

# The Croak

The newsletter of the Frogmore Village Community Association  
[www.frogmore.info](http://www.frogmore.info)



The 'A' Team  
Alison & Gethin



## A RED-LETTER DAY FOR FROGMORE

Thanks to the generosity of parishioners and friends of Frogmore our beautiful 1930s designed K6 red telephone box has returned in full livery, ready to play an important role in our community.

A big thank you to our own Alison Balasingam and Gethin Thomas. Over 70 % of the costs were donated through their campaigning and now they are taking the vision forward.

With support from the FVCA and the Parish Council, 'Frogmore Box Buddies' (formerly 'The Friends of Frogmore Phone Box' group), will be rolling out plans and promotions over coming days, to be implemented as soon as the lifting of Covid restrictions allow. A book exchange, themed competitions and a time capsule are in the mix and an opening event is promised once we can all gather together again. More info re Frogmore Box Buddies on page 3.

An able team of volunteers helped prepare the new site alongside the village hall. But special thanks go to Antony Marshall, MBM for donating time, materials, manpower and expertise in laying a strong concrete base and surround for our magnificent 762-kilo cast iron heritage icon.



Laying the foundations



The phone box arrives



Swinging into place



Wraps lifted off

**Whilst every care is taken to ensure that the contents of the Croak are correct, the FVCA does not guarantee the accuracy, and cannot accept liability for the consequences of any error in the material. The Croaks are also published on line on our website as well as delivered to your home.**

## WELCOME TO NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Tim Trumper



Juliette Bird



Don Scargill

At the AGM in January, we welcomed onto the Committee, Tim Trumper, Juliette Bird and Don Scargill. They only recently came to Frogmore to live and were immediately keen to help in any way they could. Jenny and Paul Harding, both Treasurer and Chairman, were very valued by the Committee, and they retired when they left the village to live near Totnes. However, Juliette and Tim have taken on the roles of Tim as Chairman and Juliette as Treasurer and they, and Don too as Trustee, will be invaluable Trustees of the Committee. Very many thanks to Juliette, Tim and Don. As you will see above, I have added their photos too!

## 20 MPH IS PLENTY FOR FROGMORE



Following last autumn's publicity, over 100 parishioners confirmed that they were right behind the campaign to have a Frogmore speed limit reduction to 20 mph, similar to many of our neighbouring villages.

The Parish Council has thrown its weight behind the cause and our Devon County Councillor, Julian Brazil, is pushing for a policy change for supported schemes across the whole county. The County Council has initiated a trial to test the impact of an area-wide 20 mph limit on almost all roads in Newton Abbot. Their evaluation will be critical in determining lessons and opportunities for future schemes. Meanwhile we are not alone, as local campaigns continue to spring up across the country.

A number of people have already supplied graphic descriptions of the dangers and fears we face from traffic speeding through our narrow roads. The 20 is Plenty team is now gathering more evidence and recorded speed data. Don't be surprised if you see someone with a small hand-held speed recording device and a clipboard. No-one is going to be charged for speeding, other than by the Police, but our own traffic speed model will be important evidence in pressing our case. The recording device is a Pocket Radar, specifically developed for neighbourhood groups, funded by the Parish Council. The watchword for Croak readers is therefore *'mind how you go!'*

To get involved contact Peter Hadley [aphadley@talktalk.net](mailto:aphadley@talktalk.net) or any FVCA trustee.

## PETER THE PENGUIN ARRIVES IN FROGMORE!

Our very own resident, Peter Hadley donned a penguin suit to waddle around Frogmore looking for a fish or two from the Creek for dinner and raising funds for **Comic Relief**.

Thanks to so many people who gave generously and welcomed him with a smile on his trip round the village. Well done to Peter Penguin!



**ANNOUNCING  
THE NEW "FROGMORE BOX BUDDIES" FACEBOOK PAGE  
by Gethin Thomas**



Now that the phone box is back and in its new home outside the village hall, we need to consider how it will be managed in the future as a community resource. To this end, I have started a private Facebook group called The Frogmore Box Buddies (for info, speak to Gethin Thomas).

The group is open to any resident in Frogmore to join, but it is an active group aimed at Frogmore residents who wish to become active supporters of the Box project. For fans of the phone box who do not wish to take an active role or who live elsewhere but support the project, remember that the box still belongs to everyone and there is still a forum here on Spotted Frogmore where you can have your say, voice support, propose ideas etc.

As a Box Buddy, you would be taking part in a group custodianship of the phone box. Ideally, we would have at least twenty members and up to five admins of the group. All we request from buddies is to give as little or as much of your time as you are able. This could be as easy as just including the box on your daily walk to check it is neat and tidy or getting more involved in planning events and seasonal decorating, competitions, exhibitions, flower planting, maintenance etc. Box Buddies will be a forum where concerns or issues can be raised and solutions proposed. A place where ideas for future events can be planned and where new friendships may grow.

**FVCA AGM 2021**

The Committee met on 26 January 2021 to hold the AGM by zoom as Covid restrictions did not allow us to meet in the hall and invite villagers as usual. Three new members were approved as Trustees and the resignations of Jeremy Masters, Liz Davies and Paul and Jenny Harding were noted. The minutes of the meeting are on our website [www.frogmore.info](http://www.frogmore.info).

**LIME KILNS IN FROGMORE**

Devon Limekilns are an integral part of this coastline and as such we should preserve them and inform future generations about their use. Frogmore Creek has two lime kilns that sit on a stretch of foreshore popular with locals and visitors alike. These are grade 11 listed and were restored in 1996. Over the past 25 years, plants have recolonized on the kilns and a few rocks have been displaced. The Information Board has become faded and barely readable.

We therefore need to: Clear the vegetation on the kilns, and the kilns swept out and stray rocks from the field above replaced and stabilised. A survey should be conducted to ensure the structures remain stable. The illegible sign should be removed and a new information board installed in a place by the kilns where people can stand and look at it.

The FVCA Committee are at present looking into obtaining a new information board and when Covid restrictions allow, arrange a working party to remove the plants on the kilns. We are also looking into the possibility of grants to help fund this project.



## THE GLOBE INN UPDATE - GREAT NEWS!

John and Lynda are very happy to announce that they will be opening their restaurant, bar and accommodation on 17 May 2021 as per the latest Government guidelines. Of course, there will still be social distancing and Covid safety.

Lynda and John have been busy during the closure refurbishing and updating the kitchen to bring some tasty dishes when they reopen. They will also be unveiling their new outside bar in the beer garden once it is warmer.

HURRAH!

## CLASSES/SOCIAL EVENTS UPDATE

As you probably all know, Covid restrictions do not allow classes or social events to take place at the present time. Hopefully, this may all improve as summer arrives or later.

The FVCA Committee have already cancelled the Regatta this year and this will stay as cancelled. If any new social events or classes become Government permissible, we will be sure to let you all know via the Croak and Website [www.frogmore.info](http://www.frogmore.info).

## OUR NEW VILLAGE SHOP – 'SWELL'

On behalf of the Frogmore Village Community Association, we offer a warm welcome to Peter and Wendy Dickinson on the opening of our new village shop. Renamed 'Swell', they will be offering tasty take food, proper coffee and some village grocery essentials. Wendy also runs a homewares online shop [www.wanderlustwares.co.uk](http://www.wanderlustwares.co.uk) so her beautiful stock will be available to buy when Covid restrictions are lifted.

We are delighted that our old bakery building is being brought back to life at the centre of the Frogmore community. And special thanks to Neal and Annette Smith who have worked tirelessly and caringly in renovating and fitting-out the shop and the flats above.



## THE VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK – POLITE NOTICE

It has become apparent, that villagers are parking their cars/vans in the village hall car park. May we remind you that this is private property and is owned by the FVCA. There are notices in the car park to let everyone know that this is private land except for the purpose of attending the hall. We also need to do a tidy up of the car park. Please can those people remove their cars.

Many thanks  
FVCA Committee

## NATURE NOTES by Amanda Starkey - Robins



The past twelve months have seen a nationwide interest in wildlife, from garden visitors to flora and fauna in any open spaces. There has been an increase in the number of robins in my garden, as in many others. The recent RSPB Big Garden Watch reported a boom in the number of these wonderful little birds.

Robins are territorial, as anyone with a bird table will know! It seems that several couples have adjoining territories in the fields behind my house. It is a joy to walk up the garden to see and hear them, always the first birds to greet me, they are very tame. It makes digging over the vegetable patch almost tempting!

I wondered what was singing during the night and some research has shown that it is not a nightingale but a friendly robin! Robins are birds that sing all year round. It is no wonder they are such garden favourites.