

THE BRIDGE

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 14, Number 7, £1.50



Our thanks to Andrew McKerlie who provided this photo of wild flowers outside the Malt House in Windrush

It's hello and goodbye in Burford High Street at the moment. Hello to Bull, the pub previously known as The Bull, or perhaps northerners would call it "t'Bull". The 15th century former coaching inn where Nelson and Lady Hamilton once stopped over has been reincarnated as "A curious coaching inn". Exciting gastronomic delights are rumoured to be on the way. The goodbye is for Mrs Bumbles, long-established in the Lower High Street, which has closed down. We understand that the building is being sold. Sally and Steve Colter will still be with us running the post office and the new taxi service which is fulfilling a need from both residents and visitors.

There is nothing new in the gradual change of businesses and if the present High Street were to be compared with, say, 20 years ago, there would not be many that have been here for all that period. The obituary article this month about Jean Dixon mentions a number where she worked over several decades. We are also saying goodbye to Elspeth Cornick and Dr Simon Albert. All of whom will be much missed. As for the businesses, it is hard to gauge how they are coping this year. There seem to be lots of visitors but we have had some reports that they are not spending on much more than a cup of coffee and perhaps a souvenir before moving on. The Chamber of Trade is doing its best to promote local businesses and this month features the Madhatter Bookshop, actually one of the longer-term survivors albeit with a change of name and several owners. Perhaps we should all try a bit harder to support the shops. If we lose the more practical ones, they are unlikely to be replaced by something similar or so welcome. *Editors*









01993 220 579 burford@taylerandfletcher.co.uk

Tayler & Fletcher



SOLD

SOLD

SOLD









Celebrating 4 years in Burford

Providence House, 49 High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire, OX18 4QA



O Chipping Norton War Memorial Hospital, OX7 5FA

oxonahealth.co.uk





USEFUL CONTACTS + INFORMATION

Please check hours of opening which are subject to change

Burford Recreation Pavilion (Children's Events) 01993 823647 **Burford Pre School**, 01993 824031 01993 823303 **Burford School Burford Primary School** 01993 822159 **Burford Surgery** 01993 822176 www.burfordsurgery.co.uk

Burford Tolsev Museum Open seven days a week April to October

www.burfordtolsey.org **Burford Town Council**

Tolsey office open Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9.00 am and 11.30 am 01993 823647

town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk www.burford-tc.gov.uk

Carterton Health Centre 01993 841718 NHS 111 www.nhs.uk

01295 264545 **Centre for Carers in Oxfordshire**

www.oxoncarers.org.uk

01993 823144 Chemist Reavley's

Chipping Norton Veterinary Hospital

Burford Branch 01608 642547

Churches

Anglican St John the Baptist 01993 823788 Roman Catholic 01993 823219 Church of SS John Fisher and Thomas More **Baptist Church** 07967 362885 Friends Meeting House 01993 875214 0808 2787908

Citizens Advice Bureau Email citizensadvicewestoxon.org

Dial-a-Ride Service

For Information 0845 3101111 oxdar@oxfordshire.gov.uk Email

Emergency Services

Police – non essential 101

Environment Agency

0845 988118 Floodline 0800 807060 Emergency

Please let us know if any details need amending. editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk

Hall Bookings

Baptist Church gill.crippen@googlemail.com 01993 822330 Burford Town Bowls Club

Fulbrook Meeting Place **TBA** Taynton Village Hall - Lexi Young 07909 913994

Warwick Hall Bookings and Information

bookings@burfordchurch.org.uk

Library 01993 823377

Tuesday 13.00 - 18.00 Thursday 10.00 - 13.00

Friday 10.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 17.30

Saturday 09.00 - 13.00

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/burfordlibrary

Member of Parliament 01993 702302

Robert Courts robert@robertcourts.co.uk

Oxfordshire County Council

General Enquiries 01865 815573 08453 101111 **Highways** Faulty Street Lights 0800 317802

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Oxfordshire County Councillor Nicholas Field-Johnson 01993 878309

Post Office 01993 822174 stephencolter@aol.com

Recycling Centre

Dix Pit, Lynch Hill, Stanton Harcourt Open 7 days a week 8am - 5pm Thursday late night until 8pm

Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Southern Electric (Freephone) 08000 727282 **Thames Water** 0800 3169800

Travel

Rail Enquiries 08457 484950 08712 002233 **Public Transport Enquiries**

West Oxfordshire District Council

General Enquiries 01993 861000 01993 705056 Out of Hours

www.westoxon.gov.uk

West Oxfordshire District Councillor

Hugo Ashton 07712 490517

Witney Hospital Minor Injuries 01865 903841

Open 10.00am - 10.30pm daily Last Patient seen at 10pm

Witney Police Station, No front counter

www.thamesvalleypolice.uk

- 2 -- 3 -



BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

Councillors are still working on a number of issues in the town. The repair of the bridge is still not scheduled, but we have been told by OCC that if it is not carried out by this October it will have to wait until next spring due to the weather. Will I be reporting similarly next July?

My thanks to those of you who provided your opinion on whether we should replace the island on the A361 with a zebra crossing. These have been passed to the county council.

Burford has seen an increase in the number of large coaches arriving to park in Priory Lane. This may be because Bourton-on-the-Water has reduced the number of coach parking spaces for large coaches from 19 down to eight. At the end of this year, those eight will also go.

The tours visiting the Cotswolds from the London area tend to visit Bibury, Burford and Bourton-on-the-Water or Morton-in-Marsh. We get two types of coach, the 16 seaters that will fit into the coach parking bays in Priory Lane, and the large three axle 60 seaters which do not.

Coaches tend to stay an hour or less. We will monitor the situation.

We are working with OCC to see if better markings on the A40 roundabout would ease congestion caused by traffic queueing on the roundabout blocking entrances and exits.

Council is still in discussion with OCC regarding limiting the number of HGVs using the High Street. They carried out a consultation for a county-wide HGV strategy and appointed a consultant. They have now prepared a report which is not yet public, but we have seen an overview, and it contains a number of inaccuracies which we have raised with them. A lot was learned from the Burford HGV experimental weight limit, and we will continue to lobby for a reasonable solution to be put in place by OCC.



Finally, the playground project has moved on and a supplier selected. My thanks to all the residents, societies and businesses who have contributed so generously to our call for donations to get us to this point, and my congratulations to the playground team for their great work. The design looks exciting and will cater for children of all ages.

The Crowdfunder page has now closed and, together with monies donated directly to the town council, we have raised over £25,000. This is an incredible amount, and we are hugely grateful to everyone who has contributed.

The town council met at the start of July to assess the plans and details provided by two playground companies. Both of the designs were based on the information provided by respondents to the online consultation and at the Eco Day in March. After much discussion and deliberation, the council have chosen to work with a playground specialist company called Proludic. The picture above gives a better idea of what we are hoping to achieve. There is also a QR code which will take you on a virtual tour of the design. A paper copy is available to view at the council office and we have also posted it on our Facebook page. Please take a look; we really hope you like the plan but do let us know if you have any concerns.

Now that we have chosen our supplier, we can apply for a National Lottery grant, and this is being done at the moment.

Fundraising will continue throughout the summer, so if you would like to donate but have not yet had the opportunity, please contact us at the council office on 01993 823647, email town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk We are also hoping to organise a Race Night at the Bowls Club on 7 October. It promises to be a fabulous evening so please put it in your diary and come and support us. There will be more details next month.

You can follow us on Facebook for regular updates about the project. If you can help in any way or would like to know further details, please get in touch.

Peter Higgs - Mayor

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Planning issues

The **Botley Solar Farm** developer has submitted its Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This is the first step in the first pre-application stage of the process. WODC engages with the developer at this stage to inform the developer's Statement of Community Consultation and assesses the scheme's impact, with input from affected parishes. If the inspector accepts the developer's application for examination, they formally request WODC to submit a local impact report. The inspector is not expected to submit a recommendation to the secretary of state until early 2025.

The **2021-2041 Local Plan** is proceeding slowly. The next steps are:

- Focused consultation on plan objectives, spatial strategy and call for ideas and opportunities imminent
- Consultation on preferred policy options/approaches winter 2023
- Publication of draft Local Plan summer 2024
- Submission for examination autumn 2024
- Adoption mid 2025

As you can see, it is a long process, but all local residents and businesses will have several opportunities for comment – if you have the stamina!

Community Funding

At the town meeting, I was asked what happened to the funding that was available for local grants. The answer is that the Community Grant Scheme has been restructured, not withdrawn, and is soon to be re-launched. The relevant element for us is the 'Civic crowdfunding pledges' (£120,000 in total) which will be open to towns/parishes, schools, charities, and informal groups. This will be run by Spacehive and details of how it will work will be published soon, so that applications can be made in September and in spring 2024. They will be assessed for council funding within the following six weeks. Even if not approved for funding, projects can use Spacehive as a fund-raising platform.

Projects can be in one of three Lots:

- 1. Improving our natural environment and the access to it, to enable physical and mental wellbeing and cohesive, connected communities
- 2. Taking action towards the climate and ecological emergencies, to reduce carbon footprints and encourage nature recovery
- 3. Increasing community resilience and amplifying the voice of the seldom heard, to provide access to food, support young people and cultural activities.

HGV Area restrictions

We had a summary presentation from OCC on the findings of their study which has been completed. It was very high level and does not get down to geographies apart from highlighting areas where consultees have identified issues. It was also very light on process issues such as good practice, permit management, legal framework, enforcement responsibilities etc. The full report may contain more on these aspects and should be available very soon. The next step is for OCC to select two areas to take forward for detailed investigation. BTC is keen that an area around Burford should be one of these and I am helping to draft a suggested structure of a scheme to put forward.

Hugo Ashton

District Councillor for Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton hugo.ashton@westoxon.gov.uk or 0771 2490517



WHO WILL YOU NOMINATE?







Please help Burford Tolsey Archive to identify the local people we should be talking with to record their interesting stories and local histories before they are lost forever.

Burford's archive has become a hive of activity in which a constant flow of items is being documented and recorded so that current and future generations – indeed anyone anywhere with internet access – will be able to enjoy and share Burford's rich history and heritage 24/7. Thanks to our many volunteers, there is now, quite literally, a 'conveyor belt' process taking documents and items – often many hundreds of years old – and placing them in their properly recorded new 'archival collection' home.

But one very important part of Burford's history and heritage that doesn't sit so neatly in any one collection, but is referenced everywhere, are the people of Burford. There is no shortage of data recording the many individuals and families on the historical side who have contributed to Burford's history and heritage over the centuries.

But what there is a shortage of – and where we need your help today – is in building a list of those people currently living in Burford or its surroundings, who have contributed to our history and heritage – or who just have interesting stories to tell of bygone Burford. They may have lived and worked in Burford all their lives and helped make it the wonderful place it is today, or they may have made their mark elsewhere in the world and then returned. They may be unsung heroes who deserve recognition, or they may just have interesting memories and stories to tell.

Whatever the reasons - if they agree - we would love to be able to hear and record their stories.

Our aim is for readers of The Bridge to generate our first list of '100 Interesting People in the Community' who you suggest we should be speaking with - there may be many more, but 100 seems a good starting point!

If you can suggest someone, perhaps a member of your family, friend or colleague, please send brief details about them to **Nick Welsh** at people@burfordtolsey.org Alternatively, drop a note off at the archive on Swan Lane or the museum in the High Street. We will very much look forward to receiving your suggestions. Thank you. *Clendon Daukes, Chairman*

Don't forget to look at our website www.thebridgeburford.co.uk too for updates on local news, previous features and topical photographs

And for more wonderful photos about Burford events do look at Burford Life on Facebook

- 4 -

THE BRIDGE INTERVIEW WITH MIKE RUSSELL



Regular readers may remember the stunning photographs of a hawk moth and a mistle thrush both in the June issue of The Bridge, and both taken in Taynton. The editors thought it would be of interest for readers to learn a little more about the man behind the images.

Mike and Wendy Russell have lived in Taynton since 1988, but Mike's interest in photography and in the natural world

goes back to his childhood at school in England in the 1940s. His favourite bird was the red-backed shrike, solitary but fairly common then (but no longer so) around Marlborough in Wiltshire; he often saw one on a bike ride into the

The most unexpected arrival was an eight-foot-long shark

countryside.

Born in England, his father's businesses were in China and Malaya, and his earliest years were in the city of Tientsin in northern China, where Mike picked up Mandarin before he spoke English. He remembers going to Peking (as it was then known) from Tientsin riding in a dicky seat, an upholstered seat which folded out from the boot space of the two-seater car. In his childhood an aspect of his father's business was bartering for camel and sheep wool in Mongolia, which was floated down tributaries and then the main rivers to the factory in Tientsin, where it was picked over, bundled and shipped overseas, mainly for camel-hair coats in the USA.



University saw Mike follow in his father's footsteps to study mining engineering at the Colorado School of Mining in the 1950s. The family business included coal mining in Malaya. The seas around Malaya gave Mike the opportunity to develop his interest in photography. He became a scuba diver and teacher of scuba diving, whilst developing a passion for and skill in underwater photography. In those days equipment was less sophisticated, of course. To get good deeper water shots, he swam with a net of flashbulbs attached – no flashguns then. To entice more interesting and rarer fish, they would sometimes take down a bucket of offal. The most unexpected arrival on one such occasion was an eight-footlong shark – "Quite big enough", said Mike. Coral fish were his regular images. Mike continued scuba diving off the Florida coast until the mid-1980s while evaluating a possible diversification of the family business into citrus fruit farming. Florida and Mexico also gave Mike a chance to fish on the warm seas from outboard boats. Tarpon fish can be tempted into "a real fight" using a feathered hook. He had a particularly impressive sail fish stuffed and mounted and shown in pride of place for a while. The choice of Taynton for an English base was influenced by his life-long love of fly fishing. The location had to be accessible to Heathrow (for him to fly out to Malaysia as it became on independence), accessible to Wendy's family in Droitwich, and "not too far"

from the West Country for sea trout fishing.

Travel gave Mike the opportunity to photograph big game on safari in Kenya, Tanzania and

Botswana. A magnificent photo of a lion in repose shows his skill and patience – and good fortune!

Mike's lifetime in photography on land and under water, has seen huge developments in the technology. These days he has three cameras and a number of heavy long lenses, best used with a tripod. One of his set-ups is indoors, enabling him to photograph garden birds through an open window. The technology allows the camera to pick up and follow a bird's eye to ensure focus, and take a burst of images – 20 per second is not unusual. Then come the hours editing on the computer – "90% are rubbish" says Mike. Such a far cry from taking reels of film to be developed, or indeed having a dark room at home. Once Mike has identified the best image. he uses a good-quality printing agency for the prints which are mounted and framed around his house. Taynton has benefitted from Mike's skill and his enjoyment of village life. When you visit the parish church, you will find photo albums recording the life of the village - the famous annual fete, open gardens, and significant village events. They form a delightful record of a vibrant and friendly community. Ruth and Cedric Reavley





BURFORD and DISTRICT SOCIETY

With so many members away on holiday white water rafting, abseiling the Himalayas, glamping with champers and wellies, or pampering themselves at well-being spas to maintain their physical perfection, there are no planned Society events in August.



September Meeting We will recommence our meetings with an opportunity to discover the whereabouts of many of the Green Men in Oxfordshire, in an illustrated talk to be given by Tim Healey at 7pm on 19 September at the Warwick Hall.

Online booking for members is requested. Guests are welcome; £5 at the door.

October Lunch Booking will open in later this month for our annual lunch and talk which will take place on 17 October. As

before, this is a 'members only', strictly limited numbers, first come, first served event.

Membership As a result of our change of meeting place to the Warwick Hall we are very happy to welcome new members, so please don't hesitate to join if you would like to get to know more people in a relaxed and friendly environment. The application form can be downloaded from our website, and the annual fee for the remainder of this calendar year is £5 per person – renewable on 1 January each year at a cost of £10.



New Committee
Members We are
delighted to
welcome Ann
Newman and
Stephen Cooper to
our inner sanctum.
Peter Chairman



peteremartin@btinternet.com https://www.burfordanddistrictsocietv.co.uk



CROQUET ON THE HILL

We'd love to welcome you, as part of the Burford community, to join us for an afternoon of croquet and fun.

MHT.

Croquet and other garden games. Refreshments and friendly company.

WHEN?

From 3 - 7pm on Sunday 13th August 2023

WHERE?

Whiteoaks 163, The Hill, Burford, in the garden.

MONEY?

This event is free, but there will be an opportunity to give towards British Ukranian Aid.

RSVP

Trevor & Gill Hames: 07930 320257 trevorhames@me.com

ASTHALL MANOR

Gardening Leave (Residential Course)

15 - 17 September

Come and get your hands dirty in a quintessentially English manor!

We are delighted to introduce our first ever Gardening Leave weekend at Asthall Manor. This fully-catered residential weekend will combine practical tuition in nature-friendly growing methods with a chance to relax in our iconic, offbeat manor, explore the much-loved gardens, and enjoy nutritious vegetarian meals in congenial company.

Running from the evening of Friday 15 September to the afternoon of Sunday 17 September, the weekend will include:

- Practical tuition and a good dose of intriguing theory with our resident grower, Tim Mitchell.
- An insight into the possibilities and pitfalls of setting up a food-growing enterprise
- Wildlife walks
- Varied breakfasts, simple lunches and delicious two or three-course vegetarian dinners
- Yoga
- Access to Asthall Manor's 18 acres of garden, meadow and woodland, including use of pool, tennis court and numerous special spots to sit and daydream in.
- Massage available at extra cost

Price: £400 pp sharing, £430 single occupancy Places are limited to 12.

To book: email info@asthallmanor.com

THERE IS SO MUCH TO ENJOY AT YOUR LIBRARY

Every week Burford Library is the venue for a fabulous range of activities:

- **Knit (or Sew) & Natter :** First Tuesday of every month 2—3 pm
- **Book Group :** Last Tuesday of every month 2—
- **Reminiscence Morning:** Third Friday of every month—10.30 to 11.30 am
- Puzzle Club: Every 1st, 2nd and 4th Friday—10.30 to 12 noon
- Scrabble Evenings: First Tuesday every month
 —7 to 9 pm
- Family History: If anyone would like help starting a family tree, or breaking down brick walls, please contact Jan Cohen: cohen4sp@btinternet.com

All Welcome to any of the above at your Library

Please register an interest with Carol-Amy at the Library or phone 01993 823377

Refreshments are provided—donations to the Friends of Burford Library

BURFORD LIBRARY 86 High Street, Burford-01993 823377 (behind Sue Ryder)

-6-

CHAMBER OF TRADE BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Madhatter Bookshop, Burford Home to The Burford Literary Festival

The early 19th century façade of 122 High Street hides a medieval building and there has been a shop here since the early fifteenth century. It has only been a bookshop for the last four decades and we are very proud of our history. We believe our building is an excellent representation of what a bookshop is, no matter what the façade. It's the beating heart that keeps the light of literature shining bright.

Although we are a small bookshop you can easily lose yourself in here for a couple of hours, we have the seating and the books – just add coffee.



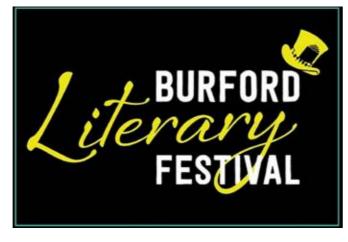
The Madhatter team believe in encouraging children to read and teaching them to browse, which is why on entering the bookshop you will be greeted with a dazzling display of colour beaming from the shelves stacked with books for children of every age, but walk through into the back of the shop and the atmosphere immediately changes to that of an old study complete with arsenic green walls and dark wooden bookscases filled with subjects including history and politics, food and drink,

biography and of course fiction.

If you cannot find your book then we can order it and if it is out of print we pride ourselves on our book-sleuthing. More information about us, our online book service and our events including Burford Literary Festival (see opposite) can be found at www.madhatterbookshop.co.uk or pop in and say hello.

Bookshops are dreams built of wood and paper. They are time travel and escape and knowledge and power. They are, simply put, the best of places and no town is complete without its bookshop.





"August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd uneven time." – Sylvia Plath

August is perhaps one of my favourite months, it is a joy to have children in the bookshop enjoying the freedom of summer holidays and to see so many international faces discovering the beauty of Burford for themselves. For the team at Madhatter Bookshop it is also the calm before the storm, our Christmas Eve month because our favourite child,

BURFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL is upon us: 22-24 September. We are now in the process of ensuring everybody has their tickets and allocating events to their gorgeous venues across our High Street.

We have some fabulous authors for you this year including:

- Emma Crawforth: Things To Do With Plants: 50 Ways
 To Connect With The Botanical World. It was whilst
 working at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew that Emma
 developed a love of communicating about the wonders
 of plants. She is the gardening editor of BBC Gardeners'
 World magazine.
- Nick Penny: The Call of The Kingfisher. Nick Penny is a
 musician, composer, writer and wildlife recordist. Nick
 has a deep interest in sounds in the natural environment.
 He uses both the local landscape and wildlife sounds as
 inspiration, and brings fresh insights into the sounds of
 the countryside.
- Jennifer Lane: Witches Survival Guide. Jennifer Lane
 has written for British Vogue, The Week, Dazed,
 Cunning Folk, the BBC, Wildlife Trusts and the RSPB.
 She discovered Wicca when she was twelve years old
 and became fascinated by the craft, and since then has
 woven together her passion for wildlife with a pagan
 lifestyle.

As well as many other authors we bring you Poetry at The Priory and our Secret Garden Party. If you have not yet got your tickets please go to www.burfordlitfest.co.uk and we look forward to seeing you at the best bijou lit fest in the UK. Happy Holidays, *Kim and the team*

Madhatter Bookshop
122 High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire, OX18 4QJ
Owner: Kim Harvey
Mobile: 07774 637 941
Landline: 01993 822539
kim@madhatterbookshop.co.uk
www.madhatterbookshop.co.uk
Instagram: @madhatterbookshop
Facebook: @madhatterbookshopBurford
Twitter: @madhatterbook

The **Methodist** Church

Closure of Burial Ground Notice Burford Methodist Church, 75 High Street, Burford. OX18 4OA

The Managing Trustees of the above burial ground passed a formal resolution authorising closure of the burial ground on 12 June 2023.

The above burial ground is now closed, which means we are not taking any more burials on this site.

Our immediate plans are for the burial ground to be managed by the local Managing Trustees who at this point can be contacted at the following email address:

administrator@westoxfordshiremethodists.org.uk

The site remains open for family and friends to visit.

For enquiries contact: The Methodist Circuit's admin office at The Methodist Church, 40 High Street, Witney, .OX28 6HG

Please mark your correspondence for the attention of The Superintendent Minister.

Ian Cotton - Senior Circuit Steward, West Oxfordshire

LENTHALL B CONCERTS 5



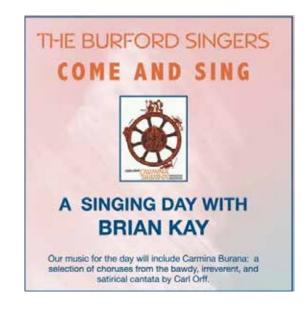


The Lenthall Concerts team have been busy behind the scenes since our last concert in March and are delighted to welcome two new Burford residents as members to the committee. Geoffrey Haines, who recently retired, has kindly agreed to take on the role of chairman, a position held until recently by Chris Yapp. Karen Gadd will also be joining us and we look forward to benefitting from her extensive expertise in music promotion.

We have an exciting and varied autumn programme for 2023-24 now confirmed and, once again, will be joined by a range of acclaimed international artists. The programme offers something to suit all tastes from oboe to violin, trumpet to harp, and can be viewed in full on our website www.lenthallconcerts.org.uk.

Season tickets, available from www.ticketsource.co.uk, are not to be missed providing entry to all six concerts for just £72.

We do hope you will join us. *Joanna McKerlie*



Saturday 16 September Burford School Main Hall,Burford OX18 4PL

Doors open 0930 Workshop starts 1030; Informal performance 16.30; Workshop finishes approx. 1730

Light refreshments provided, but bring a packed lunch.
Adults £20, students £10 (including score hire). Audience free.

Online booking https://www.burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/

Details on our website https://www.burfordsingers.org.uk/events/
Catherine Martin

IAN AND CHRISTINE BROWN

In our last edition we referred to Ian and Christine Brown leaving Burford after many years in which they had both done a great deal for the town. In particular Ian served on the town council where among other things he looked after the Rec and was responsible for emergency planning. Christine was secretary of the Burford Upton and Signet Welfare Trust and a member of the Burford Crafters. They were active in Burford Parish Church where Ian was for a time churchwarden and was involved with the Warwick Hall project and both were committee members of the Friends of Burford Church. They will be much missed. We erroneously said they were moving to Hastings but they have in fact gone to live near family in Eastbourne, a very different place.

LORD PIERCY

Following up on the article by Bert Clough in our last edition about Lord Piercy of Burford, Stephen Price has given us some additional information. This is that in 1956 Lord Piercy made a most generous gift to the church when he made over St John's House (as it was then called), which he had built in 1938, to the Church Commissioners for the use of the vicar. The house is now the vicarage. The Burford and Fulbrook Parish Magazine for August 1966 records that his funeral took place in the parish church on 14 July that year and that his ashes were interred next to those of his first wife in the cemetery.

Editors

- 8 -



The Frank Hartley Exhibition



In the first special exhibition at the museum for over ten years, and with grateful thanks to Bill Williams, former head of games and PE at Burford School for the suggestion, we feature the Hartley Brothers, members of a farming family from Shipton-under-Wychwood who attended Burford Grammar School in the early 1900s, where they all showed great promise in both football and cricket.

After leaving school, the brothers served in the Oxfordshire Yeomanry during the 1914-18 war before finding international sporting success - Frank's cap badge and dog tags represent this period.

Then in 1922 the elder brother, Ernest was selected to play for England at hockey, beating Ireland 3-0 in Dublin, and going on to gain 17 caps with three as captain.

Meanwhile, younger brother Frank began his football career at Oxford City, playing for them from 1921 until 1928, and represented Oxfordshire FA in 1921. He was selected to play for the England amateur football team, beating Ireland 4-0 and scoring three of the goals. Frank joined Tottenham Hotspur as an amateur in November 1922, eventually gaining seven amateur caps. He scored the first goal in a 4-1 victory over France in 1923, and gained his only full England cap.

After his first spell with Tottenham, Frank played for amateur club Corinthians, eventually becoming their first player to turn professional when he signed for Spurs in February 1928; he stayed with them until 1931 and made seven appearances.

The Hartley Brothers story is told through cherished memorabilia kindly loaned by the Hartley family, covering schooldays, military service, hockey, cricket and football. Frank's full England cap takes pride of place, and two Spurs match programmes feature Frank himself, together with enlarged cut-outs taken from his various team photos. *Chris Walker*



MOVE Together

Helping you to move more and feel better Would you benefit from moving more to improve your physical and mental health?

We understand the difficulties that prevent many of us being more active and the uncertainty about how to get started. Many of us are anxious, nervous or have long-term health conditions and require support.

The Move Together team are here to help and support you to move more!

Moving more, in a way that works for you, is hugely beneficial. It can help you to better manage a long-term health condition, increase your energy levels and help with mood or weight management. Being active is about finding what works for you and Move Together coordinators can provide advice, motivation and signposting to a variety of activities for you to try. So if you are living with a long-term health condition, or if you could benefit from moving more to improve your physical and mental health, please get in touch today. We are a free physical activity support pathway coordinated by West Oxfordshire District Council.

Angie Burrell - Healthy Communities Project Worker

01993 861564

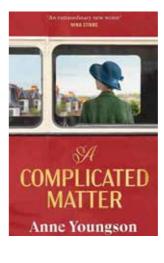
ALICE'S BOOK GROUP

A Complicated Matter by Anne Youngson

Firstly, my apologies to author Anne Youngson, and to you. Last month I misnamed this month's book as *A Complicated Affair*, whereas it is *A Complicated Matter*. "Affair" implies something quite different, and "matter" more accurately describes the subject of this book. We had hoped to have Anne join Alice's Book Group this month, but circumstances decreed the meeting be cancelled; with an author joining us it is always a little nerve-racking lest their work is not liked, necessitating the use of a deal of tact. This time, we could have faced the writer with

have faced the writer with supreme confidence.

Without exception we enjoyed this book, and on many levels; the complicated matter is the British evacuation of most of the female and child population of Gibraltar in 1939. We follow their journey which eventually ends in blitz-battered London; the group and their circumstances are so well described they seem familiar, but the story of one, Rose Dunbar, dominates. Rose, an intelligent young



Gibraltarian, is uncertain which of life's paths to follow, but when wrenched from her home, finds depths and abilities which lead her to unexpected places. There are desolate and sad episodes, and people do not always act as they should, but they are all treated with a sympathetic, non-judgemental pen.

The research that went into this book is astonishing. It describes a facet of the war of which few of us were aware, and the detail brings us into the action, from the crowded housing of Gibraltar to the soaking streets of London where we smell the smoke of bomb-shattered buildings. The evacuees' initial fear of the bombs and rockets, which then morphed into the almost blasé stoicism of the Londoners, is well documented. Anne visited Gibraltar, immersed herself in contemporary diaries and documents, and studied street maps of 1940s London. When the action moves to the country it is unlikely she had to do much research into the topography, as it is undoubtedly a lightly camouflaged Swinbrook and area.

Youngson has a firm grasp on the English language and uses it to write prose of great clarity. We are not led down flowery paths of description or extended simile but given the appropriate words to evoke the scene or event. People are given depth in few words, and with the leading characters she is unflinching when describing human foibles and failings, but charity and empathy are woven throughout the book.

A slight reservation by one member of the group was that in the latter section she was able to guess the ending, but this, as with all Anne's books, starts with a person at a life's crossroad and their journey onward, so the ending had to be inevitable.

Next month the Library has supplied *Started Early Took my Dog* by Kate Atkinson. I believe the connection to Emily Dickinson's poem is exceedingly tenuous as it is a detective novel.

Veral Marshall

BURFORD AND KINGHAM ROTARY



Outgoing president Colin welcomes new president John Forster into the chair. John thanked Colin for an excellent year and for all his hard work in the chair.

This ceremony followed an excellent talk by Matt Stringfellow, an HEMS helicopter paramedic, on the history of the ambulance service and the development of the training of paramedics. This was fascinating from a six weeks course to now a degree course and ongoing professional development.

We have supported Chastleton church and our own charities by providing tea on two Sundays in June.

We were delighted to make a donation to the Burford Playground Fund. Rotary is always keen to get involved and support our local community.

We had an evening picnic and tour round Bridewell Gardens on 20 July. This is a project that Rotary has supported for the last couple of years

Why not think about joining Rotary? We meet at Burford Golf Club on Mondays 7.00pm for 7.30pm (except Bank Holidays). We are a small but very friendly vibrant group, with members from all the local villages in the area. We are always looking to increase our membership. You will get a very warm welcome. Contact our secretary John Smith email jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk 07717883182. I can also give you any more details about Rotary. Please do give me a ring I would love to hear from you to have an informal chat.

Ros Richardson - 01608643844 /07702135731



- 10 -

FRIENDS OF BURFORD LIBRARY

On a beautiful afternoon at the end of June we were happy to welcome so many new faces and old friends to our inimitable Pimms, Poetry and Prose Party.



Held in the Michael Taubenheim's wonderful garden, the event did not disappoint.



Guests were greeted with a refreshing glass of Pimms and strawberries and shortbread, while being entertained by visiting artists from the Wychwood Players. A bookstall and tombola attraction (courtesy of Michel Taubenheim) ensured that many a bargain was secured.

Thank you to all who attended and who helped us raise a handsome amount for our invaluable library resource.

Look out for details of our next event in forthcoming issues of The Bridge. Until then, we look forward to welcoming you at the library, either to borrow a book or participate in one of our many regular social and educational activities.

Maureen Percival. Photos by Andrew McKerlie

GUIDED WALKS WITH THE COTSWOLD VOLUNTARY WARDENS

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 may be published on the website. https://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/



Stanton village to Stanway and back via Shenberrow Hill -Tuesday 1 August -

Strenuous 3.5hr 6.5ml

A strenuous but short climb out of Stanton village along the Cotswold Way to the Iron Age fort at Shenberrow with views across the Vale of Evesham to the Malvern Hills and beyond. Bring suitable refreshments.

Start: 9.30 Stanton village car park WR12 7NE. OS Map ref: SP 067 344

$\label{lem:andoversford} And oversford\ on\ the\ Gloucestershire\ Way-A\ Blackberry\ walk-Tuesday\ 15\ August-$

Moderate 3.5hr 6.5ml

A pleasant walk from Andoversford to the three Shiptons then on to Hampen where we will pick blackberries. Then back via Syreford Mill. Bring suitable refreshments. *Start:* 9.30 Station Road, Andoversford, GL54 4HR. OS Map ref: SP 024 198.

Chipping Campden Town Walk – Every Tuesday and Thursday starting from Tuesday 30^tMay 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. Sheila Wasley

BURFORD PRE-SCHOOL

As we come to the end of the summer term as well as the academic year, we look forward to a few final exciting events and celebrations with the children. We have a pre-school trip to The Cotswold Wildlife Park, where the children look forward to exploring all the different animals. It will be lovely to welcome all the families from pre-school to join us. We also have our annual visit from the Burford Fire Service Team. This is always one of the highlights, learning about fire safety as well as using a real fireperson's hose!

We are so proud of each of the children who attend our setting. With some many different personalities, we are always so proud to see their confidence blossom and review all their achievements and developments throughout the year. To our big leavers, thank you for allowing us to support your journey. You will all shine at your respective big schools and we look forward to hearing all about your new journeys!

We would also like to say a huge thank you to our parents, Graham and Amy Dadge for raising nearly £450 for our preschool, spending their personal time doing several book and cake sales within the community. We very much appreciate all your efforts and support. The funds will go a long way to assist with resources for the children.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer break, may you all create wonderful memories and have lots of laughter.

Ola Caless - Burford Pre-School Committee Secretary

The Bridge editors thank Ola for her contributions and wish her well in her next role with the Sherborne Primary School.

BURFORD SCHOOL

Burford School enjoyed an incredibly busy end of term. Between public examinations, our students and staff were also involved in a range of activities within and beyond the classroom. This is just a small selection of highlights from our final term of the school year.

Burford Business Breakfast

We held our first Burford Business Breakfast of the year in our newly renovated library in June. The aim of our BBB series is to strengthen ties between Burford School and the local business community. As very much a community school, we highly value the support and expertise of the local business community to help us deliver the best of education to our students. It was wonderful to see so many local businesspeople join us, networking with each other and members of our senior staff and students over coffee and breakfast. We look forward to hosting our next BBB this autumn (date TBC).



Art and Photography A-Level Showcase

At the end of June, our Year 13 students had the incredible opportunity to showcase their work at the Warwick Hall, bringing their superb work to an even wider audience beyond that of friends and family. Their work was truly impressive to behold collectively within the modern exhibition space and a testament to their hard work, creativity and talent.

Year 6 Induction

We recognise that moving to secondary school is one of the most significant changes in a child's life and take great care to ensure all our new Year 7 students are as prepared as possible through our programme of special induction events. Before the end of term, it was a pleasure to induct new students both from Burford Partnership schools and other primary schools, familiarising them with the school and staff. This culminated with our evening event for students and their families, complete with sunshine, music and a bouncy castle on the playing fields.

Artsmark Award

Before the end of the term we celebrated the fantastic news that we had been awarded an Artsmark Gold Award by the Arts Council. This makes us one of only two secondary schools in Oxfordshire to have achieved such an award. As an Artsmark school, we will gain valuable access to professional support, advice and resources to strengthen our existing arts provision. In order to achieve this award, we had to demonstrate that our arts and cultural provision extends across a broad curriculum and is delivered throughout the whole school.



L-R: Mrs H Jenkins (Music Administrator); Mr S Frankcom (Director of Music); Luca Mitchell (one of our two Heads of School); Mr M Albrighton (Headteacher); Miss A Vella (Head of Art); and Mr D Brookes (Head of Drama).

We now look forward to Results Day for our students and not long after this the start of another successful school year! Be sure to join us at our fast-approaching Whole School Open Evening on Thursday 21 September. Further details and booking can be found at www.ticketsource.co.uk/burford-school).

For all our Old Burfordian readers: we look forward to seeing you soon at our annual reunion on Saturday 30 September at 2.30 pm in the Main Hall.

Clementine Bright

MIDSUMMER SOLSTICE EVENT



After enjoying a refreshing, complimentary
Aperol Spritz, courtesy of Lynwood & Co
Cafe, I found myself listening to the
delightful sounds of Skylarks, a swing jazz
band who played outside the Tolsey as part
of Burford's Midsummer Solstice shopping
event in June.



Many retailers were offering special offers, discounts and other incentives to attract shoppers during the day and as part of the late night shopping, and the weather remained warm and sunny to support the event!

A first time event for Burford, it is hoped that this will become a key summer date with greater participation and community involvement in the years to come.

Joanne McKerlie and photo by Andrew McKerlie

- 12 -

BURFORD AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION



Well, five of our members have just opened their gardens for the National Garden Scheme, and very successful it was, if a lot of work. The weather was fantastic and we had somewhere in the region of 250 people around. It is wonderful to be able to share the input we make to our gardens, to receive advice from other gardeners, and to talk gardening with many other interested and knowledgeable parties.

Following the gardens open we celebrated the summer with our summer garden party in June – again the weather was great and the venue was fantastic – many thanks go to Adrian and Liz Jackson for their hospitality.



Next is our summer coach outing to Morton Hall Gardens and White Cottage Garden and Nursery just outside Redditch on 24 August – the cost for coach, both gardens, lunch and tea will be £40.00 per person and booking is essential. Please contact Jan Cohen on 01993 822288 or e-mail cohen4sp@btinternet.com – we still have places available if you're quick.

Jan Cohen

*************** AS I WAS SAYING...

Last month I had a mild dig at Artificial Intelligence because the media, especially the print media, were awash at that time with dire warnings about the future, machines becoming sentient, developing the ability to think for themselves and emotions that we would call "love" and "hatred". Leading, of course, to world domination. I have news for those cut-price Cassandras – it's already happened!

I should have expected ChatGPT to be slightly annoyed at my gentle chiding of its output but I could not reasonably have anticipated that our dishwasher would learn to read. I carelessly left a copy of last month's issue on top of the machine and, almost instantly, it downed tools, packed up and spewed the remains of the day's meals all over the kitchen. It made the current protests in France look like the work of a playful kitten. Then it dawned on me that this has been going on for years, we don't run the machines, they are running us.

If you don't accept that, think on these examples. Most of us have had cause to contact institutions like banks, insurance companies, on-line retailers and the like to place an order, check on something or make a complaint. You ring up and, if you are lucky, after a while you are put through to – a machine. It will give you a long spiel about how busy they are, how important your call is and that you are No: 39 in the queue. Incidentally, I had one the other day which finished up by telling me that if I did not treat their staff with respect they would send someone round to beat me up – or something like that. Anyway, back to your call. The machine has now manoeuvred you into hanging up or waiting for the 38 ahead of you to stop rabbiting on. Who is in charge at that stage? Assume that you decide to hang on rather than up. Eventually you are put through to – another machine. Machine 2 will ask you to identify yourself, date of birth, home post code, inside leg measurement and so on. It will then ask a series of really useful questions, how much money have you laundered today, do you realise you could have done all this far more quickly by going to their website, have you enjoyed listening to Iron Maiden whilst you have been waiting and, at last, what department do you want. All that time Machine 3 has been recording your conversations with Machines 1 and 2 (for the purposes of training and suing you if you are disrespectful to staff, you understand) and Machine 4 has been totting up how much time you have spent on the phone so it can send you a bill. Who, or rather what, has been in charge throughout?

When did all this start? Arguably with Alexander Graham Bell's invention of the telephone in 1875. Look around you now and see how many people of all ages, genders and ethnicities are wandering about with mobile phones or ear buds growing out of their ears. When you hear someone say "I cannot do without my Galaxy" they are not talking about a chocolate bar, they are admitting that they are controlled by their mobile phone - a machine. Will they ever start communicating with each other? They do it now. A thermostat, a machine, will tell a boiler, another machine, when to start up or shut down.

If you agree with me that the Brave New World is already with us, the question is do we sit back and enjoy/suffer it or do we do something about it? I'm afraid that doing something about it sounds just a bit too King Canuteish for my taste so I will have to grit my teeth and bumble on. But there is a red line to be drawn. If robots become capable of emotion, I shall buy a flame thrower. I finished last month's piece by saying that I had to stop before Henry the Hoover started poking me with its nozzle. But supposing he/it (it can chose its own pronouns now!) does not start poking me in annoyance but is actually cosying up to me for a cuddle. Robotic mowers which cut the lawn of their own volition I can stomach, gay carpet sweepers I cannot!

BAAAA



These handrails have recently appeared in, oddly enough, *Sheep Street and have attracted some interest and comment.* Editors - Photograph courtesy Michael Taubenheim

OCC COUNCILLOR REPORT.

Thames Water Implodes

As regular readers of The Bridge, you all know that I (with the help of WASP) have continually campaigned against Thames Water dumping raw sewage into our rivers and have called on Thames Water to re-invest funds to improve the water quality of our rivers and upgrade their infrastructure. My comments in The Bridge June 2023: "if Thames Water continues to fail to make these capital investments, then serious consideration should be given to bring the water industry back under public control." Sadly events have shown that this has become reality.

Crisis has now hit Thames Water. Since privatisation, water companies have taken on £60bn of debt and instead of using the money to improve infrastructure, £50bn was paid either to overseas shareholders or parent companies. The Macquarie Group, who owned Thames Water until 2017 and then sold its stake for £1.3bn, was criticised for paying out more than £2.7bn in dividends, whilst taking on £2.2bn in extra debt. This was not only financially irresponsible but also morally indefensible.

Not only have we had to put up with sewage dumped into our rivers and coastal waters but it was also reported that Thames Water discharged sewage overflow 8,014 times last year – the equivalent of 22 times per day!

The company is also under financial pressure and has recently been seeking a cash injection of around £1bn from investors. It is time for the government to bring our water back under public ownership as, unlike electricity, gas and telephone, where we have a choice of provider, and the market does decide on who is the most competitive, with our water we have no alternative: we have to use the provider in our area and there is no choice – it is a monopoly.

Review Of HGVs in Oxfordshire

We had a further meeting with OCC to discuss the review of HGV routes throughout Oxfordshire, but this continues at a slow pace. However there are commitments that by the autumn some recommendations will be made and further HGV trials implemented.

Pothole Innovation Trial

After a winter that saw the number of potholes reported in Oxfordshire double compared to the same period last year and heavy criticism from the public, a trial has taken place aimed at improving the repair process. On Monday and Tuesday, 26 - 27 June. OCC and its highways contractor Milestone Infrastructure used the road between Steventon and East Hanney as a test site to trial seven different methods of filling in potholes or repairing minor defects requiring patching. Some of these methods are already used in Oxfordshire – including the Milestone dragon patcher – while the others were new ones sourced by Milestone. The Hanney/Steventon Road was closed and a 1km stretch was divided into sections. Each section had a different type of pothole or patch repair carried out to get a direct comparison of the various methods.

Last year, Milestone Infrastructure, repaired 31,413 road defects. This was against a backdrop of perfect potholeforming weather conditions – a prolonged freeze over winter followed by a protracted period of wet weather, which led to an unprecedented increase in the number of emergency pothole repairs. The trial will allow comparisons of the type of repair, equipment, material, and labour used, and the time taken.

LTN Impact Report Leads To Growing Calls For Resignations

Leading OCC Cabinet members have faced calls to resign after a council report revealed modelling which showed Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) led to ambulances experiencing delays when responding to life threatening calls. The council report analysed the impact of LTNs in East Oxford and Cowley on South Central Ambulance Service's response times and found the traffic measures cause delays to response times for life

threatening, emergency, and urgent calls in East Oxford. There have been calls for both the cabinet members for highways management and for travel to resign for not releasing the information in an "open and transparent manner".

OCC Cllr Nicholas Field-

Johnson, Burford & Windrush Valley nick.fieldjohnson@oxfordshire.gov.uk and nfjuk3@gmail.com

Good to know that the pothole dragon is still around. We reported its arrival in May 2016 but there have been no sightings since then - Ed

BEAGles



All are welcome at our next meeting on Tuesday 15 August, at our usual haunt of the Prince of Burford at 7.30pm. Come along and shape Burford's future in a low carbon world! We're also expanding our activities to work more closely with neighbouring communities, such as Swinbrook and Carterton. Our litter picks are always in need of willing volunteers, with much litter being dug out of hedgerows and removed from streets. More are planned, so if you want to join the merry band of litter pickers, please let us know - and also if your area needs being picked over.

And lastly, a shout-out for a brilliant new enterprise in Burford: not content with offering an extensive range of delicious plant-based food, Emily Weir's Nutmeg and Thyme shop in Christmas Court has branched out into refills: she currently has a selection of cleaning and household products, but this month is bringing in some foodstuffs including gluten-free oats and flours. She's open to suggestions: how about shampoo, conditioner and pulses? The idea is that customers bring along their own packaging - take-away containers, jars, etc - but she also has pump-action bottles and paper bags if you're caught short! Andy.hayter@gmail.com

- 14 -- 15 -

DR SIMON ALBERT MBBS, FCP, DRCOG, MRCGP



Born 26 August 1966, died of a stroke 14 June 2023 aged 56

Dr Simon Albert qualified from St George's Hospital, London in 1989 and joined the Burford Medical Practice in October 1993. He was appointed a GP trainer in the Oxford Deanery in 2004. He became the senior partner in February 2009, after Oliver Sharpley's retirement. He was widely respected within the Oxford Deanery for his teaching talent and many of his GP trainees qualified with merit and distinction. He set up the WOXDOC (West Oxfordshire) after-hours service in 1997 which proved very economical and popular with patients. Sadly, later, it was replaced by a much more expensive and less efficient health authority service. Not content with hiring a website builder, Simon single-handedly built and developed the Burford Surgery intranet and website. All of the clinical data collected, and every invitation that you received from the surgery, originated from Simon's work. There wasn't much that Simon couldn't tackle. Extraordinary to find a man with such talent who also was so kind, caring and empathetic to his patients.

Simon was very well respected and looked up to by his colleagues, not least for his values of fairness, kindness and his strong moral compass. He managed to keep himself fully updated with clinical practice and was extremely patient-centred. He was proud of the service provided by Burford Surgery, particularly the importance of continuity of care and good old-fashioned general practice.

Simon valued the importance of a strong, supportive team. He had a subtle sense of humour and would go out of his way to have a chat and support colleagues, no matter how busy things were

Simon and Beth, his wife, bought a derelict barn in the middle of a cornfield in 1996. It had no water, electricity or proper track to it. Undaunted, they hired a digger, and planted 3,000 trees, laid paths, built sheds and completely landscaped the plot - such was their vision and competence. Simon rarely employed a tradesman because he could do the job better himself. He was a true all-rounder and a competent musician and talented badminton player.

Simon's energy and devotion were centred around three major projects: the family, the Barn and the Burford medical practice. He leaves his wife Beth and three beautiful, talented and rounded children; Imogen, Archie and Hugo.

He will be sadly missed by his family and friends, his patients, the Burford Surgery team and by many doctors whom he trained.

Oliver Sharpley

There is a book of condolence and donations box in the Burford Surgery and wonderful comments about Dr Albert and the kindness and support he gave to so many local people.

Editors

ELSPETH CORNICK

24 October 1935 - 18 June 2023



Elspeth Cornick moved to Burford with her family in 1984. At that time her husband, Michael, was the manager of Lloyds Bank in Carterton. Michael died some years ago and Elspeth moved to Windrush Court where she stayed until she became ill last year. She was a truly lovely lady, a wonderful friend and neighbour to everyone who

knew her. She was well known in the town and had many friends in the church and the FaB WI.

A Service of Thanksgiving will take place at St John the Baptist Church, Burford on Friday 11 August 2023 at 11.00, followed by a reception at Warwick Hall.

All who knew Elspeth are welcome. RSVP fcornick@hotmail.com or 07554443678

Jo Rushton

JEAN DIXON

30 June 1951 - 15 April 2023

Jean was born in Westwell but spent nearly all her working life in the retail trade in Burford.



On leaving school she went to work in Hambidges (now Walkers Stoves), an old-fashioned grocery shop where sugar and coffee etc were served loose and cheese was cut from the block. Next she went to work for Bob and Marlene Maiden in their fruit and veg shop (shop now called Number 52).

Jean then went to work for Mrs Smith in her shoe shop called Rose Dodd (now Charles Clinkard) where she made many friends from far and wide, many who are still in touch today. The real Huffkins was her next stop where everything was baked on the premises and the quality was first class. She then went to work at Burford News where again she made many friends.

After a short break during which she was offered work at several shops she went to work for Lynn Agg in her little shop next to The Bakery on the Hill.

Because of her bubbly personality and through meeting so many customers Jean was well-known in and around Burford which was obvious at her funeral conducted by the Rev Cedric Reavley. The crematorium was full to bursting. *Roy Dixon (Husband)*

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS



Wasting Asset

Walking to Burford Surgery along Sheep Street, I was struck by the dilapidated condition of the former cottage hospital. According to my researches (no doubt someone will correct me if I am wrong) the land on which the hospital was built was settled in the form of a trust by Col R.H. Hurst of Upton in 1902 for specific use as a hospital and the construction and equipment were paid for by local subscription. It was taken over by the NHS in 1947 and was eventually closed around 2000. In spite of it being regarded as a community asset and contrary to the terms of Col Hurst's trust, it was sold and the proceeds were retained by the health authority. It was then taken over by SPECAL, now known as the Contented Dementia Trust. This appears to be a very small charity. According to the latest accounts filed with the Charities Commission (year ending 31 March 2022) its annual income was £62,217. It's hard to see that it can do much work for that amount of money. The building looks as if it has been abandoned, the grounds are overgrown and there is no sign of any activity there. What a pity that the building can't be used for some better purpose. I wonder if any of your readers could shed any light on this matter. Agnes Varney

Birds, Bees And Butterflies

Congratulations to Ruth Reavley for No Mow May and maybe June?

My back garden is always left rough at the edges and I never use slug pellets etc, being mindful of our hedgehog friends. In any case, the slugs loved my chocolate cosmos. Sadly, I had paid a fortune for it and it really did smell of chocolate. Grasses and wild flowers (which some dub weeds) grow under the bushes and trees. I also have a wood pile. Wildlife is abundant.

On the first Monday in July, I arrived home to see something small flitting around the buddleia. On inspection I was overjoyed to see my first hummingbird hawk moth. It was slightly smaller than a five pence piece and therefore must have been a youngster. Apparently,

according to the Wildlife website, there is a glut of them this year. They like buddleia, verbena, valerian etc. I also have the large Bombus bumble bees which are now becoming quite rare.

When I first came to Burford, there were poppies in what is now Coles Field (if I dare mention the name). I had large stones in my shrubbery and there were many thrushes using them to break open their food. Sadly thrushes are now in decline and I last saw one on the recreation ground a couple of weeks ago.

Perhaps we could all make an effort to encourage more wildlife to our gardens, even it is just one wild corner. Sandie Everard, Frethern Place, Burford As Lionel de Rothschild said: "No garden, however small, should be without its two acres of rough woodland" - E

ART EXHIBITION

This year's exhibition by members of the North Cotswolds Arts Association will take place in the Warwick Hall from Monday 28 August until Saturday 2 September. The exhibition will be a mixture of original paintings and beautiful hand-made crafts (eg jewellery, ceramics, stained glass) all made by local artists.

Do come and have a look - entry is free.

Jenny Smith

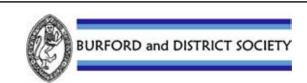
LOCAL WALKS

Thank you to all of you who responded to our query about whether or not you were interested in the feature on local walks. We had twice as many people who said they did value this information each month so we shall continue them.

Editors

Don't forget to look at our website 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



NEW TO BURFORD & 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

Our thanks to Emma Bradshaw for sending us this photo of the Morris Dancers in front of the Tolsey, Burford



- 16 -





WE ARE ON TWITTER

To get the latest news follow us on Twitter @BridgeBurford or go to our website www.thebridgeburford.co.uk.

JUST RECEIVED- UPDATE ON THE BULL, BURFORD HIGH STREET

Your editors are always keen to provide up-to-date information on new developments in our area and we asked Matthew Freud if he can tell us about The Bull. Matthew was on holiday when we contacted him but he put us in touch with Murray Ward, the general manager of this enterprise, and we learnt the following:

Firstly, the development team is very aware of the disruption and noise involved with all the building works and very much regret this. They are grateful for the support and understanding shown by the local community and hope that the pay back will be "a fantastic new drinking, dining and dozing offering."

The building works are most likely to be completed in August, although there will be some remedial and/or small works continuing until early September.

There is going to be a series of 'soft' launches throughout August so that the neighbours and local community will have an opportunity to experience the various facets of The Bull first-hand.

As many of you know The Highwayman hotel will also be refurbished and we should have more information about this in the September edition. In the meantime we have been told that there will be a new food offering and terrace and that "it will be amazing"!

There is an intriguing coaching element to the redevelopment which is designed for the passionately curious where they can consume, compete and create at their own pace, while engaging with local artisans and like-minded souls.

Regarding restaurants, The Bull will have the following: -

- A 'Horn' feasting restaurant serving a sharing menu of whole meats, fish and the like to tables of communal diners (30 covers)
- Hiro omakase Japanese restaurant serving diners the freshest sushi, sashimi and authentic Japanese cuisine (10 covers)
- The two expansive outdoor spaces the Carriageway (30 covers) serving an all-day menu of burgers, salads and sandos (*Japanese sandwiches Ed*), and the upper terrace (50 covers) with street food shacks and a Wild Kitchen BBO

Regarding accommodation, The Bull will have "18 beautiful bedrooms across three floors, all designed to showcase this fantastic building. Bedrooms will be an oasis of calm, with board games, classic novels, powerful showers and huge comfy beds."

The Bull is still recruiting for various positions both front of house and in the kitchen, and is keen to engage and recruit from the local community wherever possible. Although some hospitality experience is preferred, the primary focus when it comes to hiring is personality, and bringing gregarious, passionate, empathetic people into the team.



We asked Murray about his background. He has been recruited from the prestigious Soho Farmhouse in Great Tew and comes from a Scottish family in the hospitality business. Here is his photo.

Finally please refer to The Bridge website www.thebridgeburford.co.uk

regularly to check on dates for local people to see for themselves what is available to them.

The website for the Bull is www.bullburford.com but this is mainly restricted to recruitment until mid-August. *Editors*

THE BRIDGE TEAM

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

Advertising Manager
Commercial Artist
Editors

Stephen Richards
David Mostyn
Gordon and Elaine Elliot

Founder/Chief Distributor Clendon Daukes
Proof Reader Judy Cumming
Roving Reporter Ruth Reavley
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 contact:

editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk

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

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

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, is expressed in unduly partisan language 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 The Bridge does not accept items or services. 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 2021 which can be viewed on our website www.thebridgeburford.co.uk.

- 18 -

DIARY OF SPECIAL EVENTS

C + 20 T 1		W	10.430
Sat 29 July	Craft in Action Fair	Warwick Hall	10-4.30pm
Sat 29 July	t 29 July Windrush Film - A Man called Otto Windrush Village Hall		7.30pm
Sun 13 Aug	Croquet on The Hill	163 The Hill	3-7pm
Tue 15 Aug	BEAGles meeting	Prince of Burford	7.30pm
Thur 24 Aug	Burford Horticultural Society Summer Coach Outing to Morton Hall gardens	See article for booking information	
Mon 28 Aug	Car Boot Sale	West Field Burford	
28 Aug - 2 Sep	North Cotswolds Arts Association Exhibition	rts Association Warwick Hall	
Tues 12 Sept	FABWI Immune System and Bowen therapy talk	Bowen Burford Baptist Church Hall, Witney Street	
Wed 13 Sept	TASC Lecture: The Frick Collection	Warwick Hall	10.50am
Sat 16 Sept	Burford Singers Come and Sing Day	Burford School	9.30-5.30pm
Tues 19 Sept	BDS Talk: The Oxfordshire Green Man trip	Warwick Hall	7pm
Thur 21 Sept	Whole School Open Evening	Burford School book at ticketsource.co.uk/burford-school	
22-24 Sept	Burford Literary Festival	See <u>burfordlitfest.co.uk</u>	
23 - 24 Sept	West Oxfordshire Countryside and Game Fair Langley Farm, Clanfield		10-4pm
Sat 30 Sept	Old Burfordian AGM and Reunion	Burford School	2.30-5.30
Sat 7 Oct	Race Night in aid of playground fund	Bowls Club	TBA
Wed 11 Oct	TASC lecture: Visual Illusions		
Tue 17 Oct	Burford & District Society Annual Lunch members only	TBA	TBA
Thur 9 Nov	Sixth Form Open Evening	Burford School book at ticketsource.co.uk/burford-school	
Fri 15 Dec	Chamber of Trade Burford Ball	Burford Golf Club	

PLEASE NOTE

If you would like us to include details of your local events please ensure that you have provided all the relevant information ie

Name of Event
Date of Event
Location of Event
Time of Event

Otherwise incorrect information may appear

Thank you. Editors This information is sometimes out of date but included as a prompt for people to remind 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 gillianhames46@gmail.com
Astally Arms	Last Friday of the month	Memorial Hall Asthall Leigh	From 7.00 pm
Badminton Group	Monday nights	Burford School 8-10pm. Friendly, all abilities	Kevin 704655 scareyradar@yahoo.co.uk
BEAGles aka Burford Environment Action Group	Third Tuesday of the month	The Prince of Burford	7.30pm
Burford Badminton Club	Tuesday nights 8-10pm	Burford School - fun, social, all abilities	Vijay 891043 vijaysmobile@gmail.com
Burford Crafters	2nd and 4th Wednesdays	Burford Library 2-4pm	Christine Brown 07971679116/ June Catling 823752
Burford & District Society	Meet 7 times a year	Warwick Hall at 7.00pm	Bert Clough, Secretary 07943 720668
Burford Library	Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday	See Times on Useful Information page	High Street, Burford
Burford Town Bowls Club	Friendly Roll-up all Mondays	Bowls Club from 6.30 pm	Pat Walker 01993 822330 patr47@btinternet.com
Burford Writing Club	2nd and 4th Tuesday each month	Varies. 7.30-9pm	ashley.v.count@gmail.com
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	Burford Baptist Church Hall	Jennie Craven 07710 103015 thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk
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
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 vijaysmobile@gmail.com
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 www.burfordchurch.org/rockatots
Rotary Burford & Kingham	Monday	The Burford Golf Club	Terry Best, Secretary 775232
Scouts	Thursday (term time)	Scout Hut 6 - 8pm	Alex Gill 07762161769 burfordscouts@gmail.com
Scrabble	1st Tuesday of each month	Burford Library (free tea, coffee, soft drinks)	7pm
Soup & Pudding Club (currently suspended)	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	publicity@theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk
The Wychwood Lodge of Freemasons	3rd Thursday Sept-April	The Masonic Hall 31 Sheep Street	Mike 868302 / Allan 822240 wychwood988@outlook.com
Time Out	Monday 11.00am - 3pm lunch and afternoon tea	Warwick Hall inc games, bingo, singing, talks	John Harrington 822451 or Sue Sheppard 824729

- 20 -

CHURCH SERVICES

BURFORD BENEFICE

St John the Baptist, Burford

6 August	
Holy Communion (CW)	11.00am
13 August	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am
Matins (BCP)	9.30am
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am
20 August	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am
Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am
27 August	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am
Morning Prayer (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am

St James the Great, Fulbrook

14 August	
Morning Prayer (CW)	9.30am
21 August	
Matins (BCP)	9.30am
28 August	
Holy Communion (BCP)	8.00am

St John the Evangelist, Taynton

21 August	21	August	
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Evening Prayer (BCP) 6.00pm

St Nicholas, Asthall

/ August	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm
14 August	
Holy Communion (BCP)	6.00pm
21 August	-
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm
	-

St Mary, Swinbrook

/ August	
Holy Communion	11.00am
14 August	
Morning Service	11.00am
21 August	
Morning Service	11.00am
28 August	
Morning Service	11.00am

St Oswald, Widford

28 August

Evening Prayer (BCP) 6.00pm

Every Wednesday at 10.30am we have a Holy Communion Service in Burford followed by Coffee & Company in the Warwick Hall Tarnia Usher - Church Secretary

ST JOHN FISHER AND ST THOMAS MORE

Sunday Mass: 9.30 am

Weekday Masses: Tuesday - 10.00 am Thursday - 10.00 am

For updates please see <u>catholicchurchburford.org.uk</u> or the church noticeboard for details.

Dan Boyle

BURFORD QUAKER MEETING

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

Myra Ford 01451 810484, or Graham Hadley 01993 875214

BURFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

For information please contact *Gill Crippen*

SIGNPOST

Come and chat to someone over a cup of coffee about a matter you are struggling with. A team of volunteers from Burford Church will be available to listen and do their best to help.

All matters will be dealt with confidentially. The Warwick Hall, Burford Wednesdays 10am - 12 noon term time only *Tarnia Usher*

Please note that apart from this month the service of Choral Matins at St John the Baptist Church will take place on the second Sunday of each month. All are welcome.

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
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 www.hickmanlandscapes.co.uk	01993 822226
Jenny Smith	Spanish & French tutor. Building confidence GCSE/KS2. Experience in schools; DBS check held.	07908 602547
Kendall & Davies Solicitors	Expert, friendly, client-focused legal services with offices in Burford. www.kendallanddavies.co.uk	01993 822025
Tayler and Fletcher	Estate Agents / Chartered Surveyors / Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers / Commercial Agents / Rural Specialists	01993 220579
Mallams Auctioneers Ltd	Auctioneers and Valuers	01242 235712
Pauline Carter BA AmusLCM CTABRSM MISM	Piano Teacher	01993 774568
Peter Garratt	Painter and Decorator	01451 810376 07788 896496
StayCotswold	Holiday/Short Lets, Relocation, Corporate Stays, Property Search, Sales & Lettings. www.staycotswold.com	01993 259444
Thomas Ellis-Rees	Clock, Watch & Barometer repairs	01993 822132
Vick's Byway Garage	Bushey Ground, Minster Lovell, Witney, OX29 0SW. MOTs by arrangement	01993 823142
VJ Hancock & Co Ltd	Certified Accountants / Chartered Tax Advisers www.vjhaccountancy.co.uk	01993 822817
West Oxon Wills & Probate	Legal Services in your home or office. Lasting Powers of Attorneys, Trusts, Funeral Plans www.westoxonwills.co.uk	01993 220281
ElWell	Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nutrition Helping people stay independent as they get older	01865 238185
Burford Foot Clinic	Chiropody Castles Yard, Pytts Lane, OX18 4SJ	01993 200980
Adam Carter Chauffeur Services	Local Private Hire Chauffeur www.adamcarterchauffeurservices.co.uk	07920 135157
Tony Williams	Welding/Brazing/Soldering & Metalwork Home/Garden & General repairs & alterations	07722334696
Fairways Cotswold Explorer	for all your Airport & Cruise transfers	01993823152 07751472125
The Stone Gallery	Makers of Gold and Silver Jewellery, agent for Georg Jensen. Paperweights & Pictures. www.stonegallery.co.uk	01993 823302
NFU Mutual	Insurance Pensions Investments - Call your local Witney agency	01993 776716
Patti Good	Therapist, Teacher & Healer Free Online Guided Meditation Classes www.pattigood.com	07880 998568
Radnor Martin	Estate agents covering Burford and the surrounding villages	0203 8580035
Mel's hair at home	I can visit you or I have a small salon at my home on the green in Leafield.	07817726218
TC Garden Services	Gardening, Landscaping, Patios, Decking, Fencing & Gates, Raised Beds. Contact Tony for a free quotation. www.tcgs.uk	07771 888304

- 22 -





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- 24 -



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- 27 -- 26 -







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- 29 -- 28 -

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- 30 -- 31 -

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