

THE BRIDGE

April 2025



Bluebells in the Mist painting by Cathryn Jeff who is exhibiting at Artweeks in Charlbury - see within.

This monthly magazine covers people and events in our area of the Cotswolds, and is delivered free of charge to residences and businesses in Aldsworth, Asthall, Asthall Leigh, the Barringtons, Bradwell Village, Burford, Field Assarts, Fordwells, Fulbrook, Holwell, Northleach, Sherborne, Shilton, Signet, Swinbrook, Taynton, Upton, Westwell, Widford and Windrush with a wider national and international readership.

Volume 17, Number 3, £1.50




COTSWOLD GATE
BURFORD
A PORTHAVEN CARE HOME



Book a visit and enjoy a complimentary afternoon tea at Cotswold Gate Care Home

To RSVP or to find out more, visit porthaven.co.uk or call 01993 222800

34 Forest Grove, Burford OX18 4FF

NURSING • RESIDENTIAL • DEMENTIA • RESPITE



01993 220 579
burford@taylorandfletcher.co.uk

Taylor & Fletcher



SOLD SOLD SOLD




James Skinner
Residential Sales Manager


Alison Denny
Residential Sales

Celebrating 6 years in Burford
Providence House, 49 High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire, OX18 4QA

corky & prince
WEDDING & EVENT FLOWERS



Wedding Marquee Flowers Specialist



Where nature's artistry meets human imagination. We are floral storytellers, weaving emotions and dreams into bespoke creations that transcend the expected. From the delicate curve of a petal to the bold stroke of a branch, we transform your wedding or party marquee into immersive floral experiences.

To enquire about our wedding and event flowers service, please visit www.corkyandprince.com or call Fi on 07740 589640

FOR YOUR LOCAL GENERAL BUILDING REQUIREMENTS



GENERAL BUILDER
RENOVATIONS
EXTENSIONS
ALTERATIONS
IVOR LAVERS

SPECIALIST IN DRY STONE WALLING
BRICKWORK - BLOCKWORK
PLASTERING - ROOF REPAIRS
INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PAINTWORK - LANDSCAPING
TILING - CARPENTRY

BASED IN BRIZE NORTON
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
REFERENCES AVAILABLE
07866 748481

BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

Burford Town Council now have a vacancy for a councillor. This is a completely voluntary position, which does take a reasonable amount of time. We are looking for a resident or local who would give their time and be committed to help to keep Burford special as a conservation area and the Gateway to the Cotswolds, and work in our team of councillors to look after and improve Burford for all our residents and support our businesses.

If you are interested, please send your CV to Christina, our town clerk, by 1 April, at town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk with a note outlining how you would like to make a difference to Burford in our council and the skills you would bring.

Our request for a Traffic Regulation Order from Oxfordshire County Council was heard in February and, like the curate's egg, was good in parts. OCC approved the change of the coach parking bay closest to The Priory to become turning only, so that long coaches can turn round in the lane, but they did not approve the requested length limit for coaches or the "No Stopping" area outside the school, because it is the safest place for school coaches to stop when taking pupils on trips. We did get approval to install a zebra crossing at the top of The Hill, and two areas of no parking, one on Barns Lane to extend the double yellow lines off the blind bend at the south end of the lane, and one to stop vehicles blocking the pavement on the north side of Burford Bridge.

I am pleased to announce that Jack Buckland has joined the council's land management team as an apprentice Lengthsman. He will be attending Abingdon and Witney College for formal education while working in the town. Jack has previously carried out projects for us in his spare time, painting the bus shelters on Oxford Road and bollards on The Hill and Lower High Street and inspecting the play area on Cotswold Gate. You will see him working around the town, on the recreation ground and Westfield, at the cemetery and on Cotswold Gate play area.

We were fortunate to receive a grant from West Oxfordshire District Council under the government's Funding Scheme to improve town centres and high streets, with the funding to be used on specific agreed capital projects. We will use this on various items, including replacing five old benches in the town that are past their best, rebuilding the wall around the War Memorial, plants for the two small gardens in the town and purchasing Christmas lights for The Hill and the tree on Church Green.

Peter Higgs – Mayor peter.higgs@burford-tc.gov.uk



LEVELLERS DAY 2025

Levellers Day is a commemorative event that has taken place in Burford every year since 1975. It our 50th anniversary! Levellers Day marks the death of three soldiers belonging to the Levellers, a radical movement that emerged during the English Revolution. Over the years we have welcomed an array of high profile academics including Christopher Hill and EP Thompson, politicians including Tony Benn, Michael Foot and Jeremy Corbyn, trade union leaders like Billy Hayes, and other important figures of the Left like CND's Bruce Kent and Imran Khan, the lawyer who represented the family of Stephen Lawrence.



The event will take place on **Saturday 17 May** at **Warwick Hall, Burford** from 10:30-16:30. There will be the annual commemoration in the churchyard, led by Rev Canon Professor Mark Chapman, and the march round Burford town centre.

This year's theme is **Confronting Inequality and Poverty**. We're excited to be welcoming historians Dr John Rees (Goldsmiths, University of London) and Jonathan Healey (University of Oxford) for our historical working tour. Speaking at Levellers Day debate will also be Sam Gurney (TUC LESE regional secretary), Sarah Woolley (General Secretary of the Bakers Food and Allied Workers Union), Professor Danny Dorling (Halford Mackinder Professor of Geography, University of Oxford) and Rev Canon Professor Mark Chapman.

Waseem Ahmed

COPYRIGHT © 2025 Copyright in all articles in this magazine is reserved by the respective authors of those articles as identified. Requests for permission to copy or reproduce articles should be submitted in writing to The Bridge c/o Burford Post Office 29 Lower High Street Burford OX18 4RN or by email to editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk.

Any photographs or other images sent to the editors for possible publication in The Bridge are accepted on the understanding that the sender warrants either that they are the copyright holder or that they have obtained express permission from the copyright holder for the publication of such photographs or other images.

WODC COUNCILLOR REPORT

It continues to be fairly hectic in planning terms at West Oxfordshire.

We have made our initial representations to the inspector who will be deciding on the application for the nearly 1000 hectare Botley West Solar Farm. This huge scheme extends from north of Woodstock down to Cassington. A cable then crosses the A40 and Thames to an extension of the solar farm near Farmoor (hence its name), where there would be a substation and connection to the high voltage grid. Our representations drew attention to the issues that we want the inspector to take particular note of, and concludes by stating that without the necessary changes, West Oxfordshire District Council considers that the harmful impacts of the scheme substantially outweigh its benefits.

The planning policy team is also working hard preparing the council's 'Preferred Options' for the new Local Plan, which will be presented to the Executive in mid-May ready for consultation thereafter. It is not a draft plan, but sets out the direction of thinking on the plan, including the sites that the council is minded to include. Consultation on the Preferred Options Paper will take place in June, before the policies and sites are finalised in a draft plan for the final round of consultation. It's quite a process.

The Preferred Options will reflect the new National Planning Policy Framework, the new standard method for assessing local housing need as well as the increased emphasis on social rented housing, education, health and supporting the transition to net zero carbon by 2050. The emerging draft policies will have several marked differences from the current Local Plan 2031 (adopted in 2018).

It will have a much stronger emphasis on the following:

- Mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change, including a requirement for net zero carbon development and support for retro-fitting
- Tackling the ecological emergency by helping nature to recover, in support of the emerging Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- Timely investment in infrastructure, including a requirement for site-specific Infrastructure Delivery Plans in all major schemes (i.e. more than ten houses);
- Health and well-being, including the adoption of healthy place-shaping principles in support of the Oxfordshire healthy place-shaping agenda
- Adopting an integrated approach to the water environment such that different aspects including flood risk, sustainable drainage, water supply and disposal and the provision of blue infrastructure (*What's that?-Ed*) are treated holistically
- Accelerating housing delivery including the provision of new social rented homes
- Increased support for community-led and self-build housing
- Reducing reliance on the private car and promoting much greater levels of walking and cycling, and
- Increasing the use of public transport including policy support for the potential provision of a new rail line from Carterton to Oxford via Witney and Eynsham.

As you can see, it's not short of ambition!

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



Museum Reopens with a New Exhibition – 31 March



After being closed from January to March, the Burford Tolley Museum will once again be welcoming visitors seven days a week from 2 to 5pm every day from the 31 March, as it resumes its role in showcasing and sharing the town's rich historical heritage.

Burford During World War II: This year, the museum's special exhibition will be "Burford during World War II," commemorating 80 years since VE Day celebrated the end of the war. The exhibition will feature a variety of artefacts, including records, photographs, medals, ration books, goggles, and even guidance from Uncle Sam introducing the British and their customs to American service members based in the UK. This special exhibition provides visitors with a glimpse into the lives of the people of Burford during a pivotal time in history.

Room Stewards Needed: Every year, the museum's "The Story of Burford," collection, which highlights the town's rich history over many centuries, attracts thousands of visitors from the UK and around the world. As we are entirely volunteer-run, we rely on the dedication and availability of a team of fantastic museum stewards to be able to open every day. If you enjoy meeting people and would be interested in sharing the town's heritage, the museum would love to hear from you. Volunteers are asked to spare an afternoon or two every so often; no long-term regular commitments are required. As a museum steward, you will receive a full briefing and be provided with a comfortable chair behind a desk, facing a door through which you can expect a fascinating array of visitors to enter.

If you could be interested in volunteering, please don't hesitate to contact Jan or David Cohen on 07899 837482 for an introductory chat about what's involved. They would love to hear from you and this could be the start of an exciting new chapter in your life.

Tolley Talks: The 2025 programme of talks is now posted on our website as is the order form for a £25 season ticket. See www.burfordtolley.com/events.

Peter Martin 01993 822769 peteremartin@btinternet.com

ELSIE GARRATT

100 Years Old 10 March 2025

Cedric and I met Elsie Garratt and her daughter Lucy Viner at Penhurst Care Home two days after her 100th birthday, in early March. It's a rare privilege to meet someone of such advanced years. Elsie had been asked: "What's it like to be 100?" – her response "I don't know what it's supposed to be like, but I've still got all my faculties!" The staff have let her have an extra hour in bed in the mornings since her birthday, which is greatly appreciated. With Lucy joining in the remembering of family stories, Elsie gave a lively account of her earlier years.

Born in the West Midlands, she came to Filkins in 1949 as a Women's Land Army volunteer, on Sir Stafford Cripps's estate. She and other Land Girls shared a room in Sir Stafford's house. Elsie enjoyed ploughing with horses. Potato picking was hard work. One winter's evening they all had a horrible scare when a beam over the open fireplace smouldered, then caught alight after they'd all gone to bed. Elsie, Mavis and Mary all managed to escape from their attic bedroom dormer window – Elsie fell into deep snow by the moat around the house and rolled over, unconscious, saved from drowning only because the moat was frozen solid. She did end up with a broken pelvis.

Her friend Mavis invited Elsie along on a night out – for Elsie it was a blind date. The two pairs married – Mavis and Jim Lazenby, and Elsie and Mervyn Garrett (in 1951 in Burford), and began a long history of friendship and work together.

Jim's parents had the New Inn (now the Inn for All Seasons) at Little Barrington and had developed the adjacent filling station. Jim's father brought the two young couples in to run the Inn, beginning Elsie's association with the licensed trade.

At Little Barrington, Mervyn was a part-time game keeper for Colonel Mills, then went to work for the Wills family at Northleach. Col Mills invited Elsie and Mervyn back with the offer of a tied cottage for a combination of game-keeping and playing the organ in the parish churches of Little and Great Barrington; Elsie used to go along to pump the bellows (in the days before electric motors did that job).

Elsie used to cycle from their cottage on the estate to The Grove, where Col Mills lived, to clean, with Lucy sitting in her bicycle basket. She remembers cleaning an unused room with floor to ceiling curtains, going in to find the curtains covered in horseflies – it made her feel quite sick. Lucy remembers the smell of "proper coffee" (they had Camp Coffee at home) – a smell she later associated with Hambidges Grocers (where Walkers' stove shop is now on the High Street). At that tied cottage, the toilet was a privy at the bottom of the garden, there was no piped water and buckets of water were fetched from the stream or the village pump. Baths were taken in a tin bath in front of the fire.



The family, including by then three children, moved to Burford some 60 years ago. This was so exciting. Their beautiful council house, 44 Oxford Road, had a downstairs toilet, an upstairs toilet and bathroom, running hot and cold water, and a long garden running down to what's now Cole's Field, big enough for Mervyn to have a substantial vegetable garden. Elsie continued to do cleaning jobs – one client brought her home once in his Rolls Royce and Elsie had him drive twice round the estate so that everyone saw! They were the first people on Oxford Road to have a telephone – Col Mills had it installed so that he could call Mervyn should there be a need for his help on the estate.

After the Land Girl years Elsie honed all sorts of "people skills" working at the Cotswold Gateway (chambermaid), the Lamb with Mrs North-Lewis (waitress), the Bull and the Highway (then a temperance hotel), with a spell at a wet fish shop. Her parents by then were living at Windrush Camp, where they had a Nissen hut previously occupied by the "head of the council", who had managed to have it "all pushed up" – it was lovely. A great cyclist, Elsie mostly cycled into Burford, but, for

instance, the North-Lewises paid for Elsie to lodge with Miss Pittaway on The Hill. She also rode a delivery bike, then drove the delivery van (having learned to drive in the Land Army) for Hambidges, out to remote villages and hamlets around Burford.

About 55 years ago the family moved to take on the White Horse pub, on the Witney side of the High Street, towards the crest of the hill. The name is captured now in the name

"White Horse Mews". Pubs were different then; women were not welcome in "proper pubs" such as the White Horse. The pub had darts and Aunt Sally teams – local patronage was strong. The only food Elsie served for many years was pork pie, pickled eggs and crisps – other choices crept in later. The pub was largely run by Elsie, as Mervyn worked at Smith's Industries in Witney. They left in 1985, and it closed only a couple of years later.

Mervyn, a great cricketer, mustered his own cricket XI – Lucy and Elsie remember happy afternoons watching the game, with Elsie preparing cricket teas, and then sitting by the Windrush at the Fox at Little Barrington afterwards. Lucy remembers

shimmying along the great big pipe which crosses the river by the bridge – it's all fenced off now.

Elsie is proud of her four-generation family. We were given a glimpse of how traits can be passed down. As a child living in Wednesbury, Elsie was part of an entertainment troupe of youngsters, tap dancing and singing around the working men's clubs and town halls of the area. Skip a couple of generations, and grandson Jack Garratt is a singer-songwriter with the 2016 Brit Award Critics' Choice Award to his name. Lucy's two daughters Tracy and Julie can tap-dance courtesy of grandma's teaching.

There was so much more, but space is limited. What a rich life!
Ruth Reavley



Elsie, Robert Garratt, Mark Garratt and Lucy Viner



The FAB WI are busy organising the "Victory in Europe 80 years" afternoon tea event for Burford and surrounding areas community.

INVITATION – *You are all cordially invited to*

80 years of VE day – Afternoon Tea

Thursday 8 May from 2pm-5pm

Burford Baptist Church

Theme 1940s



Live Singer

We are very excited to announce that we will have a live artist singing tunes from the 1940s to entertain you whilst having your afternoon tea. Ruth, whose stage name is Ruth Lucy, is based in Oxfordshire and has previously fronted a nine-piece Funk and Soul band, 'The Titans'. She loves to sing new songs that sounds old - and the classics too!

There is no cost for the Afternoon Tea, however donations will be gratefully received as we are fundraising for an armed forces charity, the Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Families Association (SSAFA), which provides trusted support to serving men and women and veterans from the British armed forces and their families or dependants.

You can arrive any time between 2pm to 5pm and we're expecting that you will enjoy your tea and cake and then allow others to have a seat so we can serve as many people as possible. If you know you will be coming along, please let us know via details below, so we can bake enough cakes for everyone!

A reminder for our 8 April meeting: we have Cassie Patten, a local lady speaking about "From Galas to the Games - the story of a little swimmer with big dreams", and how she achieved a bronze medal at the Beijing Olympics.

We are always keen to welcome new members and guests are always very welcome to any of our meetings for a suggested donation of £5. So, we look forward to welcoming any of you interested.

The FaB WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the **Baptist Church in Witney Street at 7.30 p.m.** For further information please visit our [website thefabwi.org.uk](http://website.thefabwi.org.uk) or [contact our president, Jennie Craven, on thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:contact.our.president,Jennie.Craven,on.thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk) or 07710 103015.

GUITING MUSIC FESTIVAL 2025 ANNOUNCES LINE UP

The charming village of Guiting Power, near Stow-on-the-Wold, is the venue for this niche festival now in its 54th year. It brings to this lovely part of the Cotswolds an exciting variety of highly talented performances by classical, jazz, blues and Latin world-renowned artists. This year the Guiting Music festival runs from 25 July-3 August.

One of the most influential and popular names in British roots music and folk-rock pioneers, Steeleye Span open the festival on Friday 25 July, performing new arrangements, old stage favourites and some of their greatest hits.

Saturday 26 July, the very talented singer Gary Williams pays tribute to the biggest stars to have headlined Las Vegas, including Burt Bacharach, Elvis Presley, Frankie Valli, Matt Monro and Nat 'King' Cole.

Open-Air Blues Day on Sunday 27 July opens with the Dominic Alldis Trio featuring a selection of jazz standards. Headlining this popular Sunday is The Ronnie Scott's All Stars, a quintet who hail from the world-renowned Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club in Soho.

For Latin music lovers, Robert Pla and his Latin Ensemble on Monday 28 July is a must. This 12-piece band will showcase one of the UK's finest Afro-Cuban jazz and South American infused rhythms.

The classical programme launches on Tuesday 29 July with Trio Meister Raro, performing a programme which includes music by Debussy, Schumann and Mozart.

The highly esteemed violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen returns to GMF on 30 July with her musicians, performing the Brahms *Piano Trio no.1* and Schubert's *Trout Quintet*.

31 July sees Piano Four Hands – Simon Callaghan and Hiroaki Takenouchi playing piano duets by Schubert, Mozart and Barber.

The classical programme finishes on Friday 1 August, with The Montenegrin Guitar Duo performing music by Bach, de Falla, Domeniconi and Piazzola.

Britain's Queen of Soul-Gospel music, Ruby Turner, will perform on Saturday 2 August. A vocal powerhouse, Ruby is a regular guest vocalist with Jools Holland.

The festival finishes on Sunday 3 August, with the popular Open-Air Blues Day.

British award-winning Soul-Blues singer, songwriter and guitarist Mississippi MacDonald with his band and guest vocalist Cheltenham resident RaRa, will launch the day. Headlining are 2024 UK Blues Band of The Year, The Cinelli Brothers. Alongside the unmissable entertainment, there will be wine, beer and soft drinks available from the marquee bar, plus a selection of food on sale at all shows.

Sundays are a great family day out with guests bringing children, well behaved dogs, rugs, camping chairs, gazebos and picnics.

Free parking is available for all events.

Tickets are on sale from 14 April.

www.guitingfestival.org
Rosie Bartlett



Lecture on Wednesday 9 April

The Transformation of English Country Towns in the 18th century: Society, Art, Architecture and Travel



From the late 17th century towns and cathedral cities grew in size and prosperity, bringing in gentry from the surrounding countryside. To entertain the leisured classes, theatres and assembly rooms were built, subscription libraries started and racecourses set up. Gentry families increasingly owned a house in their local town, where they could spend the winter, shop, attend concerts, and see their friends. In the 19th century some towns became industrialised and lost their charm, others still have some of their 18th century attractions.

Caroline Knight is an architectural historian, trained at the Courtauld Institute of Art and specialising in 16th to 18th century English and Scottish architecture. She is a lecturer at the V&A on year courses and short courses, and lecturer for the Arts Society, the Art Fund, and for the Royal Oak Foundation in the US. She researched and wrote a history of Kensington Palace, contributed to a book on the Cecil family and has written several articles on architectural and social history and the history of travel. She wrote *London's Country Houses* (2009) and contributed a chapter to a history of the Royal Academy (Yale, 2018).

This hybrid lecture will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ at 11am and via Zoom. Please be seated by 10.50 for notices of upcoming events. Numbers are no longer restricted, but booking is recommended to reserve a place via our website (see below) Non-members are welcome (space permitting) at a charge of £10.

Further information will be circulated via the newsletter and bookings can be made via the website (see below) or please call Lisa Etheridge on 01285 711805 for a booking form.

Special Interest Day On Wednesday 23 April

Watercolour in Britain from Cozens to Constable and Beyond

Watercolour has long been central to British art, and from medieval times to the present day artists have valued the medium for its delicacy and luminosity. The sheer speed with which a brush can capture fleeting effects of light and weather has made it the perfect medium for landscape painting. But there is much more to watercolour than that.

This study day opens the subject up, revealing the surprising variety of ways in which watercolour has been used over its long and rich history.

Lecture 1: What exactly is watercolour? We will explore the minerals, earth, plants and even insects that were used to make pigments.

Lecture 2: The golden age of British landscape watercolours, when artists first realised the medium's potential for expressive and awe-inspiring views.

Lecture 3: How the Victorians used a new, brighter range of colours than had previously been available.

Susan Owens is an art historian and writer. She was a curator at the Royal Collection before becoming Curator of Paintings at the Victoria and Albert Museum, where she had responsibility for the National Collection of Watercolours. She is now freelance and lives in Suffolk. Her books include *Spirit of Place: Artists, Writers and the British Landscape* (Thames & Hudson, 2020) and *The Story of Drawing: An Alternative History of Art* (Yale, 2024).

The Special Interest Day consists of three sessions, two in the morning, followed by lunch and then another session in the afternoon. It is a smaller event and an opportunity to get to know other attendees over lunch. This day will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ at 10.45am, finishing at 3.00pm. Doors open at 10.15am, with coffee being served.



Numbers are restricted so booking is essential to reserve a place via the website (see below) or contact programme@theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk or call Alison Morgans on 07771 7817050 for a booking form. Charge £45 for members. Non-members are welcome (space permitting) at a charge of £47.

To learn more about The Arts Society Cotswolds and to see what lectures, Special Interest Days and other activities are planned, please see our website www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk

Or contact Alison Morgans on 07771 817050

WE ARE ON X/TWITTER

To get the latest news follow us on X (the platform previously known as Twitter) @BridgeBurford or go to our website www.thebridgeburford.co.uk.



It is with great regret, but with full understanding, that the executive committee has accepted Clendon Daukes's resignation from the chairmanship of the Tolsey Museum and Archive, thus ending a remarkable phase in the BTMA's history - one characterised by dedication, vision and outstanding achievements.

When the pressing need for the Burford Archive, accessible for all, was identified in 2018 to protect its historical documents, images, and oral history Clendon, with a very small group of like-minded individuals, initially led the quest for suitable premises to house the town's unique collection.

In typical Clendon fashion, the concept then expanded at a rate of knots (with apologies for such an inappropriate phrase for a distinguished military man). Before long, a committee had been formed, a property offered, numerous local fundraising initiatives had commenced and a huge range of charities contacted, with the net result that all the funds needed were raised. This whirlwind of activity culminated unabated, leading to the opening of the Archive in November 2022.

Under Clendon's strong, energetic chairmanship, the small (but perfectly formed) local committee not only gave the town the new Burford Tolsey Archive in Swan Lane but also successfully integrated its operations with its much older brother, the Burford Tolsey Museum (formed in 1960). The existence of the Burford Tolsey Archive stands as a testament to Clendon's leadership, providing a space where Burford's rich history is now being preserved and made accessible to the community.

The executive committee wish to gratefully acknowledge and thank him for his exceptional service and unwavering commitment as chairman, one marked by a relentless pursuit of excellence, that will ensure that the Tolsey Museum and Archive can not only preserve the past and inspire future generations, but also for his legacy of dedication and vision that will continue to guide the Archive's future endeavours.

Many thanks, Clendon, yet another job well executed.

David Cohen - Acting Chair

FESTIVAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

As a newly retired couple we moved to Burford in 2018 A couple of years later a friend suggested we became involved in the Burford Festival. Although a little sceptical at first, with no similar past experience, we did eventually agree and it was definitely the right decision. Not only was it a fantastic way to engage with the local community, we met many new people and had a lot of fun.

After a false start in 2020 when the festival was postponed due to the pandemic, we became involved fully with the planning and delivery of the 2022 event. Our specific role was logistics. This covered a broad area but mainly focused on recruiting and organising the volunteers, managing the facilities for each event, dealing with all the street signs and not forgetting putting up the all-important festival bunting.

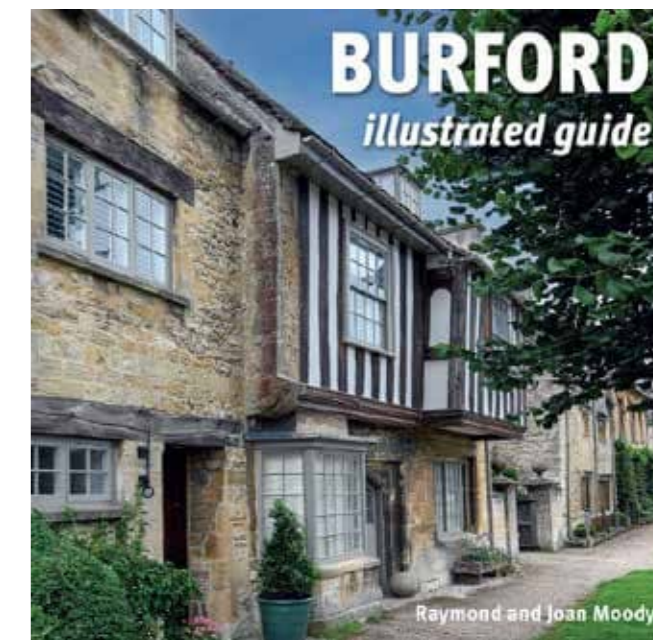
Having met such a range of wonderfully creative and committed individuals in 2022 we decided to take on the same role again in 2024. In both instances whilst the commitment was undoubtedly significant, especially during the actual festival, in our experience it was well worth the effort. So if you think you'd also like to take part, either behind the scenes like us, or in a more front of house capacity, then don't hesitate to get in touch.

There are so many opportunities to be involved in this fabulous local event, so there's bound to be one that suits you. Contact us at admin@burfordfestival.org to find out more.

Ann and Karl Morris

New Burford Illustrated Guide

To celebrate its quarter of a century (first published in 1999) of providing a brief introductory history and guiding visitors around the town, an exciting updated new version, with the text largely drawn from Raymond and Joan Moody's popular Introduction and Guide to Burford, is now available.



This new, lavishly illustrated 32 full colour book, exemplifying Burford's rich heritage, is accompanied by a map on the inside front cover. Published by the Tolsey Press, it is ideal if you want to learn more about the town, guide yourself on a fascinating walk or are looking for a pictorial souvenir of your visit to a unique town that boasts 262 listed buildings.

The book, which costs £5.00, is available to buy in person from the Tolsey Museum or from their 24/7 online shop www.burfordtolsey.org/shop or elsewhere in Burford, including the Madhatter Bookshop. All profits go to supporting the work of the Burford Tolsey Museum & Archive.

Peter Martin

MORRIS BUT NO DANCING

Rissingtons Local History Society - Wednesday 16 April
at 2pm - Visit to Kelmscott Manor and gardens.

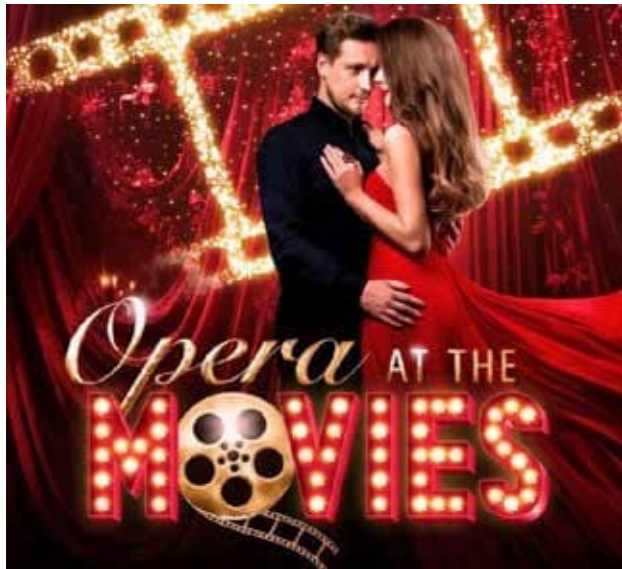


A private tour of the home that inspired William Morris, the father of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

For details and information contact Kate O'Brien 07815
606770/information.RLHS@gmail.com.

Susan Brown

NORTHLEACH



**London Festival Opera return to Northleach Church on
Friday 11 April at 7.30pm**

Many celebrated filmmakers feature opera in their movies to add an extra dramatic and emotional dimension. Opera at the Movies is a LIVE performance of these arias and ensembles - with pieces by Mozart, Verdi, Bizet, Puccini, Gilbert and Sullivan and more. Prepare for an evening of passion, drama and humour!

Tickets at northleachevents.co.uk

Jane Quelch

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.cotswolds-nl.org.uk>

Around Bredon Hill – Tuesday 1 April – Moderate 3hr 6ml

Once part of the Cotswold upland, Bredon Hill is now an outlier of the Cotswolds, containing Roman and Iron Age relics and standing stones. It has inspired writers, artists and musicians. We walk around the top of the hill. Great views from the summit – known as Parson's Folly – weather permitting. Bring coffee/snack.

Start: 9.30am Queen Elizabeth Inn, Elmley Castle WR10 3HS. Please park considerately near the pub. OS Map ref: SO 982 411. W3W: convinces.spot.wages

Walking the Ways 2 (of 5) – Tuesday 15 April – Moderate 5hr 9ml

This walk starts from the Methodist Chapel in Hawling and follows the Windrush Way towards Guiting Power, passing the site of medieval Hawling. We then join the Wardens' Way up through Guiting Wood and the Farmcote Estate before rejoining the Windrush Way at Deadmanbury Gate for our return to Hawling, with lovely views of typical Cotswold countryside. Please bring refreshments for mid-morning and picnic lunch stops.

Subsequent walks are planned for 20 May, 17 June and 22 July.

Start: 10.00am Hawling Methodist Church, Hawling, Cheltenham. Please park considerately in the village. OS Map ref: SP 066 230. W3W: shepherds.truth.successes.

Four Gems and a Diamond – Thursday 24 April – Moderate 4hr 8ml

This diamond shaped walk takes us through four gems of Cotswold villages, including Cold Aston, Notgrove, Turkdean and Hazleton. The route is up and over rolling hills with good views. Please bring lunch/drink.

Start: 10.00am Cold Aston, Cheltenham. Please park considerately in the village.

OS Map ref: SP 128 198. W3W: dozen.comb.beanbag

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



BURFORD and DISTRICT SOCIETY

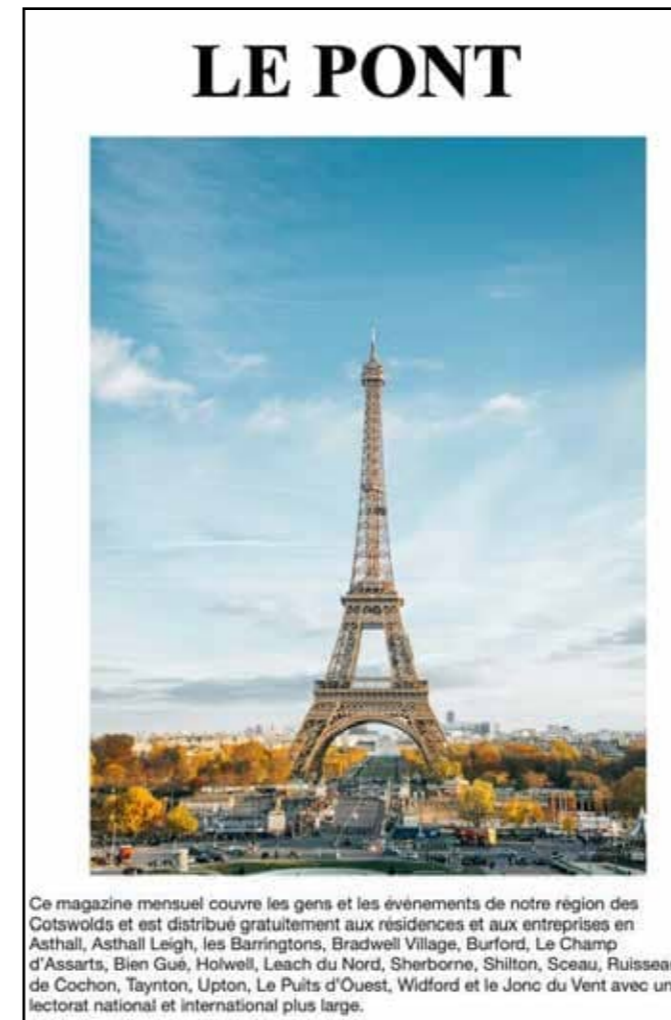
NEW TO BURFORD & AREA?

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

A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE BRIDGE

It is a cliché to observe that the area where we live welcomes many thousands of foreign visitors each year. Habitues of Burford High Street may have noticed that an increasing number of these come from the other side of La Manche. They can frequently be seen partaking of a café au lait and a pain aux raisins at one of our refreshment stops, and it must please the local entrepreneurs to see them spending money here. The news of plans to open a French theme park near Bicester may mean even more coming over to visit the land of les rosbifs.

Now part of the raison d'être of this magazine is to ensure that residents and visitors alike are kept au courant with what is going on here. Following a cri de coeur from some quarters, we have been given carte blanche to introduce Le Pont, a French-language version of the publication. See below.



Ce magazine mensuel couvre les gens et les événements de notre région des Cotswolds et est distribué gratuitement aux résidences et aux entreprises en Asthall, Asthall Leigh, les Barringtons, Bradwell Village, Burford, Le Champ d'Assarts, Bien Gué, Holwell, Leach du Nord, Sherborne, Shilton, Sceau, Ruisseau de Cochon, Taynton, Upton, Le Puits d'Ouest, Wildford et le Jonc du Vent avec un lectorat national et international plus large.

How it might look

Initially this will appear online only but we hope that a printed version will be en route soon. For the time being articles will be translated by a language app but from 1 April next year it will be de rigueur for all contributions to The Bridge to be submitted in both English and French. We hope that our contributors will accept this change with their customary sang-froid. If not, tant pis, it's a fait accompli.

A spokesperson from the French embassy in Londres said "C'est magnifique, mais ce n'est pas Le Monde".

Editors/Rédacteurs en chef

THE PRIORY IN THE 1680s



Photo: Author

Many of us will have walked around the gardens of the Priory on Snowdrop Sunday, when the house itself can be seen in all its magnificence; but there is an inventory which allows us to admire the interior as it would have looked in the 1680s, when William Lenthall, grandson of the more famous Speaker Lenthall, was lord of the manor.

In medieval times, the Priory was a hospital, a place where the old and infirm were cared for by Augustinian Canons; but when the monasteries were dissolved by Henry VIII in 1539 it passed into lay hands, and the new owner, Edmund Harman (barber-surgeon to the King) also became lord of the manor. Speaker Lenthall took over in the 1630s and the house remained in the possession his family until 1828, when the Lenthalls were forced to sell it for financial reasons.

The inventory tells us that in the 1680s the Priory had 17 rooms, apart from the servants' quarters, stables and brewhouse, and they were all furnished with expensive tapestries and pictures and the finest silk. It is obvious from the reference to 'andirons' that virtually every room had a fire; and the family must have had several servants, employed in keeping the house warm, providing food and drink for the family and guests, and looking after the coach, horses and other animals listed. The most memorable entries are the following.

In the Place [Great Hall] 26 Chaires, two tables, two Carpets, and a paire of Andirons, one paire of Candlesticks and severall pictures hanging about one head of a stagg with in wood eight paire of staggs hornes and one Clocke.

In the Greate Parlour eighteene Turkey worcke Chaires, three tables with Carpets, two paire of Andirons and severall Pictures in the Rooms.

In the Kitchen three Dresser boards, six spitts, two Racks, one fire grate, three dozen of Pewter dishes, four iron potts, three Grasse [grease] potts, and Two Kettles.

In the Sattin Chamber one quilted sattin bed and a suite of forrest hangings one picture over the Chimney, two chaires, four stooles, Andirons, fire shovell and tongs.

In the severall servants chambers six beds with blankets and coverletts some old chaires and stooles.

In the stable four coach horses two lotts of harness, three saddle horses and a coach.

In the brew house one copper two vats and ye rest of the Utensills affixt to it.

In the Washhouse one Copper.

Six coves, one hundred sheep and twelve heifers.

Lastly in the seller twenty hoggs heads

Sadly, in the three centuries since this inventory was prepared, the house has fallen into a ruinous state more than once But today we can see, not least from the photographs in Musson's *Secret Houses of the Cotswolds* (2018), that it has been restored to its former place as the finest house in Burford.
Stephen Cooper



Following on from the enormous success of D-Day 80 - 6 June 2024, when the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy was commemorated by the lighting of over one thousand beacons and five hundred lamp lights of peace throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK overseas territories, plans are now in hand for the celebration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day which marked the end of the war in Europe on 8 May 1945, in a similar way.

Events leading up to the VE day anniversary

Tolsey Museum will have an exhibition of Second World War memorabilia on display throughout the year.

Early May – The FAB WI putting up the VE-themed post box topper on High Street.

We want to encourage all:

- **Shops** on the High Street to decorate their shop windows with flags and decorations in keeping for the celebration of 80 years of VE day.
- **Eateries** – pubs, restaurants and cafés to serve the nations selected food – Fish and Chips and the cake is Orange and Ginger.

Planned Programme for VE 80th Anniversary on Thursday 8 May

Sharing a moment of celebration in Burford, the following is planned to date.

Time	Event	Location	Comments
9am	Together We Stand: Flag Raising and VE DAY 80 Proclamation	Tolsey	
2-5pm	The FAB WI are serving an Afternoon Tea with 1940s theme and live singer	Baptist Church	All welcome; raising funds for SSAFA
6:30pm	Together We Chime: Let the Nation's Bells Ring Loud	St John the Baptist Church	
Evening - TBC	We would like singers, choirs, music groups - TBC	Tolsey	Please let us know if anyone would like to sing or play music in keeping with the occasion
9:30pm	Lighting the Peace lamp: A global tribute to symbolise the strength and unity in our community	Tolsey	
9:30pm	Community singing "I vow to thee my country"	Tolsey	

Jennie Craven, deputy mayor of Burford, is co-ordinating what is happening in Burford and finding out what organisations, groups and individuals in Burford and the surrounding area are doing.

If you are planning an event, please could you contact Jennie via jennie.craven@burford-tc.gov.uk

Organisers are also being encouraged to register their events in advance on the national VE Day website www.veday80.org.uk. You will then receive a certificate and other information.

Jennie Craven - Deputy Mayor - Burford Town Council

BURFORD'S INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

There are only about 30 state schools in England that provide state-funded education and also have boarders for whom a charge is made. Burford School is one of this exclusive group and indeed has provided boarding since its foundation in 1571.

At the bottom of Burford Hill, behind an elegant-looking façade on both the High Street and Church Lane, lies Burford School's boarding house. It accepts students from the UK and elsewhere, currently being a home for 97 students from 34 countries. Here two of these describe in their own words what boarding in Burford means to them.

I am in Year 12 and have only just moved to England in September. Leaving home to study in a foreign country thousands of miles away from home is a life-changing experience, filled with both challenges and opportunities. If I had to use one word to describe life as an international boarding student, I would say it's "surreal". People sometimes wish they could experience life as it is in the movies, in a different way of life in a foreign country that is unknown to us; well, that is how being an international student somewhat feels. And as cliché as it may sound, it truly is a whole different world. The people, the food, the accents, the slang, the clothes, the weather, the culture, and simply just the way of life is so different. The transition to all these new factors of life within such a short period of time most definitely takes time to adapt, but it is such a life changing journey worth going on. You get to experience the best of both worlds, at least in my case I do.

Living in the Caribbean, which is reputable for its sunshine and sandy beaches and then moving to England which is known for its cold and gloom is a huge change that takes time getting used to and even more so when you've had to move away from your childhood home just for the benefit of your A levels. The cold won't go away, but over time you learn to adjust and get used to it. What you don't ever really get used to is the constant routine and structure involved in the boarding house, but you do however learn to be grateful for certain aspects of it. The same thing goes with adapting to living with so many other people, but over time you get used to it too and then it's almost like having 100 brothers and sisters under the same roof. All those other aspects of life that change when you become an international student eventually become the new normal. It doesn't mean you are losing the part of you which ties you to home, in contrary it simply means you are adapting to the new you and life as you knew it.

The hardest part of this experience for most is being far away from home and loved ones, but they are only a phone call away and before you know it it's time to go back home for the holidays. Some may think cultural barriers are a problem, but in contrary belief they just give everyone the chance to appreciate different cultures and learn about them, giving the opportunity to broaden our knowledge of the world.

This huge shift in the environment has not only tested my adaptability skills but it has also shaped my independence and resilience, as well as the personal growth that comes with living far away from home. This opportunity comes with many ups and downs, but in my opinion it is worth the risk to be given so many new opportunities that might just impact your life for the better.

Stella K

As a Lebanese student living in the United Arab Emirates and attending a school with over 150 nationalities, the concept of boarding school—let alone in the UK—was entirely new to me. I joined Burford School in September 2023 to start my A levels, and I am currently in my last year of school. Adjusting to the UK's weather was quite difficult, especially coming from Dubai, where March temperatures range from 29°C to 18°C, compared to the UK's 12°C to -1°C. Beyond the climate, adapting to British societal norms—particularly the emphasis on independence—was another challenge. Being away from my family and close friends was tough, but it pushed me outside my comfort zone, shaping me into a more independent and responsible individual.

Attending boarding school in the UK has opened up countless opportunities. Although adjusting took time, I am incredibly grateful for the experience. I have learned about diverse cultures, built international connections, and seized incredible opportunities—whether in education, sports, travel, friendships, or personal growth. Academically, I have had the chance to participate in the Burford Business Breakfast, honing my networking skills and entrepreneurial knowledge. I also gained work experience at a local estate agency, expanding my understanding of the professional world. My hopes for the next steps are to attend university and study International Business, with the goal of becoming a business consultant.

In terms of sports, my interest in basketball flourished in Burford boarding. Playing in the courtyard almost every day inspired me to join the West Oxon Warriors basketball club, allowing me to develop my skills further.

Friendships in boarding have been especially meaningful, as living together fosters strong, almost sibling-like bonds. Finally, being in a completely different country and living away from my family has contributed greatly to my personal growth. Through this journey, I have also strengthened my faith in Jesus Christ. The Boarding Youth Group at St John the Baptist Church, right next to the boarding house, has provided a supportive community whose values align with mine, helping me deepen my faith and strive to become the best version of myself.

Natalia M

NB - please note the later announcement about grants for students at Burford School and volunteering opportunities.

BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday 21 May 2025
7pm to 8pm

Warwick Hall, Burford

All welcome to attend the Annual Town Meeting with presentation from Burford Town Council

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASTHALL MANOR

- 5 April - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: How to Take Cuttings of Fruit, Vegetables and Herbs
- 10 May - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: Sustainable Low Intervention Beekeeping
- 17 May - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: Gardening with wildlife (Summer)
- 23 May - 25th May - Guest event: The voice of nature
- 6 June - 8th June - Guest event: In The Footsteps of The Mitfords
- 21 June - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: Making Compost and Natural Fertilisers – Turning Waste into Gold
- 28 June - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: Let Food be thy Medicine
- 2 July - 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Guest Event: HandleBards production of Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing'
- 13 September - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: Seed Saving – Closing the Loop on your Food Growing
- 11 October - 10:00 am - 12th October - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: A 2-day Journey Through Soil, Soil Life, Compost, Organic Matter and Natural Fertilisers – with additional accommodation offer
- 15th November - 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Kitchen Garden Workshop: Gardening with Wildlife in the Winter – Some for the Birds, Some for the Bugs and Some for Us

Keep an eye on our website (asthallmanor.com) for more details, including booking. Or you can sign up to our mailing list for updates.

We are looking for a personal assistant and house administrator. If you think this could be you please get in touch. Please see our website for details on this incredible opportunity.

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



Big Fish Project: A Care Farm with a Purpose

Tucked away in the peaceful countryside at Abberley Farm, Alvescot, the Big Fish Project has recently opened its gates to offer a unique, therapeutic space for people with learning disabilities, autism, ADHD, and mental health challenges. This innovative care farm provides hands-on activities, work experience, and a strong sense of community for individuals aged ten and up.



At the heart of the Big Fish Project are engaging, farm-based experiences that promote well-being, confidence and skill-building. Participants can get involved in growing crops, caring for animals and conservation projects, all while benefiting from the fresh air and the rewarding nature of farm life. Whether it's tending to the fruit and vegetables in the polytunnel, helping care for the horses, goats, sheep and chickens or repairing and creating things in the workshop, every activity is designed to be both meaningful and enjoyable.



The project is working closely with local schools and care centres, offering an alternative environment where people can thrive. Whether attending for a one-off visit or regular sessions, individuals can enjoy meaningful activities that support their well-being, sense of purpose and independence—all crucial elements in improving mental and emotional well-being. Operating on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from 9am to 3pm, the Big Fish Project offers a supportive and engaging environment for individuals looking for something different. For more details or if you would like to become a Farm Attendee, visit www.bigfishproject.com.
Tarnia Usher

ALICE'S BOOK GROUP

The most unusual criticism of *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith was that it is a heavy book - "nearly broke my nose when I dozed off" - otherwise it was another book that many found daunting to begin, starting, as it does, with an attempted suicide. We thought that what follows would be somewhat dreary, but we were wrong. It was not to everyone's taste, admittedly. It is hard to identify with the characters, or, indeed, the setting in Willesden, London, where a high proportion of residents are immigrants, a mix of Asian and Caribbean, and the interplay between them is an important theme.

This was Smith's first book, written when she was 25, but is a mature work. She raises many of the issues that trouble the community, and her research into some of the more esoteric aspects of gene manipulation, gardening, and her knowledge of various religious beliefs is revelatory. We learnt a lot! But it is the sure touch she has for reproducing conversation (the "teen speak" feels authentic) that is impressive, though, of course, none of us had much experience of that community ourselves.

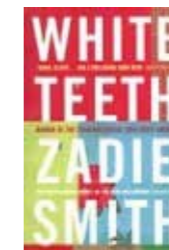
The story is centred on two dysfunctional families, one mixed Asian marriage and that of a quiet white man, who makes decisions with the toss a coin, to a first generation Jamaican. Their unsettled youngsters become embroiled with an "intellectual" white family, resulting in several disasters of varying seriousness. So, yes, it could have been a dreary book, but Zadie Smith overcomes this by involving us in each character, so as we learn their back story we appreciate their motives. Some of them are not attractive, but we are rooting for others.

We appreciated the philosophical asides, never overpowering, and the book's inclusiveness was refreshing. One character remarked "it makes no difference whether you are being watched by Allah, Jesus, Buddha, or whether you are not, on cold days a man can see his breath, on a hot day, he can't, on both occasions the man breathes."

All the above might give the impression that this is a deep, serious book, but while it deals with serious matters it is a very funny one. The characters are believable, some almost verge on caricature, but it made us all laugh aloud in places, sometimes at a throwaway line or a well placed adjective. Smith writes with a light touch, but she has a wide vocabulary, wielded deftly and to good effect. I was given pause by "anagnorisis" – a revelation of how things really are. The plot is satisfying, the end feels a circle is closed, and perhaps there is some future for the protagonists.

I Haven't Been Entirely Honest with You by Miranda Hart next, and it promises to be completely different.

Veral Marshall



BURFORD LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

We meet at the library the last Tuesday of the month. For those who enjoy books your reading pleasure may be enhanced by shared thoughts, analysis and many laughs.

A small group who would welcome new members.

No cost

For more details pop into the library or call 01865 815123

Jean Lawton

FRIENDS OF BURFORD LIBRARY

How quickly spring takes hold and new green shoots appear magically all around us.

As we gambol towards summer, we are busy planning our ever popular Pimms and Poetry event. Details of venue and timing will appear in the next issue.

Meanwhile, we can happily report on the outstanding success of our Pub Quiz and Fish 'n Chips Evening, held at the excellent Royal Oak at the end of February. The pub was packed to capacity and an unforgettable evening was had by all. As ever, a big thanks to Allan - our inscrutable quiz master.

We do hope you will all spare a few hours in this busy month to relax with your favourite book, enjoying nature in all its many guises.

Maureen Percival

Burford Library Easter Craft Activity



Come make an Easter Bunny out of paper cups.

Then solve the puzzle to fill your bunny with chocolate eggs.

Free event for ages 4-8yrs
Tuesday 8 April 2-3pm. Booking essential.

Under 8s must be accompanied by an adult.

Carol Amy Holdcroft
Library Manager

Burford Library's Book Day

World Book Day on 6 March was celebrated in style at the library. The children from Burford primary visited dressed up in their favourite book characters.



Local author Francesca Gibbons, writer of the series *A Clock of Stars*, read to the children. She also judged the colouring competition to design a book cover. First, second and third prizes were kindly donated by the Friends of Burford Library. Thank you to everyone for supporting your local library.
Carol-Amy Holdcroft - librarian. Photo by Holly Docherty

FLOUR POWER

Wheat is the oldest food known to humans that doesn't require hunting or foraging. Millstones for use in grinding wheat into flour have been found dating back 30,000 years. The first book of the Bible records a seven year famine during which the nations sent emissaries to Egypt to obtain bread. According to recent data, about 80 percent of the world's population relies on bread as a staple food in their diet. In this country we consume on average 54 kilos of flour per person in various forms per year. And it plays a significant part in our local economy, with a whole range of high quality specialist varieties of flour being produced just up the road.



Many readers will at least recognise the name of FWP Matthews. If you drive through Shipton-under-Wychwood you will pass their mill by the railway line, or you will have seen their large lorries on local roads. It is also highly likely that you have bought their flour or eaten bread made from it at Bakery on the Hill, Huffkins, Hugo Lovage or other local outlets.

The business traces its origins to 1802 when the Matthews family were farmers at Fifield. They later moved into milling flour and in 1912 they built the Cotswold Mill at Shipton which is still their base. They are one of 21 flour mills in the UK including the confusingly named Shipton Mill which has no connection with Matthews and is located at Malmesbury.



Charlie Maynard (L) with Bertie Matthews

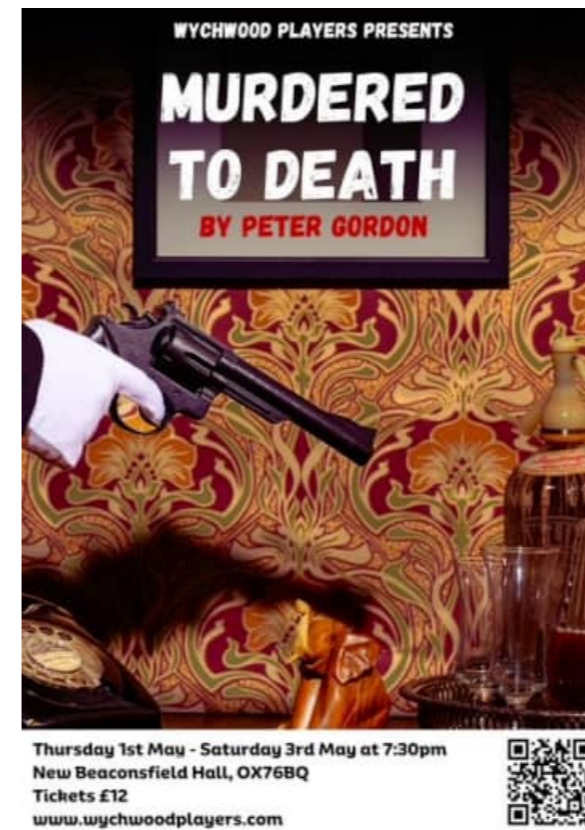
In February we were able to visit the mill in a small group including Charlie Maynard MP. We were shown round by managing director Bertie Matthews who is the eighth generation to run the family business and who lives in Burford. They produce 25,000 tonnes of flour per year and it is sold in all sorts of ways including to the food manufacturing trade, supermarkets, grocers, independent bakers and, not least, to private customers; their online shop supplies 250,000 bags per year for home baking. Their website shows more than 40 types of flour including wholegrain, rye and spelt, some roller ground and some stoneground in the traditional way, for uses from bread and cakes to pizza and pasta.

At present they get their grain from 160 farms, 80 percent of which are in the immediate area. They collect the grain from the farms in their own lorries and store it until it is needed. We were able to tour the mill. Although the building is over 100 years old, it is equipped with some very expensive (and noisy) machinery spread across five floors. One of their challenges is to source energy to keep all of this running for the 160 hours per week during which they are operating. They buy in green energy which at present costs £45,000 per month.

They work closely with their farmers to support sustainable British agriculture. The key to this is regenerative farming. This is an approach to farming that allows the land, the soil, water, nutrients, and natural assets to regenerate themselves, as opposed to conventional approaches to farming that can deplete these natural resources. Bertie explains that organic farming is good for the soil but produces low yields. Conventional farming methods produce high yields but degrade the soil. Regenerative farming sits between these extremes. Farmers use tools such as limiting soil disturbance, maintaining soil cover, fostering agricultural diversity and integrating livestock and arable systems. One important measure farmers can take is to seek to ensure that water is retained on their land and does not run off into rivers so as to risk being the cause of flooding downstream.

The company has ambitious plans to increase its output to 100,000 tonnes per year by 2040 if they can get planning permission to expand their site. Matthews is a significant local employer who provides good job opportunities. They have around 50 staff, mostly local, and plan to take on more as their business expands. Currently they have vacancies in milling, driving and in their office. They run a Young Baker programme for those who are between 18 and 30, four of whom per year are able to get a week of experience with an artisan baker - no previous experience is necessary - and this can lead to a career in the baking industry. Details can be found on their website www.cotswoldflour.com for all you aspiring bakers.

Editors



The Wychwood Players presents *Murdered to Death* by Peter Gordon - A captivating murder mystery! This hilarious whodunnit is set to captivate audiences with its gripping story, eccentric characters, and compelling performances by local talent.

Murdered to Death invites audiences to spend the weekend in an upscale manor house, where a less than capable Inspector (and his patient constable) investigate a grizzly crime. The show stars a talented cast of ten actors, many of whom are familiar faces in the local theatre scene. With a combination of humour, scandal and suspense, this play promises an amusing evening for the entire family.

Join us for an evening of laughter and murder! Don't miss out on supporting your local theatre community and experiencing the best of what Cotswold theatre has to offer.

Ralph Wears

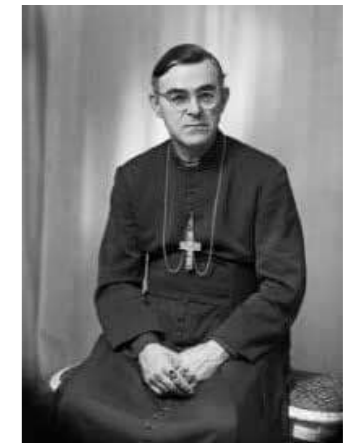
BURFORD'S MARRIED CATHOLIC PRIEST

Cemeteries reveal interesting life stories. The Burford one is no exception. I recently discovered the grave of the Catholic convert, Graham Leonard, who officiated at Burford's Catholic church. The son of an Isle of Wight vicar, he studied botany at Balliol College, Oxford and then, after serving in the Second World War, followed his father's vocation. Once he was unequivocally converted to Anglo-Catholicism, ordination developed from a slumbering possibility to an active compulsion. He rose effortlessly through the episcopacy, from Willesden to Truro and then to London.

Socially conservative, he spoke against premarital sexual intercourse, adultery, homosexuality, and abortion. In 1984 he ensured the ban on divorced people being remarried in church was maintained.

Bishop Leonard was an implacable adversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood. 'The ordination of women involves a rejection of the way in which God chose to redeem us', he argued. 'I do not believe that it was an accident that God chose to redeem us by being incarnate as a male'. If he had still been alive in 2015, he would have been appalled to see a woman appointed as bishop of his former London diocese. It was the final straw of the ordination of women that drove the most senior Anglican to cross the Tiber into the arms of Rome on his retirement.

In the Victorian age, Tractarian theologians such as Newman and Manning had also made this conversion but not from a bishopric. They were both made cardinals. Not so Graham Leonard. He was not however content to just become a layman in the Roman Church. But despite being a married man, he was ordained a Catholic priest by Cardinal Basil Hume, with the authority of the Holy See. He was even appointed a papal chaplain with the title of monsignor and allowed to continue to use his Anglican title of Right Reverend along with his knighthood.



Bishop Leonard in 1979: Bassano & Vandyk Studios/National Portrait Gallery

On retirement as bishop in 1991, he moved with his family to Witney. He died on 6 January 2010 aged eighty-eight at Merryfield House Nursing Home, Witney. Graham Leonard knew the Burford priest, the world-renowned scholar on Cardinal Newman, Father Ian Ker. Father Ker asked him to become a sort of assistant curate. He assisted at services but was not allowed to give communion. When he stood at the lectern to read or preach, he would grip the far edge to display his bishop's ring to best advantage.

The funeral mass was held at the Oxford Oratory followed by private interment at Burford. There was a memorial requiem mass at Westminster Cathedral where the principal celebrant was Archbishop Vincent Nichols, who also gave the homily. Graham Leonard's stony face gave the appearance of a dogmatic disciplinarian who would not tolerate those he saw as woolly-minded liberals. He was however greatly respected by his diocesan clergy. Graham Leonard referred to his years as a Roman Catholic as being 'brought into a family of love'. He wanted the best of both worlds. He insisted on retaining his Anglican episcopal titles as well as acquiring Catholic priestly ones, and at the same time as enjoying a married life. Achieving the seemingly irreconcilable was testimony to the steely determination he showed throughout his life.

Bert Clough

ARTWEEKS IN CHARLBURY



17-26 May 2025 (including Bank Holiday Monday)

There will be 15 artists exhibiting at ten venues around Charlbury as part of the Oxfordshire Artweeks Festival. They offer a diverse selection of artwork, textiles, jewellery, sculpture and ceramics in studios, gardens, cottages and St Mary's Church. Trail maps are available and there are plenty of places to eat and drink in the town. See www.artweeks.org for more details.

Cathryn Jeff

Sherborne 5 Mile & Fun Run
 In association with National Trust Run LuSH
Sunday 11th May 2025
 Fun run starts 10am and 5-miler starts 11am
 Medals for all runners - prizes for category winners
 Refreshments* bbq * free parking
 Races start at Sherborne C of E Primary School GL54 3DH

Sponsors: CCG, tivistock, FAR PEAK, NCTR600, MG Systems, Hacklings, Kikoro, COTSWOLD WELLSNESS, Cotswold Wildlife, Silver's Larder, BURFORD, PEAK, M.M. Central Heating, Plumbers & Gasfitters.

All funds raised go to the school FOSS registered charity number: 1075256
 Check out Sherborne Run Facebook and Instagram for updates
 Entries via Race Nation or www.sherborneschool.co.uk

BURFORD & KINGHAM ROTARY CLUB

Past president John Forster has been busy again. At the end of last month he handed over a cheque for £1,200 to the fantastic charity, Medical Detection Dogs. They train dogs to use their amazing sense of smell to detect human diseases. Thank you to everyone who helped us raise money for this charity.

In case you hadn't heard, a mysterious murder occurred in the Warwick Hall, Burford on 28 February. The event was supposed to consist of a lovely dinner and some jovial fellowship! Luckily, there were 83 part-time detectives present who conspired to solve this heinous crime. It transpired the characters involved were only acting, and – nobody died. The Club is very grateful to everyone who attended and to a great cast of actors and for an amazing mini-Oscars award ceremony. All funds raised at the event will be donated to Prostate Cancer UK and Maggie's. Beware though: a common MO for murderers involves a second similar crime – keep your eyes peeled, just in case it happens again.

A note for your diaries – on Saturday 3 May, the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir will be performing in Burford Church. They will include songs to mark VE day. Tickets will cost £20, which will include refreshments, and will be available through Evenbrite - QR codes and links will be on posters and our web pages.

Stuart Jackson

<https://www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk>

<https://www.maggies.org/><https://prostatecanceruk.org/>

TELEPHONES ARE GOING DIGITAL

If you have a telephone which works with a landline, it will at some point be moving from analogue to digital operation. As we understand it (and we are far from experts) this may not be too complicated, at least if you already have broadband in your home. You will need to plug your existing telephone into the back of your router, or, if the router and phone are too far apart, you can get an adaptor to plug into an electric socket. If you are concerned about this, please read on. Help is at hand. *Ed*

Landlines are going digital. Learn what Digital Voice is, why the change is necessary and what it means for you.

We are currently organising a series of small drop in events across the country to speak to people about the digital voice rollout process that is happening over the next couple of years. There is a lot of negative press about how people will be impacted and many people, especially the elderly and vulnerable are justifiably concerned. These drop-in sessions will be an opportunity for people to ask questions, and for us to explain what help and assistance is out there. The primary concern that most people have is that in the event of a power cut, the digital voice phone line will stop working. For most people, they will just use their mobile so it's not a huge problem. However, there are some elderly and vulnerable people that may not have a mobile and we want to reassure them that there are plenty of options out there to support them.

No need to book just drop in !

3 April 10 - 1pm

Carol-Amy Holdcroft -Library Manager

BURFORD AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION



Just a few places left for our coach outing to Coton Manor Gardens in Northamptonshire on Thursday 24 April, to see the spring displays. The cost is £35.00 per person to include the coach and garden. There is a lovely courtyard café available for lunch or bring your own. Leaving the Priory Lane, Burford, coach park at 9.15am, back around 5.00 pm. Please contact me, Jan Cohen, cohen4sp@btinternet.com, or 01993 822288 to book.

Last month's AGM was well attended, thank you to everyone who came, with all the officers being re-elected. Thanks also to the committee for providing the cakes for our afternoon tea. Janet called for more volunteers to help on the committee, not onerous, just four meetings a year. If you would like to get more involved, please contact Janet Copeley, janetcopeley@hotmail.co.uk.

As an extra to the official business this year we had an interesting and inspiring short talk from Jean Smith of Fulbrook, about landrace gardening. You've probably heard of the term "survival of the fittest," but have you ever tried applying it to the plants in your own garden? Well, with the landrace gardening method, you can do exactly that. This strategy aims to produce the best crops and the most productive seeds possible. Jean kindly brought along some seeds harvested last year for us to have a go. So, watch this space for who can grow the largest squash! You can contact Jean if you want further information or via me.

The Spring Show is on Saturday 5 April, all details on our website, www.burfordhorticultural.com.

It is open to all so please come along to show your exhibits in the morning from 9.30 am, or to have a look in the afternoon from 1.30 to 2.30pm.

Jan Cohen

Broadwell Proudly Presents:
Plants Under Attack!
The Plant Immune System
 A Science Talk for Plant Lovers & Gardeners
 with Katia Plant Scientist
 Sunday, April 27th, 2025
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 St Peter & St Paul's Church, Broadwell, GL7 3QS
 Tickets = £5 (at the door, cash or card)
 Refreshments at 2:30 pm & 4:00 pm
 by donation

11TH LECHLADE ANNUAL VINTAGE RALLY AND COUNTRY SHOW

3/4/5 May

Venue:- Langley Lane, Clanfield, Bampton, Oxon OX18 2RZ

Opening at 10.00 am all days.

Cars| Motor Cycles| Commercial Vehicles| Collections| Miniature Steam| Tractors| Models| Military Vehicles| Craft| Fun Fair| and much more.

Highworth Silver Band | National Animal Welfare Trust Fun Dog Show | Farrell School of Irish Dancing.

Britannia Majorettes | Kencot Ukulele Players. | Angels for Animals Association

Trade Stands | Car Boots| Refreshments. | Raffle & Tombola each day.

Beer Tent open all day and music in the evening.

Admission:- Adults £6.00 | Concessions £4.00 | U16 Free (with paying adult)

Parking FREE, Dogs on leads welcome.

WEB SITE WWW:- LECHLADE COLLECTORS CLUB

| E-mail:- info@lechladecollectorsclub.co.uk

also see us on Face Book

Margaret Gruber

BURFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL



In February we travelled to the Resorts World Arena in Birmingham where we sang alongside 6000 other children in the world's biggest choir. The songs were incredible, the dancing was fantastic and we even saw a few famous artists! The children were exceptional all day and sang their hearts out.

Thank you to everyone who supported the amazing Snowdrop Day at the Priory; a special thank you to those of you who most kindly baked especially for the event. Some local businesses also kindly donated baked goods, including a cake from Hugo Lovage Patisserie.



We enjoyed World Book Day. It was lovely to see so many children dressed up as their favourite characters – thank you parents/carers for your support with this.

Rachel Veeder - Executive Headteacher

ALMSHOUSE VACANCY

The Burford Almshouse Charity invites applications for a one bedroom, ground floor flat, suitable for a single person or a couple, with limited resources who live in or have connections with the Burford area.

Application forms and further information are available from anneyoungson@btinternet.com, 07946273902, or 01993822894.

The deadline for applying is Friday 25 April 2025.

Anne Youngson

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Coach Parking

I am a resident in Sheep Street and have been informed that Sheep Street is being considered as an alternative to the current parking in Priory Lane. At this stage I wish to place on record my serious concerns about this proposal.

First, it is questionable just how much these large coach loads contribute to the economy of the town. As far as I know, no attempt has been made to quantify this. As supporting local traders seems to be the principal concern, this is a serious omission if true.

Second, the proposal put before Oxford County Council highways does not deal with the consequences - where will coaches park if not in Priory Lane? This is another serious omission and might be seen as disingenuous of BTC. I fail to see how OCC can approve an incomplete application.

Third, how many times has the Priory entrance been blocked and for how long? There is of course an alternative entrance. Fourth, there are a number of other issues, not the least of which is safety of residents and visitors, which have been raised by others.

I have copied this to OCC in the hope it can be considered before the relevant meeting.

John Jack - Sheep Street

We looked online at the objections to the parking restrictions made by coach operators and were deeply touched by their concern at the suffering which might be inflicted on the residents and businesses in Burford if the number of visitors arriving by coach were to be reduced. Only a cynic of the blackest hue might think that they were really motivated by the desire to protect their own profits - Ed.

A Big Thank You

We would like to express our appreciation for Katharine House Hospice being one of the chosen charities at this year's Snowdrop Sunday at Burford Priory. We are so grateful to everyone who came and visited the grounds that weekend to enjoy the beautiful snowdrops and sculptures. We've had some fantastic feedback from staff, volunteers and supporters, along with some lovely photos which were shared.

We were so grateful for the kind large donation made to Katharine House Hospice in respect of the entrance fees. The amount raised could help cover the basic cost of our bereavement team for a whole week, enabling them to provide expert support on their individual needs in their journey through their grief. In addition, it could pay our food bill for one full week. We grow a lot of our own produce but still need to do regular food shops to keep our menu interesting for patients, with the delicious home cooked meals our catering team make and provide here at the hospice.

We are looking for new garden hosts to open their gardens as part of our Open Gardens Campaign in 2025. Our scheme has been a huge success over the years, raising thousands of pounds to support our patients and their families and our own beautiful garden here at Katharine House.

Find out more about getting involved in our Open Gardens scheme khh.org.uk/event/open-gardens-for-katharine-house
Rachel Burns

Shilton Tragedy

Thank you for your recent article about the Manor House Sale, of which I was made aware by a Shilton resident. It is of particular interest because my ancestors the Smith family were resident there at the time of the sale in 1878.

Susanna Smith (1828-1887) had been widowed when her husband William died in 1868 aged 45yrs. Very sadly, Susanna and William had already lost three of their four children to scarlet fever, which I understand was rampant in Europe at this time with no known cure or prevention. The three little girls who all died in 1866/7 were Leonora Gertrude (4yrs), Clara Augusta (7yrs), and Mary Elizabeth (8yrs). They were survived by their older brother William John.

The girls' graves are all near the entrance to Holy Rood Church, Shilton and the inscribed brass cross in their memory, that sits on the altar to this day, was presented by their mother Susanna.



I thought this family history added an occupier interest at that time, to the Manor House Sale article.

David Clapton

BURFORD OIL SYNDICATE



(Covering Burford, Fulbrook, Taynton and Bradwell Village Only)

The last order date for the 2024/25 oil year will be Thursday 1 May 2025 by 5.00pm. with delivery is expected between 5 and 18 May, but this will depend on market conditions. No late orders will be accepted.

For more information or to join the syndicate and order online visit www.burfordoil.co.uk, or membership application forms, and order forms are available from Reavley's Chemist. *Any questions contact Peter Higgs - 822462.*

CAROLYN WALTON



There is just space in this unusually full edition for a word of thanks to Carolyn Walton who has relinquished her position as chairman of The Arts Society Cotswolds. During her term of office TASC has provided a regular programme of fascinating lectures as well as special interest days, tours and other events. When we were all stuck at home five years ago the streamed talks were a major highlight of the month. Thank you, Carolyn, for bringing so much entertainment and cultural illumination to our lives!

WORKING TOGETHER FOR NATURE IN THE COTSWOLDS

The National Trust in the Cotswolds has this winter embarked on an ambitious project of nature restoration and tree planting in collaboration with communities across the region.

Building on the National Trust's new ten-year strategy to work in partnership with local communities to restore nature not just on Trust land, but everywhere, this new work sees extensive planting across the region, culminating in more than 4,000 trees placed in the ground in one week in February on the Sherborne Estate.

Here, school groups and charities, as well as members of the public, joined the National Trust for a week of tree planting on Sherborne Farm, where a large-scale nature restoration underway project is to create one of the region's largest areas of woodland as part of England's Community Forest project, rich in biodiversity and providing a space for nature to thrive.

It's an extensive undertaking, and one that could not be completed without the support of the local community. Simon Nicholas, Countryside Manager for the Cotswold Countryside Portfolio, said:



"We're partnering with the tenant at Sherborne Farm to bring back wildlife and create nature-friendly farmland in the north Cotswolds. More than 50,000 trees will be planted across the farm, and we are delighted to see the involvement of community partners in helping bring this vision to life."

The National Trust are currently undertaking several areas of tree planting and nature creation around the Cotswold portfolio. For more information, contact cotswolds@nationaltrust.org.uk and be sure to follow @NTCotswolds on Facebook and Instagram.
Jacob Little

REPORT FROM OCC COUNCILLOR

OCC Budget 2025/26

The minority Liberal Democrat/Green administration at OCC has published its Budget for 2025/26 on the council website. Despite receiving more Government funding than expected, the administration has kept the Council Tax rise at 5%. The Conservative Opposition had put forward amendments to limit the rise to 4.5% and to spend over £6m more on roads and flood measures, but they were voted down at Full Council on 11 February.

Thames Water

As I am writing this report, the Appeal Court hearing is in session. The Appeal is against the High Court Decision to allow Thames Water's reorganisation plan to proceed which sanctioned a £3bn loan to keep Thames Water afloat. This would allow the Company to continue in its present poorly managed and chaotic state. What is needed is for Thames Water to be put into Special Administration where it can be examined at a sensible and effective pace so that the interests, of the public, company staff, and the country can be protected from the current chaos and establish an effective fix for Thames Water. However we have now heard that the Appeal Court hearing failed and Thames Water's reorganisation plan was upheld. *[See The Bridge website]*

Local Government Reorganisation And Devolution

OCC is not in the fast track for reorganisation, so the OCC elections scheduled for May will go ahead. The government has asked Oxfordshire councils to submit an interim plan for a new unitary authority or authorities by 21 March, with a full proposal by 28 November. In parallel with this, OCC is continuing discussions with neighbouring authorities across the Thames Valley about a future mayoral strategic authority. Meanwhile, Vale of White Horse District Council has declared it favours combining with West Berkshire District Council.

New Walking And Cycling Routes Into Oxford

Residents are being asked for their views on plans for six new walking and cycling routes into Oxford from towns and villages within an eight-mile radius. The proposal to create a series of 'greenways' – high-quality paths in urban or natural areas prioritised for pedestrians and cyclists – comes from a joint project being developed by OCC, Oxford City Council and the University of Oxford.



OCC Cllr Nicholas Field-Johnson, Burford & Carterton North
nick.fieldjohnson@oxfordshire.gov.uk and nfjuk3@gmail.com

ECO DAY IN BURFORD

Warwick Hall was buzzing with ideas on Saturday 15 March, for Burford Environmental Action Group's (BEAGles) second Eco-day. The first was in 2023, and many commented during the day how knowledge, attitudes and actions - but also urgency - had increased in those two years.



The day was compered by the eminent Frances Corner, Warden of Goldsmiths (see Bridge, August 21) who brought a smooth ease to the day, with questions that helped to draw out the essential messages of the speakers.

The biggest idea came first: Doughnut Economics. This is a radical way of reframing economics which, instead of promoting continuous economic growth, aims for a safe and just space, in which the basic needs of all humans are met without overshooting planetary boundaries. The quickest way to understand this concept is to watch the short animations on the website of its creator, Kate Raworth: <https://www.kateraworth.com/animations/>

The Eco-Day presentation focused on local action. Evelyn Sanderson and Deborah Glass Woodin describe the doughnut as an “engaging joyous framework for action”. It was heartening to discover that, of the 100 + cities, towns and villages in the UK using the doughnut to understand their communities better, there are several in Oxfordshire, including a newly launched group in Bampton! (If you would like to know more about the Bampton group, contact suefunge@aol.com)

Some lovely stories were told to illustrate the thriving communities that can result from the imaginative, joined-up thinking generated by the doughnut lens, where plans are made in a way that is “more like gardening.” An Oxford college (not always the heroes when it comes to land use) agreed to rent a plot to a community group for nature recovery and food production. The rent demanded: a jar of honey a year!

Next up was our local MP, Charlie Maynard, who had two big topics: Railway and Rivers.

An Oxford to Carterton railway has been on the cards for some time, and it was the issue which drew Charlie into politics. As Chair of the Witney

Oxford Transport Group and now as MP, Charlie argues (backed up by a feasibility study) that the cost of doing nothing, and allowing the A40 to get worse and worse, is greater than the cost (£600-900m) of building it. Since “we have vast amounts of housing coming our way” the developers can pay for the railway out of the value a house gains by being close to a station. **Many in the room, perhaps in a more “doughnut” frame of mind, questioned the inevitability of the housebuilding, and pointed to its carbon cost.**

More about the railway can be found here: <https://witneyoxfordtransport.org.uk>

Along with local councillors and campaign groups like WASP (Windrush Against Sewage Pollution) and We Own It, Charlie has been arguing in court that the £3bn loan proposed to bail out Thames Water will do nothing to fix the pipes and stop the spills, but will be paid in interest to creditors, with customers footing the bill. More information on this case can be found here: <https://weownit.org.uk/public-ownership/water>

We then had a panel of local councillors – Jennie Craven and Perryn Bruce from Burford Town Council, and Hugo Ashton and Andrew Prosser from West Oxfordshire District Council. Perryn told us that the town council's Climate Change committee was set up shortly after the last Eco-day in 2023. His honest description of councillors feeling “bewildered, and struggling to put our arms around what Burford could do” resonated with many in the room who have wanted to “do something” and not known where to begin. Jennie spoke about the wildflower area on the rec, and the biodiversity audit which will take place later this year.

The thorny subject of new housing then reappeared, as Hugo, who has the planning portfolio at WODC, told us that roughly the number of houses that is currently in Burford will have to be built in West Oxfordshire each year, thanks to new rules. Hugo filled us in on the Salt Cross garden village, on the council's attempts to get surgeries, school places and sewage infrastructure built in time for new developments, on two ways empty houses are being tackled, and of an ambition to reduce embedded and lifetime carbon by demanding the better use of materials.

Andrew, who has the Climate Action and Nature Recovery portfolio, told us that the Council's own emissions are being tackled by focusing on the waste fleet, which is gradually going electric, and the decarbonisation of buildings. Neither of these projects has been easy, and the process has helped councillors and officers understand how hard it is for residents trying to reduce their emissions. Local Area Energy Plans provide hope, as does the work of Low Carbon Hubs, helping communities to create zero-carbon energy systems at a sub-station level.

The next panel included three people working in different ways to improve the local environment. Angus Fraser told us about Heat Clanfield, the community group that is looking to move the village onto a district heating system, generating their own electricity to power heat pumps. Josh Spencer admitted he had been a “petrolhead” for years but now, as well as working in a business that sells electric trucks, he has moved his family over to EVs, and helps people decarbonise businesses. Josh told us that the EV trucks he has sold in the last year have saved 5,000 tonnes of CO2 per year, but that the transport emissions of one supermarket chain amount to 9,000 tonnes. The third member of this panel was Ashley Smith, well known to most of the audience as one of the founders of Windrush Against Sewage Pollution. Ash distilled what can seem an insoluble problem into some memorable points. First, that, since privatisation, Thames Water has extracted money for shareholders, rather than running the business. Second, that the workforce must not be blamed; they are working hard under extremely difficult conditions. Third, that in both Denmark and Scotland, new sewage treatment works are being built for around £30m, whereas Thames has asked for £435m to *fix* (not rebuild) an Oxford sewage treatment works.

Wild Oxfordshire was unable to attend, but after lunch we watched an inspiring film about their work with the Kidlington community to protect nature and engage people. For this and more fascinating videos, go to wildoxfordshire.org.uk

The perfect complement to this was Kier Hall's presentation on what we can all do for nature in our gardens, his work at the Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) and, most hopefully, the work of land co-ops, who take over a piece of land from a farmer to cultivate it with nature friendly growing.

We then heard from Marcus Simmons about the work of Middle Windrush Land and Nature, which is a working group of BEAGles, and is co-ordinating nature recovery efforts across 11 parishes in our area. If you would like to know more about this group, email marcus@cagoxfordshire.org.uk.

Andy Dibben, from Abbey Farm, near Cirencester, told us how he feeds 800 people a week from just six hectares of fruit and veg, and how important pest predators are for protecting his crops. One bluetit's nest, we learned, can consume 1,000 caterpillars a day! Lastly, we heard from Jo Milton of Replenish Oxford, who talked us through the magic of composting. A fitting end, because we had so many different ideas presented to us that some of us felt that we needed time to compost them down into the soil of our futures.

Rosie Pearson

All in all, a fantastic day which has, I think, galvanised a lot of Burfordians and the inhabitants of our area to think hard about what they can do to reduce their carbon footprints. In conjunction with Burford town council we will be holding a follow-up session on 23 April, at the Baptist Church from 19.30-21.00, where we will be hearing in a little more detail about what the council is doing, and what you can do to utilise the grants and subsidies available in order to save your household money. Please visit our website burfordbeagles.org for more details.

Andy Hayter

The photographs in the previous page were kindly provided by Andrew McKerlie, although sadly we had to crop them. Gordon Elliot took the photo below which shows the end of a successful Eco-Day with (left to right) Rosie Pearson, Andy Hayter, Frances Corner and Ali McIntosh .



BURFORD SCHOOL FOUNDATION

Money, Money, Money - Notice To Students and Parents – Grants Available

Burford School Foundation (“BSF”) is a Burford charity to help you, the residents of the Burford area, school students and parents. Our charitable purposes are, broadly, to benefit:

- (i) the educational institutions in Burford (i.e. the three schools, scouts and similar providers of education and training); and
- (ii) to give grants and bursaries to young people (under the age of 25) of the Burford area and/or attendees of Burford schools.

Typical help we give to young people is finance to help them through their education and/or to help them buy equipment they need for their further or higher education - be it technical, practical or academic. For example we give bursaries for several years to assist students with their general expenses whilst attending college, university or other training institutions, or undertaking apprenticeships. We also give grants to students to enable them to buy computers, software, art material, musical instruments, books, or to cover travel expenses to aid their studies. If you are interested in applying please contact Lisa Evans lisa.evans@pearson.com; or phone her on 07816 906 370.

Volunteers Welcome

All the trustees of Burford School Foundation are local volunteer residents. We welcome applications from volunteers to join our Trustee body. We are looking in particular for people with skills and experience in dealing with property, in particular old/listed buildings, as well as people with company/charity secretarial, legal and/or governance skills. If you are interested in finding out more please contact Carolyn Walton carolynmwalton@btinternet.com or phone on 01993 822 296.



Vacancy for Acting Treasurer

Our Society is a thriving charity of over 150 members that organises talks and events, as well as providing donations for the benefit of the town and surrounding villages. We are wishing to appoint an acting treasurer to serve on our executive committee. The treasurer’s role is to provide the committee with financial advice, administer the membership subscriptions, organise payments and prepare the accounts.

If you require further information then our chairman Stephen Cooper would be only too happy to provide you with further details.

Email: coopstp7@aol.com or Tel: 07801553830
Bert Clough - Hon Secretary



THE BRIDGE TEAM

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

Advertising Manager	Karl Morris
Commercial Artist	David Mostyn
Editors	Gordon & 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 booked before the 10th of the month, and final artwork provided before the 12th of the month preceding publication. Please contact:

advertise@thebridgeburford.co.uk

DONATIONS

The Bridge team members are all volunteers and the magazine is funded by our advertisers and by kind donations made by our readers. **A year’s printing cost of each magazine is approximately £17 per household.** If you would like to make a contribution, please send this to: Barclays - The Bridge Community Magazine, Account Number - 33956032, Sort Code - 20-97-48 or by post to V.J. Hancock and Co, The Zinc Building, Ventura Park, Broadshires Way, Carterton, Oxon OX18 1AD or leave a donation in the Post Office in Burford for us to collect. Cheques should be made payable to The Bridge. **Thank you very much for your support.**

DIARY OF SPECIAL EVENTS

Thu 3 April	Digital Telephone Drop In Session	Burford Library	10-1pm
Sat 5 April	Burford Horticultural Society Spring Show	Bowls Club, Tanners Lane	1.30-2.30
Sat 5 April	Workshop on Taking Cuttings	Asthall Manor	10am-4pm
Sun 6 April	Burford Singers - Brahms, Mendelssohn +	St John the Baptist Burford	
Wed 9 April	TASC Lecture - Transformation of English Country Town	Warwick Hall	10.50am
Fri 11 April	Opera at the Movies - London Festival Opera northleachevents.co.uk	Northleach Church	7.30pm
12 - 17 April	Windrush Art Exhibition OX18 4TU	Windrush House Gallery	10.30-4pm
Tue 15 April	Burford & District Society talk about Burford and its buildings	Warwick Hall	7.00pm
Wed 16 April	Rissington Local History Society Visit	Kelmscott Manor	
Wed 23 April	TASC Special Interest Day - Watercolour in Britain	Warwick Hall	10.45am
Wed 23 April	Follow up on Eco Day for BEAGles	Baptist Church Burford	19.30-21.00
Sat 26 April	Windrush Film Night	Windrush Village Hall	7.30pm
Sun 27 April	Talk: Plants under Attack!	Broadwell Church	3pm
1 -3 May	Wychwood Players “Murdered To Death”	New Beaconsfield Hall	7.30pm
3-5 May	Lechlade Vintage Rally + Country Show	Langley Lane, Clanfield	10.00am
Sat 3 May	Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir tickets from jpw@jass.co.uk	St John the Baptist Burford	TBA
Thur 8 May	FABWI celebrate VE Day 80th Anniversary	See article within	9am ++
Sat 10 May	Bee Keeping Workshop	Asthall Manor	10am-4pm
Sun 11 May	Sherborne Five Mile and Fun Run	See announcement	
Sat 17 May	Levellers Day	Warwick Hall	10.30-4.30
17-26 May	Artworks in Charlbury - see article	Charlbury	
Wed 21 May	Burford Town Council Annual Meeting	Warwick Hall	7pm
20-22 June	In the Footsteps of the Mitfords	Asthall Manor	TBA
Wed 2 July	Much Ado About Nothing	Asthall Manor	TBA
25 Jul- 3 Aug	Guiting Music Festival - see article	Guiting Power	
26-28 Sept	Burford Literary Festival	TBA	TBA

Please ensure you give us the Day of the Week as well as the Time of the Event!

Sometimes this information is changed without notification to us, so please check before turning up to an event.

USEFUL CONTACTS + INFORMATION

Please check hours of opening which are subject to change

REGULAR LOCAL EVENTS, CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Aerobics	Monday 6.15; Thursday 11.45 + 6.15pm	Warwick Hall	Gill Hames 822971 gillianhames46@gmail.com
Alcoholics Anonymous	Wednesdays 7.30pm; Fridays 1.00pm	Bradwell Village Hall	Patrick 0786 796 0716
Astally Arms	Last Friday of the month	Memorial Hall Asthall Leigh	From 7.00 pm
Badminton Group	Monday nights. Friendly all abilities.	Burford School 8-10pm.	Kevin 704655 scareyradar@yahoo.co.uk
BEAGles aka Burford Environment Action Group	Third Monday of the month	The Prince of Burford	7.30pm
Burford Bridge Club	Every Tuesday 5pm - 7pm	Warwick Hall	07831 301886 Amir Hashimi
Burford Badminton Club	Tuesday nights 8-10pm	Burford School - fun, social, all abilities	Vijay 891043 vijaysmobile@gmail.com
Burford Crafters	3rd Wednesday of the month	Burford Library 2.30-3.30	Judith Butcher 01993 824194
Burford & District Society	Meet 7 times a year	Warwick Hall at 7.00pm	Bert Clough 07943 720668
Burford Town Bowls Club	Friendly Roll-up Mondays from 6.30	Bowls Club Tanners Lane	Jan Bolton 07547 633391 secretary@burfordbowlsclub.co.uk
Burford Trees care/planting	4th Sunday of the month	Community Allotment - Tanners Lane	lucy.staveley@gmail.com
Coffee and Company	Every Wednesday 10.30-12 midday	St John the Baptist Church	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 3rd Thursday	Fulbrook Meeting Place 10.30 - 12	Lyn Bibbings 823640
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
Pilates Class	Wednesdays 10.00am	Burford Baptist Church	Elizabeth Jarvis cotswoldpilates123@gmail.com
Pilates Class	Thursdays 9.30am. Suitable for men and women; Tuesdays 6.15pm - 7.15pm	Warwick Hall	Elizabeth www.wellnessity.co.uk 07932 981023
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 9.45-11.15	Warwick Hall	www.burfordchurch.org/rockatots
Rotary Burford & Kingham	Monday	The Burford Golf Club	John Smith 07717 883182
Signpost - Coffee and Help	Every Wednesday in term time.	The Warwick Hall, Burford 10.00 - 12 midday	Opportunity to raise worries confidentially
Scouts	Thursday (term time)	Scout Hut 6 - 8pm	Alex Gill 07762161769 burfordscouts@gmail.com
Scrabble	1st Tuesday of each month	Burford Library (free soft drinks)	7pm
The Arts Society Cotswolds	2nd Wed (not July/Aug)	Warwick Hall 11.00	publicity@theartssocietycotswolds
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
Windrush Film Nights	Last Saturday of the month	Windrush Village Hall	7.30pm windrushcinema@gmail.com Dan Boyle

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

Burford Tolsey Museum
Open seven days a week
April to October 2-5pm
www.burfordtolsey.org
Burford Town Council
Tolsey office open Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9.30 am and 11.30 am
01993 823647
Email town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk
www.burford-tc.gov.uk

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

Centre for Carers in Oxfordshire 01295 264545
www.oxoncarers.org.uk

Chemist Reavley's 01993 823144
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 07967 362885
Baptist Church 01993 875214
Friends Meeting House

Citizens Advice Bureau 0808 2787908
Email admin@cawo.org.uk

Community Transport
Volunteer Link-Up 01993 776277
Oxfordshire Comet 01865 323201
Emergency Services
Police – non essential 101

Environment Agency
Floodline 0845 988118
Emergency 0800 807060

Hall Bookings
Baptist Church gill.crippen@googlemail.com
Burford Quaker Meeting House 01993 831282
www.burfordquakers.org
Burford Town Bowls Club 01993 822330
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
Charlie Maynard 07487 708681
charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk

Oxfordshire County Council
General Enquiries 01865 815573
Highways 08453 101111
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
Public Transport Enquiries 08712 002233

West Oxfordshire District Council
General Enquiries 01993 861000
Out of Hours 01993 705056
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

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

CHURCH SERVICES

BURFORD BENEFICE

St John the Baptist, Burford
PARISH CHURCH SERVICES
April 2025

St John the Baptist, Burford

6 April	
Morning Service	11.00am
Evening Service	7.00pm
13 April Palm Sunday	
Choral Matins (BCP)	9.30am
Holy Communion (CW)	11.00am
Evening Service	7.00pm
18 April Good Friday	
All Age Service	10.00am
20 April Easter Sunday	
Holy Communion	9.30am
All Age followed by Communion	11.00am
27 April	
Morning Prayer (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service	11.00am
Evening Service	7.00pm

Every Wednesday at 10.30am we have a Holy Communion Service in the church followed by Coffee & Company in the Warwick Hall

St James the Great, Fulbrook

13 April	
Morning Prayer (CW)	9.30am
15 April	
Compline	6.00pm
20 April Easter Sunday	
Holy Communion	9.30am
27 April	
Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am

St John the Evangelist, Taynton

6 April	
Benefice Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am
20 April Easter Sunday	
Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am

St Nicholas, Asthall

13 April	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm

St Mary, Swinbrook

6 April	
Holy Communion (CW)	11.00am
13 April	
Morning Service	11.00am
18 April Good Friday	
3 Hour Meditation	From 12.00pm
20 April Easter Sunday	
Family Holy Communion	11.00am
27 April	
Morning Service	11.00am

St Oswald, Widford

27 April	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm

9.30am & 11.00am services in Burford are also live streamed. Swinbrook Service are available to catch up on Monday. These can all be found on our website or YouTube Channel.

Tarnia Usher

ST JOHN FISHER AND ST THOMAS MORE

Sunday Mass: 9.30 am

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday - 10.00 am
Thursday - 10.00 am

Easter

Good Friday - Solemn Liturgy 3pm
Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil Mass 8pm
Easter Sunday - Mass 9.30am

For updates please see catholicchurchburford.org.uk 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

Welcome to Burford Baptist Church. It's now a lovely warm space with a new heating system in place. We want the community to come and use our facilities and we are happy to negotiate rates for hire depending on the event.

We have a growing number of regular users including FAB WI meeting on the second Tuesday evening of the month and pilates meeting every Wednesday at 10am.

Both would welcome new people to join them at BBC.

Do get in touch.

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 during term time only 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

serie o Choral Matins ill tae plae at t ohn the Baptist Churh at 9.30am on the seond unday o the month. Il are elome.

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

Company Name	Business Type	Phone
Antiques @ The George	Award winning, friendly antiques centre	01993 823319
CJD Architects	Chartered Architects	01993 823646
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
Taylor 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 & Barometer repairs. tellisrees@gmail.com	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
Lionheart Later Life Planning and Probate	Wills – Lasting Powers of Attorney – Trusts and their registration – Fixed fee Probate – Equity Release and Free Financial Advice. www.lionheartlaterlifeplanning.co.uk	07769 730616.
EiWell	Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nutrition Helping people stay independent as they get older	01865 238185
Burford Foot Clinic	Chiropody Castles Yard, Pytts Lane, OX18 4SJ	07884318091
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	01993 765115
TC Garden Services	Gardening, Landscaping, Patios, Decking, Fencing & Gates, Raised Beds. Contact Tony for a free quotation. www.tcgs.uk	07771 888304
Samantha James	Regarded organic - Private Hairstylist - Experienced. Email - samloujam@googlemail.com	07772 601495
J Coles Plumbing & Heating	For all your plumbing emergencies/needs and bathroom refurbishments.	07947693427
Oxford Construction	Building, Groundworks and Project Management Services Email; enquiries@oxfordconstruction.co.uk	01865 922001
Grimebusters	Dirty carpets? Upholstery? Call Grimebusters - your local professional cleaners. Competitive rates. Free estimates.	01993 868924
Woodgrove Estates	Contemporary offices to let in Fulbrook. office@woodgrove-estates.co.uk	01993 640004
Piano with Victoria	Lessons for all ages and abilities in Burford. ABRSM + improv / songwriting lessons.	07737493980
Funtastic French, Lou Rutterford	French Language Coach. www.funtasticfrench.co.uk	07913 905484

CHORLEY'S AUCTIONEERS

Cotswolds Heritage since 1862



Sold for £12,500



Sold for £85,000



Sold for £10,500

Complimentary Auction Valuations

Chorley's auctioneers have been at the centre of Cotswold and Gloucestershire's art and antique market for decades. Our expertise makes us the local auctioneers of choice for high value and carefully curated auctions.

Monthly Auctions of Art & Antiques

Probate & Insurance Valuations

Contact us today for your valuation

Open Valuations Thursdays 10am-1pm

Prinknash Abbey Park
Gloucestershire GL4 8EU

01452 344499
info@chorleys.com

chorleys.com



Contemporary Offices to Lease

Fulbrook OX18 4BH



Offices available

NOW!



Contact us for more details
and to arrange a visit.

Woodgrove Farm offers a range of office
sizes and layouts and all benefit from;



Private parking



Superfast FTTC
connectivity



Private kitchenette



Private washrooms



Site-wide wireless fire
alarm with 24/7 remote
monitoring



Individually controlled
electric heating



Friendly helpful landlords

www.woodgrove-estates.co.uk
office@woodgrove-estates.co.uk
01993 640014

E TAYLOR & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Private funeral home
Memorials supplied and renovated
Here to help 24 hours per day

01993 842421

Corbett Road, Carterton, OX18 3LG

HARRY JAMES Gardens & Landscapes

- Planting
- Pruning
- Fencing
- Paving
- Decking
- Maintenance

Mobile: 07985 434080
email: info@harryjamesgardens.co.uk
www.harryjamesgardens.co.uk

Barguss CONSTRUCTION LTD

Historic and listed building specialists

Restoration • Extensions • Decorating • Refurbishment

The Old Bell Foundry
45 Witney Street
Burford
Oxfordshire
OX18 4RX



LABC Regional Winner

Tel: 01993 824703
email: office@barguss.co.uk
web: www.barguss.co.uk

MOVE TO FEEL WELL
MATWORK
MONDAYS, THURSDAYS 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS 9:30 AM
PILATES STUDIO
INDIVIDUAL WORK

CLINICAL MASSAGE
ENQUIRIES AND BOOKINGS
07741 82858 AUDRIS@AUDRISCHIAAY.COM
ONLEAZE FARM, UHUYL
FIRKHS GL7 3RD

Enhance the appearance of your property with our
quality assured friendly service

MOSSINATOR®
ROOF CLEANING SYSTEMS

Moss Removal & Roof Cleaning - Render & Brickwork Cleaning
Patio & Driveway Cleaning - Gutter Clearing
Installation of Bird Protection & Chimney Cowls
info@mossinator.co.uk - 01993 670005

BURFORD PROJECT

DESIGNED - CRAFTED - COMPLETE INSTALLATION



150 The Hill, Burford OX18 4QU - 01993 824690
www.burfordkitchensandinteriors.co.uk



Gateway
Antiques
Burford



Established over 35 years



Mid 19th century walnut, ivory and bone inlaid table in the Dutch taste on barley-twist ebonised supports and stretchers circa 1860

Our opening hours are from
Monday - Friday 10.30am - 5pm
Saturdays 10.00am - 5pm
Sundays 1pm - 4pm

Cheltenham Road, Burford Roundabout,
Burford, Oxon OX18 4JA

01993 823678
gatewayantiques.co.uk



Architectural practice which combines sensitive, imaginative building and garden design with technical expertise and project management skills, all tailored to suit client requirements.

We operate within The Cotswolds, Woodstock and Oxford, and have a positive relationship with Local Authorities. Please call for an initial, no-obligation discussion and site visit.

Panton Architectural Design, Wood Farm Studio, Woodleys, Woodstock OX20 1HN

t: 01993 810704 e: post@pantondesign.info w: pantondesign.info



*A lady's 18ct gold cased
wristwatch by Tag Heuer.
Sold for £4,500 plus buyer's
premium in November 2024*

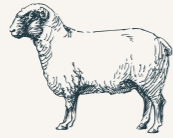
Mallams
1788

Free informal Valuation Mornings

Friday 11 April, 9 May and 6 June
10.00am – 12.30pm
Warwick Hall, Burford OX18 4RY

Free & confidential valuations on any
items you may be considering selling at auction.
Tel: 01865 241358 or visit www.mallams.co.uk

AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS SINCE 1788



COTSWOLD INNS & HOTELS



↔ A COLLECTION OF SEVEN 3 & 4 STAR HOTELS ↔

↔ ALFRESCO DINING ↔

↔ SECLUDED GARDENS ↔

↔ ROSETTE AWARDED RESTAURANTS ↔

↔ PERFECT WEDDING & CONFERENCING LOCATIONS ↔

TO MAKE A RESERVATION PLEASE EMAIL
enquiries@cotswold-inns-hotels.co.uk

or book online at www.cotswold-inns-hotels.co.uk



The Bear of Rodborough
Stroud
T 01453 878522

The Swan Hotel
Bibury
T 01285 740695

The Lamb Inn
Burford
T 01993 823155

The Bay Tree Hotel
Burford
T 01993 822791

The Manor House Hotel
Moreton-in-Marsh
T 01608 650501

The Hare & Hounds Hotel
Tetbury
T 01666 881000

The Close Hotel
Tetbury
T 01666 502272

CP Home Improvements



CP Home Improvements ... just a phone call away!



Windows & Doors

Bi-fold Doors

Conservatories

Orangeries

Soffit Facia & Guttering

Replacement Blown Units

Tel Call Chris on 07980 881104

Highly Recommended by the residents of Burford



BURFORD FINANCIAL PLANNING
& WEALTH MANAGEMENT LTD

Achieve the future you want

We all imagine our future differently.

Whatever your goals, we believe there is value in taking advice from someone you trust. We will work with you to plan, grow and protect your financial future.

Let's start a conversation.

Tony Jones
Director

07771 766654
tony.jones@sjpp.co.uk
www.burfordfinancialplanning.co.uk



Associate Partner Practice

St James's Place

Burford Financial Planning & Wealth Management Ltd is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place Wealth Management plc (which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) for the purpose of advising solely on the group's wealth management products and services, more details of which are set out on the group's website www.sjp.co.uk/products. The 'St. James's Place Partnership' and the titles 'Partner' and 'Partner Practice' are marketing terms used to describe St. James's Place representatives.

SJP Approved 07/03/2025

SJPI3570e_DS B3 (10/24)



—Seth—
DIXON
•DESIGN & BUILD•

Your Planning, Building & Renovation Partner

From a simple extension, delicate renovation to a new build
Applying traditional styles within modern day building techniques
Individual bespoke ideas and plans
Vigorous cost management
Call for a no obligation chat to discuss your plans

Making your dreams a reality
07793 74 73 72
info@sdd-b.com www.sethddb.com



Hickman Brothers Landscapes Ltd

GARDEN & LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

Shop online at www.hickmanlandscapes.co.uk





Contact us on - 01993 822226
sales@hickmanlandscapes.co.uk

Opening Times

Monday - Friday 07:30 - 17:00
Saturday 08:00 - 14:00

SKIP & PLANT HIRE




Hickman Bros Landscapes, Shipton Hill, Fulbrook, Burford, OX18 4BZ



Specialist manufacturers of high quality, traditional timber windows and doors. Proudly manufactured, here in the Cotswolds

We have developed a range of carefully designed windows, sash windows and doors to suit period properties, listed buildings and modern homes.

All of our products offer modern security and energy saving features to compliment their traditional styling.

www.oakwindowsanddoors.com
01993 832442




WINDRUSH DOG GROOMING A PROFESSIONAL & PERSONAL SERVICE

FULL GROOM • DE-SHEDDING • NAIL CLIPPING • BATH & DRY
ONE-TO-ONE • CAGE FREE • PUPPY GROOM • HAND STRIPPING

SCAN QR CODE FOR FACEBOOK




07824 392813
emmawhittington@btinternet.com
AKEMAN COTTAGE • ASTHALL • OX18 4HW

15 YEARS EXPERIENCE
CITY & GUILD LEVEL 3
FULLY INSURED



CHRIS LEWIS ELECTRICAL

Fully qualified electrician covering domestic & industrial work completed to the highest standard.

07834 983155
www.chrislewiselectrical.co.uk





NEED TO SEE A GP?

SAME-DAY APPOINTMENTS FOR JUST £120

SCAN TO BOOK >>>



☎ 01869 227722
✉ INFO@MAGNAGP.CO.UK
🌐 WWW.MAGNAGP.CO.UK



THE ENGLISH MUSIC FESTIVAL 2025

Do you love music? Would you like to spend a weekend in the best of company, with a friendly and welcoming group of volunteers helping at an internationally-acclaimed music festival, with celebrated musicians and a wonderful array of music?

If so, please come and join us at the English Music Festival! We are looking for volunteers to help with stewarding, refreshments and looking after artists. Not only will you be warmly welcomed by our affable and inclusive group of helpers; you will have the chance to meet and work with our star artists such as the BBC Concert Orchestra, Royal Ballet Sinfonia, cellist Raphael Wallfisch, conductor Hilary Davan Wetton and celebrated pianists Hiroaki Takenouchi and Simon Callaghan.

The Festival takes place over the second May Bank Holiday, from Friday 23rd to Monday 26th May 2025, in Dorchester-on-Thames in Oxfordshire; and we would welcome help over the whole weekend if possible, but if not, then whenever suits your own timetable. Duties can be tailored to your own interests, abilities and preferences. The full programme can be seen at <https://www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk/2025-may-festival/programme.php>.

We also are in urgent need of people to host artists and interns, so if you are able to help by offering B&B to students or an artist, please let us know. We would be so grateful for your help.

For more information or if you are able to help, please contact Festival Director Em Marshall-Luck at em.marshall-luck@englishmusicfestival.org.uk.



RADNOR MARTIN

your property buying, selling & search agency

Unit 12 Tannery Yard, Witney Street, Burford, OX18 4DQ
office@radnormartin.com www.radnormartin.com 01993 765115

THE EIGHTEENTH

ENGLISH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Book online at: www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk/2025-may-festival/box-office.php

Four days of joyful and inspirational concerts, talks and events:

- 🎵 The BBC Concert Orchestra performing Vaughan Williams, Delius and Bliss's Cello Concerto with Raphael Wallfisch
- 🎵 Part-songs by Elgar, Finzi, Holst and Vaughan Williams
- 🎵 The Royal Ballet Sinfonia in early music transcriptions and twentieth-century gems
- 🎵 Singer-composer Stef Connor creates a magical event melding old, new and folk music
- 🎵 Elgar's much-loved Piano Quintet, Howells, Bridge and Dorothy Howell

and much, much more!

23-26 MAY 2025

DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES, OXFORDSHIRE

www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk

Contact Festival Director, Em Marshall-Luck, at em.marshall-luck@englishmusicfestival.org.uk or The English Music Festival, PO Box 123, Clunton, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 7BP for more information or a postal booking form.

10% DISCOUNT FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS
WHEN ENTERING A VALID POSTCODE ON THE EMF WEBSITE



Tennis Court Moss Removal
Moss and Algae Removal
Tennis Court Sweeping
Driveway Cleaning
Pressure Washing
Lawn Renovation
Lawn Levelling
Moss Removal
Hedge Cutting
Wall Cleaning
Grass Cutting
Boarders
Hedges
Edging...

07827 266 389 | PRO.MOW@Outlook.Com

Dedicated to serving Oxfordshire and The Cotswolds, our mission is to deliver exceptional lawn care, garden maintenance, and exterior cleaning services that surpass expectations

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

PRO MOW Grounds Care has the equipment to deliver results

A photograph of a hallway with blue floral wallpaper, a white arched doorway, and a dog sitting on a rug in front of a window.

Amanda Hanley

*Bespoke Interior Design
with Showroom in Burford*

Upholstery & Furnishing • Fabrics • Bespoke Kitchens & Cabinetry • Furniture

33 High Street, Burford, OX18 4QA

01993 822 680 07976 353 996 amanda@amandahanley.co.uk www.amandahanley.co.uk