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St Mary's Free Land



May 2023

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# **ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FREELAND**

**Sunday 30th April 10.00am Whole benefice worship at Ss Peter & Paul**

**Sunday 7th May 10.00am Holy Communion**

Leader: Matt Cripps

Preacher: Matt Cripps

**Sunday 14th May 10.00am Service of the Word**

Leader: Matt Cripps

Preacher: Andy Richens

**Sunday 21st May 10.00am Holy Communion**

Leader: Rev. Steve Stewart

Preacher: Rev. Steve Stewart

**Sunday 28th May 10.00am Service of the Word**

Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch

Preacher: Rev. Heather McCulloch

**Sunday 4th June 10.00am Holy Communion**

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

Preacher: Rev. Steve Stewart

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

**St Mary the Virgin is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm/dusk.**

**Please enjoy the space to look around, for prayer or for quiet reflection.**

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

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## **Dates for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) for Freeland**

Please note that due to the Coronation of King Charles III and the associated Bank Holiday, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) for Freeland, will take place at St Mary the Virgin, Freeland and has been moved back one week to **14th May 2023 at 12noon.**

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## **ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCHYARD**

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

For further information or to contact the church, please see our website [www.hfchurch.org.uk](http://www.hfchurch.org.uk) or use the QR code.



Freeland Parochial Church Council

**The front cover shows the St Edward's Crown that will be used for the Coronation of King Charles III**



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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)

**Associate Rector:** Rev. Mike Madden  
Email: [associate.rector@hfchurch.org.uk](mailto:associate.rector@hfchurch.org.uk)

**Curate:** Rev. Heather McCulloch  
Email: [heather.mcculloch@hfchurch.org.uk](mailto:heather.mcculloch@hfchurch.org.uk)

**Licensed Lay Ministers:**  
**Clive Berry 01993 882080**

**Hugh Dalton *Emeritus* 01993 881742**

**Churchwarden:**  
**Colin Griffiths**  
**01993 357336**

**Flowers in the Church:**  
**Janet Dalton**  
**01993 881742**

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

**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. At St Mary's the first Sunday of the month is a Family Service where everyone stays in church together. At the other **10am** services the young people have the opportunity to take part in youth friendly activities at the back of church.

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

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

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

The above information is correct at the date published (23/4/2023). 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)

# Freeland Nurseries

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**Letter from our Associate Rector, Rev. Mike Madden:**

**Dear Friends,**

*‘He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:7-8)*

I hesitate to call the green patch of land outside our back door a ‘lawn’ because in truth it is more weeds than grass, but it is green, and it is large enough to kick a ball around when the weather is fine. Despite being predominately made up of weeds it does need cutting every now and then. This usually starts with the first cut of the year in March or April, when I dust down our old petrol mower which pulls me up and down the lawn as I gently guide and push from behind.

One year the first cut of the year seemed harder than usual, the lawnmower felt like a dead weight. Nevertheless, I persevered and finished the job, despite being completely exhausted. Each time I cut the grass it seemed to get harder and harder, and I got more and more exhausted. In fact, cutting the grass became so exhausting I began to ask myself questions such as “Am I am getting too old to do this?” or “Am I ill and should I go and see the doctor?” A few weeks later when the lawn mower came back from its annual service, I found out that the belt that drove the wheels had been broken and that I had been literally pushing that heavy lawnmower up and down our garden for weeks in my own strength no wonder I found it exhausting. Once the drive belt had been fixed it was so much easier to cut the grass.

Just like I failed to realise that I was cutting my grass under my own power, it is all too easy for us a Christians to live lives without the power of the Holy Spirit. As Christians we can easily become disconnected from God’s power for our lives. The Father does not want us to live the Christian life in our own strength, but rather in the power of the Holy Spirit as promised by Jesus in Acts 1:7-8 (see above quotation) and fulfilled on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2. While we cannot all benefit from an annual service like my lawnmower, it is good nevertheless to pause and ask the Lord “Is this something you have called me to do, if so am doing it in your power or in my own strength?”

As we move from Easter towards Pentecost, my prayer for each one of us is that the Holy Spirit would so fill each of us with the love, the grace, and the power of God, that we would overflow with God’s love, grace and power to everyone around us.

Blessings,

Rev. Mike

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**Interment of Ashes:** Vivienne Rosalind Root 3rd April 2023

**Memorial Service** for the late Janet Paine 6th April 2023



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## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 14 - 20 MAY 2023

Soaring costs are affecting people here and around the world.

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

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

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

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

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

**QR code:**



Thank you for considering making a donation.

Fiona McGrady - Freeland Christian Aid Group Organiser

### **ST MARY’S BELL RINGING REPORT**

The bells will be rung at the following times:

- Saturday 29th April**      1.45pm - 2.15pm **Wedding of Carl Johns and Suzanne Phelps**
- Sunday 7th May**        9.30am - 10.00am
- Monday 8th May**        2.00pm - 3.00pm **To mark the Coronation of King Charles III**
- Saturday 20th May**      12.45pm - 1.15pm **Wedding of Thomas Forkner and Samantha Capewell**
- Sunday 21st May**        9.30am - 10.00am

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

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

You can see more about Freeland Bell Ringers under the “Clubs and Groups” section of the village website [www.freelandoxon.co.uk](http://www.freelandoxon.co.uk)

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## **BIBLE FUN CLUB and the CHILDREN'S EASTER ACTIVITIES**

Thank you to everyone who came along to this event at the Village Hall on Good Friday. We loved having you there and really hope you enjoyed yourselves. It was lovely to be able to share the Easter story, hot cross buns and drinks with each other.

We hope you'll be able to join us for our next event on **Wednesday 26th July 4 - 6pm**. Details to follow in next month's Grapevine.

St Mary's Bible Fun Club Team

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## **SERVICES AT ST PETER AND ST PAUL, CHURCH HANBOROUGH**

**Sunday 30th April**                      **10.00am** **Whole benefice worship with Holy Communion**

**Sunday 7th May**                      **10.00am** **Service of the Word**  
Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch    Preacher: Rev. Heather McCulloch

**Sunday 14th May**                      **10.00am** **Holy Communion**  
Leader: Rev. Steve Stewart            Preacher: Rev. Steve Stewart

**Sunday 21st May**                      **10 AM** **Service of the Word**  
Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch    Preacher: Jeremy Sugden

**Sunday 28th May**                      **10.00am** **Holy Communion**  
Leader: Rev. Nigel Knights Johnson    Preacher: Rev. Nigel Knights Johnson

**Sunday 4th June**                      **10.00am** **Holy Communion**  
Leader: Rev. Mike Madden              Preacher: Rev. Mike Madden

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## **SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH, LONG HANBOROUGH**

**Sunday 30th April**    **10.00am** **Whole benefice worship at St Peter & St Paul**

**Sunday 7th May**                      **10.00am** **Service of the Word**  
Leader: Rev. Steve Stewart              Preacher: Rev. Steve Stewart

**Sunday 14th May**                      **10.00am** **Holy Communion**  
Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch    Preacher: Amanda Ford

**Sunday 21st May**                      **10.00am** **Service of the Word**  
Leader: Emma and Steven Young    Preacher: Jonathan Ford

**Sunday 28th May**                      **10.00am** **Breakfast Sunday**  
Leader: Rev. Mike Madden              Preacher: Rev. Steve Stewart

**Sunday 4th June**                      **10.00am** **Service of the Word**  
Leader: Rev. Heather McCulloch    Preacher: Rev. Heather McCulloch

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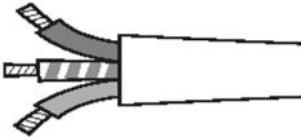
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## **HANBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH**

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 30th April 10am** Rev. Fred Ireland (Holy Communion)

**Sunday 7th May 10am** Local arrangement

**Sunday 14th May 10am** Rev. Charles Harris (Holy Communion)

**Sunday 21st May 10am** Rev. Stephen Bywater (Family Service)

**Sunday 28th May 10am** Rev. Jason Cooke

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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Website: [www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk](http://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.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **HANBOROUGH BOWLS CLUB**

**The Club is now open for the Summer Season.**

Our Club is open to **ALL** and we welcome new members – come along and try out bowls for free.

Learn how to play bowls and enjoy being active in a fun and friendly setting.

We play on **Monday afternoons at 2pm** and **Friday evenings at 6pm**.

All we ask is for you to bring some **FLAT** shoes with you – heeled shoes can damage the Green. We will provide the Bowls (woods). The Green will be available for about 2 hours each session. Qualified coaches will be on the Green to help and advise.

We will also have **CLUB DAYS** on **Sunday 28th May 10.30am – 3.30pm** and **Monday 29th May 1.30pm – 4.30pm**

The Club plays Mixed Friendly matches and League matches, and we have a full programme from mid - April to the end of September

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND GIVE IT A TRY, A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU.**

More information from Ken Williams on **01993 882 537**

## **THAMES VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET CO-OPERATIVE**

Witney 08.30 - 13.30 Fri 28 April Fri 26 May

Woodstock 08.30 - 13.00 Sat 6 & 20 May Sat 3 & 17 June

Details of other Farmers' Markets at [www.tvfm.org.uk](http://www.tvfm.org.uk) **01235 227266**



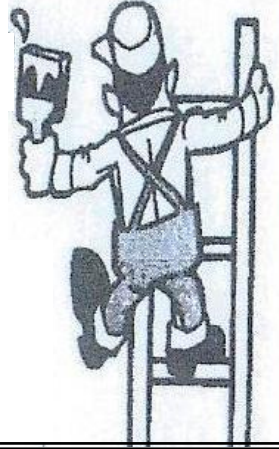
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## **FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES**

### **Botley West Solar Farm**

As representatives of the Council we need to understand the views of the residents of Freeland. We encourage all residents to make their own personal views heard. Whether you are opposed or supportive of the Solar Farm, please email [fayf.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:fayf.fpc@gmail.com)



### **Annual Parish Meeting**

Thank you to all who attended. We hope you had a lovely evening. We aim to continue to provide the village with as much information as possible and to build a better community for the future.

### **Witney Town Charity**

Due to the planning application by Spitfire Homes, Freeland Parish Council have been working with 'Friends of Freeland 2' to help protect our village against such speculative and inappropriate development. As well as submitting a detailed objection to the Local Planning Authority (who are expected to make a decision on 25th April) we have sent a letter to Witney Town Charity who are the land owners of the site. The letter addressed to the Trustees can be found on the Parish website [www.freelandpc.org.uk](http://www.freelandpc.org.uk)

### **Working Groups**

We wish to thank all those who attended the meetings to set up Community and Sustainability working groups. Anyone else wishing to help support the future of Freeland by joining either of these groups should email me on [fayf.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:fayf.fpc@gmail.com). An update will be provided in next month's Grapevine.

### **Fix My Street**

We urge you to continue reporting pot holes on "Fix My Street" (<https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>). There you can report any issues to the County Council. Additionally, if you would like to become a 'Super User', which will help speed up the process of repairs, then email me at [fayf.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:fayf.fpc@gmail.com) for further details.

### **Planning Applications**

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

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

### **Applications Approved:**

**23/00124/HHD Chalfont, 3 Wroslyn Road, Freeland**

Proposed Garage/store in rear garden for Mr F Creese

**23/00173/HHD Heath Farm Barn, Blenheim Lane, Freeland**

Insertion of additional twin French Window

**23/00390/HHD Heath Farm, 19 Pigeon House Lane, Freeland**

Erection of a detached garage with associated works. Removal of outbuilding. *Continued*

M J Fyson BA BA VetMB MRCVS  
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Continued.....

**Applications Received:**

**23/00493/HHD 151A Wroslyn Road, Freeland**

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

**23/00092/HHD 97 Wroslyn Road, Freeland**

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

**Applications under consideration:**

**22/03356/FUL Chapel Field / Land East Of Wroslyn Road**

Development of 80 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), community shop/cafe (Use Class E), allotments and site access, plus open space, drainage, landscaping and associated engineering works.

**23/00065/CND Freeland House, Wroslyn Road, Freeland**

Discharge of condition 3 (Surface Water Drainage) of planning permission 22/02188/FUL

**Applications refused: None**

**Playpark**

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

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

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 7.30pm**, in the Newell Room.

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

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

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**FREELAND CRAFT CLUB**

We learnt a new skill this month - Tunisian Crochet, which is a cross between knitting & crochet, producing a firmer fabric, suitable for scarves, jackets, etc. Very long crochet hooks are needed !

Perhaps you would like to learn to knit or crochet?

As well as doing our own work, we try to explore different crafts at some of our meetings and have an enjoyable time doing it.

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

For further information, or someone to go with, please contact:  
Helen Molden **01993 882305** or Margaret Wright **01993 881316**  
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Margaret Wright

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**500807**

## **SPITFIRE HOMES – update**

### **Background**

Many of you will be aware that Spitfire Homes has submitted a planning application to build 80 houses on Chapel Meadow on the corner of Wroslyn Road and Pigeon House Lane. You can find it on the WODC planning portal, reference **22/03356/FUL**.

This is an opportunistic proposal following the battle with Inspired Villages on the opposite side of Wroslyn Road. Because land for housing in the area is currently below the Government-required 5-year supply level, this Birmingham-based developer (Spitfire Homes) has submitted a proposal that would normally be immediately refused – but that now stands a chance of getting through.

Many of us are in favour of an affordable housing supply to meet local needs. New families would bring benefits to the pub, garden centre and village school, and would boost overall village vitality. But this is not the proposal to achieve that because of:

- Irrevocable harm to the village landscape and character through, for example, closing the sensitive gap between the main part of the village and The Green. Elimination of a green space much loved by residents and dog walkers
- Increase in population of 13% and in traffic of around 30%
- Impact on a sensitive, biodiverse site and the loss of a key wildlife corridor
- Poor quality design which completely disregards local character and heritage.
- Inadequacy of local infrastructure capacity for schooling, medical care and sewage treatment

### **Where are we now?**

A new group has been formed in the village, rather unimaginatively named “Friends of Freeland Two” (FF2), to fight this. You may have received a flyer from this group and seen various posters around the village. The response to the FF2 campaign has been tremendous, with 184 independent objections submitted by village residents.

Freeland Parish Council (FPC) has also strongly objected to this application – their objection can be found on the FPC website **[www.freelandpc.org.uk](http://www.freelandpc.org.uk)**.

The current owner of Chapel Meadow is Witney Town Charity, who sold a development option to Spitfire Homes several years ago. Both FPC and FF2 have now written to Witney Town Charity to point out the inappropriateness of Spitfire’s application, and to appeal to their social conscience. To date they have refused to engage. Needless to say, it is very disappointing to see a local charity supporting a damaging development in order to raise money for projects elsewhere.

### **So what happens now?**

At the time of writing, we understand that the WODC planning officer has recommended that the application be refused. She will present this recommendation to the Uplands Area Planning Sub-Committee on **Tuesday 25th April**. At the hearing, FPC and FF2 will each make a 3-minute presentation to support this refusal, and Spitfire’s agent may make their pitch. The Planning Committee will then discuss the application, then vote on whether to approve or refuse it.

We sincerely hope the application will be refused, given the strength of opposition in the village.

*Continued.....*

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Continued.....

But unfortunately, it won't stop there - Spitfire Homes have already said they will appeal. At this point we will need to consider how best to fight the proposal at the appeal stage.

You may be reading this issue of the Grapevine after the committee meeting has taken place. There will be a further update in the next issue.

### **What can you do?**

You can still impact the outcome of this application in the following ways:

1. The Uplands Area Planning Sub-Committee is at 2pm on **Tuesday 25th April** at the Wood Green offices of WODC. This is a public meeting, so all are welcome to attend – please come and support if you have time!
2. Let us know if you are willing to help in the event the application is refused but Spitfire Homes insist on taking it to appeal – any offer however small would be most welcome! Contact FF2 via Steve Liddell at [liddells@me.com](mailto:liddells@me.com).

Keep your fingers crossed everyone!

\*\*\*\*\*



## **1st HANBOROUGH FREELAND SCOUTS GROUP**

We're so proud to be celebrating the Coronation of HM King Charles III.

We're inspired by his lifetime of service to help other people and support our communities.

The Big Help Out on **Monday 8th May 2023** is a national day of celebrating volunteering and is the perfect opportunity for you to pledge to try volunteering with us.

It feels great to help others and it brings our communities in Hanborough and Freeland together, too. That's why we'd love you to try volunteering with us.

We provide inspiring, valuable and exciting activities for young people in Hanborough and Freeland, but we can't continue to do this without your support.

You don't need to be Bear Grylls to join Scouts. You don't even need to have been a Scout when you were younger – you just need a little time, a bit of enthusiasm and want to help give young people a brighter future.

Scouts helps young people speak up, step up and gain skills for life. If you don't fancy leading activities, we've got plenty of behind-the-scenes roles too, including on our Executive Committee. There's a place for everyone!

To join our wonderful Scouting team please contact Steve, our Group Scout Leader, via email [gsl@hfscouting.org.uk](mailto:gsl@hfscouting.org.uk) or register your interest via one of these links: [scouts.org.uk/VolunteerWithScouts](https://scouts.org.uk/VolunteerWithScouts) or [hfscouting.org.uk/contact](https://hfscouting.org.uk/contact)

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## **FREELAND FOOTBALL CLUB**

This month, at the time of writing, the **First** team have played just the one game, losing 3-1 to local rivals Hanborough.

With their midweek fixtures now starting to come thick and fast the **Reserves** have suffered two narrow defeats, losing 2-1 to both Milton Reserves and Bampton.



The **Under 16s** are still challenging at the top of the league, sitting in 4th place.

We would like to thank everyone who came to the Family Fun Day on Easter Monday. We raised some money to fund matchday equipment for our new **Under 10s** team who will start next season. A big thanks to Darren at Protex for his generous donation too.

If your child is interested in playing for the **Under 10s** please do get in contact with our coach Emma ([emmawylie54@hotmail.com](mailto:emmawylie54@hotmail.com) or 07471 508 043). Your child will need to be in current school **Year 4**, ready to start as an **Under 10** next season.

We would also like to thank Freeland Parish Council for the donation of **£250** towards a set of new goals that are needed for the **Under 10s** side.

Another thank you goes to Local Councillor Liam Walker who has agreed to help us with **£1300** of funding towards a spiker so we can aid the drainage of the playing field. We are now awaiting the outcome of our FA grant application for the remainder of the funding.

### **Upcoming fixtures:**

#### **Firsts:**

**Wednesday 26th April** - Home to Charlbury **18.30**

#### **Reserves:**

**Tuesday 25th April** - Away to ESSC **18.30**

**Saturday 29th April** - Home to Milton

**Tuesday 2nd May** - Home to Brize Norton **18.30**

**Saturday 6th May** - Away to Hailey

The **Under 10s** Coach is Emma Wylie - [emmawylie54@hotmail.com](mailto:emmawylie54@hotmail.com)

The **Under 16s** 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/)

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

Ben Symonds

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FREELAND WALKING GROUP**

The next meeting of the group will be on **Wednesday 17th May** leaving Freeland Hall at **9.30am**. Anyone new wishing to join the group please contact me at [dalton43cv@talktalk.net](mailto:dalton43cv@talktalk.net) so that I can put you in contact with the leader of the walk. New members very welcome. The June date will be **Wednesday 21st June**.

Janet Dalton



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**SUNDAY 30th APRIL 10am - 1pm**

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

£75 was donated to the Heart Unit at the JR from the March Market.



**We're on Facebook: Freeland Farmers' Market**

**The next Market will be on Sunday 28th May**

## **FREELAND COMMUNITY BUS TIMETABLE EVERY THURSDAY - AVAILABLE TO ALL**

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Nash Lane ----- 10.05 am  
Freeland Primary School ----- 10.05 am

### **With drop off at:**

Waitrose car park, Witney  
Sainsbury's supermarket, Witney

### **Return pickup:**

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

**With drop off** by request anywhere along Wroslyn Road

### **INFORMATION**

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

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

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

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## **FREELAND CRICKET CLUB**

We are almost at the start of the new cricket season, having completed our indoor coaching and training. We have set up our evenings for coaching and matches.

As stated in previous Grapevines, we have a reduced group of coaches this season, which has reduced the number of junior league teams we can field. However, this not impacting on our coaching offer to the children.

We have been lucky to recruit a new assistant coach, Ric Tighe, who will be able to support us with the **Under 11s** and **Under 9s**. We also have a couple of parents who will support some sessions. This is really important as cricket can be a dangerous sport, with heavy cricket bats and hard cricket balls, both of which travel at great speed.

This is the coaching and training timetable from **Monday 17th April**:

**Monday 6 to 7.30pm - Under 11s**

**Tuesday 6 to 7.30pm - Under 13s**

**Wednesday 6 to 7.30pm - Under 15s, adult league team & women's softball**

**Friday 6 to 7pm - Women's hardball**

**From Friday 12th May, the Under 9s will start and run from 5.15 to 6pm.**

The first matches start at the beginning of May, a full list is available on the Club's website: <https://freeland.play-cricket.com>

Generally, the **Under 15s** play matches on **Mondays**, the **Under 13s** on **Thursdays**, **Under 11s** on **Sunday mornings**, the **Cherwell League** team on **Saturday afternoon** and the **Women's hardball** team on **Sunday afternoons**.

The Women's hardball team has just secured sponsorship for their new playing tops, and the sponsor is a local flooring company, **Walker Flooring**.

The Parish Council has also provided the club with **£250** which will go towards the purchasing of a new bowling machine. I would like to thank the Parish Council for their continuing support of the Cricket Club.

The monthly quiz will continue on Wednesdays through the summer, starting at **8.30pm** to avoid clashing with coaching. The next quiz will be **Wednesday 10th May**.

Simon Brown - Chair - Freeland Cricket Club

**E: [freelandcc.u11@gmail.com](mailto:freelandcc.u11@gmail.com)**

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

**Facebook: Freeland Cricket Club**

### **NEW YATT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED**

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

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

Thank you

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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)

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

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

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

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

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

**Vicky Hickman Tel No: 07887 711454**

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

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

Please see our website for current job opportunities across the Clubs

## **WORRIED ABOUT COSTS?**

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

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

## **THE UNACCEPTED FREELAND RAMBLERS** **2/4/2023**

Five brave souls gathered opposite the Yeoman, as instructed, and awaited our guide and mentor. He had told us that he might be having to guide a thing called a football, also at a walking pace, on this day, but we weren't sure whether that was happening or not. Eventually we decided that if we borrowed some ideas from when he had previously guided a small group of rambles, everything would be fine.



It soon became apparent that there was considerably more mud and water than when this route was last explored by the UFR. Nevertheless the group pressed on with courage and determination and soon emerged onto a beautiful stretch of long wet grass, which usefully cleaned off all the mud on our boots. And so we continued over open fields, by still ponds and alongside woods with the promise of spectacular bluebells next month.

We found hard, dry ground and made our way back to the Yeoman - the right side of the road this time, all the way into the beer garden. We must have looked friendly enough as we were joined by passers-by.

Next month will almost definitely include bluebells. These rambles normally happen on the first Sunday of each month, but in May, on that weekend we shall be celebrating the coronation of King Charles III. So, next month's local Ramble (normally about 4 to 5 miles) will be on **Sunday 14th May at 10am** from the bus shelter opposite the Yeoman. **All are welcome to join us.**

The Stand-in (water up to the ankles!)

\*\*\*\*\*

## **NORTH LEIGH HISTORY SOCIETY**

**Tuesday 2nd May** Paul Barnett will be giving a talk on Easter Island. This is a place that intrigues and seems to have a mysterious past. Come and find out the latest theories and findings about the island and the people who lived there.

We meet at **7.30pm** in North Leigh Memorial Hall **OX29 6SA**, members **£18** per year, visitors **£4** per talk. Further details are available from Diana Power **01993 882301** or Robert Kyte at **kyterobert@gmail.com** and **01993 880368**.

Oxfordshire Yeoman  
Café continues  
Friday mornings



Oxfordshire Yeoman  
Café continues  
Friday mornings

### News from the Bakehouse

The bakehouse in Freeland, in its current format, has now finished. However, while the bread stops, Friday morning Yeoman Café continues, so do come along for cakes, pastries, sausage rolls, and a chat.

We are currently considering the next phase for Knead Bakehouse and will be in touch when we have more news.

### Thankfulness for support

The bakehouse was conceived before the pandemic, with equipment purchased in December 2019, operated throughout lockdowns, with collection from our porch on Blenheim Lane, and has a valued partnership with the pub resulting in the Friday morning Yeoman Café.

We are so thankful for the strong support we have been shown in Freeland and Hanborough, and to our friends and family.

to those who purchased every week,  
to those who told a friend about us,  
to those who shared a recipe, their life,  
to those who prayed for this initiative,  
to those who walk across the field to collect their bread,  
to those who farmed and milled the grain,  
to those who thought it all a dream,  
to those who took our bread far and wide, Liverpool we hear,  
to those fellow bakers who shared their time,  
to those who didn't really get it,  
to you all,  
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**WEDNESDAY 10th May at 8.30pm**  
**in the Oxfordshire Yeoman**

## **LITTLE FREE LIBRARY NEWS**

Ever wondered how the Little Free Library movement began?

In 2009, Todd Bol, in Wisconsin, USA, built a model of a one room schoolhouse as a tribute to his mother (she was a teacher who loved to read). He filled it with books and put it on a post in his front garden; his neighbours and friends loved it, so he built several more and gave them away.



Rick Brooks (a friend of Todd's) saw his DIY project while they were discussing potential social enterprises, and together, they saw opportunities to achieve a variety of goals. They were inspired by community gift-sharing networks and "take a book, leave a book" collections in coffee shops and public spaces.

In 2010, the name "Little Free Library" was formally established, and the purpose of these Little Free Library book exchanges became clear: to share books and bring communities together. By 2022, there were over 150,000 Little Free Libraries registered all over the world!

Freeland's Little Free Library was launched in 2015, outside 138 Wroslyn Road, with the support of a grant from WODC. Later, in 2020, The Teddy Girls funded the refurbishment of the disused telephone box outside the village hall, in partnership with the Parish Council, which allowed us to expand the Little Free Library to accommodate more books and to keep up with demand.

Thank you for your continued support; the Little Free Library has been more successful than we ever expected. Special thanks also to our amazing team of volunteers: Sue, Jenny, Fi and Caroline, who do a brilliant job sorting books and keeping everything tidy.

Matthew & the Little Free Library volunteers  
**01993 359 543     ruddlem@gmail.com**



# Freeland House & The Lodge



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

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

Freeland House offers a comfortable, homely and welcoming atmosphere in contrast to The Lodge, which is a unique, modern 45 bedded purpose-built extension located beside Freeland House. Our individually designed person-centred care packages offer the highest quality of care.



*So much to look forward to...*



Freeland House & The Lodge, Wroslyn Road, Freeland, Nr Witney OX29 8AH  
tel: 01993 881258 | email: [manager.freeland@minstercaregroup.co.uk](mailto:manager.freeland@minstercaregroup.co.uk)



## **FIRST AND LAST MILE**

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

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



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

### **Timetable, effective 3rd JANUARY 2023**

**Services run Mon-Fri only**

#### **Service 411 Eynsham to Hanborough via Freeland**

**NOT Bank Holidays**

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

#### **Service 411 Hanborough to Eynsham via Freeland**

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

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

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

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

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## **FREELAND PHOTO GROUP**

Freeland Photo Group meetings take place virtually, on the first and third Tuesday of the month, at **7.30pm**. Meetings in May will be on **Tuesday 2nd and 16th**.

Please contact Paul Sayer at [paul.pshml@googlemail.com](mailto:paul.pshml@googlemail.com) for details of the virtual meetings and the programme.

# Oxfordshire School Aged Immunisation Service

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

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

**If your child is educated at home:**

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

**If your child is in school:**

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

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

Or visit [www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms](http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms)



## HANBOROUGH & FREELAND RUNNING GROUP

FOR 18 TO 99 YEAR OLDS,  
EVERYONE WELCOME  
ENJOYABLE, WEEKLY, FREE,  
PEER-LED RUNNING GROUPS

For info: [HanFree-run@outlook.com](mailto:HanFree-run@outlook.com)

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

## FREELAND WI

Our meeting on Monday 17th April was our Annual Meeting which provided an opportunity to look back at this last year and forward to the year ahead. Reports were received from the President, committee and treasurer. It has been another very successful year for Freeland WI with our numbers increasing by 25%. We now have 41 members. After five years on the committee and three as President, Aileen decided it was time to pass the baton on to someone new and did not stand for re-election. The other current members of the committee were willing to stand again and are joined by Karen Scott Mills. Anne Marvin, an existing committee member, was elected as President. After the business part of the meeting, delicious refreshments were served, followed by a game of Beetle. Who knew there were so many different ways to score Beetle?



At our next meeting, which is on **Monday 15th May** due to the Bank Holiday, we will be making a beaded key ring or small item of jewellery. This will be led by Lorraine Pengilly, a very talented member of our WI.

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

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

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

Information from earlier years is available on our website:

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

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## HANBOROUGH LUNCH CLUB

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

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

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

## **OXFORDSHIRE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CAR CLUB PILOT LAUNCHES**

An Oxfordshire-wide pilot of electric vehicle (EV) car clubs has begun, with fourteen new car club EVs being launched across Abingdon, Banbury, Bicester, Eynsham, Henley, Kidlington, Oxford, Thame, Witney, Wallingford and Wantage. These shared vehicles – operated by CoWheels, Enterprise CarClub and Thame EV Hire Club - will be available for people to use on a pay-per-use basis. This provides a convenient and affordable alternative to individual car ownership, also an opportunity for petrol and diesel drivers to try an EV without any long-term commitment.

Oxfordshire County Council has coordinated the pilot and facilitated the arrangements between participating councils, car club operators and chargepoint operators. The EV car club vehicles will mainly be based at Park and Charge hubs in District Council car parks, and Oxford City Council are also introducing a new EV car club based at the Energy SuperHub at Redbridge Park and Ride.

Whilst car clubs have seen great success within Oxford, little has been tested outside of the City. The aim of this pilot project is to demonstrate the demand for car clubs in more urban and rural areas and test the business models for non-city EV car clubs. The hope is that if successful this pilot will help inform future EV car club roll-out strategy for the County and pave the way for more EV car clubs across Oxfordshire in the future. Give them a try - join one of the new EV car clubs:

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/EVcarclubs](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/EVcarclubs)

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## **BRIDEWELL GARDENS OPEN DAYS 2023**

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

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

**Bridewell's plant sale will be held on Saturday 29th April 10am to 1pm** where you can browse a wide variety of perennial plants for sale in our stock bed avenue. Please note – the walled garden will not be open during the plant sale.

**The walled garden and vineyard are open to the public for our Open Days: Sundays 21st May, 18th June, 16th July, 10th September 11am to 4pm**

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

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

Bridewell Gardens, The Walled Garden, Wilcote, Oxfordshire **OX7 3DT**



## **FREELAND NATUREHOOD**



### **Freeland Bat Walk**

Two years ago in September, Steven Heath, Ecologist and member of the Oxford Bat Group, led an excellent bat walk here in Freeland. Using some very sophisticated bits of kit we were able to identify 7 of the 18 known bat species in Britain, all within a 45-minute walk from the Church to Broadmarsh Woods. We are looking to do the same this year. The walk will take place on **Saturday 13th May** (time to be determined). Limited number of places available (max 15). Please email with your interest and how many would like to attend. If popular we may do another this season so, please don't despair if you can't make it.

Email: [nature\\_instead@outlook.com](mailto:nature_instead@outlook.com)

### **Regular meetings**

We still have some verges in the village that have been selected to manage as wildflower sites. There has been some tree and hedge planting, litter picking, and some group surveys. We would like to continue managing these areas as a community, and even select other sites that could be managed for wildlife.

First meeting at The Yeoman on **Sunday 21st May at 6pm**. Everyone is welcome and any ideas gratefully received.

Contact Amanda at [amanda.watson99@hotmail.com](mailto:amanda.watson99@hotmail.com) or Russell at [nature\\_instead@outlook.com](mailto:nature_instead@outlook.com) if you are interested but unable to attend.

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## **FREELAND GARDENING CLUB**

'Crayfish on the Lawn' was the title of Joff Elphick's talk to the Club at our March meeting. In fact his talk concluded with his tale of a large American crayfish discovered on their lawn. Where it had come from was a mystery, possibly dropped by a heron! The rest of his excellent talk was all about interesting things in nature he had witnessed or discovered. He obviously is a very observant person going out often in the early morning to photograph unusual sights, both small and large. He has another talk which we will book for a future meeting.

On **Monday 24th April at 7.30pm** in Freeland Hall we have a Quiz sent to us by Ray Evans, our dear friend who has moved to Witney. This will be followed by a Raffle of interesting food Hampers, the items they contain donated by members. Proceeds from the Hamper Sale will go to Club funds.

There will also be a Plant and Gardening Items Sale.

The May meeting of the Club will be a demonstration of 'How to plant your own Hanging Basket' given by a member of Freeland Nurseries. This will be on **Monday 22nd May at 7.30pm at Freeland Nurseries**.

Visitors at **£5** a meeting and new members very welcome.

For further information about the Club please contact Terry Jones on **01993 882129**.

Janet Dalton (Publicity Secretary)

## **BEFSA CURRY NIGHT**

You are cordially invited to my favourite fundraiser - please put the date in your diary!!



**Please join us on:**

**Friday 12th May 2023 at 7pm** for good food, good company and an update on the work carried out by **BEFSA** over the last year.

Ready Steady Spice in Eynsham will be cooking up a feast of delicious dishes, both meat and vegetarian based. There will also be our normal bar and raffle.

The price for the night is **£27.50** per person, which includes a donation to our funds.

Book your tickets on line at:

**<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/22970>**

All are welcome and please do contact me for more details - looking forward to seeing you there!

Julie Stuart-Thompson - Trustee BEFSA <https://befsa.org/>  
[julie.st@btinternet.com](mailto:julie.st@btinternet.com)

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## **COMBE MILL 'In Steam', SUNDAY 21st MAY, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe OX29 8ET**

Come along and enjoy the Themed event day - "Barn Engines & Horticultural Machinery", another exciting day not to be missed.

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



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

Adults **£9.00**, Seniors **£7.50** Children are now **FREE**. Website: **[combemill.org](http://combemill.org)**

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

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

You can also pick up copies at the **Oxfordshire Yeoman** during their regular hours of Wednesdays 5pm - 11pm, Thursdays Noon - 3pm & 5pm - 11pm; Fridays 9am - late; Saturdays Noon - late; and Sundays Noon - 10.30pm.

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

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

## **CHURCH HANBOROUGH 20mph SPEED LIMIT**

Drivers will have noticed that the speed limit through Church Hanborough has been recently reduced from 30 to **20mph**.

This follows a number of consultation exercises that found the majority of residents supported such a change to improve road safety through the village.

The Church Hanborough Speedwatch Group has monitored traffic speeds before and after the change. Although it is very early days their preliminary findings indicate that the speed of vehicles is decreasing. When the limit was 30mph speeds of up to 48mph were measured and this has now reduced to around 42mph. Before the 20mph limit was introduced around 25% of vehicles travelled above 35mph and now this figure is close to 17%. Hopefully as drivers become more aware of the speed limit change these figures will reduce even further, as will the number of vehicles exceeding the new reportable speed limit.

Increased driver awareness is crucial and so Hanborough Parish Council are considering the installation of a speed indication device to remind drivers on entry to Church Hanborough.

Don't let this be a wasted effort - please drive safe and keep others safe.



Members of the Church Hanborough Speedwatch Group

### **FREELAND WINE CLUB - FRIDAY 19th MAY** **at 7.30pm in the VILLAGE HALL**

An evening with Toby Chiles dipWSET focusing on Food and Wine matching, exploring the effects of different foodstuffs when matched with the correct wines.



**FREELAND WINE CLUB**

The evening's purpose is to inspire you, and your own personal hosting skills, into what to select with certain wines. In a relaxed atmosphere with wines carefully selected to go with a variety of different food accompaniments, you will learn about how wines react with salty, spicy, fatty and sweet food items on your palate to bring out the best in your food and wine selections.

Toby, who has hosted for the Club four times before, has been in the wine trade since 2002. Anyone who has attended in the past will know that the evening will be a light hearted, entertaining, and informative guide to an area where we all try and impress guests coming to our homes for lunches and dinners.

Freeland and other local residents are very welcome. For details and to register for invites, please email [FreelandWineClub@gmail.com](mailto:FreelandWineClub@gmail.com)

Wine Club dates for the rest of 2023 are: **Friday 28th July, Friday 29th September and Friday 24th November.**

# FREELAND ORCHESTRA

Conductor - Wendy Marks

Clock Symphony (No. 101) - Haydn  
Soirées Musicales - Britten

Saturday 20th May

7.30 pm

St Leonard's church, Eynsham

## with WOW

(WEST OXFORDSHIRE WINDS)

Playing a variety of music including:  
Elton John,  
Ashokan Farewell,  
Best Years of Your Life (from Shrek)

Tickets £5 on the door  
Under 18s FREE

[www.FreelandOrchestra.org](http://www.FreelandOrchestra.org)

[www.WestOxfordshireWinds.org](http://www.WestOxfordshireWinds.org)





## **EXCITING NEWS!**

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



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## **PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ELECTIONS FROM 4th MAY**

Residents in West Oxfordshire District will need to show photographic ID to vote in person at this year's local elections which are being held on **Thursday 4th May**.

Accepted forms of ID include a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport; a UK, EEA or Commonwealth drivers' licence; and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass. Voters will be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo and the name on the ID should be the same name as appears on the Electoral Register.

Anyone who does not have one of the accepted forms of ID will be able to apply for free ID online at **[www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate)** or by completing a paper form which is available from West Oxfordshire District Council at the Woodgreen office. If you need any help with applying for the free ID, or want to request an application form, contact the electoral services team on **01993 861410**.

More information is available on the West Oxfordshire District Council website (**[www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk)**), including details of how to apply for the free ID. Anyone not able to visit the Council website, or apply for a Voter Authority Certificate online, is being encouraged to contact the Council as soon as possible and no later than the **5pm** deadline on **Wednesday 25 April**.

Anyone who wants to have their say in the elections this May must also be registered to vote. If you aren't already registered it only takes five minutes to register online at **[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)**. Voters wishing to apply to their council for free ID should first make sure they are registered to vote.

The changes do not affect postal votes but do affect proxy voters who will be required to show their own valid ID when voting on behalf of someone else.

### **FREELAND TEDDY GIRLS**

A huge thank you to all those who generously supported us at our latest Teddy Girls sale. We managed to raise **£300 in 2 hours! £150** is for Witney foodbank and the rest of the money is enough to purchase a 'No Parking' sign for the School.

A special thank you to Freeland Art Club who put on a superb display for us.

Finally a big thank you to Mr Webster at Freeland Nursery who very generously supplied all the plants and a raffle prize.

The Teddy Girls



# FREELAND PRE-SCHOOL

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



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



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

✉ [freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk) ☎ 01993 882945  
[www.freelandpreschool.org](http://www.freelandpreschool.org) 📱 @freelandpreschool

# **EYNESHAM MEDICAL GROUP - May Update**



## **Spring Covid Booster Vaccinations**

We will not be delivering the general patient Spring Booster campaign this year. This doesn't mean we won't be vaccinating from Long Hanborough again, it just means we are on hold until the Autumn.

All those registered to the Practice who are Housebound and/or in Care Homes will receive theirs from Community Nurses and other teams.

The NHS should contact you by post if you're eligible for a seasonal booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine this spring.

- You may be offered a seasonal booster if you:
- are aged 75 or over (you need to have turned 75 on or before 30 June 2023)
- live in a care home for older adults
- are aged 5 or over and have a weakened immune system

To book a Covid-19 Booster Vaccination please call **119** or go to:

**<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination/getting-a-booster-dose-of-the-covid-19-vaccine/> for more information.**

## **Additional Covid Vaccination Information:**

If you're at increased risk from COVID-19 due to a medical condition but you do not have a weakened immune system, you're not able to get a further COVID-19 vaccination this Spring. You should still have some protection against severe COVID-19 from previous doses.

## **Appointment system**

We have introduced a slight change to our appointment system. When you request an appointment, we are now able to text or email you a link to allow you to book an appointment online. We hope this makes the process easier and more convenient for you.

## **EMG Tri team's fundraising for the medical charity at the Blenheim Triathlon**

Please support the charity by donating and do come and support us on the days! **<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/blenheimtriathlon>**

Donating with Stewardship is really easy and completely secure. Your Staff at Eynsham Medical Group have got off our consulting chairs to team together and train for the Blenheim Triathlon on **June 3rd and 4th 2023**.

Our Teams, EMG Veterans (Ian, Melissa, Sarah), EMG Extremely Mediocre Gang (Emma, Katie, Victoria), and 2 individual athletes (Emma, Lorenz) are going to power their way through the lakes and grounds of the palace.

Eynsham and Long Hanborough Medical Care Group is our medical charity that provides services and equipment items for the local population that wouldn't normally be available on the NHS.

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

Many thanks for your support.

Regards, Dr Ian Binnian, GP partner and Research Lead - Eynsham Medical Group

# **BOTLEY WEST SOLAR FARM**

Europe's biggest solar power station on your doorstep?

**What's Happening?  
What's Next?**

**Hanborough & Freeland residents are invited to**

**The Pavilion, Church Rd  
LONG HANBOROUGH OX29 SJG**

**7.30pm Tuesday 2nd May**

**<https://stopbotleywest.com>**

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

Woodstock u3a ['University of the 3rd Age'] Branch's April speaker meeting was again well attended, both at St Hugh's Centre in Woodstock and online. Our speaker, Hugh Warwick, captured his audience's attention with his talk on that almost universally loved small mammal, the hedgehog.



Our next meeting, on **Thursday 4th May at 2pm** (same venue) will be primarily concerned with the Branch's Annual General Meeting, although on past form there should be plenty of time for more general discussion and, (always a safe bet!) tea and biscuits: not a bad opportunity to come along and find out more about the Branch.

**Thursday 1st June** will then bring another guest speaker, Tim Albert, whose title 'A cub (reporter) on the Moors' hints at the far from cosy life of a junior journalist in strange territory. Then **Thursday 6th July** will feature a name familiar to many in this district, Liz Woolley, talking about 'Local history and 'how to do it'.

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

Chris Sladen

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- M 24 Apr Freeland Gardening Club, Freeland Hall, 7.30pm Raffle and Quiz
- Su 29 Apr Bridewell Gardens Plant Sale, OX7 3DT, 10am - 1pm
- Su 30 Apr Farmers' Market - Freeland Village Hall car park 10am - 1pm**
- Tu 2 May The Cake Café, Village Hall, 9am - 11.30am**
- M 1 May Early May Bank Holiday**
- Tu 2 May North Leigh History Society, North Leigh Memorial Hall OX29 6SA, 7.30pm
- W 3 May Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- M 8 May Bank Holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III**
- T 9 May Freeland Parish Council Meeting, Newell Room, **7.30pm**
- W 10 May Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- W 10 May Freeland Cricket Club Quiz at the Oxfordshire Yeoman, **8.30pm**
- F 12 May Freeland Grapevine - June edition deadline day**
- F 12 May BEFSA Curry Night at Ready Steady Spice, Eynsham
- Su 14 May Unaccepted Freeland Ramblers - walking 10am from opposite the Yeoman
- M 15 May Freeland WI, Village Hall, 7.45pm 'Beaded Jewellery'
- W 17 May Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- W 17 May Freeland Walking Group - leaving the Village Hall car park at 9.30am
- F 19 May Freeland Wine Club, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- Sa 20 May Freeland Orchestra & WOW, St Leonard's Church, Eynsham, 7.30pm £5
- Su 21 May Combe Mill in Steam: 'Barn Engines & Horticultural Machinery' [www.combemill.co.uk](http://www.combemill.co.uk)
- Su 21 May Bridewell Gardens Open Day, OX7 3DT, 11am to 4pm
- Su 21 May Freeland Naturehood meeting at the Yeoman, 6pm
- M 22 May Freeland Gardening Club at Freeland Nurseries, 7.30pm 'Plant your own Hanging Basket'
- W 24 May Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- Su 28 May Farmers' Market - Freeland Village Hall car park 10am - 1pm**
- M 29 May Spring Bank Holiday**

## **SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS**

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

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

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

### **THE CAKE CAFÉ, FREELAND HALL**

Regular café first Tuesday of the month, **9.00 - 11.30am.**

also celebration cakes and small event catering.

**www.janescakestudio.co.uk 01993 881273**

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

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

**Friday 12th May.** The **June** edition should be online at: **www.freelandoxon.co.uk** or at **www.freelandpc.org.uk** from **Monday 22nd May**, with the print copies in the church porch from **Friday 26th May.**

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

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

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

**Adverts: grapevineadverts@gmail.com**

**Articles: freelandgrapevine@gmail.com**

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

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

*The editor reserves the right to edit all copy.*

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

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

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

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

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

**The Oxfordshire Yeoman**

01993 881003 | hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com | @theoxfordshireyeoman

**Takeaway Menu**

**01993 881003 | 5:30-8:30pm**

**Mains**

Scampi, Chips and Peas	£11
Full Rack of Ribs, Chips and Coleslaw	£13
Kids Scampi, Chips and Peas	£7.25
Kids 3oz Cheeseburger and Chips	£7.25
Kids Sausage, Chips and Beans	£7.25
Chips/Sweet Potato Fries	£3.50/£4.50
Cheesy Chips	£4.50

**Kebabs**

On a Warm Flatbread with Crunchy Salad, Tomatoes, Chilli Sauce and Garlic Mayo

House Marinated Chicken Kebab	£14
Halloumi Kebab v	£13.50

**Burgers**

With Chips and Coleslaw. Upgrade to Sweet Potato Fries for £1.50

Classic Yeoman <small>No Party, Bacon, Monterey Cheese, Relish</small>	£13
Smokey Joe v <small>Missing Mushroom Fridge, BBQ Sauce, Monterey Cheese</small>	£11.50

**Jacket Potatoes**

With Coleslaw and Salad

Chilli Con Carne	£8.95
Veg Chilli <i>v (ve on request)</i>	£8.95
Chicken Curry	£8.95
Cheese and Coleslaw	£7.95
Cheese and Beans	£7.95



THE  
**OXFORDSHIRE  
YEOMAN**

FREELAND, OXFORDSHIRE

Check out our takeaway menu...

Served Thursday to Saturday  
(5:30-8:30pm)



Find us on Facebook and Instagram

hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com  
01993 881003  
www.oxfordshireyeoman.com



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Established for over 35 years, we have been supplying quality products at a competitive price. We pride ourselves on providing a complete service you can rely on.



## BLENHEIM PALACE

### Clementine's on the Lawn

Opening April 2023 until Autumn 2023

Our brand new dining experience Clementine's on the Lawn is opening this month on the South Lawn of the Palace, providing magnificent views of the Palace whilst you dine for the very first time due to its conservatory glass structure. A range of delicious choices will be available from roast dinners and seafood platters to afternoon tea, making the perfect place for a special treat with friends and family. The citrus name pays homage to The Orangery restaurant, which is currently undergoing vital restoration work, as well as Clementine Churchill, wife of Sir Winston Churchill. After lunch why not take a stroll to the nearby Formal Gardens and discover where the wartime leader proposed to his wife at the Temple of Diana.

## BLENHEIM

You may have noticed that our Lake Dredge has now been resumed after being paused for the past few months due to weather conditions. The dredging of Queen Pool first started back in April 2022, having not been carried out in over 100 years. Upon completion it will have removed 300,000 cubic metres of silt from our 'Capability' Brown designed lake – enough to fill Wembley Stadium. The dredge will return our lake to its original depth of two metres from its current shallows of 30cm. The walking loop around Queen Pool has once again been closed whilst the project is completed.



## BLENHEIM ESTATE

As the new season unfolds, you will soon begin to see signs of spring appear in the Parkland and surrounding areas. We have already seen a sprinkling of snowdrops, a blossoming of bluebells and drifts of daffodils with a whole host of other seasonal flowers still to come. To add to the Easter picture we will also see lambs arriving on the Estate this month. As we exclusively lamb outdoors, we ask all visitors to please be mindful of walking their dogs in the Parkland. Keeping your dog on a lead is particularly important to ensure that our sheep are not attacked or chased in a way that may cause injury, suffering or miscarriage.

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

**[blenheimpalace.com](http://blenheimpalace.com)**