

FRIETH VILLAGE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

March 2024

Welcome to the Spring-like Easter edition

Finally! It's sprung, you made it, if a little damp and bedraggled after the recent monsoon conditions perhaps. Let's trust that the mud will recede to concrete-like conditions soon so that the walkers, runners and dogs can get back on their favourite trails and enjoy our amazing countryside. And of course, Happy Easter, whatever your religion (church or chocolate); we hope that the long weekend is your perfect kind of enjoyable.



Litter-pick heroes didn't need capes

Saturday 23rd saw another brilliant turnout of village volunteers ready and raring to scour the pavements, paths and hedgerows for discarded items, often of a surprising nature. Whether it was the gorgeous spring sunshine or the lure of mugs of tea plus bacon sandwiches, we won't speculate. Whatever the motivation, Frieth Village Society (FVS) is hugely grateful for the support shown for this hugely worthwhile activity.

It's not all rubbish, you know

As well as litter picking, some of us got busy with power tools (okay, it was the men folk), cutting back nettles, brambles and other vicious stuff from the main pathways. So next time you saunter down the church path and marvel at how clear it all looks, spare an appreciative thought. 😊

Join the 'all year crew'

As you know, this is a twice-a-year activity and is promoted well in advance by FVS. What you may not know is that we have several villagers who pick up litter, take care of the planters, tend to the bus shelter, etc, on an ongoing basis. They truly are unsung heroes; do join them if you feel called to do so!



Sean finishes his sandwich as the action begins



A Santa hat, beer, a litre of cider - bet that was a good night.



A tidy haul ...



No can was left behind!



The ivy challenge

Join the war against ivy...

Coming soon! We're going to have an ivy-clearing party in the church grounds, so please keep a lookout here and on the village's Facebook page. You'll be hugely welcome as we strip back the overgrowth that threatens the headstones, trees and shrubs.

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 **NEW** email address: newsletter@fvs.org.uk

The Village Voice

Time Flies

Village Clock Update

Our Official Village Clock Winder Upper, Jolyon Marshall, is pleased to report that our 'Thomas West Memorial Clock' movement has now flown to Chalfont St. Giles for its 3 R's – Repair, Restoration & Re-build. It's expected to be away for at least twelve weeks which allows for disassembly, further inspections, repairs and the making of new replacement parts where required, prior to reassembly, extensive testing and preparations for its return to grace the entrance of the Village Hall once again.

Prior to its re-installation and recommissioning, plans are afoot to redecorate the lobby ceiling area of the Hall, so if you are able to volunteer a little of your time to help, this would be very welcome. Perspex viewing panels are also going to be installed so in future you will be able to view our Turret Clock movement with ease.

Finally, please also see our beautiful new Oak Clock box (photo bottom right) which has been made by Raymond Good Joiners Ltd. and kindly donated to the village.

A big 'thank you' in the meantime to all who have so generously supported this initiative which benefits the village as a whole. If you would like to donate or help in any way, please call Jolyon on 01494 882483



Don't drop it!



Celebrating the life of Sheila Macleod



Sheila Dorothy Macleod, 8th August 1942 – 22nd February 2024

Last Thursday, villagers, friends and family packed St. John the Evangelist Church, Frieth, to remember and celebrate the life of Sheila Macleod. Moving and heartfelt tributes warmed our hearts, as did, indeed, the Spring sun which smiled benevolently down on the congregation as we gathered for the internment after the service.

Sheila was born in Inglenook, pictured here, continuing the generations of her family and its long association with the village. She later met and married her husband who, at the time, was an RAF Fireman stationed at Booker Airfield, an airfield she also worked at later for a glider repair and maintenance business. While, in reality, this was in a secretarial capacity, her family always joked that she kickstarted and test-drove anything that flew!

We heard of her immense love and care for her family, her wise counsel, and even of her darning abilities. Anecdotes laden with affection and good humour fell effortlessly from the mouths of those remembering her, and we will probably all now be on the lookout for her missing tablecloth once carried off by a Red Kite as she sat just a few feet from her outside table!

I leave you with the closing words delivered so beautifully by her son, Don "Today we muster to celebrate the great life of Wife, Sister, Mum, Nan, Great Grandma, friend, wise counsel and a really lovely lady who was born in the bedroom of the house where, until the last few days of her life, she had lived. She loved Frieth. It was the centre of her universe, as she was ours."

Community Matters

Less is More

Lent Lunch

For some, Lent means going without, but on Saturday 16th March, Sam Joyce and friends joined forces to provide a plentiful lunch for about 70 villagers in the Village Hall. Those who attended enjoyed warming soup, bread, cheese, fruit and good company whilst raising £311 for One Can Trust.

Many thanks to those who contributed soups and gave of their time to make this a very successful and much appreciated annual event.



Cheese & Wine Evening



Wine Tasting

An Introduction to Wine Tasting - Saturday 11th May, 7 for 7:30pm at Frieth Village Hall.

As part of the Village Society's aim to broaden the range of organised events, we are pleased to host an Introduction to Wine Tasting with wine experts 'Thirty-Fifty' who plan to provide just the right balance of education and entertainment. You'll pick up tips and tricks of the trade, learn how to taste wine and spot quality, as well as enjoy some fun wine challenges and a table quiz to show off new-found knowledge!

Tickets priced at £20 pp will be available via our website: www.fvs.org.uk from 1st April alongside an option to order a quality cheese board for two to share with carefully selected cheeses to pair with the five wines being served. Ticket sales will close on 30th April, so please buy early to avoid disappointment.

Calling the Green-fingered

Open Gardens

Frieth Village Society is planning a charity garden event on Saturday 23rd June, 12 noon to 4pm. The focus is to have a fun community day. We want to show our gardens – large and small, traditional and contemporary. We are not aiming for 'yellow book standards', no one will be judged. It's about enjoying our local gardens, weeds and all!

Visitors should collect a village map from the Village Hall, which will detail participating gardens. We are hoping that members of the Frieth community will welcome friends and fellow villagers to their gardens between 12 noon and 4pm on that day. Tea and cake will be on sale in the Village Hall and funds raised will be used for village improvements.

If you would like your garden to be open to visitors that day or to help with refreshments, please contact either Suzanne Marshall or Sean Farrelly on Suzanne.marshall@fvs.org.uk or seanf@fvs.org.uk



Dates for your diary



Church Services

Good Friday, 29th March, 2pm, Last Hour at the Cross (Hambleton)
Easter Day, 31st March, 9am, Communion (Frieth)
Easter Day, 31st March, 11am, Communion (Hambleton)

Frieth Village Society AGM

Monday 29th April, 7.30pm, at the Yew Tree. Join the Village Society Committee to review the past year's activities and participate in Officer and Committee member elections. The AGM will be followed by a General Meeting to consider proposed amendments to the Village Society Constitution. Afterwards, (c8.15pm) join the newly elected Committee for a drink and canapes.
All wishing to participate, please register your membership ahead of the AGM at www.FVS.org.uk

Frieth Natural History Society – upcoming events:

Wednesday 17th April, 10am, a short Birdwatching walk, meeting locally.
Saturday 18th May, 10.30am, a guided tour to a local BBOWT reserve.
Tuesday 18th June, 10am, a visit to a private wildflower site looking for orchids.
FNHS welcomes new members, but anyone can join our walks for a £2 Guest contribution. For more details, please contact Mary 01494 881501, Andy 01494 881586 or email FNHS2023@gmail.com

Hambleton Cinema Club, Hambleton Village Hall

NEXT GOAL WINS, 13th April

Doors and bar open at 7pm, programme starts at 8pm. Tickets £8 each, available from the Hambleton Village Store or from the website: <https://hambledencinema.co.uk>



Hambleton Valley Garden Club, Plant Sale

Saturday 11th May, 10.00-12 noon, Frieth Village Hall
As in previous years, your donations are appreciated. Please come and bring your friends to support the garden club. Coffee, tea and homemade cakes also available.



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 did the tree say when spring arrived?

A: What a re-leaf!

