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St Mary's Freeland



July 2020

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ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FREELAND

We have decided not to rush into opening our church building.

The clergy team and churchwardens are meeting regularly to discuss plans and risk assessments of how and when we can open our buildings safely.

Please rest assured we will keep you informed of any changes or developments on our website www.hanboroughparish.co.uk and on the St Mary's Church noticeboard.

On the www.hanboroughparish.co.uk website you will also find resources to support home based prayer, bible readings and worship.

See below for "Zoom" online live benefice services

Although St Mary's church building will be closed at this time, the churchyard will still be open.

While the church building is closed, St Mary's Junior Church is temporarily suspended. However children - with their parent(s) - are very welcome to join the online benefice service - see below for details. There is a craft activity every week.

The parents and carers of the 'Babies & Toddlers at St. Mary's' are keeping in touch virtually. Please contact Alice Harden (01993 886833) for more details.

11+ Hitchhikers are now meeting on a Sunday evening via Zoom. Please contact Rev. Sue Spankie (revsue@gst.org.uk) for more information.

The above information is correct at the date published (21/6/2020). Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found at www.hanboroughparish.co.uk

HANBOROUGH AND FREELAND BENEFICE **'ZOOM' SERVICES**

Public worship has been suspended in our Church buildings across the Benefice of Hanborough and Freeland until further notice. However, our life as a Christian community continues, and we would like to share some of our activities with you. Please contact a member of our clergy team if you are interested.

Should you wish to join our 'Zoom' Service at **10am** on Sunday morning for worship and our email circulation list, please email:
administrator@hanboroughparish.co.uk

Alternatively, you can also join services at **10.00am** every Sunday morning on the **Oxford Diocesan Livestream**. You can also catch up at any time.
<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/>

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Useful contact details:

Rector: *Position vacant*

Associate Vicar: Rev. Sue Spankie
01993 706469
Email: revsue@gst.org.uk

Curates:

Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones

01993 881936

Email: curate_emma@hanboroughparish.co.uk

Rev. Mike Madden

E: curate_mike@hanboroughparish.co.uk

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Clive Berry 01993 882080

Hugh Dalton *Emeritus* 01993 881742

Churchwardens:

Claire Soanes

Steve Mellin

01993 883205

01993 882044

Flowers in the Church:

Janet Dalton

01993 881742

Weddings:

Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones

01993 881936

Email: curate_emma@hanboroughparish.co.uk

All sorts of interesting information about St Mary's can be seen on the "A Church Near You" website: www.achurchnearyou.com/st-mary-the-virgin-freeland

If you have any interesting pictures that could be used on this site, please contact Roy Thomas on 01993 881 001 or email: print@associatedagencies.co.uk

You can see a virtual tour of St Mary's on Google Street View at:

<http://goo.gl/g53NJH>

SERVICES IN THE PARISH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL, CHURCH HANBOROUGH with CHRIST CHURCH and MANOR SCHOOL, LONG HANBOROUGH

We have decided not to rush into opening our church buildings.
The clergy team and churchwardens are meeting regularly to
discuss plans and risk assessments of how and when we can
open our buildings safely.

For more information visit www.hanboroughparish.co.uk

You will also find resources to support home based prayer,
bible readings and worship on our website.

For live online benefice services, please see page 3

The above information is correct at the date published (21/6/2020). Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found at www.hanboroughparish.co.uk



Wroslyn Road, Freeland OX29 8AQ

**Telephone enquiries: Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm,
Sunday 9.30am - 5.00pm**

Tel:- 01993 881430

Website: <https://freelandnurseries.wordpress.com/>

Freeland Nurseries has now reopened. We are adhering to strict social distancing rules and making the nursery as safe as possible for our customers. Please bear in mind that, to permit effective social distancing, we are only allowing 6 people into the premises at any one time, but we are endeavouring to get visitors in as quickly and, more importantly, safely as possible.

We look forward to seeing you soon

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Letter from our Curate:

Dear Friends,

Each July, the Samaritans run their 'Talk to us' campaign, raising awareness that they are here for anyone who needs someone to listen, 24/7, without judgment or pressure. The Samaritans are not a religious organisation, but they were founded by a vicar called Chad Varah, in 1953 in London. A month later, the Daily Mirror coined the phrase 'Telephone Good Samaritan', referring to the story Jesus told about a man who went out of his way to help a stranger.

Chad knew that the service would only work if people knew about it. We all have up and down days. It is ok not to be ok. But we never have to face anything alone. There is always someone we can talk to. As a Christian, I believe that nothing - not barriers or isolation or social distancing, or rulers or powers, or the present, or things to come, can separate us from the love of God. We can always bring our concerns, no matter how small, to God in prayer.

If you are having a difficult time, you can contact the Samaritans about anything that's troubling you, no matter how large or small the issue feels. You can also call them if you are worried about someone else. And as your parish church, we are also here for you - do be in touch with them, or with us if you would like someone to talk to.

Call the Samaritans from any phone for free, anytime: **116 123**

Write an email: **jo@samaritans.org** (response time: 24hours)

Or call or email your local clergy - we are here for you. Contact details are on the church pages of this publication.

May God bless you and keep you,

Emma

The Reverend Emma Hopegood Jones

ST MARY'S CHURCH BELLS

Please contact the Tower Captain, Neil Ephgrave (**883850**) or 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**

HANBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

Contact: Gill Breakspear Tel: **883914**. Email: **gillbreakspear@btinternet.com**

Every Sunday at **10am** we are holding a Zoom service to which you are all invited. Please contact Gill who will be able to give you easy instructions on how to join with us.

In the meantime, following Methodist Church guidelines, we have cancelled all services at our Church. This means there will be **NO** Sunday worship in the Church for the foreseeable future.

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FROM THE REGISTERS AT ST MARY THE VIRGIN

Funerals: William Henry Field 12th June 2020

Betty Field 12th June 2020

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 is happy to receive enquiries by phone on **01865 881613** or email **stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com**

The Retired Priest: Father Martin Flatman is available on **07719 646790** or email **frmartinflatman@gmail.com**

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

Website: www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk

On the Website you can click on Newsletter to see Father Mark's message each week and his reflection on the Sunday Readings and also see Father Martin's weekly Homily/Sermon.

Our Church is now OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER between **10.00am** and **1.00pm** on **Saturdays** and **Sundays** and may be open on Fridays. Appropriate hygiene and social distancing measures are in place with stewards on duty to make sure everyone keep to the Regulations. When the Government announces that public worship can take place, then all our services will resume.

Father Mark, the Parish Priest, still says Mass privately every day inside the Church and Father Martin, the retired Priest, also says Mass every day in his home in Eynsham. This means that you can always contact one or other of them by email or phone to ask for special prayers. Just remember that you are, and the whole world is, being prayed for.

Aids for those who come for private prayer include the opportunity to light a candle for someone; also throughout the time when the Church is open the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the Altar. This is where God is most fully present for us, and is a link with our hopes to receive Holy Communion again before long.

OUR NORMAL MASS times when we are allowed to reopen are :-

SUNDAY MASS at **10.00am** with a Children's Liturgy during Mass and **SATURDAY** for Sunday at **5.00pm**

Mass also Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays at **9.30am**, Wednesdays & Thursdays at **10.00am**

BIBLE STUDY after Mass on **Wednesdays.** **ADORATION** after Mass on **Fridays**

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

There is a great selection of churches to choose from using these two platforms:

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

Continued.....

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Corpus Christi, Headington in Oxford

Blackfriars, Oxford is a Catholic House of Dominican Friars in Oxford and the advantage of going to this site <https://www.youtube.com/user/Godzdogz> is that instead of seeing a single priest you see the whole religious community taking part and you can either view this live or view it when it suits you as they are all recorded.

The National Catholic Shrine to Our Lady at Walsingham has a full broadcast schedule – including Mass, Rosary, Vespers, Exposition, Mass in Latin and even some talks. View it at <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>



1st HANBOROUGH FREELAND SCOUT GROUP

In June it was announced by the UK Scouts that Bear Grylls has agreed to stay on as Chief Scout until 2023. He acts as the face of Scouting in the UK and helps promote the association. During these challenging times it is reassuring that some things remain the same!

Following the Black Lives Matter protests and demonstrations in the US and the UK the Scouts association has published a list of resources to help parents and carers to talk to children about race and racism. Type in the link below to access the resources:

www.scouts.org.uk/news/2020/june/how-to-talk-with-your-children-about-racism/

To keep up to date with news from the national Scouts association follow them on Twitter **@UKScouting** and Facebook **@scoutassociation**

Don't forget to visit our website for regular news updates from us, too!
www.hfscouting.org.uk

Throughout this lockdown our Cubs have been holding weekly meetings on Zoom, which has been a great way for them to keep in touch and interact with each other remotely. They have enjoyed taking part in challenges, playing games and showing each other their pets.

We still don't know when we will be able to resume normal face-to-face meetings and activities, but we will keep you informed as things progress.

Stay safe and thank you to all our volunteers and leaders who are still working hard behind the scenes.

Matthew Ruddle (Publicity Rep)

CALLING ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES

On **page 27** you will read about the “Bear & Monkey” calendar. Freeland residents will be buying approximately 100 calendars and if you would like to support this charitable project, and have your details sent out with each calendar, then please contact John on **john.clark@msiziafrica.org.uk** or call on **01993 882127** before the end of July.

Thank you.

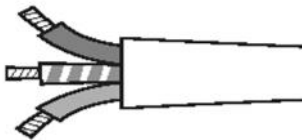
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FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL – LISA’S NOTES JUNE 2020

Virtual Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council held its first ‘virtual’ meeting via Zoom on Monday 15th June at 7.30pm. We had one member of the public present and everything went well with no major technical difficulties which was somewhat of a relief!! For the foreseeable future all Parish Council meetings will be held in this way until legislation changes to allow meetings in person.

The virtual meeting also included the Annual Meeting of the Council, where Peter Newell was re-elected to serve as Chairman for the coming year, and Robert Crocker was also re-elected as Vice-Chairman.

The next virtual Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 20th July at 7.30pm** via Zoom. If any members of the public wish to join the meeting, a link will be posted on the village website (under Parish Council/Agendas) and on the village notice boards, or you can contact me at **lisa.fpc@gmail.com** to obtain the details.

Play equipment on playing field – still closed!

As current lockdown restrictions start to ease, at the time of writing these notes (17/06/20), all of the play equipment on the playing field still remains closed and therefore must not be used. Please do not allow children to use the equipment until it is safe to do so and the restrictions are lifted. Thank you!

The Parish Council have also decided to install 2 timber benches and an additional trampoline with some safety surfacing around them. These will be located by the large wooden climbing equipment near the zip wire. The Parish Council will also be installing some picnic tables by the Newell Room for residents’ use.

41 house development on A4095 by Mears Homes

The Parish Council have been advised that building work has been stopped at the Mears Homes site on the A4095. We are currently trying to find out whether the site will be completed or what will be happening and I will keep you updated as soon as I know anything further. Our District Councillor, Merilyn Davies, is also working to find out any updates about if and when the site will be finished. Some good news is that S106 funds from this development have been received by WODC, which will be passed to the County Council so that a new bus shelter can be built on the A4095.

Coronavirus – an update

As lockdown restrictions start to ease, we will be reviewing the prescription service currently being offered to our residents. This was always set up as a temporary arrangement, put in place as an emergency measure to help our most vulnerable residents during the Covid 19 lockdown. At the moment we will still be running the prescription service until the end of July, at which point we will review how things are going with a view to reduce/cease the service at some point. My thanks once again to all of our volunteers who have helped during this time, your help has been invaluable and made the service offered possible and I know it has been very much appreciated by those who have made use of it. I realise also that there have been many other people who volunteered their services who we haven’t contacted to help out. The simple truth is that we had way more volunteers than we needed!! We ended up with over 120

Continued.....



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Vanessa McCready MAR

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What is Reflexology?

Reflexology is a healing technique based on the principle of free and uninterrupted energy flow and helps activate the natural healing process in each person's body, as well as restoring their physical and emotional well-being. As a certified Reflexologist, I help patients reduce their stress and anxiety, among other ailments.




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City & Guilds



Continued.....

volunteers all offering to help which was brilliant! My sincere thanks to everyone who has offered help or given their time to assist with all sorts of requests, all done with such willingness and a smile. It's been truly heartwarming to see how this village has pulled together during this pandemic and I feel really proud to be a part of this community.

In the meantime, if any of you need help with collecting prescriptions please continue to call the **pharmacy** on **01993 880351**, 7 calendar days in advance, make the payment if needed and then call us on **01993 651330** or email **lisa.fpc@gmail.com** to let us know on which day your prescription needs picking up. A volunteer from Freeland will then deliver your prescription.

Or if you need essential **food shopping** ring the **Co-op** on **01993 886894** to place an order and pay over the phone (max. spend **£30**; min. order of **5** items). A local volunteer will deliver your shopping after **1pm** or after **6.30pm**, depending on when you placed the order.

Check-in for a chat

If you just want to chat with someone locally, please call us on **01993 651330** to arrange this.

FREELAND FOODBANK - a little food bank is located behind the bus shelter opposite the pub. Please help yourself if needed or donate if you can. Cottsway have kindly given us a bit of funding for food bank items. Please email **lisa.fpc@gmail.com** or ring **01993 651330** if you'd like a food parcel or know of a resident in need.

Eynsham Consolidated Charity

The Eynsham Consolidated Charity can make monetary grants, help to provide items or services, or back up help from other quarters, for people in Eynsham and Freeland ("in the area of the Ancient Parish of Eynsham").

You can apply, either for yourself or for someone else who may be in need of help. Write to the Clerk, Robin Mitchell, at 20, High Street, Eynsham **OX29 4HB**, or email at **eynshamcharities@gmail.com** (please note this is the correct email address, not the one that appeared in last month's Grapevine).

There is no application form and all that is required are your name, address, and some information as to the circumstances in which you are applying. All enquiries are dealt with in absolute confidence.

Face Masks

I have been asked to include the following from a local resident who is making masks for Freeland villagers – please help if you can and support this fantastic initiative. *As a member of The UK Crafters Group - Oxfordshire, I have been part of an army of volunteers over the past few weeks, sewing scrub bags and scrubs for the NHS and keyworkers. The Big Community Sew (www.bigcommunitysew.co.uk) has recently launched a campaign, to help ensure every person in every community has access to a face covering.*

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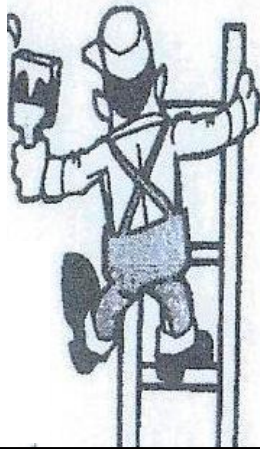
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*I have volunteered to co-ordinate and get sewing for Freeland! I will be setting up a "pop-up table" at various spots in the village over the next few weeks. If anyone wants to get in touch and volunteer their sewing skills, please contact me at: **loishardy15@yahoo.co.uk**
In the meantime, keep a look out for the Sewing Free-Bees table!*

Many Thanks, Elaine Hardy

Planning Applications:

All planning applications can be viewed on line from the Village Website at www.freelandoxon.co.uk (under Parish Council/Planning Tracker) or via the WODC website at 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: None

Applications Approved:

20/00510/FUL FREELAND PLAYING FIELD, WROSLYN ROAD

Erection of replacement storage building (amended plans) for Freeland Parish Council.

Contacting the Council & Date of Next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on **Monday 20th July at 7.30pm**. Details of how to join the meeting will be available from

Wednesday 15th July on the village website (under Parish Council/Agendas) and notice boards or by contacting me at **lisa.fpc@gmail.com**

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 - Lisa Smith, Parish Clerk on **01993 880067** or email **lisa.fpc@gmail.com** .

FREELAND WI

We were sorry to hear about the sad passing of Barbara Gray who provided much valued help and guidance when Freeland WI was being set up six years ago. Some of our members were also lucky enough to have their children taught by her at Freeland Primary School. Barbara was awarded an MBE for her services to the WI. We extend our sympathy to her family circle.

Freeland WI continues to look at ways to keep in touch with our members. As well as our recently introduced monthly newsletter we have also set up a telephone tree through which committee members will keep in touch with our members on a regular basis. This has been very well received and it has been lovely to catch up with what everyone has been doing.

With regard to future meetings we will keep reviewing on the basis of guidance from the government and Oxfordshire Federation. Much as we are missing getting together for social activities and hearing our interesting and varied speakers, everyone's safety is our priority.

Continued.....

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Members have all been receiving our digital copy of News and Views with information about talks the federation have set up via Zoom which we can sign into. If you go to the website given and click the book now button you will be sent the details you need.

WI Climate Advisor Tips from Rosie Smith.

Tip 1) Plant a tree for CO₂ absorption

Whilst it is much better to reduce carbon emissions, planting is a great way to help sequester carbon emissions. Through photosynthesis trees absorb carbon dioxide to produce oxygen and wood. By ensuring that the trees planted are native broad leaf species you can help to preserve the UK's environment and biodiversity. If you have the space to do this in your own garden then do it or you can fund an organisation to plant trees on your behalf such as: The Woodland Trust:

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/community-woods/funding/ or
www.carbonfootprint.com/aboutus.html

Tip 2) Plant a tree for shade and wind protection

Perhaps not such an issue in the UK at the moment but trees can provide shade around a property and reduce the need for air conditioners and/or can be a wind break reducing the heating requirements for a building. Every little helps !!!!

Freeland WI normally meets on the second Monday of the month in the Village Hall, starting at **8pm** and finishing around **10pm**. You do not have to be a member to come along (although we would love you to join us). We always welcome visitors and new members.

Rosie James is our WI secretary and she can be contacted on **01993 881997** or email **freelandwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk** Facebook: **[facebook.com/freelandwi](https://www.facebook.com/freelandwi)**
Website: **<https://freelandwiuk.wixsite.com/freelandwi>**

Freeland Pre-school – Amazon Smile

Fundraising is extremely important to Freeland Pre-School. Not only does it help maintain the Pre-School, but it also enables us to make improvements so we can get the best out of all the children in our care.

With the current circumstances, holding events is a challenge.

However, if you shop with **amazon.co.uk** then you can continue to help raise funds for our Pre-School.

Here's how you can help. When you want to order something from Amazon, start your shopping at **smile.amazon.co.uk** (instead of the usual address - don't worry, it's the same old Amazon) and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Freeland Pre-School. All you need do is select Freeland Pre-School from the list of charities before you start shopping - it's that easy and will make the world of difference to our Pre-School and the children.

Please let friends and family know too.

Many thanks - Freeland Pre-School Committee.

Thank you for supporting the village Pre-School!

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EYNSHAM MEDICAL GROUP UPDATE

We continue to adapt our services to meet the needs of our patients more effectively, especially during these extraordinary times and would like to thank the community for being patient and understanding with all of the changes we have introduced recently.

New systems were being devised prior to Covid-19 and it was decided that it would be suitable to roll them out during the pandemic. The new system means that patients will only be coming to the surgery if absolutely necessary, therefore reducing footfall to the surgery and risk to staff and patients alike.

eConsult This is a feature on our website (www.eynshammedicalgroup.org.uk) where you can submit your medical enquiry and it will be reviewed by a clinician and responded to within 24 working hours. We highly recommend this option as our lines are busier than usual and we may have fewer members of staff available to answer calls in the coming months with the continuing situation. You can still phone the surgeries on: **Long Hanborough 01993 881330 or Eynsham 01865 881206.**

Doctor's appointments will be bookable **on the day**. If you need medical advice you can call to speak to a patient care advisor as normal and we will book a telephone appointment initially. The clinician will then call you that day and if it is necessary to see you at the surgery face to face, they will arrange this with you on the call. We believe this gives greater flexibility and access to your GP.

Currently we are asking patients attending the surgery to wear a facemask. We ask that you wear your own but if you cannot, please speak to the front desk upon arrival. Masks are not required for dispensary visits.

Eynsham Medical Group would again like to say thank you for all of the support and donations we've received. We have been fortunate that we've had volunteers delivering prescriptions, medications and assessment packs, to and from the surgeries, for patients who have been shielding. This has been a smooth operation and aided us to continue treating patients at higher risk. We commend the local communities on the 'rallying together' we've witnessed. We've received donations of PPE, wash bags and facemasks from a great number of members of the community including local businesses. These have helped us more than you will know.

Dispensary updates:

You need to allow **7 calendar days** before collecting an ordered repeat prescription. **Do not** attend early or come to the surgery before the 7 days as we need to reduce footfall to the surgery in line with the Government's rules on social distancing.

**Long Hanborough: Monday - Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 6.00pm.
Late night opening Wednesday until 6.30pm.**

**Eynsham: Monday - Friday: 9.00am - 12.00noon and 3pm - 6pm.
Late night opening Wednesday until 6.30pm.**

Dispensary calls are only taken between **10.30am** and **12.00noon**; during this time you will be able to speak to one of our dispensary staff. Alternatively, you may leave a message 24 hours a day on one of our dispensary numbers:

Long Hanborough 01993 882784 or Eynsham 01865 882879.

Please note that from **August**, we will be changing the hours for taking calls to between **2.30pm and 4.30pm.**

FREELAND CRICKET CLUB

At last some good news!

The English Cricket Board has published guidance on how to start local cricket activity. As you can imagine this includes lots of risk assessments.

We will start coaching for **Juniors on Monday 22nd June** and there are sessions being organised for adults as well.

Full details are available on the website and Facebook page - details below.

With funding from our County Councillor, we have purchased new coaching equipment, and this will be fully used during the next few weeks. Many thanks to Councillor Liam Walker for his generous donation and support.

You may have noticed that there are 4 large green things on the field. These are pitch covers, and they protect the playing surface from rain before and during a match. We were lucky to have these donated to the Club by Stowe School. This has potentially saved the club many of thousands of pounds. The only cost to the Club was the time taken and fuel to transport them from Stowe in Northamptonshire.

Many thanks to the Club members who spent a combined 30 hours on assembling and washing the covers.

We are ever hopeful of being able to play some types of matches in the remaining months of summer and early autumn.

Simon Brown - Chair Freeland CC

Email: freelandcc.ul@gmail.com

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

Facebook: **Freeland Cricket Club**

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COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

I had the opportunity last month to visit a special communal space in Eynsham – The Peace Oak Association. There are over 100 members that can use the space, working collaboratively to grow in shared plots. These areas are not managed in the same way as allotment plots. Members can use as much or as little of the growing space available to them across the shared area. Sub-groups have slowly emerged with ideas for how the land could be used, whether to create a dragonfly pond or an area to graft their own fruit trees.



What this landowner has done for the people of Eynsham may not directly work for Freeland, but it is certainly inspiring!

We'd like your thoughts on whether a communal space would work in Freeland. Please visit **www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YB3RHGD** to complete a short survey, or complete the questionnaire on **page 25** and return to:

9 Hurst Lane or 179 Wroslyn Road (opposite the Church gate)

Veg Box Scheme

Currently we have 20 volunteers growing fruit and veg. We have a similar number of people requesting veg/fruit parcels. The amount of people that have been in touch in such a short time has been great. Please get in touch if you want to get your hands on some fruit and veg, or if you're able to donate any surplus crop:

russfish18@hotmail.com

Thank you!

Finally, just a quick thank you from us for all your help and support so far. The Community Garden Project really does benefit from you all coming together as a community. We've really enjoyed walking around the village and speaking to some of you, and we look forward to seeing you again soon during our next tabletop sale. We are hoping to sell wildlife boxes, so watch this space.

Freeland Community Growers.

www.facebook.com/groups/freelandgrowers

ALUMINIUM COLLECTION SUSPENDED

Further to my announcement in the April edition of the Grapevine I would like to confirm that I will not restart the collection of aluminium or other metals.

I would like to thank all those concerned in bringing their metals to me, raising a total of **£728**. This money has been passed on to the Freeland Community Hub. Should anybody else wish to take the collection over from me then do please contact me (Graham Lay) on **881464** before I dismantle the can crusher.



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Freeland Community Growers

Do you think a communal space would benefit Freeland?

Yes  No 

Why would that be in your opinion?

.....
.....

Would you use this space if it became available to you?




Yes  No 


If no, please tick why that might be?

Not enough time  Not interested 

Other

If yes, how would you use a communal garden space?

For growing food  Socialising & relaxing  Wildlife 

Family events and workshops 

Other

What are you interested in?

Organic food production  Sustainable energy  Biodiversity 

Landscape design & management  Nutrition  Homeopathy 

Foraging  Plant propagation & cultivation 

Please return the completed questionnaire to:

9 Hurst Lane or 179 Wroslyn Road (opposite the Church gate)

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Fri 24 July

Sat 1 August



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BEAR & MONKEY

Bear & Monkey would like to thank everyone who took part in their Zoom Quiz in aid of Msizi Africa at the end of May. The quiz used to be held in a London pub and would typically raise c. £1,500. However switching to Zoom meant that teams from all over the UK (as well as one from the USA who were playing in their lunch break!) could take part and so there were over 100 people playing on the night.



Several Freeland teams took part and everyone has said how much they enjoyed it. The theme was “Lockdown” and we even had a round called “Home Schooling” where the Question Master asked questions that his three children had been given as part of their homework. Needless to say that was quite a challenge for some of us! The highlight of the evening though was when the Question Master gave everyone five minutes to dress one of their team up as a wizard and send in a photo. And the picture below shows 7 year old Zachary from Freeland dressed as Harry Potter and scoring his team an additional 5 points. Well done Zachary!



The quiz, complete with online raffle, was an amazing success financially – raising £3,709 for Msizi Africa. And, as if that wasn't enough, a company that had lots of its staff playing, double-matched the amount giving the charity another £7,418. Everyone had a great evening and in doing so raised a staggering £11,127 which will enable Msizi Africa to provide 30 children (an entire village) with a nutritious meal, every day, for a whole year.

And to top it all, the trophy for the winning team moved out of London for the first time and came to Freeland as “Bear & Monkey and relatives” claimed victory. Inevitably another quiz is planned for August and so the challenge now is to keep the trophy in Freeland and not let it go back to London!

Bear & Monkey would also like to thank everyone who has ordered a calendar. If anyone would still like to order one – or increase their order size to include nephews, nieces, grandchildren, friends, etc – then that's fine as some spare copies will be available. Please email: john.clark@msiziafrica.org.uk or call on **01993 882127** before the end of July.

And finally, for those people who didn't become aware of Bear& Monkey until quite late on, they're pleased to say that all of their exploits are now available on <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/bear-and-monkey>. And, of course, for those of you who have very kindly asked how you can support their favourite charity, this can also be done via the same JustGiving page.

With thanks from Bear & Monkey



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FREELAND CRAFT CLUB

As with other groups in Freeland, the Craft Club is continuing to keep in contact with each other and have been working on some items which will eventually go into the Annual Shoe boxes appeal. Little families of finger puppets have been produced and this month's project is to knit some of these Nursemates. We are all hoping that these social distancing regulations will soon be relaxed and we can compare all our efforts of our home-working.

For further information, please contact: Helen Molden **01993 882305** or Margaret Wright **01993 881316** or **geeandemm@hotmail.co.uk**

FREELAND FOOTBALL CLUB NEWS

200 Club Draw

1st prize:	£ 20	No. 152	J. Kardos
2nd prize:	£ 10	No. 87	S. Walker
3rd prize:	£ 5	No. 38	C. James

Ben Symonds, Secretary Freeland FC writes: We hope everyone is staying and coping well with the lockdown. We are still awaiting news of when we are likely to be able to make plans to start our new season. The club have been notified that we have been successful in a grant application from the Football Foundation which will allow us to fertilise and reseed the pitch.

There is another guest writer this month, none other than football aficionado, Phil Panting.

After month and month of constant drivel from Captain Carthorse, the Football Club has finally asked someone with knowledge to write an article about what really matters in football - the quality of the players. Here is my choice of the best 25 (as per Premier League rules) who I think will win us the most coveted trophy in English football.

Goalkeepers: H. Bowden, S. Lay, L. Simister

Defenders: P. Bunting, S. Calley, W. Hazell, J. Hill, Si. Hole, St. Hole, L. Hyatt, M. Rose, S. Stapleton

Midfielders: J. Crocker, D. Kardos, D. McNamara, T. Parker, A. Rose, C. Simpson, G. Simpson, R. Trigg, J. Turner

Strikers: T. McCudden, T. Parsloe, R. Smart, D. Taylor

I would ask Harry Redknapp to manage the squad as he knows talent when he sees it and to assist him I have chosen the player that was often called "Freeland's answer to the great Bobby Moore".... Rob Panting.

On a personal note regarding Freeland Football Club, the best player I ever played with was Richard Smart. He was a real gentleman and a Rolls Royce of a player. The best player I have ever seen playing for the club is his grandson, Stuart Hole, a truly gifted, talented footballer who would improve any team.

Phil Panting

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Dealing with your own affairs and getting them in order can appear daunting. We're here to make life easier. Do pick up the phone or email us and we would be happy to have a free, no-obligation initial chat with you. We can meet on video call or in person when safe to do so.



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COMBE MILL - TRASH OR TREASURE

Reproduced here is the photo that has got us all excited at the Mill. It has been kindly gifted to our collection by a local historian in Long Hanborough. Someone gave her a box of papers from an elderly relative and she has been busy sorting through the contents, it could have quite easily been thrown away but she recognised that it could be a photo of Combe Mill.

It will now be catalogued by the archivist team to be added officially to the Mill's collection. This is a really important process for our status as a museum and of course our ability to share knowledge with locals and visitors from further afield.

The photo shows several clues to the date of its capture - firstly a very tall chimney stack can be seen. This tells us the photo was taken before July 1924, when the chimney was demolished at a cost of £9-0s-4d.

The chimney stack was partly rebuilt in the 1970's by Jeff Bloxham who had lived at the Mill as a boy in the 1930s and 1940s, and was one of the group of enthusiasts who took on restoration of the site. This information is within our archive already, along with some photos of the various people who worked at the Mill in the past. In the original we see a person in a bowler hat who is obviously very important and we believe that this is either Edward Nash, who was Clerk of Works between 1884 and 1905, or Archie Dunkley who followed after him.



Once we reopen we will be able to match the men in the photos we have with this new find. The job would be to oversee the day to day working of the Mill. The bell turret that we can still see today was there when the photo was taken, but hidden behind the chimney. We can also see the size of the trees that the Mill was able to cut at this time. The building on the left, housed some very large machinery and saws, this building now houses Jack Brunsdon's. The uniqueness of the photo is that it shows the original direction of the leet, the water course that actually made the water wheel turn. The leet was filled in during the 1960's, included in the filling were old cars amongst other things and this is now the car park area. We don't have any photos in our archive showing the water course as it used to be and therefore this photo will be proudly displayed in the foreman's office when the Mill reopens.

It just goes to show you what treasure lies in small boxes of old stuff, that may have ended up as trash, but saved with a little care for others and attention to local historical information.

Keep up to date with Mill information either on our website **www.combemill.co.uk** or our Facebook page: **www.facebook.com/Combe-Mill-265011663864445**

Julie Stuart-Thompson

Vicky's After School Club

We are very excited to be opening an After School Club at Freeland Primary School in September 2020.

The club will be open Monday - Friday from 3.15pm - 6.15pm where the children will be able to do a wide range of activities, have a snack and tea, and lots of fun playing games.

We want to recruit staff for our Club.
Full training will be given including paediatric first aid, safeguarding, playworker courses and much more!
A full enhanced DBS check is also undertaken on all staff members.



If you are interested in using our Club or would like to find out more about working within a fun environment, please contact Vicky Hickman on 0788 7711454 or email

vickysafterschoolclubbookings@gmail.com



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FREELAND GARDENING CLUB

Not many months ago I was commenting on how much rain we had had and that many areas were flooded. We probably thought there would be no hosepipe ban this summer.

However our parched gardens are now desperate for rain and though some may be expected, it often passes our area by! We have been saving every scrap of water from the kitchen and carrying it down to the vegetables. They don't seem to mind washing up water or soap suds, in fact they could act as an insecticide. We do not have a ban yet but many of us are reluctant to use hoses so that we conserve our precious water. Remarkably many plants have coped well with the parched soil and just get on with their growth.

Many more of us have been out in our gardens recently particularly with more time at home. Encourage your children and grandchildren to join in as well. They love planting seeds, watering and seeing them grow and maybe eating the produce. They may like to make a bug hotel or to make pots out of newspaper.

The RHS has given many tips for gardeners in their magazine. I will include a few here: Cut down perennial flowers after flowering in the spring. Tie climbing plants to supports. Deadhead your roses by cutting the spent flowers off with secateurs to the next pair of leaves. Prune spring flowering shrubs.

If you grow soft fruit net it to keep the birds off. Train the leader shoot of tomatoes to a support and remove all side shoots. Harden off plants in the greenhouse for planting out. Sow fast growing crops in between other vegetables to use up all the available space.

Conserve water by standing your pots in a tray of water. Water plants at their roots not over the foliage and water in early morning or in the evening. Give plant a really good soak occasionally rather than a little frequently. Try not to use synthetic fertilisers, use garden compost, well rotted manure as a mulch, home soaked comfrey, or seaweed fertiliser. Check your plants regularly for pests and diseases. Aphids on roses can be hand removed, squash red lily beetles (if you can catch them) and watch for drooping plants which may have vine weevils in the soil. Mow your lawn less often, We hope you find some of these tips useful.

At present there is no news of when we can hold Club meetings again, but situations change day by day so we wait in hope! The Committee will discuss what to do about next year's subs and forthcoming events.

We are very grateful to Tim Webster and his staff for arranging a safe way to enter the Nursery, choose plants, pay and exit. The initial rush to buy plants seems to have now subsided and usually there is no longer a long queue to get in. I am sure he has been glad of our custom.

We wish all Freeland residents a safe passage through this unusual time and hope they and their families keep well.

For any further advice or information about the Club please contact Ray and Jill Evans at jillandray@btinternet.com

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FARMING WITH NATURE - Farm Diary - May 2020

The May blossom (Hawthorne) has been spectacular on our big hedges.

Calving has gone well with all calves born within an eight-week period. We sadly lost one calf - a detached placenta caused the calf to die during the early stages of labour but then, our last cow to calve (on 3rd May) delivered identical twin bull calves.

The mother has a very placid nature and as the first calf staggered to its feet and suckled, she continued to lick it clean whilst standing to deliver the second. Twins can be a mixed blessing as it is better to have one strong calf than two weedier specimens but, in this case, both are strong and will soon work-out how to sneak a top up of milk from another unsuspecting mum.

Farmers are rarely satisfied with the weather and despite the glorious sunshine, for May it has been far too hot, too cold, too windy and...too dry. The cows are quickly consuming, not only the grazing pastures, but those normally cut for winter forage. The spring sown cereals have received only one day's rain since emerging and none at all in May. With no rain forecast for early June, it is looking worrying.

In early May the cuckoo sang his heart out for two weeks before moving on.

Whilst quietly mending a broken section of fence, I was able to observe a Pied Woodpecker feeding her voracious chicks. Alighting upon the trunk of a slim poplar tree, every two minutes or so, with more feed, she puts her head into the hole to a rapturous response from the chicks.

Before cattle can leave the farm to be sold to another farm or market, they have to be tested for TB to ensure they are not carrying the infection. With TB still rife in our area, there is always the possibility of a reactor but happily, the store cattle (last year's calves) all test negative and so are ready to be transported to their new home at JCB Farms in Shropshire. At just over a year old, these animals will take a further 18 months to fatten as finished Organic beef. At this point our beef may well return to the Daylesford Farm Shop at Kingham.

A practical improvement to the Farmyard has proved a big hit with the swallows. To intercept any run-off from the yards in winter, we have dug two interconnecting ponds. With an interceptor pit to strain out any solids, the water then passes through reed beds until purified. But, for now, the open expanse of water is perfect for swallows to skim across, catch insects and drink. Their aerial display is mesmerising.

As I check the cows and calves in the early morning, the hedgerows and oak trees are alive with fledglings...Blue Tits, Great Tits, Nut Hatches, Hedge sparrows and Woodpeckers (to name but a few) The sweet scent from the Elderberry flowers and honeysuckle fills the air and, with humidity so low, it feels more like mid-summer than May. It's wonderful, but I wish it would rain!

I will continue with my rain dance as the longest day draws close.

Robert Crocker, Glebe Farm



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FARMERS' MARKET at the VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

The Market returns on **Sunday 28th June** in the Village Hall Carpark, **10am to 2pm**, to facilitate social distancing. Expected stalls include:

Apple Juice, Bibury Trout Farm, Poulton Hill Estate Vineyard, Tess's Brilliant Tray Bakes, Mighty Pie Co., Moore & Lyon Meats, Chillies2U, Crudge's Cotswold Cheeses, Carla's Vegetarian Foods, Ready Meals.

Breakfast rolls and tea & coffee will be available from The Oxfordshire Yeoman from **9.30am**; along with Flamingo Paperie - fundraising for BEFSA.

There will be **no toilet** facilities.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Now that the lockdown has eased, the Little Free Library is pretty much running as normal!

Thank you for your patience and understanding during the closure, I know it was difficult to resist giving & taking books.

A big thank you for my team of volunteers (Sue, Fi and Jenny) for helping to keep it clean and tidy each week.



There is still the risk of infection, but this can be greatly reduced by washing your hands before and after visiting, and quarantining for a few days any books that you choose to take home.

If you are donating a bag of books please put them in the box next to the Little Free Library for the volunteers to sort out later. Individual books can of course be placed directly on the shelves if there is space.

When you are donating books please be mindful of their condition. Any books that are in poor condition do end up getting recycled by us, so it would be really helpful if you could recycle any worn-out books yourself instead of donating them. Thank you!

Finally, you can keep up to date with the Little Free Library by visiting our Facebook page: **[facebook.com/FreelandLittleFreeLibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/FreelandLittleFreeLibrary/)**

Thank you as always for your support, and happy reading!

Matthew Ruddle **01993 359 543** **ruddlem@gmail.com**

FINAL CHANCE TO PUBLISH A SHORT STORY IN 2020

The 2019 edition of Unexpected Tales (3) an anthology of short stories written by seventeen local authors was published in December. It was a great achievement and contains seventeen remarkable stories and is available from Amazon.

If you've been feeling creative during lockdown you have a chance to publish a short story by submitting your story for the 2020 edition.

We are inviting people from the **OX29** post code area to submit short stories of between 2,500 and 7,500 words in length before the **30th June 2020**.

For more details, and to see the submission rules, please visit the website at : **<https://martincmarais.wixsite.com/ox29anthology/about-submitting>**

••SIBLINGS••

— Hairdressing —

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Su 28 Jun	Farmers' Market - Freeland Village Hall car park 10am - 2pm
W 1 Jul	Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
Su 5 Jul	The VIRTUAL CAKE CAFÉ! Please visit www.janescakestudio.co.uk
W 8 Jul	Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
W 15 Jul	Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
W 22 Jul	Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
W 29 Jul	Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
W 5 Aug	Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection

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OX29 8FL

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Email: hanboroughmeadowsoffice@gmail.com
www.hanboroughmeadowspreschool.co.uk
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Please view our website to read our Prospectus
and contact us to arrange a visit and meet our
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Hanborough Meadows Pre-School (previously Long Hanborough Playgroup est. 1984) provides a high standard of pre-school education for children aged between 2 and 5 years old. We help children to develop and thrive in our small, friendly and bespoke setting which was opened in April 2019. We have a strong emphasis on outdoor learning and run our Forest Rangers sessions on a Tuesday and Friday morning.

Sessions run Monday to Friday during term time only:

Full day: 8.30am-3.15pm £30

AM: 8.30am-11.30pm £17

Lunch Club: 11.30am-12.15pm £4

PM: 12.15pm-3.15pm £17

We are an approved setting for grant funding of 3 and 4 year olds, and eligible 2 year olds. Childcare vouchers are accepted.



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Sunday 5th July - The VIRTUAL CAKE CAFÉ!

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Please visit **www.janescakestudio.co.uk** for further details.

STAMP COLLECTIONS I wish to purchase stamp collections. Friendly free valuation service without obligation and immediate payment. Also medals, coins, postcards and other collectables. Please call David Lord **01993 881862**

The deadline for articles or adverts for the **August** Grapevine is **Sunday 12th July**

The **August** edition should be in the church porch (if it is open) or in a plastic crate at the church gate, & online at **www.freelandoxon.co.uk** from about **Friday 24th July**.

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 120mm wide, 1/2 page size is 90mm high x 120mm 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. We do not endorse any advertisers or their services or products, nor any articles, reports or suggestions in the Grapevine.



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The Yeo-op shop is open from
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