery	8:49	10:34	12:34	14:34	17:09
Freeland, Broadmarsh Lane *	8:55	10:40	12:40	14:40	17:15
Long Hanborough, New Road	9:00	10:45	12:45	14:45	17:20
Church Hanborough	9:05	10:50	12:50	↓	17:25
Hanborough Station (arr)	9:10	10:55	12:55	14:50	17:30

Service 411 Hanborough to Eynsham via Freeland

Hanborough Station (dep)	9:10	11:05	13:05	14:50	17:35
Long Hanborough, New Road	9:15	11:10	13:10	↓	17:40
Freeland, Broadmarsh Lane *	9:19	11:14	13:14	↓	17:44
Bartholomew School	9:24	11:19	13:19	15:15	17:49
Eynsham, Surgery	9:25	11:20	13:20	↓	17:50
Eynsham, Church	9:29	11:29	13:29	15:20	18:00

* Bus will stop anywhere where it is safe to do so along Wroslyn Road, when hailed.

Please check the National Rail Enquiries' website **www.nationalrail.co.uk** for train timings as these have changed because of the closure of the Nuneham Viaduct, which means that trains can't currently run between Oxford and Didcot Parkway and return. There is a rail replacement bus service between these two stations. This will be indicated on the National Rail Enquiries' website.

The earliest reopening date for that rail line is the **10th June**.

FREELAND PHOTO GROUP

Freeland Photo Group meetings take place virtually, on the first and third Tuesday of the month, at **7.30pm**. Meetings in June will be on **Tuesday 6th and 20th**.

Please contact Paul Sayer at **paul.pshml@googlemail.com** for details of the virtual meetings and the programme.

Oxfordshire School Aged Immunisation Service

The **School Aged Immunisation Service** offer the following vaccines to eligible school aged children aged 5 to 16:

- Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
- Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio (TDP)
- Meningitis (ACWY)
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
- Flu (seasonal)

If your child is educated at home:

- They can attend a local Community Based Clinic
- Please contact us (details below) to book into a clinic and to provide consent

If your child is in school:

- They will be offered their vaccinations at School
- The School will contact you directly with details

Contact us through our web address, by scanning the **QR code** or by calling **07920 254400**

Or visit www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms



HANBOROUGH & FREELAND RUNNING GROUP

FOR 18 TO 99 YEAR OLDS,
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For info: HanFree-run@outlook.com

<https://www.strava.com/clubs/HanFree-Run>

FREELAND WI

It was beads, beads and more beads at our meeting on 15th May. This was a week later than usual due to the Bank Holiday. Lorraine, a founder member and first President of our WI when it was re-established in 2014, led us all in creating a beaded masterpiece, ably assisted by Rosie. Members were able to choose from making a bracelet, necklace, glasses chain or a very topical Coronation keyring using a wide array of beads in a variety of colours and shapes. Beading had been one of our activities when we held an open evening a couple of years ago and such was its popularity that members requested that it be repeated. It was a very enjoyable evening. Some of the finished results can be viewed on our Facebook page.



At our next meeting on **Monday 12th June**, we will welcome a volunteer from Pets as Therapy who will bring along her trained dog Jack. Pets as Therapy is a national charity that enhances the health and well-being of thousands of people across the UK through ensuring that they have access to the companionship of an animal, regardless of their circumstances.

This year we continue to support the Witney food bank at our meetings; our donations being delivered by one of our members who volunteers there.

Freeland WI normally meet on the second Monday of the month in the Village Hall, starting at **7.45pm** and finishing around **10pm**. Our meetings usually consist of an activity or speaker, a raffle and refreshments. We always look forward to welcoming visitors and new members at our meetings. If you have been thinking about joining WI now could be the time to give us a try. We are a varied group with a wide range of interests; it's not all about jam and Jerusalem! One trait that unites us is that we are friendly and welcoming to visitors.

Please contact our secretary Rosie if you would like to discuss joining us for a trial session or to become a member. We would love you to join us.

Information from earlier years is available on our website:

<https://freelandwiuk.wixsite.com/freelandwi> whilst current information is on our Facebook page: **www.facebook.com/freelandwi**

Alternatively please contact our secretary Rosie James on **01993 881997** or at **freelandwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk**

Aileen Tattam - Freeland WI

HANBOROUGH LUNCH CLUB

Hanborough Lunch Club meets in Christ Church, Main Road, Long Hanborough between **12.45pm and 2.15pm on the 3rd Wednesday of every month** for a two course meal followed by tea or coffee for **£5**.

It was founded in April 1980 for anyone who would like to eat a meal in pleasant company. Please contact Carol Bower (**881930**) if you would like to join.

Dates for the rest of the year are: **17th May, 21st June, 19th July, 16th August, 20th September, 18th October, 15th November, and 20th December.**



ENGLISH HERITAGE

NORTH LEIGH ROMAN VILLA

Mosaic Open Days

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th May

11am - 5pm

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th June

11am - 5pm

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd July

11am - 5pm

Wednesday 2nd August 11am - 5pm

Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th August

11am - 5pm

Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th September

11am - 5pm

Join our volunteers at North Leigh Roman Villa for a great chance to see the impressive mosaic close up!

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/north-leigh-roman-villa

Twitter: @villa_north

Step into England's story

Girl Guiding has refreshed the brand! Our new purpose is “**We help all girls know they can do anything**”. Each part of the trefoil has a meaning. The three leaves represent a part of the promise:

Self: Being true to myself and developing my beliefs

Others: Serving the King and my community and helping other people

Keeping the Guide law: The guiding star represents the Guide law. It’s a star with five points, 10 if you count the inner points as well, standing for the original 10 laws.

We have all four sections in Long Hanborough, and Guides in North Leigh:



4-7 years



7-10 years



10-14 years



14-18 years

So what have we been up to this term?

We welcomed our existing and new girls to our units. In the two weeks of the term so far, we have used teamwork to build towers as part of the Network stage 2 badge.

We’ve also made clay gargoyles (known as hunky punks) as part of the Bats in Churches badge with more learning about bats and looking for evidence of bats and of course played our favourite games.

The guides have been learning about guiding history, carried out a fire lighting 2-match challenge and found fabulous friends.



There are lots of reasons to celebrate in the coming months and lots of activities to do now the better weather is on it’s way – more to follow in future editions.

If your daughter would like to join us on a Tuesday night, you can register them for all sections here (it’s never too early).

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/>

We are always in need of volunteers to help out on whatever basis you can manage.

Please do get in touch if you can help in any way:

freelanddistrictguiding@btinternet.com It’s really rewarding.



Sat 17th June 7.30pm

SUMMER WIND CONCERT

St Leonard's Church, Eynsham

West Oxfordshire Clarinets

West Oxfordshire Learners

West Oxfordshire Clarinets - Intermediate

Conducted by Wendy Marks

present music from
four centuries



Tickets on the door:

£5 - Adults, U18s FREE

www.WestOxfordshireWinds.org

BEFSA CURRY NIGHT - 12th May

Another fine evening was had by all attendees of the annual gathering at Ready Steady Spice in Eynsham For anyone who has never been - you will not be disappointed, the food is always excellent. The owner and staff are so welcoming and I always look forward to going there.



Numerous Freeland residents got a lift to the curry house which added to the funds raised on the night and of course allowed them to enjoy the BEFSA bar.

The first two alcoholic prizes in the raffle were both won by the two Marks, and the rest were nearly all taken by Jenny's lucky strip of tickets. In over 40 years of running raffles .. I have never seen all 5 tickets come out in the draw. Other winners were very happy with a hair voucher, a beauty salon visit and even a set of make up bags which coincidentally had a family name on.

Thanks again to all who attended the fund raiser - we raised just short of **£500** towards the work in South Africa. Hopefully we will see more of our supporters at our next event featuring a South African BBQ on **Sunday 16th July (from 1 - 4pm)** at the Wheatsheaf Pub, Oakley Road, Chinnor. Entertainment will be provided by school choirs and other musicians/singers.

Julie Stuart-Thompson - Trustee BEFSA <https://befsa.org/>
julie.st@btinternet.com

FREELAND CRICKET CLUB

So we are in mid-May and the only hardball team which has not played a match is the **Saturday Cherwell League** team, but hopefully that will change soon.



The **Women's** team, West Oxfordshire Warriors, has secured sponsorship from Blenheim Community Fund and they have a lovely new playing kit. They also played their first matches on Sunday 14th May and narrowly lost to Oxford and Horspath.

The **Under 11s** have played Minster Lovell and beat them with Toby Borrill scoring 26 not out, and Adam Davies 25 not out. The team was captained by Oliver Hemmings, who also took a wicket along with Gabby Owen and Evie Hunt.

The **Under 13s** tied with Minster Lovell with both teams scoring 78. Eddie Borrill captained the team brilliantly, scoring 27 and bowling the crucial final over. There was a great all round bowling performance and there were two catches for Fred Osgathorpe, but Daniel Smith managed to get a run out on the last ball to tie the match!

The **Under 15s** have played two matches against Witney Mills and Minster Lovell. Our bowling is superb and the top three quick bowlers Logan, Kit and James will be playing a main part in our Saturday League team this year.

Against Minster, James and Logan bowled 6 overs and took 4 wickets for 8 runs!

Continued.....

A hand is shown from the bottom, cupping a glowing Earth. The Earth is centered in the frame, showing continents and oceans. The background is a dark space filled with stars and a soft blue glow. The text 'EYNSHAM CHORAL SOCIETY' is at the top.

EYNSHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

THE CREATION

By Josef Haydn

CONDUCTOR: STUART DUNLOP

with the Oxford Players

Saturday 10th June 2023

7.30pm

**St Leonards Church,
Eynsham**

**Tickets £15 from Evenlode DIY or info@eynshamchoral.org
or on the door. Cash bar during the interval.**

Continued.....

Training continues on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for the **Under 11s, Under 13s and Under 15s. Women's** softball is also on Wednesdays and the hardball team train on Fridays.

Unfortunately we have no more capacity for **Under 11 and Under 13** players, but **Under 9s and Under 15s** have some capacity, as do the **Women's** teams. Please contact me if you are interested in playing.

The next Cricket Club quiz will be **Wednesday 14th June**, starting at **8.30pm** to avoid clashing with coaching.

Simon Brown - Chair - Freeland Cricket Club

E: freelandcc.u11@gmail.com

Web: <https://freeland.play-cricket.com>

Facebook: **Freeland Cricket Club**



Freeland Pre-School

Early Years Assistant Required at Freeland Pre-School

Part time hours: Monday 12:15pm-2:30pm/3pm,

Thursday 9am-2:30pm/3pm and Friday 8:45am (after school drop off) till 3pm.

No Qualifications needed.

An exciting opportunity to join us and be part of our small, nurturing team has opened up.

This is an excellent role for anyone looking to work with children.

The person we are looking for will be enthusiastic, caring and have the well-being and involvement of the children and their families at the heart of their practice.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment. Candidates will be required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and will have to attend safeguarding training.

Please contact Jess on freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk for more details and an application form.

**“At Freeland Pre-School each child will flourish,
with the support of our loving practitioners.”**

GUIDANCE ABOUT WEARING FACE MASKS HAS CHANGED FOR THE JR, CHURCHILL, NUFFIELD ORTHOPAEDIC AND HORTON HOSPITALS

Patients are no longer required to wear face masks in clinical areas unless they:

- have symptoms of a respiratory illness
- have symptoms of COVID-19
- have tested positive for COVID-19
- are attending outpatient departments at the Churchill Hospital including Haematology, Oncology, Transplant, Chemotherapy, and Renal (including dialysis)
- are otherwise advised by Infection Prevention and Control
- would prefer to do so

Visitors only need to wear face masks if they:

- are visiting immunocompromised patients
- are with patients in outpatient departments at the Churchill Hospital including Haematology, Oncology, Transplant, Chemotherapy, and Renal (including dialysis)
- are otherwise advised by the Infection Prevention and Control team (IPC)
- would prefer to do so.

Oxford University Hospitals staff are no longer required to wear masks in clinical areas, with the following exceptions:

- When caring for a patient with symptoms of a respiratory infection.
- When caring for patients with COVID-19, and when carrying out certain procedures.
- When caring for patients in Haematology, Oncology, Transplant, Chemotherapy, and Renal (including dialysis) or an immunocompromised patient outside of these areas.
- If otherwise advised by Infection Prevention and Control.
- If they would prefer to do so.

All are welcome to wear face masks wherever and whenever they choose, and patients and visitors can ask staff to wear a face mask if this makes them more comfortable.

Dr Anny Sykes, Interim Chief Medical Officer at OUH, said:

"Following a change in national testing guidance, we took the opportunity to review our COVID-19 safety measures, including mask wearing, in careful discussion with our Infection Prevention and Control colleagues.

We will continue to support our staff, patients, and visitors to wear face masks in all areas of our hospitals if that is their preference, and mask dispensers will remain in place in the various entrances to our hospitals.

We will continue to keep this guidance under review."

NEW YATT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

Volunteers are urgently required on a regular weekly basis for our morning or afternoon riding sessions and for our pm rota (1/2 hour at 4.30pm on a sign up basis).

If you are able to spare a few hours once a week to help provide therapeutic riding to children and adults, please check out our website www.newyattRDA.org.uk and email us at nyrda-volunteers@googlegroups.com

EYNESHAM MEDICAL GROUP - Update

Eynsham Garden Project

This year the Eynsham team have linked with Bridewell Nurseries and Eynsham Primary School to improve the green spaces around Eynsham surgery. We have planted native hedges, native wildflower seeds, a welcome garden, a Zen garden and a Mediterranean themed garden attached to the coffee room for the staff and a few strawberries.



We hope to encourage nature into the walled garden and improve the mental health of everyone as they look, sit, and quietly reflect.

This is just the start; in September we are planning to plant bulbs for the spring and in a few weeks we will be inviting the children from the school and their teacher to plant different types of sun flowers around the practice.

Eynsham Medical Group staff teams for Blenheim Triathlon - fundraising for the medical charity

Last month, Dr. Binnian wrote about our team entry into this fundraising effort. Staff at Eynsham Medical Group have got off our consulting chairs to team together and train for the Blenheim Triathlon on **June 3rd and 4th 2023**.

Our Teams, EMG Veterans (Ian, Melissa, Sarah), EMG Extremely Mediocre Gang (Emma, Katie, Victoria), and two individual athletes (Emma, Lorenz) are going to power their way through the lakes and grounds of the Palace.

Please support our "Eynsham and Long Hanborough Medical Care Group" charity by donating using the link below, and do come and support us on the days! Donating with Stewardship is really easy and completely secure.

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/blenheimtriathlon>

If you are a UK taxpayer, please confirm that you would like to reclaim Gift Aid on your donation. This will add 25p to every £1 you give.

ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE GRAPEVINE are available in the **St Mary the Virgin Church Porch**, which is open 9am to 5pm/dusk seven days a week.

You can also pick up copies at the **Oxfordshire Yeoman** during their regular hours of Tuesdays & Wednesdays 5pm - 11pm, Thursdays Noon - 3pm & 5pm - 11pm; Fridays 9.30am - late; Saturdays Noon - late; and Sundays Noon - 10.30pm.

In the **Long Hanborough Co-op** the copies are now on the bottom shelf, to the left of the front door.

There are copies available in the **Long Hanborough Surgery** waiting room, and the entrance porch of the **Hand & Shears in Church Hanborough**.

FREELAND GARDENING CLUB

A very successful Quiz & Raffle of Hampers took place at our Club meeting on 24th April. Ray Evans had kindly submitted the 40 questions for us and what a variety there were. We planned that everyone should do the quiz individually but a few stage whispers helped many of us to get a few more points. Diane Fairfield was the overall winner so many congratulations to her. The items for the Hampers had all been generously donated by members and resulted in many varied prizes. Thanks to everyone who contributed, and to Caroline Taylor who collected the items at her home and made up the Hampers.

On **Monday 22nd May** we meet at Freeland Nurseries at **7.30pm** to make up our hanging baskets with advice on how to get the best results.

On **Monday 26th June at 7.30pm** in Freeland Hall we have Mandy Bradshaw returning for her second talk 'Beyond the Garden Gate (Cotswold Gardens)'. We so enjoyed her first talk last year so look forward to hearing her next one. The Committee are planning a visit to a nearby garden as our first trip away since Covid. No doubt Mandy will advise us on a good garden to visit. Bookings for this trip will start after a date and garden are chosen.

There are likely to be more plants appearing on our Plant and Garden Items Sales table so bring some along if you have spares and some money to buy replacements.

For any further information about the Club please contact Terry Jones at davidjones30@talktalk.net

Janet Dalton (Publicity Secretary)

REPORT ON THE STOP BOTLEY WEST MEETING on 2nd May in Hanborough Pavilion

Nearly 100 people from Church Hanborough, Freeland and Long Hanborough came along to a meeting on Tuesday 2nd May in the Pavilion, Long Hanborough. They were joined by visitors from other nearby towns and villages from Witney to Woodstock to learn about what has been happening locally in the Stop Botley West (SBW) Campaign and to listen to Chair Karen Squibb-Williams talking about the progress made as a whole in the past 5 months and what the future may hold. Penelope Marcus, chair of Hanborough Parish Council confirmed their strong support.

Anthony Thompson launched his Forever Fields Art project which invites everyone - adults and children - to submit paintings, sketches or photographs of the many lovely fields that could be "lost" for 40 years were the Botley West proposal to go ahead. The collection will be displayed at an exhibition in September and then digitised to be kept as an archive of our impressions of our beautiful countryside in 2023. You can register to take part at www.foreverfields.co.uk

A flyer titled "SAVE BLENHEIM PALACE - SAVE BOTLEY WEST" was given out and will shortly be delivered to every house in the Hanboroughs and Freeland. The flyer asks you to contact UNESCO and your MP to express concerns about the threat to Blenheim Palace's World Heritage Site status by the siting of BW Solar Farm.

An interesting and informative question and answer session concluded the evening with people encouraged to visit the Stop Botley West website, spread the word around friends and neighbours and to watch out for more ways to get involved in the campaign.

www.stopbotleywest.com



WOODSTOCK & DISTRICT u3a (University of the 3rd age)

Woodstock & District u3a's Annual General Meeting took place in April, was well attended and a mix of formal business, a look back at the past year's events and a preview of things to come.

The Branch now offers two Groups each for Board Games, Needlework and Recorder playing (one of those last reserved for 'Beginners and improvers'.) In all there are now seventeen such Interest Groups, ranging from 'Art', to 'Walking'; a Canasta group has just started, one for visits to local Historic Churches is getting under way, and an Embroidery group is also forming. Many of the current Groups were able to put examples of their work on display. The recorder players, too, normally overheard only by users of the surrounding car park, were happy to play for once to a proper audience.



On **Thursday 1st June** our guest speaker is Tim Albert, talking about “A cub (reporter) on the Moors” - hinting at the far from cosy life of a junior journalist in strange territory. Then on **Thursday 6th July** Liz Woolley will be talking about “Local history and how to do it”. Both talks are at the St Hugh’s Centre in Woodstock.

Thursday 17th August is the date for the u3a Garden Party, to be held once more at St Hugh’s in Woodstock.

Details of Branch and Group activities at: <https://u3asites.org.uk/woodstock>

Chris Sladen

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- M 22 May Freeland Gardening Club at Freeland Nurseries, 7.30pm 'Plant your own Hanging Basket'
- W 24 May Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- Su 28 May Farmers' Market - Freeland Village Hall car park 10am - 1pm**
- M 29 May Spring Bank Holiday**
- W 31 May Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- Su 4 June Unaccepted Freeland Ramblers - walking 10am from opposite the Yeoman
- Tu 6 June The Cake Café, Village Hall, 9am - 11.30am**
- W 7 June Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- M 12 June Freeland Grapevine - July edition deadline day**
- M 12 June Freeland Parish Council Meeting, Newell Room, 7.30pm
- M 12 June Freeland WI, Village Hall, 7.45pm 'Pets as Therapy'
- W 14 June Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- W 14 June Freeland Cricket Club Quiz at the Oxfordshire Yeoman, 8.30pm
- Sa 17 June West Oxfordshire Clarinets, etc, St Leonard's Church, Eynsham, 7.30pm £5
- Su 18 June Combe Mill in Steam: 'Classic Wheels' www.combemill.co.uk
- Su 18 June Bridewell Gardens Open Day, OX7 3DT, 11am - 4pm
- W 21 June Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- W 21 June Freeland Walking Group - leaving the Village Hall car park at 9.30am
- Su 25 June Farmers' Market - Freeland Village Hall car park 10am - 1pm**
- M 26 June Freeland Gardening Club, Freeland Hall, 7.30pm 'Beyond the Garden Gate'
- W 28 June Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- Su 2 July Unaccepted Freeland Ramblers - walking 10am from opposite the Yeoman

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

DIRTY CARPETS? GRUBBY UPHOLSTERY? Friendly, Local Service. Unbeatable Rates. Call GRIMEBUSTERS - **01993 868924**

KNIVES, garden tools, etc sharpened. Contact “**Sharpedge**” **01993 881464**

COUNTRY FISH & CHIPS Freshly cooked Fish and Chips in Freeland every **Thursday night** from **6.45 - 7.15pm** on Wroslyn Road near the junction with the A4095. Tel: **07791 459 849**

THE CAKE CAFÉ, FREELAND

Regular café first Tuesday of the month, **9.00 - 11.30am**, Freeland Hall
Delicious homemade cakes and scones, and a savoury or two.

NEW! Friday Bakes at the Yeoman. Coffee and cake from **9.30am**
www.janescakestudio.co.uk 01993 881273

CATKINS Genuine Cat Lover available for home visits whilst you are out or on holiday. References available. **Debbie: 07805 583 419 or Janice: 07896 990 801.**

The deadline for articles or adverts for the **July Grapevine** is

Monday 12th June. The **July** edition should be online at:

www.freelandoxon.co.uk or at **www.freelandpc.org.uk** from **Monday 19th June** with the print copies in the church porch and elsewhere from **Friday 23rd June.**

We welcome handwritten or typed articles and adverts. However, if at all possible, please send by email, formatted to fit an A5 magazine - it will certainly help to reduce the number of our mistakes! The font we use is **Gill Sans MT** at 10 point.

If submitting electronically please use Word or Publisher, **not PDFs** as they are incompatible with Microsoft Publisher which we use for the Grapevine.

Photographs should be JPGs or PNGs, again **not PDFs.**

The cost of a Small Advertisement is **22p per word.** Please make cheques payable to **‘FREELAND GRAPEVINE’.** Contact Kenny Wylie about costs for other adverts.
1/3rd page size is 60mm high x 127mm wide, 1/2 page size is 90mm high x 127mm wide

Adverts: grapevineadverts@gmail.com

Articles: freelandgrapevine@gmail.com

Or mail: Kenny Wylie, I Blenheim Lane, Freeland, Witney OX29 8AW **01993 883245**

Note Please put your name and telephone number on any submission in case we need to contact you. These will only be printed if requested by you.

The editor reserves the right to edit all copy.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information, liability cannot be accepted for any errors or omissions in compiling this magazine.

Neither the Church, the Editor nor the Printer assume responsibility for any effects arising therefrom

The presence of an advertisement in the Grapevine does not constitute a recommendation by the editors regarding the goods or services advertised.

We are not able to publish any correspondence between tradespersons or other organisations placing adverts in the Grapevine and their customers in the event of dispute

We do not endorse any articles, reports or suggestions in the Grapevine.

— COMING UP THIS MONTH —

- 28** **Spotlight/Open Mic** - Show off your talent from 6pm
- 2** **Yeoman Cafe** - With Jane's Cake Studio
- 7** **Yeoman Cricket Team** - Home match - come and support!
- 14** **Quiz Night** - £3 pp max 6 to a team
- 24** **Live Music** with Tracking Back Duo

SPRING OPENING TIMES	
TUES	5 - 11PM
WEDS	5 - 11PM
THURS	12 - 3 / 5 - 11
FRI	9AM - LATE
SAT	12 - LATE
SUN	12 - 10:30PM

Find our Lunch and Evening Menus on our Website

www.oxfordshireyeoman.com

Wednesday | Pizza Night!
Thurs, Fri, Sat | Spring Menu

Check out our social media



[@theoxfordshireyeoman](https://www.instagram.com/theoxfordshireyeoman)

— Pub Quiz —

Wednesday 14th June

Freeland CC Quiz, raising money for the Cricket Club and Sobell House
£3 pp, 6 max per team

TO BOOK A TABLE CALL: 01993 881003
or EMAIL: hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com



THE
**OXFORDSHIRE
YEOMAN**

FREELAND, OXFORDSHIRE



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BLENHEIM PALACE

Join us for after-school sessions at our exciting New Adventure Play, this session is ideal for families who want to come and join in the fun after a busy day at school. The sessions will run from Monday to Thursday from 15:15 to 17:15, where mini explorers will have an amazing two hours to explore this hidden world of adventure. These sessions are £5 per person when you have an annual pass or have purchased a day ticket.

*excludes bank holiday and school holidays.

BLENHEIM

The replacement of the Orangery roof project is now well underway, as you may have noticed on recent visits. Over the past 300 years the Orangery has been used as a greenhouse, theatre, offices, art gallery, events space and most recently a place to enjoy lunch or afternoon tea. The 18th century glass ceiling has now been fully removed and is being replaced with a timber and slate structure in the spirit of Vanbrugh's original design. This will be a far more effective insulator than glass, saving energy and helping us reach our green goals. The project is expected to finish later this year in autumn. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our visitors, without whom this unique conservation project would not have been possible.



BLENHEIM ESTATE

We are delighted to have welcomed the next generation of Blenheim Estate sheepdogs! The eight new puppies are parented by our current working sheepdogs, Tweed and Roe. Our Park Farm Team have been kept very busy over the last few weeks with looking after the lively litter, and they're not the only new arrivals on the Estate...lambing season is now in full swing. If you have visited recently you may well have spotted some of the new lambs frolicking in the fields as we exclusively lamb outdoors. This is to give new-borns the best spring grass and nutrients they need. You may also have seen our 'Thank Ewe' signage during your walks - please do be mindful of walking your dog in the Parkland and ensure that they are kept on a lead at all times so that our sheep are not at risk of being attacked or chased in a way that may cause injury, suffering or miscarriage.

Keep up-to-date with our news and latest events by signing up to our newsletter at

blenheimpalace.com