FRIETH VILLAGE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

November 2025

Welcome to our Winter edition!

So much has been going on in our lively little village, that we couldn't fit all the news into four sides, hence this BUMPER edition! If you're bowled over by everything that has been going on, take some time out with a glass (or two) of mulled wine and a mince pie and prepare for another action-packed year in 2026! Meanwhile, we'd like to wish you a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS! (It's not too early is it?)

The Pin-credible Skittles Showdown

With a sound which hadn't been heard since the ill-fated joint meeting of the Hambleden Valley Pirates Society and the Woodworm Appreciation Association, ☺ the FVS Skittles Evening thundered its way into village legend, sending wooden pins tumbling to the floor amidst much excitement and occasional consternation!

And they're off!

Naan-stop flavour here

The knockout competition gave the eight teams a number of chances to show off their skills, variously demonstrating everything from full strikes to a concerted exploration of the gutters, with pins miraculously untouched. Yet, triumph and disaster were treated just the same (Kipling would have been proud!) and as the crowd roared, the drink flowed and the screeching chalk on the blackboard revealed the winners of each round, all clearly had a great time.

Earlier in the day

Full strike in progress

BOMBAYish's excellent Indian Street Food provided much needed nourishment to keep energy levels up throughout the competition and, with FVS's new marquee set up for the first time (a feat not without its challenges), we were able to create both a bar area and a 'decibel-lite' environment for those intent on preserving their hearing.

Team Strike, living up to their name, may well have been the overall winners – and indeed we congratulate them on their victory – but truly this was an evening of fun and enjoyment for everyone who participated, young and old(er), player and spectator alike.

By the end of the night, spirits were so high that several attendees even claimed they'd understood all the rules; an achievement surely worthy of next year's trophy.

The winners take it all (well, a lovely trophy anyway!)

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

Please send all messages to our email address: newsletter@fvs.org.uk

Village News

Remembering Angela Detsiny

A quiet strength that touched many lives

We are saddened to announce the death of Angela Detsiny, a long-standing resident of the village whose energy, resilience, and compassion left a lasting impression on all who knew her. Angela moved to Frieth in 1969, two years after marrying Michael Detsiny, and made the village her home for the rest of her life.

Despite facing her own health challenges, Angela devoted herself to helping others and embraced many opportunities to volunteer. From the late 1980s, she served for around seventeen years as Chief Instructor at the local Riding for the Disabled group, forming strong and lasting connections with the young people she supported. She also volunteered in Windsor helping adults with learning disabilities, where her warmth, patience, and natural rapport were deeply appreciated.

Angela had a particular love for Frieth and contributed wholeheartedly to village life. She helped run the Village Hall, played a major role in organising the Village Fete and the dog show, tended the flowerpots at the school and the crossroads, was an enthusiastic member of the Litter Picking Army, marshalled at the Frieth Hilly, and supported children who struggled with reading at Frieth School. A keen gardener, Angela was a regular competitor at the Flower and Produce Show and a long-standing member of the Hambleden Valley Garden Club. Her quiet dedication, especially behind the scenes at plant sales, and her ever-helpful nature made her a much-valued member of the community.

A service to celebrate Angela's life will be held at Hambleden Church on 1st December at 11am, for those who wish to pay their respects. We send our sincere condolences to Michael, Hazel, Stephen, and Warren at this difficult time.

All aflutter and yet with Reserve

An Update on Frieth's Nature Reserve

After the very wet winter of '24–'25, and the long hot summer that followed, Frieth's designated Local Wildlife Site (LWS), off Perrin Springs Lane, was informally surveyed by the Frieth Natural History Society. Results suggested a decline in some previously recorded species, though the climatic conditions experienced may well have added uncertainty here.

On a positive note, the warm spring and summer brought a resurgence in butterflies. A separate informal survey by Sarah Ronan recorded healthy numbers across the site, most notably Gatekeepers, Common Blue and Large White, but also Small Heath, Meadow Browns, Brown Argus and Green-veined White were seen. Painted Ladies, Red Admirals and Peacocks were similarly present, which is all very encouraging.

Small Heath

(continued on next page)

Village News

All aflutter and yet with Reserve (continued)

Female Common Blue

More broadly, this year, the FVS took more direct responsibility for the site, keeping internal hedges tidy and continuing to remove ragwort and small blackthorn, which will be an ongoing task. This will reduce our reliance on Parish Council funding for basic maintenance and allow spending elsewhere to support the Reserve, such as providing signage and information boards, which are planned for 2026.

After this transitional year, we look forward to developing the longer-term plan for the Reserve, expanding our work to restore or exceed previous diversity, and sharing updates on progress and access.

Brown Argus

--- Anyone wishing to get involved is welcome to email Rick Lilley at info@fvs.org.uk Thank you! ---

Photo credits: Sarah Ronan

Making Our Roads Safer: A Year of Community Speed Watch

Why slowing down matters — and how residents are making a difference

Did you know that a pedestrian's chance of survival drops dramatically as vehicle speed rises? At 20 mph, there's a 10% chance of death— but at 30 mph, the risk of fatality leaps to 50%, and at 40 mph, it's a shocking 90%. Speed really does matter.

That's why our Community Speed Watch (CSW) group has spent the past year keeping an eye on traffic through the village. Our aim is simple: to slow vehicles down and make our streets safer — especially for our most vulnerable road users: children, walkers, and cyclists.

Over the past 12 months, our volunteers have run 26 sessions across several approved sites in the village at different times of day, from early morning to late afternoon. Each session lasts an hour, during which we typically observe around 102 vehicles, though the number can range from 30 to 130 depending on the time of day.

Altogether, we've recorded 2,664 vehicles, with 114 reported for excessive speed (above 35 mph). Earlier in the year, 6% of vehicles were exceeding the limit; over the full year, that average now sits at 4%. While we'd love to call that progress, the change likely reflects a larger sample size rather than a clear downward trend. Recent sessions have, after all, varied widely — from 0% to 20% of vehicles speeding.

What remains consistent, however, is that the simple presence of our volunteers slows most drivers down. That's a win in itself. Every reduction in speed makes a difference, whether it's saving a pedestrian's life or making our village a calmer, safer place to live.

As we move into another year of Speed Watch, let's keep working to bring that average down even further. After all, if driving more slowly and adding an extra minute to your journey means someone gets home safely, isn't that worth it? If you'd like to join the CSW team or simply come along to see how a session works, we'd love to have you involved. Email us at speedwatch@fvs.org.uk for more information.

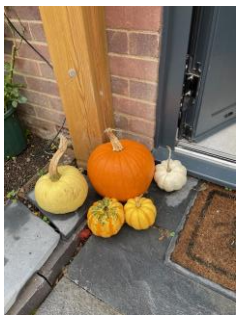
Neighbourhood Activities

From Carved Up…..

Spooky Walk

Ambling around the village on the 31st October was not the usual Autumnal saunter. Instead of hips, haws and berries there were ghosts, carved pumpkins, spiders' webs and skeletons!

Thanks to those who made the effort to decorate our streets for Halloween, but did you manage to scare off the 'trick or treaters'?



To Spruced Up

Village Litter Pick

A huge thank you to those who turned out recently for the biannual litter pick and village tidy, especially those new to this task. We really appreciate people giving up their time to do this – the results of your efforts are evident – our village is now smarter, cleaner and neater than it was before. THANK YOU ☺

High Fives for the Winners!

Now Available: the Winners of Frieth Flower and Produce Show 2025 were:

Fred Cripps Memorial Trophy - Judy Hunt
The Sunnydale Trophy - Val Hussey
The Stella Cup - Alison Pitcher
The Squirrels Trophy - Judy Hunt
The Gidman Trophy - The Lady Ryder Garden
The Whitsun Cup - Sam Joyce
The Wells Cup - Sam Joyce
The Peggy West Trophy - Rose Kennedy

The Inglenook Cup - Sam Joyce
Fred Cripps Junior - Lottie Hunt
Mary Butler Cup - Connie Bruce
Bradstone Novice Trophy - Deborah Rose
The Ashcroft Trophy - Val Hussey
Ted Carpenter Cup - Mabel Bruce
The Copse Cup - Alison Pitcher
The Lady Parmoor Cup - Lady Ryder Garden

Thanks to all who took part and many congratulations to the winners!

Community Matters

Buses come to Frieth!

The Wheels on the Bus go round and round to Frieth!

Did you know that Frieth is now on the bus route to and from Marlow? The 156A bus is a public bus running weekdays, all year round, between Frieth and Marlow – out in the morning and back in the afternoon.

between **Marlow** & **Lane End**
with one journey to **Frieth**

156 156A

Mondays to Fridays except Public Holidays

route number	156A	156	156
Frieth Hayles Field	0745		
Moor Common Church Road	0750		
Lane End Simmons Way	0752	0910	1120
Lane End The Row	0757	0913	1123
Marlow Sunnybank	↓	0920	↓
Marlow Sandygate Road		0922	
Marlow West Street		0925	
Marlow Terrington Hill		0928	
Marlow Pound Lane	↓	0933	↓
Marlow Dean Street Car Park	0807	↓	1133
Marlow Bobmore Lane	0810	↓	↓
Marlow Court Garden Leisure Centre		0935	1140

route number	156	156A	156A
Marlow Court Garden Leisure Centre	1225		
Marlow Bobmore Lane	↓	1520	
Marlow West Street		1525	1800
Marlow Terrington Hill	1226	↓	↓
Marlow West Street	1232		
Marlow Sandygate Road	1236		
Marlow Sunnybank	1238	↓	↓
Lane End Simmons Way	1246	1535	1810
Lane End The Row	1249	1538	1813
Moor Common Church Road		1540	1815
Frieth Hayles Field		1545	

No service on **Saturdays**, **Sundays** or Public Holidays

If you find this image difficult to read, you can find the timetable via this link: https://passenger-line-assets.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/carouselbuses/CSLB/156-timetable-20250831-6f634b77.pdf

Fond Farewells

Reverend Sue Morton to Step Back

After almost 14 years of loyal and dedicated service, the Rev Sue Morton, Associate Priest of The Hambleden Valley Group of Churches, has announced that she will step back from ministry in the valley from February next year. She and her husband Mark will be moving to Ewelme where they hope to have more time to spend with family and friends. Whilst she plans to continue in ministry, quite what form that will take, she is waiting to discover.

Meanwhile, you are invited to join the Group Service in Hambleden Church on Sunday 1st February, 10am, to say farewell and give thanks for her time with us. She will be missed!

Up Hill and Down Dale

Frieth Hilly 2025

This year's event saw a total of 314 people take to the roads and tracks around Frieth for the 5K and 10K mixed terrain races. Whilst there were several age categories for both races, the fastest finishers completed the courses in 18.51 and 35.53 minutes respectively – fantastic achievements! But well done to ALL who took part. All finishers received medals and very well deserved they were; this is a challenging course!

Dates for your diary

Frieth Church and related activities – ALL WELCOME!

Sunday 30th November, 8am – BCP, Holy Communion, **Frieth**
Sunday 7th December, 10am – Group Service, *Fingest*
Sunday 14th December, 2pm – Wild Church Nativity, *Northend Common*
Sunday 14th December, 6pm – Nine Lessons & Carols, **Frieth**, with Andrew Green explaining the history of this service followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Collection for Wycombe Homeless Connection
Friday 19th December, 6pm – Christingle Service, **Frieth** followed by mulled wine and mince pies
Sunday 21st December, 10am – Communion, **Frieth**
Wednesday 24th December, 11.30pm – Midnight Mass, *Hambleden and Turville*
Thursday 25th December, 9am – Family Communion, **Frieth**
Sunday 28th December, 10am – Communion, **Frieth**, which is also St John the Evangelist patronal festival

Frieth Village Society

Wednesday 17th December, 6 for 6.30pm start – Carols Around the Tree – meet at Frieth Village Hall
Saturday 31st January, 7 for 7.30pm start – the ever-popular **Village Quiz** – Tickets and more information available in the New Year

Frieth Natural History Society

No meetings planned for December or January.
Thursday 26th February, 7.30pm – AGM followed by a talk by John Mason on 'Wild London' Everyone welcome.
For more information contact Mary on 01494 881501 or Andy on 01494 881586.

Hambleden Valley Garden Club: First Tuesday of the month, October to March, Frieth Village Hall

The club provides a focal point for people interested in gardening and the opportunity to exchange ideas and advice. Meetings with external speakers are held 7 for 7.30pm October to December, and 6 for 6.30pm January to March. In the summer, there are a range of garden visits. Annual membership fee is £15 single or £25 for a couple; members then pay £2 per meeting. Visitors are welcome for a fee of £4 per meeting.
Tuesday 2nd December, 7 for 7.30pm – Pip Smith – **The Resilient Garden**, Part II 'Flood'
Tuesday 6th January, 6 for 6.30pm – Laura Willgoss – **Wildegoose Nursery** over the years and throughout the seasons

Hambleden Cinema Club, Hambleden Village Hall

Saturday 6th December, **Penguin Lessons**, rated 12, staring Steve Coogan.
Please Note: this is a MATINEE so doors and bar open at 2pm, **programme starts at 3pm**. Tickets £8 each, available from the Hambleden Village Store or from the website: https://hambledencinema.co.uk

Frieth Lunch Club: Yew Tree Pub

Friday 12th December – Christmas Lunch – last gathering of the year; next lunch 28th February 2026. Great food and wonderful company. **ALL** welcome. If you need help to get there, transport is available. Contact Judy for more information and to book on 01494 882227 or email ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

Parmoor Afternoon Tea Club

Tuesday 2nd December, 2:15pm, Frieth Village Hall – Frieth School children are visiting the Tea Club to sing carols and enjoy tea and cakes. If you need help to get there, transport is available. Contact Judy on 01494 882227 or email ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

D. J. Macleod

Tree surgery, felling, planting, and hedge cutting. Fencing and gates supplied and erected. **Quality firewood** for sale; producer and supplier of wood chips and locally made traditional barbecue charcoal.

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www.donlogs.com
email: donlogs@hotmail.com

Bad Joke Corner

Q: Did you hear about the person who stole an Advent calendar?

A: They got 25 days!