Grapevine

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June 2021

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Benefice of Hanborough and Freeland

Exciting news! The churches of Hanborough and Freeland are reopening for worship on Sunday 27th June, 2021. From this date, at St Peter and St Paul Church Hanborough, St Mary the Virgin Freeland and Christ Church Long Hanborough, there will be a 10am service every week, and everyone from our community is invited to join us on this new adventure.

Until then, we will continue to hold services on Zoom at 10.00am every Sunday. You are very welcome to join us. The Zoom joining details are on the homepage of the church website at **www.hanboroughparish.co.uk**

From **17th May**, **St Mary the Virgin** is open for private prayer **seven days a week from 9am to 5pm**.

Thank you to Stephen Mott for the front cover photo.

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Useful contact details:

Rector: **Rev. Steve Stewart**
01993 881270
The Rectory, Swan Lane
Long Hanborough OX29 8BT
Email: **rector@hanboroughparish.co.uk**

Curate: **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

Churchwardens' email: **churchwarden.smv@gmail.com**

Weddings: **Rev. Steve Stewart 01993 881270 rector@hanboroughparish.co.uk**
administrator@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/5863**

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

You can see a virtual tour of St Mary's on Google Street View at: http://goo.gl/g53NJH

Children and youth work continues while we meet on Zoom. Please contact Louise at **administrator@hanboroughparish.co.uk** for links to a weekly craft activity and/or joining details for Sunday morning Zoom Children's/Youth Groups.

Babies & Toddlers at St. Mary's is restarting on **Wednesday 26th May**, **10.00 - 11.30am**. Please contact Alice Harden (**01993 886833**) for more details.

11+ Hitchhikers - future meetings to be advised

The above information is correct at the date published (22/05/2021). Should any changes be necessary, the up-to-date information can be found at **www.hanboroughparish.co.uk**

HANBOROUGH AND FREELAND BENEFICE 'ZOOM' SERVICES

Public worship is still suspended in our church buildings across the Benefice until **Sunday 27th June**. Life as a Christian church 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.

We continue to hold services on Zoom at 10.00am every Sunday. You are very welcome to join us.
The Zoom joining details are on the homepage of the church website at www.hanboroughparish.co.uk

Should you wish to join our email circulation list, please email Louise at **administrator@hanboroughparish.co.uk**

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Letter from our Rector:

Today I bring exciting news! **The churches of Hanborough and Freeland are opening!** And not only will the churches be opening for Sunday morning worship, but with a new pattern of services – hopefully taking into account everything that God has been teaching us during lockdown. We want to make our churches as accessible on a Sunday morning to our local community as possible. This means that all our churches in the Benefice – St Peter and St Paul Church Hanborough, St Mary the Virgin Freeland, and Christ Church Long Hanborough (previously based at Manor School) – will all open on **Sunday 27th June** and from then on will have a **10am** service every week. This is a big change from alternating between a **10am** service one week and **8am** the next, but we hope that it will provide the opportunity for the growth of our churches.

There will also be a traditional **8.30am** said Communion service at **St Mary Freeland** on the first and third Sundays of the month, to which all are welcome.

As life in general and church too returns to a better way of doing things – with less social distancing and hopefully congregational singing – we will also be looking to grow activities outside of Sunday morning services, from house groups where we meet in one another's homes, to Christian basics courses for those enquiring, and social events for all.

We hope and pray that you will join us on this new adventure of 'being church' in the villages of Hanborough and Freeland. Each of our churches welcomes and is open to all from our community: the young, the old, families, singles. In our preaching and teaching we will open God's Word, the Bible, to seek God's wisdom in both the deepest questions of existence and also how to live in the everyday things of life: family, work, study, life, relationships, money. And in doing so, we will learn how much God loves us, and enjoy our calling to love one another. As a newcomer to Hanborough and Freeland, I and my family have been privileged to see how loving and welcoming the church families are here – and we would love you to enjoy that welcome and journey with us.

If you have any questions whatsoever about coming to church when we open for our new patterns of worship on **Sunday 27th June**, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me at **rector@hanboroughparish.co.uk**

With much love in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Steve Stewart,

Rector, Hanborough and Freeland

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ST MARY'S CHURCH BELLS

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

You can see more about Freeland Bell Ringers under the "Clubs and Groups" section of the village website **www.freelandoxon.co.uk**

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Sun 30th May 10am Rev. Fred Ireland
Sun 6th June 10am Rev. Stephen Bywater
Sun 13th June 10am Dawn Haley
Sun 20th June 10am Rev. Charles Harris
Sun 27th June 10am Rev. Fred Ireland
Sun 4th July 10am Mr Andrew Maisey

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THE CHURCH IS OPEN for Public Masses on **Saturday at 5pm** and **Sunday at 10am.** Face masks must be worn. For any Weekday Masses, please see the webpage.

You can also watch Mass from many other Churches live or recorded online: **www.churchservices.tv** is a platform that connects communities and provides churches with a space to broadcast – particularly Mass, Adoration and prayer. **https://www.mcnmedia.tv/** is another platform that does the same and includes Corpus Christi, Headington in Oxford.

Blackfriars, Oxford is the 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 & you can either view this live or view it when it suits you as they are all recorded.

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FREELAND CRAFT CLUB

Thanks to the generosity of the families of some of our past members, we will be starting off our Craft Club again with some new items to use - knitting needles, wool, kits, sewing materials, patterns and a donation towards the hire of the meeting room. We are very grateful for their kind thoughts and promise to make good use of them. With further relaxing of the Covid restrictions, and the weather getting warmer, we might be able to meet up in the garden again soon before starting in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 4th August**.

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

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FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL – LISA'S NOTES FROM THE MEETINGS HELD ON 26th APRIL AND 17th MAY 2021

Farewell to our Chairman and Parish Councillors

Councillors said goodbye to Chairman Peter Newell at the May meeting, who has served on the Council for nearly 30 years. Peter has worked extremely hard for the village and shown incredible dedication and commitment. The Councillors and I would like to pass on their sincere thanks and appreciation for all his efforts over his many years of service. Some gifts were presented to Peter on Friday 14th May as a token of our appreciation, and I would like to thank all who contributed to Peter's gifts and messages and came along to the presentation - they were very well received!

Councillors also said goodbye to Vice Chairman Robert Crocker, and Councillors Tim Webster, Matthew Ruddle and Véro McCoy. Robert and Tim have both served 9 years on the Council, Matthew has served 6 years and Vero has served 3 years. All of them have been nothing but willing and committed members of the team who have always done their utmost to help and get involved in village life. Further details on their achievements are contained within a separate article on pages 15 & 17 of this Grapevine, but on a personal note I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to them all, in particular Peter whom I have worked closely with over the past 12½ years – your help & support Peter has been greatly appreciated.

At the May meeting, Councillors elected Roger Faulkner as the new Chairman, and Mary Ann Canning as Vice-Chairman. Our congratulations to them both as they take on these new roles. As stated last month, we now have 3 vacancies to fill on the Council, and it is hoped to co-opt to these positions next month.

Gigaclear works in Freeland - update

These works will be continuing in the village for a while and the latest information I have is below:

Start	End	Address	Traffic Management
23/02/21	14/06/21	WROSLYN ROAD	MULTI-WAY SIGNALS
31/03/21	18/06/21	PARKLANDS	SOME CARRIAGEWAY INCURSION
06/05/21	16/06/21	BROADMARSH LANE	SOME CARRIAGEWAY INCURSION
17/05/21	28/06/21	WITNEY ROAD	MULTI-WAY SIGNALS
02/06/21	**28/06/21**	**PIGEON HOUSE LANE**	**ROAD CLOSURE**

As soon as I receive more information, I will of course keep you all updated. As I have said before, this will entail some disruption with the roads/pavements being dug up, so may I ask for patience and tolerance whilst this work is completed. Thank you.

Continued……..

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Traffic Calming

As noted last month, the Parish Council has set up a Traffic Calming Working Group to investigate ways the speed of traffic through the village can be reduced and how to deter large HGVs from coming through the village. Sadly, a lot of speeding through the village is in fact carried out by our own residents! It would be good to have some non-Councillors join this group to give their thoughts and ideas, so if anyone is interested in joining this Working Group to help reduce speed through the village, please get in touch with me on **01993 880067** or email **lisa.fpc@gmail.com** .
Please, watch your speed everyone and let's all do our bit to keep Freeland a quiet and safe place to live.

Food bank

The Parish Council have decided to bring the Freeland Food Bank to an end. It was originally set up as an emergency response to the Covid-19 pandemic when there were various shortages in the shops and so it was there to help key workers and those who were struggling. With everything now re-opening and no major shortages as such, plus the fact that its usage has been limited recently and with other food banks available locally it was felt this was no longer needed.
The box will now be used as an extra storage area for the Little Free Library.
May I offer my sincere thanks to all of you who have donated to the food bank over the past year, your help has been greatly appreciated and I am sure those who have made use of it are most grateful. Thank you.

Protecting wildlife and verges

The Parish Council received a request this month to leave some of the verges around the village uncut to aid pollination and the re-establishment of wildlife and to help birds with finding more seeds. Climate change is a massive issue and the need to protect biodiversity is becoming more and more to the forefront of people's minds and is essential to protect this planet going forward. The Parish Council has therefore agreed to leave the grass verge from the Garden Centre up to The Green uncut until late September time.

Hedges

Speaking of everything green (!), with all this recent wet weather and lovely bursts of sunshine, our gardens and hedges have grown like wild fire. Could I therefore take this opportunity to remind residents with trees/hedges/shrubs/bushes/nettles against pavements or road nameplates to please cut back any growth that might be obstructing or overhanging footpaths. Thank you very much.

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 Approved: None

Continued……..

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Contacting the Council & Date of Next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday 21st June at 7.30pm**. It is hoped that this meeting will be held in the Village Hall, but this needs to be confirmed, so please check the village website (under Parish Council/Agendas) and the notice board or contact me at **lisa.fpc@gmail.com**

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

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ALL CHANGE AT FREELAND PARISH COUNCIL

The remaining Parish Councillors would like to express their appreciation and thanks to those who are retiring: the Chairman and Vice Chairman (Peter Newell and Robert Crocker respectively), Véronique McCoy, Matthew Ruddle and Tim Webster.

Peter's time on the Council and leadership as Chairman has enabled many ambitious projects that have greatly enhanced village life. The completion of the new Village Hall set the tone for the coming years.

Peter moved to Freeland in 1970, having previously studied Biochemistry at St Peter's College, Oxford. He had a distinguished career as lecturer and research biochemist at Oxford University, becoming Head of Department from 1996-2000, whilst also being appointed to a succession of wider University duties, culminating in his appointment as Head of the newly formed Oxford University Division of Life and Environmental Sciences in October 2000 until his retirement in 2003.

Meanwhile he joined the Parish Council on 21st March 1977 (taking over the vacancy left by Mr S Birkett), and under the Chairman of Mr D Bugg. He was then voted in as Vice Chairman on 21st May 1979 (taking over the position from Julie Hurst), and then became Chairman on 17th May1982 (again taking over from Julie Hurst). He continued in this role, taking an active part in village life, and served 15 years until April 1992, when he then took a break from 1992 until he was co-opted back to the Parish Council as a Councillor in October 2007 – he just couldn't stay away! He was then elected as Vice Chairman in May 2008 (taking over from Joyce Williams), and he then became Chairman in May 2012, taking over from Bill Pinkerton, and he has continued in this position until this year, serving a total of 29 years in his Parish Council duties, all completely voluntarily.

As we all know, Peter is not one to sit back and not get involved!! Whilst he was serving on the Parish Council, many of these years were also spent Chairing the Village Hall Management Committee, until Robert Crocker took over in 2012. *Continued…..*

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Robert has lived and worked in Freeland since moving here with his family in Spring 1979. He has farmed land around the village since then and has always been committed to sustainable, organic farming and land management where nature comes first. This philosophy is extended further through his landscape company, and has been crucial in his commitment to the environment of the village.

Peter and Robert were founding members of the Village Hall working group, and the successful delivery of this building, opened in September 2011, was the start of a turning point in village quality of life. This was further enhanced by the completion of the additional building in September 2013, containing changing facilities and the meeting room, which as The Newell Room, rightly bears Peter's name.

Tim moved to the village in 1959 when his parents took on the lease of the walled garden of Freeland. He went to Bartholomew School in Eynsham and Witney Technical College. After working in Oxford for a few years he emigrated to South Africa and worked in Cape Town. He returned to Freeland in 1973 to take over the running of the nurseries and it has been a thriving local business ever since.

At the Parish Council elections in 2012, Tim and Robert both became Parish Councillors. The newly formed Council elected Peter as Chairman and Robert as Vice Chairman. The combination of Peter's leadership and administrative skills and Robert's dynamic vision and practical hard work have had a massive impact on the shape of our village.

Tim has actively (and quietly) supported both Peter and Rob over the last 9 years, giving an enormous amount of his time and resources to village planting and maintenance work, particularly in the Garden of Remembrance and the village amenity areas, as well as storing the tractor until its new home was ready!

Matthew set up the Little Free Library soon after joining the Council in February 2015, and this has gone from strength to strength, expanding to include the old phone box by the village hall. He managed to keep it going throughout the trials of last year and it also provided a valuable resource to the village during the time. He also initiated the Big Lunch picnic with the first one being held in June 2015, and successfully repeated in following years. He was also on the working group to establish the Garden of Remembrance in the village.

Véro joined the Parish Council in July 2018, and her skills came to the fore in helping the Clerk to set up the village COVID mutual aid helpline response and website, which provided a lifeline for so many of the more vulnerable villagers. She set up a welcome pack for new residents of the village, played an active role in the planning team, and most recently took part in the Traffic Calming working group.

Organisations such as the sports clubs and allotment holders are now thriving. Other physical legacies of Peter as Chairman include the new play area, the village Memorial Trees, the Garden of Remembrance and the new sports club storage building, as well as this magnificent building, our beautiful village hall.

The village owes them all a huge debt of gratitude and we thank them most sincerely for all of their efforts.

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LITTLE FREE LIBRARY NEWS

We've received lots of lovely comments from people recently, expressing how much they enjoy and appreciate the Little Free Library. Thank you for all the support (and books!) that you give; we really couldn't do it without you.

One of the recurring comments we hear is how the Little Free Library has inspired people to try books that they otherwise would never have read. Other frequent comments are how you never know what you'll find on the shelves, and that there's usually something for everyone.

The volunteers and I enjoy hearing such great feedback, and we find it really satisfying to see books being taken from the shelves!

The Parish Council have very kindly let us use an extra storage box behind the bus shelter, so we now have two boxes there in which you can leave donated books. If the boxes are full please don't cram any more in, as it can be difficult to close the lid. Books can also be left in the porch at 138 Wroslyn Road if there is no room at either Little Free Library.

Thanks again for your continued support; the Little Free Library has far exceeded our expectations!

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

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FREELAND FOOTBALL CLUB NEWS

The season, which never really got started, is now drawing to a close, with both youth team's having now completed their seasons.

The men's side has continued with training and playing a number of friendlies.

Next season we will be running two adult sides in the Witney & District, with our current **Under 17s** stepping up to become the adult reserve side.

Our **Under 15s** will continue to play in the Witney and District Youth League.

We are looking to expand our youth section and currently looking for coaches – if you feel you would like to get involved in running a youth side please get in touch on the emails below, for an informal chat/more information. Full training and support will be given by the Club.

We are now planning our Annual Summer Golf Day, and currently finalising the date. Details will be in next month's Grapevine.

Ben Symonds - Secretary: **bensymonds@hotmail.co.uk**
Simon Hole - Chairman: **Si_hole@hotmail.com**

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1st HANBOROUGH FREELAND SCOUT GROUP

Pending further changes to government guidelines, we have gone back to holding some face-to-face meetings in our groups. Currently we are only meeting outside, but this is a huge step in the right direction after being online only for such a long time.

Beavers, for example, are meeting up outside Freeland Village Hall, but are divided into two groups (one from Freeland and one from Hanborough) and each group meets on alternate weeks to limit social mixing. Beavers haven't seen each other in person since March 2020 so this has been a very exciting development!

The committee has been working hard to put together risk assessments to enable outside face-to-face meetings to take place, and everything has to be approved before we run any activities to make sure that we are being as covid-safe as possible.

We have also been discussing how to hold our AGM which is due to happen within the next few months; I will update you on that next time.

We've had new volunteers join us recently but we still need a few more to lend a hand. Our group is very active, providing all kinds of wonderful experiences for young people in Hanborough and Freeland, and that is all down to our volunteers who keep everything going!

To get involved take a look at our website **www.hfscouting.org.uk** and get in touch via the contact page or send an email to **gsl@hfscouting.org.uk** to express your interest.

You do not need any previous experience of Scouting, but a love of working with young people is vital, and a sense of adventure! You will receive lots of help and support from our other group leaders and the Executive Committee, and training is provided.

Matthew Ruddle (Publicity Rep)

****

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FARMERS' MARKET
at the PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

SUNDAY 30th MAY 10am - 1pm

We expect to host:

Moore & Lyon Meats, Tess' Brilliant Tray Bakes, Chillies 2U, Freeland Lamb, Well Preserved Jams & Chutneys, The Mighty Pie Company, Team Tea, Carla's Vegetarian Foods, Smorgas Tarta (Swedish Cuisine), Asian Foods & Chutneys, Cake Café, Stroopwaffles, Flamingo Paperie, Plant Stall, Chocolate Stall plus others.

The School will be selling hot drinks and breakfast rolls.

The April Market raised **£100** for the Heart Unit at Oxford Hospitals

The next Markets will be on Sunday 27th June and Sunday 25th July and will be at Freeland CE Primary School

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, 10-16 MAY 2021

There is still time to give to Christian Aid!

The focus of the Christian Aid Week campaign this year is the **climate crisis**: the charity campaigning for climate justice and is also working with people in countries where extreme weather and more intense and frequent droughts mean millions are struggling to get enough food and water.

Freeland's Christian Aid e-envelope is still open, and you can make a donation at:

https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/freeland_oxon

Christian Aid works in 37 countries, with people of all faiths and none, to stand up for dignity, equality and justice.

Fiona McGrady - Freeland Christian Aid Organiser

THAMES VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET COOPERATIVE

Witney	08.30 - 13.30	Fri 28 May	Fri 25 June	Fri 23 July
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Details of other Farmers' Markets at **www.tvfm.org.uk**

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

FREELAND WI

We are continuing to hold our monthly meetings over Zoom until we are able to meet again. At our May meeting we were delighted to welcome Liz Morris, who gave us a thought provoking and very informative talk on her experience as a parent bringing up two autistic sons. As both her sons are now in their twenties, she had a lot of experience to draw on. Her positivity and tenacity were inspirational.

We will keep reviewing future meetings on the basis of guidance from the Government and the Oxfordshire and National Federation. We are very hopeful that we may be able to meet again in August or September, regulations permitting. We will still continue to keep in touch through our monthly newsletter, telephone calls or a keep in touch card.

Members have all been receiving their copy of Oxfordshire Inspires and also information about talks the Federation have set up via Zoom. The talks have covered a wide range of subjects so hopefully there has been something for everyone.

WI Climate Advisor Tip from Rosie Smith:
Stop buying peat based compost

There is stark evidence that peatlands, as the largest natural terrestrial carbon store on the planet, have an irrefutable role in climate change mitigation. When they're drained the carbon is released back into the atmosphere where it contributes to global warming. Don't buy peat-based compost and lobby your local garden centres to stop stocking peat-based compost. **https://www.globalpeatlands.org**

Freeland WI normally meets on the second Monday of the month in the Village Hall, starting at **8pm** and finishing around **10pm**. We look forward to welcoming visitors and new members at our meetings. If you have been thinking about joining WI now could be the time to give us a try. We are a varied group with a wide range of interests. One trait that unites us is that we are friendly and welcoming to visitors. Please contact our secretary Rosie if you would like to discuss joining us for a trial session or to become a member. We would love to see you.

Further information is available on our website:
https://freelandwiuk.wixsite.com/freelandwi or on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/freelandwi
Alternatively please contact our secretary Rosie James on **01993 881997**
or email **freelandwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk**
Our President Aileen Tattam can be contacted on **atattam@outlook.com** or on **01993 881526**

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FREELAND CRICKET CLUB

Well after a cold April, May is very wet! The Saturday league team has had both of their league matches called off, and the women's team and all the junior sides have also had matches called off. It has been well and truly miserable, BUT there is good news.
We have the most ever number of players across all ages, with approximately 70 children, 26 women and 30 men signed on to play, and there is organised cricket 7 days per week.

Monday for matches for **Under 15s** and coaching for **Under 11s**, **Tuesday** coaching for **Under 9s and Under 13s**, **Wednesday adult** nets and coaching for **Women's softball**, **Thursday** for **Under 13s** matches, **Friday** for **Women's hardball** coaching, **Saturday** for League matches, **Sunday** for **Under 11s** matches, **Women's hardball** matches and **Adult** friendlies. So if you are interested in playing please contact me using the email address below.

So far the **Women's hardball** team have won 3 of their 4 matches and are second to Deddington in the League. We will be hosting three **Women's** matches on **Sunday 30th May**, starting at **11.30 am**, come along and cheer them on. The stand out performances so far are from Megan Lovick who has scored a total of 74 runs without being out and has taken 8 wickets, Becky Edwards has scored 45 runs and Emma Owen has taken 5 wickets.

All fixtures and results for **Women's** and **Junior** cricket can be found on our webpage **https://freeland.play-cricket.com/Matches**

We have a number of juniors who are in the County teams, Carys and Daisy in the **Girls' Under 13s**, Sam and Alex in the **Boys' Under 13s**, and Eddie and Toby in the **Under 11s** and **Under 9s** respectively. For the older players John McGrady and Simon Brown have been selected to play for the **County Over 50s** in the Chris Bishop Trophy, and they won their first match against Hampshire. The future matches are against First Class counties, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire and Warwickshire.

Stay dry!

Simon Brown - Chair - Freeland Cricket Club **E: freelandcc.u11@gmail.com**
Web: https://freeland.play-cricket.com **Facebook: Freeland Cricket Club**

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FREELAND 'VARIETY' BOOK CLUB

We are a 'variety' of people of a 'variety' of ages and backgrounds who meet once a month to discuss a book we have all been reading. We do not buy our books but each month receive 12 copies of a book the Witney library has available, so read a great 'variety' of books! We have given the library a list of books we would like to read and these are sent to us if available. We would normally meet in one of the member's homes but during lockdown have met on Zoom. We have also met in the Pub and on the playing field and in a garden.
If you would like to join us you would be very welcome. We usually meet on the **3rd Thursday** of the month at **8pm**. Please contact Jane Linnell **01993 882654** or **janelinnell@tiscali.co.uk**

Janet Dalton

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SAVE THE DATE……SAVE THE DATE……SAVE THE DATE ……SAVE THE DATE……

FREELAND WI QUIZ
Friday 3rd September, Freeland Village Hall

Freeland WI will be holding their annual Quiz on **Friday 3rd September** in Freeland Village Hall.

More details to follow, but mark up your diaries in the hope that 2021 is not another year when the bins go out more than we do!

UPDATE ON FORMER GPs' SURGERY IN LONG HANBOROUGH

Several residents have asked me about the plans for the former GPs' surgery building on the corner of Churchill Way and Witney Road now that the practice has moved to its new building on the Hanborough Gate development.

The first thing to note is that the ownership of the building was transferred to Blenheim Estates as part of the deal. Blenheim's plan is to demolish the existing building and rebuild on its plot thus retaining the carpark. The architectural drawings show a corner building in the local vernacular style that offers five small apartments designed for elderly single or couple occupancy to buy or rent. According to Blenheim, the rental income will pay for the upkeep of an open-space community work hub that will occupy most of the ground floor. There will also be a coffee shop. The idea behind the community work hub is to offer an attractive alternative to those who do not want to commute but are unable to work remotely from home thus helping reduce carbon emissions. The community work-hub-cum-café could be handed to a speciality coffee shop to operate.

Blenheim have received feedback on their plan from councillors through informal pre-application consultations. Not all were supportive and some have suggested an alternative use of the community hub. I do not wish to go into details here and we shall have to wait and see what Blenheim choose to put in their planning application. Once they do that, the full plans will be published on WODC's planning portal for public consultation and comment in the usual manner.

Alaa Al-Yousuf – Councillor for Freeland and Hanborough at WODC
T: 880689 or M: 07768 898914 or E: alaa.alyousuf@westoxon.gov.uk

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MARIE CURIE QUIZ NIGHTS, on **Wednesdays 26th May** and **30th June, 7.30pm for 8pm** start at **The Oxfordshire Yeoman,** 172 Wroslyn Road, Freeland. Entry **£3** per person.

The pub can host up to 48 people on tables of 4 and 6. Tables MUST be booked in advance **(01993) 881003** or **hello@oxfordshireyeoman.com**
Food will be available from **5.30 - 8.30pm**, so come down earlier for some pub grub! You can see the menu at **www.oxfordshireyeoman.com/menus**

Charity Raffle (raffle prizes will be very much appreciated). All participants MUST wear a face mask when not seated. Please remember to also sanitise your hands. Table service only in the pub and garden. This event will be run COVID safe, please do come along and support it if you can. For more information please contact Nicky Clargo at **oxfordshire.stars@gmail.com or 07754 271831**

WITNEY TALKING NEWS

Do you know someone who is blind, or visually impaired?

If you do, you may like to know that Witney Talking News is a free service designed especially for them. We record items from the Witney Gazette and other local news publications, which are posted out to them, weekly, on a memory stick. These can be listened to on a special player which we can provide. Sticks are then posted back to us (free of charge) for recording again the following week. This is a great way for blind or visually impaired people to keep in touch with local news and events across the district.

If you know someone who could benefit from this service, or would like to join us for reading, admin or packing sticks for despatch, we would be delighted to hear from you. We record every Thursday evening at High Street Methodist Church in Witney.

If you would like to contact us please call **01993 444986** or go to **wtn.org.uk**

ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE GRAPEVINE are available in the **Church Porch**, which is open 9am to 5pm seven days a week. You can also pick up copies at the **Oxfordshire Yeoman** during their regular opening hours of Tuesdays 5 - 11pm; Wednesdays-Saturdays Noon - 11pm/late and Sundays Noon - 7pm There are also copies on the bottom of the newspaper stand rack, straight ahead, bottom shelf on the right, inside the door of the **Long Hanborough Co-op.**

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FREELAND DISTRICT GIRLGUIDING

Covering Freeland, Long Hanborough and North Leigh.

This last term (April to May) we have been looking at constellations, designing shoes, made some wonderful wooden peg dolls, going on a scavenger hunt, walking in the countryside and doing some map reading.

After the May Bank holiday week Rainbows, Brownies and Guides will be meeting in The Recreation Hall in Long Hanborough and will continue with focussing on outdoor activities including cooking and games.

As reported last month, due to leaders' commitments and work changes the Brownie, Guide and Ranger units in Freeland which used to meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays have now joined with the Long Hanborough units that meet on Tuesday evenings.

If your daughter used to attend any of the Freeland units and would like to go on the waiting list to join those meeting in Long Hanborough or perhaps North Leigh, do please email us: **freelanddistrictguiding@btinternet.com** or phone Wendy to have a chat **01993 883120**.

If your daughter is interested in Girl Guiding, please register her to join guiding for the first time at: **https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk/**

Finally we cannot run our units without adult volunteers so if you are interested in helping in any of our units in any capacity please do contact us by email: **freelanddistrictguiding@btinternet.com.**

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ALUMINIUM CAN COLLECTION

Thank you for continuing to support the aluminium collection. It is raising some much appreciated funds for Freeland Pre-School.

Please crush all cans as much as possible. It reduces the amount of contact needed with the cans (Covid Safety) and saves a massive amount of space which makes each trip more profitable too. **Drinks cans only please.**

Address for drop offs: **10 The Blowings, OX29 8HY**

Please place cans in the large galvanised bin at the end of the road near the entrance to the wood. The galvanised bin does have a lid, so I advise bringing some hand sanitiser to further reduce any risks. **andre_woodward@yahoo.co.uk**

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COMBE MILL

We are delighted to say that we are now fully open to visitors.

Wednesdays - from now until October we are welcoming visitors for self-guided tours and tea room visits. Come and enjoy the charm of sitting by the river and walk round to chat to our volunteers working in the exhibition areas they care for.
If you would like to bring a group of people, please contact us to arrange in advance and reserve your date.

Sunday 27th June - our first steaming event will be **for members and anyone who is interested in volunteering**, in any area of Mill work. Please do drop in and see what the various groups of volunteers get up to on a **Steaming Sunday.** We would love more volunteers to sign up and contribute to the work for the remainder of 2021.

Sunday 18th July - Steaming Sunday - our first steaming day for visitors. After such a long time, our coffers are low & we need your support to keep the Mill running.

We have the "**We're Good to Go**" badge issued by Visit England, so visit with confidence.

Please contact us if you require any more information or check out the website for details regarding pricing and opening hours. We are all so looking forward to welcoming people back to the Mill.

Julie Stuart-Thompson **tourism@combemill.org** **www.combemill.co.uk**

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WOODSTOCK AND DISTRICT u3a

Woodstock u3a's May Speaker Meeting carried the snappy title 'All you might ever need to know about slugs'. Retired entomologist Dr Ian Bedford urged us not to write off all these creatures as pestiferous foes: 'Killer slugs hit Norwich', was indeed recently voted newspapers' 'Headline of the Decade', but, as Ian pointed out, only around 15% of some 5,000 slug species are gardeners' enemies. Nor should we be put off by the slug's less than cuddly appearance: 'not just a slimy stick' , the speaker informed us, illustrating the variety of shape, size and colour of these gastropods (like Napoleon's troops, he might have added, they march on their stomachs). As this column does not own a garden it cannot take sides in the debate, but the fact that there can be up to 250,000 slugs per acre of farmland (Ian Bedford's figure), causing around £200 million worth of damage to crops annually, may make my gardening neighbours think less than kindly of slugs, however photogenic they may appear.

Forthcoming on-line talks move to a different region of the animal world on **Tuesday 1st June**, with a description of a Banbury-based charity that trains dogs to partner people with disabilities, before switching on **Tuesday 6th July** to Art, specifically, the Art of World War II.

Detail of all Branch activities can be found at **www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock**

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FREELAND GARDENING CLUB

Once again there is no news of when Club meetings can start again but hopefully it will be at the end of the summer. All dates are booked with speakers who have transferred their booking from one year to the next. As mentioned last month in the Grapevine, and Jill's newsletter, the Evans have unfortunately had to withdraw from the Club, but we are sure they will want to be involved in some way in the future when transport is available.

The first of these is the placing of the plaque on the hornbeam tree on the playing field, to mark our 20th Anniversary, a few years ago. This has been organised for **7pm** on **Wednesday 26th May** and Club members are welcome to join us there.

We will be planning other events to thank Ray and Jill at the next Committee meeting.

This is a busy time of year in both the flower and vegetable garden. Firstly, some jobs to do in the flower garden. Annuals can now be planted out if you have not yet done so. Plant to get a succession of flowers to give colour throughout the summer and autumn. Choose flowers with an open flower to attract pollinators. Deadhead and water as necessary, and fertilise if the display needs a boost! Containers, hanging baskets and pots should be fed once a week from spring to autumn if long lasting fertilising granules have not already been included when plants were planted.

Take cuttings to increase your stock of fuchsias, geraniums and osteospermum.

Leave an area of your lawn to grow wild to enjoy the wildflowers which will appear.

Clear pond weed from ponds and leave beside the pond to allow aquatic life to get back in the water.

In the veg garden sow little and often. Earth up potatoes and weed regularly around the beds with a hoe. Pick beans frequently when they are long enough. Water if dry.

Save as much rain water as possible in water buts attached to drainpipes. Any washing up water can also be used on flower and veg in a dry season.

Watch out for sawfly caterpillars on gooseberries and pick off because they will defoliate a bush in no time.

Cover soft fruit with birdproof netting. Pheromone traps can be put in apple trees to prevent maggoty fruit. You can also put grease bands or grease around the trunk to prevent moths climbing up to lay their eggs.

Many house plants can spend the summer outdoors, but if not, water when dry or droopy and mist regularly and turn occasionally.

Enjoy being out in the garden both for relaxation or looking after your plants and yourself. It improves health and can relieve stress!

For any further information about Freeland Gardening Club, please contact Terry Jones on **davidjones30@talktalk.net** Janet Dalton (Secretary)

FREELAND PHOTO GROUP

Freeland Photo Group will continue to meet virtually on the first and third Tuesday of every month, starting at **7.30pm**, for the foreseeable future. Meetings in **June** will be on **Tuesday 1st and 15th**.

Please contact Paul Sayer on **paul.pshm1@googlemail.com** for details of the virtual meetings and the programme.

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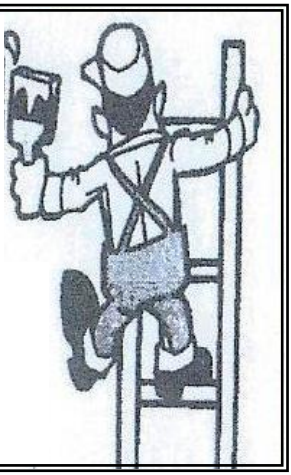

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THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2021

Summer is just around the corner - so it must be time to talk turkey !!

Firstly - thanks all for cooking/donating the various items that made up the 2020 delivery dinner (or any previous year!) everyone was really thrilled to get such an amazing dinner - or 3 - plus all the lovely presents that were contained in the bags that went out.

It is not certain for any of us that December this year will return to normal so, I have booked the Freeland Hall for 23rd December (decorating) and 24th December for sit down dinner on Christmas Eve, we will then hopefully have cooked enough food to send our guests home with another dinner to have on Christmas Day if they are not with family. This way, if we cannot gather in the Hall under the conditions current at that point, we will still be able to do the delivery service on Christmas Eve. Either way, our guests will know that a lovely dinner will be coming their way.

We have good links with both Waitrose, and Marks and Spencer, although it would be wishful thinking that we would get kilos of pre-prepped veg two years in a row and Cllr Liam has confirmed his support.

If you were able to let me know whether you will be able to help this year that would be grand, I realise that not everybody arranges their Christmas time as early as me, but I love Christmas !! I hope not to disappoint all those peelers and decorators this year, and I even have lovely sharp knives courtesy of Graham.

Merry Christmas everyone !!

Julie and the team **julie.st@btinternet.com 01993 880378**

****

INSPECTOR APPOINTED TO CONSIDER SALT CROSS GARDEN VILLAGE PROPOSALS

The development of Salt Cross garden village has taken a major step forward with the appointment of a Government inspector to oversee key areas of its planning.
Darren McCreery has been appointed by Secretary of State Robert Jenrick to chair hearings on the Area Action Plan (AAP).
The hearings will officially begin on **28th June** and run for two weeks, after which Mr McCreery will decide on whether to give the plan the green light.

Mr McCreery will be considering a wide range of issues including whether current and future housing needs are being met, transport infrastructure, potential net zero carbon development and policies surrounding the Salt Cross science and technology park.
Once adopted, the AAP will become statutory. It will be used alongside the Local Plan and Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan to determine future proposals at Salt Cross.

Work on the AAP began in 2018 with partners including community representatives, land promoters Grosvenor Britain & Ireland, West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council involved in meetings, events, consultations and activities to listen to ideas from a wide range of interests.
Expert reports showcasing the concept, vision and proposals for Salt Cross were drawn up and last August, an eight-week public consultation was held.
For more information on Salt Cross, see: **www.westoxon.gov.uk/gardenvillage**

Naturehood
earthwatch
EUROPE

Freeland Naturehood Photography Competition

Every month entries will be judged by a panel from the Freeland Photo Group alongside wildlife experts from Earthwatch Naturehood. It is completely free to enter for any age.

Entries must: be no bigger than 25mb; have a resolution of at least 3 mega pixels; include an element of nature or wildlife; be taken in or around Freeland. Only one entry to be sent each month. You may enter more than once under your name in the year.

There will be a small prize each month. All winning photos will be included in the 2021 Freeland Naturehood Calendar.

Don't forget to adhere to current government restrictions and please do not trespass without permission.

Send your entry to: **nature_instead@outlook.com** by the end of the month.

Congratulations to……..

Alison Puddle -
April's winner

A fantastic shot of a Red Admiral butterfly in Vincent's Wood surrounded by Bluebells.

EYNSHAM MEDICAL GROUP UPDATES

Important Covid-19 vaccination update

The Practice is now only offering COVID-19 vaccinations to those patients in priority groups 1-9 (aged 50 and over) who have not yet had their first dose or are awaiting a second dose. Please do not contact them about any other vaccine groups. You can check your eligibility at **https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-care-home-and-healthcare-settings-posters/covid-19-vaccination-first-phase-priority-groups**

If you are in the priority groups 10 – 12 (people aged 49 down to 18) you will need to book your appointment at the National NHS Booking Service **https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination** when your age group becomes eligible. Keep your eye on the news as age eligibilities are lowering quite fast !

Twice weekly FREE Rapid Lateral Flow tests to check for Covid-19 – update

The Eynsham Medical Group Practice is now able to distribute **CV19 Lateral Flow Tests** to the public from Long Hanborough Pharmacy.

You will need to queue as if collecting a prescription, and request the tests at the pharmacy front desk. The tests are in packs of 7 and the Pharmacy can hand out a maximum of 4 packs to any one person. Those collecting tests need to be able to state the reason for testing and the age of the person taking the test.

It is also possible to obtain these test kits very fast by ordering from this website **https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests**

Do not use a rapid lateral flow test if you have coronavirus symptoms. Instead, get a PCR test and self-isolate. If you're not sure, you can find out which coronavirus test you should get at this website: **https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/**

Covid-19 Vaccine Certificates

The Practice is regrettably unable to issue Certificates or evidence about your COVID vaccination status.

Please refer to the Demonstrating your COVID-19 vaccination status when travelling abroad page on the Gov.uk website **www.gov.uk/guidance/demonstrating-your-covid-19-vaccination-status-when-travelling-abroad?** for further information.

Proof of your vaccination status has been available via the NHS app since **17th May**, and in some of the other apps that provide you with Patient online services.

The NHS App can be downloaded from:

- The App Store for iPhone/iOS
  https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/nhs-app/id1388411277
- The Google Play Store for Android
  https://play.google.com/store/apps/

If you have not used it before, there is a self-registration process within the app to create an "NHS login".

Continued…….

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Continued……..
Information on creating a login can be viewed on the NHS login page on the NHS website **https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/online-services/nhs-log-in/**

If you already have access / login details for patient online services, for example "Patient Access", **https://www.patientaccess.com/** you can use that - and may find it easier to use.

Alternatively, you can call the **NHS helpline on 119** (**from 17th May**) and ask for a letter to be posted to you. This must be at least 5 days after you've completed your course of the vaccine. The letter may to take another 5 days to reach you, or more if postal services are affected. Please take account of this when making your plans.

Dr Paul Coffey
We are very sorry to share the sad news that Dr Paul Coffey died peacefully at home with his family by his side on 29th April. He had been a partner at the practice for 36 years, during which time his clear commitment to his patients as well as his colleagues was appreciated by many. He was diagnosed with pancreatic neuroendocrine cancer in 2016 which led him to retire earlier than he planned, at the age of 66. He will be very greatly missed by all of us at Eynsham Medical Group, and our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.
Paul's funeral was held at St Laurence Church in Combe on 14th May.

Career Opportunities
Following the opening of the new, larger and modern surgery in Long Hanborough, two jobs have arisen for a Deputy Practice Manager (DPM) and a Support Assistant (SA). If either are of interest, please email **print@associatedagencies.co.uk** for details of the Adverts and Job Descriptions, plus in the case of the DPM, a Person Description.
If you are then still interested you can apply to the Practice Manager Tracy Girvan at **tracy.girvan@nhs.net**

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

W 26 May	Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
W 26 May	**Combe Mill open on Wednesdays**. See **www.combemill.co.uk**
Su 30 May	**Farmers' Market - Freeland CE Primary School 10am - 1pm**
M 31 May	**Bank Holiday**
Th 3 June	Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
W 9 June	Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
Sa 12 June	**Freeland Pre-School Open day at the school, 10.30am - 12noon**
W 16 June	Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
M 21 June	**Freeland Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm**
W 23 June	Grey Week: household rubbish + food waste collection
Su 27 June	**Farmers' Market - Freeland CE Primary School 10am - 1pm**
Su 27 June	Combe Mill in Steam - open for members. See **www.combemill.co.uk**
W 30 June	Green Week: recycling + food waste + garden waste collection
Tu 6 July	**The Cake Café - Grand Re-opening! Village Hall 9am - 11.30am**

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

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

ART CLASSES, online and in community rooms, enjoyable and supportive, reasonably priced, experienced tutor. For details contact Gabriele.
Email: **gabrielekern31@gmail.com**

THE CAKE CAFÉ, FREELAND

GRAND RE-OPENING OF THE CAKE CAFÉ ON TUESDAY 6TH JULY

(Fingers crossed!)

Also, Celebration Cakes and Bespoke Afternoon Teas.
Please visit us at Freeland Farmers' Market in June for our freshly baked goods.
www.janescakestudio.co.uk 01993 881273

BLUNT KNIFE? We can sharpen your knife, scissors, wood chisel, secateurs, hedge trimmer, shears, rotary mower blade etc. to original specification.
Contact - Graham Lay **01993 881464**

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

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The deadline for articles or adverts for the **July** Grapevine is **Saturday 12th June.**
The **July** edition should be in the church porch and online at:
www.freelandoxon.co.uk from **Friday 25th June.**

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

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

The cost of a Small Advertisement is **20p per word.** Please make cheques payable to **'FREELAND GRAPEVINE'**. Contact Kenny Wylie about costs for other adverts.
1/3rd page size is 60mm high x 127mm wide, 1/2 page size is 90mm high x 127mm wide

Adverts: grapevineadverts@gmail.com
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.

COMING UP THIS MONTH...

1st June - BURGER NIGHT
10th - Street Food Pop Ups
11th - EUROS start
12th - World Gin Day Celebrations
14th - PIE NIGHT
17th - Street Food Pop Up
24th - Street Food Pop Up
30th - Pub Quiz
And more to come!

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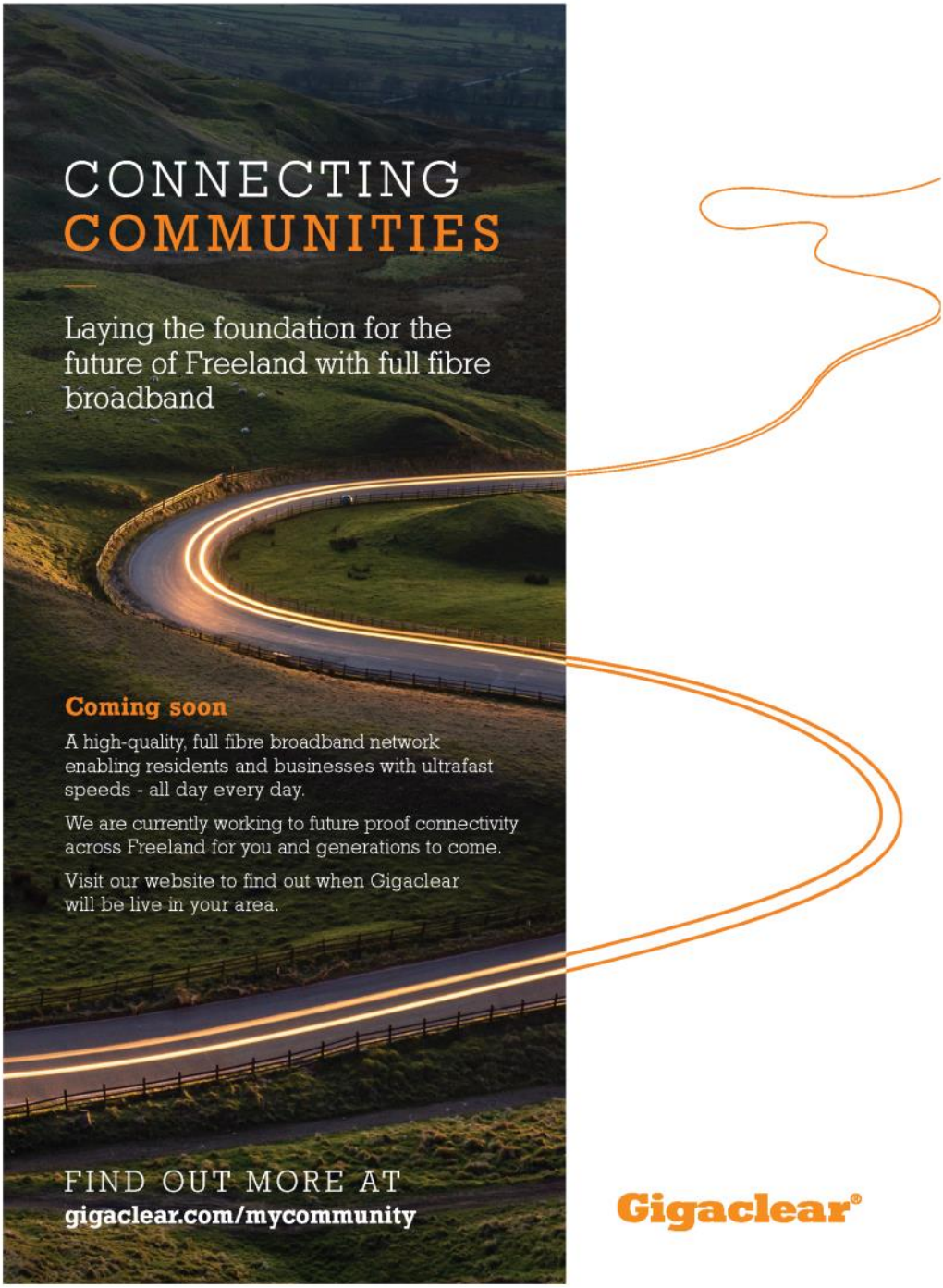
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