



The Swift

FRISTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



Parish Council

The Parish Council's next meeting will take place in the Village Hall on Monday 13th December. The meeting will be in the main hall to allow for social distancing and the doors and windows will be open for fresh air providing the weather stays clement.

The Quiet Lanes application is progressing through each stage. The traffic survey on Mill Rd has been completed. If successful this will not change the classification of the roads, there will be no change to the policing of the roads and it will not stop traffic from continuing to use the roads. The signs will be in place to remind all road users that they may encounter non-motorised traffic such as walkers, horse riders and cyclists. It does not give non-motorised users any rights over traffic. The scheme asks for understanding from both parties to make rural roads safer for all who use them.

A reminder that the Village Hall will have limited availability in January while it is being redecorated and new front doors fitted.

Friston Parish Council would like to wish all residents a Merry Christmas with best wishes for 2022.

News from St Mary the Virgin - December Services

Sunday, 12th December, 9.30am: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) led by Revd Jo Mabey.

Tuesday, 21st December, 7pm: Christmas Carol Service

This is a traditional carol service for all the family with familiar carols which we can all sing and readings by members of the community. The service will be led by our Curate-in-Charge, Revd James Marston. We appreciate that some will have covid-19 concerns, but this is an opportunity for our village community to come together so we look forward to welcoming you. There will be mulled wine and mince pies in the village hall after the service and when social distancing can be maintained.

There are no Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services in Friston.

However, there are plenty of alternative options:

Friday, 24th December, Christmas Eve:

- Aldeburgh: 2pm and 3.30pm. Crib Services
11.15pm. Holy Communion, Common Worship.
- Aldringham: 11.30pm. Holy Communion Common Worship.

Saturday, 25th December, Christmas Day:

- Knodishall: 9.30am. Holy Communion Common Worship
- Aldeburgh: 10.30am Holy Communion Common Worship.

Booking is essential for the Aldeburgh services; please visit www.aldeburghparishchurch.org.uk



DECORATING THE CHURCH - Saturday, 18th December.

In advance of our carol service, please come and help decorate the church on Saturday, 18th December from 9am. We especially welcome young people and their parents to decorate mini trees in the windows.

Decorations can be provided but there's a challenge for your own decorative skills and ingenuity!

Friston Allotment Association

Protect any tender plants with fleece or bracken against the cold before we get any hard frosts. Cover Brussels sprouts, cabbages, kale, & broccoli with netting against pigeons. Stake broccoli & Brussels sprouts to prevent wind damage. Trim any misshapen evergreens i.e. holly, ivy or conifers for use for Christmas decorations. Check stored apples regularly for rotten fruit. Don't throw them away, they can be put out in the garden as food for birds.

Friston Wildlife Watch - Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)

It seems the right time of the year to pay homage to this feisty bird. Named our national bird there is good reason for this choice. I know many gardeners out there will have had the pleasure of a red-breasted gardening companion, hanging around as we dig the garden, waiting for an opportunity to snatch a worm or two. There is just not enough space to write everything I want to about this bird. However, I know for many people, Robins are symbols of lost loved ones. Before I learnt this, I had a couple of meaningful encounters with the little birds at significant points of my life. The first was the Christmas after my father had passed away. As a young woman returning to my hometown for a family festive celebration, I went out walking alone to an area where, as a child, I would go with my daddy each Christmas to collect holly and ivy to decorate the house. As the first significant loss in my life, I was seeking some sort of connection or contact, a sign that my father was still there, but nothing happened and feeling disheartened as it began to rain, I decide to go home; at the very point I gave up, a Robin alighted in a tree next to me and sang loudly and purposefully - I was elated and satisfied. Many years later and not long after my mother had died, I was out walking with my partner and dogs chatting about my lovely mum, when a Robin boldly flew right at me and just missing me by a whisker it continued to criss-cross in front of us as we walked down the lane. Finally, it alighted in the hedgerow and when I stopped to look, it was actually two Robins together sitting in a bush bejeweled by Wild Bryony - of course I took that as sign that my parents were back together again! Superstitious nonsense? Coincidence? Wishful thinking? It doesn't matter, it filled me with comfort and joy. Listen out for the Robins' beautiful melancholic notes throughout the winter season and I hope it too fills you with Comfort and Joy! Merry Christmas! *Briony Sones*

Four Parishes Magazine

A distributor and subscription collector is needed for Friston for the Four Parishes Magazine. If anyone would be interested in volunteering for this role, please contact the Parish Clerk who will put you in touch with the organisers. This magazine contains news and events from Knodishall, Friston, Aldringham and Thorpeness.

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.

The next deadline for articles is Wednesday 15th December - An early one to get done before Christmas!



OLD CHEQUERS

FRISTON

Christmas Week Opening Hours

Monday 20 th	Closed all day	
Tuesday 21 st	Closed all day	
Wednesday 22 nd	12.00 – 3pm	5pm – 10pm
	Food served 12-2pm & 6pm-8.00pm	
Thursday 23 rd	12.00 – 3pm	5pm – 10pm
	Food served 12-2pm & 6pm-8.00pm	
Friday 24 th	12.00 – 3pm	5pm – 10pm
Christmas Eve	Food served 12-2pm & 6pm-8.00pm	
Saturday 25 th	12.00 – 3pm	
Christmas Day	Pre- booked Christmas lunch only 12-3pm	
	Bar open limited numbers 12-2pm	
Sunday 26 th	Closed all day	
Boxing Day	Closed all day	

Re-open Wednesday 29th December
 Email chequers.friston@hotmail.com for any bookings

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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