



# Grapevine

St Mary's Freeland



June 2022

**Jubilee Special!**  
Pages 25 to 28 for  
5th June  
celebrations

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# **Benefice of Hanborough and Freeland**

**The churches of Hanborough and Freeland  
are all open for worship.**

**At St Peter and St Paul Church Hanborough,  
St Mary the Virgin Freeland and  
Christ Church Long Hanborough, there is a 10am  
service every week\* and everyone from our  
community is very welcome to join us.**

**Additionally, at St Mary's, on the 1st and 3rd  
Sundays of the month, there is a traditional  
8.30am said Communion Service.**

**\*Where there is a 5th Sunday in the month, there  
will be one single 10am Benefice Service at  
St Peter and St Paul, Church Hanborough -  
there will be no 10am service at Christ Church  
or St Mary's that day.**

**See our website at [www.hfchurch.org.uk](http://www.hfchurch.org.uk)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**St Mary the Virgin is open seven days a week  
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## **QUIZ NIGHT in aid of MARIE CURIE**

**Wednesdays 25th May & 29th June, 7.30pm for 8pm start at  
The Oxfordshire Yeoman, 172 Wroslyn Road, Freeland.**

Entry is **£3 Per Person**. Food will be available from **6pm - 8.30pm**  
The menu can be found at [www.oxfordshireyeoman.com/menus](http://www.oxfordshireyeoman.com/menus)

**WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU BOOK TABLES IN ADVANCE SO THEY  
CAN BE RESERVED FOR YOUR TEAM.**

**Tel: (01993) 881003 or email: [hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com](mailto:hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com)**

Charity Raffle (raffle prizes will be very much appreciated). For more  
information contact Nicky Clargo at [oxfordshire.stars@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordshire.stars@gmail.com) or  
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### Useful contact details:

**Rector:** Rev. Steve Stewart

**01993 881270**

The Rectory, Swan Lane

Long Hanborough OX29 8BT

Email: [rector@hfchurch.org.uk](mailto:rector@hfchurch.org.uk)

**Curate:** Rev. Mike Madden

E: [curate\\_mike@hanboroughparish.co.uk](mailto:curate_mike@hanboroughparish.co.uk)

#### Licensed Lay Ministers:

**Clive Berry 01993 882080**

**Hugh Dalton Emeritus 01993 881742**

#### Churchwarden:

**Colin Griffiths**

**01993 357333**

Contact via website [www.hfchurch.org.uk](http://www.hfchurch.org.uk)

#### Flowers in the Church:

**Janet Dalton**

**01993 881742**

**Weddings:** Rev. Steve Stewart 01993 881270 [rector@hfchurch.org.uk](mailto:rector@hfchurch.org.uk)

[administrator@hfchurch.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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, but especially at the weekly **10am** service where youth friendly activities are held 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](http://www.hfchurch.org.uk)

The above information is correct at the date published (22/05/2022). Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found on our website at:

[www.hfchurch.org.uk](http://www.hfchurch.org.uk)

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## **HANBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH**

Contact: Gill Breakspear Tel: **883914**. Email: [gillbreakspear@btinternet.com](mailto:gillbreakspear@btinternet.com)

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

**Sunday 29th May 10am** Mr Karl Williams

**Sunday 5th June 10am** Rev. Charles Harris

**Sunday 12th June 10am** Rev. Ian Worall (Holy Communion)

**Sunday 19th June 10am** Local arrangement

**Sunday 26th June 10am** Mr Andrew Maisey

**Sunday 3rd July 10am** Rev. Fred Ireland

Please see [www.westoxfordshiremethodists.org.uk](http://www.westoxfordshiremethodists.org.uk) for all the latest information.

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## **We are looking to open an After School Club at Freeland C of E Primary School**

Dear parents/carers

We are really excited to be sharing with you our plans to open an after school club at your school. Vicky's After School clubs are privately owned and we have six other clubs which are very successfully run by our talented and engaging staff. Our staff really get to know your children and ensure all opportunities are met for your child to be able to learn and grow in our friendly and relaxing environment. We work alongside parents and school staff to ensure the best outcomes for your child.

Along with parents of children wanting to attend, we are also looking for engaging, reliable, caring and enthusiastic members of the community who would love to be part of our team and bring their own ideas and vision to our new club in Freeland. You don't have to be qualified as we train our staff to a high level and give you all the support you need to do the best job you can do.

Vicky Hickman

Hours from 2.45 - 6.15 Monday-Friday, term time only.  
(Holiday work available)

Salary dependant on experience and qualifications.  
Minimum age 18 years (Ofsted requirement)

**Please note that an enhanced DBS check will be undertaken as part of the recruitment process.**

If you are interested and would like further information, please contact:

**Vicky Hickman Tel No: 07887711454**

**Email: [info@vickyafterschoolclub.co.uk](mailto:info@vickyafterschoolclub.co.uk)**

**website: [www.vickyafterschoolclub.co.uk](http://www.vickyafterschoolclub.co.uk)**

## **Letter from our Rector, Rev. Steve Stewart:**

In recent weeks, notwithstanding delays and frustrations, many households across Hanborough and Freeland, including members of our local churches, have welcomed refugees from the war in Ukraine – a show of wonderful kindness and hospitality to, in many ways, the most unlikely of visitors. Who could have imagined such a situation only a few months ago! And it has been one of the delights of the churches in Hanborough and Freeland to lay on coffee mornings and afternoons so that our Ukrainian friends can meet up with one another.

Welcoming and hospitality are absolutely central to what it means to be “church”. Indeed, the word “church” in the English Bible is how we translate the Greek word *ekklesia*, which refers simply to a gathering of people. Of course, not everybody has had the best experience of church, but there is no question that Jesus calls Christians to be a welcoming community – indeed, a family. But a family that is always growing, always open to new members, always open to visitors, always ready to welcome people for the first time or who perhaps have not been part of a church for a very, very long time.

Perhaps you have been thinking for a while about whether you might like to go to a church service, thinking a little bit more deeply about God and matters of faith, or just want to discover new things and new people. Wherever you are at, I want you to know that we would be delighted for you to join us at any of our Sunday services, where I know you will receive that warm welcome. And, I hope and pray, receive an unexpected joy.

If you would like to learn more about church and what it means to be a Christian, simply join us at any of our churches on a Sunday morning (see [hfchurch.org.uk](http://hfchurch.org.uk)) or contact me for a chat at [rector@hfchurch.org.uk](mailto:rector@hfchurch.org.uk)

With much love in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Steve Stewart,  
Rector, Hanborough and Freeland

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## **ST MARY'S BELL RINGING REPORT**

The bells will be rung at the following services:

<b>Thursday 2nd June</b>	<b>4.30pm - 6.00pm to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee</b>
<b>Sunday 5th June</b>	<b>9.30am - 10.00am</b>
<b>Saturday 18th June</b>	<b>6.00pm - we host the Witney and Woodstock Branch Striking Competition</b>
<b>Sunday 19th June</b>	<b>9.30am - 10.00am</b>

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](http://www.freelandoxon.co.uk)

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## **FROM THE REGISTERS AT ST MARY THE VIRGIN**

**Funeral and Burial:** Joy Alison Rendell 1st April 2022

**Funeral and Burial:** Anthony Stanley Counsell 25th April 2022

**Funeral and Burial:** Deborah Harris 10th May 2022

**Commemoration and Celebration** for the late Peter Langley 9th May 2022

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### **ST MARY'S "BUG HOTEL"**

Announcing the opening of the new "Bug Hotel" at St Mary's. All bugs, creepy crawlies, insects, etc are invited to come and stay whether this is overnight, for a few days or as long as they would like. A variety of rooms are available with branches, slates and stones, straw, pine cones and bamboo canes and are completely free of charge. All are welcome.



**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 15-21 MAY 2022**

Thank you to everyone who has donated to this year's appeal.

**Our online collection is still open!**

Some of Christian Aid's work:

- **Campaigning for climate justice** and working with people in countries where extreme weather and more intense and frequent droughts mean millions are struggling to get enough food and water.
- **Supporting Ukrainian refugees:** working with partner agencies and the DEC to provide lifesaving aid, shelter, truckloads of food, water, sanitation, medical equipment and health support, as well as offering vital information for refugees and internally displaced people.
- **Helping people starving and displaced in Afghanistan:** working with partner agencies to provide emergency food, clean water, nutrition support and winter kits, to support healthcare facilities, and to protect women and girls.

#### **How to donate**

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

Thank you for considering making a donation.

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

Fiona McGrady  
Freeland Christian Aid Organiser





# Freeland House

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tel: 01993 881258 | email: [manager.freeland@minstercaregroup.co.uk](mailto:manager.freeland@minstercaregroup.co.uk)

# **THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST PETER, EYNHAM**

Serving the Hanboroughs, Freeland, Cassington, South Leigh, Stanton Harcourt, Sutton and Northmoor.

**THE PARISH PRIEST:** Father Mark Lagorio can be contacted by phone on **01865 881613** or email **stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com**

**Address : Abbey Street, Eynsham OX29 4HR** Phone: **01865 881613**

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.

You can also watch Mass from many other Churches live or recorded online:

**www.churchservices.tv** is a platform that connects communities and provides churches with a space to broadcast – particularly Mass, Adoration and prayer.

**https://www.mcnmedia.tv/** is another platform that does the same and includes Corpus Christi, Headington in Oxford; and Blackfriars, Oxford

**https://www.youtube.com/user/Godzdogz**

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## **FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL - Updates**

### **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

We are getting to the end of sorting out the arrangements for **Sunday 5th June** and would love for as many residents to get involved with the big Bring Your Own Picnic. The huge variety of stalls, food and drink from the Oxfordshire Yeoman, races, kids crafts, and a super raffle (prizes include a chance to win a 2 night stay at the Cotswold Farm park worth £360!!) All proceeds will be donated to our two chosen charities. We still need a few more volunteers to help out on the day so if you can spare even half an hour, please let me know. There's more information about the event on **pages 25 - 28**

### **Freeland Village survey**

Take part in our anonymous survey for the development of Freeland for a chance to win **£25**. Further details are on page **17** about how to enter.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

Many thanks to the 59 of you who chose to join us in the Annual Parish Meeting. We do hope that it helped you to understand more about the future of Freeland and how we are continually striving to make it better for the future. The minutes will be published on the website after approval at the next council meeting.

### **No Mow May**

We would like to thank all those who got involved in No Mow May to help the bees and pollinators.

### **Welcome Ukrainians**

Welcome to Freeland! We hope you are settling in nicely into our village.

Chris Onslow has set up a Just Giving page with the aim to raise £30 per head:

**www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chris-onslow?utm\_term=vEA3nPk7M**

Thank you to all that have supported. See **pages 47 & 48** for more news.

*Continued.....*



**FIRM FIZZIQUE YOGA & PILATES**  
**FACE TO FACE CLASSES IN FREELAND VILLAGE HALL**

**TUESDAY - PILATES - 6.30pm**  
**TUESDAY - YOGA - 7.45pm**  
**WEDNESDAY - PILATES - 9.30am**  
**THURSDAY - PILATES - 6.30pm**  
**THURSDAY - YOGA - 7.30pm**  
**FRIDAY - FUZION YOGA & PILATES MIX - 9.30am**

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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**

Continued.....

### **Social Media**

Your Parish Council have joined the 21st century and are now on Facebook and Instagram. Feel free to like and follow for any recent updates. Find us by just searching Freeland Parish Council.

### **Who are your Parish Councillors?**

#### **Rev. Roger Faulkner, Chairman**

I moved to Freeland in 2015 and retired as a Methodist minister in May 2020 although I spent the last 14 years of my active ministry with Open Doors, an international charity serving the needs of persecuted Christians around the world. This provided me with the opportunity of travelling to many countries, from Colombia in the west to North Korea in the east, which taught me a great deal.



I have been married to Janet for 46 years and we have three children and six grandchildren. In addition to my family, my interests include walking, gardening and travelling. I have always tried to serve my local community and am currently Vice Chair of the Freeland Community Benefit Society and co-ordinator of the Freeland Speedwatch team. I joined the Parish Council in 2021 when I was elected as its Chair. I am grateful to our new clerk, Fay Friend, and all my fellow councillors who are working hard to make Freeland an even better place to live.

### **Playpark**

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

### **Planning Applications update - May 2022:**

All planning applications can be viewed on line from the Village Website at [www.freelandoxon.co.uk](http://www.freelandoxon.co.uk) (under Parish Council/Planning Tracker) or via the WODC website at [www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning) . You can also contact the Planning Team at WODC on **01993 861420** and view the documents at Woodgreen Council Offices.

#### **Applications Received:**

**22/00848/HHD 23 OAKLANDS CLOSE, FREELAND**

Proposed single storey rear extension. Proposed new hard landscaping to the front of the property for Mr and Mrs Clark

**Applications Approved: None**

**Applications Withdrawn: None**

**Applications Refused: None**

#### **Applications Awaiting Decision:**

**21/03258/FUL 3 Cuckoo Wood Caravan Park, Eynsham Road, Freeland**

Erection of detached building for the garaging of heavy goods vehicles for Mr Perry Hatwell.

**21/00961/FUL Land South Of Shaston, The Green, Freeland**

New Build Chalet Bungalow with detached double Garage for Mr & Mrs Neil and Catherine Tregear.

Continued.....



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mail@greensfunerals.co.uk

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Continued.....

**21/02627/OUT Land Off The West Side Of Wroslyn Road, Freeland**

Outline planning application for the erection of a retirement community of up to 160 extra care units (C2 use class) with associated communal facilities and open space, with access from Wroslyn Road, (all matters reserved except access) and retention of veterinary practice in the coach house, for Inspired Villages.

**20/01734/OUT Land North Of A40, A40 Section From Barnard Gate To Eynsham Roundabout, Eynsham (Neighbouring parish)**

Outline application with means of access for a mixed-use Garden Village, comprising residential, retail, food and drink, health and community facilities, hotel, class B1, B2 and B8 employment uses, education provision, burial ground, public open space with sports pitches together with ancillary facilities, landscaping and associated infrastructure and works for Grosvenor Developments Ltd.

**22/00913/HHD 18 Parklands, Freeland**

Single storey side extension, new porch and gravelled parking area for Mr R. Massingham & Ms C. Stephens (*amended application*).

**22/00881/HHD 44 The Green, Freeland**

Demolition of single storey side extension. Erection of a two storey side extension and single storey rear extension for Mr and Mrs Calcutt.

**22/00911/HHD 26 Freeland Gate, Freeland**

Proposed detached garage for Mr M O'Callaghan.

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**Contacting the Council & Date of Next Meeting:**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 20th June 2022 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 village website where lots of useful information is held. The website can be accessed via **www.freelandoxon.co.uk**. Alternatively, please contact me between the hours of **9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday to Friday - Fay Friend, Parish Clerk - email fayf.fpc@gmail.com or call 01993 357851**

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**FREELAND WALKING GROUP**

We are a very friendly group who have met over many years. We walk on the third Wednesday of each month in the morning usually starting at Freeland Hall. Someone within the group leads the walk mainly parking at a Pub and doing a circular walk ending with a meal at the Pub. We also sometimes do a local walk finishing at the Yeoman.

As many of our members are retired and don't want too long a walk, we now limit these to about 5 miles or less. The next walk is on **Wednesday 15th June**, starting at **9.30am** from the Village Hall car park. We would welcome anyone who would like to join us. For more information, please contact me on **dalton43cv@talktalk.net**

Janet Dalton

# Freeland Nurseries

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# LAST CALL FOR SURVEY RESPONSES: WE NEED YOUR VIEWS!

**Freeland PC wants to know** what you love or dislike about living in Freeland, what you are concerned or excited about – and what you want Freeland to be like in 10 years' time.

We also want to hear from those who work in the village, whose children attend the village school, or who regularly visit for other reasons.

People in the same household may have different views, so we encourage everyone to complete the survey, which can be done **anonymously**. The views of all residents, whether adult or children, are valuable! And every village resident has the chance to enter a prize draw to **win one of four £25 One4all shopping vouchers**, exchangeable at a wide range of outlets and online.

Access the survey through this QR code, or go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Freeland2032](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Freeland2032)

For a paper copy, contact Amy at [amyj\\_fpc@outlook.com](mailto:amyj_fpc@outlook.com) or **07917 773756**, or ask a parish councillor

More about the survey, entering the draw and data privacy is available at [bit.ly/Freeland2032](http://bit.ly/Freeland2032)

We don't promise to address **all** the points raised, but we do promise to take on board concerns and ideas, and discuss what can be done.

This may result in proposals for an updated Community-Led Plan, a Neighbourhood Plan or other initiatives. If you're willing to be part of the survey follow-up, contact Amy Jackson at the details below.

Please complete the survey online if possible, by the **deadline Tuesday 31st May 2022**.

If you or a friend would prefer to complete a **paper copy**, or would like help completing or submitting the survey, please contact Amy or **any other parish councillor**, all of whom have paper copies available.

Your views are very much appreciated! Thank you for helping us to understand what you want Freeland to be like in 2032!





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🌐 [www.freelandhall.co.uk](http://www.freelandhall.co.uk)

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## **THE OXFORDSHIRE YEOMAN**

Cast your mind back to the end of October 2020 and you may have seen a removal van parked up outside the Yeoman. In it were all our belongings as Paul, Megs and I embarked on a new adventure – running Freeland’s much-loved Oxfordshire Yeoman.



Now, nearly two years later after multiple lockdowns, sweat, tears, but also considerable support from the community, we’ve made the decision to move on to pastures new. Although it has had its challenges, we’ve enjoyed our time here as caretakers of this wonderful village pub and hope that we’re departing having made our small, happy, mark on the long history of the Yeoman.

The Yeoman’s reins are being assigned to local resident Ian, and supported by Hannah and Trevor, who are entrusting our bar manager Zoe with the day to day running of the pub. We hope you’ll show Zoe the same kindness you showed us (heck, running a pub is no easy feat!) as she learns even more about the pub and its vital role in village life. We also hope you continue to enjoy Andy’s changing seasonal menus and specials. The whole team have been brilliant to work with and we know they’ll continue to do a stellar job!

We’d love for you to help us celebrate our time here and ask that you join us for our **Farewell Bash on Saturday 28th May from 6pm onwards.**

And so, in summary, it’s farewell and a heartfelt thank you from us.

With much love,

Anna, Paul, and Megan

\*\*\*\*\*

## **VINCENTS WOOD - BLUEBELLS**

As this year's display fades, the once quiet splendour of Vincents Wood in bloom now shows the toll of countless visitors. Social media with its evocative photos has propelled this closely guarded, local secret to something resembling a theme park. Sadly, like so many other natural attractions, our sheer numbers and inappropriate behaviour has denuded the very thing we came to enjoy.

When I took over the management of the wood (along with adjoining land) twelve years ago, I blocked off the multiple tracks with brushwood, leaving one, well defined, route through, with subtle signs saying "Shh, nesting sites!" It took 10 years for the tracks to repair from the compaction of feet to become once again a sea of blue. Now, it is again regressing.

Vincents Wood is privately owned and has only a 'permissive right of way' through. It would be a great shame if this access was lost. So, I ask you to appeal to your social media friends explaining the problem of too many feet, too much noise, too many dogs, litter and too many cars, in an attempt to de-advertise and return these woods to a cherished, local secret...where we can be the respectful visitors to Nature's spring spectacle.

Robert Crocker

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## **FREELAND CRICKET CLUB**

The season has started with all teams having played at least one match, and we are getting into the swing of things.

The **Adult** League team has played one match, away to Hook Norton. However, captain Billy Rendell top scored with 41, and Dave Owen scored 25.

The **Women's** team has had an exciting start to the season, with one win, one tie and two defeats.

The **Under 15s** have played two and lost two, the **Under 13s** have won one and lost one and the **Under 11s** have won one.

However, over the next month there will be another 20 matches!

Training for **Under 9s** will need to swap to Monday evenings at **5.30pm** so it doesn't clash with the **Under 15 Girls'** League which is also on Tuesdays.

The Club will be holding an open session as part of the Jubilee celebrations at **3pm on Sunday 5th June**.

A reminder that the Cricket Club Quiz is still on the second Wednesday of the month, with the next one will on **Wednesday 8th June**, in the Yeoman, at **8pm**.

Simon Brown - Chair - Freeland Cricket Club

**E: [freelandcc.u1@gmail.com](mailto:freelandcc.u1@gmail.com)**

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

**Facebook: Freeland Cricket Club**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FREELAND CRAFT CLUB**

We tried our hands at glass-painting in May and were pleasantly surprised by the results, since no-one had tried this skill before.

In preparation for the Queen's Jubilee, we plan to knit some covers for Terry's Chocolate Oranges. We have patterns for a Guardsman, a Corgi, the Crown, a Union Jack, the Golden Carriage, a bottle of champagne, as well as the Queen herself!

We meet each **Wednesday** from **2.00pm to 4.00pm** in the Newell Room of the Village Hall and there is a subscription of **£1** per meeting.

We hope you will be able to join us some time - we are a friendly group and love to welcome new members, even if you can't come every week.

For further information, please contact: Helen Molden **01993 882305** or Margaret Wright **01993 881316** ([margaret.wright160@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.wright160@gmail.com))

Margaret Wright



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

You can also pick up copies at the **Oxfordshire Yeoman** during their regular hours of Monday 5 - 11pm; Wednesdays & Thursdays Noon - 3pm & 5pm - 11pm; Fridays 9am - 3pm & 4pm - Late; Saturdays Noon - late; and Sundays Noon - 7pm.

In the **Long Hanborough Co-op** they are now on the bottom shelf of the magazine rack which is at the end of an aisle near the Post Office counter.

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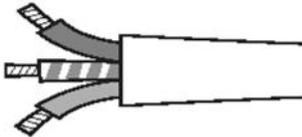
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## **ADVANCE WARNING OF ROAD CLOSURES**



**The first closure is the section of Eynsham Road between the Swinford Toll Bridge and The Talbot Inn, to facilitate tree felling.**

The latest update on this closure, which was originally posted as being for a five day period, is that it will now only be closed on **Wednesday 1st June** in both directions from **9.30am and 4pm** (it was also closed on Thursday 19th May).

**Stagecoach have said that their buses will be allowed through the closure.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**The second closure is on Freeland Road, in the section between the A40 and Cuckoo Lane, to facilitate the installation of a new water main for a new development.**

This will be a complete closure, **for 24 hours per day**, in both directions, from **Monday 6th June to Friday 10th June**,

There will be limited access for emergency service vehicles and for frontages within the closed section of the road, subject to the progress of the works.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The third closure is Church Road in Church Hanborough, from its junction with Pigeon House Lane to the cemetery for gas main replacement works.**

The effect of the traffic order is to temporarily prohibit any vehicle proceeding along that section of Church Road. There are exemptions for emergency services, for the works, and for access to premises which are only accessible from the closed section of the road. The closure is from **Monday 25th July to Wednesday 31st August, for 24 hours per day**, in both directions.

## **FREELAND FOOTBALL CLUB NEWS**

With the season now completed, I'm pleased to report on a very successful season.

The **First team** have won their League, with their last two games being given to them with the opposition conceding the games denying them to win the League in style.

The **Reserves** finished a respectable 3rd in their League and reached a Cup semi final.

The **Under 15s** have also had a great spring season, also winning their League.

We will be holding our end of season awards in The Yeoman on **Saturday 4th June**.

We also have a 10/10 Cricket match on **Bank Holiday Monday 29th August**, where the Cricket Club will take on the Football Club and a select Sean Bunting XI.

The Club AGM will be held in the Newell Room at **7pm on Wednesday 8th June**.

The **Under 15s** Manager is Stuart McNaughton - [stu.mac@aol.com](mailto:stu.mac@aol.com)

Ben Symonds - Secretary: [bensymonds@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bensymonds@hotmail.co.uk)

Simon Hole - Chairman: [Si\\_hole@hotmail.com](mailto:Si_hole@hotmail.com)

[www.pitchero.com/clubs/freelandfc/](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/freelandfc/)

Ben Symonds - Secretary Freeland FC

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



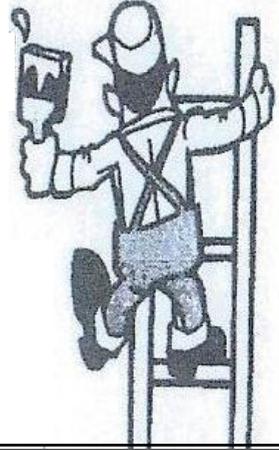
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Your 'pull out' guide to the  
**FREELAND  
JUBILEE  
PICNIC**

**Sunday 5 June, 1-4pm**

Freeland playing field

**ALL WELCOME!**



**STALLS, TEAS, BBQ & BAR**  
**Grand prize raffle**  
**GAMES & COMPETITIONS**

Proceeds in aid of Ukrainian families hosted in  
Freeland & Hanborough, & **Oxford Hospitals Charity**



# ENTERTAINMENT

## **Live acoustic music!**

From Witney's very own Laura Jones.

## **Bar and BBQ**

Supplied by our favourite local, the Oxfordshire Yeoman, providing baps with delicious, burgers, pork, sausages or veggie options, and a selected range of beers, wines, gin and soft drinks

## **Tasty ice cream**

From local cows grazed on Oxfordshire grass; supplied by The Oxford Cow based in Kingston Bagpuize

## **Teas, coffees & cakes**

Have a refreshing cuppa with tasty cake kindly baked by Ukrainian guests & their hosts, as well as other generous Freeland residents

## **Fun & games**

Children's bungee trampoline—provided by Hatwells

Children's crafts—bubbles, colouring, glitter, face transfers, ride-on toys and hair braiding

Giant garden games—including Jenga, dominoes and boules

Win a prize!—Teddy Tombola, 'Wine to Water' & Lucky Sock stalls

Cricket taster sessions, 'Beat the Goalie' & 60m dash competitions

## **Stalls to buy lovely things**

A range of fabulous stalls including: Tess's Brilliant Bakes; Julie's cards; No 34 Interiors; Shore Magpie; Sue's Book Nook; Hayley's Flowers; Melt in the Middle, & stalls from the Freeland Gardening Club and Freeland Wine Club





# RAFFLE PRIZES

We have an incredible range of raffle prizes on offer kindly donated by some very generous local sponsors:

- **A two-night stay in a Cotswold Farm Park camping pod, plus Farm Park access.** Enjoy a fabulous visit to the farm of TV star Adam Henson and his amazing animals, at Guiting Power in the Cotswolds. An adventure for all! **Worth up to £360**
- **Course of seven personal training gym sessions at Hall Training in Kidlington.** Including one 1-on-1 session & six sessions in small groups of 4, using a special combination of free weights, body weight & cardio. **Worth £180**
- **A 5kg free-range Bronze Turkey from Copas Traditional Turkeys.** Free to roam cherry orchards and grass meadows, these really are top of the range turkeys. **Worth £110**
- **Two adult annual passes for Blenheim Palace.** Wander through the beautiful palace and grounds of our local UNESCO World Heritage site using this pair of passes. **Worth £80**
- **Adult & child passes for Crocodile World**
- **Selection of beers from the Little Ox Brewing Company**
- **Vouchers to spend at Freeland Nurseries**
- **Two children's passes for Notcutts Beach Party.** Running 21 July to August Bank Holiday at Notcutts Garden Centre, Oxford, to enjoy all the rides for three hours.
- **Vouchers for Eynsham Wine Cellars**

And more, such as a range of lovely prizes donated by stallholders.

*Proceeds will be split between local efforts to support Ukrainian refugees settling in Freeland & Hanborough, and the Oxford Hospital's Charity (Children's Hospital).*

**Tickets are £1 each, 6 for £5, or 15 for just £10. Cash only!**  
Watch out for sellers on the day. If you want to buy early, please contact **Fay Friend on 01993 357 851 or fayf.fpc@gmail.com**



## ABOUT THE JUBILEE...

The Platinum Jubilee marks 70 years since Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom ascended to the throne. Here are a few facts about our most popular member of the Royal family and longest reigning monarch...



Queen Elizabeth II was born HRH Princess Elizabeth of York on April 21, 1926. Elizabeth first met her future husband Prince Philip at the Royal Naval College in Dartmouth in 1939 when she was 13. They were married when she was 21.

Princess Elizabeth succeeded the throne on 6 February 1952, aged 25. Over 8,000 guests attended the coronation at Westminster Abbey, which was the first in Britain to be televised. An estimated 27 million people watched it on TV (many sets were bought for the occasion), with another 11 million tuning in to listen on the radio.

Queen Elizabeth is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England and head of state in 15 countries. She speaks French fluently and is a dog-lover, having owned over 30 corgis.



## WHAT TO BRING TO THE FREELAND JUBILEE PICNIC

To enjoy your afternoon and celebrate in style, you might want to bring the following:

- A **tasty picnic** of your choice! The Queen is rumoured to like simple jam sandwiches and chocolate biscuit cake, but is known to enjoy a burger, especially venison.
- **Cash**. Most refreshments and stallholders will only be able to take cash, and the raffle tickets are also cash-only. However, there will be lots of free activities to enjoy too!
- Foldable chairs or a **picnic** blanket; tartan not required!
- Humour! There will be some **fun games** to take part in and tests your skills...
- A lead if you are **bringing a dog**; well-behaved pooches are welcome!

## **FREELAND GARDENING CLUB**

On 25th April Howard Drury, a favourite speaker with the Club, returned with a 'Musical Gardening Quiz'. Over the whole evening we only had 15 questions but after each answer was given, he gave a 'mini' lecture on something pertaining to the subject. Some questions did have a musical theme as maybe the title had a horticultural word in it. Other questions involved matching the Latin name of a plant or weed to their common name. Most of these we could only guess at! Altogether the evening was great fun as well as being very informative and interesting.

The next speaker on **Monday 23rd May at 7.30pm** in Freeland Hall is Mary Fenton with a subject entitled 'The Wonder of Trees'.

The June meeting is on **Monday 27th June**, same time and venue as before, when a new speaker, Dominic Hamilton, will tell us about, and probably show pictures, of the 'Painswick Rococo Garden'. This garden is not too far away and is an interesting different garden and well worth a visit.

A few jobs for the present time involve preparing for our summer displays and as long as there are no more frosts, planting out annuals. In the dry weather these will need watering until established. Some perennials such as sedum helleniums, asters, phlox and a few others benefit from 'the Chelsea Chop', so named because this can be done at the same time as the Chelsea show. Cut the growth back by half causing a bushier plant and keeping the plant from flopping because it is tall. Cut back flowering bushes and early flowering clematis as soon as they are finished flowering.

Watch out for pests and diseases particularly red lily beetle and vine weevils. The latter has grubs which eat the roots of a plant causing it to wilt. Turn the pot out and discard the soil squashing any c shaped grubs found. Aphids on young growth of roses etc can be squashed off with a gloved hand. Slugs and snails can be treated with an organic deterrent.

In the vegetable garden it is the time to sow courgettes, marrow, beans and sweetcorn or later buy ready grown plants from the Garden Centre. Water tomato plants regularly. Many obvious jobs have to be carried out during the summer.

There is a Plant and Gardening Items Sale at all Hall meetings. Bring along any spare plants to add to the sale.

The Gardening Club will be having a Plant and Gardening Items Sale at the Jubilee Celebrations on **Sunday 5th June**. Any donation of plants welcome.

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

Janet Dalton (Publicity Secretary)

### **FREELAND PHOTO GROUP**

Freeland Photo Group will continue to meet virtually on the first and third Tuesday of every month, starting at **7.30pm**.

Meetings in **June** will be on **Tuesday 7th and Tuesday 21st**.

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

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Knead Bakehouse, Freeland Teddy Girls, plus others.

Teas, coffees, bacon, and sausage baps will be available

**£60** was donated to the JR Cancer Unit,  
and **£30** to the Freeland School Society from the March market.

**The next Market will be on Sunday 26th June.**

## **FREELAND COMMUNITY BUS TIMETABLE**

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### **Outbound pickup:**

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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:** (30 minutes later than previously)

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:

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**T: 01993 880689 M: 07768 898914 E: [alaa.alyousuf@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:alaa.alyousuf@westoxon.gov.uk)**

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**New Timetable, effective 7th March 2022 Services run Monday - Friday only**

### **Service 411 Hanborough - Eynsham**

**Not Bank Holidays**

Church Hanborough	09:05	11:05	13:05	17:25
Hanborough Station	09:10	11:10	13:10	17:35
Long Hanborough, New Road	09:15	11:15	13:15	17:40
Freeland, Broadmarsh Lane	09:19	11:19	13:19	17:44
Eynsham, Surgery	09:25	11:25	13:25	17:50
Eynsham, Church (North side of High St)	09:29	11:29	13:29	18:00

### **Service 411 Eynsham - Hanborough**

Eynsham, Church (South side of High St)	08:45	10:45	12:45	17:05
Eynsham, Surgery	08:49	10:49	12:49	17:09
Freeland, Broadmarsh Lane	08:55	10:55	12:55	17:15
Long Hanborough, New Road	09:00	11:00	13:00	17:20
Church Hanborough	09:05	11:05	13:05	17:25
Hanborough Station	09:10	11:10	13:10	17:30

## **RAIL CONNECTION TIMINGS**

### **FREELAND / HANBOROUGH / OXFORD & return**

Freeland, Broadmarsh Lane*	<b>08.55</b>	<b>10.55</b>	<b>12.55</b>
Hanborough Station	<b>09.10</b>	<b>11.10</b>	<b>13.10</b>
Connects to:	∨	∨	∨
Hanborough Station	<b>09.18</b>	<b>11.19</b>	<b>13.20</b>
Oxford Station	<b>09.30</b>	<b>11.29</b>	<b>13.30</b>

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Oxford Station	<b>10.44</b>	<b>12.45</b>	<b>17.22</b>
Hanborough Station	<b>10.54</b>	<b>12.54</b>	<b>17.32</b>
Connects to:	∨	∨	∨
Hanborough Station	<b>11.10</b>	<b>13.10</b>	<b>17.35</b>
Freeland, Broadmarsh Lane*	<b>11.19</b>	<b>13.19</b>	<b>17.44</b>

\* Bus will stop anywhere where it is safe to do so along Wroslyn Road

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**Anna Burnside** PARTNER  
anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com

**Jacqui Birks** TAX DIRECTOR  
jacqui.birks@theburnsidepartnership.com

For further information, please contact:  
[info@theburnsidepartnership.com](mailto:info@theburnsidepartnership.com)



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2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

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**WEDNESDAY 8th JUNE at 8pm**



## **1st HANBOROUGH FREELAND SCOUT GROUP**

We desperately need extra volunteers to help lead our Scouts and Explorers groups, which both meet on Friday evenings. Send an email to: [gsl@hfscouting.org.uk](mailto:gsl@hfscouting.org.uk) to express your interest. As our community grows, in both Hanborough and Freeland, more young people want to join our Scouts groups, so we really do need more adult volunteers to help us to keep these groups going. It's a wonderful way to get involved in our community, to meet new people, learn new skills and, most importantly to have fun! All training is provided, and our team offers full support.

Here's what we've been up to lately:

**Beavers** enjoyed a fun night playing cricket; they have invested new members; and went for a lovely walk through the woods to look at the bluebells. To register your child on our waiting list to join Beavers please send an email to:

[waitinglist@hfscouting.org.uk](mailto:waitinglist@hfscouting.org.uk) with your child's name, their date of birth, your address and contact details.

**Cubs** have been pond-dipping at Combe Mill; planted seeds and watched them grow; and they'll be going to a local camp for a night towards the end of June!

**Scouts** shot air rifles at Fat Squirrels; nine of the older Scouts did an expedition hike by walking from Eynsham to Oxford, then setting up camp by themselves before walking back the next day!

**Explorers** continue to work towards earning Duke of Edinburgh Awards and will soon be fundraising to send Will and Beth to South Korea to take part in the 2023 World Jamboree. They have also been taking turns to run their own sessions to boost their leadership and planning skills.

For more news updates visit our website: [www.hfscouting.org.uk/news](http://www.hfscouting.org.uk/news) and follow us on Twitter: [@1stHFScouting](https://twitter.com/1stHFScouting)

For our current members, our AGM will be held on **Thursday 24th June at 7:30pm**. Join us as a volunteer; you won't regret it!

Matthew Ruddle (Publicity Rep)



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## **FREELAND WI**

Our May meeting was an open meeting where members could invite a guest to enjoy a taster of what WI is all about. We were delighted with the turnout and some of those who joined us as guests are planning to join our friendly group. There were two activities on offer. Lorraine and Lesley led a jewellery making workshop using the skill of beading, whilst Rosie led a decoupage group, where members used a variety of stunning papers to cover a range of items ranging from a pencil pot to a small photo album. The results were very impressive and can be viewed on our Facebook page.



At our next meeting on **Monday 13th June**, we will be welcoming a speaker from the Air Ambulance. This talk had to be rescheduled from earlier in the year when the speaker was unavailable.

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. If you want to check out what we have planned for 2022, a copy of our programme was included in January's Grapevine, is displayed on the village noticeboard or is available from our secretary. We are a varied group with a wide range of interests. 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.

Further information is available on our website:

**<https://freelandwiuk.wixsite.com/freelandwi>** or

on our Facebook page: **[www.facebook.com/freelandwi](http://www.facebook.com/freelandwi)**

Alternatively please contact our secretary Rosie James on **01993 881997**

or at **[freelandwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:freelandwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)** Aileen Tattam - Freeland WI President



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## **EYNSHAM MEDICAL GROUP - USEFUL INFORMATION**

### **The Witney Out of Hours service**

This provides urgent medical care from **6.30pm to 8.00am** on weekdays and around the clock at weekends and during Bank Holidays.

It can help you, for example, if you have a fever or sickness but do not need to go to a hospital Emergency Department. Remember to **call 111** first before going to the urgent care centre in Witney Hospital.

Patients do not need to register for urgent care services.

The Witney Community Hospital's Out of Hours GP service has been praised for its hard-working staff and excellent patient care in a series of independent reviews. One patient said *"I couldn't fault my experience. I am very thankful for the treatment I received, it was prompt and effective"*.

We are lucky to have this service available to us locally.

### **Urgent Dental Services when your dentist is closed**

If you need emergency advice or treatment relating to your teeth, and your dentist is closed, then please **call 111**.

The Urgent Dental Service is available between **6.30pm and 9.30pm from Monday to Thursday and 9am to 6pm at weekends**.

Over the **Bank Holiday weekends** they are available between **9am and 5pm and also between 6pm and 9pm**.

This service is available to all Oxfordshire residents and is for people with urgent or emergency needs only, and therefore does not provide routine care or repeat appointments. Callers will be phoned back for triage and provided with either advice or offered appointments for emergency treatment. You can also **call 111** for details of NHS dental practices offering emergency appointments.

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## **BEFSA CURRY NIGHT - April 2022**

A big thank you to the people who supported this event - a fine meal was delivered to us by the staff from Ready Steady Spice in Eynsham. The dishes were all well received, as there is something quite special about sharing dishes you have not actually ordered yourself. Popadoms and sauces were followed by a plate of mixed starters. The main meal saw dishes of Murgh Xacuti, Lamb sag, Mixed veg curry, Baington Sarson and Chana Karahi accompanied by Pilau Rice and Nan bread. This was the third time we have organised this fundraising meal and it is a lovely social event, time to catch up with BEFSA supporters of many years and also share our work with new supporters.



A particular thank you to Kenny who delivered some hungry supporters to the restaurant on the lovely First & Last Mile bus - if you haven't booked a ride with them so far - a lovely vehicle.

Save the date: **Saturday 16th July** in Freeland Village Hall - BEFSA quiz with meal - teams of 6 - more information to follow.

Julie Stuart-Thompson Trustee - [befsa.org](http://befsa.org)

# **LOST GOLD WEDDING RING**

I lost my wedding ring in The Blowings area and it is dearly missed. If you find it, please call or text **07717 062 512**. Reward payable, thank you.

## **FREELAND SPEEDWATCH**

This report was given to the recent Annual Parish Meeting: Following the easing of Covid restrictions, Speedwatch activities were resumed in Freeland on 5th September 2021. During the following seven months, up to 7th April 2022, 92 sessions were held with 8077 vehicles being monitored. Of these, 812 (10.05%) were recorded as travelling in excess of 35mph with 166 at 36-40mph, 35 at 46-50mph and 7 in excess of 50mph. The highest speed recorded was a car travelling along Wroslyn Road towards The Green at 63mph!!



It has been noticeable that since the resumption of activities the speed of vehicles travelling through Freeland has decreased slightly and it is encouraging to note that nobody has been caught doing more than 50 mph since 18th January. As sessions are held at different times of the day on different days of the week and at various locations if anyone travels through the village in excess of 35mph they are likely to get caught. Thanks to all the Speedwatch volunteers for giving up their time, often in cold, windy or wet conditions, who are trying to make our village a better and safer place to live.

Roger Faulkner - Co-ordinator

## **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](mailto:lorraine@cotswoldgardendesigner.co.uk)  
07516262560  
[www.cotswoldgardendesigner.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldgardendesigner.co.uk)

## **COMBE MILL STEAMING DAY - WHEELS - Sunday 19th June**

We are hoping for another great turn out at the next Steaming Day at the Mill in June. We have many wheels to see, made of many different materials. Come and speak to our volunteer experts at the Mill and learn about the everyday and special use of wheels over the centuries.



We had a fabulous opening day in April and we were very happy to



welcome back our old supporters alongside many visitors who had never visited before. The sun shone and it was particularly noticeable on the shiny chrome of visiting cars from the Morgan car owners club – so beautiful – 4 wheelers, 3 wheelers and one only big enough for teddies. These were much enjoyed and coveted, filling the top area of the car park nearest the Mill. Just a reminder that we can accommodate all sorts of groups to the Mill, for socials, for meetings and school groups with tailored learning needs.

As usual on Steaming Day, we will have a full range of delicious refreshments both hot and cold, sweet or savoury on offer. Remember if you have an annual pass you can come and enjoy this next day's exhibitions for free!

New for 2022 – **Steaming Sunday 17th July** - Birds, Bees, and Badgers – a celebration of British Wildlife.

See website for more details of all events and opening times: [combemill.co.uk](http://combemill.co.uk)

Julie Stuart-Thompson - Director [julie.st@btinternet.com](mailto:julie.st@btinternet.com)

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## **THE UNACCEPTED FREELAND RAMBLERS 1/5/2022**

"When April steps aside for May, like diamonds all the rain-drops glisten; fresh violets open every day: to some new bird each hour we listen." - Lucy Larcom

Now if you do listen to birdsong on May Day you will find it's very much their version of a music festival that we know as the Dawn Chorus. Top performers are the great tit which sounds like it's saying 'teacher, teacher'. Starlings, they sound like experimental electronic music and of course what music festival would be complete without a rapper and in this case it's the Chiffchaff who of course sounds like it's saying it's own name.



Seven of us and one dog braved the slight drizzle this morning for 5-6 miles of putting the world to rights and soon the conversation turned to what had happened to Mrs Trellis and Pennyweather QC who were always on our tails back in the day. It seems that Mrs T has left Ibiza after a fallout with the 80's band Tears for Fears (quite apt) and has moved to Cornwall to set up a Tea shop called 'Camomile Tart'.

Next month's Ramble is on **Sunday 5th June at 10am** from outside the Yeoman.

All are welcome to join us.

Marco Polo

*Freeland  
Orchestra and  
West Oxfordshire  
Winds*

**SUMMER CONCERT**

**FRIDAY 1st JULY 7.30 pm  
WOOD GREEN SCHOOL**

**TICKETS: £5 on the door**





Freeland Pre-School provide high quality pre-school education for 2 to 5 year olds. We are a small, friendly and welcoming pre-school, with a large outdoor space. Our pre-school is situated within the grounds of Freeland Primary School and enjoys strong links with the school, which in turn aids a smooth transition for children into the foundation stage class, with whom we share a garden. Freeland Pre-School is committed to safeguarding.

We can take children for half day sessions or full days from **8.45am - 3.15pm**, term time only. We offer funding for 2, 3, and 4 year olds for 15 hours or 30 hours.

**Pricing from September 2022: am or pm sessions £16.50, Full day £33**  
**Early bird session starting at 8.45am £2.75.**

**PRE-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

The children enjoyed a Grandparent event and we also watched our caterpillars become butterflies, then we set them free in the pre-school garden.

This month we will be having our annual sports day, this time with parents joining us.

**Polite Note**

*Sadly, the den in our area of the woods was taken down by someone. Please can we ask that anything in the area we use for our forest school sessions is left as it is.*

*We have permission from the landowners to use this site for our sessions.*

**T: 01993 882945 E: [freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk) [www.freelandpreschool.org](http://www.freelandpreschool.org)**  
**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/freelandpreschool](https://www.facebook.com/freelandpreschool)**

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**NORTH LEIGH ROMAN VILLA - Summer opening dates**

Following a very successful Easter holiday opening of the Roman mosaic at North Leigh Roman Villa, we are very pleased to share the dates of future mosaic openings:

The mosaics will open **11am - 5pm** on:

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August; Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August & Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September & Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September** - See mosaic clean in action this weekend.

For more details about openings and access to the site (which can be arduous if you have mobility issues), please visit:

**[www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/north-leigh-roman-villa/](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/north-leigh-roman-villa/)**

Follow us on **Twitter: @villa\_north**



**In this final instalment we learn of the army manoeuvres and as war ends the personal changes ahead for Mrs Bunyan, who writes ..**

## **MY VILLAGE IN WARTIME by Mrs Barbara Bunyan**

The village and in particular, our farm, saw a number of short-term army manoeuvres when the lorry loads of troops, tanks and machine gun carriers descended unexpectedly. Our farm and the barns were targeted and, to our dismay, taken over at short notice. The WarAg issued large cardboard notices to us at the farm with the message 'Out of Bounds'. We were asked to nail these to stakes and place them in fields with livestock or where cattle grazed. The idea was to deter any invasion of that area by a tank or lorry full of troops out practicing their procedures. Since there was only one notice per field – later I questioned just how useless this practice was, should the tank or other army vehicle seek to enter that field from another direction? Fortunately for us, no fences, fields or other areas were ever invaded.

Our main barn, off the stockyard, was taken over by the army and a wireless station was set up on the upper floor adjacent to the chaff cutter and sacks of corn stored there. Lorries, gun carriers and other army paraphernalia took over the yard and troops galore were side by side with the normal dairying routines each day. We had a week of this upheaval, and our main concern was making sure some relevant gates were kept fastened and the 'no smoking' observed around the hay and straw stacks in the Dutch barn.

From observation, the troops appeared to be divided into two groups. One group challenging the other and each spent a lot of time racing around the buildings, in and out of gates, into fields and to my mother's horror, in and out of the fir trees and roses bushes in the garden. My mother was a very keen gardener and worried about the dashing in and around the gardens and tennis court. She had beautiful spring flowers, all in bud with daffodils looking their best in large yellow patches. She warned the powers that be if any of the daffodils were destroyed – war or no war – she would get the gun out. She meant it too! My mother's background was of a tough life, an orphan girl brought up by straight-laced aunts, near Oswestry in Shropshire. Happily, the gun stayed locked up. We were much relieved when the whole army convoy moved away to another area.

Once the war was over it took time to get back to a pre-war state. Rationing continued for the home and farm. Animal feeding was heavily rationed which was why we grew root crops to supplement cow and calf cake, ground meal from corn and daily boiled potatoes for the pigs and other stock. Mangolds were harvested every day in the winter months. Swedes and potatoes were added to the mix which daily were put through a giant slicer and mixed with hay for a staple meal. If you did not feed livestock properly, you could not expect animals to thrive, to produce milk, meat and, in the case of poultry, eggs.

In the house, my mother was a good manager and very able in cooking and household skills. We were lucky to have daily fresh milk, eggs and home baked bread and butter. Bacon and ham were plentiful as we had a licence to slaughter and cure the meat of two of our own pigs each year. One main shortage was sugar but somehow that was

*Continued.....*

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procured through the black market! One did not ask questions but bartering and the black market were rife at that time.

Fuel was still difficult and in short supply. Every month we had to apply for our fuel allowance for both private and farm use. Completing application forms became my job as my father had little patience for officialdom and form filling. Record returns had to be sent each month about the number of cattle on the farm and of any other livestock we kept.

After all the drama, ups and downs of war years, routines on the farm were once again continued though, as mentioned rationing existed. Many of our war time service personnel went home, though Oliver Bateman from the stables at Eynsham Hall still visited us but he had lost contact with all his military friends. I suspect that many service personnel wanted to forget the war and get back to civvy street and be with their families and friends again.

I left the village school in 1942, earlier than planned, for eye operations were on the agenda. Throughout my primary school years, I was a weekly patient at the Oxford Eye Hospital, going every Wednesday with my parents to Oxford. Father to the cattle market in Gloucester Green, mother to shop and to the hairdressers. The Eye Hospital was at the rear of the former Radcliffe Infirmary, just off Walton Street (now the Observatory Quarter), in Oxford.

I left Rothesay House School, Oxford in 1949 and after some very hard graft in a secretarial college in Oxford, went to work in London on a student exchange scheme for young agriculturists & horticulturists in the Headquarters of the National Farmers' Union – at that time in Bedford Square. My friends thought I was mad but brave at the same time - a country girl moving to the capital city- one extreme to another.

However, I loved my work. I had already been up for an interview with the head of transport, a family friend, at the NFU. New applicants usually had to take a shorthand test. I was no exception and failed in one word I could not read - 'milking parlour'. I had never heard the term before as all our cows were milked in stone-built cow sheds. However, I got the job and two weeks later prepared to live in London.

I was fortunate for a friend of mine who knew London well was living in a hostel near Marble Arch – one of the London Hostels Association buildings. I got in touch and a bed was found for me in a room of eight ladies, sharing bathrooms and one locker each in an adjoining anteroom. It was very basic, but the other girls were very nice, and we became one big family.

The hostel was surrounded by other badly blitzed buildings and the area near Tottenham Court Road was flattened in several large places. John Lewis on Oxford Street had only a ground level shop, very different from the tall, gigantic building we see today (2019).

The food was awful. We never knew what we were eating and rationing did not help. Sugar was still rationed and I kept my sugar ration for the week in a small glass jar which I carried with me to all meals. Sweets were rationed and expensive. Money for me in London was always in short supply.

*Continued.....*

*Continued.....*

I was rather more fortunate than some of my hostel companions because I was able to get a subsidised, fresh cooked lunch at the National Farmers' Union. Two full time chefs worked there, and farmers brought in fresh produce from all parts of the country when they attended meetings. I believe that rationing generally ceased in the mid-50's when life returned to former normality.

Unfortunately for me, I was obliged to leave my job and friends in London on health grounds. I had lost a lot of weight and suffered from daily vertigo. The GP felt the lack of nourishing food and the pressure of being in a large bustling city was taking its toll. I found this situation devastating as I was just beginning to make more friends and finding my way around London but trying to live on a modest salary, paying weekly for 'digs' did not allow for any extras or entertainment or travel.

I returned to the farm and to my parents. I had no job, couldn't afford to rent, let alone buy a home of my own. I was desperately lonely, for the friends that I had in Oxford had married or moved on, so all I did was to hanker for a return to London. Senate House, part of the University of London offered me a job but, deep down and facing reality, I could not ignore why I had left London in the first place. My ambition had been to work in one of the embassies, French or German, but that was not to be.

Thus, a new chapter started in my life.

Thank you to Mrs Barbara Bunyan for her interesting article

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## **LITTLE FREE LIBRARY NEWS**

Thank you as always to everyone who has visited the Little Free Libraries recently. We love seeing the books fly off the shelves!

Despite signs advising to the contrary, we still get books left on the pavement or on top of the storage boxes, which causes us all kinds of problems. If the books you want to donate do not fit in the boxes, please wait and try again on a different day. We have had books left outside which have subsequently been rained on and spoiled.



Please donate specialist non-fiction or academic books to charity shops, where they can reach a wider audience and can raise money at the same time. Similarly, if your books are very old or in poor condition, please recycle them. Thank you for your understanding with this.

The vast majority of books that get donated are in amazing condition however, so thank you for your generosity. It is wonderful that in all these years we have never run out of books!

We do, from time to time, get very low on children's picture books, however, so please consider donating some to us if you have any spares. Thank you very much.

Matthew & the Little Free Library volunteers.

**01993 359 543**      **[ruddlem@gmail.com](mailto:ruddlem@gmail.com)**

## UKRAINIAN WELCOME

We would like to thank villagers for the amazing welcome that the Ukrainian families, being hosted in Freeland and surrounding villages, have received.

We now have 11 Ukrainian guests in five sponsor homes. Originally 14, but the improving situation in Kyiv together with complications with a pregnancy led to one family of 3 returning to Kyiv on May 17th.

There are a further 10 visitors, currently

in 3 homes, two in Combe and one in Long Hanborough, who are a part of our support infrastructure. We await the visas and travel for nine more guests from the Ukraine who will be welcomed to four homes in the immediate area.



Hosts are providing a safe place to live during these difficult times by welcoming people to their homes, whilst other villagers offered pre-cherished clothes, bikes, toys, toiletries and all manner of essentials for children and adults alike. With your amazing support we can offer our guests these supplies from a well-stocked store – this is being well used and appreciated. The donated scooters and bicycles for adults and children were all snapped-up - any more bike offers would be appreciated. Others donated to the fund for vouchers, so our visitors could buy new things of their own, having arrived with very little.

With the help of the churches of Freeland St Mary's and Hanborough Christ Church, we have two weekly community meetings with refreshments where hosts, villagers and Ukrainians can all meet each other **Thursday 10.30am in Freeland and Sunday 3.30pm in Hanborough.**

The children are in the process of joining local schools and the adults looking for work. With the co-operation of Hanborough hairdresser, Sally Dyer, we have set up heavily discounted haircuts, helping the self-confidence of a number of our guests as they prepare to take the big steps to interview for local jobs.

St Mary's and Christ Church management have hosted cake and tea meetings; times to allow the group to grow in confidence when speaking English, whilst lessons are being given to those who have some English, or no English at all. We have started four weekly English lessons:- one for total beginners, one for elementary English conversation, one for intermediates and then an advanced class for the handful of guests who have great vocabulary but wish to be less self-conscious of any grammar weaknesses. (Big thanks to Byron Russel, Julie S-T, Chris Roberts and Natalia Hunter for their support with these).

The Ukrainians have been so pleased to be greeted by so many smiling faces as they walk around the village and have remarked on how nice everyone is - most come from the bigger cities where this would not happen quite so much. Even the non-English speakers are able, thanks to their first English lessons, to respond to common greetings (and it is surprising how many different ones there are) and to questions like 'What is your name?', and 'How are you'?

*Continued.....*

Continued.....

Thanks also to Michelle Hunt in the village, and Christ Church Hanborough, we have set up a Friday afternoon 'close to expiry date' food collection from the Oxford Food Hub Charity. Goods are displayed for the community at the **Sunday 3.30pm** meeting time in Hanborough. (Any villagers feeling they would appreciate tapping into this too – please do let us know and we will add your needs to our weekly collection).

We raised an amazing **£1600.00** through our 'JustGiving' page from donations from our local villagers ([https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chris-onslow?utm\\_term=6GwGwjqb](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chris-onslow?utm_term=6GwGwjqb)). This has now all been used to support our guests on arrival and for the first 10 weeks of education classes as well as essential one-off purchases such as children's shoes. Ongoing, our expenses to maintain the English lessons are about £75 per month and we hope that the village will continue to support us in our various initiatives to keep these going after the first 10 weeks.

Supporting the village raffle and baking cakes, biscuits, scones, etc for the Ukrainian Cake stall at the Jubilee Picnic on **Sunday 5th June** would directly help this.

A photographic record is being made of the journey the families are on and this will of course include the Freeland Hall, where a Ukrainian flag flies with pride.

Julie Stuart Thompson / Chris Onslow **01993 880518 20 Nash Lane OX29 8HS**

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## **CAKE REQUEST**

Following on from the above, the Ukrainian families and hosts will have a Cake Stall at the **Jubilee Picnic on Sunday 5th June**.

The proceeds will be going to fund education and rental fees for bookings at the Village Hall.

Please can we ask for donations of cakes, biscuits, traybakes, scones, etc from anyone who feels able to do some baking?

These can be delivered to **20 Nash Lane, Freeland on Saturday 4th June or before 11am on Sunday 5th June or to the Village Hall from 12 o'clock.**

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

Chris and Doreen Onslow

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## **ALUMINIUM CAN COLLECTION**

Thank you for your continued support with the aluminium collection.

As always, please crush all cans as much as possible as it reduces the space needed to store and transport the cans. Drinks cans only please.

Address: **10 The Blowings, OX29 8HY**

Please place cans in the large galvanised bin at the end of the road near the entrance to the wood. **andre\_woodward@yahoo.co.uk**

<b>THAMES VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET CO-OPERATIVE</b>				
Witney	08.30 - 13.30	Fri 27 May	Fri 24 June	Fri 22 July
Woodstock	08.30 - 13.00	Sat 4 & 18 June		Sat 2 & 16 July
Details of other Farmers' Markets at <b>www.tvfm.org.uk 01235 227266</b>				



## **FREELAND CE PRIMARY SCHOOL: From the Chair of Governors**

While our lives and the school have returned to something resembling normal since I last wrote to you in September, covid still presents a challenge. The Spring Term in particular had its hurdles, with schools across the nation dealing with rises in cases, but our pupils and staff carried on with characteristic fortitude. Well done everyone!

The resumption of face-to-face events has been refreshing, with notable examples including the Christmas nativity, multiple charity activities and our Science Day, where we were joined by academics from Oxford University to work with the pupils on experiments as part of British Science Week. We've also been able to welcome many other vibrant guests into the school, such as Nigerian athlete Ezekiel Ewulo and our very own governors!

The governing body, made up of staff representatives, parents, congregants and other interested individuals looking to share their skills and experience, supports the strategic development and effective management of the school. We are fortunate to have a strong team of governors at Freeland, including two excellent recent additions, but if you are interested in potentially joining our governing body, please do email me at [matthewcoolin@freeland.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:matthewcoolin@freeland.oxon.sch.uk) More information about the school is available on our website, [www.freeland.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.freeland.oxon.sch.uk)

Matthew Coolin - Freeland CE Primary School Chair of Governors

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## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| M 23 May         | Freeland Gardening Club, Freeland Hall, 7.30pm - 'The Wonder of Trees'            |
| W 25 May         | Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection                              |
| W 25 May         | Quiz Night in aid of Marie Curie, Oxfordshire Yeoman, 7.30pm, £3                  |
| <b>Su 29 May</b> | <b>Farmers' Market - Freeland CE Primary School 10am - 1pm</b>                    |
| <b>Tu 31 May</b> | <b>Freeland Village Survey deadline day - see page 17</b>                         |
| W 1 Jun          | Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection                      |
| <b>Th 2 Jun</b>  | <b>Spring Bank Holiday</b>  |
| <b>F 3 Jun</b>   | <b>Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday</b>  |
| Su 5 Jun         | Unaccepted Freeland Ramblers - walking at 10am from the Yeoman                    |
| <b>Su 5 Jun</b>  | <b>Platinum Jubilee 'Bring your own picnic' in the playing field</b>              |
| <b>Tu 7 Jun</b>  | <b>The Cake Café, Village Hall, 9am - 11.30am</b>                                 |
| W 8 Jun          | Cricket Club Quiz, Oxfordshire Yeoman, 8pm, £3 each                               |
| <b>F 10 Jun</b>  | Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection                              |
| Su 12 Jun        | North Leigh Roman Villa open day 11am - 5pm - see page 43                         |
| <b>Su 12 Jun</b> | <b>Freeland Grapevine - July edition deadline day</b>                             |
| Tu 14 Jun        | Open Doors Prayer Meeting at St Mary's, 7.30-8.30pm                               |
| W 15 Jun         | Freeland Walking Group - leaving the Village Hall car park at 9.30am              |
| <b>Th 16 Jun</b> | Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection                      |
| Sa 18/Su 19      | Bridewell Gardens Open Day, OX7 3DT, 11am - 4pm, see page 37                      |
| Su 19 Jun        | Combe Mill in STEAM! <a href="http://www.combemill.co.uk">www.combemill.co.uk</a> |
| M 20 Jun         | Freeland Parish Council Meeting, Newell Room, <b>7.30pm</b>                       |
| W 22 Jun         | Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection                              |
| <b>Su 26 Jun</b> | <b>Farmers' Market - Freeland CE Primary School 10am - 1pm</b>                    |
| M 27 Jun         | Freeland Gardening Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm - 'Painswick Rococo Garden'         |

## **SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS**

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**BLUNT KNIVES?** All types of knives, wood chisels, axes, secateurs, hedge trimmers, shears, mower blades etc sharpened to original specifications. Contact “**Sharpedge**”, Graham Lay **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**

JUNE CAFÉ – GREAT BRITISH BAKES IN HONOUR OF THE PLATINUM JUBILEE!  
Regular café first Tuesday of the month, **9.00 - 11.30am**, Freeland Hall.  
Also, Celebration Cakes, Bespoke Afternoon Teas  
**www.janescakestudio.co.uk 01993 881273**

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The deadline for articles or adverts for the **July Grapevine** is **Sunday 12th June.**  
The **July** edition should be in the church porch and online at:  
**www.freelandoxon.co.uk** from **Friday 24th 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 **20p 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](mailto:grapevineadverts@gmail.com)

**Articles:** [freelandgrapevine@gmail.com](mailto: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 - AT THE YEOMAN

### 4 JUN // LIVE MUSIC & WELCOME PARTY!

Celebrate the Jubilee Weekend AND welcome in the new Yeoman team with tasty food and brilliant live local music!

### 8 JUN // QUIZ NIGHT

Our 2nd Wednesday of the month quiz raises money for Freeland Cricket Club & Sobell House. CASH PRIZE! 7.30pm, £3 entry.

### 16 JUN // OPEN MIC NIGHT

Experience musical talent from Freeland, West Oxfordshire and beyond! Sign up by 7pm with performances from 7.30 to 9.30pm

### 29 JUN // QUIZ NIGHT

Our 4th Wednesday of the month quiz night hosted by the Oxfordshire STARS raises money for Marie Curie. 7.30pm, £3 entry.

### FRIDAY MORNINGS // 9AM - 12NOON

Knead Bakehouse bread collections, cinnamon buns, fresh coffee and sourdough bacon sarnies (from 10am)

## FAREWELL PARTY

28TH MAY, 6PM ONWARDS

Join us for a damn good bash on Saturday 28th May! We've got live music from Danny Mellin and the Gourdans food truck will be serving tasty steak frites, 6-9pm.



THE  
**OXFORDSHIRE  
YEOMAN**

[www.oxfordshireyeoman.com](http://www.oxfordshireyeoman.com)

01993 881003

[hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com](mailto:hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com)



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