

FRIETH VILLAGE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

January 2024

Welcome to the New Year edition

Greetings village people, Happy January, we hope you've had a great start to your year and ouch, it's become a little cold, hasn't it? Mustn't grumble, at least it's stopped raining, and the dogs and walkers among us are no longer battling the mud. So, chin up, and dig deep, Spring is just around the corner, and in the meantime, darn your thermals, get going with the draft excluder and surely, you've not still got that summer weight duvet on?

Portrait of a Village Photographs

On the weekend of 16th December, local photographer and artist, Rachael Wallace's collection of Frieth residents was exhibited in the village hall. As many of you know, this was a not-for-profit project to commemorate the Coronation year of King Charles. This was also a repeat of the same undertaking by another local photographer in 2000, Lucy Dickens. Thank you, Rachel, for creating a wonderful record of the life and personality of village life in 2023.



Prints are available, large (as in the exhibition) cost £40 and small (8" x 6") are £20. A book containing all photos will be printed and available online as a download. All proceeds go to the Village Society.

If you feel you missed out and would like to be part of the project, Rachel is continuing to do portraits for £50, including the mounted print.

For details email: rachel@markjwallace.com or www.racheljwallace.com



'Then and now', Sheila McLeod, (Don's mum)



Two-thirds of the newsletter team



All of the Hoppertons

Thanks and updates from your Newsletter Team

FRIETH VILLAGE SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

We wanted to express our heartfelt thanks to the broader team who make the newsletter possible. Firstly, to Nancy Barlow at Henley College who prints it, to Penny and Sean who collect it, and to our marvellous deliverers who distribute the newsletter promptly (in all weathers!).

Electronic copies of the newsletter are now available via the Frieth Village Society website: www.fvs.org.uk
As ever, we welcome all your feedback, thoughts and ideas for future issues.

Please send them to our **NEW** email address: newsletter@fvs.org.uk

The Village Voice

Christmas All Wrapped Up

Carols around the tree

A huge thank you to those who wrapped up warm and warbled wonderfully around the tree. This family event is an annual tradition in Frieth, and many of us see it as the start of our Christmas celebrations.

Thanks too to those who made and served mince pies, mulled wine and other refreshments in the village hall as people stared in wonder, not at the star but at all the photographs that made up the Portrait of a Village – amazing! Well done, Rachel!

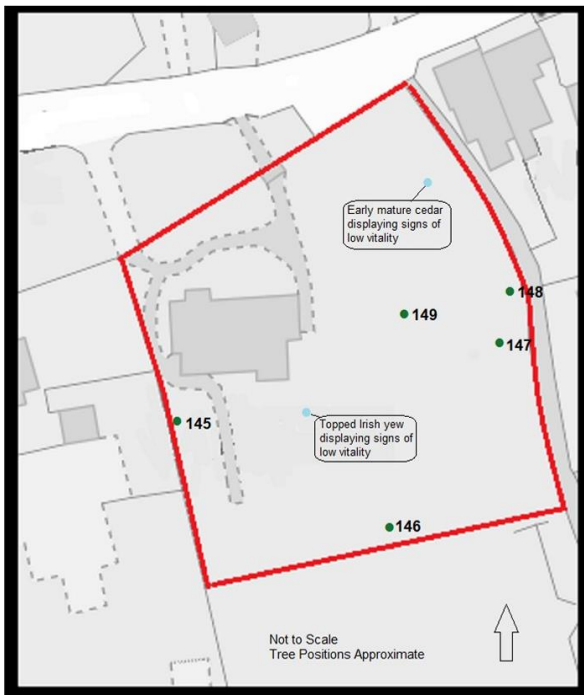


Christingle service

A week later, families gathered in church for the Christingle service, which, as usual, was well supported and raised £148 for the Children's Society.

Whilst we are all encouraged through this service to 'Let our light shine', this year, we confirmed that candles can be a hazard when they burn low – a fire was averted thanks to quick action taken by Shuna Rendel – thank you!

Getting Spruced up



Tree Management in the Churchyard

Following two inspections over the course of 2023 by a qualified Arboriculturist, six trees have been recorded for attention within the perimeter of the Churchyard. Having sought the necessary permissions from both Bucks Council and the Oxford Diocese, the works are now expected to take place over the next six months.

While most of the trees are in acceptable structural and physiological condition and do not require any remedial work, deadwood is an issue in some trees, particularly the Limes, and structural weaknesses requiring remediation have been identified in the large Cedar (149 on map) and the large Horse Chestnut (148 on map).

Consequently, the canopies of these two trees will be reduced and some limbs from the Cedar removed to preserve its health. Other work will include the felling of a Cedar with extremely low vitality and removal of deadwood from other trees.

Call for helpers!

While some paid help is already available to generally maintain the churchyard, the Churchwardens are also hoping to find some volunteers to provide supplementary assistance to help keep everything neat and tidy. No specific commitment is required, but if you could find time to help, we would love to hear from you. Don't hesitate to get in touch with Lynda Marston-Weston on 07764 937207 for additional information and/or to volunteer your time (or someone else's if you prefer!)

Community Matters

Your Hot Date!

Thurs 25th Jan, 7.30-9pm, Frieth Village Hall

Banish those January blues! Greener Frieth is holding its second annual event, this time on renewable home heating options and what you need to know about them.

Bring your questions and join energy experts from Bucks Community Energy, Delta T heat pumps and Kimble Solar panels, as well as some Frieth residents who have taken the plunge to go green. It will be a fun, informal evening where everyone can pitch in if they want.

We're looking forward to a jam-packed evening and hearing everyone's views, not to mention a spot of tea and cake! Bring friends and family and help us make this an evening to remember.

Find further details on the new Greener Frieth Facebook page: <http://tinyurl.com/GFnewsfeed>

7.30-9pm
THURSDAY 25 JANUARY
FRIETH VILLAGE HALL

Join us for this year's

Hot Date!

Don't miss this unique opportunity to bring your questions and share your experiences on the hottest topic around!

Join local renewable energy and industry experts and discover all you wanted to know about how to green up your heat without costing the Earth.

Doors open at 7.30pm
A warm welcome, tea and home-made cookies await you!

Heat pumps: hot or not?
Is solar for you?
Pros & cons, myths, grants & costs!
How leaky is your home?

Scan for more details

GREENER FRIETH
growing greener together

Welcome to Reverend Andy Storch



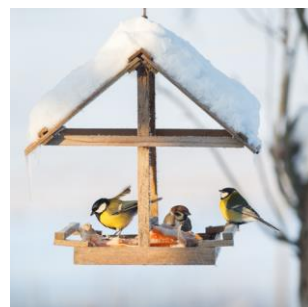
In an earlier edition, we welcomed the arrival of Andy Storch, our new Reverend in the Valley. As extra background, you may be interested to know that Andy grew up in Peppard, read law at Cambridge, and led the Christian Union at Guildford Law School. Initially joining a High Street Legal Aid solicitors in Reading, he went on to set up his own law firm specialising in Criminal Defence work. Having decided to enter the Ministry, Andy was trained at St. Mellitis Theological College in London, before being ordained Deacon at Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford, in the Summer of 2019.

After completing his curacy in Caversham, and then taking on Associate Priest responsibilities at Mapledurham, Andy had the opportunity to cover for Sue Morton during her sabbatical and get to know the Hambleton Valley where, following his licensing service on the 4th of December, he became Priest in Charge. Andy will be leading our services at St. John's, Freith, but you can also reach him on 07811 430898 or Revandystorch@gmail.com Welcome Andy!

Let's make sure we keep our birds singing: A gentle reminder

Please feed the birds during winter. Birds require high-energy (high-fat) foods during the cold winter weather to maintain their fat reserves to survive the cold. Fat balls and suet-based products will provide nutrition and maintain the bird's essential warmth when it's coldest. **Provide clean, fresh water alongside food:** Particularly for seed-eaters such as Finches; they need to drink regularly to counterbalance their dry diet. Ensure birdbaths and ponds do not freeze over in winter, by adding some hot water or leave a floating ball on the surface.

Keep it up: Remember to top up their food regularly. While most birds will adapt and move to new feeding grounds when natural food runs out gradually, a sudden drop in food puts pressure on them to find a new food source quickly. **Know your birds:** Different species eat different things. Sparrows and Finches like seeds, Tits like fat, and Thrushes and Robins like fruit and worms. **Quantity:** Only put out what will get eaten within a few days. This is important to avoid unwanted visitors and mouldy food. **Location, location, location:** Position your feeders high up away from bushes and undergrowth so cats can't pounce on your birds. **Keep it clean:** Dirty bird feeders/bird tables help spread diseases. Clean them regularly to keep your birds healthy.



Dates for your diary



Frieth Church

Sunday, March 10th is Mothering Sunday and there will be a combined Wild Church /Mothering Sunday service outside (weather permitting) with posies and tea.

Frieth Village Society QUIZ

27th January, 7-10.30 pm, Quiz starts at 7.30 pm, Frieth Village Hall. Gather friends, family and neighbours to form a team of 8, or come along and we'll help you make up a team with others. Bring along your drinks and snacks, for an evening filled with laughter and friendly competition. Tickets from the Frieth Village Society website: www.fvs.org.uk



Victor & Albert Comedy Evening Saturday 2nd March, Frieth Village Hall

Frieth Village Hall committee hosts the return of the comedy duo for an evening of fun and laughter with friends. This hugely popular evening (suitable for 14+) is not to be missed and tickets are selling fast.

Doors open 7:15pm, performance starts 8pm. Paying bar with drinks and snacks available. Tickets and more information available via the link on the Village Hall website at www.friethvillagehall.org or via Eventbrite



Hambleden Cinema Club, Hambleden Village Hall

LIVING, Saturday 17th February, starring Bill Nighy, Aimee Lou Wood and Tom Burke. Doors and bar open at 7pm, programme starts at 8pm. Tickets £8 each, available from the Hambleden Village Store or from the website: <https://hambledencinema.co.uk>



Hambleden Valley Garden Club, Frieth Village Hall

Tuesday 6th February, 6.00 for 6.30pm, Kerry's Guide to Roses, presented by Annabel Christie. The club welcomes new people with an interest in gardening. A one-time guest fee of £4 is payable to attend your first meeting, with annual membership available thereafter if it's for you!



Frieth Lunch Club: Last Friday of the month

Great food and wonderful company. **ALL** welcome. If you need help to get there, transport is available. Contact Judy 01491 882227, email ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

Parmoor Afternoon Tea Club: Tuesday Afternoons at St Katharine's, Parmoor

All are welcome for a chat over a cuppa and to play board games if you wish.

If you need help to get there, transport is available.

Contact Judy on 01491 882227 or email ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com



▲▲D. J. Macleod▲▲

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Bad Joke Corner

Q: What do you get when you mix a snowman with a vampire?

A: Frostbite

