

FRIETH VILLAGE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

July 2024

Welcome to the July edition

Greetings! We hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying these more seasonable conditions. We deserve it of course, we waited, silently (and then not silently) lamenting the monsoon without apparent end, but as hardy Brits, we knew that surely, summer must come at last, and finally, it's here. Predictably, after the wet weather that preceded this balmy-ness, you'll notice that out in the garden, the slugs are 'having it large' and as we constantly re-position beer traps, eggshells and coffee grounds, they appear to have the upper hand – for now.

Frieth Plant Frenzy

Forget the Selfridges sale, it turns out that if you want to drive us into a reckless spending spree, line up a few tables of seedlings, saplings, house plants and hardy perennials – and we'll show up early and eager to hand over our cash. The annual plant sale, run by Hambleden Valley Garden Club proved hugely popular again this year, as the artful blend of flora and home-made cakes offered something for everyone.



A rarely-seen local celebrity came out of hiding

To provide sage-like advice on shady conditions, to mulch or not to mulch, ericaceous 'vs' alkaline and whether throwing slugs over your neighbour's fence was an act of compassion or open warfare, Funmi Boyle was on hand to offer guidance and opinion. It was noted that he also made a reasonable dent in the pile of freshly baked scones (would have been rude not to).



Happiness is surely a Hosta in bloom

Tables were quickly cleared of a vast array of shrubs, bushes and even trees, all at super-reasonable prices compared to the local garden centres. It turns out that plants are the 'must-have' garden accessory, more coveted than toilet rolls in lock-down. Same time next year? (hint - maybe bring elbow pads).



Sarah watches Nikki barter



Clair readies herself for the action



Look who came to visit! We're guessing Mary Berry came for the cakes - they were worthy of any taste test



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

Anyone for wine? – most of the village apparently!

FVS Wine Tasting Evening

Saturday 11th May saw the Village Hall packed to the rafters with willing locals eager to learn more about the art of the fermented grape. We enjoyed a fun and informative evening tasting our way through a selection of wines. Our wine guru was an expert from a team regularly awarded the International Wine Challenge Consumer Educator of the Year, and was on hand to share tasting tips and techniques to aid us on our way. With both open-label and blind tastings, a wine quiz and cheese boards to savour our way through, there was much to enjoy. As the evening progressed, and the bottles emptied, it is fair to say the 'village voice' grew just a little louder. Hopefully, we all learned something, even if that's just to drink more water afterwards ...



No, not an allergy problem but a recognised tasting technique!!



Expert pourers at work. Have they done this before?



Only that much?



Plenty of these as the evening went on

Free FREE-TH Recycling event



A jolly time was had by all at the first **Free Free-th** event on Sunday 16th June, organised by Greener Frieth, as part of the National Great Big Green Week. Boxes of preloved items - books, games, photo frames, kitchenware, light bulbs, jewellery, pottery, maps, children's stuff and much more were put outside for passers-by to take their pick.

Where to find free stuff in Free-th!

11am-1pm, Sunday 16 June
Follow the arrows to find kerbside boxes with the Free-th! logo, and take your pick.



Campers, people staying in the Yew Tree and visitors passing through the village in cars loved it too! Huge thanks to all for taking part – hopefully, we can make it an annual event.

If you want to find out more about Greener Frieth, why not come to our next meeting in the school hall on **Tuesday 9th July, 7 pm**. Alternatively, find us on Instagram and Facebook. A simple search for Greener Frieth will locate us quickly!

Frieth Village Society: Register and help us to support you and the village

Thank you to the 80 people who have now registered as FVS members, this is great as it means we can ensure you are kept up to date with events and news. Registering as a member is free; please join or renew your membership today via the FVS website www.fvs.org.uk to ensure we have up-to-date details.

Support for Local Causes

If anyone from the village is looking for funding to support a local event or activity, the FVS may be able to help you. Details of eligibility criteria for awards can be found on the FVS website.



Community Matters

Frieth Village Fete - Sunday 1st September, 12 noon to 4pm

Annual Village Fete – We Need Your Help

It's almost time for your annual fix of welly wanging, china smashing, showing off the dog and joining your neighbours for an ice cream, beer or burger from the BBQ, but we need volunteers to make this event a success. If you are willing to help, even in a small way, **please come to a Special Fete Meeting, at 8 pm on 8th July at the Yew Tree**, so that you can find out more. If you wish to run a stall, please get in touch and also come to the Fete Meeting on 8th July.

As always, the 'Topsy Cow' pop-up pub will be serving beer, wine and soft drinks. Alongside, the BBQ will be run by Carlos from the Yew Tree. We would also love to have a display of vintage and classic vehicles, motorbikes, tractors and bicycles, so if you would like to show yours, please contact Sean Farrelly at seanf2wheels@gmail.com

Some stalls such as the raffle, tombola and cake stalls are very dependent on donations and there will be further communications about how you can make donations in due course - please also check the FVS website www.fvs.org.uk and look out for posters around the village. Help us to make this year's fete an even bigger and more enjoyable event than last year's!



Frieth Flower & Produce Show - Sunday 8th September from 2pm



Wow - this year sees our 46th Annual Show! It all began with a busy band of like-minded individuals who gathered to encourage friendly competition among villagers to display their homegrown flowers, vegetables, fruit and flower arranging. Since then, it's grown to include homemade preserves, honey, eggs, liqueurs and baking. Sadly, this year our Treasurer and Deputy Chair, Helen and Mike Hall, are stepping down to move nearer to family, so we will lose a wealth of experience and gardening wisdom. Fortunately, Sarah Broad has stepped up as Treasurer, so we're in safe hands.

To make the show successful, we need you to join in, and also to encourage the younger generation to take part; it's a great way to be creative with your children. Our many categories cover most talents but if you spot something that could be added, please get in touch and put forward your suggestions.

We have a Facebook page which has the schedule on it - just search for Frieth Flower and Produce Show. The Schedule is also included in this newsletter. **Register your entries on WEDNESDAY 4th September at 7 pm in the Village Hall.** Last year, there were no novice entries, so maybe that's an easy cup to win!

Please come up to the Village Hall from 2 pm on Sunday 8th September to look around the exhibits and enjoy homemade refreshments. We want this to be a community event for everyone in the village and beyond!

Frieth Natural History Society (FNHS)

The FNHS will hold their annual Moth session on the 12th/13th of July. Moth traps will be set on Friday evening close to Frieth and you are invited to help count and identify moths on Saturday morning. Moth traps use a light source to attract night-flying moths, which are caught in the main body of the trap. After identification, they are safely released. If you'd like to join in, more information is on the back page.



Dates for your diary



Frieth Church

Sunday 7th July, **Group Service, 10 am**, at Medmenham Church

Sunday 14th July, **Wild Church, 3 pm** – End of term party and Baptism in the field by the bridge in Skirmett, close to RG9 6TG – look out for the Wild Church banners!

Sunday 21st July, **Communion, 9 am** at Frieth Church

Sunday 28th July, **Communion, 9 am** at Frieth Church

Frieth Village Fete: Pre-meeting and Event Day

Monday 8th July, 8 pm, Yew Tree - Stall Holders and Volunteers Meeting - please come along! We can only run the Fete if we have enough volunteers, you'll be hugely welcome.

Sunday 1st September, 12 noon to 4 pm, Fete Day, Frieth Village Hall (inside and outside) and the grounds of Frieth School - please come along to be part of the fun!



Greener Frieth

Tuesday 9th July, 7pm, School Hall - regulars and new members very welcome.

Frieth Flower & Produce Show

REGISTER YOUR ENTRIES: Wednesday 4th September, 7 pm, Village Hall,

SHOW DAY: Sunday 8th September, 2 pm onwards, in the Village Hall, to view exhibits and enjoy homemade refreshments (yes, cake, lots of it).



Frieth Natural History Society

Friday 12th and Saturday 13th July, Annual Moth Session - traps will be set on Friday evening and people are invited to help count and identify moths caught on Saturday morning. Anyone is welcome, and for details of the start time, where to park and book your place, please contact Andy on 01494 881586, Mary on 01494 881501 or email FNHS2023@gmail.com.

Frieth Lunch Club: Last Friday of the month (continues through the summer)

Great food and wonderful company. **ALL** welcome. If you need help to get there, transport is available. Contact Judy 01494 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. **July is the last one before a summer break.** Contact Judy on 01494 882227 or email ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

▲▲D. J. Macleod▲▲

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Bad Joke Corner

Q. What do you get when you cross an elephant with a fish?



A. Swimming Trunks