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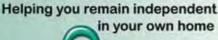


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Dear Residents,

We hope the beautiful local daffodils on the front page brought you some cheer! Of course nothing boasts spring more than the natural world; we are pleased to bring you reports from the Frome Valley Growing Project and the Floral Friends of Frampton.

The Winterbourne and Frome Environmental Group recently organised a big 'spring clean' that a large number of the community took part in. They have various projects taking place to improve our local environment and welcome more people to get involved.

If you like local history you are in for a treat with two articles on this subject. The Frampton Cotterell and District Local History Society share with us a fascinating article illustrating delivery services in years gone by, and we have an interview with North Bristol historian Mike Manson, along with an extract from his new book

community@mattersmaqazines.co.uk

- Manson's Bristol Miscellany featuring Coalpit Heath Colliery.

After being contacted by a local resident, we support the #Stop Feeding Our Horses campaign in this issue.

The Winterbourne Medieval Barn are always busy organising events for the whole community to enjoy, they have a selection of wonderful activities lined up over the coming months.

There are a number of church services planned for Holy Week and Easter activities that we are pleased to share with you.

The local schools were delighted to welcome all of their pupils back in March, we hear from St Michael's and Elm Park.

All this and much more!

Warm wishes.

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& Jaci X



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From left: Michael, Fran, Tina, Datren, Jane, Mary and Maggie

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News from the Winterbourne and Frome Valley **Environmental Group**



I joined the litter pickers after seeing an article in one of the free monthly magazines. I wanted to help. I abhor seeing litter around and try to pick it up if it's convenient. It felt good to be part of a large team which had achieved much over the week. Pearl

We cleared 42 large bags and 7 huge builders sacks, everything was sorted in to items so we could recycle as much a possible.

Every piece of litter we recovered from our area could have ended up buried or broken up into tiny fragments.

which would persist in our soil and plants. The considerable ecological cost of litter takes its toll on local communities like ours. Decades of public messaging on litter prevention have been largely ineffectual and with a dramatic reduction in council and police funding, litter crime enforcement is challenging. Local communities are the current front line in local litter management with strong support from council departments.

There is much to celebrate about the efforts of our amazing community team, but anyone who does this regularly knows that the litter returns quickly. We do however have some ideas about how we can start to turn the tide as a community that we'd like to share and work on with other communities.

It was a rewarding day to be part of such an enthusiastic and dedicated local team and we're hoping to arrange another community litter sweep in the late summer 2021.

Please get in touch if you want to help

Join our Facebook group:

WinterbourneEnvironment and follow us on Twitter: @weg_uk. We have many local projects in progress and planned if you would like to get more involved! www.winterbourne-environmental.uk

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Planting Apple trees

Volunteers from the Winterbourne and Frome Valley Environmental Group have been out planting apple trees thanks to a donation of ten trees from Somerset cider maker Thatchers.

Our group was donated the bundle of apple trees as part of Thatchers Community Orchard Project, which, as part of its 2021 apple tree planting season, is helping community groups, schools and charities plant more trees this spring.

Our Twitter campaign started in late 2020 when we started taking a closer look at the large amounts of litter we were picking up for recycling in the Frome Valley area. At one point, we sorted the litter collected in one month into piles by producer. We contacted the companies on email and social media to ask them to support a national deposit return scheme and donate to a tree planting scheme. We didn't have high hopes for this approach: most of the companies that chose to respond, did so with platitude laden tales of greenwashing. Thatchers however were one of two producers that reached out to us with an understanding of the problem and made us an offer of real trees. They soon added us to their community orchard scheme and we set about finding the best place for them to grow in the Frome Valley.

In its ongoing care of the environment and its passion for apple trees - fourth generation cider maker Thatchers introduced its Community Orchard Project this year, offering ready to plant bundles of ten trees to ten community groups.

The ten trees include a selection of apple varieties, including both eating apples and cider apples. They include; Paradice Gold – a sweet, crisp eating apple, Newton Wonder - a traditional cooking apple, and Dabinett – one of Thatchers' favourite cider apples.

Our group has been looking at many potential local tree planting projects, planning to work with, but as W&FVEG also has close links with the Frome Valley Growing Project they were the obvious choice to take ownership of these cider apple trees in their own

community project, right here in Winterbourne!

The Frome Valley Growing Project grow and produce food for their members and the local community from the site they rent just off Swan Lane in Winterbourne. They are growing food as a community in a more sustainable way that depends less on fossil fuel and uses permaculture growing methods. They can be contacted on the growing project 123@gmail.com. See page 7 for further information on this group.

Fourth generation cider maker, Martin Thatcher, who planted his first apple tree in Somerset at the age of just five, adds. "Over the last twelve months we've all come to appreciate even more the benefits of outdoor space. A community orchard can make such a difference to people's well-being which is why we're delighted to be donating these apple trees."

We are very grateful to Thatchers for recognising our efforts to protect the Frome Valley environment and donating these trees for the benefit of our community.

Community big spring clean!

Mid March, around fifty community volunteers in the Winterbourne area left their houses with bags. gloves and litter grabbers and meticulously tried to clean every bit of litter from our roads, lanes and parks - no matter how big or small. The routes had been divided and allocated in the week leading up to the event, and as more volunteers came forward, the area of cleaning widened. The team included people of all ages, veteran and new litter pickers who were keen to clean our streets and help the local environment.









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News from the Floral Friends of Frampton

Spring is springing!

Spring is definitely springing into action as these pictures from the park show. The recent warmer weather has encouraged the Daffodils and Crocuses to come into bloom and even the trees are starting to blossom!





Floral Gateway - We have recently refurbished the gateway by the traffic lights on the Bristol Road, by replacing some of the older plants with Wallflowers, Forgetme-nots and Veronica. Together with the Daffodils they make for a colourful welcome to the village.

Could you help? It takes time, effort and funds to maintain the planting around the village benefiting the local community, the environment, and the wildlife. If you would like to help there are various ways in which you can do so:

- Could you spare a few minutes regularly? We always need help to maintain the planters (and we always try to share the load and ask people to look after a planter near their home/business to minimise time and effort).
- Could you spare a couple of hours twice a year (late spring and autumn)? We welcome help when we need to replenish the plants in the planters in spring and autumn.
- We run various fund raising activities during the year (coffee mornings, plant sales) and we are always glad of help.
- No time? Donations are always very welcome.
- Sponsorship: If you have a business in the area, or would like to commemorate a special event or person, you may like to consider sponsoring a planter or gateway for an annual fee - with a plague fixed to the planter/gateway it's cheaper than most other forms of business advertising!

If you can help in any way, we'd love to hear from you, email floralfriendsofframpton@gmail.com

Remember - all our latest news in available at http://ffframpton.wixsite.com/frampton-cotterell. **News from the Frome Valley Growing Project**

Here at the Frome Valley Growing Project (FVGP) we are excited to be starting off our seedlings for the new growing season. This year we have received all our seeds through seed saving, donations and The Bristol Seed Swap. The Bristol Seed Swap did an innovative postal swap this year in response to COVID restrictions. We sent them loads of seeds and they gave us loads back. This project is run entirely by volunteers and you can donate either seeds, or financial contributions to them by visiting their website: www.bristolseedswap.com or Facebook page.

Learning to seed save is an important part of our work here at the FVGP. Seed saving is crucial for us to do now, to ensure the future health of our land and ourselves. Dr Vandana Shiva, activist author and scholar explains that for her. "The desire to save seeds comes from an ethical urge to defend life's evolution." Vandana Shiva founded Navdanya – an earth centric, women centric and farmer led movement for the protection of biological and cultural diversity. The organisation has been a catalyst for seed saving banks all over India and the rest of the world to save, share and breed local heritage varieties of seed, which are essential to our biodiversity and food security. Find out more at www.navdanya.org.

We have been collecting our old toilet rolls and cardboard egg boxes over the year and we are now using them as pots for our seedlings. This is an easy way to reuse what would usually be single use items. Also doing this is great for minimising soil disturbance when transplanting the seedlings, as they can go straight in the soil in pots. We have found deep rooting larger seeds work best in toilet rolls and smaller seeds such as lettuce are great in eaa boxes.

We are delighted that we have just been given a grant through the member awarded funding, from our Local Councillor Trevor Jones, to get a poly tunnel and a composting toilet built. This will transform our work down on the site. We will soon be able to extend our growing season significantly and our composting toilet will provide facilities to our members and visiting volunteers. And of course an additional supply of compost! We have collaborated with Winterbourne Environmental Group and One Planet Matters who have donated many more orchard trees which will all be part of our exciting food forest area. The trees are settling in well and planting was lots of fun (see page 4).

From the end of April, in line with the Government

quidance, we hope to be offering monthly working parties for groups of six. members and volunteers to come and get stuck in with planting. building and other

general muddy fun! Please do join our new Facebook group: Frome Valley Growing Project Volunteers if you wish to hear about our next working party and book a space on one.

Email: the growing project 123@gmail.com.





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Commemorating Dick King-Smith

Dick King-Smith was the late, local author to many much loved children's books, such as the Fox Busters and The Sheep Pig (Babe).

The King-Smiths lived on Woodlands Farm (near Blackberry Drive) between 1948 and 1961.

In 2019, Frampton Cotterell parish celebrated the life and works of the author with the Dick King-Smith themed scarecrow trail. At the end of 2020, the village was delighted to take the celebration further with the installation of a more permanent commemoration: a stunning wooden bench carved by the talented Andy O'Neill of Wildwood Carving (pictured above). The bench was inspired by the animals and characters from the authors novels.

The bench is located just a stones throw away from Woodlands Farm in Blackberry Drive open space and is situated next to the boundary of Westerleigh and Frampton Cotterell parishes.

The animals Dick cared for on this farm inspired many of the characters in his novels. These animals have been captured in this beautiful bench, to be enjoyed by local residents for many years to come.

Tristan Clark, who is a councillor to both Frampton Cotterell and Westerleigh Parishes, explained all. "Westerleigh Parish Council and Frampton Cotterell Parish Council jointly commissioned wood sculptor, Andy O'Neill, to produce a bench commemorating the work of the much loved children's author, Dick King-Smith. The author lived with his family at Woodlands farm for over a decade. Due to the current COVID restrictions, we sadly cannot hold a dedication ceremony at present but we hope you will join us sometime later in 2021, when we hope a member of the King-Smith family can join us to officially dedicate the new bench."

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council shared, "Thank you to all those involved in the project, including



our brilliant volunteers and councillors who made this happen. If you would like to volunteer on similar future Parish Council projects, please contact Clerk to Council on clerk@framptoncotterell-pc.gov.uk".



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Welcome back to Elm Park Primary School

by Mrs Carol Bond Head Teacher

A feeling a huge excitement and anticipation was in the air on Monday 8th March. At 8:40am, the school gates were flung open ready to welcome our incredible children back. Shiny new shoes and bright school uniform came rushing through the gates. Cheery hellos and welcome backs resounded throughout the playground, as sparkling eves revealed smiles hidden beneath face masks. Children, teachers and parents were delighted to be back.

The children returned to a familiar classroom set up, with each child having a brand new pencil case full of all the equipment needed for each lesson. Displays were bright, engaging and thought provoking. By 9am, all children had entered the classroom and the school was alive with the buzz of excitement. Learning began.

At 10:40am, I sat in my office and listened to the most incredible sound - children playing, laughing and having fun outside in their class bubbles. Smiles all round as they climbed on the equipment. made sand castles in the sandpit and played tag and chase around the playgrounds. It truly was the

RMG ENGRAVING

most heart-warming sight to see. One which has continued to bring joy to the hearts of all staff and members of our local community as they walk by.

Our curriculum is in full flow, following our curriculum drivers of community, creativity and wellbeing. The children continue to be exposed to a plethora of activities from English and Maths lessons through to designing and making Mothers' Day cards and presents. We have also been very fortunate to secure tutoring for our children, who need a little boost after lockdown, as well as fully funded after-school sports clubs, meaning children from Reception to Year 6 have been able to enjoy a structure outdoor activity free of charge.

Our future continues to look incredibly exciting as the new build is scheduled to start in April. We are currently putting some of the final touches to the internal design as well as the school playgrounds. On top of this, we are beginning our journey to gain accredited Forest Schools Status. This will help to promote an even greater love of the outdoors and helping our children to develop further understanding of sustainability and ecology.



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It's been a great five years but now I would like to retire and start my house renovation project.









Over the past year, restrictions to our movement and activities available to us has encouraged people to explore new local walks and enjoy the countryside available to us. Many rural walks involve public rights of way through fields or on

footpaths that run alongside them. Horses are often grazing in such areas, and although it is wonderful to observe these beautiful creatures, we would like to raise awareness about the dangers (often fatal) to the animals if we feed them.

We were contacted by a local resident, who sadly lost a pony they had on loan due to walkers feeding the mare. They discovered Roxy, the pony eating parts of a chicken sandwich with salad, including onion that had been thrown over the fence. Although the pony was put under immediate veterinary care, over the days that followed the poor mare did not recover and the devastating decision was made to put her to sleep. Onions are toxic to horses and it was the vet's opinion that this was the cause of death of an otherwise healthy equine. Sadly, this is not an isolated case and increasing incidents such as these has led to a nationwide campaign #Stop Feeding Our Horses.

Horses have a one-way digestion system that means they cannot be sick, so unlike dogs, you cannot force them to bring back up any foreign bodies they pick up. Their stomachs are also extremely sensitive and foods that are completely harmless to us can be toxic to them. Even foods you associate with horses such as apples and carrots can contain too much sugar for some horses or easily get lodged in their throat and

freshly cut grass can cause them to colic, which can be life threatening. Like humans, horses can have allergies or diabetes and require special diets to maintain their health.

It has been a wet winter and fields are looking muddy and bare of grass; this is not something for anyone to be alarmed about when out walking, rest assured the horses will be receiving hay at least twice a day and an appropriate bucket feed. If you see a horse in distress, alert the nearest farm/yard or check for a sign with owner's detail on.

Feeding horses is an offence under the Welfare Act 2006 and person(s) responsible could be liable for prosecution.

We always try to share positive news at Matters Magazines but the safety of horses is something we feel passionate about. We understand people feeding animals when out on their walk are trying to be kind but sadly, sometimes kindness can kill and we must resist the urge. As a parent, I would not under any circumstances be happy about a stranger giving my children food - even if they were keen to have it! We hope everyone who reads this will take some positive action in informing others; the message is simple, 'Please do not ever feed horses that are not under your care, adore them from a far'.

If you would like to find out more, you can visit the British Horse Society page bhs.org.uk/ behorseaware where cautionary posters can be downloaded to display in fields if you are a horse/ land owner.

If you would like to show your support the campaign and help bring this issue to the fore - join the Facebook page: Stop Feeding Our Horses.



Everyone's a winner at St Michael's

As I write this. I can hear the squeals of excited children in the playground, the classrooms are buzzing with chatter and the corridors filled with the pitterpatter of feet. School is back and it feels great to have our community together again!

As you know, Covid-19 once again closed our school to the majority back in January and since then learning continued, but online. We were 'WOWED' as always by our brilliant children who, despite no prior experience of this strange way of learning, adapted quickly and rose to the challenge of learning in a completely different way. Likewise teachers, whilst feeling anxious at first, became dab hands at navigating the virtual world.

When the government announced that on Monday 8th March schools might return, it gave children, parents and teachers alike something to aim for. Whilst everyone was doing a fantastic job, there was no doubt that it was challenging and the children really needed to be back together again.

Finally that day came! Hooray! Children skipped onto the playground with ear to ear grins, eager to hang their coats, wash their hands and find their friends...they remember the routine. Some were more apprehensive and lingered a little more before cautiously walking through the door. After all for many their last day in school was Friday 18th December a very long time ago when you are only 4 years old! Parents were emotional too. For some it was pure joy that they were going back to a peaceful home for others it was apprehension that the nest would feel

Our first day back whizzed by. A whole school, virtual assembly helped us to reconnect and the non-stop chatter in the classrooms told us all we needed to know.

As many of you will be aware each Friday at St Michael's, one child from each class is awarded a 'hot chocolate from the Head'. This might be for producing some excellent writing or for being a kind friend. We have kept this going throughout lockdown,

with hot chocolate cones and certificates being hand delivered. Repeatedly teachers have said how hard it has been to choose which child should receive the award as so many of their children have been working hard. So on our first Monday back, the children (and staff) all went home with their very own personalised, lockdown medal and hot chocolate from the Head. A wonderful keepsake of a strange time and a tasty treat as a reward for their hard work.

Now we are reunited - our school family is back together again. Yes we are still in bubbles, yes there are still many Covid restrictions, but we all know we can do this. Plans for the Easter service have already begun and the diary is filling up with exciting events at a rate of knots... Evacuee day, Roman and Viking day, Red Nose Day to name just a few. Everyone wants to make this time for the children as special as possible. It will be an unforgettable school year anyway but here at St. Michael's we're passionate that our Learn - Care - Enjoy motto is not hindered by the global pandemic and we are keen to make our children's time in school as happy and memorable as possible.

Emma Hillocks

Deputy Headteacher, St. Michael's Winterbourne

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News from Frampton Cotterell WI

During February the WI committee delivered a Valentine's themed surprise to our members! A gift bag was distributed containing a bespoke WI flower pot, soil, Freesia corms, growing instructions and a "Show the Love" card sending best wishes. The idea being that members will plant and nurture the plants as they grow and post photo's on our Facebook page so that we can see how things are coming along!

We hope that by the time the plants flower we will know when we might all be able to meet again in person. Many of our members have had their vaccinations as we go to press and we're all impressed and grateful for the speed and organisation that has gone in to the UK vaccination programme. Our thanks goes out to the NHS and volunteers who have helped to make this happen, as it means that each day that goes by really does bring us a step closer to being able to meet again as a WI.

At time of writing, we are looking forward to our special Zoom speaker at the end of March. Borough Belles WI member Katherine Blackler (SortMySpace Ltd) has a rather unusual job as a professional organiser and de-clutterer. She will be sharing practical tips and tricks on how to organise your home, your work or your life! As well as an insight on what it's like to be a professional organiser.

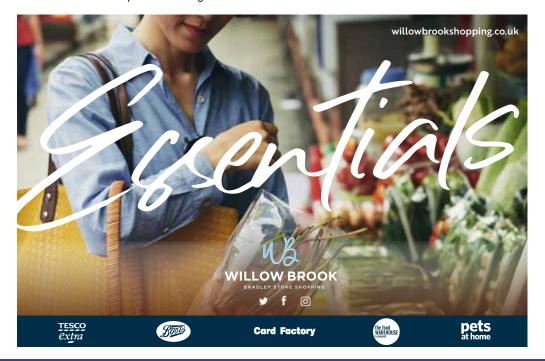




We hope this talk will help inspire and motivate members for brighter times ahead!

Perhaps in April or May we may be able to meet up somehow, even if that's outside. Fingers crossed, for

As always, watch this space and our Facebook page for future event dates and more details. Under normal circumstances, visitors and new members are welcome to our monthly meetings at St Peter's Hall on School Road at 7.45pm, on the fourth Tuesday of the month. There is a charge of £2.50 for the evening and any new members can also join by paving a membership fee. In the meantime, if you're interested in joining us please let us know and get in touch via our Facebook page: FramptonCottWI. Special interest groups that meet separately include a book club, craft group, choir and our skittles and darts teams.



The latest from Winterbourne library

Libraries continue to work within current Government Regulations with safety measures in place.

Services we are typically able to offer during this time include borrowing items using Click and Collect and limited computer access for essential purposes only.



Click & Collect books

It's easy to order ahead using Click and Collect. Book a collection slot at sglibraries.eventbrite.

com or call 01454 865022, answer a few questions and we'll choose items based on your answers - for you, for your children or both.

"Such an easy process, and my kids were delighted with their books."

"We were given books I probably wouldn't have chosen, great for a bit of diversity. Many thanks."

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Find the latest information on our website www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges Facebook page - sgloslibraries





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Despite the continuing lockdown, members have found lots of ways of keeping connected and occupied. Our newsletters and WhatsApp group continue to be brilliant ways to keep in touch. It is fantastic to note which member is the latest to be called for their inoculation, and to share photos, especially of the spring flowers in the community

We are optimistic that the road map out of lockdown will allow us to have meetings later in 2021, so the

News from Coalpit Heath WI

committee are preparing a provisional outline for the rest of the year.

A small group of ladies designed and made a large green foliage heart to display on the Badminton Road fence to coincide with the February - Show the Love campaign. The WI is a founding member of the Climate Coalition, whose aim is to highlight the problems that climate change is causing. Every February since 2015 green hearts have been used to show support for a cleaner, greener world. This year the UK will host the United Nations climate summit so it is especially important to show our support for this campaign.

At home, members have been busy making over forty hearts to donate to the NICU ward. These were left in cots for the babies to give to their mums on Mother's Day.

Our crafty members have been given advance notice of a competition to create a teapot or mug cosy for May, so plenty of time to get knitting! Did you know that it's National tea cosy day on 23rd May?

Any updates and further information will be on our FaceBook page if you search

@WICoalpitHeath.





Struggling with life? Receive some online support

Contact Osteomyology expert - Dawn Clode Ostm, Lic MET, Lic CR, FAO

As we hit a year of living with a pandemic and all the detrimental effects this has on our lives, it is no wonder there is a general sense of exhaustion as a nation. For some, the emotional impact goes beyond tiredness and they are struggling to get through this time. If this is you, or a friend or family member that needs help, get in touch with local therapist Dawn Clode who is well equipped

I have visited Dawn for many years now to receive treatment for back and shoulder problems but her skills go far beyond delivering physical treatments that are not available at this time.

Dawn is an excellent listener and inspirator. She can deliver emotional healing via zoom. Techniques she can teach include -

- Confidence and Self Esteem Coaching
- Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP)
- Business & Life Coaching
- MAGIC A Coaching Programme for Young
- Mentoring

Dawn told us.

"It is my job, and privilege to support you in your journey to wellness in every way I can. It is my aim by working together we can ensure you become the best you possibly can be in Mind. Body and Soul!"



Dawn works from her Holistic Health

Practice in Little Stoke. She will remain closed during lockdown for treatments in person (you can pre-book now) but can offer support online or over the phone.

She is happy for you to get in touch for further information.

Please call: 0795 1099 491

Visit: life-and-soul-empowerment.co.uk



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Hypnotherapy is widely used for all psychosomatic disorders (mental and emotional states which actually produce physical symptoms). In a nutshell, hypnotherapy can generally help with any problem you're finding hard to handle on your own - thoughts and actions you'd like to banish or acquire, or emotional suffering that is too overwhelming or has gone on too long.

Call me on: 07964 991689 E: Catherine@smarthypnotherapist.co.uk www.smarthypnotherapist.co.uk

Building back better: how volunteering can connect us all and improve our mental health

During the past year, many people have had a bit more time and space to think about life and what is important to them. A global pandemic and people separated from friends and families has meant that many have been looking for ways to help make a difference. As seen by the recruitment of NHS responders, there has been a huge public outpouring by people keen to offer their skills to support others.

The announcement of the roadmap provided much needed answers for the voluntary sector, and charities are able to provide more opportunities for those looking to feel part of their community again. Volunteering is the life blood of the non-profit sector and it is through the tireless efforts of those giving up their time that enables many organisations to carry out their vital work.

Jools, Volunteer Coordinator at Paul's Place explains how volunteering not only benefits the organisations that people volunteer for, but there are also huge personal benefits. "When individuals have been isolated for a year due to the consequences of the pandemic, this need for connection, purpose, and creating better mental health are more important than ever."

The NHS website recommends volunteering as a way to improve mental wellbeing, stating that, "acts of giving and kindness can help improve your mental wellbeing by creating positive feelings and a sense of reward, giving you a feeling of purpose and selfworth and helping you connect with other people."

Jools adds how "the rewards of volunteering can range from the need for work and college experience to simply wanting to add new skills to your CV."

Paul's Place is one charity offering fantastic volunteering opportunities this spring.

The charity created their new service, Paul's Place





at Home 12 months ago. A virtual service that brings the spirit of the day facility to people at home. "The roadmap enabled us to set a reopening date, however, it is expected that there will be some restrictions on numbers still and keeping our virtual services open alongside the day facility, allows us to reach those shielding or unable to return," explains

Volunteers are adapting with the times and Susan Weaver, a Paul's Place volunteer for 11 years now, is no exception. Helping the charity with their new service Paul's Place at Home by becoming a telephone befriender and hosting some of their Zoom activities such as Desert Island Discs, she has loved supporting the charity.

"I have given the members (those supported by the charity) a special gift of my time, my talents and my skills. In return, I have gained friendships and much satisfaction in helping this charity. I have shared in their laughter and their tears during our incredible journey together. From weekly onsite small group activities, supporting individuals achieve their goals, to helping during short breaks and holidays, every moment spent together is creating special memories for us all."

When asked what she looks forward to the most. like many of us, it is the "face to face contact with individuals during the past year and the enrichment they give to my life. I am eagerly looking forward to Paul's Place opening its' doors and sharing special times once more."

This spring, you can build back better by supporting local causes in your area.

If you are interested in supporting Paul's Place through volunteering, or would just like to find out a bit more about the current opportunities get in touch with Jools and drop her line on jeasty@paulsplace.

You can also stay up to date with volunteering opportunities by following them on social media.

Facebook: @PaulsPlaceCharity Instagram: @paulsplaceofficial

Spring 2021 at Winterbourne Medieval Barn

As spring progresses community activities at the Barn will gradually re-start, initially with outdoor events, but until then we have a number of things you can join in at home:



Easter Craft Packs Posted to You

With covid restrictions still in place we cannot offer the usual Easter Egg hunt for children, but Easter Craft packs can be posted out for families to enjoy in the holidays. Packs cost £5 each and must be ordered online before 1st April. They will be sent out from 23 March.

YouTube Videos

The Barn's YouTube channel has free videos to help you hold your own family medieval Dinner Party, or have a go at Medieval Dancing.

Monthly Online Talks

Our monthly Tuesday Talks will be online until we can fully re-open the Barn. There will be a History talk on Zoom in April. Full details are on the Barn website. Tickets cost £5. All talks start at 7pm and need prebooking so that Zoom links can be sent out in time.



Family Outdoor Activity: Woodland Wonderland - Wednesday 14th April

This will be the first event actually held at the Barn this year. We will be getting messy so please dress for the weather and for a bit of mud! We'll plant mini terrariums, create hanging mobiles for your garden, and make elf and fairy doors for our woodland friends! Social distancing will be in place, so family groups need to pre-book their chosen arrival slot

between 10am and 3pm. Car parking and toilets are available and we will be serving tea, coffee, juice, and sweet treats! Tickets are £5 per family and must be pre-booked.



Early Birdsong Walk and Breakfast - Saturday 8th May, 8am

Join us for a birdsong guided walk (around 1.5 hours) with naturalist Ed Drewitt, followed by breakfast in the Barn grounds. The cost is £15 per person, including breakfast. Let us know your dietary requirements when you book. Recommended for ages 12+. This socially distanced event will be outdoors, so please wear appropriate footwear and warm clothes. We will email you a week before the event to let you know what to expect on the day with regards to the latest covid guidelines.



Spoon-carving Workshop - Saturday 22nd May, 10am-5pm

Spend a fun and relaxed day learning how to carve a beautiful and functional wooden spoon. Age 18+. All tools and materials are provided and a lovely lunch is included. We intend to run this socially distanced course in the Barn, but if restrictions don't allow indoor activity by then, it will be outside. We will email you a week before to let you know what to expect on the day. Numbers are very limited. Book early via the Barn website.

Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

For further details about Winterbourne Medieval Barn, visit: www.winterbournebarn.org.uk Facebook: Winterbourne Medieval Barn



New Life

Mr Johnson has shown us the roadmap out of lockdown!

We can see that we have a path marked out to 'normal life' and I suppose the question we are all asking is what is normal? Is

normal a return to how life was before 2020? I don't think this will be the case for most of us and we will all have different reasons for this. Perhaps some have lost a family member, employment has been affected. financial situations are different, relationships have changed, but perhaps there are things that have happened in this Covid era that have changed for the better. Maybe some of us have embraced the opportunity to go to work without having to get dressed first and will continue to work from home more. Maybe the extra time with our families has highlighted this as important. Maybe we all have a little more respect for the occupations that have carried on and helped us all during this pandemic. Crucially have we learnt not to take our life, our liberty and our environment for granted?

We have an opportunity to build a new life. I appreciate that it is not entirely within our personal control, since most employers expect you to get dressed before going to the office! However, we can bring back those things which we have realised are so important to us; those things that make us who we are. We can also redesign our lives around keeping those good parts, those parts we have enjoyed during Covid.

Why not try to make a list of the most important things to do when you are able, the old and the new? This will help you to have been positively transformed by the experience, to not take things for granted and to fully appreciate all the good things in life.

Whether it is as a result of Covid, or as a result of being transformed by the events of the first Easter, now is the time to embrace that change. Now is the time to assess what we want to be and how we will go about achieving that. Now is the time to choose how we live our lives in light of the major events that have taken place and how we might be better equipped for other events that may come along, perhaps changing what we perceive to be normal.

Covid has enforced changes, hopefully a one-time only event, where an end is in sight. The celebration of Easter is an annual celebration. Living our lives according to the example of Christ is a daily event. Each and every day, during a pandemic, or during apparently normal times, we are given the opportunity to embrace a new beginning, a fresh start. A new day is an opportunity to live your life closer to God, living in the hope that comes from a new life in Christ, helping to shine the light of his love in our lives, our homes and our communities.

Blessings.

Revd David Jones, Curate, Fromeside Benefice



The Parishes of Frampton Cotterell, Iron Acton, Winterbourne & Winterbourne Down, in THE DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

E: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk www.fromesidechurches.org.uk T: 01454 776518



aster is the time when we celebrate new life, eggs and chicks being just some of the symbols of this new life. It is when leaves appear on

the trees and many flowers burst into season. Easter is a time when we remember the biggest transformation to have happened in the world. ever! Jesus died on a cross for us, before rising to new life and we know this was an event that continues to have an effect two thousand years later. The events of that Easter have changed the lives all of humanity and continue to change lives and transform people. It is through this transformation that Jesus, and through us, we can be part of the change which makes the world a better place, not just for ourselves but for all. Join us in church, study groups or online.

To find out more visit: www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

With infections falling at this time, vaccination rates and targets being extremely encouraging and in the light of the Government's roadmap. Fromeside Benefice has organised the services below for Holy Week. Hopefully all of the below will be possible but if national Covid rules change, you can contact: office@ fromesidechurches.org.uk or call the church office on 01454 776518



Holy Week

Wednesday 31st March, 10.00am - Holy Communion - St James, Iron Acton

Maundy Thursday 1st April. 10.30am - Holy Communion - St Michael's Rooms

Maundy Thursday 1st April, 8.00pm to 10.00pm - Churches open for Easter Vigil & Watch - All Saints, Winterbourne Down & St Peter's, Frampton Cotterell

Good Friday 2nd April, 10.00am - Open Air Family Service at St James, Iron Acton or online Service of Reflection & Music at 3.00pm - www.fromesidechurches.org.uk/recorded-services

Easter Sunday 4th April, 10.00am Parish Communion at:

St James. Iron Acton

St Michael's Winterbourne

St Peter's, Frampton Cotterell

All Saints. Winterbourne Down

Please book via the Benefice Office - Tel: 01454 776518 or Email: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk or online Service at 10.00pm - www.fromesidechurches.org.uk/recorded-services

Reflections available online during Holy Week at: www.fromesidechurches.org.uk/messages-resources-forthe-current-crisis/podcasts/

Easter Family Fun!

Keep your kids busy in the fresh air over the Easter holidays by joining in the hunt for some letters hidden in Easter eggs around Bradley Stoke.

Following a trail map, you will need to collect the letters displayed on each egg which will spell out an Easter message. Once you have solved the puzzle, return your trail map and enjoy a yummy chocolate egg. Each completed form will be entered into a prize draw to win even more Easter

All proceeds from the Easter egg hunt will be donated to The Brightwell in Bradley Stoke, a charity which provides therapies and support to local people living with neurological conditions such as Multiple Sclerosis, Fibromyalgia, Stroke, Chronic Fatigue and Cerebral Palsy.

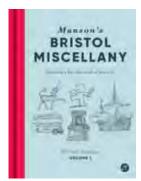
After a very difficult year when all our events were cancelled owing to Covid-19, your support is greatly appreciated.

Trail maps will be available to download online at www.thebrightwell.org.uk from Monday 29th March.

For further information, please contact claire.wingate@ thebrightwell.org.uk



Manson's **BRISTOL MISCELLANY**



This month we were pleased to catch up with North Bristol author and historian Mike Manson with news of his latest book Bristol Miscellany. Mike told us sitting down and finally being able to put this first Volume together is one good thing to come out of lockdown!

Mike describes Bristol Miscellany as, "my

search for the soul of the city. I like to get to know the place I live in, to understand what makes it tick. As I wander round Bristol, I find myself looking for the footprints of previous times. Why does our city look like it does? I want to understand why that building stands over there, why that road bends in that particular spot. I've lived in Bristol for over 45 years and I'm still finding new corners, new streets, new communities even. There are few rules. To be honest, it's whatever grabs my interest. And I hope it will interest you."





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Mike Manson pictured by Paul Bullivant

This wonderful historical book is split into various categories, it is great to see Coalpit Heath featured under the chapter 'A Once Important Industry -Coal'. We are lucky to feature an excerpt from this chapter opposite.

As a born-and-bred Bristolian I found the book of great interest, and how the book is put together makes it accessible and inviting to read. It was great to discover new gems about the city.

I enjoyed reading the following from the 'What's In a Name?' chapter - 'With a population of 436,000 Bristol is not a big city - but on the world stage it punches well above its own weight. Being a port the name of Bristol has spread across the globe. When settlers moved to North America in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries they liked to take a little bit of Bristol with them. There are said to be 35 populated places called Bristol across the world – the majority of them in Canada and the United States.'

Mike believes strongly in the importance of local history; he shares in his book, 'To me local history is real history, featuring the place I live in. It wasn't about remote kings and queens - it was about everyday people within a familiar landscape.' We couldn't agree more!

If you would like to purchase this great read, visit www.tangentbooks.co.uk · www.bristolbooks.org





Frog Lane Pit, Coalpit Heath in around 1906. First sunk in 1853, the pit employed 258 miners until closed by the National Coal Board in 1949. © Bristol Culture (Bristol Museum & Art Gallery).

A ONCE IMPORTANT INDUSTRY - Coal -

These days it's difficult to believe that Bristol was once celebrated for its coal fields. The clanking pit heads and ugly slag heaps have long gone. Apart from the occasional sudden and unwelcome appearance of a gaping hole in a garden, or the collapse of a road, today there is little evidence of this once important industry.

Despite being of low quality and the seams thin, coal played a major role in Bristol's economic development in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Daniel Defoe reported in 1724 'tis very remarkable, that the city is so plentifully supplied with coals'. At its peak in the 1890s around 3,500 were employed in coal mining in Bristol.

Disregarding the pub's name, the collier's life was far from jolly. The coal was dug with pickaxe and shovel. It was lung-busting, backbreaking and knee-wrecking work. Some of the seams were barely four feet high so the day would be spent on hands and knees. The miner dug the coal; the collier brought the coal up from the coal-face.

The earliest mines were merely holes dug in the ground or shallow pits called 'bell pits'. Hence the name Coalpit Heath. Miners would dig down and then outwards until the pits were teetering on collapse. It was a dangerous business.



Above picture: Coalpit Heath Colliery between the first and second world wars. © Bristol Culture (Bristol Museum & Art Gallery).

Home Deliveries by Trevor Thompson and Ian Haddrell

With an increase over the past year in the number of home deliveries of on-line purchases and grocery orders, we take a look at local delivery vans from a bygone age. In many ways they were the lifeblood of the local villages particularly for the elderly and they held a special place for news and gossip, and for keeping in touch with neighbours.



Picture 2 - A fine example of the work of F. Drew & Sons. Motor Body Builders of Court Road is this delivery van for Frank Draisey of Winterbourne. From taps at the rear, paraffin oil and methylated spirits were dispensed; soaps and powders from the cupboards on the sides; brushes, pots and pans were stored on the roof. The wooden cask strapped

on the wheel arch contained vinegar.



Picture 4 - George Henry Payne, the son of William Henry Payne a grocer and shopkeeper in Coalpit Heath, established his bakery business in Woodend Road the 1890s. Delivery boy Percy Dando takes a respite from his bread round, sometime in the 1930s, to pose on Ryecroft Road with Ella Payne, daughter of George Payne, the proprietor of the business. Herbie Skidmore apparently oblivious to the photographer continues his work in the doorway of the windmill.

Picture 1 - Two businesses in Woodend Road, opposite Zion Chapel, run by members of the Hale family, about 1920. John Hale on the left, a saddler and leather worker, stands in the doorway of his shop. His son Roland John Hale is standing outside of his butchers shop. Roland's business lasted until 1938 and John Hale died in the 1940s. Roland Hale's butchers shop became The Frampton Cotterell Cycle Depot in 1946, this survived until the start of the new millennium when it was demolished for a new house and garage.



Picture 3 - Florence Draisey drives a Morris Cowley shop on wheels for her father Frank. Florence also developed a drapery section in the Draisev hardware shop in Woodend Road: the business closed about 1950 following Frank's death. One of the headlights appears to be covered indicating that this is wartime and the 'black-out' is in operation.



Picture 5 - The two ladies standing in Park Avenue with their traditional bread baskets are Royston Payne's niece, Ina Hale (daughter of Roland Hale and Rebe Payne) on the left, and Marion Bowyer who drove the bread van. This was 1948 and home deliveries continued into the 1960s.



Picture 7 – Times and modes of transport have moved on particularly for Watts' bakery, which is now making deliveries in motorised transport. Is that John Palmer Watts standing by the van?



Picture 9 - The Frampton Cotterell & District Cooperative Society was founded in 1894 and by 1900 had 230 members and were involved in a range of business activities; flour, bakery, grocery, coal, drapery, tailoring, and ironmongery. The Co-op delivered bread as did Brookmans bakery. The former Co-op shop in Woodend Road is now part of NISA.

For all of you interested in local history, this article was provided by members of the Frampton Cotterell and District Local History Society, who in normal times meet monthly for interesting talks and meetings. These are obviously not possible at this time due to Covid but you can head over to their Facebook page: Frampton Cotterell and District Local History Society to be kept up to date and receive regular posts on lots of local historical gems.



Picture 6 - J.P. Watts of Church Road, Frampton Cotterell also had a delivery van. Watts who came to Frampton Cotterell from Iron Acton took over the bakery and confectionery business from his former employee Harry Eaves. Horse-drawn baker's delivery vans were prominent in the area as four bakers in Coalpit Heath and Frampton Cotterell provided strong competition for the daily loaf.



Picture 8 - A competitor of Payne and Watts was William Davis of Church Lane, Frampton Cotterell whose business was established in the 19th century. These light, two-wheeled domestic delivery vans were a common sight during the 1930s.



Are You Lonely? Are You Isolated?

Four Towns Community Transport was founded in 1999 and merged with Vale Link Community Transport in 2005. We are a registered charity controlled by an unpaid board of Trustees. We provide transport to those members of the community who, for whatever reason, cannot use existing transport services.

Our aim is to promote social inclusion within South Gloucestershire by helping residents to be self-sufficient and maintain their personal independence. We provide essential travel (supported by South Gloucestershire Council) for Diamond Travel Card holders as well as social trips for leisure. If you do not have a Diamond Travel Card you may still be able to become a member of 4T&VL and pay to use our services.

We make over 90,000 trips each year taking people to:

- The supermarket and other shops
- Work or education
- Lunches, on social visits and local trips
- GP and hospital appointments

Who can use our services?

You need to live in the Four Towns and Vale Link area: Almondsbury, Alveston, Aust, Bradley Stoke, Charfield, Cromhall, Falfield, Filton, Frampton Cotterell, Hallen, Hill, Oldbury on Severn, Olveston. Patchway, Pilning, Severn Beach, Rockhampton, Stoke Gifford, Thornbury, Tortworth, Tytherington, Winterbourne

ONE or more of the following must apply:

- Aged 60 years or more
- Have special needs
- Be on benefits
- Have access problems
- Be a Diamond Travel Card Holder

You'll need to become a member

Four Towns and Vale Link will be offering free membership for the year from April 2021. This will be for our existing members (who paid last year.) From the April renewal date.

For each new member there will be no change in fee this year. Its only £15.00 to join, with group membership remaining at only £20.00 for a full year.



a £2 charge per single journey and £4 per return journey, payable to the driver on local iournevs with us. For more information about obtaining a Diamond Travel card contact South Gloucestershire Council.

If your journey takes you over certain boundaries, charges will apply. We will advise you of this at the time of booking.

Social Car Scheme

If we can't get you onto one of our Ring-and-Ride services we will try to get you transport with one of our volunteer drivers in their own car. This costs 45p per mile from your drivers starting point to your destination and return to the drivers starting point.

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Frampton Cotterell Computer Group

At the beginning of 2020. Frampton Cotterell Computer Group was looking forward to

celebrating its twentieth anniversary.

Unfortunately in March 2020 it was forced to suspend its activities due to Coronavirus restrictions. When the first lockdown restrictions were lifted, the group restarted in September in a limited way and with appropriate C-oronavirus precautions to help people who had specific questions about use of their computers or tablets. However they were forced to close again when the second lockdown was introduced. Now the group is hoping to reopen in 2021 as more people become vaccinated and restrictions are lifted.

Although younger people have grown up with computers, many older people have had limited experience of them in either their working or personal life. The group aims to help them improve their knowledge and understanding either through structured exercises which people can work through at their own pace or by answering specific questions which people raise. Because of the informal nature of the group people can also learn from each other as they try different things.

For the latest information contact the Brockeridge Centre, Tel 01454 864442, or visit the Computer Group website www.fccomputergroup.uk.

Frampton Cotterell Computer Group

If you would like to learn how to use your computer or brush up on old skills, we are here to help you with one to one and group sessions. We meet at The Brockeridge Centre, Woodend Road Frampton Cotterell.

To enquire about future sessions

Tel: 01454 864442

Visit: www.fccomputergroup.uk

Carers supporting carers

Do you look after someone? Or perhaps you know someone who does? Families often provide crucial care for someone who couldn't manage without their help.

If you look after someone, you might find yourself going round and round in circles fighting for services. It's easy to feel overwhelmed and confused, particularly if you are new to caring, or your caring situation has changed.

Everyone's caring situation is different, but sometimes it can help to talk to someone who has been in a similar situation. You may be new to caring and simply don't know what support is available. Or perhaps something has changed and you are having to tackle a new set of challenges, from incontinence, dementia, or balancing caring with work.

Local charity. Carers Support Centre, is offering a service to link carers up with a trained mentor who is also a carer (or former carer) in a similar caring situation. Your mentor will share their own experience and help you understand what support is available. Sajid is a local parent carer and has been having regular phone calls with his mentor, Kelly. He said:

"My phone calls with Kelly have been really helpful. A few ideas have come up that I can put into practical use. Obviously, there are a lot of restrictions at the moment, but I've taken note of Kelly's suggestions and am looking forward to future support."

Volunteer mentor, Kelly has also been enjoying her phone calls with Sajid. She said:

"Mentoring has been going really well. I have two carers I support and the feedback from both has been very good. I appreciate caring is a hard job and how lonely it can be, and so I'm happy to help them. They are both very appreciative.

Being a mentor is very rewarding. I gain satisfaction that I'm helping somebody who is in a situation that I've been in. I've been a carer - I still am a carer - and over the years I've gained knowledge and experience that I can pass on."

You could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or substance misuse problems. To find out more or for an informal chat about mentoring, contact Judy Porter at Carers Support Centre:

JudyP@carerssupportcentre.org.uk 07591 401 129 • www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk



Local oxygen therapy may be successful for long-covid

The Brightwell Centre in Bradley Stoke has been providing oxygen therapy in its barochamber benefitting those with Multiple Sclerosis, neurological and many other conditions for over 35 years. Oxygen therapy at pressure (utilising the barometric chambers) is now also being seen to be beneficial in easing many of the symptoms for people living with the effects of long-covid.

Following on from the improvements reported by a number of people living with long-covid in many countries, The Brightwell (along with other MS Therapy Centres across the UK) is now providing this service to those struggling with long-covid symptoms.

Patients currently undergoing oxygen therapy at The Brightwell report that they are already feeling the benefits. One such person who has been living with the symptoms of long-covid for the last eleven months, has had 20 sessions of oxygen therapy over the last 5 weeks and has reported a considerable improvement in their general condition, with the resolution of aggressive shooting pain and clearing of brain fog, permanent headaches and word blindness. In addition, they have reported that they are no longer fatigued and for the first time in many months feel like they are returning to their pre-covid selves.

Concerns have been expressed recently by Kamlesh Khunti, a professor from the University of Leicester who sits on SAGE, that the likely numbers of those who may end up suffering from longcovid could exceed those who have been hospitalized or have died from the virus.

Research is ongoing worldwide to find an answer to this serious complication to the virus but whilst the world waits for trials to be completed, high dose oxygen may have a major part to play.

Doro Pasantes, Centre Manager for The Brightwell says "We are pleased to be able to offer oxygen therapy, which may be a simple aid to recovery". Details of how to access this therapy can be found on the following website thebrightwell.org.uk.



Winterbourne Down Village Carnival 2021

Although the Winterbourne Down Village Carnival is not able to take place this year due to Covid, the hard-working committee are keen to remain in the community's eye and are planning some great events and initiatives for 2021.

Over the May bank holiday weekend/week, the committee are busy preparing a Village Walk focusing on historical buildings and features in and around Winterbourne Down. Families will be able to follow the walk by scanning QR Codes on their smart phones, at the various points of interest, Final details will be available on their new website www. winterbournedowncarnival.co.uk and Facebook page www.facebook.com/wdcarnival.

The team are also in the process of setting up a 'Virtual Fair', which will give local organisations and businesses the opportunity to promote themselves 'On Line' under the auspices of the Carnival. Again, details when available, will be posted on the website and Facebook page. Previous supporters have been contacted but if others would like to take advantage of this initiative then please do get in touch.



Finally, the committee are hoping to be able to install somewhere in the village a 'Chatty Bench'. The idea behind this is that people will use the bench to meet others for a (socially distanced of course) chat. This is particularly beneficial to those who may be struggling with the isolation that these strange times have forced upon us.

www.winterbournedowncarnival.co.uk Facebook: wdcarnival

On behalf of Frampton Festival

Taking our lead from Glastonbury, the Frampton Festival will be taking a break during 2021, due to the uncertainty around the Covid-19 pandemic. The festival committee are working with Frampton Cotterell Parish Council to secure the use of the Centenary Field (off Mill Lane) for the return of the festival in mid July 2022. Currently access to the Centenary Field is partially blocked, but it is hoped that this can be resolved by the time the festival returns in 2022.

This decision includes the annual open air service of worship which usually takes place on the Sunday of the Festival Weekend.

Background Information:

The Frampton Festival is a popular community event run by a group of volunteers, held on a Saturday afternoon/evening in the middle of July. The festival offers a range of activities and entertainments for all ages – from fairground rides for toddlers, circus acts for all ages, special guests such as Peppa Pig, brass bands and our headline acts later into the evening. The grand finale is the lighting of the beacon and an amazing firework display.



The Festival offers an opportunity for local charities and community groups to have a stall at the festival for fundraising or awareness-raising purposes.

The festival is funded by a blend of income from advertising, donations from sponsors, grants from organisations, and collections of the gate from festival-goers. It would be impossible to run the festival without the support of local groups, such as the scouts and guides, and our team of regular suppliers who often donate goods and services.

For further information contact the committee secretary: info@framptonfestival.co.uk

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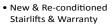
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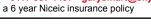
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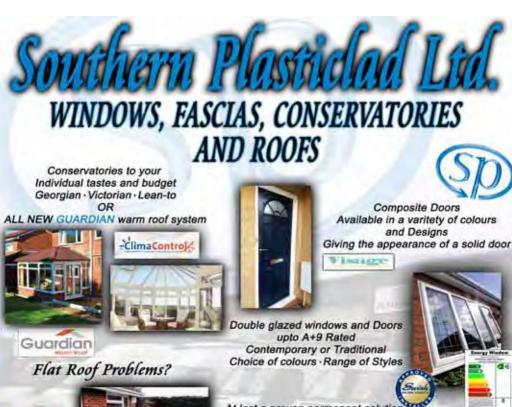




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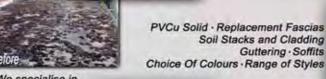
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