

SpeedWatch teams out to catch the A4 speeders

The volunteer **Community SpeedWatch** team has had several sessions recording traffic speeds and caught a few speeding, according to co-ordinator Sarah Whatley.

“I think the highest recorded was doing 55mph, but it does show there is an issue with speeding vehicles. We are sharing a device in two week rotations with Great Bedwyn. After a session, I check the VRM (numberplate) on the Government Registration checker to make sure the correct details were recorded. I then have to complete a spreadsheet on the Wiltshire police 'Duty' system.”

Currently volunteers work in teams of three. One person operates the recording device which works by a laser beam. One person has a 'clicker' to record the number of cars passing in this direction allowing Wilts Police to understand the ratio of speeders within the traffic flow, and also notes the first part of the VRM. The third person notes the second half of the VRM and records the details.

“We have three locations we are allowed to use. One is outside The Old Post Office at the bottom of Brewhouse Hill. The second is on the corner of Church Road and the third is the driveway of The Lodge opposite the College. These have been chosen by Wiltshire Police so as to have refuge space should a driver ever decide to drive at us!”

However, so far, Sarah says, the teams have found that being easy to spot in their high-vis vests means drivers “slap their brakes on before the device can get a reading so crawl past at 30 when you can see they were going much faster!”

“We've also been told that drivers going in the opposite direction are flashing their lights as a warning, which is annoying! Still, it's making drivers slow down if even for a short while and it's about being a visible deterrent.”

Each SpeedWatch session is for one hour and we currently have 10 volunteers. Residents can still get involved by contacting Sarah via the Parish Clerk on clerk@froxfield.org. With more people, the teams can get out more frequently and have a change to become an effective and regular deterrent to speeding in the village.

“There has been a bit of abuse in the form of rude gestures, and the odd swear word, but lots of drivers just wave and acknowledge what we're doing.”

Drivers caught by a CSW group will receive a letter from the police. Says Sarah; “Hopefully it will make people think twice about speeding. If a driver is caught again, they get further more strongly worded letters and eventually this will lead to prosecution.”

Late Summer Fun in Froxfield

The village is coming back to life — kicking off with the:

Froxfield Beer & Music Festival

This coming Saturday 21st! Organised by Pat and Barry Adams, the Beers will be provided by **Hop Kettle Brewery** and **Ramsbury Brewery** a Local Bands & Musicians will entertain on the village green throughout the afternoon. The event will kick off with the newly-formed The Villagers (clue is in the name!) After this, the famous Phoenix Brass band will take the stage, then the afternoon will rock and roll on from there. There will be 'Open Mic' opportunities throughout the afternoon. As the sun sets, the action moves into Memorial Hall with disco to dance the night away — £2 a ticket entry. So, boogie on down to Froxfield this Saturday!



A fabulous weekend of events

The Froxfield Festival 2021 is set to take place over **Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th September** with — profits to support our All Saints Church!

This begins with a Community Market on the village green.

Would you like to take a stall at the market? Contact Pat Adams on 07710 224387 or Jan Heppenstall on 07786 138888.

We are also seeking Silent Auction Prizes.

Hootenanny Hoedown...

Iron those gingham skirts, brush off those chaps... and mosey on down to the Memorial Hall for the Saturday evening Barn Dance.

It's family fun with supper included!

Tickets are £20 per adult, £15 for OAPs/Children but there is a family ticket for £50.

Highlight of the Sunday events will be the **Music Concert** in the Church between 6pm - 8pm. Froxfield's got Talent. Would you share yours at the concert — its an all local showcase.

Call Pat or Jan for more information and for tickets to the Barn Dance.



**Saturday 4th Sept, 2-5pm
Community Market ***

£10
per pitch

on The Village Green

- Foods Market
- Pimms & Beer Tent
- Flower Competition & Festival in the church
- Morris Dancers
- Art & Craft Stalls
- Fête Games & so much more!

£20
per adult
£15
OAP/child

**Saturday 4th Sept
7.30-11pm**

£50
family

Barn Dance! *
in The Village Hall

All the family welcome. Food included.

* All tickets and pitch spaces available from Pat on 07710 224387 or Jan on 07786 138888
Sponsors, offers for the silent auction & volunteer helpers very much welcomed.

BACS transfer details: Sort Code: 30-94-46 Account no: 00046088.

Please put your full name as the reference.

**Sunday 5th at 9.30am
Harvest Festival Service**
at Froxfield Church

**Sunday 5th Sept, 2-4pm
Children's Activities**

- on The Village Green
- Sand Book Mark making!
- Gems, minerals & fossil hunting
- Teas & Cakes available

**Sunday 5th Sept
6-8pm
Music Concert**

Local music talent to entertain you!
Please come and join in.

Donations
welcome



4th & 5th September 2021

More events are taking place. Check out the poster above and on www.froxfield.org website.

We need volunteers... to help clear weeds from around the new Froxfield Nature Reserve hedge - this Saturday morning from 10am

The new **Froxfield Water Meadow Nature Reserve** has been growing rapidly and we hope that local residents and visitors are enjoying the new boardwalk built largely by volunteers and spotting birds, insects and wildlife taking up residence. We are now looking at starting a series of volunteer-led maintenance and enhancement of the area.

Froxfield Nature Reserve needs you!



Saturday 21st August 10am—1pm

Community Hedge Care

Advanced booking essential

email james@riverkennet.org

Bring your shears or borrow a pair of ours and help control encroaching vegetation that is smothering the new hedgerow



riverkennet



www.riverkennet.org

First major focus is to keep the wild-life hedge thriving. This has been planted over a couple of years and is growing strongly, but also is easily overgrown by the vigorous weeds.

James King, who is Project Officer at ARK, has agreed to come to the village on the morning of **21st of August** to help lead a '**Community Hedge Care**' volunteering morning.

It will be an opportunity to put in an hour or two's work and then enjoy a well-earned beer at the Beer & Music Festival in the afternoon.

The work will involve cutting back all the encroaching vegetation in and around the young hedge plants. We had our groundsmen do a rough cut about a month ago, but this now needs some hands-on close cutting.

I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to get involved — if you can spare any time at all, that would be great — it doesn't need to be an entire morning. Even half an hour would be a help.

For this activity, please email ARK's James King to add your name to the list: **james@riverkennet.org**.

It is anticipated that next summer we will do a couple of similar hedge care mornings until the plants are well-established. Further towards the Autumn we will be looking to cut back some strategic areas of the water meadow and rake away the vegetation, to encourage more diversity.



Police and Crime Commissioner Election

Remember to send back your postal vote pack

wiltshire.gov.uk/elections

#WiltshireElections

Wiltshire Council

The Police & Crime Commissioner Election #2 is happening TOMORROW!! The polling station is at the Memorial Hall.

Find out more about the candidates in the re-run election. Follow this link:
<https://www.choosemypcc.org.uk/area/wiltshire>. Postal Votes must be received by 10am tomorrow, but if you are too late to post yours, completed postal vote packs can also be handed in at the polling station.

Become a Parish Councillor

We have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. The current team are Vanya Body (Chair), Steve Heppenstall (Vice Chair), Claire Wilson, Colonel Toby Till MBE, Arran Miles and Rob Smith. The council should have seven serving members who broadly represent the different interests of the village. Are you interested in getting more actively involved in the community of Froxfield? Why not get in touch with our Clerk Esther Cope on clerk@froxford.org or talk to Vanya on v.body@froxford.org.

Help us to keep in touch with you...

This newsletter is being emailed out to residents of Froxfield who have signed up to our email news service. Parish Clerk Esther Cope holds a list of those wanting to be kept abreast of the PC's activities and being informed about opportunities to get involved as with village projects. If you are not already on this email broadcast list and would like to be, send your details to Esther on our dedicated news email address: froxfordPCnews@mail.com.

• WE WILL NOT SHARE YOUR NAME WITH ANY OTHER ORGANISATION AND INFORMATION SENT TO YOU WILL RELATE TO FROXFIELD VILLAGE MATTERS.

Parish Council Meetings are held in the Memorial Hall See our website www.froxford.org for dates, agendas and minutes. The next Parish Council meeting will be in September.