



SHOP NEWS

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February 2016

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE YOUNG

Young people in rural areas have limited access to transport and don't find it easy to obtain part-time work to earn extra pocket money, to gain practical work experience, or simply to volunteer. The Galleries Shop & Cafe does all of those things!



Many of the youngsters in our two villages take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme which requires some volunteering. This typically happens on the weekend when there is no school – and when regular shop volunteers are often thin on the ground. These youngsters are great at mastering the till, working out



how to use the price gun, finding gaps on the shelves to refill. Some stay on beyond their prescribed number of sessions – because they realise the benefit of the practical experience they gain and what it does to enhance their university applications; or simply because they have caught the volunteering bug and enjoy helping to make our great community enterprise run.



Some are so capable and dedicated that we end up employing them for a certain number of hours on the weekend. Alas this is always relatively short-term because soon they need to concentrate on their final exams or it's time to go off to university.

If you or anyone you know is interested in volunteering **please enquire in the shop.**

ART ON OUR WALLS: CAROLYN CARTER



From 13th February we will be displaying the colourful work of Bath artist **Carolyn Carter** who started as an illustrator for two greeting card companies and now works in a wide variety of media. Her watercolour and acrylic paintings are rich in colour and light, often inspired by the countryside and wildlife around her, or fables and narratives that have captured her imagination.



See more of her pictures at www.carolyncarterart.com .

WE ARE HAPPY TO REFILL WATER BOTTLES!

Tapwater.org encourages people to drink tap water – rather than buy water in plastic bottles. They encourage shops and cafés to offer tapwater refills to customers – even though this might lose them a bottled water sale. This totally fits in with our green values, so we are pleased to be listed on their [Internet map](#) – as we are happy to refill anyone's drinking bottle from our tap.



NEW RANGE OF PIES, SALADS AND QUICHES

Come and check out our new range of food from [Farrington's Farm](#) in Farrington Gurney, only 13 miles away. It is a traditional mixed farm and they fit in with our ethos as they are committed to making the best use of their land. From home-grown veg and to home-made pies, cakes and quiches their farmhouse kitchen is a hive of production. They produce over sixty varieties of vegetables in a year and have won the Countryside Alliance's **British Champions of Local Food** and FARMA UK's **Retailer of the Year** awards.



FOODBANK

In common with many other community shops, we offer the opportunity to contribute to a food bank. There is a yellow trug by the front door where you can place your contributions. It is emptied very regularly and its contents taken to the Genesis Trust in Bath who handle distribution to [Bath foodbanks](#). The following items are particularly popular and useful:



- tinned meat products
- tinned fish
- tinned potatoes
- tinned fruit
- tinned tomatoes
- tinned vegetables
- tinned soup
- tinned vegetarian meals
- long life milk
- long life fruit juice
- instant mashed potato
- cereals
- coffee
- tea
- rice, pasta, noodles
- pasta sauces
- chocolate
- tinned sponge pudding
- rice pudding
- sugar (500 g)
- biscuits
- snack bars
- jam
- feminine hygiene products
- other toiletries.

NEW: SECOND-HAND BOOKSHELF



Looking for a good read? We have put together a selection of paperback fiction - donated by volunteers and customers, all well recommended. Find it on the café window sill. Put £1 in the charity box and take a book away. We are hoping that you will bring it back after you've read it for others to enjoy - and raise more money for charity. The money will go to this year's shop charity, the **Alzheimer's Society**.

Do you have books to add that others might want to read? Please leave them at the shop in a bag labelled CHARITY BOOKS.

FLOWERS PLANTS AND SEEDS

We plan to offer cut flowers, plants and seeds in the shop shortly and would very much welcome donations of plants and seed packets produced by locals.

GALLERIES SUPPER CLUBS



Continuing our custom of offering occasional interesting evening meals in our café, we are looking forward to hosting a North Indian evening with **Taj Manku-Scott** (pictured left) and a Vietnamese feast from the celebrated **Noya** (below) of **Noya's Kitchen**. Their existing supper clubs at the Bear Pad Café in Bear Flat are booked out months in advance so this could be your chance to beat the waiting list if you

are quick! Noya will be with us on **Thursday 28th April** and we will let you know as soon as we have a date for Taj. The aim is to create a dinner party atmosphere with some spectacular home-cooked food so come along and experience something new!



PLEASE RETURN OUR BORROW BAGS

Our volunteers have donated a large number of sturdy borrow bags which we are happy to lend our customers when they don't have a bag with them to carry their shopping home. We have recently started charging a small deposit per bag to encourage borrowers to return them but still the bags are disappearing indefinitely. May we remind you to have a look around your home to see whether any of our borrow bag are languishing in a corner? If so do please bring them back! We would rather not have to increase the deposit.



NEW NAME FOR INN CROWD

The one-time **Inn Crowd** now meets at the Galleries **every second Wednesday in the month**. We are looking for a new name for it and attendants of the **9th March** lunch will be asked to vote on the suggestions received. Remember a meal with dessert and coffee is just **£7.50**. You need to be retired to qualify ... Please book ahead on **723249**.

UNSUNG HERO – RENÉ CLOSVIT



René owned and ran the village shop in Limpley Stoke – back in the late nineties when it was still a successful concern. Alas his successors did not manage to keep it alive. However, René was an invaluable member of our original shop planning committee, contributing all manner of expertise in the three years it took to bring the Galleries Shop about and the six years since. He not only contributes a regular weekly shift, but reminds us when the fridges need defrosting, researches shop equipment, and even helps with DIY. He is also a regular café customer, bringing a faithful Tuesday

morning crowd with him. The Galleries would not be the success it is if René hadn't been around at every stage, making a valuable contribution. **THANK YOU RENÉ!**

NO 94 BUS – USE IT OR LOSE IT

Both **Wiltshire** and **Bath & NE Somerset Councils** are having to make budget cuts and once again the Council-subsidised extra bus services are under threat. This includes our popular **No 94** bus which not only offers us five journeys into Bath and back every day but also serves to bring our residents to the Galleries. Wiltshire CC are currently consulting on this. You can make your views known at <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/subsidised-bus-services-consultation.htm> . BathNES consultation is likely to follow.



SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thur 18th , Fri 19th Feb 7:30 pm; Sat 20th 5:30; Sun 21st Feb 2:30 pm	Freshford Music & Drama Group presents Babes in the Wood at Freshford Village Hall . Tickets from Galleries Shop 10-12 every morning
Friday 26th February 7pm for 7:30 pm	Friends of Freshford Quiz night at Freshford Village Hall . Tickets are £10 per person , on the door. Cold meats and cheese platter followed by delicious ice cream. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Teams of six. More info from John Ager on 722374 .
Saturday 5th March 9.45 am	World Book Day. Children's book-reading event at Freshford Village Hall with local children's author Maudie Smith
Wednesday 9th March 12:30 and every 2 nd Wed/month	Lunch for the one-time Inn Crowd at Galleries , for retired folk. Meal with dessert and coffee £7.50 . Booking required.
Saturday 12th March 2pm	Jumble sale at Freshford Village Hall for the benefit of this year's shop charity, the Alzheimer's Society . Drop items off at the Hall from 10 am that day or call Alison Orme on 723606 for collection.
Sunday 20th March 2-5 pm	Easter Trail around the village for families. Start and end at Freshford Primary School
Thursday 28th April 7:30 pm	NEW: Supper Club at the Galleries Café! This time: Authentic Vietnamese Home Cooking by Noya.
Sun Wed & Fri 5-8 pm	Vito's pizzas sold from Freshford Village Hall car park.

Galleries Shop and Café – Freshford Lane, Freshford, Bath BA2 7UR

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OPENING HOURS

Shop: Monday-Friday 8-6, Saturday 8.30-12.30, Sunday 9-12.30

Café: Monday-Friday 9-4, Saturday 9-12.30, Sunday 9-12.30

Post Office: Tuesdays and Fridays 9-1

Easter: Sunday closed; Good Friday and Easter Monday: 9-12:30