

The Freshford Newsletter



The Bulletin was a key source of community information, and was well-liked. The last Bulletin could not be completed in Spring 2020 due to the first lockdown.

With the advent of the Parish Magazine, which was an excellent publication and proved to be very popular, the Bulletin was becoming more and more difficult to produce as advertisers moved away to the Parish Magazine due to the wider circulation.

With this in mind, consideration was being given to moving the Bulletin to an online presence to overcome the high costs of production.

The situation that arose during Covid, including changes in Councillors, meant that many things went on hold, including creating an online Bulletin. With the demise of the Parish Magazine, this has left a hole in the wider communications within Freshford.

Communications within Freshford has moved forward in the last 2 years due to:

- A new Parish Communications email system
- A new Freshford website with new functionality

The Parish Communications email system was moved from a basic email format to using an online facility built for communications, called MailChimp. This facility now provides a modern means of email communication available to the community.

The Parish Council website needed to be upgraded to a new platform to meet new legal requirements. The website has been completely redesigned and now fully meets Accessibility standards, meaning that it can be fully accessed and used by the visually impaired.

The new website provides a modern and accessible platform that is available to be used by all groups within the community. The website is very configurable with key new functionality making information much more readily available, such as News Items, Events, an Events Calendar and an internal search facility.

The current situation provides all groups and activities within the community to:

- Send emails to the community - currently received by over 400 people
 - Inform through News Items
-

·Publicise through Events and the Events Calendar

These were important aspects of the Bulletin, and using Community Emails and website makes the information constantly available and without cost overheads.

The Events Calendar should ideally list everything happening within the community. Please do let the PC know by email: freshford.comms@outlook.com or by ringing John Putt for further details. The future of the Newsletter is being considered, and the current thinking is to:

- Provide a periodic short Newsletter via email
- Put this Newsletter on the noticeboards
- Provide copies of the Newsletter at The Galleries

Basically, similar to the current Limpley Stoke Update.

Your thoughts and feedback would be very welcome. Please provide any views to John Putt (john.putt2@sky.com).

The new website (www.freshford.org.uk) also provide other useful information, such as:

- Report It - providing links to report issues, problems and queries online for most things
- Details for Useful Contacts
- Signup for Community Emails
- Bus and Rail information
- Community Amenities
- Community Activities

The website is being slowly brought more up to date and more relevant. Please do feel free to share any thoughts and ideas.

Finally, many thanks to Jessie Forbes. This Newsletter is a testament to her dedication and design skills, without which it would not have happened.



UPDATE ON THE BUILDING WORKS AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

PRESENTED BY: ST PETER'S STEERING GROUP

We are delighted to write that work finally started on the reordering of St Peter's Church at the end of March. It is expected to last approximately six months.

First and foremost, our vision was to create an accessible building for all by incorporating a paved ramp. However, this not only involves improving the access on the outside of the building but also creating more space indoors for maximum flexibility.

Most of the pews have been removed and chairs will be installed in their place. This gives us the opportunity to hold different forms of church services, but will also allow us to create a larger space which can be adapted for other community activities.

The church will be redecorated, and will have a much improved heating system. Our lighting and sound system will also be upgraded. A wheelchair accessible toilet will be installed and there will be a kitchen servery for refreshments.

As a group, we feel privileged and excited to be part of this first major change to our church building in over a century. We are very grateful to those who have supported the project so far, and we look forward to opening our doors again with a warm welcome to all!

Local activities

Freshford and District Tennis Club

The tennis club continues to be very active with over 200 members. We have recently erected a new pavilion and continue to promote membership in the area. We have a professional LTA Coach, Ron Marshall, who offers individual and group coaching. The Club has two ladies' teams in the Chippenham League. We also have club 'all members welcome' sessions on Tuesday evening 6 til 8 and on Sunday afternoons 2 til 4. Do visit our website www.freshfordtennis.co.uk for further information.



Limpley Folk Petanque Club

Meeting on Friday evenings (weather permitting) at the park in Limpley Stoke from 6 til 7.30, the club welcomes new players, whether new to the game or not. We also have a team in the Bath and area leagues and play on a Thursday either at home, or away at the many affiliated clubs in the area.

Your local shop and cafe:

THE GALLERIES



The Galleries Shop and Cafe is run and owned by the communities of Freshford and Limpley Stoke. All profits made by the cafe and shop are given to local causes, and a total of over £60,000 has been distributed over the last ten years. The shop sells a huge variety of groceries and household products including our recent range of non-packaged goods. The cafe serves excellent coffee and tea, as well as a delicious range of savoury food, salads and cakes.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Hover your phone over the code to open the website.



The shop and cafe employ two managers and two deputies, as well as zero hours staff. Most of the staff however are volunteers, who do a variety of tasks including management, accounts, serving in shop, serving in cafe, and many other behind-the-scenes roles. It is very rewarding to volunteer, and a great way to meet new people if you're new to the area.

Getting involved

Are you interested in having fun, meeting new people AND supporting a village shop and cafe which is at the heart of our community? If so, please consider the following positions we are currently looking to fill:

Galleries Management Group

We have a number of new faces on our Galleries Management Group (GMG) but we are always looking for people who are interested in being part of the team responsible for the overall management of the Galleries shop and café.

Galleries extension – building skills

We have just received the planning go-ahead and this extension will future proof our community shop and cafe for years to come. Wags Firmin will be project managing the work in partnership with a local contractor and we are looking for volunteers with relevant skills to join the team.

Marketing

Once our new extension is completed we intend to improve Galleries' marketing and we are looking someone to spearhead this initiative which will include new signage, a regular newsletter and special promotions to entice new and existing customers alike.

Deliveries

We offer deliveries to support some of the vulnerable people in our community and need drivers to continue providing this valuable service.

Shop & café volunteers

We are always looking for new volunteers to work at the shop of cafe, serving customers and generally being helpful. Don't worry if you don't have the necessary skills, we're happy to train you.

Galleries is 100% owned by the Freshford and Limpley Stoke Community Association (FLiSCA), a local charity, and in the last 10 years Galleries profits have allowed FLiSCA to pay over £60,000 of grants to community-run clubs, societies and local facilities. By volunteering at Galleries, therefore, you are supporting our local community in many amazing ways.

Are you interested in any of the above? If so, please contact Simon Coombe on 07966 027637 or simonhjcoombe@hotmail.com.

Simon, Aliya, Annette, Chris, Mandie, Nanneke, Patrick, Pearl, Sandra & Wags
The GMG team

The galleries extension updates

With a massive thank you for your support,
Simon, Wags, Caroline, Patrick, Lee, Annette & Florence
FLiSCA project team - FIRST

We are delighted to announce that the planners have FINALLY approved the extension for the Galleries which means we can start work on this project in the near future. As you might remember from our business plan (available on request), the project is essential for the future proofing of our beloved café and shop and, by using local volunteers alongside a local contractor, we've been able to reduce the cost of the extension. But, not helped by recent inflationary pressures, it will still cost an estimated £105,000.

The Board of FLiSCA have agreed to invest £25,000 of FLiSCA's reserves towards this project and we have raised a further £57,500 in grants from Limpley Stoke Parish Council, Freshford Parish Council, Friends of Freshford, the Medlock Trust Foundation, Hills Landfill, Bath Rotary, the Lotteries Community Fund and the Bernard Sunley Foundation. However, we are still £22,500 short of the funding required to complete this project.

If you are able to help with a donation, however small, we would be very grateful if you could make an on-line transfer to the FLiSCA account, the details of which are given below.

Name: Freshford & Limpley Stoke
Community Association
Account number: 58375760
Sort code: 30-98-75

To allow us to recognize your generosity and help us reconcile our bank statements, once you've made the transfer could you please email the details of your donation to our Treasurer at caroline.biebuyck@gmail.com. She can then, if appropriate, send you a Gift Aid form so we can get a little more help from HMRC.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Simon Coombe on 07966 027637.

The Village fete

Saturday 3rd September from 1pm until 4.30pm

Preparations for this year's summer Fete are well under way with many of the attractions we had last year having already been booked along with some new ones, for your delight. With music from the talented Steve Robinson, children's entertainer Kidzfun Sally, bouncy slide and castle, Speed Cage and all our usual local stalls plus more, we can expect a wonderful afternoon for everyone.



A friendly team will be knocking on doors asking for donations for the Tombola towards the end of August. Any bottles of wine, beer, cider. Jars of jam, chutney and nice toiletries etc will be gratefully received.

If you would like to volunteer for this year's fete please email us at: limpleystokeandfreshfordfete@gmail.com

Traffic updates

Way forward for Traffic Issues in Freshford

Many of you attended the Public Meeting on 13 April to discuss the traffic issues in the village and your ideas of how to fix them.

Following that Freshford PC has set up a Transport Advisory Group consisting of councillors and residents to progress the items raised under headings of Major Projects and Quick Wins. Many of these will require funding and expertise from Bath and North East Somerset. The main thrust of many of these ideas are parking and speeding but there are lots of other great ideas that we would like to see delivered.

The aim is to get things done, just talk about them.

If you would like to participate to help deliver transport improvements for our village, please get in touch with Julian Carpenter on 0788 120 1955.

Julian Carpenter
Freshford Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Freshford NHW provides a link between our local community and the police. A NHW Coordinator recently said: "Neighbourhood Watch is the bridge between the community and the police, and the gateway is us the coordinators connecting, sharing information, communicating and making people feel confident". (NHW News April 2022).

We aim keep you informed of local issues via our coordinators, and be a point of contact should you have any queries.

JOINING NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We have 15 local Coordinators in Freshford and surrounds - from Pipehouse and Midford Lane in the north and west to Rosemary Lane and Station Road in the south and east. Local co-ordinators are there to help and to provide relevant information to their local group members. Should you wish to join the NHW please contact me in the first instance, and I can put you in contact with your local co-ordinator.

Upcoming events

Freshford Neighbourhood Police Surgery

Drop in and meet members of your neighbourhood policing team - you can talk to them about any issues in your area and get crime reduction advice.

When: Tuesday 19th July 2022, 10:30
to 11:30

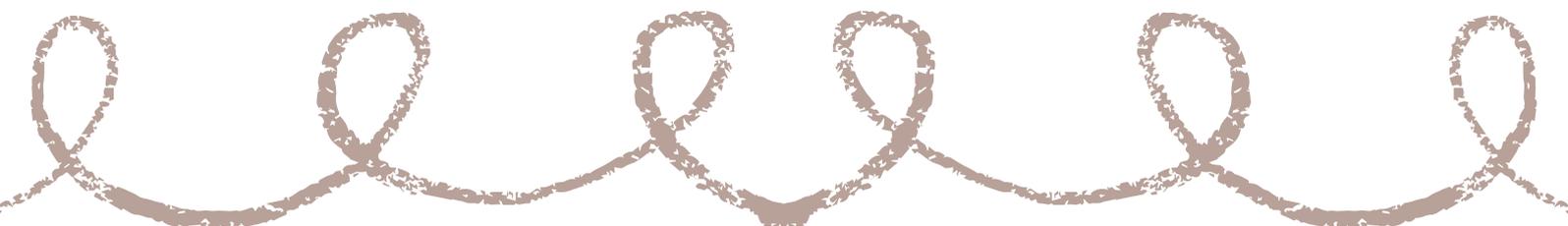
Tuesday 9th August 2022,
10:30 to 11:30

Where: The Galleries, Freshford Lane,
Bath BA2 7UR

FRESHFORD PRE-SCHOOL UPDATES

PRESENTED BY: DEBBIE GILES

We are so grateful to be situated in such beautiful surroundings, and at preschool we strive to utilize this as much as possible. We have had wonderful adventures whilst out exploring our local area, Visiting Hogwood each week where our Forest school sessions have started with such enthusiasm and energy; it is great for the children to notice differences each week too with the growing of crops! Mud painting, den building and using tools with elder are just some of the highlights, with many more to come! We have also enjoyed an i-Nature walk to Limpley Stoke park with Nature Chain, where the children were able to explore the park, discover what lives there and create memories with photos taken along the way.





A trip to Friary also enabled the children to appreciate the outdoors. We had a visit from a week old lamb too! We are ever mindful to support the children's wellbeing in all we do, and regular yoga sessions help this too, which are fun and tailored around children's fascinations. Our weekly sports sessions are great fun too, and we are excited for our annual sporty day!

This time of year brings transitions and so we will be ensuring we are preparing all our children for this, be it to school, as they enter their final preschool year, as well as for those who are about to begin their preschool journey. This is always an emotional but exciting time to be involved in preschool!

FRESHFORD & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW



SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2022

2 - 4:30 pm

FRESHFORD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

REFRESHMENTS, HOMEMADE CAKES & RAFFLE



Schedules available at The Galleries shop
or visit freshfordvillage.com

Sponsored by **Carter Jonas**

Freshford & District Horticultural Society Annual Show

Classes 2022

VEGETABLES

- V1 Beetroot, trimmed, 3 any one variety
- V2 Carrots, trimmed, 3 any one variety
- V3 Potatoes ,3 any one variety
- V4 Onions, 3
- V5 Shallots, 6
- V6 Courgettes, 3 not exceeding 15cm
- V7 Peppers, 3 any shape or colour
- V8 Tomatoes, 3 any var. excluding cherry
- V9 Tomatoes, 6 on a plate, cherry type
- V10 Runner Beans, 5
- V11 French beans, 5
- V12 Culinary herbs, 5 in a jam jar
- V13 Squashes
- V14 Any other vegetable
- V15 Collection of veg in a basket, min 4

FRUIT

- F16 Apples, 3
- F17 Berries,12
- F18 Grapes
- F19 Mixed fruit in a basket
- F20 Any other fruit

ROSES

- R21 Rose, 1 bloom, best perfumed
- R22 Rose, cluster type, 3 stems
- R23 Rose, 1 specimen bloom

FLOWERS

- B24 Sweet peas, 3 stems
- B25 Any Dahlia, 3 stems
- B26 Perennials,3 stems, any type
- B27 Any other annual, 3 stems, any variety
- B28 Grasses, 5 stems
- B29 Cosmos, 3 stems
- B30 Any flowering shrub, 3 stems, 1 variety
- B31 Any hydrangea, 3 stems

POT PLANTS

- P32 Cactus or succulent
- P33 Any foliage plant in a pot
- P34 Pelargonium
- P35 Flowering pot plant (not pelargonium)

FLOWER ARRANGING

- D36 Hedgerow arrangement
- D37 A hand-held posy
- D38 Arrangement in a wine glass
- D39 Floating flowers
- D40 Simplicity in a bottle

COOKERY

- C41 Marmalade,1 jar
- C42 Jam, any fruit, 1 jar
- C43 A fruit jelly, 1 jar
- C44 Chutney, 1 jar
- C45 Sausage rolls, 3
- C46 Ginger cake
- C47 Jam tarts, 6
- C48 A cake containing vegetable
- C49 MEN ONLY Flapjacks, 3

PAINTING (ready to hang)

- W50 Wildlife
- W51 Abstract
- W52 A flower or flowers
- W53 Landscape

HANDICRAFTS

- H54 Item made by you
- H55 Article made from thread or fabric
- H56 Handmade card
- H57 A toy
- H58 Knitted, crochet or woven item

PHOTOGRAPHY (4"x 6" mounted)

- S59 Skyscape
- S60 Old and New
- S61 Rusting Away
- S62 Happiness
- S63 Weeds
- S64 Garden companion

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

- Z65 A monster using fruit & vegetables
 - Z66 Friendship bracelet
 - Z67 A face on a paper plate
 - Z68 A butterfly using leaves and flowers
 - Z69 Decorated cupcakes x3
-

YOUR VILLAGE AGENT



Hello, I wanted to introduce myself as Freshfords new, and first, Village Agent. My name is Chantal Young, I started this role at the beginning of May and I work for the West of England Rural Network (WERN). We are a charity that works in partnership with B&NES Council with a core focus of supporting the health and wellbeing of rural communities who can often feel cut off from a range of public services which residents living in urban areas access more easily.

Our support is there for any adult 18 years and older who is struggling personally, emotionally, medically and financially and who needs help to find solutions to these kinds of issues but doesn't know where to start looking and how to access organisations who could help. I provide a confidential and free "triage service" listening to the resident and then signposting and introducing them to the organisations who could help or to the information they need. I have already been welcomed by the Freshford Parish Council and I am now trying to make myself more visible in the community. As a service we have been operating in the west of the B&NES region for 10 years and we are now able to offer the service in this area.

Contact: 01275 333700
they can also email
info@wern.org.uk

Typically we support residents who are struggling with loneliness and want more social contact, or who have financial worries and are unaware of the different avenues that could offer help, people needing different levels of care to stay well and safe at home, people returning home from hospital and who might need short term support or something more permanent, people who need practical help in the home and don't know who to trust. It varies enormously....and we are very good at helping to find solutions amongst the huge network of public, private and charitable organisations we work alongside.

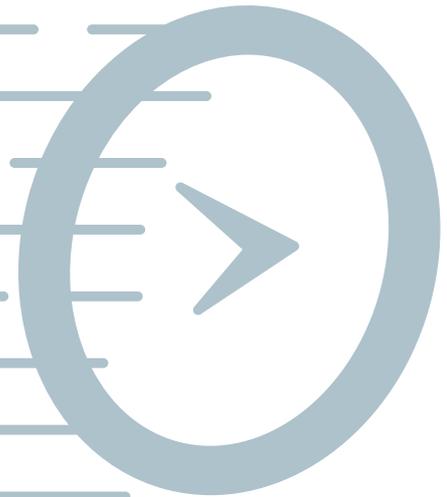
I would be happy to meet with anyone or answer any questions you might have. I work flexibly, 10 hours a week and I live locally. More than anything I hope that you will mention you have read this article with local family, friends and neighbours and keep my contact details handy somewhere, for that light bulb moment! Thank you.

The bus timetable

Libra Travel 94 Timtable		Timetable valid from: 08/11/2021					
Mondays - Fridays only. Sorry no service on Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holidays							
		1	1	2	3	4	5
94 Trowbridge - Bath		Mondays - Fridays (Not Bank Holidays)					
Service Restrictions		Schl	Hol				
Trowbridge, Manvers Street		--	--	0900	1108	1308	1513
Trowbridge, Trinity Church (SW-bound)		--	--	0902	1110	1310	1515
Southwick, Post Office (SW-bound)		--	--	0907	--	--	--
Wingfield, The Poplars (N-bound)		0715	0715	0911	--	--	--
Wingfield Cross Rds, Trowbridge Road (W-bound)		--	--	--	1114	1314	1519
Westwood, Turning Circle (E-bound)		0723	0723	0923	1123	1323	1528
Westwood Staples Hill Telephone box (NW-bound)		0728	0728	0928	1128	1328	1533
Freshford, Freshford School (W-bound)		0730	0730	0930	1130	1330	1535
Park Corner, Chilterns (SW-bound)		0732	0732	0932	1132	1332	1537
Warminster Road, Midford Lane (N-bound)		0735	0735	0935	1135	1335	1540
Limpley Stoke, Crowe Hill, Hop pole Inn (N-bound)		0740	0740	0940	1140	1340	1545
Monkton Coombe, Monkton Coombe School (SW-bound)		0750	0750	0945	1145	1345	1550
Claverton Down Rd, Oakley (NW-bound)		0755	0755	0949	1149	1349	1554
King Edwards School Bus Stop, North Road (NW-Bound)		0758	--	--	--	--	--
Bath, Grande Parade		0807	0802	0957	1157	1357	1600
		1	2	3	4	5	5
94 Bath - Trowbridge		Mondays - Fridays (Not Bank Holidays)					
Service Restrictions						Schl	Hol
Bath, Orange Grove, Bath Abbey		0808	1010	1210	1410	1612	1617
King Edwards School-Grounds, North Road		--	--	--	--	1618	--
Claverton Down, Oakley (SE-bound)		V	1016	1016	1016	1623	1628
Monkton Coombe, Monkton Coombe School (SW-bound)		V	1024	1224	1424	1635	1635
Limpley Stoke, Crowe hill, Hop Pole Inn (S-bound)		V	1029	1229	1429	1640	1640
Warminster Road, Midford Lane (SW-bound)		0822	1035	1235	1435	1645	1645
Park corner, Chilterns (NE-bound)		0825	1037	1237	1437	1650	1650
Freshford, Freshford School (E-bound)		0827	1038	1238	1438	1652	1652
Westwood, Staples Hill (S-bound)		0831	1043	1243	1443	1657	1657
Westwood, Turning Circle (E-bound)		0836	1049	1249	1449	1700	1700
Wingfield Cross Roads, Trowbridge Road (E-bound)		0843	1056	1256	R	--	--
Wingfield, The Poplars (S-bound)		--	--	--	R	--	--
Southwick, Post office (NE-bound)		--	--	--	R	--	--
Trowbridge, Trinity Church (NE-bound)		0852	1100	1300	R	--	--
Trowbridge, Manvers Street		0857	1103	1303	1503	--	--

Speed watch

In the five or so years that Freshford Speed Watch has been in existence travel volume through the village has increased, with a hiatus occurring during lockdown, and so have recorded speeds. The problem times are early morning, late afternoon, and early evening, and during the school pick up, although quiet afternoons offer an enticing space for a spot of the Formula Ones. Speeds of up to 40 mph have been recorded on Freshford Lane (the equivalent of 140 mph on a motorway) and over 30 mph on the High Street. It is, however, really pleasing to report that most vehicles are being driven with some attention paid to the 20mph speed limit (even if more often in the breach than the observance), the narrowness of the roads and pavements, and with consideration to the people who live here.



Because our hi vis jackets are easily spotted by potential speeders who can take quick remedial action, and because we're only occasionally present, comprehensive collection of data isn't possible. To help us get a fuller picture, Limpley Stoke PC has offered us the loan of one of its Speed Monitoring Devices which records volume and speed of passing vehicles throughout the day. Freshford PC has granted permission for us to use it to gather data. Our intention is then to pass the data on to the PC together with recommendations on how it may best be used.

(If anyone would like to join the SpeedWatch group and spend a convivial hour every so often monitoring traffic flow or would like to learn more about how SpeedWatch works, please contact me.)

JOHN JENKINS
FRESHFORD SPEEDWATCH CO-ORDINATOR
01225 722270

Friends of freshford

The relaunch of the Freshford Bulletin as a newsletter is extremely good news and Friends of Freshford would like to take the opportunity to thank the community and the Parish Council for supporting our biodiversity projects on the Tynning.

During 2021 and early 2022, with your help we've planted thousands of bulbs and seeds, three heritage trees, the community orchard, the new native hedge, and eighteen trees lining Tynning Lane, called bollard trees because they not only provide habitats and food for animals, birds and insects, but protect the Tynning grassland from vehicle erosion.



We'd like to offer the community and community organisations the opportunity to sponsor a bollard tree for £100. If you wish to do this, please register your interest either by email or via our website.

Email friendsoffreshford@gmail.com
website www.friendsoffreshford.org/get-involved

We hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Best wishes

Richard Blamey and the Friends of Freshford Committee

Limpley Stoke & Freshford Transport Link

**Do you have a reason to travel,
An appointment to keep.
A visit to make
Or anything similar
But you have no means of transport?
If so,
Ring The Link Coordinator
on
07714 169216**

What is LINK?

LINK is a voluntary service run by both villages providing transport to those for whom public transport is either unavailable or inappropriate. Its activities were much reduced during the pandemic, but it is now fully up and running again. During Lockdown and the pandemic, it also helped deliver prescriptions to people shielding or otherwise unable to collect them. This service continues.

To make a reservation, ring the Coordinator on the number above. If there is an answerphone, leave details and your phone number, and every effort will be made to get you where you wish to go. But, please, try to give at least two days' notice.

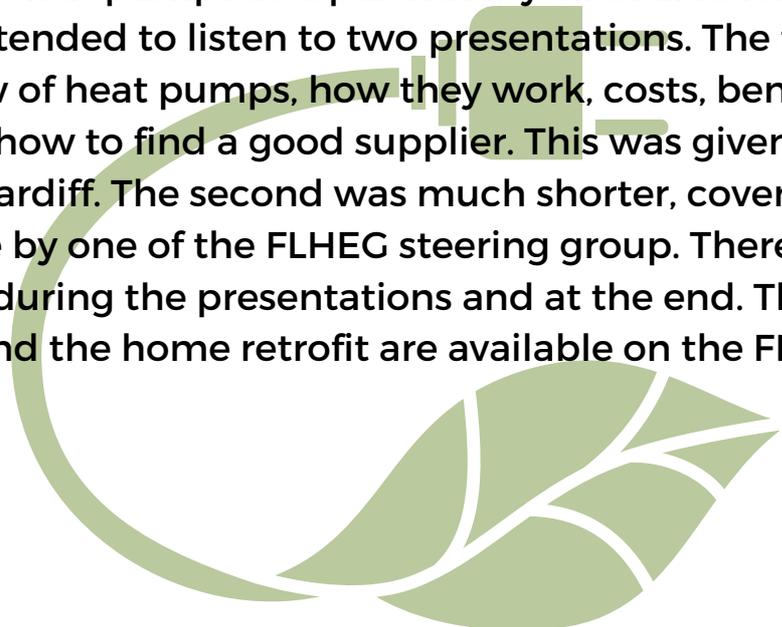
This is a service run by volunteers, but donations are welcome to help defray costs such as insurance, the coordinator's phone and the direct cost to the volunteer driver of taking you to and from your destination. The drivers have envelopes stamped with the LINK name for donations, which can either be returned to the driver who will pass them on or handed in at the Galleries shop. While donations are welcome - LINK cannot run without them - they are not compulsory and, by being in a sealed envelope, are anonymous.

Freshford and Limpley Stoke Home Energy Group

The excitingly named FLHEG (Freshford and Limpley Stoke Home Energy Group) is continuing its efforts to improve knowledge within the two communities about saving energy and reducing carbon emissions from home energy use. We have a webpage on the Freshford website under the heading of Climate Emergency. This motivation has now been added to by the energy crisis.

On the 20th June we organised an evening event at Freshford Village Hall on the topic of heat pumps and particularly air source heat pumps (ASHP).

34 people attended to listen to two presentations. The first was a wide-ranging review of heat pumps, how they work, costs, benefits, government grants, and how to find a good supplier. This was given by WDS Green Energy of Cardiff. The second was much shorter, covering a retrofit in Limpley Stoke by one of the FLHEG steering group. There was a lively Q&A during both during the presentations and at the end. The presentations from WDS and the home retrofit are available on the FLHEG web page.



on our webpage for those researching energy and carbon reduction.

We continue to develop links with other groups such as Future Wellow. Following their example, we are planning some open days to look at energy/carbon reduction measures at homes in Limpley Stoke and Freshford. To express interest and join our mailing list email flhegroup@gmail.com.

Freshford Scouts



When covid struck in 2020, it was heartbreaking to accept that scouting adventures – like all group activities – would have to be put on hold. We missed our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, and wondered when we would again enjoy their curiosity, spirit and laughter. Fast forward two years and we are thrilled to have returned to what we all love most – bringing together groups of young people to learn life skills, grow as adventurers, give back and have fun. Our numbers have swelled and today we provide exciting opportunities for 60 local youngsters, aged 6-14 – and we even have waiting lists of enthusiasts wishing to join us.

Highlights this year for our Beavers have included visiting Bath Fire Station and aiming the hose from a fire engine into a training building, learning how to light fires (and then toast marshmallows on them!), understanding how to administer first aid, and practising simple navigation in the dark.

The Cubs have cycled from Bathampton back to Freshford, learnt essential bike maintenance skills, spent a night ‘camping out’ in the village hall, and earned their Cooks badge. And the Scouts have developed their knife and saw skills, practised firefighting and learned about bushcraft.

Looking ahead, our plans to inspire, challenge and make memories with our youngsters include going away for camps, kayaking, undertaking community work and getting stuck in with nature conservation. Whilst being incredibly enjoyable, we believe these activities contribute enormously to learning lessons for life, instilling positive values, building character and expanding horizons.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated, talented and dynamic leaders. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a strong team. They are supported each week by parents who volunteer their time and energy to make such exciting experiences possible.

To find out more, please contact
Sam Lascelles:
sam.lascelles@gmail.com



But we always need more help! We would welcome your support on Thursday evenings, whether regularly or ad hoc. And we'd love to hear from you if you have a skill you can teach our young people or expertise that would interest them. If you'd prefer to play more of a steering or admin-focused role, please consider joining our Executive Team. Please get in touch to understand why our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts love the Scouting movement so much, and to discover how rewarding it might be to contribute to this vibrant group in our community.

Memories of our Queen.

Here are some of the memories we received of the Queen at our Jubilee Picnic on the Tynning on Thursday 2nd June – in the sun!

I've stood behind Her Majesty several times at Badminton Horse Trials. Never got round to tapping her on the shoulder to say Hi Madge!

I said my first word in the Bay of Islands in New Zealand when I first saw The Queen on her visit there – the word was “Boat”!!!!



The Platinum Jubilee Picnic

·Party at the Palace 2012 Diamond Jubilee. We were invited to the concert at the Palace thanks to my father and his charitable work. We were amused to see the Queen bopping gently to Annie Lennox! My daughter got v. cold and was wrapped in a silver blanket in a St. Johns Ambulance Van.

·I am told (only 3 years old at the time) that my father bought our first TV especially to watch the Coronation. It was 14" Bakelite. All the neighbours crammed into our parlour to view!

Over a hundred picnickers gathered for a celebratory DIY Jubilee Picnic on the Tynning on the warm and sunny Thursday of the Bank Holiday weekend. Jubilee Cup Cakes were baked by members of 'Not the WI', Friends of Freshford provided two kegs of Iford Cider and there were various prizes for most colourful outfits and best 'personal' Royal Anecdote. Music from the Pasadena Roof Orchestra and a games area for the youngsters (and Pétanque for parents) completed the programme.



We would like to thank everyone for coming and particularly the Bunting Girls (and Boys), Games Providers and Setters-up and Gazebo Erectors for their sterling efforts - everyone is to be congratulated on the pristine state of our Tynning at the end of the day and all we were left with were memories of a very happy afternoon. Thank you to everyone who came
Peter and Sue King'





The Hop Pole!

As you drive past our newly acquired community pub, everything may look serene but, like a swan gliding along a river, under the surface the Hop Pole team are paddling away like crazy. Here is an update of some of the things we're up to:

Volunteers

Our amazing 80+ volunteers have been busy clearing, replanting and watering the garden which is now looking much larger than when it was overgrown – and very beautiful. A huge thank you to everyone who's helped so far and if you'd like to join our group of happy volunteers, please contact Tim Tuckey at volunteerslscbs@gmail.com.

Parties

In June we held a spectacular Jubilee garden party in which, despite the rain, 350 people came to celebrate which reminded us how community minded we all are. We hope to announce some occasional pop-up pub evenings over the summer so you can come and enjoy our garden so keep an eye out on our website and social media for dates.

The Hop Pole!

Surveys & planning

Since acquiring the Hop Pole in February, we've been busy making the building safe and carrying out the numerous surveys required before we can start resuscitating the pub. Obtaining Listed Building Consent and Planning Permission for an extension to a Grade II listed building is an involved process but we're making good headway and are in an ongoing dialogue with Wiltshire Planners and Historic England. The design work is now underway and hope to be in a position to submit our full planning application in the early autumn.

Share certificates

We are beavering away on our computers and hope to distribute share certificates to all our shareholders later this month.

£250,000 grant

We have passed our first hurdle and are delighted to announce that we have been successful with our Expression of Interest for the £250k Community Ownership Fund grant and, with the help of our fund raiser consultant, Sandra Macaskill, hope to be one of the first applicants to submit our application soon. We will hear the results on 19th October - please keep your fingers crossed for us.

Stay in touch

To find out more information about what we're up to, to buy shares and/ or join our team of volunteers, please take a look at our newly designed website www.savethehoppole.org. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please email us at limpleystokecbs@gmail.com.

James, Lucy, Nick, Sally, Simon & Tim
The Hop Pole Management Committee

Avoncliff wood

Joe Middleton

Woodland Trust Site Manager - South West

It's been an eventful few years since we took on ownership of Avoncliff Wood in 2019. Trees and woods are being recognised as ever more important tools in fighting the twin threats of the wildlife and climate crises, helping to create a more resilient landscape for both wildlife and people.

At Avoncliff Wood we've been busy planting, fixing, mending, building and creating space for wildlife and the public. The feedback has been terrific, we've made some great friends in the community, we have some incredible volunteers, and even made national television and radio.

We've learnt so much about the wildlife in the ancient wood through our 'Living Laboratory' - monitoring the species affected by ash dieback over a 25 year period. We have one of the UK's biggest trial sites for researching alternative plastic-free tree shelters - which has helped the Trust and many of our partners pledge to stop using plastic shelters and hugely reduce the millions of plastic shelters used in tree planting. You can read more about this here: www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/research-and-evidence/plastic-tree-guards/

The trees and shrubs local children and volunteers planted will provide a valuable home for wildlife for hundreds of years, storing valuable carbon and protecting the soils that do the same, and hopefully helping to halt the decline of wildlife populations that is affecting so many species of animals and plants in the UK. And the paths and benches will remain open 365 days a year, every year for many lifetimes, for people to walk through and appreciate the wildlife we all created at this fantastic site.



The station garden report

The garden on the Bath bound platform of Freshford Station is once again looking in very good condition after the two years of lockdown times when the volunteers could not work down there. Paul Jupp has taken over the overseeing role and is bringing a new eye to the planting. You'll notice, if you have been down at the Station, that the roundel in front of the Freshford sign has been planted up with a wild flower seed mixture and will make a magnificent show in July.

Funding for the professional guidance of the volunteers historically came from the Community Rail Partnership and Friends of Freshford. As a result of the Government taking on responsibility for funding the railways in lockdown, there has been a major cutback in any funding from the Railway to volunteer groups, so we are very grateful that the Parish Council stepped in this year to fund the professional overseeing.



The garden is designed to be totally organic and sustainable – all the plants are chosen to be able to flourish despite no watering. We are hoping this year to create compost bins at the end of the platform and use some of the waste area to grow some globe artichokes and rhubarb for community use next year! The volunteer gardeners meet six times a year to give an hour or so of their time, under Paul's supervision, to work on the maintenance of the garden. A number of volunteers have recently retired for various reasons and we would very much welcome any potential volunteers. You certainly do not need to be an experienced gardener! It is a great opportunity to learn how plants work together to form a delightful canvas through the season, share experiences and tips and even take home some cuttings for your own garden.

Please contact me if you would like any details of volunteering.

Rowena Wood (rowena_wood@compuserve.com)

Many thanks to the Freshford data base;

Type	Name	Description	Website	Contact	Position	Email	Phone	
Parish Councils	Freshford Parish Council	Freshford Parish affairs	www.freshford.org.uk	John Adler	Chair	parish.council@freshfordvillage.com		
	Limpley Stoke Parish Council	Limpley Stoke Parish affairs	www.limpleystoke.com	Ian Barnes	Chair	ian.barnes@cloudis.com		
Charities	FJSCA - Freshford and Limpley Stoke Community Association	Owens Galleries and provides community grants	www.gallerieshop.co.uk	Simon Coombe	Chair	simonhcoombe@hotmail.com		
	Freshford Village Memorial Hall	Management of the village hall Village Hall Development Committee	www.freshfordvillagehall.co.uk	David Wright Holly Stephenson Claudia Towner	Chair Bookings	david52wright@gmail.com bookings@freshfordvillagehall.co.uk claudia.towner@gmail.com		
	Limpley Stoke Village Hall	Manages the village hall and the Trust King George Vth Playing Field	https://limpleystoke.com/limpley-stoke-village-hall	Elizabeth Gee Ian Barnes	Chair Chair	emgee43@btinternet.com ian.barnes@cloudis.com		
	St Peters, St Marys and St John the Baptist churches	Supporting infrastructure and affairs of the three parish churches	http://flshc.co.uk/	Penny Murray & Roland Birchby Revd Mike Taylor Roger Paine Penny Murray	Churchwardens Vicar Trustee	info@flshc.co.uk vicarmike@gmail.com brpaine@btinternet.com pennyianemurray@aol.com	01225 720347 01225 723570	
	Freshford Church School	Primary School Freshford School PTA	www.freshfordschool.org.uk	Andrew Wishart Emily Pennant-Rea	Headteacher Chair	Andrew.Wishart@freshford.bwmat.org emilypennantrea@gmail.com		
	Freshford Preschool	Preschool setting in the village hall Freshford Preschool Committee	www.freshfordpreschool.co.uk	Debbie Giles Alison Sellers	Headteacher Chair	leader@freshfordpreschool.co.uk chair@freshfordpreschool.co.uk		
	Freshford & District Tennis Club	Tennis club	www.freshfordtennis.co.uk	Ian Barnes	Chair	ian.barnes@cloudis.com		
	Community Benefit Societies	Freshford & Limpley Stoke Energy Community Shares	Community solar panels	https://www.freshford.org.uk/parish-council/climate-nature-emergency/freshford-limpley-stoke-home-energy-group/	Stephen Dawson	Chair	stephenjrdawson@gmail.com	
		Freshford and Limpley Stoke Home Energy Group	Advise members of the community in ways to reduce the carbon footprint and energy costs of their homes.	https://www.freshford.org.uk/parish-council/climate-nature-emergency/freshford-limpley-stoke-home-energy-group/	Richard Tibbles, Philip Haile	Members	fhgroup@gmail.com	
		Station Garden	Looks after the area round the rail station		Rowena Wood		rowena_wood@compuserve.com	
Galleries Management Committee		Runs the Galleries shop & café	www.gallerieshop.co.uk	Wags Firmin	Chair	wagsfirmin@icloud.com		
Friends of Freshford		Protecting amenities and rural environment	https://friendsoffreshford.org/	Richard Blamey	Chair	Friendsoffreshford@gmail.com		
Nature Chain		Creating wildlife corridors for our villages	www.naturechain.co.uk	Steve Best Graham Jenkinson John Jenkins Gordon Edwards		steve_r.best@gmail.com gifreshford@gmail.com johnjenkins@hotmail.com gordon.edwards@pts.co.uk		
Neighbourhood Watch Community Speedwatch Train timetable The Inn Woodland Trust			https://theinnatfreshford.com/	Kate Auters Rachel Harries		kate.auters@gmail.com rachelharries@woodlandtrust.org.uk		
Limpley Stoke CBS		Hop Pole community pub	www.limpleystokecbs.org	Simon Coombe	Chair	simonhcoombe@hotmail.com		
Limpley stoke and Freshford Transport Link		Door-to-door transport service	https://www.freshford.org.uk/communitry/travel/the-link/	Hugh Delap		mhdelap@gmail.com	07714 169216	
Fete		Combined villages annual fete		Ian Sharp	Chair	iansharp@googlemail.com		
Clubs & Societies	Freshford Horticultural Society	Horticultural society with regular speakers	https://www.freshford.org.uk/communitry/activities/freshford-horticultural-society/	Penny Jones		peter.pennyjones@gmail.com		
	Freshford Local History Society	History society with regular speakers		Penny Jones	Chair	peter.pennyjones@gmail.com		
	Scouts	Thursdays 5-6pm in Freshford Hall		Harriet Hodgson	Chair of Exec committee	desjenbyharriet@gmail.com		
	Freshford Scout Group Exec Committee	Manages the Scout Group		Gemma Hardy		gemma.hardy@aspireleadership.co.uk		
	Freshford United Football Club	Adults & youth programmes at Browns Field	www.freshfordunitedfc.com	Chris Birilson	Chair		07738 741477	
	Cricket	Sunday league teams and youth programmes	www.winsleycc.net	Niall McDougall		winsleycricket@gmail.com		
	Cycling	Weekly cycling		Alan Dun	Lead cyclist	alandun@talktalk.net		
	Petanque	Fridays from 18:00 in LS playpark		Ian Barnes		ian.barnes@cloudis.com		
	Film	Film society		Nick Catchside	Chief Projectionist	nick@medicare.com		
	Freshford Baby & Toddler Group Swifts Community afternoon teas Badminton Table Tennis	Wednesdays 1430-1630 in the Old Bakery Mondays 19:30 in Freshford Hall Thursdays 20:00 in Freshford Hall		Clare Thomas Julie Fitzgerald		clairethomas_@hotmail.co.uk julie@paddyfitzgerald.co.uk		

Your councillors;

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Chairman

Julian Carpenter
Mobile
07881 201955
Vice chairman

Elli Bate
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Climate/nature
emergency

John Putt
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F&LS Home Energy
Group

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Assets

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Responsibilities (Natural
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Parish Clerk
Freshford PC Main Contact

Ben Walters
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Email
Responsibilities: Built
Environment, Ecology