



 **The Swift** 
FRISTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



Friston Village Support

Please let us know if you need someone to help you with shopping or a lift for a medical appointment, or would just like someone to talk to. Contact: fristonvillage@gmail.com (if you do not have email Briony Sones 07885 560380)

Parish Council

The District Council have asked that we pass on information for anyone struggling to get transport to their C19 vaccination appointments. You can book community transport through suffolkonboard.com or ring CATS Leiston on 01728 635938 between 8.45am - 4pm. There is also the Aldeburgh Good Neighbour Scheme (AGNES) on 07773 031064 who can provide transport to Woodbridge for vaccines for Aldeburgh Surgery patients.

The Parish Council would like to extend sincere thanks to Mr Reeve for his hard work in clearing the recent snow from the roads in the village. This act of community spirit and generosity with his time did not go unnoticed.

A polite reminder to dog owners using our beautiful footpaths, please be responsible and pick up after your dog!

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 22nd March at 7pm. Please contact the Clerk for the login details for Zoom.

Quiet Lanes Suffolk

You may not have heard of this initiative yet but it's a scheme to enable walkers, cyclists and horse riders to feel safer and more visible on Suffolk's roads and to help drivers to expect other non-motorised road users. It encourages all road users to respect each other's right to be there.

More information can be found at <https://sites.google.com/view/quietlanessuffolk/>.

The Parish Council would like to apply for Church Road, Mill Road and Grove Road (in conjunction with Knodishall PC) to be included in the scheme. A public consultation will take place later in the year to gauge support.

News from St Mary's the Virgin

By the time this is read, we are hoping that we will be on the pathway to the easing of restrictions. An incredible number of the population will have received their vaccinations and the rate of infection should be decreasing. A lot of people are itching to be able to meet up again and St Mary's Church is keen to open her doors for Worship once more. We must remember however, that there will still be those who continue to feel vulnerable to infection and who may prefer to remain behind closed doors for a while and, for that reason, at least until the end of March, we will continue with our online Zoom services on a Sunday morning (9:45am) and a Wednesday evening (6pm). These have proved immensely popular and a great comfort during the past few months; a link to these can be found at www.fristonchristian.com. The Sunday services for the month of March are as follows:

7th March Morning Prayer for the 3rd Sunday of Lent led by Martin and Emma Steadman

14th March Mothering Sunday service led by the Revd. Jo Mabey

21st March Passion Sunday service led by the Revd. Sheila Hart

28th March Palm Sunday service led by the Revd. Mark Lowther

Stay hopeful and don't forget that there is such a thing as 'good infection' - laughter is infectious, acts of kindness are spread from neighbour to neighbour, smiles breed, an injection of positive thinking makes the future look rosier. Every blessing, *Emma Steadman Lay Elder (687782)*

Friston Allotment Association

With the soil getting warmer we can start some early sowings of Radish & Rocket in the garden. Prune Hybrid Tea & Floribunda Roses now & give a feed of rose fertiliser. March is the last chance to plant bare-root trees & shrubs and to split & replant any overgrown perennials. Tomatoes can be sown indoors now for growing in a cold greenhouse this summer.

Call for information - Bomber in the beet field

A relative of one of the crew that crashed in the beet field near Friston Hall on the 17th July 1944 is asking if anyone has any local knowledge, newspaper reports or photos of the incident. His grandfather (Byron Greene) who was in the US army air corps was the tail gunner. Ryan Greene can be contacted by email rgreene551@gmail.com or please contact the Clerk who can forward any information found.

Mrs. B The Brainy Blackbird.

When Mrs. B first arrived in our garden she had six youngsters and they very quickly realised that this was a good restaurant. We served live mealworms on a plate. That is the start of the story. After the youngsters had left to follow their own ways Mrs. B started learning two or three words of English. When hungry she would come looking for me and when I opened the door and said "now you know I've got to put my shoes on" she would cock her head on one side and would "tweet". I would then say "now you know that I have to go to the garage" and again her response - head on one side and a tweet. That was when she flew ahead to wait outside the garage door. When I emerged she was nowhere to be seen and when I looked around she would suddenly appear from the gutter above my head, the Clematis at eye level or anywhere just to surprise me. She was having fun. She had two or three more tricks up her sleeve or under her wing.

To be continued. *Carole Morley*

Friston Wildlife Watch

So winter came... I love snow, it is magical, it brings light and quiet, and sparkle when the sun shines. I saw icicles this year up to a foot long, and wonderful bulbous body-deep drifts of snow, I followed mysterious animal prints around the edges of fields and through hedges, I crunched through ice and scrunched through early morning crisped snow. I loved it, but hope that it is now gone for the year, who knows we have had snow as late as May/June before and to be honest nothing surprises me these days. March brings bird song and early spring flowers. There is a Song Thrush who sings very loudly from the top of a nearby tree every morning and evening throughout the Spring and Summer, who I was very happy to hear again this week. There are Celandines popping up in the hedgerows and I have already seen a few bees buzzing around the Mahonia. A local friend mentioned he had seen a Hare in the fields on the Sternfield road. Since moving to Friston I have seen a few of these beautiful creatures in the fields around Friston Moor and have spotted them along Mill Road and down Church Lane late at night. Last year a Friston resident had a young Hare sheltering in her garden. The best time to see Hares is first thing in the morning or early evening...I look forward to seeing more March Hare activity over the next few weeks! *Briony Sones*



Snow Baby (credit S. Jackson)

Your Swift, Your news! Anyone can contribute to the Swift, please contact the Clerk with any articles you may have, please keep them light, factually correct and village orientated. Space is limited but we do try to fit everything in.

All information correct at time of publication. This newsletter is funded by Friston residents and lightly edited by the Parish Clerk. Thank you to all contributors and deliverers.

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