



# THE BRIDGE

May  
2022

A monthly magazine covering people and events in our area of the Cotswolds, and delivered to Aldsworth, Asthall, Asthall Leigh, the Barringtons, Bradwell Village, Burford, Field Assarts, Fordwells, Fulbrook, Holwell, Northleach, Sherborne, Shilton, Signet, Swinbrook, Taynton, Upton, Westwell, Widford, Windrush. *Volume 13, Number 4, £1.50*



A night view of Witney Street in Burford kindly provided by Alastair Thomas

There is a massive amount of events taking place in our neck of the woods over the next few weeks. Politics is in the news. With a few exceptions (fill in a name to your taste) we are sure that most people who enter local or national politics do so in the genuine hope that they can do something to make life a little better for the public. This month there are elections for two district council wards in our area. Control of the district council might change, so your vote could make a difference. The three main candidates for the Burford ward make their pitch in this edition, while Derek Cotterill has provided a valedictory article on stepping down as a councillor after 16 years of unstinting toil.

There is also (unusually) a contested election for Burford Town Council, swiftly followed by the Queen's **Platinum Jubilee celebrations on Sunday 5 June**. Matthew Freud is kindly opening the front lawn of The Priory for the Jubilee celebrations, where he has generously arranged a funfair for the town to enjoy. Hot on their heels will be the Burford Festival, a welcome return, the popular fete in Taynton, a ball, concerts and much else.

Please note in particular the **Mayor's reception on Thursday 9 June** (all are invited) when Service to Burford Medals will be presented.

*Editors*



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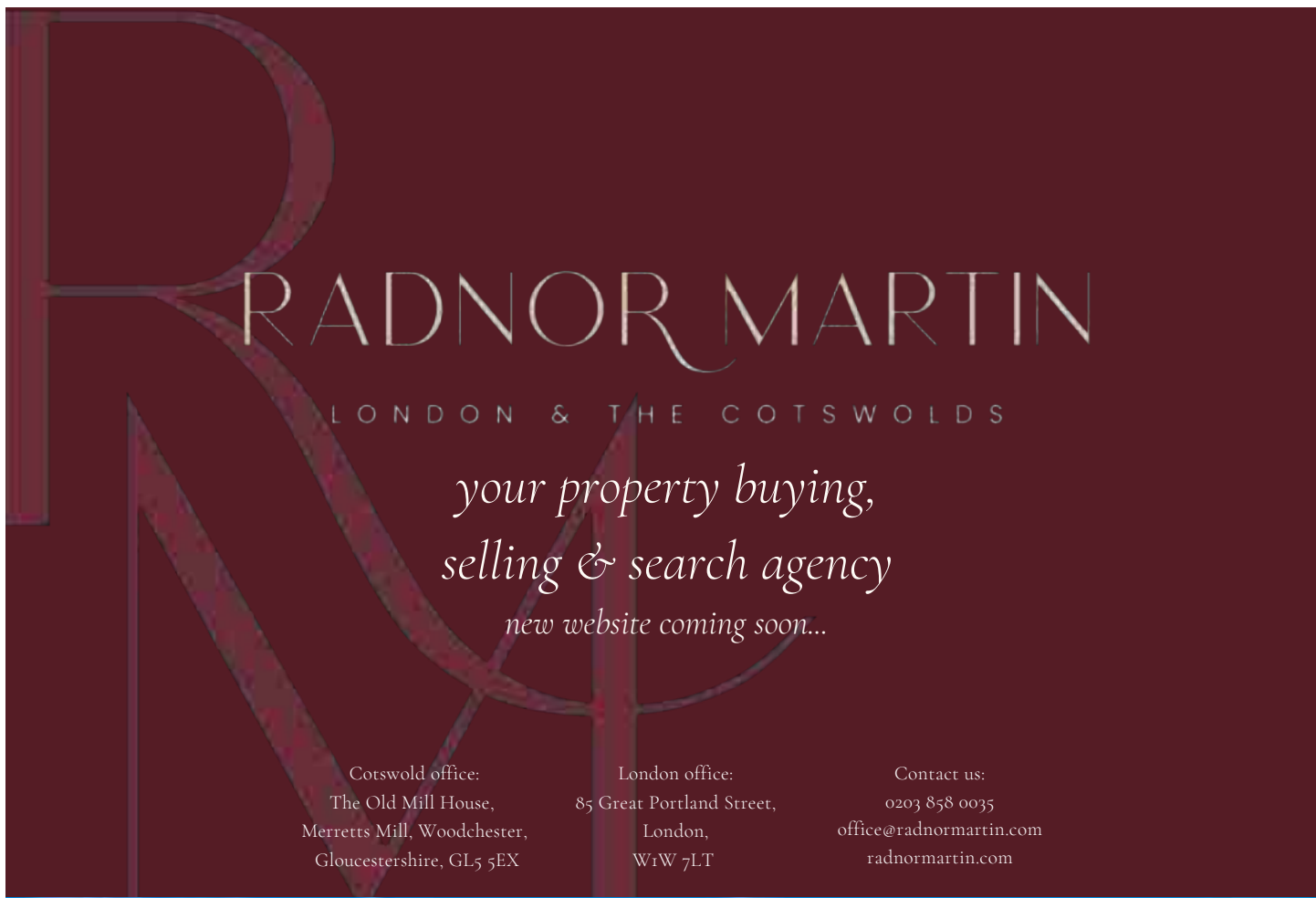
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**Burford Surgery** 01993 822176  
[www.burfordsurgery.co.uk](http://www.burfordsurgery.co.uk)

**Burford Town Council**  
Tolsey office open Monday, Wednesday  
and Friday between 9.00 am and 11.30 am 01993 823647  
Email [town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk)  
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**Carterton Health Centre** 01993 841718  
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Oxfordshire County Councillor  
Nicholas Field-Johnson 01993 878309  
**Post Office** 01993 822209  
[stephencolter@aol.com](mailto:stephencolter@aol.com)

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*Please let us know if any details need  
amending.*

[editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk](mailto:editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk)



# BURFORD FESTIVAL 9-19 JUNE

## Box Office Opens 1 May



Some events have limited availability and we expect others to sell out very quickly so please book early to avoid disappointment. To buy tickets either go directly to [www.ticketsource.co.uk/burford-festival](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/burford-festival) or go to the festival website [www.burfordfestival.org](http://www.burfordfestival.org) where you can find details of each event, organised in date order, and, from 1 May onwards, a link that will take you directly through to

the relevant page on ticket source.

If you don't have access to the internet or if you are having trouble with ticket source then the reception team at the Warwick Hall have kindly offered to help: just visit them between 10am and 2pm on any weekday. Please remember to take your credit card as we can't accept cash payments.

Please note some events like the Mayor's reception and the Family Fun Afternoon don't require tickets so do not appear on ticket source. Tickets for Burford Jazz and the Burford Singers concerts can be obtained directly from their respective websites.

## Something for everyone

Hopefully by now you will have had a chance to look at the full programme of events either in the brochure or on our website. As you will see there is a really wide selection of events this year with Music, Tours, Speakers, Workshops, Authors, Food, Drama, Gardens, Competitions, Fashion and a Traders Market.

If you would like extra copies of the brochure there are plenty available in the Warwick Hall.

## Help needed

The Burford Festival is only possible because of the huge numbers of volunteers and helpers who give up their time to serve teas, make cakes, open their gardens, steward events, marshal carparks and put out chairs, posters or bunting. If you could do any of these things even if it is just on one day in June then please sign up on the website or email [ann@burfordfestival.org](mailto:ann@burfordfestival.org).



## Specific needs



For the Family Fun Afternoon: is for any children entertainers willing to help on Saturday 18 June eg Face painters, Magicians or Balloon makers etc. Please contact Lucy Staveley at [Lucy.staveley@gmail.com](mailto:Lucy.staveley@gmail.com).

For the Fashion Show 18 June: We need models, no previous experience needed! Please contact Jane Arnell [Events@burfordfestival.org](mailto:Events@burfordfestival.org) or 07778520371

Vintage Tea Cups: Thanks you for the many donations of vintage tea cups we have so far but we could still do with a few more if anyone has any they no longer want. We are happy to collect. Contact [Adrian@burfordfestival.org](mailto:Adrian@burfordfestival.org)

*Sara Hall, Adrian Jackson, Jane Arnell, Jennie Craven, John Hendry and Ann and Karl Morris*

## An Evening by The River on Friday 17 June

### Line-Up Change for Burford Festival

Café Fifteen apologises that due to circumstances beyond our control, our friends The Bottomless Coffee Band have postponed their much anticipated return to the UK until next summer.

The good news is that An Evening By The River will now feature our equally good friends and previous Festival favourites, Mannix Lee and Sal Mirabile plus support, and that tickets for this event will be at the lower price of £15.00 from the Festival Box Office.

Full details of this event including the availability of food and drink will soon be available on both the Café Fifteen and Festival websites [www.cafefifteen.co.uk](http://www.cafefifteen.co.uk) [www.burfordfestival.org](http://www.burfordfestival.org)

*Allan Read*

## BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Time for a change.....



On 5 May we have the local elections for both the district councillor for Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton, and Burford Town Council. After 16 years of service to us, Derek Cotterill is standing down as our district councillor, so we will elect a new councillor to serve us. Also, a few of the town councillors are stepping down, so there are changes afoot. I hope most of

you will exercise your democratic right and vote in the two elections. Polling for both councils for Burford residents will take place at the Warwick Hall, Burford from 7.00am to 10.00pm on Thursday 5 May, or by postal vote if you have applied for that. It would be good to have a fully elected town council with as many electors voting as possible. This time there are 13 candidates for the 11 seats.

I must say "thank you" to Derek for his support of Burford town and the town council as our councillor at WODC for so many years; he will be sorely missed. I can only hope we will elect a district councillor who really understands and looks after our local interests as effectively as Derek has done, as Burford is such a unique and special community in West Oxfordshire.

Your new council will start their term with the Jubilee celebrations followed closely by the Burford Festival. In addition, they will have to take on the appeal which has now been lodged for planning on Cole's Field, and longer term, work on an HGV strategy for the area with OCC to protect the town, and plan improvements to the recreation ground and play area.

The council has now planted our Jubilee Oak Tree on the triangle of land to the east of Shilton Road. It should outlive us all.

We are now "living with Covid" according to the government. It seems Covid listened and has made the most of this. Cases here are higher than ever, as I can personally vouch for! We can only hope it burns itself out with the wonderful theory of "herd immunity" that was mentioned in the early days of Covid. Time will tell.

I hope many of you will have attended the annual Town Meeting at the Warwick Hall to ask questions and raise suggestions to the town council. It is the best chance we have of listening to you all so that we can try to improve the town as you wish. As a council, we do have limited powers, but we can also carry some weight with both WODC and OCC in lobbying for changes. The improvement of the western High Street pavement is a good example of this.

This may be my last offering as Mayor. If so, thanks for reading; if not, see you all in the June edition.

*Peter Higgs - Mayor*

## WODC COUNCILLOR REPORT

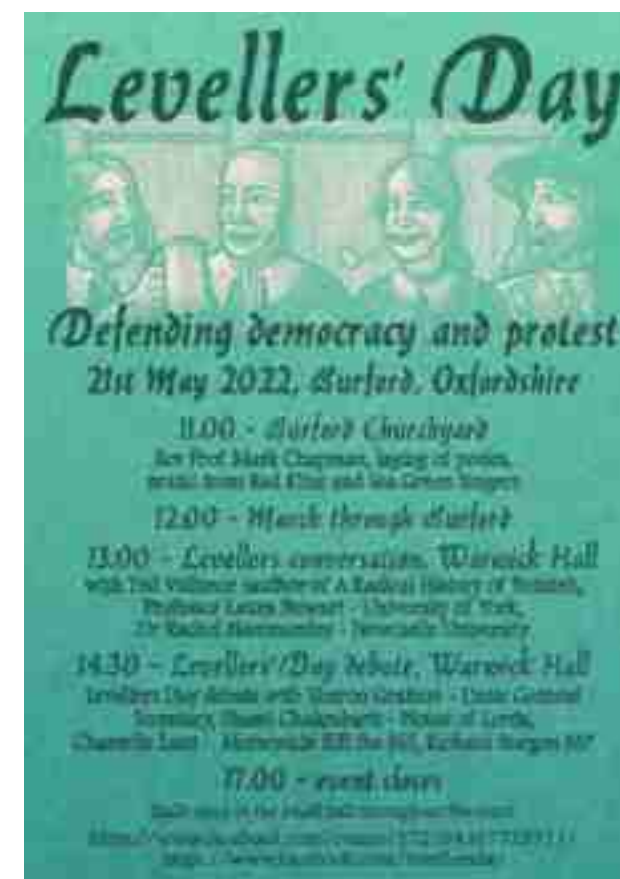
Bye, bye. The May election which will render me "erstwhile" is fast approaching. You have three candidates who would like to follow me, spoilt for choice. As we are in the "purdah" period I am not allowed to say any more and leave the field to them to state their case.

After 16 years I have met many people and worked with many more but I don't know the names or addresses of a considerable number of them. So, before "erstwhile" becomes ancient history I shall be having an afternoon drinks reception in a Burford garden to which all are invited. It will be in early July and I'll give more details in the next Bridge.

But for now, onto the hustings and make your choice of successor. There are interesting and also frustrating aspects to being a district councillor but I wish my successor good luck and success.

*Derek Cotterill - 9 April 2022*

*And thank you, Derek, for your regular, timely, interesting and constructive articles during our six Bridge years! - Editors*





DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

We invited the three candidates for the Burford Ward to answer a series of questions about themselves and local issues. Their responses are below:

HUGO ASHTON –

Liberal Democrat Candidate



My Burford connections

My connections with Burford began in 1974 when I first visited the house where Sue had lived all her life (now called Wysdom Hall). We were married in Burford’s Quaker Meeting House in 1979, and have been frequent visitors with our children since then to my parents-in-law,

Ruth and Roger Warner. We have lived permanently in Burford since 2009.

My involvement with local activities

I became closely involved with the local community by chairing the Burford Festival from 2012 to 2019. Our hard-working committee increased the Festival’s profile each year (2013, 2015, 2017, 2019) and it has become a major community event with up to 150 volunteers from the local area involved in some way. It has also supported local projects financially, including our library, local schools, tree-planting, the Burford Archive, traffic calming measures and the Tolsey Museum. I have retired from the organising committee and am now a Trustee of the Burford Festival registered charity. I am delighted to see the great programme the new committee has produced!

As a transport planner and economist by background I have helped Burford Town Council on transport matters relating to the Coles Field development and the HGV Weight Limit. In Objection to the previous Coles Field application I submitted evidence of the impact on Witney Street (traffic) and Barns Lane (traffic and pedestrian conflict) and spoke at the Inquiry. The current application uses Frethern Close as a main access point and I submitted a technical paper on this subject to the WODC planning committee, and will do so at the appeal.

On the HGV Weight Limit, I supported BTC on technical matters at the outset of the campaign to get the ban implemented. In preparation for the final decision hearing, I helped prepare a technical paper using the data collected by OCC, and presented to the OCC decision maker, Scrutiny Panel and Cabinet on the current fight to rescue something from the failure of the scheme to meet its specific targets.

I have strongly supported Windrush Against Sewage Pollution by providing a speaking platform at the Burford Festival and through significant donations from Festival funds raised.

Sue and I have been involved with the Burford Archive project from the outset, and continue to support it, including by raising funds through private garden tours of our own and other Burford gardens.

My top priorities

My top two priorities would be to strongly fight the Coles Field development (again!) and to work with other District Councillors and OCC to develop a workable HGV weight limit scheme with proper enforcement in Burford and the surrounding area.

Engagement with people in the Ward

I live in the heart of Burford and am therefore easily accessible at home. My mobile phone number and email are publicly available and all residents would be welcome to contact me with their issues or views (at any reasonable time of day!)

I would attend Town and Parish Council meetings in Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton to understand emerging issues and report back on District matters. I would continue Derek’s regular column in The Bridge and other parish newsletters.

When there is a substantive issue to address, such as parking, I would form a temporary group through which to engage and consult with local residents and businesses.

Action on holiday homes and lets

This is tricky. The beauty of our area naturally attracts second home owners, many of whom are involved in our community, living in their property year-round, if part-time. This risks villages becoming lifeless during the week and overrun at weekends, but I suspect we have less of a seasonal problem than Wales or Cornwall.

The problem arises with holiday lets. They can add to the local economy, but too often displace permanent residents and import parking problems and disruptive behaviour. I think the short-term letting model needs to be more tightly regulated to protect established B&B and hotel operators who must meet higher health and safety standards.

Wales enjoys delegated authority on second home taxation, and Cornwall is seeking similar powers. WODC doesn’t have such tools, but at the margin planning permissions may be able to stipulate constraints on use. I shall find out more if elected!

\*\*\*\*\*

CRAIG BROWN

Conservative Candidate



Where do you live and what connections do you have with Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton?

I have lived in West Oxfordshire for 40 years. I have long admired the beauty and unique qualities of the area, I think that Bulford, Fulbrook and Taynton stand out in particular because the

characters of each location have remained largely untouched.

**What is, or has been, your involvement with this area, eg charities, societies or other initiatives?** None at present, but looking to get as much involved in local

organisations as I can over the next couple of months; this will include working with families and the PTAs to improve community play and recreation areas. If I am fortunate enough to be elected no councillor will work harder than me to protect and implement the interests of the Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton ward.

**What would be your top priority if you were elected?** Campaigning against the lifting of the HGV ban and seeking to sort out car parking for the town.

**If you were elected, how would you engage with voters in the ward to obtain their views on council matters?** If elected in May my intention is to hold regular surgeries where I will be available to spend time listening to the concerns of residents and advise them as best I can, and of course I can always be contacted via email. I will of course be spending lots of time knocking on doors and talking to the people.

**Do you think any action needs to be taken over the number of holiday homes and holiday lets in this area and, if so, what?** It is a shame to lose local housing to holiday lets, so that local people lose the ability to live in the places that they grew up. I believe that local families come first and that they should be allowed to live close to friends and family as this builds a strong community. Some holiday lets should be permitted to help build and protect a strong local economy, however I am of the firm opinion that the amount of holiday homes and lets should be closely monitored.

\*\*\*\*\*

GEORGE RICHMOND

Labour Candidate



Where do you live and what connections do you have with Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton?

Just outside Burford by the Wildlife Park with my family, where I work from home for an environmental charity. I work part-time at the Coop (you may know me as the Coop guy) in Burford. I go to Church in Burford and am a

member of the Burford Environment Action Group. Also enjoy taste-testing ciders at Burford’s many pubs!

**What is, or has been, your involvement with this area, eg charities, societies or other initiatives?**

I submitted a report to Burford Town Council about their use of pesticides (that can harm nature). At a council meeting about this, I met the Burford Environment Action Group, and have been a member since. I have enjoyed helping the group, including acting as a steward at Burford’s first repair café (keenly urging people on the street to come and visit the café). I volunteered with Good Food Oxfordshire and supported its work on local food, ensuring it included West Oxfordshire and local farmers.

I am the Rural Affairs Coordinator for the West Oxfordshire Labour Party, and ensure rural communities, the countryside, and farmers are considered. I also stand up for Burford there, especially championing the HGV limit.

What would be your top priority if you were elected?

A sustainable future for Burford and the district. We need a long-term transport plan which reduces car usage for Burford, perhaps using West Oxfordshire Community Transport to connect Burford with surrounding villages and improve cycle paths. We should host a Burford Climate Summit so you get a say on how we can lower emissions, and need stronger action on empty homes.

How is it in 2022...

That an elderly and disabled person living alone in a village near Burford is cut off because of a lack of public transport? That a family wanting to lower their emissions or fuel bill, cannot safely cycle from a neighbouring village into Burford? That a young man works two jobs in Burford, but must travel 40 minutes a day from Oxford to serve the town’s economy, and wait endlessly for a council house?

That key local businesses in some cases have barely 50% of the staff they need and have staff on sick leave due to the stress of this?

That our farmers in the district face the loss of over £6million by 2028 from government subsidy reductions, but there is no local action for them?

These questions arise from what people have told me and my first-hand experience. Burford is an amazing place to live, and these questions do not arise because you lack care or generosity. The cause is a disjointed and failed approach to local issues. The same type of councillor is elected: unwilling or unable to give an active voice to the whole community and lacking energy or imagination to give Burford a sustainable future.

**If you were elected, how would you engage with voters in the ward to obtain their views on council matters?**

1. I would hold bi-monthly ‘Chats with the Councillor’: anyone local could come for a chat with me (possibly in Warwick Hall over coffee). 2. I would like a good internet presence - allowing you not just to email but also contact me through Facebook. Finally, I would maintain a casual presence in the ward (going for coffee or a pint) and try and stay on at the Coop, a great place to engage with the community.

**Do you think any action needs to be taken over the number of holiday homes and holiday lets in this area and, if so, what?**

I want STRONGER ACTION on empty homes. In the Burford Ward there are 141 empty houses, while 2,839 people are on the district council house waiting list! We don’t want more housing developments which destroy our landscape, but local businesses are under huge pressure from staff shortages. At the Coop I see job vacancies which may receive 0 applicants and staff quit because of problems travelling (especially during a cost-of-living crisis). Local people who are willing to work in Burford are excluded from living here. We need to:

Fund stronger enforcement of the Empty Homes Strategy. More immediate use of Empty Dwelling Management Orders (which allows houses that are empty for more than 2 years to be rented out by the council) and 100% premium council tax on houses empty for longer than 6 months (West Oxfordshire has 656 such houses).

Potential creation of a Burford Local Housing Platform to support local businesses and people find affordable accommodation in the area for staff.

Consider using planning permission as a means of reducing the building of holiday homes.

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## BRIZE NORTON AND SHILTON ELECTION

The candidates in the district council election for the Brize Norton and Shilton Ward, which includes Asthal and Swinbrook and some other places, are:

**Rosie Pearson** (Green Party)

**Alex Postan** (Conservative)

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## OCC COUNCILLOR REPORT

### A Year Of Turbulence

A great deal has happened since the elections last May.

A new Liberal-Labour-Green alliance took over from the previous Conservative administration and has made several significant policy decisions which have affected the residents of Burford. They revoked the Burford HGV ban which had proven to work successfully in Burford and had showed no increase in the outlying villages as HGVs tend to use the A40, A34 and M40. It was revoked as the Lib Dem-Labour administration believed Burford had selfishly financed the ban which then adversely affected outlying areas and the new administration wanted to outline a county-wide policy and felt that the Burford decision had been too unilateral, although I and Burford Town Council have supplied ample evidence that the Burford ban not only worked but also benefitted the surrounding areas. However, not all is lost, we will now re-file for an 18 ton limit experimental traffic regulation order (rather than the current 7.5 ton limit). **We will continue to fight for a ban as we do not want to see long traffic queues re-emerge in Burford, together with further air pollution. We need to protect our historic town. This is not the end of the road – please watch this space.**

The Liberal-Labour alliance also implemented a 5% increase in council tax (compared to the Conservative administration's proposed 3.5%) at a time when everyone's pockets were hit by rising prices and taxes. We have seen significant increases in energy prices: electricity doubling from 14p per kWh to 28.5 per kWh, heating oil increasing from 50p per litre to £1 per litre and petrol prices leaping from £1.30p to £1.60 per litre. This has significantly hit those on a fixed income and has left many people struggling and having to decide between spending money on heating or eating. This was not a time to increase council tax to 5%.

Furthermore this new Lib Dem-Labour-Green administration wastes so much time on non-county issues. The first motion that was proposed was to change the name of chairman to chair or chairperson. This was followed by a motion advocating that only plant-based food should be served at county council-held functions at a time when our farmers and local producers need every support. Furthermore, they continue to serve melon, strawberries, grapes and other produce from Morocco, Spain and other far-away countries – hardly supporting local producers. Veganism is a personal choice that should be respected but this attempt to dictate the diet of others is totally unacceptable. Our local farmers staged a protest at the February full council meeting and this gained more coverage from the media than the OCC Budget. Even Jeremy Clarkson complained.

The last council meeting was a debate on how to treat binary and non-binary people and to install non-gender

lavatories in all 600 council buildings – including eventually the county schools. This would cost hundreds of thousand pounds placing even more strain on the county's budget.

It is not surprising that the national press have asked: **is this (OCC) the daftest council in Britain?** It would seem that this administration and its wokeism is focusing more on woke cultural warfare than on addressing the needs of its residents.

The other major issue affecting our area, is the state of our rivers and in particular the Windrush. Thames Water continues to discharge raw sewage into the Windrush. In conjunction with WASP (Windrush Against Sewage Pollution), we now have equipment which measures pollution in the river and this was funded partly by Burford residents and OCC funding. We will continue to fight for clean rivers and push for legislation to ban raw sewage being dumped into our rivers.

Not only has this year been difficult economically, but we have also seen a rebound and rise in COVID and the war in Ukraine which has had a major impact on all of us. COVID has placed a significant pressure on our hospitals and social care. Unfortunately the virus (and its variants) is still with us and may well remain with us over the coming years.

### Proposals For 20MPH Speed Limit Across Oxfordshire

Wallingford central has become the third 20mph pilot scheme to be unveiled in Oxfordshire.

OCC completed the work earlier this month as part of its £8m plans to reduce the speed of the majority of the county's 30mph roads to 20mph where suitable and when supported by local residents. I have asked for clarity about how the success/failure of these pilot schemes will be measured. In particular, I have asked if speed surveys are being undertaken before and after their introduction. It must be remembered that compliance by motorists is effectively voluntary as it will not be enforced by the police. It will be interesting to see how effective it will be without any enforcement.

Burford and Swinbrook already have 20mph limits and Brize Norton and Taynton have also requested to join the pilot scheme.

**Cllr Nicholas Field-Johnson** [nick.fieldjohnson@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:nick.fieldjohnson@oxfordshire.gov.uk) and [nfjuk3@gmail.com](mailto:nfjuk3@gmail.com)



**Don't forget to look at our website**  
**[www.thebridgeburford.co.uk](http://www.thebridgeburford.co.uk) too for updates on**  
**local news, previous features and topical**  
**photographs**  
**And for more photos about Burford events do**  
**look at Burford Life on Facebook**

## AS I WAS SAYING.....



I am writing this during Lent, a time when those of a religious bent, and others, traditionally give something up. The theological validity of such abstinence is doubtful as the giver-up usually gives something up which benefits him/her – alcohol, chocolate or supporting Manchester United – rather than doing good for

others. Modern thinking is coming round to the view that doing something positive is just as worthy as giving up. Not wishing to be left behind, I decided to do something positive.

I decided to make a list of the people I want to shoot.

Top of the list is the person, probably a public relations gonk, who advises giant institutions, utility companies, government agencies (especially the DVLA – see recent press comment), chain stores, couriers and so forth on the offensive use of the half-truth. It is obviously only one person because all those organisations respond to every query, complaint or mild enquiry about the whereabouts of the goods or service you ordered three months ago in exactly the same manner. Something like:-

“Your phone call/email/letter is important to us.

However, we are currently experiencing unprecedented levels of calls/emails/letters and all our staff have Covid so please be patient.”

It is easy to sort the wheat from the chaff. They don't actually give two hoots about your missive (a lie), they are receiving more communications than usual (a truth) but that is substantially due to their total incompetence rather than just the pandemic (which is the lying implication) and failure to hire enough staff to cover the odd absence which may be due to Covid. What they really mean is:-

“We don't give a damn about your problem. We have enough to do without worrying about you moaning whingers. We are all working from home and don't take kindly to being woken up.”

The government has a lot to answer for in this respect. It started the weaponisation of the half-truth and continues to do so. Whenever the issue of underfunding is raised, be it the NHS, the hospitality industry, farming or the process of getting Ukrainian refugees into second homes in St Ives, the government always responds by saying what it has actually spent on these causes which is never the amount really required. It never tells the complete truth which is that it has allocated as much as it is going to and that the country cannot afford to borrow any more.

Who next to prop against the wall? I am running out of space so will propose only one more category – those manufacturers and producers who, instead of increasing their prices, reduce the size or quantity of what they sell or the quality thereof **without** telling us, the customers! One of the most notorious exponents of this cruel trick was Gordon's Gin. The strength of gin, or any alcoholic drink for that matter, is indicated by its ABV (alcohol by volume). Towards the end of the last century, Gordons reduced the strength i.e. quality of its standard gin from 40% to 37.5% making it undrinkable in the eyes, or rather mouths, of experienced tipplers. They did not announce the change nor lower the price. Inevitably they were found out and lost swathes of customers. That has not stopped many others over the years trying it on –

Toblerone removed a peak, Kleenex lowered the average number of tissues per box and Weetabix bars have been shrinking like newly washed shirts.

I must add one more – those fiends who photoshop a photograph of a famous statue and superimpose the rather imposing features of an innocent bystander. I am speechless!

*John White*



### 11 May Lecture at 11am

In person at The Warwick Hall, Burford and by Zoom

**Carl Linnaeus, Botanist and Art Appreciator**  
with Mark Spencer



Without Carl Linnaeus, many aspects of the modern world would be poorer. Of his many innovations, the establishment of the binomial system is considered the greatest – thus, we humans are known as *Homo sapiens* or the common lawn daisy as *Bellis perennis*; this scientific *lingua franca* has enabled communication across the centuries and between societies. Linnaeus's legacy was far wider than this, he was the first person in Europe to flower and fruit a banana and he developed a technique for growing seed pearls. His plant collection (herbarium or *hortus siccus*), library and archives are now housed at the Linnean Society of London and attest to his achievements.

Mark, studied horticulture at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and botany and mycology at university. After 12 years as a senior botany curator at the Natural History Museum, London he is now a consultant forensic botanist, public speaker and occasional radio and TV presenter. He is the honorary curator of Carl Linnaeus's herbarium at the Linnean Society of London, one of the most significant collections in the history of science.

This hybrid lecture will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ at 11am and via Zoom. Numbers at the Warwick Hall are restricted to comply with Covid-19 guidelines, booking is essential.

Further information will be circulated via the newsletter and bookings can be made via the website ([www.theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk)). Visitors are welcome, space permitting, for a suggested donation of £10. Coffee is available in the Warwick Hall.

For more information contact Frances Sparkes on 01993 823943 or [publicity@theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk](mailto:publicity@theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk). To learn more about The Arts Society Cotswolds and to keep abreast of any additional activities, please see our website [www.theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk)  
*Frances Sparkes*





Below are details of three candidates who are standing for the Council for the first time and have provided their details to The Bridge

### Jane Arnell

I moved to Burford nine years ago, after my family bought the Highway Inn which we ran as a family enterprise for five years. When we sold the Highway, I decided to stay in Burford as I had made so many good friends, and loved the town. I became more involved in the community by joining various organisations such as the WI and the Burford Festival. My working life has been spent in the voluntary sector based in London in a variety of national roles in the cancer and disability fields, over a 30 year span and I still undertake some voluntary work in that field, as the need arises.



### Jennie Craven

I love being actively part of communities. Moving to Burford in 2019 and as a retired business consultant, I have time, energy, and enthusiasm! I'm president of the FaBWI, on the organising team for Burford Festival, B&DS member and previously presented views against the Coles Field application to WODC - I'm passionate about the impact on Burford. I welcome this opportunity to engage with residents regarding issues, serve the community and encourage new ideas, whilst retaining the heritage of Burford.



### Perryn Bruce

Alice and I moved to Burford in 1999 to a welcoming community and I retired in December 2020. You may have seen me photographing Burford roads, I haven't quite lost the plot; I'm responding to Oxford County Council, helping them spot potholes. I also volunteer for a few other organisations across Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. I can now give more time to our community which is why I put my name forward for forthcoming elections for Burford Town Council.



## DEMENTIA ACTION WEEK

16 – 22 MAY

Burford Library is supporting Dementia Action Week and will have helpful information from the Alzheimer's Society. Library opening hours are on the Useful Contacts page.

The Forget-me-Not flower represents the cause of Dementia and knitted forget-me-nots will be displayed around the Town.

On Friday 20 May at 10.30am in the library we will chat about memories of the past over a cup of coffee. Please do come along.  
*Carol Amy Holdcroft -Library Manager*



I am writing this month's FaB WI news just before our 12 April meeting, when we were expecting to be wowed by our latest block-buster speaker, Alastair Lack, who was to speak about the 'Oxford of Morse'. Sadly Covid scuppered plans and Alastair had to bow out at the last moment. I know there were fans of the series planning on joining us as a guest on the night and I hope they will join us when we manage to reschedule the talk.

Fortunately our May speaker, local sculptor Martin Cash, valiantly agreed to save the day and fill in our April hole. Martin, who lives in Burford, expresses his art through the medium of British stone. He designs and creates unique figurative and abstract forms and by working from quarried blocks of stone he creates pieces that often challenge our thinking. Martin exhibits his work at The Burford garden centre, both inside the art gallery and a beautiful outside area. Thank you Martin for standing in at such short notice. However, the WI is far more than great speakers and fellowship at our monthly meetings. There is so much more and there are opportunities for individual members to follow their interests at local and national levels. For example each year the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) selects a resolution of national importance to support. This year we hope to be challenging the issues of misdiagnosis and lack of support for women and girls with ASD (autistic spectrum disorder) and ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder). Past resolutions have involved members in tackling the important environmental issues of our times.

The FaB WI also has a thriving theatre group organised by one of our members, Sue Newport. So far this season Sue has sold 86 tickets to a total of nine shows from serious drama to spirit-lifting musicals. By booking as a group we get the benefit of excellent reductions on ticket prices as well.

Then as a member of the Oxfordshire Federation of WIs we have the opportunity to join with other WI members to enjoy visits and events beyond our own locality. This month three of our members joined other OFWI members at the NEC Creative Craft Show. There were a wealth of stalls selling every conceivable craft material, as well as mini taster sessions and a variety of craft workshops. There is something for everyone in the WI.

The FaB WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the Warwick Hall at 7.30 p.m. and warmly welcomes visitors to all of our meetings. For further information please visit our website [thefabwi.org.uk](http://thefabwi.org.uk) or contact our president, Jennie Craven on [thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk) or at 07710 103015.  
*Angela Weller*



A Cotswold Mill Lade by R. Kirkland Jamieson



A new exhibit at the Museum is this oil painting, measuring approx. 30 x 25 ins, (63 x 76 cm) which shows a view from a bygone age, having been painted circa 1925-1930, when the Mill Leet at Widford still had water in it.

The painting has been deposited with BTMA by a gentleman from Manchester who wanted it to be near where it was created.

The artist was born at Lanark, Scotland which explains his native use of the word Lade for the more commonly used word Leet in describing the headwater for a mill.

Kirkland Jamieson (1881-1950) was head of the Westminster School of Art for much of the 1930s and became principal of St Martin's School of Art in 1945, whilst exhibiting widely in watercolour and oil, some of which are held in collections at Oldham, Worthing, Belfast, Glasgow and now Burford.

Jamieson was one of the artists involved in Recording Britain, a scheme established by Sir Kenneth Clark alongside the official War Artists' Scheme to document the British landscape in the face of the imminent threat of bomb damage, invasion, and loss caused by the operations of war, and the decline of rural ways and of life and industries. Some 1500 works were produced by 97 artists, including Burford Grammar School's own teaching artist, Alban Atkins, the Tithe Barn at Great Coxwell being one of his subjects.

In an online biography of the artist, Jamieson is said to have lived in Burford, and I wonder if any older residents remember him, or his wife the artist and potter, Dorothea Selous (1881-1968).

*Chris Walker*



### NEW TO BURFORD AND AREA?

Welcome. The Burford & District Society will be happy to deliver your free copy of the 'Living in Burford & District' pack with details of many of the local facilities, clubs and societies. Simply email your name and address to [lizannjack@gmail.com](mailto:lizannjack@gmail.com).



## COLE'S FIELD

In the March issue we warned that we would be asking for your vociferous support. The time has come.

The Planning Inspectorate has announced that it will deal with Greystoke's appeal at a public enquiry, date to be fixed. It has called for written representations **which must be in by 5 May to have any effect** so time is short. We know that this is the fourth time of asking but, hopefully, the last. There is no doubt that the volume of objections has a significant impact so we ask, will you support us this one last time and make your voice heard? You can do so by email or by letter:-

By email to :-  
[elizabeth.humphrey@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth.humphrey@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

By letter to:- The Planning Inspectorate

3J Kite Wing  
 Temple Quay House  
 2 The Square  
 Bristol BS1 6PN

In either case, you must mention the case reference –

**APP/D3125/W/22/3293656 - and it would be helpful to head it "Land East of Barns Lane, Burford"**.

You will have your own views but might wish to consider damage to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, damage to the Burford Conservation Area, the lack of sufficient infrastructure - schools, sewage (Thames Water puts it in the Windrush), traffic and parking - and any need we might have already being satisfied by the Cotswold Gate development in the Shilton Road. But whatever you want to say, shout it out loud!

*Burford Town Council*



**The Mayor, Councillor Peter Higgs, has pleasure in**

**inviting you to a reception with drinks and canapés to herald the start of the Burford Festival on**

**Thursday 9 June 2022 - 6.30pm**

**to be held in the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford**

**at which 'Service to Burford' medals will be presented.**

**All residents of Burford are welcome.**

## SWIFT RETURN



The first week of May I am so glad to see the swifts back. In the lighter evenings you can see and hear them screaming across the sky in groups, high up, then diving down at impossibly high speeds into almost invisible nesting holes between the roof tiles. They migrate to southern Africa every year, staying with us

only until the end of July, but miraculously return without fail on nearly the same day each year.

Swifts are on the decline, with a 51% decrease in UK breeding numbers seen between 1995 and 2015. This is mainly as a result of loss of nesting holes under roofs and eaves, brought about when old houses undergo renovation and are given new roofs, with tight fitting tiles, and no gaps remain. Nesting swifts come back to the same site year after year, and like to nest together, so return from migration to find nests blocked up or lost. They are insect eaters, and use of pesticides and loss of insect habitat has also taken its toll. The RSPB has launched a national swift mapping survey, and is encouraging all of us to add our swift sightings and known nests to the database, so that swifts and nesting sites can be mapped, and hopefully support conservation efforts.



The loss of habitat can be remedied if we all become more aware. If you are thinking about re-tiling your stone roof, plan ahead, either by identifying existing nest sites, and making sure you leave and recreate nest spaces in the same position when you re-roof, or by proactively providing new nesting sites to encourage new birds when you rebuild. RSPB and other groups sell prefabricated nesting boxes suitable for under roof tiling, or eaves, or 'swift bricks' that can be easily added into walls. You can ask the roofing contractor to make sure suitable spaces are created bespoke. You can even get a swift sound CD to attract birds to your site! Local roofers and building contractors can also be encouraged more to consider swifts in their work and make sure nesting holes are left in buildings they work on.

To find the survey and log the swifts in your village and home go to <https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/safeguarding-species/swiftmapper/>

Perhaps Burford and surrounds could become a 'swift town' to celebrate and protect these iconic symbols of summer. Oxford has become one of the world's first 'Swift Cities' and is making real progress in working with contractors and householders to create and protect nest sites. Other examples locally are St Joseph's Catholic Church in Carterton where sensitive re-roofing has supported over 20 pairs of swifts to return annually, and Shilton village holds annual 'swift walks' encouraging greater awareness of this wonderful bird - coinciding with national 'swift awareness week' this year on 2-10 July 2022. For more information see <https://www.bristolswifts.co.uk>  
 Veronica Barry, Shilton. [Veronicabarry3@gmail.com](mailto:Veronicabarry3@gmail.com)  
 Photo: Benedict Raistrick, Shilton.



## NEXT EVENT

**Annual Garden Party – Tuesday 28 June**



Our annual June event is our Garden Party, which this year, courtesy of the Cumming family, will be held in their riverside meadow garden at Springfield House, in Witney Street.

The Garden Party will be from 3 to 5pm and refreshments will be served. As in previous years, this is a free but strictly members only event and pre-registration is essential. Booking is now open on our website. If you have yet to renew or would like to join there is still time. Membership is £10 for the calendar year and application forms can be completed online, see [www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk](http://www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk)

A waiting list will operate if the event is oversubscribed.

Peter [peteremartin@btinternet.com](mailto:peteremartin@btinternet.com)

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## BEAGles

In the March edition of The Bridge, we gave several suggestions on the hows and whys of "ungardening", or giving back a bit (or your whole!) garden to nature. Suggestions ranged from putting holes in fences to allow hedgehogs to come and go, to using natural means to keep away pests, to increasing the amount of time between mowing the lawn.

This month, we are pleased to announce that we are holding the first annual Burford UnGardening (BUG) Award. It will run alongside the Burford Festival and is open to everyone who has made their garden wildlife-friendly. To enter, simply e-mail up to three photographs of your garden and a short explanation of what wildlife-friendly changes you have made to [burfordbeagles@gmail.com](mailto:burfordbeagles@gmail.com) by Sunday 19 June. The judging panel will then pay you a short visit and determine the winner based on the garden's attractiveness to wildlife. Said winner will receive a beautiful dewdrop Bee and Bug Hotel (RRP £24) kindly donated by Burford Garden Co., and the winner will be announced in the August edition of The Bridge.

Happy (un)gardening!

*Andy Hayter*

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## BURFORD OIL SYNDICATE

**Temporary suspension of operations**

After 14 great and trouble free years of helping the community to save a total of around £250,000 in their heating costs, we regret to inform you that our committee has had to

temporarily suspend the operation of the Burford Oil Syndicate. This is due to the highly volatile price and supply of heating oil caused by the recent geopolitical uncertainty that shows no sign of improving in the foreseeable future.

For the first time ever in March, the syndicate was unable to place a bulk order with all but one supplier, who was willing to supply, but at a price of £1.299 a litre. At that time our members were able to order direct from other companies at prices between 93p and £1.03 a litre. At the time of writing, many suppliers are only prepared to advise individual customers the price on the day of delivery.

We will review the market regularly, and when stable conditions return that will enable us to offer our members a cost advantage, we will resume operations. In the meantime, I would like to thank Peter Higgs on our members' behalf, not only for the superb work he does throughout the year as the syndicate's administrator but also for the added workload that he has incurred in assisting our members due to the market turmoil.

## 2022 AGM

Following the success of the past two virtual AGMs and the continued presence of Covid in the community, the 2022 AGM will once again follow the same format.

On or before 13 May our members will be emailed or posted the papers that need to be considered at our AGM. Where required, the items will already have been proposed and seconded, by the names shown.

All those standing for re-election and all the items specified will then be taken as 'Agreed' on 27 May unless I receive any contrary comments by 20 May. Any questions, suggestions or comments should also be sent to me (01993 822769 or [peteremartin@btinternet.com](mailto:peteremartin@btinternet.com)) by this date.

Our membership fee for the period June 2022 to May 2023 would normally, shortly fall due for renewal, but in view of the committee's decision to suspend the operation of the syndicate, we will extend all existing memberships at no cost up to May 2023. Consequently, if you are an existing member there will be no need to pay your membership fee when we resume operations.

Your continued support and understanding is much appreciated

*Peter Martin (Chairman Burford Oil Syndicate)*

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## NEW ON THE HILL

This bench was recently installed on The Hill in memory of Joan Middleton. It commands a fine view across the valley towards Fulbrook. We recall that the writer Miles Kington said he did not want a bench inscribed "In memory of Miles Kington who loved this place" and instead wanted one saying "In memory of Miles Kington who hated this place because there was never anywhere to sit down." We wonder whether one or two seats more could be put on the Rec where there are comparatively few at the moment.





## FRIENDS OF BURFORD LIBRARY

Like many societies and committees, the Friends are busy planning their contribution to support Burford's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and The Burford Festival.

To help us celebrate Her Majesty's awesome length of reign, we have joined forces with the Rotary Club to offer a Regal Fancy Dress Competition. Details of the competition can be picked up at the library. Prizes, kindly donated by The Rotary Club will be awarded to the most interesting costume as judged by the Mayor, Peter Higgs and Diane Higgs.

For The Burford Festival, The Friends have decided to give the younger members of our community the opportunity to share with us details of their favourite book. For 7 -11 year olds, the exciting prize of £25 cash and a £20 book token will be offered to the winning entry.



The competition will be judged by local authors Anne Youngson and Francesca Giddings and by Burford Library Chairman, Veral Marshall.

A separate competition for 11 -16 year olds, offers the staggering prize of £70.



Entry forms are now available from the library.

Watch this space for details of our ever-popular Plonk and Pudding Evening to follow during the summer.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these happy events and in our own, very special, Burford Library.

*Maureen Percival and Rachel Read*



## GUIDED WALKS WITH THE COTSWOLD VOLUNTARY WARDENS

The guided walks programme has restarted and Cotswold Wardens are once again leading the public on walks in a safe and careful way. Details of the walks available are described on the website (below). **Please check walk details carefully on the website, including whether booking is necessary. Additional walks will be published on the website.**

<https://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/>

### Alderton to Dumbleton around the hills Tuesday 3 May – Moderate 2.5hr 5ml

A beautiful walk around the hills of Alderton and Dumbleton. We may be lucky to see bluebells. Bring a drink/snack. Refreshments are available in the Gardeners Arms following the walk.

*Start:* 9.30 Gardeners Arms, Alderton, GL20 8NL. OS Map ref: SO 999 333.

### Springtime on the scarp around Stanton Monday 9 May – Moderate 3hr 6ml

A lovely walk from Stanton via Buckland to Littleworth Wood looking for wild flowers. Hopefully bluebells aplenty plus lots of other delights. Bring drink/snack.

*Start:* 10.00 Stanton village car park WR12 7NE. OS Map ref: SP 067 344.

### Literary Connections 1

#### Wednesday 25 May – Moderate 5hr 9ml

A walk taking in Stanway and Snowhill, tracing the literary figures past and present who have found inspiration in the Cotswolds. Please bring drinks/snack and packed lunch.

*Start:* 9:30 Stanton village car park WR12 7NE. OS Map ref: SP 067 344.

### Chipping Campden Town Walk – Every Tuesday and Thursday starting from Tuesday 31 May to the end of September – Easy 1.5hr

We will walk along the High Street and provide a historical tour of the town. From the granting of Campden's Charter in the 1180s, the growth of the town and its magnificent buildings, to the arrival of the Arts and Crafts movement. Refreshments available in the town after the walk.

*Start:* 14:00 on Tuesdays and 10:00 on Thursdays. Meet at the Market Hall in the centre of town.

OS Map ref: SP 151 392.

PLEASE use appropriate footwear as some walks may be steep and muddy in places. EASY - Length may vary but terrain is mainly flat (level); MODERATE - includes some hills and rough ground. STRENUOUS – may be rough underfoot and ascents and descents may be steep. We welcome guide and hearing dogs - sorry, others not allowed. Walks are free although we do invite donations to help fund our conservation and improvement work.

*Sheila Wasley*



## WE ARE ON TWITTER



The Bridge is now on Twitter. You can find us and follow the latest news at @BridgeBurford.



Swinbrook Cricket Club and Burford Fire Station will be holding a Charity Cricket Match and a Fun Day on Sunday 15 May 2022 at Swinbrook Cricket Ground, OX18 4DX.



The Charity Cricket Match starts at 14.00 hrs in aid of The Fire Fighters Charity.



The Fire Fighters Charity offers specialist lifelong support for members of the UK fire services community, empowering individuals to achieve mental, physical and social wellbeing throughout their lives. We provide independent, personalised support to thousands of people each year, and they're not all firefighters. We exist to support all fire and rescue service personnel, whatever their role in the service. We are also here for all those who have retired, as well as for spouses and dependants. Registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1093387)

*Paul Andrew*

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## DÉJÀ VU ALL OVER AGAIN



This photograph, kindly provided by Michael Taubenheim, shows Keylock's Garage on the corner of Swan Lane and the High Street in Burford. Note that the petrol price,

which might look familiar at first glance, is 171.0p per gallon, contrasted with recent prices per litre of not far off that figure. The photo is believed to be from the 1990s, not so long ago.

*Editors*

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## THE FARM & FOOD LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Award-winning journalist and broadcaster, Dan Saladino, is headlining the UK's first literature festival dedicated to farming and food, which will take place on 15 May at FarmED, near Chipping Norton. The Farm & Food Literature Festival at FarmED is co-curated with Chelsea Green Publishing UK and is a celebration of words, stories and experiences from the wonderful world of agroecology, regenerative farming and sustainable food.

Dan Saladino will be talking about his book, *Eating to Extinction*, a captivating and urgent exploration of some of the world's most endangered foods. This book is a love letter to the diversity of global food cultures, and a work of great urgency and hope.

The festival opens with the Chelsea Green Panel discussion on How Food & Farming Can Save the Planet, diving into the role that food and farming play in solving some of today's biggest crises, from climate change to biodiversity loss, social justice and human health. Nicola Chester (*On Gallows Down*), Vicki Hird (*Rebugging the Planet*), Ben Raskin (*The Woodchip Handbook*) and Chris Smaje (*A Small Farm Future*) share their thoughts on why farming is so integral to restoring wildlife and biodiversity as well as our own wellbeing and the regeneration of our ecosystems. Each author brings their own particular perspective, drawing on their experiences as activists, farmers, educators and writers.

Full details and information about other speakers and booking (which is essential) can be found at [www.farm-ed.co.uk](http://www.farm-ed.co.uk)

*Fiona Mountain*



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## BURFORD SINGERS

### Summer Concert

Sunday, 19 June 2022, 7.30pm

Church of St John the Baptist

Church Green,

Burford OX18 4RY

Morten Lauridsen: Lux Aeterna

Choral 'lollipops' including works by

Handel, Parry, Fauré, Elgar, Bruckner and others

Burford Singers

Conductor: Brian Kay

Accompanist: Robin Baggs

Tickets reserved at £20, £15, £10, unreserved £8. Postal

booking to 6 May 2022 (booking form on website)

Online booking 15 May – 18 June 2022 (Booking fee

applies) at <https://www.burfordingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/>

Booking in person (unreserved tickets only) 15 May -

18 June at The Madhatter Bookshop 122, High Street,

Burford OX18 4QJ And on the door

<https://www.burfordingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/>

Full details on our website <https://www.burfordingers.org.uk/events/>

[www.burfordingers.org.uk/events/](https://www.burfordingers.org.uk/events/)





Although it was a quiet start to 2022 in Burford, the Easter holidays and some spring sunshine is certainly brightening everybody's day and bringing visitors and some much needed warmth to our wonderful High Street.

Whilst I understand the difficulties the world is currently facing I cannot help but feel the British press could all benefit from reading a Madhatter favourite, *Human Kind* by Rutger Bregman. The power of positive thinking is a glorious thing.

With positivity in mind I am delighted to report that the Madhatter Book Club has enjoyed a handful of "in person" meetings and it is a joy to spend an evening in the bookshop chatting stories and exchanging thoughts and ideas. We meet every six or so weeks and all are welcome. Having read the evocative *Still Life* by Sarah Winman, we are currently reading *The Island of Missing Trees* by Elif Shafak and this will be followed by *Love In Five Acts* by Daniela Krien, all titles available at Madhatters.

Our plans for the Burford Literary Festival are advancing fast. As well as our author events across Burford we are thrilled to be collaborating with Burford schools to bring authors face to face with their younger audience and with Cindy from Hugo Lovage Patisserie to bring you A Madhatter Tea Party. We are also planning The Secret Garden Party for the grown-ups to take place on the evening of Saturday 24 September. Life at Madhatters is exciting indeed!

I cannot sign off without mentioning how shocked and saddened I was to read of the disappearance of Caroline Fisher. Caroline worked for the bookshop under the previous ownership and I know her regular contributions to The Bridge and life in Burford will be missed. Caroline loved her classic novels and I would like to think she is alive and well somewhere in the world living out her own happy ending.

All information about our forthcoming events and latest titles are available at [www.madhatterbookshop.co.uk](http://www.madhatterbookshop.co.uk) or pop in and have a chat.

*Kim Harvey*

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## CRAFT IN ACTION, CRAFT FAIR

Warwick Hall, Burford, OX18 4RY

Saturday 28 May, Saturday 11 June 10am to 4.30pm

Established in 1973, Craft in Action is a non-profit-making organisation. They offer a friendly atmosphere and a chance to browse or shop. All crafters are local and make their products themselves so that you will find something truly unique and hand-made.

Admission is free. The venue is wheelchair accessible. We welcome well-behaved dogs.

Contact us on [craftinaction@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:craftinaction@yahoo.co.uk) if you need more information or find us on Facebook: Craft In Action  
Website: [craftinaction.co.uk](http://craftinaction.co.uk)

*Jane Hun*

## ALICE'S BOOK GROUP

The Book Group always enjoy Nicola Cornick's work, and *The Last Daughter* was no exception. Her books are fun to read as she weaves real local places and events into her mystery murder stories. As one said: "It's like sitting down to eat a favourite meal, you know it is going to be enjoyable." That is not to say that they are all the same. This story centres around Minster Lovell, though there is a flying visit to Burford, and a brief appearance of a character we have met in a previous story. As with others we have read, this story involves time travel, or at least, related events in different centuries. Some of the threads through the ages were a little difficult to follow, and more than one found themselves trying to work out their sequence and the relationships between the characters.



It is always easy to read Nicola's stories, one is very seldom brought up short by a clumsy sentence, or a careless piece of editing, and there is no doubt that although she knows the settings of her books intimately, and describes them beautifully, it is obvious too, that she also does a great deal of research. This story touches on Richard III and the Princes in the Tower, on which it seems most of us are experts or have strong opinions, but our sensibilities were not disturbed – much. She also cleverly wove into the narrative the Mistletoe Bride and put a new interpretation on the body found inside Minster Lovell Hall, presumed to be the unfortunate Francis Lovell, both of which added a nice sense of familiarity.

The baddies are suitably bad, the goodies suitably good, and naturally, there is a love story too. As both the lovers were portrayed as attractive, nice, people, we found it all very satisfactory. It will be interesting to hear the author at Burford Festival discussing this very story.

A book that we all enjoyed seldom leads to much discussion, but the choice for the next one did. Several of us had heard a Radio 4 book programme where the participants, two women and a man, had read and were reviewing *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson and the idea of a classic, nominally a children's classic, was mooted. It was a toss up between *Gulliver's Travels* and *Treasure Island*, and the latter was chosen, possibly because the women on the radio liked this ripping boys' yarn; oddly the man was less enthusiastic. We may eventually read *Gulliver's Travels*, but at present a political satire might be too apt.

*Veral Marshall*

## BURFORD SCHOOL

### Broadway comes back to Burford with a bang!

What a thrill it was to once again enjoy the biennial spectacular which is the Burford School Broadway Musical. Despite the year long postponement due to COVID, the audiences were not disappointed and the show, which took place over five nights plus a matinee, performed to sell-out audiences throughout.

In celebration of the school's 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Music Department had chosen *Les Misérables* for this year's production and everyone stepped up to the challenge, pulling out all the stops and leaving the audience wanting more. Standing ovations were the norm throughout the week and praise from alumni, parents and the wider community who came along to watch could not have been higher "Wow - what a show!" said one, while another remarked "I was blown away by the absolutely amazing and brilliant talent that was on display!"

Several commented that the superb quality of the production far surpassed their expectations and that the cast were so talented. Many found it hard to believe that they were watching a school show and were transported to the West End by the quality of the performance and production.

For the 60 performers the opportunity to perform to over 1,500 people was a fantastic experience and amply repaid them for the hours of practice and rehearsals which had begun in earnest in early January. The backstage crew, together with a wonderful group of volunteers, gained an insight into the staging of a major musical and learnt about lighting, sound, set construction and the complexities of costume from those businesses brought in to help.

Staging a major event of this kind necessarily brings with it a high level of cost and the community came to the assistance of the school by donating items and experiences of great value. As a result the school was able to run an online raffle and auction which drew in the whole community and gave everyone, and many beyond the school, a sense of involvement in the event. Despite the enormous amount of work involved and the exhaustion once the clearing up had all been done, there is already a sense of excitement and anticipation as everyone waits to hear what the musical of 2024 will be!

*Sarah Duckworth* [www.burford.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.burford.oxon.sch.uk)

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## BURFORD PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

What an incredible start to our spring term. We held our AGM in March and now have a full committee team. May we take this opportunity to introduce to you:-

Joanne Williams - Chair  
Dale Peedell - Vice Chair  
Donna McCracken - Treasurer  
Ola Cales - Secretary  
Karen Patterson - Fundraising Coordinator

We would also like to thank all our parent committee members who offer the pre-school their invaluable support.

It is a very exciting time for the pre-school and with these new committee members on board we look forward to them sharing their wealth of experience with us.

Whilst at the pre-school, the children have been engaged with many Easter activities and games. Notably our annual Easter Bonnet competition. The creations were



very impressive! Thank you to all the children for entering and helping to fundraise for us. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank ASDA in Carterton for donating all of the chocolate Easter Eggs for our children. Can we also add a special thank you to Burford, Upton and Signet Trust for their kind donation. This has been used towards our resources which the children have already been using to create their wonderful Easter cards.

Furthermore, we have an exciting upcoming calendar:-

4/5 May - Sponsored Obstacle Course on the Rec

7 May - Cake sale at the Tolsey. Please come and support us as we raise funds. We aim to be there between 11-3pm.

12 May - Burford Pre-School Photographs

9 June - Queen's Jubilee Party at Pre-School

With further summer events being finalised we look forward to providing the children with a varied enrichment of experiences.

If you would like to visit us to discuss your child's placement, please contact us: 01993 824031 or [burfordpreschool@outlook.com](mailto:burfordpreschool@outlook.com)  
*Ola Cales - Committee Secretary*





**SATURDAY 25 JUNE**  
**2-5pm**  
**TAYNTON**  
**FETE**  
*Taynton House*  
 OX18 4UH  
**A traditional village fête**  
**set in an idyllic Cotswold**  
**garden**  
 Entrance £2  
 Under 12s FREE  
 Fun for all the family!  
 All proceeds in aid of Taynton Church and Village Hall

## SPIES IN NORTHLEACH

Don't delay booking your tickets for "Bond Behind The Iron Curtain" - Saturday 28 May at 7.30pm in Northleach Church. Tickets £15; available at [ticketsource.co.uk/bond](https://ticketsource.co.uk/bond)

James Fleming, Ian Fleming's nephew, will talk about his uncle, the literary journal he now runs and his latest book.

"Bond Behind The Iron Curtain" is a terrific story: how the Russians savaged the film of Dr No before it had even been released, the constant attacks on capitalism and Bond's morals, the plot hatched by the KGB to have a Bulgarian write a thriller in which Bond gets killed and the emergence of 07 as a competitor to Bond. Don't miss out on an evening of Bond music, prize raffle draw and cocktails, shaken not stirred!

All proceeds going to the Friends of Northleach Church and their £250,000 fundraising appeal for a new church roof.

If you'd like to be kept informed of future events at Northleach Church, please sign up at

<https://www.northleachbenefice.org/concerts-events>  
*Jane Quelch*

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## BURFORD AND KINGHAM ROTARY



We sold purple crocuses for Mothering Sunday to raise funds for Polio Awareness, together with a membership drive at the Tolsey. Over £200 was raised and six people showed an interest in joining Rotary; so a very successful morning with help from our district Governor Karen.

Burford and Kingham Rotary has had a busy few weeks. We had a very busy afternoon doing teas at Chastleton. The bucket collection, profit from the teas and club donations enabled us to send over £2000 to Ukraine for urgent medical equipment.

We had a very enjoyable Turkish meal at the Meze in Witney. Several members attended the district conference in Oxford with some excellent speakers including Captain Tom's daughter and Dame Sarah Gilbert, the famous vaccinologist. We heard about the incredible work that Rotary International is doing to aid Ukraine. This was followed by a dinner and overnight stay at Keble College. On the Sunday morning two Rotary Scholars, overseas graduates supported by Rotary, showed us round their colleges. On 5 April we enjoyed a supper followed by a play at Chippy Theatre, *Home I'm Darling*, much enjoyed by all. Coming up: a walk in Cornbury Park followed by a pub lunch, Chastleton teas, and Rotary meetings at the golf club, where we meet every Monday 6.30pm for 7pm (except Bank Holidays). So, if you would enjoy doing some of these types of social events, like to meet new people and help local and international charities, please think of joining us.

We are a small but very friendly group with members from all the villages in the area. We are always looking to increase our membership. Contact our secretary John Smith email [jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk](mailto:jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk) 07717883182. If I can also give you any more details about Rotary, and further information on all these events, please do give me a ring; I would love to hear from you to have an informal chat.

*President Ros* 01608643844 / 07702135731



## POST OFFICE UPDATE

**Bank branches are disappearing from our High Street.**

**You can do most of your banking at the post office (next to Bumbles).**

**You can**

- withdraw cash using your card
- Pay cash into your account using your card or paying in slip
- Check your bank balance
- Deposit a cheque using a paying in slip

**Business banking services include change giving**  
**Steve Colter**

Come and celebrate  
**The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**  
**Tea Party**  
  
**Sunday 5 June at 2.00 – 6.00 pm in Priory Lane**  
 Bring your own picnic and chair and join in the fun!  
 Teas, Ice cream, Live music, Face painting, Dodgems, Sizzler twist and dance zone Miami, Fancy Dress competition with prizes, Juggling John, magic and stilt walking

## LITTER OF THE LAW

Deputy Sheriff (sorry) Deputy Mayor Michael Taubenheim has taken possession of 12 litter pick sticks. If anybody locally would like to borrow or even purchase one (£5) then give him a call on 07711 342608.



## THE BRIDGE TEAM

As well as a large number of valuable, helpful distributors, the Bridge Team consists of:

Advertising Manager	Stephen Richards
Commercial Artist	David Mostyn
Editors	Gordon and Elaine Elliot
Founder/Chief Distributor	Clendon Daukes
Proof Reader	Judy Cumming
Website and IT Adviser	Pete Freeman

## THE BRIDGE TIMETABLE

The closing date for entries to the editorial sections of the magazine is 10th of the month preceding publication. Please send articles and information to:

[editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk](mailto:editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk)

Alternatively, you can leave letters and articles at the new Post Office for us to collect.

**Advertisements** need to be received by the 12th of the month preceding publication. Please contact:

[advertise@thebridgeburford.co.uk](mailto:advertise@thebridgeburford.co.uk)

## EDITORIAL POLICY

*As is customary with publications, the decision of the editors on what can and cannot be published is final. In particular, they will edit or decline to publish anything which in their opinion includes personal attacks on any individual, or is offensive, in bad taste or potentially defamatory. Opinions expressed by contributors are entirely their own and the appearance of any letters or articles in The Bridge does not indicate that the editors agree with them. Items may also be edited for clarification or length and may be rejected. Where items or services are offered for sale, or advertised, the provider is responsible for ensuring that the goods or services are safe and of good quality. The editors may refuse to publish advertisements or other statements about unsuitable items or services. The Bridge does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of advertisements and does not endorse any goods or services which are advertised. All items submitted for inclusion must give the name and address of the writer and an email address or telephone number. By submitting any article, announcement, letter or advertisement to The Bridge you are deemed to have agreed to the above.*

*All advertisements in The Bridge are accepted subject to The Bridge Terms and Conditions of Advertising 2019 which can be viewed on our website [www.thebridgeburford.co.uk](http://www.thebridgeburford.co.uk).*



## LOCAL ARTIST



**On Monday 9 May- to Saturday 28 May there is an exhibition of work by local artist, Judy Harden**

The Atrium and Café of the Warwick Hall Burford, open daily from 10.0-5.0 pm (closed Sundays). Judy works in watercolour and mixed media. Her subjects range from local views to still life, gardens and flowers and animals. Her inspirations are colour and light. She will have framed work as well as prints and unframed mounted paintings. Entry is free so do visit! [www.judyharden.co.uk](http://www.judyharden.co.uk)

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## OPEN GARDENS SCHEME

The gardens of Kencot have been opening under the National Garden Scheme for over 40 years. In March the following garden owners received their awards for the work they have done, and continue to do on behalf of the NGS.

Joseph Jones at Belham Hayes  
Hilary and Chris Bradshaw at The Malthouse  
Richard and Janet Wheeler at The Well House  
Andrea Moss at Hillview House  
Henry and Kate Fyson at Manor Farm  
Gill and Wally Cox at Ivy Nook  
Tim and Kate Gardener at Kencot House  
The National Garden Scheme operates throughout England and Wales from February to October, with gardens opening on weekdays as well as weekends. Please come and enjoy the gardens and teas.

Paul Youngson is shown below presenting the awards.



## GARDENS OPEN FOR THE NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME

There are opportunities to visit several local gardens in May and June. These are:

**Westwell Manor on Sunday 15 May from 2.30**

**Whitehill Farm, Widford, on Sunday 5 June from 2.00**

**Orchard House, Asthall on Sunday 26 June from 2.00**

The £5.00 admission fee goes to Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK and a number of other health-related charities.

*Anne Youngson*

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## PUZZLED OF BURFORD

Ivan and June Hall of Burford were surprised during a holiday in **Australia** to discover on sale there an enormous jigsaw puzzle of Bumbles' shop. It appears to be based on a photograph taken while the post office was temporarily operating within the delicatessen. They were heroically doing their best to finish it before coming home. Perhaps there is not a lot else to do out there.

*Editors*



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## REST IN PEACE

We are sorry to have to report the deaths of the following residents or former residents of Burford:

**Sylvia Jewell**, wife of Alfie Jewell

**Judy McIntyre**, wife of Andrew McIntyre

**Philip Millington-Hawes**, husband of Elaine Millington-Hawes

**Jenny Tingle\*** died on 14 March. Her husband, Michael Tingle, was Vicar of Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton from 1984 to 1998, becoming also Vicar of Swinbrook and Asthall shortly before he retired. Jenny was very active in the benefice, latterly becoming a Licensed Lay Minister. Their daughters are both married with children: Cathy living in Edinburgh, and Maggie in London.

*\*Thanks to Cedric Reavley for this information. - Ed*

## DIARY OF SPECIAL EVENTS FROM APRIL 2022

Wed 27 April	TASC Special Interest Day - Design Matters	Warwick Hall	10.15am
Wed 27 April	Burford Town Council Annual Meeting	Warwick Hall	7.00pm
28-30 April	The Wychwood Players "But Yesterday" and "Carrot" and "Late Entry" <a href="http://www.wychwoodplayers.com">www.wychwoodplayers.com</a>	Beaconsfield Hall Shipton-Under-Wychwood	7.30pm
Fri 29 April	Burford & District Horticultural Society Outing to the Generous Gardener	Ampney Crucis	2.30pm
30 April - 2 May	Lechlade Rally	Langley Lane, Clanfield	
9-28 May	Local Artist Judy Harden Exhibition	Warwick Hall	10-5pm
Tue 10 May	FABWI	Warwick Hall	7.30pm
Wed 11 May	TASC lecture - Carl Linnaeus	Warwick Hall	11.00am
Wed 11 May	North Cotswold Arts Crafts Exhibition	Warwick Hall	
Sun 15 May	Bridewell Gardens Open Day	Wilcote OX7 3DT	11-4pm
Sun 15 May	Westwell Manor Garden Open	Westwell	2.30pm
16-20 May Friday 20 May	Dementia Action Week. On Friday 20 May Chat and Coffee about memories	Burford Library	10.30am
Wed 18 May	BEAGLes Meeting	Golden Pheasant	7.30pm
Sat 28 May	"Bond Behind the Iron Curtain" by James Fleming. Book : <a href="http://ticketsource.co.uk/bond">ticketsource.co.uk/bond</a>	Northleach Church	7.30pm
Sun 5 June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party	Priory Lane and The Priory	
Sun 5 June	Whitehill Farm, Widford, Garden Open	Widford	2pm
Thur 9 June	Mayor's reception and medal presentation	Warwick Hall	6.30pm
10-19 June 22	Burford Festival	Various	
12 June-10 July	Onform Sculpture Exhibition	Asthall Manor	11-6pm
Sat 25 June	Taynton Fete	Taynton House	2-5pm
Sun 26 June	Orchard House, Asthall, Garden Open	Asthall	2pm
Tue 28 June	Burford & District Society Annual Garden Party (members only)	Springfield House	3-5pm
Sat 9 July	Burford School Grand Anniversary Ball	Burford School	7.30pm
23-26 Sept 22	Burford Literary Festival	Various	

NB When advising The Bridge of an Event, please include: Day of the Week, Date, Venue, Time. Thank you.



# CHURCH SERVICES

## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, BURFORD

### PARISH CHURCH SERVICES May 2022

#### St John the Baptist, Burford

<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am
<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am
Choral Matins (BCP)	9.30am
Weekend Away	No 11.00am
<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am
Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am
Morning Prayer (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service	11.00am
<b>26<sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day</b>	
Holy Communion (CW)	10.30am
<b>29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am
Morning Service	11.00am

#### St James the Great, Fulbrook

<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Morning Prayer (CW)	9.30am
<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Matins (BCP)	9.30am
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am
<b>29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Benefice Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am

#### St John the Evangelist, Taynton

<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am
<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm

#### St Nicholas, Asthall

<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm
<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm
<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (BCP)	6.00pm
<b>29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm

#### St Mary, Swinbrook

<b>1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	
Holy Communion (CW)	11.00am
<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Morning Prayer	11.00am
<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	
Morning Prayer	11.00am
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	
Morning Prayer	11.00am
<b>29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	

Morning Prayer 11.00am

**St Oswald, Widford**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> May** Evening Prayer (BCP) 6.00pm

**9.30am and 11.00am services in Burford are also live-streamed. These can be found on our website or YouTube Channel.**

[www.burfordchurch.org](http://www.burfordchurch.org)

*Tarnia Usher - Church Secretary*

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## ST JOHN FISHER AND ST THOMAS MORE

Services in May for Ss John Fisher & Thomas More -

Sunday Mass: 10.00 am

Ascension Day Mass: 6.00 pm

For weekday services please see  
[catholicchurchburford.org.uk](http://catholicchurchburford.org.uk) or the church noticeboard for details.

*Dan Boyle*

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## BURFORD QUAKER MEETING

Pytts Lane, Meeting for Worship every Sunday at 11.00 a.m.

*Myra Ford 01451 810484, or Graham Hadley 01993 823886*

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## BURFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

Burford Baptist, as a building, has not re-opened post lockdown at present as we are awaiting work to be done on the building which will hopefully mean that we can resume some of our activities and allow the building to be let this year.

The soup and pudding and cafe services are currently suspended.

We are aware that many of the vulnerable people in our community are anxious at this time and we need to ensure that all of us are being kept safe and that we all continue to keep safe during these times.

We look forward to welcoming the community back in once we have made the building safer and done essential works.

*Gill Crippen*

Readers may be interested to know that a service of choral matins with the choir takes place in Burford Parish Church on the second Sunday of each month.  
All are welcome.

This information may be out of date but included as a prompt for people to tell us what Clubs and Societies still exist and who is the contact for them.

### REGULAR LOCAL EVENTS, CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Aerobics	Monday and two on Thursday	Warwick Hall Monday 6.15pm, Thursday 11.45 and 6.15pm	Gill Hames 822971 <a href="mailto:gillianhames46@gmail.com">gillianhames46@gmail.com</a>
Astally Arms	Last Friday of the month	Memorial Hall Asthall Leigh	From 7.00 pm
Badminton Group	<b>Monday</b> nights	Burford School 8-10pm. Friendly, all abilities	Kevin 704655 <a href="mailto:scareyradar@yahoo.co.uk">scareyradar@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Beaver Scouts	Wednesday (term time)	Scout Hut 6-7.15pm	Claire Griffin 07751 472125 <a href="mailto:burfordbeavers@gmail.com">burfordbeavers@gmail.com</a>
Burford Badminton Club	<b>Tuesday</b> nights 8-10pm	Burford School - fun, social, all abilities	Vijay 891043 <a href="mailto:vijaysmobile@gmail.com">vijaysmobile@gmail.com</a>
Burford Crafters	2nd and 4th Wednesdays	Burford Library 2-4pm	Christine Brown 822589/June Catling 823752
Burford & District Society	Meet 7 times a year	Warwick Hall at 7.00pm	K. Gray 823805 <a href="http://burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk">burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk</a>
Burford Library	Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday	Mon closed; Tues 1-6; Wed closed; Thurs 10-1; Friday 10-1 and 2-5.30 Sat 9.30-1	High Street, Burford
Burford Town Bowls Club	Friendly Roll-up all Mondays	Bowls Club from 6.30 pm	Pat Walker 01993 822330 <a href="mailto:patr47@btinternet.com">patr47@btinternet.com</a>
Coffee and Company	Every Wednesday	St John the Baptist Church 10.30 - 12 midday	Diana Peters 01993 822785
Cub Scouts	Mondays (term time)	Scout Hut 6 - 7.30 pm	Mandy Bielby 07941 470465
Fencing	Tuesdays	Bradwell Village 7-9pm	Keith Money 01982 448295
Fulbrook & Burford WI (FaBWI)	Second Tuesday of every month	Warwick Hall	Jane Arnell <a href="mailto:gjaarnell@icloud.com">gjaarnell@icloud.com</a> 01993 822755 or <a href="http://thefabwi.org">thefabwi.org</a>
Fulbrook Coffee am	Every 4th Thursday	Fulbrook Meeting Place 10.30 - 12	Gilly Kay 823193
Fulbrook Fitness Group	Thursday (wef Sept 2021)	Fulbrook Meeting Place 9am	Pat Ferrett 822892
Fulbrook Forum	1st Thursday (not Jan or Aug)	Fulbrook Meeting Place 3pm	<a href="mailto:fulbrookforum@gmail.com">fulbrookforum@gmail.com</a>
Horticultural Association	Fourth Thursday	Bowls Club - times vary	Janet Copley 01451 844210
North Cotswold Arts Assoc.	Every 2nd Wednesday	Warwick Hall	2-4pm
Pickleball - fun, social sport	Mon 11-1pm, Thu 10-12pm, Fri 8-10pm	Charlbury Community Centre	Vijay 01993 891 043 or <a href="mailto:vijaysmobile@gmail.com">vijaysmobile@gmail.com</a>
Rhyme Time	Friday 9.15-10.00 am Term Times	Burford Library (for under 5's)	Carol-Amy Holdcroft 823377
Rock-a-Tots	Tuesday during Term Time	Warwick Hall	9.45 - 11.15
Rotary Burford & Kingham	Monday	The Burford Golf Club	Terry Best, Secretary 775232
Scouts	Thursday (term time)	Scout Hut 6 - 8pm	Alex Gill 07762161769 <a href="mailto:burfordscouts@gmail.com">burfordscouts@gmail.com</a>
Scrabble	1st Tuesday of each month	Burford Library (free tea, coffee, soft drinks)	7pm
Soup & Pudding Club	Every 2nd Tuesday	Baptist Church, Witney Street	Gill Crippen 07967 362885 or 07793 012215
The Arts Society Cotswolds	2nd Wed (not July/Aug)	Warwick Hall 11.00	Frances Sparkes 01993 823943 <a href="mailto:publicity@theartssocietycotswold">publicity@theartssocietycotswold</a>
The Wychwood Lodge of Freemasons	3rd Thursday Sept-April	The Masonic Hall 31 Sheep Street	Mike 868302 / Allan 822240 <a href="mailto:wychwood988@outlook.com">wychwood988@outlook.com</a>
Time Out	Monday 10.30am - 2.15 (tea)	Warwick Hall inc games, bingo, singing, talks	John Harrington 822451 or Sue Sheppard 824729

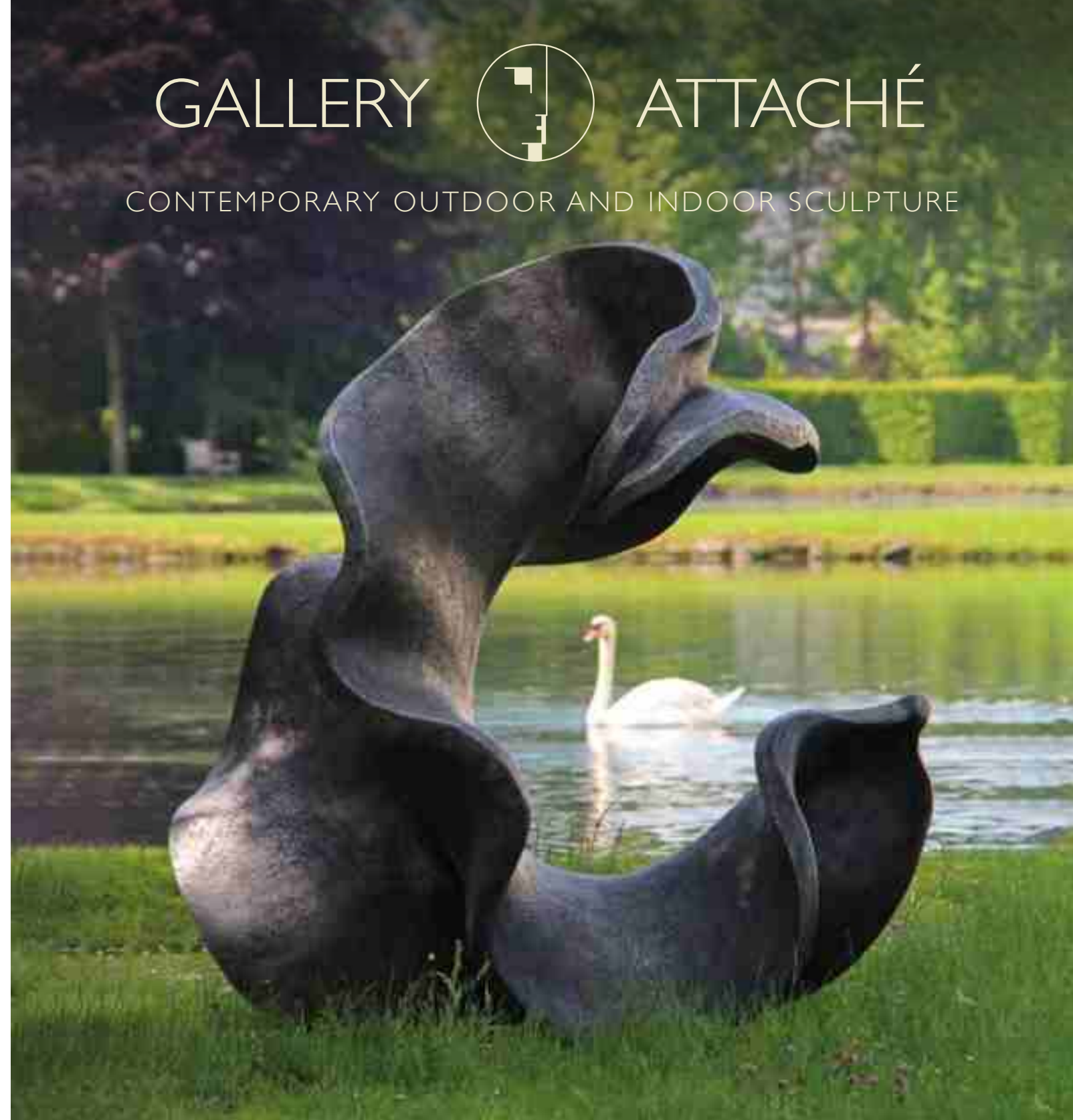


## DIRECTORY OF LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

Company Name	Business Type	Phone
Antiques @ The George	Award winning, friendly antiques centre	01993 823319
Cameo Hairdressers and Burford Barber	Find us at Christmas Court in Burford	01993 822292
Chipping Norton Vet Hospital	(Burford Branch) Large and small animal care	01608 642547
CJD Architects	Chartered Architects	01993 823646
The Cotswold Cheese Company	We sell Artisan cheese, delicatessen foods, wines, beers, gifts and fresh bread (Thurs, Fri & Sat)	01993 823882
Hickman Brothers Landscapes Ltd	Garden Design and Construction, Landscape and Garden Supplies <a href="http://www.hickmanlandscapes.co.uk">www.hickmanlandscapes.co.uk</a>	01993 822226
Jenny Smith	Spanish & French tutor. Building confidence GCSE/KS2. Experience in schools; DBS check held.	07908 602547
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However, this "market mayhem" has created another problem: *if you have a unique home and you want to sell, with so little on the market, where do you move to?*

In response to this unprecedented situation, we have created a unique concept: **THE STOWHILL ESTATES VIP BUYER'S CLUB.**

## WHAT IS IT?

The VIP Buyer's Club adds an option for the owners of very special homes who don't yet want to go onto the open market, and for buyers who are ready to proceed but are struggling to find their dream home. We currently have 221 members – qualified buyers impatiently waiting to move forwards.

## WHAT'S THE BENEFIT FOR SELLERS?

With unique homes finding buyers so quickly, and with so little on the market, where on earth do you move to

once you have an offer? If taking your home to the open market feels too big a step right now, the VIP Buyer's Club could benefit you without the associated pressure or obligation of listing on Rightmove.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

We discreetly market your home to our Club members, sending them details of your very special home and allowing them the opportunity to view and offer privately. Buyers must be in a position to proceed with a purchase and be willing to work to your timescales. They are also required to pay at least 10% over the asking price to stop that home going onto the open market.

## WHAT'S THE BENEFIT FOR BUYERS?

You may be frantically scouring Rightmove every evening, searching for your next home, when we have it right here! Over one-third of our homes for sale never actually make it to the open market. By joining our VIP Buyer's Club you can be one of the first to receive details of new homes before they are listed on Rightmove, and have the opportunity to view and offer before anyone else.



Lucy & Michael Joerin, Proud co-founders, Stowhill Estates

Could the VIP Buyer's Club work for you? Call our team on 01993 225 985 | 01235 751 888 or drop us an email: [hello@stowhillestates.com](mailto:hello@stowhillestates.com) to find out more [www.stowhillestates.com](http://www.stowhillestates.com)

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The event will include live music and dancing performed by a traditional Ghanaian band, celebrating the drumming and costumes customary in the region. Refreshments will include drinks plus a selection of delicious Ghanaian canapés, ensuring attendees can experience the true, culinary flavours of Ghana.

In addition to the main evening performance, the band will perform outside The Tolsey Museum in the morning from 11am until 2:30pm.

Taste of Ghana Gala Evening will be held at the Warwick Hall in Burford from 6.30pm - 10.00pm on Saturday, 11th June. Tickets can be purchased online:  
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