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January 2020

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## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FREELAND

### Services for December 2019

22nd	08.00	Holy Communion	(Rev. David Tyler)
<b>24th</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>		
	17.00	Christingle Service	(Rev. David Tyler)
	23.15	Holy Communion	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)
<b>25th</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>		
	10.00	Holy Communion	(Rev. Sue Spankie)
<b>29th</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>Holy Communion with children's activities at Manor School Long Hanborough</b>	

### Services for January 2020

5th	10.00	Family Service	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)
12th	08.00	Holy Communion	(Rev. David Tyler)
19th	10.00	Holy Communion with Junior Church	(Rev. David Tyler)
26th	08.00	Holy Communion	(Revs David Tyler and Mike Madden)

### Services for February 2020

2nd	10.00	Family Service	(Rev. David Tyler)
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### St Mary's Junior Church

St. Mary's Junior Church meets at 10 - 11am on the third Sunday of every term-time month. The leaders and children leave the service during the first hymn and walk through the churchyard to the quiet Convent Chapel. There, using crafts, games, DVD, and drama we explore the same passage as the adult congregation. We have the chance to be slightly noisier in our study!

We then walk back to church to join our families for a blessing or communion.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Babies and Toddlers at St Mary's meet in the church on **Wednesday**

mornings at **10.00 - 11.30am**. Mums, dads, grandparents, carers and their pre-schoolers are very welcome.

There are toys, a craft or activity and, of course, snacks and drinks for children and adults. Please bring a 50p donation.

The group runs weekly during term time and on an ad hoc basis in the school holidays. Please contact either Alice on **886833** or David on **881270**; or see our Facebook page to find out more: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/958595840860028/>

\*\*\*\*\*

**11+ Hitchhikers** meeting in Hanborough at 7pm on Sunday evening.

**For further information on all these groups or services phone David on 881270 or visit [www.achurchnearyou.com/st-mary-the-virgin-freeland](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/st-mary-the-virgin-freeland) or [www.hanboroughparish.org.uk](http://www.hanboroughparish.org.uk)**

**THANK YOU TO BRUCE HAMMERSLEY FOR THE COVER PHOTO**

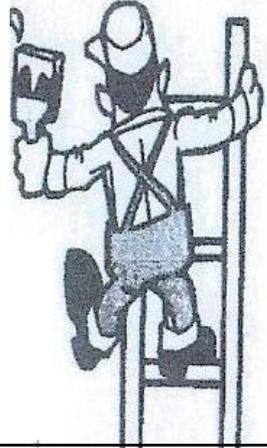
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**Letter from our Rector:**

Dear friends,

I wonder what your new year will hold? Fresh start? New friends? New job? New hope? Or perhaps not so much change? Same job, same family, same friends? There are aspects of the new year which I like - but there are aspects of the new year I really don't like. Few of us, when asked 'what have you achieved this last year' are likely to reel off a large list of our successes, we are more likely to get slightly disheartened.

And yet many of us have made significant progress in our lives. We've all weaned - many of us have learnt to write and talk and walk. Many of us can drive and more importantly we have the capacity to love. Many of us have friends and a roof over our heads. We may have had important jobs or done important things for family or friends in our lives.

We have all made huge achievements in our lives and yet when asked to think about what we have done in the last 12 months, our minds are more likely to turn to what we have not achieved, rather than to what we have.

I wonder whether looking forward is better for us than looking back?

St Paul writes 'Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead ...'. I prefer this perspective. We don't need to be bound by past mistakes, just asking for forgiveness we can look forward to what might be. A good way for all of us to look - looking forward in hope. And as St Paul looks forward he himself ultimately looks to heaven.

So I hope this new year you are not dispirited, but that you have lots to give thanks for. But if you don't have a long list of achievements (like most of us) try accepting God's forgiveness for what has gone wrong and try looking forward to the good things that may lay ahead.

With best wishes,

David

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**Funerals:** Joan Radbourne 29th November 2019  
Margaret Oldfield 2nd December 2019

\*\*\*\*\*

**HANBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH**

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

- Sun 22nd Dec 18.00 Carol Service led by Rev. Richard Donoghue
- Wed 25th Dec 10.00 Christmas Day Service led by Mr David Sarbutts
- Sun 29th Dec 10.00 Rev. Rose Westwood
- Sun 5th Jan 10.00 Rev. Charles Harris -Covenant Service (Holy Communion)
- Sun 12th Jan 10.00 Mr Graham Faulkner
- Sun 19th Jan 10.00 Rev. Nigel Knights-Johnson
- Sun 26th Jan 10.00 Mr I. Prince
- Sun 2nd Feb 10.00 Rev. Charles Harris (Holy Communion)

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**December 2019**

22nd	10.00 Holy Communion	(Rev. Sue Spankie)	St Peter & St Paul
	10.00 Morning Worship	(Rev. David Tyler)	Manor School
	<b>18.00 Carol Service</b>		<b>St Peter &amp; St Paul</b>
			<b>(Revs Emma Hopegood Jones and David Tyler)</b>
24th	<b>Christmas Eve</b>		
	15.00 Crib Service	(Revs Sue Spankie and David Tyler)	St Peter & St Paul
	23.15 Holy Communion		St Peter & St Paul
		(Revs David Tyler and Mike Madden)	
25th	<b>Christmas Day</b>		
	09.30 Holy Communion	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)	Christ Church
	10.00 Family Worship with Holy Communion		Manor School
		(Rev. David Tyler)	
29th	<b>10.00 Holy Communion with children's activities</b>		<b>Manor School</b>
		(Rev. David Tyler)	

**January 2020**

5th	08.00 Holy Communion	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)	St Peter & St Paul
	10.00 Morning Worship	(Rev. Mike Madden)	Manor School
	18.00 BCP Holy Communion	(Rev. Sue Spankie)	Christ Church
12th	10.00 Holy Communion with baptism		St Peter & St Paul
		(Rev. Emma Hopgeood Jones)	
	10.00 Holy Communion	(Rev. Sue Spankie)	Manor School
	18.00 Evening Prayer	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)	Christ Church
19th	08.00 Holy Communion	(Rev. David Tyler)	St Peter & St Paul
	10.00 Worship Together	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)	Manor School
	10.00 Morning Prayer	(Rev. Sue Spankie)	Christ Church
	18.00 Compline	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)	Christ Church
26th	10.00 Holy Communion	(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)	Ss Peter & Paul
	10.00 Morning Worship	(Rev. David Tyler)	Manor School
	18.00 Evening Prayer	(Rev. Sue Spankie)	Christ Church

**February 2020**

2nd	08.00 Holy Communion	(Rev. David Tyler)	St Peter & St Paul
	10.00 Morning Worship		Manor School
	18.00 BCP Holy Communion		Christ Church
		(Rev. Emma Hopegood Jones)	

This information is correct at the date published. 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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**SUNDAY MASS** is at 10.00am with a Children's Liturgy during Mass and **SATURDAY** for Sunday 5.00pm.

**Mass** also on Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays at **9.30am**, Wednesdays & Thursdays at **10.00am**. (As these times change occasionally, please consult the Weekly Newsletter online)

**THE PARISH PRIEST:** Father Mark Lagorio is happy to receive enquiries by phone on **01865 881613** or on email **stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com**

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

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## **OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**Christmas Eve** Mass with Carols especially suitable for families **5.00pm**  
Mass, like at Midnight, but earlier **8.00pm**

**Christmas Morning** Traditional Christmas Morning Mass **10.00am**

**ADVENT** begins on **Sunday 1st December** and as usual one of the children will be asked to light one, two, three and then four candles on our Advent Wreath each Sunday as we get closer to Christmas.

**CHILDREN UNDER 8** have their own Liturgy in the Tolkien Room and then rejoin the rest of us, bringing forward what they have drawn or created. Parents are welcome to come out with their children and stay with them if they are very little or very shy.

**OUR NEW YEARS DAY CELEBRATIONS** are on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January** and begin with a Mass with Carols at **10.00am** followed by Coffee/Tea and Cake in the Tolkien Room. This is part of our celebration of Christmas for the Twelve Days

**CHRISTMAS ENDS** on the Twelfth Day which we call the FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY but since that is a Monday this year we will celebrate it a day early on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January** at our **10.00am** Mass. This is when we celebrate the coming of the first non-Jews to see Jesus. The Wise Men represent the whole world turning towards the light (the star) and finding God.

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## *Christmas Services December 2019*

*You are warmly invited to join us at any of our services.*



<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>6pm</b>	<i>Carol Service, followed by refreshments</i>	<i>St Peter &amp; St Paul</i>
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3pm</b>	<i>Crib Service</i>	<i>St Peter &amp; St Paul</i>
	<b>5pm</b>	<i>Christingle Service</i>	<i>St Mary's, Freeland</i>
	<b>11.15pm</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>St Mary's, Freeland</i>
	<b>11.15pm</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>St Peter &amp; St Paul</i>
<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Christ Church</i>
	<b>10am</b>	<i>Family Worship with Holy Communion (Children, bring your presents!)</i>	<i>Manor School</i>
	<b>10am</b>	<i>Holy Communion (Children, bring your presents!)</i>	<i>St Mary's, Freeland</i>

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## **FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL - DECEMBER 2019**

### **White line painting**

Some of you may have noticed that the white lines have FINALLY been repainted by the corner of Parklands and Wroslyn Road so that they extend further around the corner. This is something I have been trying to get done for around 9 months, and I am so pleased that they have finally been done. This is to help keep the junction clear of cars, especially at school drop off and pick up times when it can get incredibly busy and chaotic. Please help to keep the school zone safe by not parking on these white lines, they are there for a reason and it's much better and safer for everyone if people park sensibly and walk the extra few steps to the school.

Some access protection markings have also been painted by the driveway of the two houses opposite the school, plus some by the houses near the village hall. Again, please do not park on these lines, they are there to protect the access to these houses who regularly have their driveways blocked by people parking inconsiderately. Thank you - your co-operation is much appreciated.

### **Patchwork resurfacing**

The patchwork resurfacing work has also now been completed (plus the cutting back of the trees and bushes) along Cuckoo Lane, which should help to improve the road surface and stop cars being scratched by the large branches that were sticking out. There is still some road surface that needs doing but we've been informed that sadly this doesn't meet the criteria for fixing as yet.

So, in the meantime if you spot a pothole, the quickest and easiest way to report it directly to OCC Highways via the Fix my Street website at

**<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>** . Just put in the postcode or road name, give details of the problem and it will get sent to OCC Highways to be fixed. Photos are often helpful to include as well to help identify where the problem is or how big a pothole it is. Thanks.

### **Thank you!**

Two thank you's to make this month! A big thank you to the Teddy Girls for a donation of £115 from funds raised at their chocolate tombola at the Christmas Tree lighting event in December. This is always a popular activity and our thanks go to all involved in raising these funds. This donation will be added to their previous donation of £475 for a new picnic table on the field. Plus thank you to Graham Lay for helping to convert the old phone box by the village hall to a new little free library – your assistance is much appreciated. Matthew will be reporting more about this separately

### **Thanks & Merry Christmas!**

I would like to take this opportunity to say another little thank you! Christmas is often the time for reflection and I would like to thank the Parish Councillors for all their support, especially this past year. I am fortunate enough to work with a fantastic group of people, who all voluntarily give up their time and efforts for the good of our wonderful village.

I would also like to offer a word of thanks to you, our residents, for the support you give to our Councillors and parish as a whole. We have wonderful groups who do some amazing fundraising, we have volunteers who clean road signs, check and clean memorial plaques, check and clear footpaths,

*Continued.....*

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Continued.....

and all of the other little but important things that all count in keeping Freeland a wonderful village in which to reside.

On behalf of Freeland Parish Council, may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a happy and healthy New Year!

**Planning Applications:**

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

**Applications Received:**

**19/03094/HHD                      GLEBE FARM, THE GREEN, FREELAND**

First floor extension for Mr R Crocker.

**Applications Approved:**

**19/02890/HHD                      56 BROADMARSH LANE, FREELAND**

Alterations and erection of single storey front and rear extensions for Mr D. Cascone.

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

The next council meeting will be held on:

**Monday 20th January, 7.30pm in the Newell Room.**

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

If you wish to contact the Parish Council about a particular matter and have access to the internet, please have a look at the village website where lots of useful information is held. The website can be accessed via **www.freelandoxon.co.uk** . Alternatively, please contact me between the hours of 9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday to Friday - Lisa Smith, Parish Clerk on **01993 880067** or email **lisa.fpc@gmail.com** .

This month's Parish Councillor Profile is on **page 33** and is about Bill Phillips.

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## 1st HANBOROUGH FREELAND SCOUT GROUP

Firstly, a big THANK YOU to everyone that helped deliver the Christmas post in Long Hanborough last month. 50% of the money raised was for Sobell House and 50% for our groups; I'll let you know the

figures next month.

As we start this new year, we are in need of new volunteers to help keep our groups running smoothly. Our current Beaver leader, Keith (also known as Bear) is stepping down, due to a change in circumstances which means he is not always available to run the Beaver sessions on Wednesday evenings, at Freeland Village Hall.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Keith for the dedication and hard work that he put into being the Beavers leader. All the Beavers children enjoyed their experiences with him, and we wish him well for the future.

This means that we are looking to find somebody to take over Keith's Beaver Leader role as soon as possible, and we also need extra assistant leaders to join and support our Beaver colony.

Children that join Beavers are lucky enough to enjoy a wide range of fun and engaging activities which really benefit them in so many ways. We cannot provide these opportunities without volunteer leaders, so we really do need you!

There is a lot of support available to help for our volunteers, including the leaders from other sections, our Group Scout Leader (Adam), the Executive Committee who work hard behind the scenes, and also the West Oxfordshire Scout District.

To find out more information about how you can support the Beavers group, or to hear more about what is involved in becoming a member of our leadership team, then please contact our Group Scout Leader, Adam by sending him an email to:

**[gsl@hfscouting.org.uk](mailto:gsl@hfscouting.org.uk)**

Alternatively, visit our website **<https://www.hfscouting.org.uk/>** and click the Contact link to send us your details.

Matthew Ruddle (Publicity Rep)

\*\*\*\*\*

## WITNEY MUSIC SOCIETY

The next concert in our 2019-20 season will be given by the Piatti Quartet who'll be playing string quartets by Haydn, Shostakovich and Beethoven. This concert is at **7.30pm on Friday 10th January.**

In February, Mark Taylor (flute) and Gabriella Jones (harp) will be playing works by composers including Piazzola, Bartok, Hamilton Harty and Ravi Shankar. The concert is at **7.30pm on Friday 14 February.**

Both concerts are at the High Street Methodist Church, Witney. Tickets **£12**, under 19 **£1**, will be available at the door from **7pm.**

For more information, please telephone **01993 702296** or visit the Witney Music Society website **[www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.witneymusicsociety.org.uk)**

LET'S CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR TOGETHER!

**NEW YEAR'S  
EVE FAMILY  
PARTY!**

**31 december 2019 | 10:30 to noon  
Freeland Village Hall**

Bring a plate and a song to dance to!  
Suggested £5 donation per family.  
All proceeds will go to Freeland Primary School.

for info: search "NYE Family Party & Fundraiser" on Facebook  
or email: [josieinaldo@gmail.com](mailto:josieinaldo@gmail.com)

## THE UNACCEPTED FREELAND RAMBLERS 1st December 2019

A long time ago in a village far, far away, where rivers ebbed and maybe even flowed, flora and fauna were king and the woodland animals were free to meander and ramble (see what I did there) wherever they wanted. Then the roads came and people populated small hamlets which soon became villages.... "Well, what a load of old tosh!" said Mrs Trellis as she looked up from her lardy cake!



Speaking of roads, this months ramble took us along the winding Freeland/Eynsham road (no, not Cuckoo Lane as some might say), we thought we would check on the progress of the pothole plugging gang and nearly got killed in the process as certain people don't know what 'Road Closed' signs mean!

8 people traversed this completely new route and thoroughly enjoyed themselves while learning facts and local stories a-plenty. Was there a tune of the month worthy of this fantastic route I hear you ask....well of course there was and it was 'Fix You' by Coldplay.

Then back through the fields by a route contrived not to get our feet too wet and muddy. In spite of this a splinter group chose to follow a wet, cycle-infested lane while the rest ploughed on across a wet grass-infested field. Harmony was restored when the two groups reunited further along the route and we made it back in time for the Farmers' Market.

The Unaccepted Ramblers wish you a happy and healthy 2020.

Do join the next Unacceptable Ramble at **9.30am** on **Sunday 5th January** from The Oxfordshire Yeoman. Newcomers always welcome.

Distances are normally between 5 and 8 miles, depending on conditions and the whim of the leaders.

Brought to you by Mapper/Shed productions

\*\*\*\*\*

## COMBE MILL

Just a quick thank you to all the Freelanders who either volunteer at, are members of, or have visited the Mill this year to support the fundraising. The weather was particularly kind to us at both the Easter and Christmas Market this year and valuable funds raised will enable us to continue the work carried out over the winter, to restore and enhance the visitor experience.



### Advance notice:

**March Steaming Sunday** will be devoted to **STEM** - if you know any budding engineers, this will be the event for them.

**April Steaming Sunday** - step back in time to the home front in the 1940s, hear Churchill speak and enjoy information and artefacts from the times, accompanied by singing from the era.

Keep up to date with events by visiting our website: [www.combemill.co.uk](http://www.combemill.co.uk)

Julie Stuart-Thompson Combe Mill Direct

## Freeland Pre-School chosen to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund!

You may already be aware that when you present your Co-op membership card at the till, the Co-op puts:

- 5% of what you spend into your Co-op membership account. *You can spend the rewards on most things you can buy from the Co-op, you also get offers to save on food shopping and exclusive prices from other Co-op businesses.*
- **A further 1% goes to local causes.**

You can now choose **Freeland Pre-School** as your local cause by going online to:

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/31960>

**And, if you're not a member yet? You can also join by going to the link above!**

**We would be really grateful if you choose to support us.**



**Freeland Pre-School**

Registered Charity No 1015592

## FREELAND COMMUNITY BUS TIMETABLE

**Every THURSDAY – but see “AVAILABILITY” below  
£1 each way. Or you can use your bus pass.**

### **Outbound pickup:**

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

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

Waitrose car park, Witney  
Sainsbury's supermarket, Witney

### **Return pickup:**

Sainsbury's supermarket, Witney ----- 12.00noon  
Waitrose car park, Witney ----- 12.10pm

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

For suggestions or requests for additional pick up / drop off points please call

**Bill Darbon on 881926**

### **AVAILABILITY**

We expect to provide a service every Thursday for the rest of 2019 except for Boxing Day. Any interruption in the early part of 2020 will be notified by the issue of a new version of this timetable.

### **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)**

Version 009 11/07/2019

## **FREELAND VILLAGE HUB**

As we continue to wait for news of the sale of the Methodist Church we start this new decade with renewed hope that 2020 might be the year when our hopes for a Freeland Village Hub may finally begin.

**Do remember that we are still accepting Pledges to buy shares in FCBS Ltd**, so if you did

not send in your pledge letter in 2019 the opportunity to do so is still there. The more investment pledges we receive, the more match funding we will be able to raise and the more likely we are to succeed in opening a shop and café. If you would like a form or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact a member of the committee and we will provide the necessary form and information.

Earlier in December the latest concert to raise funds for the project was held in Church. The theme was Carols from Afar, led by some of the members of the Foxgloves Consort. Seven players led the congregation in both well known and more unusual Christmas music playing recorders varying in size from Soprano to Great Bass. Our thanks to the Reverend David Tyler for allowing us to play and rehearse in St Mary the Virgin, a donation to Church funds was made.

Best wishes for 2020 from the members of the Committee.

To make contact the website address is **www.freelandcbs.community** or email **freelandvillagehub@gmail.com**

Jane Duff January 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

## **ALUMINIUM COLLECTION (Part 7)**

On behalf of the Freeland Village Hub I continue to collect aluminium in the form of drinks cans, clean foodtrays and foil. Please, no food cans, these are made from steel.

These items may be left with me at **139 Wroslyn Road** or I can collect from you. Should you have aluminium in a different form, then this can also be left with me. Also welcome are copper, brass and lead in any form - all will be sold to a metal salvage company and the proceeds donated to the "Hub".

The response from villagers and others continues to amaze, with the containers I place on the grass verge and behind the hedge continually being filled up.

The Oxfordshire Yeoman, The Hand and Shears, The Queen's Head (Eynsham) and The Red Lion (Cassington) and two local bowls clubs continue to save all their cans for which I am most grateful.

I have constructed a can crusher so please do not crush the cans yourself, the machine works best with un-dented cans. You are most welcome to fully crush them yourself of course.

Between December 2018 and December 2019 I have crushed more than **45000** cans which together with donations of materials from individuals from Freeland and neighbouring villages has now raised a grand total of **£449**. This sum includes a donation made by the metal salvage company (Smiths of Crawley).

Thank you and please keep donating.

Any questions please contact me - Graham Lay, **139 Wroslyn Road tel: 881464**



# BEFSA QUIZ NIGHT

"Help reduce poverty through education"

**Saturday 1st February 2020**

**Freeland Hall**

**7pm for a 7.30pm start**

**£12.50 per person including food**

Back for its third visit - come and enjoy this excellent evening  
Last year a Freeland based team were narrowly beaten by one from OCC .....  
Ticket price to include a meal, drinks available, raffle fundraiser  
6 people per team

Please contact Julie for more details

**julie.st@btinternet.com**

**www.befsa.org** Registered charity number: **1106964**



## **FREELAND AND HANBOROUGH FREE PILOT BUS SERVICE**

### **Monday & Friday To Witney via Eynsham**

- 10:00 Church Hanborough, SS Peter & Paul Church**
- 10:06 Long Hanborough, Witney Rd, opp. Rec. Hall**
- 10:13 Freeland Village Hall**
- 10:20 Eynsham, Bartholomew School Layby**
- 10:27 Freeland Village Hall (opposite)**
- 10:40 Witney, Market Square**

### **Monday & Friday From Witney via Eynsham**

- 12:50 Witney, Market Square**
- 13:03 Freeland Village Hall**
- 13:10 Eynsham, Bartholomew School Layby**
- 13:18 Freeland Village Hall (opposite)**
- 13:25 Long Hanborough, Christ Church**
- 13:30 Church Hanborough, Hand & Shears Pub**

**Additional bus stops on Wroslyn Road:  
These will be on request near the school and the Little Free Library.  
Christmas and New Year holiday period:  
Please note that this service will continue running as scheduled.**

## **FREELAND HUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

We are looking forward to the next phase of the hub project and are seeking new members with skills and experience in TWO AREAS.

**Financial Management/Accounting**

**Retail Management** particularly in the food sector.

If you think you would be able to help us please email  
**freelandvillagehub@gmail.com**

## **FREELAND HALL TREE LIGHTING EVENT, December 2019**

This year's Annual Christmas tree-lighting event took place at Freeland Village Hall on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The children from Freeland Primary School joined us to do the count down and Rev. David Tyler turned on the tree lights to plenty of cheers from all. Thank you, Rev. David.

The children and staff of Freeland Primary School sang a selection of cheerful Christmas songs for us. This is always the highlight of the event. Well done and thank you to all the children.

A big thank you to Tim Webster, of Freeland Nursery for generously donating the beautiful Christmas tree.

Refreshments were served and The Teddy Girls provided a "Chocolate Tombola" stall which raised an amazing **£115** which will be go towards the provision of picnic benches near the play area on the playing field. Many thanks for joining us and for your excellent fund-raising work.

The Church also provided an activity table which the children so obviously enjoyed.

Thank you to everyone who came along to join us and made this such a special occasion. It is a lovely start to the Christmas festivities.

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2020

Jane Foster, Dorothy Sharpe and other members of the Freeland Village Hall Management Committee.

*Watch this space for the date of this year's event!*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **NORTH LEIGH HISTORY SOCIETY**

There will be no meeting in January.

**Tuesday 4th February:** Lords: The home of cricket. A talk by Alistair Lack. This is a talk for all fans of cricket and not just those who regularly read their copy of Wisden. Polish up your knowledge of cricket history with us.

We meet in the Turner Hall, Church Road, North Leigh **OX29 6TX** at **7.30pm**.

Everyone is welcome. Visitors **£4**, Members free.

Further details from Diana Power **01993 882301**

# ••SIBLINGS••

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## **FAIRFIELD BUILDING SERVICES LIMITED**

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

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

## LITTLE FREE LIBRARY NEWS

Happy New Year!

I am very pleased to say that we are making progress with converting the disused telephone box near the Village Hall into the new Little Free Library. You may have noticed some developments already!

Many thanks to Graham Lay for doing the work to remove the old equipment and for installing the shelves, and thank you again to The Teddy Girls who raised the funds needed to set up a new Little Free Library in the village.

At the time of writing, I am working on deciding how best to decorate the telephone box before we start using it.

When it is up and running, I would have a small team of volunteers to help look after it. If you would like to be involved please do get in touch either by phone or email. Thank you.

The current Little Free Library will remain where it is, so please continue to use it as usual, and I will let you know when the new one is ready to use!

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

\*\*\*\*\*

## FREELAND GARDENING CLUB

A very Happy New Year to all our readers and gardeners. We hope the coming year will be a healthy one and a successful one in our gardens. The Club has an interesting variety of speakers booked for the coming year so have a look at the Grapevine report and notice boards to find out what is on each month.

The meeting on 25th November was a talk by Howard Drury on Male Gardeners who had influenced him. We had been expecting him to talk about Famous Women Gardeners so, much as his talk was interesting about all the people he had met and pictures of him with them, we would have liked to know about women gardeners! Maybe he will tell us their story another time.

There was no meeting in December because of Christmas festivities. The meeting on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm** in Freeland Hall is a talk by Brian Davies, a new speaker to the Club, entitled 'The Weird and Wonderful of the Plant Kingdom'. Maybe some of us are already growing something which falls into this category or will be encouraged to do so.

Visitors, at **£4** a meeting, are very welcome or it is a good time to join the Club as we have just started a new Club year. We look forward to the lovely display of daffodils around the village planted by Garden Club members as well as the first bulbs showing in our gardens. Spring is not too far away!

There is a bring and buy plant and garden items sale at each Hall meeting.

For any further information about the Club please contact Ray and Jill Evans on **881420** or email [jillandray@btinternet.com](mailto:jillandray@btinternet.com)

Janet Dalton (Publicity Secretary)





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## **FREELAND FOOTBALL CLUB NEWS**

### **200 Club Draw**

1st prize: £ 20 No. 170 P. Panting  
2nd prize: £ 10 No. 87 S. Walker  
3rd prize: £ 5 No. 149 A. Wheelan

As there are extra members in the **200 Club** this year, the Christmas Draw will have an additional prize level, giving prizes of **£100, £50, £20, £10 and £5**.



With the persistent rain the games have been few and far between with a lot of waterlogged pitches around!

Both adult sides have only had 2 games a piece this month. The **First** team beat local rivals Eynsham **2-0** in the President's Cup and in a goal fest came out **6-4** winners over Launton.

The **Reserves** two games saw one win and one loss, losing 3-0 to a strong Headington Amateurs side in the Intermediate Cup and beating Kidlington **4-1**.

The youth sides have also suffered due to waterlogged pitches.

There is still time to enter the Winter Golf Day **Monday 30th December** - at Kirtlington. Contact Si Hole for details: **Si\_hole@hotmail.com**

And don't forget the annual Boxing Day game, which will kick off at **10.30am**.

Also, big congratulations to safehands Lonsdale, Jess and Doug on their news!

We would like to thank all our sponsors, supporters and management for all their hard work and support over the year, and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and successful New Year.

Upcoming Fixtures

**Sat 21st Dec:** **Firsts at Home** to Yarnton  
**Reserves Away** to Charlgrove Res  
**Sat 4th Jan:** **Firsts at Home** to Kennington  
**Reserves Away** to Adderbury  
**Sat 11th Jan:** **Firsts Away** to Cropredy  
**Reserves at Home** to Kennington  
**Sat 18th Jan:** **Firsts at Home** to Cropredy  
**Reserves Away** to Kidlington  
**Sat 25th Jan:** **Firsts Away** to Mansfield Road  
**Reserves at Home** to Adderbury

[www.freelandfc.co.uk](http://www.freelandfc.co.uk)

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

Ben Symonds - Secretary Freeland FC

### **EXERCISE GROUP**

Come and join our friendly exercise group run by an Age UK tutor at the Village Hall, Fridays 10.00am - 11.00am 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.

Contact Olwen Radburn on **773432** or [olwen44@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:olwen44@tiscali.co.uk) to find out more.



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# Freeland CE Primary School

## FREELAND SCHOOL NEED YOUR HELP!



We are seeking three director-appointed Governors to help run our amazing school. No previous experience is necessary and you do not need to be a parent of a child at the school to take on one of these roles – we are particularly interested in finding governors who do not have a direct connection to the school.

The governing body plays an important part in helping the school to succeed: it is responsible for working strategically in partnership with the head teacher and staff to identify the school's goals, develop the plans to achieve them, and monitor the school's progress towards them. Governors work collectively to ensure the school's success. You do not need to have previous experience and there is plenty of training available for both new and experienced governors.

If you would like to know a little more about becoming a governor, please get in touch with Toby O'Neil ([tobyoneil@freeland.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:tobyoneil@freeland.oxon.sch.uk)) who will be happy to discuss the role with you.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes  
Sarah Nickelson  
Headteacher

Toby O'Neil  
Chair of Governors




**Freeland Baby and Toddler Group**  
**Mondays 10 - 11:30 am**  
**FREELAND VILLAGE HALL**  
**£2 per family**

You will always get a warm welcome at Freeland Baby and Toddler Group. We meet every Monday during term time. We have plenty of toys for all ages, an activity each week, and drinks and snacks for adults and toddlers. **What's On?**

**Monday 23rd December - No group - Christmas Holidays**  
**Return: Monday 13th January**  
**Sessions also on Monday 20th and 27th January**

Can you help? We would love some more volunteers! Even if you don't have a baby or toddler, could you spare a couple of hours on a Monday morning every now and again?  
 Contact Victoria on **07771 938357** for more information.  
 Find us on Facebook: Freeland Baby and Toddler Group.



**Wroslyn Road, Freeland OX29 8AQ**

**01993 881430**

**Open 7 days a week: 9.30am - 4.00pm**

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

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Eynsham  
OX29 4TB**

## **IN REMEMBRANCE OF MARGARET OLDFIELD**

Thank you all for your support and kindness from her beloved husband Graham, their children Karen & Martin and family.



### **THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

Green disc scheme at Waitrose result!

Just a quick thanks for all the support given and "disc update" messages sent to me.

I am delighted to say that The Christmas

Lunch did receive the most discs and in due course, will receive a share of the charity money for the month.

If you gave us your discs or shared the message with everyone else you know who shopped in Waitrose - thank you very much.

## **A PROFILE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR BILL PHILLIPS**

We are due to have an election later this year to elect members of Freeland Parish Council. Each month we will profile a different councillor, to provide more information about what we do, and to hopefully inspire you to consider becoming a Parish Councillor this year!

**Who are you?** Bill Phillips

**How long have you been on Parish Council?** 35 years, since 1984

**What's your day job?** I'm retired from Oxford University Computing Services where I worked on numerical analysis, computing and then information technology.

**What aspects of Parish Council are you involved in?**

Like all Parish Councillors, I help monitor the safety of the play equipment on the playing field and check public footpaths around the village. I'm on the Garden of Remembrance Committee and I am the Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

**What have you enjoyed most about being a councillor?**

The best part of being a councillor is being involved with the life of the village both maintaining what we have and looking forward for improvements. It is very satisfying when we achieve something such as the new Village Hall and Community Recreation Facility, but a lot of the time it is very frustrating waiting for things to be done. An example is the poor mobile signal in the village - we have been trying for years but have seen no improvement.

**Why should someone consider becoming a Parish Councillor?**

It is very enjoyable and satisfying being involved in the village. It is an important job being the voice of the village and the link with WODC and OCC.

## **THAMES VALLEY FARMERS MARKET**

Witney 08.30 - 13.30 Fri 27 Dec Fri 24 January Fri 28 Feb  
Woodstock 08.30 - 13.00 Sat 21 Dec Sat 4 & 18 Jan Sat 1 Feb  
Details of other Farmers' Markets at [www.tvfm.org.uk](http://www.tvfm.org.uk)



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## **THANK YOU**

I would like to say 'Thank You' to everyone who sent good wishes and greetings to me for my 80th birthday in November. I was really surprised by the number of kind friends and neighbours who wished me a Happy Birthday. Thank you.

Carole Harper

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FREELAND CRAFT CLUB**

We prepared this special wreath in memory of our friend Margaret Oldfield who was a very talented crafter. The base was covered in a multitude of brightly coloured knitted flowers, daffodils, roses, poppies, etc. which we hope will be a fond memory for her family.



Preparation of several special items to be given as gifts at Christmas to friends, neighbours and grandchildren filled most of December's meetings - not forgetting a lesson on preparing a special gift bag to hold these presents. With a New Year starting, what new crafts will we decide to try?

*Come along any Wednesday afternoon and find out! You will be very welcome.*

**NEXT MEETINGS: In the Newell Room, Village Hall - 2pm to 4pm:**  
**Wednesdays: No meeting on Jan 1st or 8th (party at a member's house),**  
**Back to normal: January 15th, 22nd & 29th; Feb 5th & 12th**

It costs £1 per session to cover hire of the room, heating, lighting and refreshments. For further information (or someone to go with) please contact:  
Helen Molden: **01993 882305** or Margaret Wright: **01993 881316**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **HOW ABOUT RECYCLING YOUR WINTER FUEL** **PAYMENT IF YOU DON'T NEED IT?**

The Eynsham Consolidated Charity exists to help local people (in Eynsham and Freeland) in need, hardship or distress. Every January the trustees make cash grants to needy individuals to help with their heating costs.

The Winter Fuel Payment, which everyone who is eligible receives automatically in December, is not means-tested. Not everyone feels that they should receive it; but the payment could help someone else in real need to meet their fuel bills, so the trustees invite anyone who wishes to donate their payment to send it to the Charity.

Any donations of the Fuel Payment will be used to help those who may struggle to meet their fuel bills.

Payments can be sent to the Clerk, Robin Mitchell, by cheque payable to 'Eynsham Consolidated Charity' and addressed to **20 High Street, Eynsham OX29 4HB**, or to the Charity's account: sort code **09-01-51**, account number **25159404**. Please note new email address for enquiries: **eynshamcharities@gmail.com**

## **Stay at SHEPHERDS HALL**

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## **FREELAND WI**

Christmas has been the main focus of our recent meetings. In November we learned some new Christmas crafts, when a number of our members shared their skills. We were able to learn how to make gift bags, beaded decorations and floral centrepieces. We held a very successful wreath making workshop on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, and you may have spotted some of the fabulous wreaths on doors in the village this Christmas. Finally, we held a Christmas party at our December meeting. This was a fun evening filled with conversation, laughter, Secret Santa and a wonderful bring and share buffet supper. What a great way to start the Festive season!

You may remember that our Freeland WI Climate Ambassador, Rosie Smith, has promised to provide tips and ideas to help us all reduce our environmental impact. As we start 2020, you may wish to consider the following:

**Eat Less meat** - A number of research reports released over the past year have highlighted the hefty impact that eating meat, especially beef and pork, has upon the environment by fuelling climate change and polluting landscapes and waterways. Deforestation to make way for livestock was highlighted this summer by the deliberate burning of the forests in Brazil and other countries. This along with methane emissions from cows & fertilizer use, creates as much greenhouse gas emissions as all the world's cars, trucks and airplanes. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/197623/icode/>

**Boil less water** - When making hot drinks only boil enough water for the cups you need and no more. Saves energy saves money.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January**, when we will be joined by Chris Tannock with a talk entitled "A pint of Life." Chris will be sharing vital first aid, and his talk will be combined with some practical skills. You do not have to be a WI member to join us for the evening, so why not try something new this New Year?

Freeland WI normally meets on the second Monday of the month in the Village Hall, starting at **8pm** and finishing around **10pm**. We have an exciting new programme of meetings for 2020. 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. Further information is available on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/freelandwi](http://www.facebook.com/freelandwi) or contact Lorraine Pengilly **01993 881129**.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **WOODSTOCK and DISTRICT UNIVERSITY** **of the THIRD AGE**



Monthly meetings at Woodstock Community Centre,  
New Road, Woodstock **OX20 1PB**.

Visitors are welcome to our Speaker Meetings which start at **2pm (£2.00)**

**Tuesday 7th January:** *Health and Wellbeing* - Alan Wise

**Wednesday 29th January:** New Year Lunch at Rigolettos, Middleton Stoney.  
Contact Clare Evans on 01993 359087

**Tuesday 4th February:** *Art and Art History* - Elizabeth Rowe

More information at [www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock) or phone **01865 580688**

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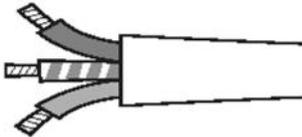
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**AFTERNOON TEA WITH THE ROYAL BUTLER  
SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH  
FREELAND VILLAGE HALL, OX29 8AQ  
2.00 – 4.00 pm**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work for the Royal Family?  
If so, this is your opportunity to hear first-hand whilst enjoying tea and cake.

Ian Scott-Hunter has spent many years working as a Royal Butler for the Royal Family. He trained & worked in the 1970's for 10 years in Buckingham Palace and many of the Queen's residences including the Royal Yacht. For the past 43 years he has looked after HRH Princess Alexandra. So come along and enjoy an afternoon of insight and stories! Learn how to fold napkins or set the table the 'royal way'

Tickets are available to buy prior to the event only. **Cost: £15**

If you would like to buy a ticket or need more information please contact  
**Kathy Liddell** on **07786 731634 / kathy.liddell@me.com**  
or **Julie Stuart-Thompson** on **01993 880378 / julie.st@btinternet.com**

All money will go to the Charity – The Alexandra House of Joy – a centre in Oxfordshire which will provide Day Time Support, Respite & Palliative Care for adults with learning disabilities.



The Teams4U Shoebox Team based at High Street Methodist Church, Witney, wish to thank all those who sent in a box, knitted hats, gloves and scarves, donated top up items and helped to check boxes. Thanks to all your help we sent off **2,200** shoeboxes full of love to Eastern Romania. Well done everyone, that is an amazing achievement!

\*\*\*\*\*

**THANK YOU FROM THE TEDDY GIRLS**

The Teddy Girls would like to say 'Thank You' to everyone who supported our Chocolate Tombola Stall at the Tree Lighting Event.

A special 'Thank You' goes to those people who donated chocolate.

We are now able to give **£115** to the Parish Council to help with the purchase of a picnic table for the sports field

**FREELAND PHOTO GROUP**

The January Meetings of Freeland Photo Group will be on **Tuesday 7th and Tuesday 21st January** in the Newell Room. Meetings start at 7.30pm.

Everyone is welcome, all levels of experience. We are a friendly group who provide mutual support and encouragement. **£2.00** on the door, with refreshments provided.

The main theme of the meeting on the 7th will be processing software, and on the 21st we will be discussing black and white processing.

For further details please contact Paul Sayer at **paul.pshm1@googlemail.com**



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## **HOLLYWOOD THEMED PARTY, Saturday 28th December**

**8.00 pm - 1.00 am, Langdale Hall, Market Square, Witney OX28 6AB**

Everyone's a VIP at our Hollywood Themed Party so put on your best smile and prepare to have some fun! On the night there will be entertainment from Jeff Denton, comedy impersonator and vocalist. Jeff Denton has been entertaining audiences for over a decade. He impersonates a wide variety of rock and pop stars from the 1950s to date. With his excellent voice and comic timing he brings joy and laughter to all.

DJ Kev, from SoundOut Disco will also have you dancing the night away with your favourite party hits across the decades. There will be a bar, light refreshments and a charity raffle. **Tickets £12 in advance only. Table bookings taken.** Available from Nicky Clargo on **07754 271831** or email **oxfordshire.stars@gmail.com**

Smart Casual Dress. Raffle prizes will be very much appreciated.

All proceeds will be donated to Marie Curie Cancer Charity - registration no. 207994

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## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

- F 27 Dec Grey Week:** household rubbish + food waste collection
- M 30 Dec** Freeland Football Club Golf Day at Kirtlington
- Tu 31 Dec** New Year's Eve Family Party, Village Hall, 10.30am - Noon
- Th 2 Jan** Community Bus Freeland - Witney - Freeland **see page 22**
- F 3 Jan Green Week:** recycling + food waste **No garden waste collection**
- Su 5 Jan** Unaccepted Freeland Ramblers, meet at Oxfordshire Yeoman 9.30am
- Tu 7 Jan** The Cake Café, Freeland Village Hall, 9.00 - 11.30am (Bacon rolls 9-10am)
- Tu 7 Jan** Woodstock U3A, Community Centre, New Road, Woodstock, 2pm
- Th 9 Jan Grey Week:** household rubbish + food waste collection
- Th 9 Jan** Community Bus Freeland - Witney - Freeland **see page 22**
- F 10 Jan** Witney Music Society, High Street Methodist Church, Witney, 7.30pm
- Su 12 Jan Last date for insertions in the February Grapevine**
- W 15 Jan** Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- Th 16 Jan** Community Bus Freeland - Witney - Freeland **see page 22**
- M 20 Jan** Freeland Parish Council meeting, Newell Room, 7.30pm
- W 22 Jan** Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- Th 23 Jan** Community Bus Freeland - Witney - Freeland **see page 22**
- M 27 Jan** Freeland Gardening Club, Freeland Hall, 7.30pm
- W 29 Jan** Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- W 29 Jan** Woodstock U3A New Year Lunch, Rigolettos, Middleton Stoney
- Th 30 Jan** Community Bus Freeland - Witney - Freeland **see page 22**
- Su 2 Feb** Unaccepted Freeland Ramblers, meet at Oxfordshire Yeoman 9.30am
- Tu 4 Feb** The Cake Café, Freeland Village Hall, 9.00 - 11.30am (Bacon rolls 9-10am)
- Tu 4 Feb** Woodstock U3A, Community Centre, New Road, Woodstock, 2pm
- Tu 4 Feb** North Leigh History Society, Turner Hall, Church Road, N. Leigh, 7.30pm
- W 5 Feb** Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
- Th 6 Feb** Community Bus Freeland - Witney - Freeland **see page 22**
- W 12 Feb** Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
- F 14 Feb** Witney Music Society, High Street Methodist Church, Witney, 7.30pm

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### **THE CAKE CAFÉ, FREELAND HALL**

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The deadline for articles or adverts for the **February** Grapevine is **Sunday 12th January.**

The **February** edition should be in the church porch and online at **www.freelandoxon.co.uk** from about **Friday 24th January.**

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 JPEGs, 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, nor endorse any advertisers or their services or products.*



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Christmas Day: Open Noon to 2pm

Boxing Day: Open All Day - Food: Noon to 2pm

New Year's Eve: Open All Day - Food: Noon to 1.30pm

New Year's Eve Celebration: 2 Course £25, 3 Course £30  
Eating 7.30pm - Booking essential

Tuesday 14th Jan: Curry Night - Booking essential

Wednesday 29th Jan: Marie Curie Quiz - 8pm-ish

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