



# Grapevine

St Mary's Freeland



June 2020

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## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FREELAND

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have announced that public services within the Church of England will be put on hold until further notice, due to measures to control the spread of the coronavirus.

For more information visit [www.hanboroughparish.co.uk](http://www.hanboroughparish.co.uk)

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

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](mailto:revsue@gst.org.uk)) for more information.

The above information is correct at the date published (20/5/2020). Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found at [www.hanboroughparish.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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/>**

**THANK YOU TO STEPH CLARK FOR THE COVER PHOTO OF BEAR & MONKEY - FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THEM ON PAGE 15**



**Wroslyn Road, Freeland OX29 8AQ**

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

**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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OX29 4TB**

**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

01993 883205

Steve Mellin

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](http://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](mailto:print@associatedagencies.co.uk)

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

<http://goo.gl/g53NJH>

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

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have announced that public services within the Church of England will be put on hold until further notice, due to measures to control the spread of the coronavirus.

For more information visit [www.hanboroughparish.co.uk](http://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 (20/5/2020). Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found at [www.hanboroughparish.co.uk](http://www.hanboroughparish.co.uk)

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## **Letter from our Associate Vicar:**

Dear Friends,

As I write I am conscious that we are only at the beginning of easing lockdown in the UK. By the time you read this in June things will have changed again no doubt.

We were told yesterday that we can take more exercise, which is good.

Getting outside for a walk helps not only our physical well-being but also our emotional well-being.

Many of you will be very conscious by now of the changes we have made in such a short space of time. We socialise as we did at the VE day celebrations adhering to social distancing. In February social distancing was beyond what we would imagine, now it is the new norm. Meetings and Church services now use technology. Many of us have been reluctant participants, yet, now we meet and gain such a lot from seeing people if not in the flesh, on a screen. Definitions of community have changed and to some extent widened as we care for each other, through the Covid-19 groups, through neighbourliness and the rediscovery for many of the use of the telephone. We appreciate seeing one another and hearing a voice.

I have particularly noticed people's thankfulness, people saying hello and engaging with people they haven't spoken to before.

Whilst there is a long way to go, what we know to be normal has changed.

However, what hasn't changed is creation. The flowers still bloom, the trees seem greener and the birds seem louder. For me, walking has increased my intensity of vision, God's creation seems more vibrant. Seeing the countryside spring to life, gives hope.

Hope comes from Jesus. I am reminded that Jesus wants us to go to Him in prayer, to give thanks for all that we see and to call on Him, just as He called upon His Father with every concern and request. Because it is Jesus who gives us hope and promises to be always with us. Jesus is our helper.

I pray that He will help us see a new creation and community as we continue to live in these extraordinary times and as we care for one another.

With Love and Every Blessing,

Rev. Sue Spankie

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## **ST MARY'S CHURCH BELLS**

Ringers at St Mary's, together with friends from neighbouring towers, are using Zoom to keep in touch on a weekly basis. Likewise, we are using a virtual ringing room web site at **[www.ringingroom.com](http://www.ringingroom.com)**. This is a site built for ringers to continue ringing with one another, even when socially distanced.

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

## **Stay at SHEPHERDS HALL**

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**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.

**St Peter's Catholic Church**, like all other Churches, is not open to the public as this is being written, but Father Mark, the Parish Priest, still says Mass every day inside the Church. Father Martin, the retired Priest, is in self-isolation at home in Eynsham, but he also says Mass every day. This means that you can always contact one or other of them by email or phone to ask for special prayers if you have a special need. Just remember that you are, and the whole world is, being prayed for

**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 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/**

### **THAMES VALLEY FARMERS MARKET**

Witney	08.30 - 13.30	Fri 22 May	Fri 26 June
Woodstock	08.30 - 13.00	Sat 6 & 20 June	Sat 4 July

Details of other Farmers' Markets at **www.tvfm.org.uk**



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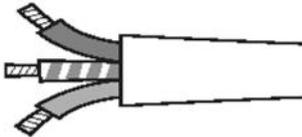
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## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2020

Thank you to all who kindly donated to the Christian Aid Week appeal online last month. We hope that anyone who took part in the letter hunt around the village enjoyed it too!

While we won't be able to find out this year how much we raised as a village, we do know that all contributions will make a difference to those in need around the world. As Christian Aid puts it: 'As this virus spreads across the world, love rises up in response.....Your love protects. From storms, from drought, and now from coronavirus. Your love protects our global neighbours battling the spread of this illness. Your love protects. With soap, clean water and medical supplies.'

It is not too late to make donation if you still wish to at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>. Thank you for your support.

Fiona McGrady

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## HANBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

Contact: Gill Breakspear Tel: **883914**. Email: [gillbreakspear@btinternet.com](mailto: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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## 1st HANBOROUGH FREELAND SCOUT GROUP

The lockdown continues to interrupt our usual programme of meetings and events, but that hasn't stopped us from still connecting with our members.

For example, **Cubs** have adapted well to holding virtual meetings via Zoom every Wednesday evening. Lately they have had Lego building challenges, played quizzes and bingo, and have been working towards gardening badges by attempting to grow pumpkins. Thank you very much to the Cubs leaders and volunteers for making these virtual meetings possible.

Due to the current pandemic situation, all Scouting events across Oxfordshire this summer have been cancelled. This means that events and camps that our members would normally have enjoyed participating in are no longer taking place, such as CESAW, Aqua Camp and County Awards Day. The Oxfordshire Scouts organisation is hoping to start running activities again from September, but this has yet to be confirmed. We will keep you informed as things develop.

Meanwhile, for loads of ideas of things you can do at home with your Beaver, Cub, Scout or Explorer, please visit [www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors](http://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors) and [www.scouts.org.uk/activities/?setting=At home](http://www.scouts.org.uk/activities/?setting=At%20home)

There are plenty of suggestions on there to keep you busy!

Don't forget to visit our website for regular news updates: [www.hfscouting.org.uk](http://www.hfscouting.org.uk)  
Matthew Ruddle (Publicity Rep)



*OM Healthy Body Healthy Mind*

*Vanessa McCready MAR*

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# **FREELAND FOOTBALL CLUB NEWS**

## **200 Club Draw**

1st prize: £ 20 No. 194 M. Few  
2nd prize: £ 10 No. 96 N. Ayton  
3rd prize: £ 5 No. 6 Mrs Molden



We hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. In the past month to keep everyone active, the teams have been undertaking a charity bike ride.

We decided to see if we could collectively cycle 1200 miles and raise **£1200** for the John Radcliffe Hospital Charity. With a large number of the squads, management and supporters joining in, we managed to smash the target, cycled over **2500 miles**, and raised over **£2000** for the charity.

After the Club's great effort, if you would like to donate to this amazing charity, go to **www.justgiving.com** and search "Freeland FC" and you will be able to donate via our fundraising page.

After last month's "Captain's Corner" from Dr Conor Almond, we have had literally two requests for another, so here we go... (Ben Symonds - Secretary Freeland FC)

With some time now passed since the village last saw live football, we are hopefully starting to see signs of Covid coming under control. This has led me to remember recent times where certain members of the club haven't showed this same level of control.

There was the time when, now chairman, Simon Hole did everything in his control to make sure that the referee was watching, before lashing out against a streetwise OUP team. This led to the same outcome as in the previous two games he had played against Chalgrove and Adderbury: Hole was given his marching orders, cementing himself as the Club's most carded player!

Unfortunately a lack of discipline is not reserved for players alone and serial tantrum thrower Phil Panting can be remembered for a lack of control over at Adderbury Park. After a short free kick between Howe and Lonsdale led to an Adderbury goal, Panting was incensed and headed straight for the car, leaving his famous cool box in pieces behind him.

Hopefully with time to reflect, all in the Club will come back with a heightened level of self-control.....!

Your Captain, Conor Allmond

**www.freelandfc.co.uk**

**Twitter: @freeland\_fc**

## **FREELAND PHOTO GROUP**

Freeland Photo Group usually meets in the Newell Room on the first and third Tuesday of every month, starting at **7.30pm**. Until further notice, however, in-person meetings of the group are cancelled and meetings are taking place virtually on the same schedule. When the UK government considers it safe to do so, in-person meetings will recommence. This will be advised in the Grapevine. In the meantime, please contact Paul Sayer on **paul.pshml@googlemail.com** for details of the virtual meetings and the programme.

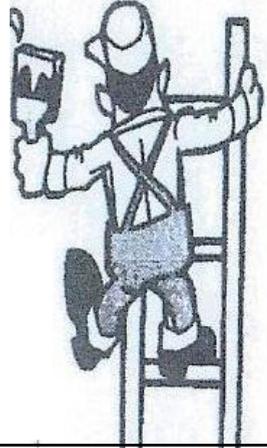
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## **BEAR & MONKEY**

Bear & Monkey would like to thank you all for coming to see them at **18 Church View**. The reason they originally wanted to sit in the front garden was just to say 'hello' to the children and hopefully brighten up their day as they walked past. But everyone has been so kind that they've made Bear & Monkey very happy too. And as the saying goes...."happiness never decreases by being shared".

Having now featured in the Oxford Mail, Oxford Times, Witney Gazette and on Facebook they thought they'd scaled all the dizzy heights but when we told them that they were to be on the front cover of the Grapevine they were just speechless.

A nearby resident then suggested capturing these Bear & Monkey happy moments forever with a Bear & Monkey village calendar and so this is now in the planning.

Bear & Monkey's favourite charity is called Msizi Africa. It is run by just 7 volunteers who, each day, raise enough money to feed 145 malnourished orphans and vulnerable children in the tiny country of Lesotho. Like most charities, it is now at risk of closing and so any profit from the calendars will be given to this worthy cause.



We can't confirm the exact cost of the calendar yet but if we can do it for **£9.95** (+P&P if needed) then we will do so. Because we need to know how many copies to order though, can you please let Bear & Monkey know how many you might like (no commitment at this stage) by e-mailing **john.clark@msiziafrica.org.uk** before **Sunday 7th June**. Alternatively please call on **01993 882127**.

And please don't forget that Bear & Monkey's calendar will be a unique memento of an unprecedented time in history for both children and grandchildren alike. It will also make a perfect Christmas gift for family & friends so please think "how many do I need?". And, given that it will be a limited edition, who knows, it may just turn up on the Antiques Road Show one day.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FREELAND CRAFT CLUB**

We have kept in contact with members and have worked on a simple project in our own homes. This month we have knitted small woollen balls, suitable for youngsters to use in the home without causing too much damage! A couple of patterns were circulated and it is interesting to compare the different results.



In June we will be making sets of finger puppets for the same good cause.

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

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## **EYNESHAM MEDICAL GROUP - IMPORTANT UPDATES**

The Long Hanborough and Eynsham Surgeries have always been open and remain open for non-Covid-19 consultations and advice. The Practice encourages any patient with such symptoms or other health concerns to get in touch with them using the normal methods. To continue to facilitate this, we are now asking patients who are attending the surgery for a pre-arranged appointment with a doctor or clinician to, please, **wear a face mask**. This is **not necessary for a visit to the pharmacy**. If you are unable to provide your own, please speak to a Patient Care Advisor upon your arrival.

It is essential that non-Covid-19 health issues are dealt with as quickly as possible to obtain swift appropriate treatment and avoid problems that can occur with delays.

For Covid-19 issues patients should contact NHS 111 preferably online at <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19> or by calling 111 free from any landline or mobile. For **any** emergency immediately ring **999** and tell the operator if it is Covid-19 related.

From **Tuesday 26th May all doctor appointments will be bookable on the day**. All appointments must be made by telephoning our Patient Care Advisors (Hanborough **01993 881330** & Eynsham **01865 881206**). As happens currently, an initial assessment will be made by the doctor on the telephone in either a morning or afternoon time slot. The doctor will then decide if you need to attend the surgery in person.

Alongside this improvement is our **eConsult** option which allows you to leave an electronic enquiry for your doctor. This is easily accessible from our website ([www.eynshammedicalgroup.org.uk](http://www.eynshammedicalgroup.org.uk)) and we will get back to you before the end of the next working day.

We hope these new innovations will help all our patients access the help and advice they need in a timely manner.

If you would like to leave feedback on these system improvements please do so by using the administrative queries section available at the bottom of the EMG website's home page.

\*\*\*\*\*



### **COMBE MILL, WI AND FAMILY HISTORY**

Just some times, all your current interests align....

You may remember that I used my interest in family history to write a series of small articles about the Freeland men whose names are on the war memorial. I was due to give the May WI talk on "Family History" to help others trace their family lines. One of the hints and tips I was going to give was to spend some time going through photographs and labelling them. I inherited a whole bag full of photographs from my parents and for many I have no idea who the people in them are or where they were taken, thank goodness some are in albums with names underneath and with a bit of detective work, some links can be made. Now is a good time to speak to relatives who might just have time to help with this labelling process.

*Continued.....*

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**500807**

Continued.....

At **Combe Mill** we have a collection of archive material relating to the building and the people who worked in various roles over time. Last month we were contacted by a local historian who had a photo of the Mill which will be added to our collection and displayed for visitors to see. I will certainly be adding it to the talks I give about the Mill. Why all the interest in an old black and white photo? It shows a scene that we do not have in our collection, of the whole building and yard. We can see a group of workers with a selection of tools, possibly the then Clerk of Works and a horse in front of the forge. Most exciting for Mill lovers is that it also has a view of the water course going straight to the water wheel area and therefore this is an exciting find. Unfortunately there are no names and date on the photograph - so again more detective work to do. When we reopen, everyone will be able to enjoy this view and if you have any memorabilia of this kind, we would love to hear from you.

Meanwhile - if you would like some help with your family history, feel free to contact me and for now, get busy labelling ....

**www.combemill.co.uk**

Julie Stuart-Thompson

\*\*\*\*\*

## **LITTLE FREE LIBRARY**

Well, here we are still in lockdown. For the time being this means that the volunteers and I have not been refilling shelves or tidying the Little Free Libraries, to keep everyone as safe as possible.

I can see, however, that people have continued to leave and take books.

You are of course welcome to continue using the Little Free Libraries, but this is at your own risk.



I would strongly suggest washing your hands before and after visiting, as well as cleaning any books that you choose to take from the Little Free Libraries.

I do have a stock of donated books that have been in storage for all this time, in quarantine, away from people. If you would like a selection of some of these books delivered to your door please get in touch with me and I'll see what I can do. I can't look for specific titles but could probably supply some from different genres. We don't have many children's books at this time, so this service would only be for grown-ups!

As I mentioned last time, members of the Oxfordshire libraries can download eBooks and eAudio onto your devices. Go to: **<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-culture/libraries/library/books-and-reading/ebooks-and-audio>**

Many children's authors and illustrators have been releasing videos on YouTube of them reading aloud or showing children how to draw like them. Search online for your favourite authors and see what they have been getting up to during the lockdown!

Stay safe.

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## **FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL – LISA’S NOTES MAY 2020**

### **Virtual Parish Council Meetings**

Following on from advice from OALC (Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils), it is recommended that Councils move towards holding virtual meetings until such time as it is considered safe to hold them in person again.

So, the next Parish Council meeting will now be held virtually via Zoom on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm**. If any members of the public wish to join the meeting, a link will be posted on the village website and on the village notice boards, or you can contact me at [lisa.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.fpc@gmail.com) to obtain the details.

### **Play equipment on playing field**

Just a gentle reminder that as per the Government's guidelines, all of the play equipment on the playing field 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!

### **Hedges**

A quick reminder about hedges as it's that time of year again when they are becoming overgrown. If you have a hedge or shrubs adjacent to a pavement, would you please check whether they are overhanging too much and would make it difficult for pedestrians, pushchairs or wheelchair users to pass, and, if so, please cut them back. Thank you very much.

### **Dog's mess – AGAIN!**

I've had another complaint about dog's mess, this time with dog's mess appearing daily on an elderly resident's front garden in Broadmarsh Lane. I must admit it is also getting worse in Broadmarsh Woods, especially on the footpaths. I don't know what more I can say about this, it's an incredibly frustrating problem and there really is no excuse. The poor resident in Broadmarsh Lane should not have to clear up mess on a daily basis – this is wholly unacceptable. Please clear up after your pet and keep our village clean and free of dog's mess! If you don't want to clear up after a dog, don't own one! It's that simple! Thank you!

### **Coronavirus – an update on some useful information**

I'm sure you all know this by now, but just in case anyone has lost their flyer or mislaid the information, I thought it wouldn't do any harm in repeating it again! Please find below lots of useful information regarding help with shopping, prescription collections and a friendly chat! Please note everyone that is helping will be known to us and will be a trusted source. This is a fast-changing environment, and for those with access to the internet I would urge you to visit the Freeland Village Website ([www.freelandoxon.co.uk](http://www.freelandoxon.co.uk)) and/or the Facebook page [www.facebook.com/groups/Freelandcovid19mutualaid](https://www.facebook.com/groups/Freelandcovid19mutualaid) for further info.

### **ESSENTIAL FOOD SHOPPING**

If you are unable to leave your house, 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.

*Continued.....*

Continued.....

## **PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION**

If you cannot collect your medicine yourself, 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](mailto:lisa.fpc@gmail.com) to let us know on which day your prescription needs picking up. The pharmacy have asked us to provide the dates of birth of patients to ensure that they are dispensing to the correct patient. A volunteer from Freeland will then deliver your prescription.

## **CHECK-IN FOR A CHAT**

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

**NEED SUPPORT?** Ring **01993 651330** and we will do our best to assist you. This is the central helpline number that we have set up for Freeland residents to get assistance. You can also join our Facebook group: [www.facebook.com/groups/Freelandcovid19mutualaid](https://www.facebook.com/groups/Freelandcovid19mutualaid)

We would like to express a massive **THANK YOU** to everyone who has offered their help and support, particularly our Street Champions and huge team of volunteers, without whom none of this could happen.

## **FOOD - Freeland businesses & local businesses that deliver to your door**

**The Oxfordshire Yeoman** [www.facebook.com/TheOxfordshireYeoman/](https://www.facebook.com/TheOxfordshireYeoman/)  
(shop 10am - 2pm, 7 days a week) **01993 881003**

**Freeland Nurseries** **01993 881430**

**Little Ox Brewery** [www.littleoxbrewery.co.uk](http://www.littleoxbrewery.co.uk)  
**01993 881941** order local beer – free delivery

**Off The Hook** (fish & chips, pizza, burgers etc) [www.offthehookdelivery.co.uk/](http://www.offthehookdelivery.co.uk/)  
**01993 883110 / 01993 357450**

**Mayfield Eggs** **01993 868584** [www.mayfieldeggs.co.uk/](http://www.mayfieldeggs.co.uk/)

**Wast0**, Fresh produce, £3 delivery, order via [www.facebook.com/Wast0/Witney](https://www.facebook.com/Wast0/Witney)

**The Edge Eatery** Eynsham (burgers, chicken, fish & chips) **07896 953194** Thurs, Fri & Sat 5-8:30pm <https://theedgeeateryltd.co.uk/>

**Thai To Go** **07971 345106** call before 6pm Fri (& poss Sat) Facebook: **ThaiToGo/**

**Golsby Butchers** Eynsham **01865 881219** <https://eynshambutchers.co.uk/>

**Bonnors Oxford** (fruit and veg) **01865 242183** [www.bonnorsoxford.shop/](http://www.bonnorsoxford.shop/)

**Church Hanbrewery** [www.churchhanbrewery.com](http://www.churchhanbrewery.com)  
(beer, wine and pizza) **07970 272617**

**Ready Steady Spice** (Indian) **01865 883333** [www.readysteadyspice.com](http://www.readysteadyspice.com)

**Bayleaf Restaurant** (Indian) **01865 884401** [www.bayleafeynsham.co.uk](http://www.bayleafeynsham.co.uk)

**Carpenter's Arms** (Cambodian) **01993 358874** F/book: [carpentersarmswitney](https://www.facebook.com/carpentersarmswitney)

**SEE MORE DELIVERY SUGGESTIONS ON PAGE 41**

Continued.....

Continued.....

**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. We have also received a "Care Package" from Waitrose (mainly tins and dried goods) that has been placed in the food bank.

Please email [lisa.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.fpc@gmail.com) or ring **01993 651330** if you'd like a food parcel or know of a resident in need.

## **USEFUL SERVICES**

**West Oxfordshire Coronavirus Help** [www.westoxon.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Dedicated phone line and email address for residents in West Oxon struggling to cope:

**01865 897820** Email: [shield@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:shield@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

**The Samaritans** (24 hours)  **116 123**

**For medical advice**, use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service at:

[111.nhs.uk/covid-19](http://111.nhs.uk/covid-19), or if you have no internet access, call 111 from your phone.

In a medical emergency, dial **999**.

Help is also available from **Volunteer Link Up 01993 776277**,

email: [office@vlu.org.uk](mailto:office@vlu.org.uk) and **Age UK** on **0345 450 1276** or **01865 411 288** or

email: [admin@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:admin@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk)

**Stay safe everyone and WASH THOSE HANDS!**

## **Eynsham Consolidated Charity**

Again, I would like to reiterate something included last month about the Eynsham Consolidated Charity which 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: [robinmitchell255@gmail.com](mailto:robinmitchell255@gmail.com)

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.

## **Planning Applications:**

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

**Applications Received: None**

## **Applications Approved:**

**20/00860/HHD 185 WROSLYN ROAD, FREELAND**

Erection of single storey front extension for Mr & Mrs Pinkney

Continued.....

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Continued.....

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

The next Parish Council meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on **Monday 15th June at 7.30pm**. Details of how to join the meeting will be available from **Wednesday 10th June** on the village website and notice boards or by contacting me at **[lisa.fpc@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:lisa.fpc@gmail.com)** .

\*\*\*\*\*

**FREELAND GARDENING CLUB**

Unfortunately none of us know when we will be able to return to our usual monthly meetings and outings. We certainly hope it will be sooner than the end of the year. Ray will rebook as many of this year’s cancelled speakers for next year so we look forward to that.

Gardens have continued to flourish particularly after the welcome rain. The risk of frost has passed, hopefully, so summer bedding plants can now be put in to brighten our gardens later in the summer. Freeland Nurseries have been very helpful, firstly with their Click and Collect scheme, and now fully open on a non-contact basis. We thank them for this and hope many will support them, rather than them having to throw away plants.

There are always the usual jobs to do in the garden such as mowing, weeding, staking, removing spring foliage when it has died down, and planting out summer bedding. We look forward to seeing colourful hanging baskets appearing round the village.

Possibly there will be a little more Gardening Club information to report next month.

For any further advice or information about the Club please contact Ray and Jill Evans at **[jillandray@btinternet.com](mailto:jillandray@btinternet.com)**

Janet Dalton (Publicity Secretary)



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## **FREELAND WI**

We continue to look at ways to keep in touch with our members. As well as our recently introduced monthly newsletter we are in the process of setting up a telephone tree where committee members will check in with members on a regular basis.

At our May meeting Julie Stuart-Thompson was going to talk about ancestry and tracing our family trees. She kindly sent us her presentation in a Word document format so we could have a go at home if we wanted. Thank you to her for providing this information which may keep some of us busy during lockdown.

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.

We 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.**

This month's tips have more or less been imposed on us by the lockdown restrictions, and thoughts of how things might be after lockdown.

#### **Tip 1) Buy Locally from small businesses**

Various campaigns have been started, encouraging shoppers to buy food and other products from small local suppliers and businesses. As well as preventing the burning of fossil fuels to fly food in from abroad and transporting it across country, buying locally produced food supports the local and UK economy. Buying UK manufactured goods similarly reduces pollution created by transportation.

#### **Tip 2) Plan to holiday in the UK**

With travel restriction likely to be in place for months to come it makes sense to plan to take a holiday in the UK. It will be good for the climate to cut out flying to holiday destinations and also will help UK tourism businesses.

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](mailto:freelandwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)

Website: <https://freelandwiuk.wixsite.com/freelandwi>

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

### **EXERCISE GROUP**

This friendly exercise group run by an Age UK tutor at the Village Hall, normally on Fridays 10.00am - 11.00am is currently **suspended** due to the coronavirus situation. First taster session is free. To suit all abilities (seated or standing). These classes are to build muscle strength & help prevent falls. Have fun and sing along to the music too. Olwen Radburn on **773432** or [olwen44@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:olwen44@tiscali.co.uk)

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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://martinmarais.wixsite.com/ox29anthology/about-submitting>**

For your enjoyment here is an excellent example of 'Flash fiction ' which is a very, very, short story.

Written by Martin Marais entitled **Tree of Life:**

### **TREE OF LIFE**

The tree was ancient and massive, and Vera hated it.

She hated its stag-horned appearance, its massive hollow trunk that housed bats, foxes and other vermin, and she hated the way it stole the sun light from her little kitchen.

John had loved it and he had poo-pooed her desire to have it felled. Even when their son had fallen from it, breaking his arm.

"It's not the tree's fault," John had said.

Even when she suspected village youths were using it as a hiding place to smoke and drink and goodness knows what else, he would still not countenance the idea of getting rid of it.

But he was gone now. She was now in charge. She would speak to the farmer. Get him to chop it down. After all these years of suffering its presence it would be gone. She glared at it from her darkened window.

It stood on the far side of the narrow lane, defying her.

She flung her dish cloth into the sink and hobbled from the kitchen. She snatched her coat from its hook, dragged open her cottage door and tottered across the lane, struggling into her coat. She stopped in front of the tree.

"You're coming down," she said gleefully.

She frowned. Had she heard the tree groan? Was it still defying her?

"Oh, yes, you are!"

Yes, there it was again. A creaking moan, a defiant sound.

She stepped closer, scowling with irritation. The tree towered over her small, frail figure.

"You'll be down before the end of the week."

The tree creaked at her. She scowled back. There was a tremendous crack. She looked up, saw the great branch crashing towards her. She screamed. The bough fell on her, crushed her. Above her lifeless body, a breeze set the leaves to a gentle, victorious dance.

© Martin Marais 2019

# 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](mailto:vickysafterschoolclubbookings@gmail.com)

## **FREELAND CRICKET CLUB**

There's not a great deal to report, as we are still in lockdown we are not allowed to do any coaching or playing and we have not heard whether there will be any organised cricket this summer. However, we are hoping that there will be an easing of restrictions which will allow some cricket from July.

Some good news is that we were successful in a bid for a grant from Sport England, which means we can meet some of the costs of our winter expenditure. These would normally have been paid by player subscriptions. This should mean that we will go into the winter with enough money to cover next winter's costs.

Our next fundraising activity will be to raise funds for a new cricket pitch mower. These are really expensive, and we are likely to buy a second hand one, which will cost over **£1,000**. The good news is that they last a long time. Our current mower is about 50 years old, which scarily is 3 years younger than me, it runs quicker than me and we are scrapping it! It makes me think of my own mortality every time I see it!

As soon as there is any information we will post it on our Facebook page and our website.

In the meantime keep safe, be alert and be mindful others.

Simon Brown - Chair Freeland CC

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

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

Facebook: **Freeland Cricket Club**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **HELLO FROM FREELAND PRE-SCHOOL**

Well, it has been a strange time at Freeland Pre-school - we have been closed since the end of March. However, for the last two weeks of May, we will be open for a key worker's child. The staff have been busy setting work for the children to complete at home.



We have sadly had to cancel both of our open days due to Covid-19, however parents looking for a Pre-school place for September can take a virtual tour on our website or Facebook page. These sites also have many photos to show the fun things we get up to at Pre-school. If you are interested in your child starting with us, please email us at [freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk). We take children from ages 2 to 5 and both 15 and 30 hours funding is available.

We work in partnership with Freeland Primary School and parents are able to join in with regular cooking and reading events. We also have a large outdoor area and offer Outdoor Explorer sessions in the nearby woodland.

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





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## COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT



Most of us depend on supermarkets to survive. More and more, however, people are wondering where our food comes from and how it is brought to our table. The lock down has encouraged many of us to have a go at growing and learn from those with the knowhow. From a single seed, watching something grow has provided solace and inspiration to many people; this should continue.

We should all be able to access food within walking distance from our homes. With that aim in mind, we would like to propose a community garden in Freeland.

Community gardens offer more than just food production. They can be productive healing spaces offering plant- based education, environmental stewardship, and community action.

Together we can create a food system that is run by the people of Freeland, for the people of Freeland, and by doing that we may inspire other villages, towns, and cities to do the same.

### Veg Box Scheme

During this time some of us are planting fruit and veg in our gardens/allotments. If you are an experienced grower or first-time grower and happy to donate any fruit or veg to others in the village, then please get in touch. All produce welcome. There will be boxes outside the following addresses to drop off veg/fruit whilst on your daily walks:

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

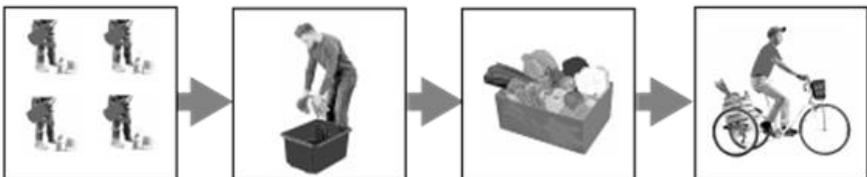
Please call **07917 840 969** or email **russfish18@hotmail.com** to request a veg/fruit parcel.

To join the online Freeland community growers, go to:

**[www.facebook.com/groups/freelandgrowers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/freelandgrowers)**

Questionnaires will be sent out in due course. We want to know what you think.

Russell & Sinead



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## **BLANDFORD FLY**

The fly is a small 2-3mm insect usually found in E. Anglia, Oxfordshire and Dorset. The bites are most common during May and June. They often occur on the legs & can be very painful. Simple precautions like wearing long sleeved shirts & trousers will act as a deterrent to getting bitten. Stay away from clouds of flies on river banks as these flies can bite. Treatment notes at [www.bit.ly/EynshamBlandford](http://www.bit.ly/EynshamBlandford)



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## **FREELAND ORCHESTRA**

Freeland Orchestra are really missing their rehearsals, but we have been meeting up online from time to time and enjoyed a music quiz this week. Initially many assumed that we could continue our rehearsals online after seeing videos of people playing music together remotely, but sadly due to the time delay this is impossible. All the videos that are out on social media require special software and technical skills to piece together all the players' individual recordings.

Two of our other groups, WOW & WOL, the wind bands, have however taken up the challenge of making a socially distanced audio of one of their pieces from last year "Somewhere Over the Rainbow". This has proved an interesting experience for the members and also for the son of one of our players who has offered to piece it all together for us! We're really looking forward to hearing the finished result and choosing our next project...

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

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Morning: 9.15am-12.15pm (£15)

Afternoon: 12.15pm-3.15pm (£15)

Email: [freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:freelandpg@hotmail.co.uk), Website: [www.freelandpreschool.org](http://www.freelandpreschool.org), Follow us on



Freeland Pre-school, PFSU, Freeland Primary School, Parklands, Freeland OX29 8HX



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

## **FARMING WITH NATURE - Farm Diary - April 2020**

"If the Oak before the Ash, then we'll only have a splash, if the Ash before the Oak, then we'll surely have a soak". If the old saying rings true, we are set for a dry summer...the Oak trees are in leaf before the Ash.

After praying for a little dry weather, we have enjoyed a month with only one wet day. The spring oats are planted but desperate for rain, as are the grass fields, but I am not complaining, since we were able to turn the cows and calves out to pasture almost a month earlier than last year. It saves so much work and, fresh pastures are a much healthier environment for young calves.

Our cows experience 'lockdown' every autumn and initially are happy to be in straw filled yards, quickly settling into winter routine. The spring turnout must feel a long overdue release from their confinement, they celebrate with a lap around the field, tails held high and calves at their heels.

The first Swallows returned back to us on 14<sup>th</sup> April and immediately checked out their regular nesting sites in our ancient stone tithe barn. One of the few large stone barns in the Parish not converted to a house, it is home to multiple Swallow nests. The Swallows are very vocal with their delightful chattering.

The Swifts can now be seen over Pinsley Wood and Sand Martins have returned to their old nesting sites in a disused gravel-pit bank. House Martins alight in the farmyard beside the only damp patch of soil to collect material for their mud nests. Mixed with their saliva as a bonding agent, the nest defies gravity, clinging to the underside of eaves.

The beautiful weather welcomes our fondest summer visitor, the Cuckoo. Despite its dubious and parasitic habit of laying its eggs in other bird's nests, spring would not be complete without the sound of his evocative call. These remarkable birds leave their winter home in the Congo, Central Africa and migrate across the Sahara Desert, a journey of approximately 4,000 miles. As with so many species, the cuckoo is in decline for a variety of reasons, mostly climate change and habitat loss, resulting in a reduction to only ¼ of the breeding pairs that visited our island 25 years ago.

The current, diminished traffic noise allows their call to be heard over a much greater distance. The area to the north of Eynsham, including City Farm, is their favourite haunt.

The current pandemic has brought tragedy and hardship, it has also brought unexpected positives. Nature has, once again, been allowed centre stage with birdsong the predominant sound. The air is cleaner, the sky no longer crisscross with vapour trails, ponds and birdbaths are devoid of their oily film from aviation. The roads currently carry the volume of traffic they were built for and Sunday mornings are again serene, unspoilt by the scream of high-performance motorcycles.

We are very fortunate living here, where beautiful walks are easily accessed. Cyclists, walkers and runners safely reclaim the country lanes and rediscover the wonders of nature. I continue to self-isolate with my cows, or in my tractor.

The farming year continues unabated...May beckons.

Robert Crocker, Glebe Farm

# ••SIBLINGS••

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

## DIX PIT HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE

The Centre re-opened on **Monday 18th May**, and is open 7 days a week from **8am to 4pm**. Government guidance says that trips to recycling centres should only be made if 'essential' and Oxfordshire County Council says that means if the waste cannot be safely stored at home or disposed of through other legitimate routes such as dedicated kerbside or bulky waste collection. For more information see: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastereopenquestions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastereopenquestions)

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## THE UNACCEPTED FREELAND RAMBLERS - May 2020

When can we walk again? I hear you ask,  
Well with Covid around, an impossible task,  
As we ramble in words, we wait and plan,  
And consider the past,  
Will the Ramblers' founders be unmasked?

In 2015 we hatched the plot,  
In the Yeoman, believe it or not,  
To get some fresh air,  
With the four friends there,  
We thought we'd give it a shot,

With Dento, appeared the scribbling,  
The dogs in attendance, they didn't need bribing,  
We rambled along,  
In safety and song,  
Could our ramble now go viral?

A hot water bottle, a pushchair, and wheelbarrow,  
Surely Dento ploughed a different furrow,  
A grabber for litter, here's something  
"Should come in handy",  
We nod, knowingly, and follow.

And our leader could not explain his exit,  
Although he hovers just like flippin' Brexit,  
And still he makes us smile, by saying,  
One day I'll bring a fridge along. Is he playing?

But where are we going they say,  
Why worry, we answer, our guide knows the way.



Mr E. Writer

\*\*\*\*\*

## CALLING ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES

On **page 15** you will have read about the proposed "Bear & Monkey" calendar. If any local businesses would like to support this project by offering a **£50** sponsorship then please contact John on [john.clark@msiziafrica.org.uk](mailto:john.clark@msiziafrica.org.uk) by **Sunday 7th June**. Until contact is made with the printer it is impossible to say whether sponsors' names can appear on the calendar itself but, at the very least, a list of sponsors will be included with each calendar sold. Thank you.



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**Free range chicken eggs** - 23 The Blowings, Freeland (collect only) - £1.25 for 6 eggs

**UE Coffee Roasters** - 01993 706767 [www.uecoffeeoasters.com](http://www.uecoffeeoasters.com)

**Hunters Cake Café** - [www.hunterscake.cafe](http://www.hunterscake.cafe)

**Hanborough Home Bake** - [www.facebook.com/hanboroughhomebake](http://www.facebook.com/hanboroughhomebake)

**Eynsham Cellars** - [www.eynshamcellars.com](http://www.eynshamcellars.com)

**Witney Blanket Hall Pies** - [www.facebook.com/witneyblankethall](http://www.facebook.com/witneyblankethall)

**Eastern Cuisine** - [www.easterncuisine.co.uk](http://www.easterncuisine.co.uk)

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- M 25 May **BANK HOLIDAY**
- Th 28 May Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- Tu 2 Jun **The VIRTUAL CAKE CAFÉ!** Please visit [www.janecakestudio.co.uk](http://www.janecakestudio.co.uk)
- W 3 Jun Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- W 10 Jun Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- W 17 Jun Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- W 24 Jun Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- W 1 Jul Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- W 8 Jul Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection



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Please view our website to read our Prospectus and contact us to arrange a visit and meet our team.

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**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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### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - The VIRTUAL CAKE CAFÉ!**

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Please visit **www.janecakestudio.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**

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The deadline for articles or adverts for the **July Grapevine** is **Friday 12th June**

The **July** edition should be in the church porch (if it is open) and online at **www.freelandoxon.co.uk** from about **Friday 26th June**.

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

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

The cost of a Small Advertisement is **20p per word**. Please make cheques payable to **'FREELAND GRAPEVINE'**. Contact Kenny Wylie about costs for other adverts. 1/3rd page size is 60mm high x 120mm wide, 1/2 page size is 90mm high x 120mm wide

**Adverts: grapevineadverts@gmail.com**

**Articles: freelandgrapevine@gmail.com**

Or mail: Kenny Wylie, 1 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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