



# SHOP NEWS

January 2011

## WE SURVIVED THE SNOW!

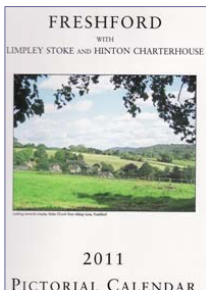
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December – when it had snowed all night and there was simply no way out of the village except by 4x4 – was our busiest ever! A reduced team of volunteers – headed by committee member Alison – worked flat out all morning baking bread, answering the phone, chasing supplies, picking some up from elsewhere when the supplier failed to get through to us. Bread, milk, eggs and vegetables were flying off the shelves faster than ever.



For some people, it was the first time they had ever come to the shop – they all promised to come again.

Rosy-faced children came out to play on the 'slopes' behind the shop bringing their toboggans and building snowmen. It wasn't too long before gaggles of them came into our café for mugs of hot chocolate and the shop soon developed that alpine atmosphere again.

An exhausted team finally locked the doors at 1 pm, feeling they had served the community well.



## OUR LAST FEW CALENDARS

There are a few copies left of Bridget Baker's lovely Freshford and Limpley Stoke calendar – 12 very beautiful and some quirky photographs, now reduced to **£2.95**.

Know anyone who has moved away and would appreciate a reminder of what they've left behind? We have stiff envelopes in the shop for posting them.

## PRICES - SOME UP (SORRY), SOME DOWN ...



Prices will go UP soon for **croissants**, Danish pastries and other store-baked items IF consumed in the café. We MUST charge and pay VAT on café items, so this means that in future there will be two different prices for store-baked goodies - one for taking home and one for eating on the premises.

BUT we will **not be charging the extra 2.5% VAT** that came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January for the non-food VATable items - the shop will absorb the difference.

We are having a serious look at our **fruit and veg prices**. We are getting a better return than expected on these items because our fruit and veg waste is quite low. Lower prices may mean higher turnover - ie fruit and veg move faster and will stay fresher. Watch this space!

On prices generally, we try our best to keep them down. Obviously they depend on what our suppliers charge us. But mistakes creep in occasionally. If the price of a particular product looks wrong - please point it out to the manager and we will check to see if something needs correcting.



## 10% OFF EVERY FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH



Mondays are usually quiet at the shop. From February we are introducing a **10% off everything** Monday at the beginning of each month. This will apply to everything in the shop and café, all day long. The first such Monday will be **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February**.

Monday afternoon is also the day when we can offer customers **a lift to the shop**, and take you home again afterwards. Come to shop, or just for a coffee and a chat! Call the shop on **723 249** and we will put you in touch with your chauffeur. We can also deliver your shopping if you need us to - any day of the week.

## RELAUNCHED FRESHFORD WEBSITE

We have been asked to draw your attention to the relaunched Freshford website **[www.freshfordvillage.com](http://www.freshfordvillage.com)** and in particular to an invitation on the front page to sign up to their newflash service which offers to send you urgent local information on matters such as road closures, imminent power cuts and police warnings. They envisage less than one email per week and it seems a good way of staying up to date. Subscribers can unsubscribe just as easily and your data will not be used for anything else. **Do check it out!**

## OUR NOTICEBOARD – AND LOCAL INFO BINDER

Our customer noticeboard is popular – it is usually crammed full of notices. Some people don't realise that there is a charge – 25p per week for a postcard size notice, more for larger formats. Only items that are totally charitable AND local AND involve no money are free. Even those notices are limited in time as there is always pressure for space.

Notices whose payment has run out are taken down – but we only discard them if they seem no longer relevant. We put most of them in our **LOCAL INFORMATION RINGBINDER** where it is available for anyone to browse through, by the café. It already contains quite a few gardeners, babysitters, and other offers of services ...



## JUNK MAIL – YOU CAN STOP IT

Did you know that you can OPT OUT of door-to-door junk mail – this is mail that is delivered by the Royal Mail to every household? A form to do this is available from the shop or you can email us for one.



## THE SEVILLE ORANGES ARE HERE

It's time to make orange marmalade!

We have all the Seville oranges you need at the shop.

Also the lemons and sugar, the jam jar covers, the recipes and some empty jam jars.

## STORE-BAKED BREAD: PLEASE CALL AHEAD!

We like to have lots of bread and croissants ready for our customers to buy off the shelves but if we bake too much, they go to waste. **YOU CAN HELP by phoning ahead!** Give us a call, tell us what you require and give us half an hour to get it ready for you. That way we can avoid both waste and disappointment.

## DON'T FORGET VALENTINE'S DAY

We will be ready for you at the shop and in the café with everything heart-shaped.



## BRING US YOUR USED PLASTIC BAGS

Used plastic bags are popular with our customers – please keep them coming! We always run out.

## REMINDER: ORGANIC VEGETABLE BOXES



If you are interested in having an organic vegibox delivered to you every Thursday please contact **Douglas Whitelaw** on Tel **07795 277070**, email him on **douglas.whitelaw@virgin.net** or complete a form at the shop. The vegetables will be grown locally – they come from Colerne just north of Bath.

Standard boxes are available in three sizes, at **£8, £12 and £16**.

## GOING SOLAR!



The Greener Together Group recently organised an information evening about solar panels. The school hall was full – a solar panel supplier gave us a very informative presentation about what's possible, and a number of residents who had already gone down that route were available to report their experiences. Planning issues were also discussed. Altogether a success!



The array of solar panels to go in a haha ditch along the top of the Galleries Field – to generate renewable energy for the shop – was given planning consent at last.

## NEXT ON OUR WALLS



The pictures on the shop walls from February will be mainly by well-known artist and shop volunteer **Jan Pitt**. Not necessarily this one!

You can see more of Jan's work on her website  
<http://janpitt.artcb.co.uk>.



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

*The Manager and Committee*

**Galleries Shop and Café** – Freshford Lane, Freshford, Bath BA2 7UR  
Tel **01225 723249** - Email **manager@galleriesshop.co.uk**

### OPENING HOURS

**Shop and café:** Monday-Friday 8-6, Saturday 8.30-12.30, Sunday 9-12.

**Post Office:** Tuesdays and Fridays 9-1