

# FRIETH VILLAGE SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

May 2024

### Welcome to the marvellous month of May edition

Greetings! Right, after a soggy run at spring, by now we're optimistic that it's safe to hang up your sou'wester for a while (just don't put it anywhere that you can't find it again easily).

So, we hope you have enjoyed the amazing colours of the season, the abundant blossom, the trees once again in full leaf and the general surge in energy that nature displays at this time of year. In the village, we've got lots to look forward to, as community gatherings and events feature throughout the year, do get involved where you can, you're always hugely welcome.



### Frieth Village Society Annual General Meeting – 29th April 2024



Following his appointment last year, this year's Village Society AGM saw David House present his first report as Chairman. He began with thanks to the incumbent Committee and (totally incredible) Newsletter team for their support in his welcome into the role and commented that we are most fortunate as a society to have such a committed and hardworking group.

David then reviewed the past year's activities, calling out the Fete and the fantastic volunteers, some of whom have supported for many years and others as new faces. To appeal to as many locals as possible, the Committee plans to create additional attractions at this year's fete, subject to sufficient volunteers.

David commented on the launch of the FVS website, which offers a wider communication channel to the Newsletter, plus email and document storage to help run the Society going forward. Other innovations included online ticketing for village events, first used for the Annual Quiz – a sell-out event this year! He also explained the need for members to re-register their society membership on the new website [www.fvs.org.uk](http://www.fvs.org.uk) and noted that 51 members had registered already. So please sign up, it's completely free to join and having an up-to-date database of members is essential in running the society efficiently.



Also mentioned as well-attended and much-enjoyed events were Rachel Wallace's fantastic display of villagers' photographs and Christmas Carols around the tree. Saturday morning litter picks regularly attract a loyal following, however, it would be great to see a few more of our friends and neighbours join in – maybe the free bacon rolls will tempt you!



Parish Councillor, Charles Hussey explained that the **Perrin Springs Lane Nature Reserve**, was purchased by the Parish Council for the benefit of the village and that FVS has been asked to take on its maintenance.

In line with the Committee's aim to expand the range of events and vary their purpose, the upcoming wine-tasting evening was cited as an event simply for fun and building community, (not for fundraising).

Finally, David mentioned the review and update of the Society's constitution, which maintains in their entirety the original aims but now reflects established practice and the introduction of its website. A short General Meeting immediately followed the AGM and unanimously adopted the revised constitution.

Your Village Society is an active and engaged body of volunteers – but we are always looking for more!

Electronic copies of the newsletter are now available via the Frieth Village Society website: [www.fvs.org.uk](http://www.fvs.org.uk)

We welcome all your feedback, thoughts and ideas for future issues.

Please send all messages to our **NEW** email address: [newsletter@fvs.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@fvs.org.uk)

# The Village Voice

## Can we establish a Chilterns Wildlife Corridor?

### Our local Parish Councillor lends a voice to support nature in the Chilterns



Amanda Hopkins, one of our Parish Councillors and Chair of Greener Frieth, has recently been engaged in an initiative to develop strategies to reverse nature losses.

Amanda writes that the Environment Act of 2021, sets a legally binding target for the government to address this topic, with the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) commissioning every local authority to develop its own plan. These local plans will play a vital part in reversing the UK's status as one of the 'most nature-depleted countries'.

### Local Workshops to generate ideas

A series of workshops are being held, and the ideas generated at these workshops will then be evaluated by ecologists at county level to decide which ones to take forward.

Ideas proposed have included the development of a Chilterns wildlife corridor, which seeks to join up several existing wildlife zones established by local landowners and farmers, into one large, protected habitat stretching across the Chilterns, creating conditions for our native flora and fauna to thrive and providing a super opportunity for greater collaboration between landowners, communities, county officers and schools. If you would like to know more about the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, feel free to contact Amanda and/or follow this link <https://bucksmknep.co.uk/nature-strategy/overview/>

## Come and have tea with the Vicar



### It's a drop-in ... so drop in!

We are delighted to be able to put out a rallying call for all who live, work and visit our village to come and drop in to meet our newly appointed Priest in Charge of Hambleton Valley Group of Churches, the Reverend Andy Storch. So, whether you're a resident of Frieth, the parents of children attending the School, or simply a regular visitor, do pop in and say a warm 'Hello' on **Wednesday 22nd May** in the **Village Hall** between **2:30pm to 7:30pm**.

This informal welcome is simply to allow us to get to know Andy and give the team supporting St. John the Evangelist's church, the chance to update you on the positive work, events and activities, both underway and planned, as well as the benefits that being 'church appreciative' can bring to us all.

### Are you a closet campanologist or chorister?

Don't worry, you won't be put on a rota to commence bell ringing, hand out hymn books or be screen-tested in X-factor style for the choir unless, of course, this is your secret ambition!

### Yes, of course there will be cake!

As further encouragement, an abundance of tea, coffee and cakes will be available throughout the session. So, let's show our appreciation of Andy's time and the efforts that all associated with St. John the Evangelist's Church put in, who simply wish to enrich the lives of every Frieth dweller and visitor.



**Note:** Even if you have not met Andy yet, you may well have seen him cycling around the Parish adorned not in his clerical robes, but a high-vis jacket. We encourage you all to please allow plenty of room when passing him – after all, he has friends in high places!

# Community Matters

## Frieth Goes Wild!



Too busy for photos!



Children and nature – it's a win



Radox bath anyone?



Tea and biscuits - lovely



Wild Church began three years ago, born as a result of lockdown during the coronavirus pandemic. When our churches were closed, we welcomed many people to our churchyard services and came to realise how different and special it was to hold services in an 'outdoor cathedral'.

And so, we began meeting monthly on the afternoon of each second Sunday, holding Wild Church in fields, woods, by streams, up hills and in gardens. Kite-making, Wild Gardening at the Lady Ryder Memorial Garden, mini raft-making by the River Thames and gravestone cleaning are just a few of the activities we have enjoyed.

On Remembrance Sunday, we have held special services where sadly a Halifax or a Spitfire has come down in the Second World War; last year we remembered the secret work that was carried out at the Danesfield House Hotel, overlooking the river.

And each December, there is a Wild Nativity with real animals!

At each Wild Church, we are ably supported by our Wild Choir as we sing a couple of well-known hymns, listen to a short Bible reading, close with a prayer and then enjoy tea and cake!

Recently, Wild Church was held in the Lady Ryder Memorial Garden at Parmoor (see photos), and attendees quickly found themselves getting still wilder as forks and trowels were grabbed, and borders and beds were tackled with gusto by the young and older alike.

If you'd like to know more about Wild Church, feel free to contact Reverend Sue Morton on 01491 639286 or 07808 517347 or via email [suemorton131@gmail.com](mailto:suemorton131@gmail.com)

Also, take a look at the 'Dates for your Diary' section on the back page, and you'll find additional information on upcoming services.

## Free stuff in Free-th



Greener Frieth is in the planning stages of a community-focused, kerbside recycling event. Join in the fun and have your chance to grab preloved items on Frieth's first FREE giveaway, a lucky dip treasure trail.

Full details coming soon on the Greener Frieth Facebook page:

<http://tinyurl.com/GFnewsfeed> but meanwhile, make a note of the date in your diaries: **Sunday 16th June, 11 am-1 pm.**

## Dates for your diary



### Frieth Church

**Sunday 19th and 26th May** – Holy Communion services at Frieth

**Wednesday 22nd May** – Meeting the Vicar, 2.30-7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Sunday 2nd June** – Group Service, 10am Fawley church

**Sunday 9th June** – Wild Church – Wild Pottery! 3pm Turville Studios (opposite the Bull and Butcher). Dress for the weather; we will meet, come rain or shine!

### Greener Frieth

**Sunday 16th June** – 11 am to 1 pm, Kerbside Recycling Event

**Tuesday 9th July** – General Meeting, 7 pm Frieth School Hall

**Tuesday 10th September** – General Meeting, 7 pm Frieth School Hall



### Frieth Natural History Society: Upcoming events

**Saturday 18th May**, morning, a guided tour of Woolley Firs local BBOWT reserve.

**Tuesday 18th June**, morning, a visit to a private wildflower site at Christmas Common.

**Saturday 13th July**, morning, meeting in Frieth to identify finds from moth trapping.

FNHS welcomes new members, but anyone can join our walks for a £2 Guest contribution.

For more information about the society and events, contact Mary on 01491 881501 or Andy on 01491 881586 or email [FNHS2023@gmail.com](mailto:FNHS2023@gmail.com)

### TWO New Yoga Classes in Frieth

**Thursday Evenings: Amanda Hughes** starts classes from 9th May, 7-8 pm in the Village Hall for £10 a session. Benefits include finding strength, coordination, flexibility and calmness. All abilities are welcome. Please bring your own mat if you have one. For more information, contact Amanda on 07831 703489 or just turn up and give it a try!

**Saturday mornings: Gabby McMahon** starts classes from 18th May, 10.30-11.30 am, in the Village Hall. For more information, contact Gabby on 07828 148657.



### 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](mailto: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](mailto:ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com)



## ▲▲D. J. Macleod▲▲

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## Bad Joke Corner

**Q: What did the envelope say to the stamp?**

**A: Stick with me baby and we'll go places!**

