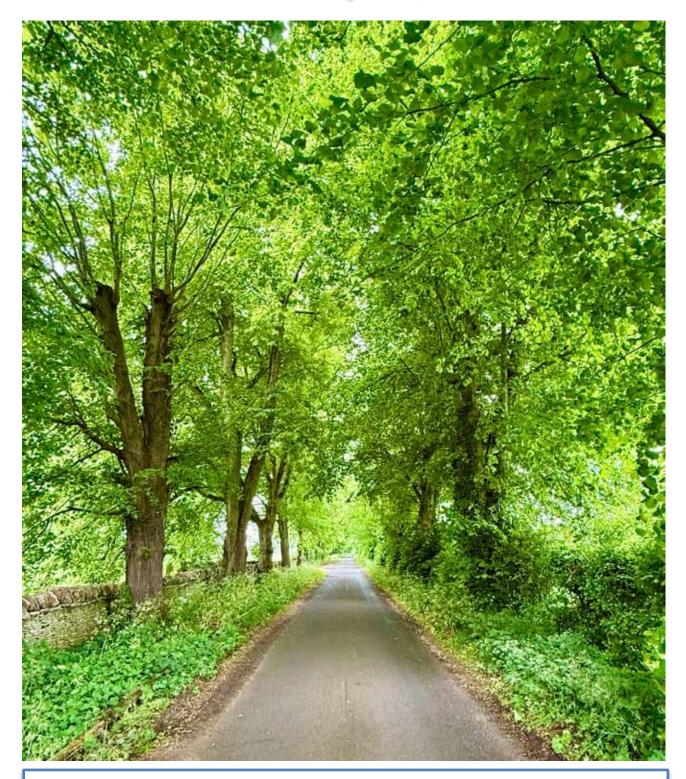
THE BRIDGE

July 2025



Our thanks to Tom Barry for this photo of the avenue of trees leading to Bradwell Grove

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 6 £1.50*



YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT BOOKSHOP PRESENTS...



Burford Literary Festival returns to bring visitors and our community together through an inspiring programme of literary events, showcasing authors covering a wide range of topics and genres.

THIS YEAR ____

Fully hosted at The Baptist Chapel, Witney Street, Burford

Over 20 events including Authors: Susie Dent Gill Hornby, author of Miss Austen Richard Ovenden - Head Librarian, The Bodleian Library Esteemed artist Francis Hamel Sue Leigh Rachel Trethewey Sophie Maycock, Shark Expert

Tickets available on our website or at The Madhatter Bookshop

BURFORDLITFEST.CO.UK







SOLD



James Caroline Skinner August Residential Residenti Sales Manager Sales an Lettings

Residential Sales • Rental Properties • Commercial Property Services Providence House 49 High Street Burford Oxfordshire OX18 4QA 01993 220579 burford@taylerandfletcher.co.uk



With our home in The Cotswolds, we specialise in bespoke and creative flowers for weddings, marquees and parties. Our signature style is elegant and abundant, using the best locally grown flowers to create unforgettable moments.

Call Fi to set up a no obligation discussion for your wedding or party flowers on 07740 589640

www.corkyandprince.com

Tayler & Fletcher

LET AGREED









Alison Denny Residentia Sales



Peace of Mind While You're Away?

Local House Sitter

Experienced, trustworthy, personalised service

Security: your home doesn't look empty mail, parcel & bin management

Domestic Emergencies: minimise effects of adverse weather

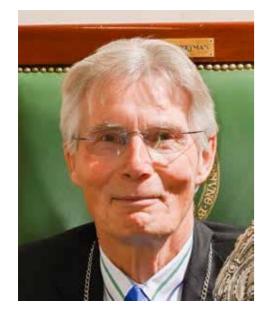
Pets: happier at home with their routine

Trusted Professional: Fully insured, DBS checked, excellent references from satisfied customers

contact: helen@propertyandpetcare.co.uk www.propertyandpetcare.co.uk

BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The knotty problem of parking and tourism



Burford is a great place to live, and a great place to visit and stay. The balance between catering for residents and for visitors is never easy! Without the visitors, we would not have the shops on the High Street, and the employment they bring. It also ensures we "punch above our weight" for services like the fire station, library and surgery here.

Burford has less than 2000 residents and is smaller than many villages in Oxfordshire.

The balance between convenience for residents and catering for tourism must be held between Burford Town Council and West Oxfordshire District Council who are responsible for tourism here. At peak times, our car park is too small. WODC will be considering how this can be improved in early July, as they own and operate the Guildenford car park.

We have experienced problems with too many coaches trying to park in Priory Lane and working with OCC has led to some improvements which have just been implemented, but the core problem is that we cannot safely accommodate the number of coaches which come here. They park in front of the primary school and block accesses in Priory Lane. We cannot stop the coaches, we can only provide as many safe stopping places as we can to cater for them, and stop them illegally parking, blocking accesses, and causing congestion. Our top concern is the safety of our residents, pedestrians and visitors.

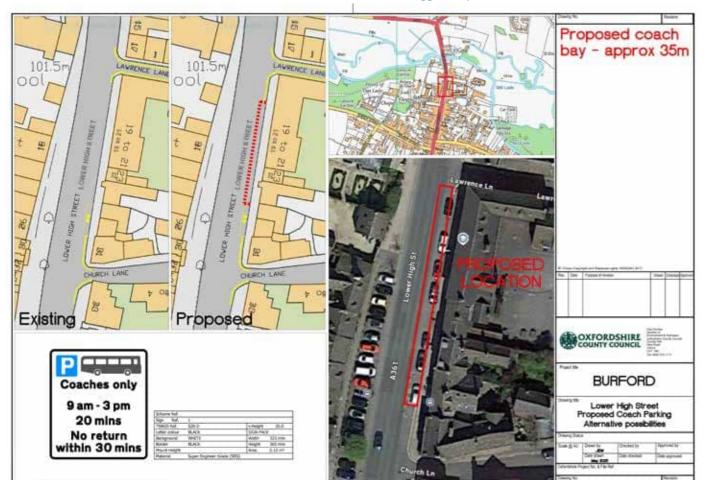
Council have now put forward a proposal to allow coaches up to 15 metres in length to park for up to 20 minutes to drop off and pick up between 09.00 and 15.00 daily on the east side of Lower High Street. This would accommodate two large coaches safely. The parking spaces will still be available for vehicles outside these hours. Please see the map below.

The satellite image has the area too far into the road from the pavement. The actual area is as shown on the map. We plan to consult all neighbours directly during June but

would appreciate residents' and businesses' responses to this proposal. Please respond to Christina, our town clerk, at town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk. Burford Town Council will consider all comments, and should

we move to the next stage your comments will be passed to OCC for inclusion in any consultation.

The Burford Town Council 2024-25 unaudited accounts are now on our website under "Documents" along with the leaflet presented at the annual town meeting showing what your council achieved last year which you can find under "News". Peter Higgs - Mayor





We are very grateful to Andrew McKerlie for this photograph of Burford Town Council members just before their annual town meeting in May. (L-R) Michael Taubenheim, Derek Cotterill, Perryn Bruce, Jennie Craven, Jane Tunnell-Westmacott, Dan Derry, Peter Higgs (mayor, holding the mace), Nick Field-Johnson, Jo Rushton, Hugo Ashton, Clare Silvester, Christina Edgar-Hiatt (town clerk). Sarah Palmer (right) unfortunately arrived too late to be included.



I am just back from Paris after my 300km cycle ride, raising money for the wonderful Duchenne UK muscular dystrophy charity. Quite an amazing experience, with 150 riders battling away to reach Paris in 24 hours.

I'd like to thank all those readers of The Bridge who generously donated - thank you!

I passed my target by raising over £6,500 from you and 120 others, and overall the event raised an amazing £650,000 for the care and development of treatment for those with this terrible disease. My Just Giving site is still open if anyone would like to add to the total: www.https:// www.justgiving.com/page/tom-barry-4 Tom Barry - Shilton

Note - The editors noticed an uncanny, nay disturbing, resemblance to one of Burford's councillors



CYCLE TO PARIS SUPPORT



area? Welcome. The Burford & District Society will be happy to deliver your free copy of the ford & District' Pack with details of Town's local facilities, clubs an



area? The Burford & District Soc iver your free copy of the 'Living in

Simply email yo

viver your free copy of the 'Living in Pack with defails for an easy the ere entertained by "Tales of an Estate Agent". So, clubs and societies, Swippy and the ere entertained by "Tales of an Estate Agent". Asy to Burford & area? Welcome to otballer and went on to spend more than forty years in the happy to deliver your free copy of estate agency business. The insights into the changed the Living in Burford & District Social Agent ones were fascinating and struck plenty inford & Districtorder Price inf ation being one and the emergence of dubintorder britter price of the information of the towns and societies.

py to deliveroperty possible such as Rightmove negating the need to visit **Living in Burissent Oistact** aw through the paper to see available ails of manoperties Kewin had many amusing anecdotes including clubs and misplacedskeys, famous clients and cleaning failures, - a key me and adake away being that when selling your nouse have and be nnjack@grnanceinally be sure to iron your duvet cover to avoid the risk of it looking like a crister the ack with details of many of the Hown s lo-

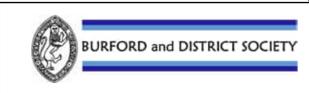
Burford & area? The Burford ble on the body ble on the burford ble on of the Uving Willing Willing a Dittibut considering this as a fundraiser. Our combined details of renesses of provide the standard a margin of error approaching the stand societies. Apply enail your directions to lizannjack@gmail.com

We are pleased to announce that the final total fundraised to Burford & arear The Burlord & District Society will be habby to deliver your free consumptions at the VE In Burford & Chafte PROPAR Teasamounted ton 57106712 for SSAFA jethe Armed Simply email your party and address to lizannjack@gmail.com

o Burford & Autritalented statters had again done tak we prove with an in Burford & Risriaz Pag lyitintericate apost box topper set lebrating Willeday and sine Manual Your came and a differe to live nick and the post box on the high street from April. Sadly, it was found discarded to Burford & anale Welfemowine Werfard gradettift hacint was tound and y to deliver white to have a construction that was round and s of many of the Town's local facilities, clubs and societies, Simply email name and address to lizannack commil comments of the construction of the cane with talk about Constitution, nerve centre of resistance in

WW2". This talk tells the fascinating story of the secret t & area? welcome. The surford & united isolated will be happy to define your tree converting that this unord & Distractives willage of tranquillobeautyram deepest Oxfordshire housed simply en all of the and and the to lizanties and secret British Resistance.

> The FaB WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the Baptist Chapel in Witney Street at 7.30 p.m. For further information please visit our website thefabwi.org.uk or contact our president, Jennie Craven, on thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk or mobile 07710 103015. Hilary Jolly, Comms and Committee member



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



BURFORD TOLSEY **MUSEUM & ARCHIVE**

BURFORD'S OPHICLEIDE RETURNS HOME

With a name derived from the Greek Ophi (serpent) and Kleidos (key), Willi Apel, a famous musicologist, described it as "a drainpipe with a severe intestinal disorder", whilst Edo de Waarte, conductor, said "it's disgusting, what is it?" The ophicleide was invented in 1817 by the French instrument maker Jean Hilaire Aste as a instrument to extend the keyed bugle into lower registers



The ophicleide pictured far right above, being 82 cms in height, is considerably bigger than the clarinets also shown. It has been generously gifted to the Museum by Trevor and Valerie Jones, of Jones Brass and Woodwind Ltd who felt that it belonged in Burford where it began life. It was made in the town by Henry Titcomb, (above centre), 1802-1882, who in the 1861 census was described as a whitesmith. We know he operated from the building on the corner of Church Lane, now Amanda Hanley's shop and previously the grammar school Gymnasium. It has been difficult to find a lot about Henry's life and work, but we know he made clarinets for military bands, because we have three in the Museum.

Having now returned home, this around 200-year-old will shortly be attending the instrument world's spa for the appropriate pampering and t.l.c. needed to make it fit for the next phase of its life. It will then move into its final forever home, with the other members of Henry Titcombe's musical instrument family in their display cabinet. We will advise readers of The Bridge when the town's ophicleide is receiving visitors, in due course.

The BTMA welcomes donations. Its collecting policy is on our website under 'More About Us' but in short, items for our permanent collections must have a significance and/or relevance to Burford and its surrounding district. This simply means that items must demonstrate a strong association with Burford and its environs by having been made or used in the area, or by being strongly identified with its heritage or culture.

Due to our finite space, items not meeting these criteria will not usually be accepted, especially if it would be more appropriate for them to be offered to another museum or archive. We will always try to suggest other museums or archives if we think that an object would be better suited to another collection.

Admission to the museum and exhibition remains Free; Donations requested

Peter Martin 01993 822769 peteremartin@btinternet.com

THE WINDRUSH VALLEY FLOWER **SHOW IS BACK ON 19 JULY!**

The Windrush Valley Flower Show is an annual institution. Thanks to the generosity of the Wingfield family, Great Barrington Village Hall will host competitions of home grown produce, cakes, preserves, wine and handicrafts, all judged by local experts. The show also includes needlecraft, floral displays and other handicraft competitions for all ages, demonstrating a remarkably talented local community. Prizes and trophies are awarded in a ceremony at the end of the day.

In the field adjacent to the hall you will find the traditional tea tent, BBO, Pimms stand, ice cream vendor and many more vendors and stalls. There will be a range of children's activities, as well as the ever-popular dog show and agility course, and the delightful sounds of Yarnton Brass Band.

Since 2020, the show has included an area for visitors with classic cars and vintage tractors. Entry is offered free to driver and passenger, and there is a splendid tankard for the Most Popular Car Award following a public vote during the show. The public vote tickets are then entered into a raffle draw for a special prize.

Do come and visit the show - bring your dog, classic car or tractor! Entry fee is just £2.50, children under 15 free.

Saturday 19 July from 1pm



The Village Hall, Great Barrington OX18 4UR

Admission: Adults £2.50; 15 & under free

Fun Dog Show & Dog Agility Competitions: Fruit & Vegetables, Flower Arrangements, Cakes & Produce, Arts & Crafts, Children's Activities Vintage Cars And Other Vehicles Entertainments: The Yarnton Band, Tombola & Raffle, Wine & Gin Stalls, Games Refreshments: Cakes, Teas, Ice Cream, BBQ, Pimms *Alex Pierre-Traves*



Tea and Scones by the Meadow at Littlestock

On 1 June two of our number, Julia Sorrell and Ian Sanders, hosted their second event enabling people with environmental interests to talk and exchange ideas in a relaxing atmosphere of conviviality, as opposed to the increasingly rushed online communication.

At Littlestock, we are restoring a floodplain species-rich meadow using traditional management of haymaking and aftermath grazing. Now part of the Evenlode Landscape Recovery Project of the North-East Cotswold Farm Cluster, it serves as an example of how biodiversity can be improved. Ian, coming from a biological research background, knew what to do from the start. Through the Cluster, he is also reestablishing the native black poplar, Britain's rarest and grandest timber tree.

Within the garden, devoid of pesticide or herbicide use, we are developing a heritage fruit tree and agroforestry orchard, and the garden mix of the wild and cultivated, the free and the managed. This serves as an example to those who walk past, along the Oxfordshire Way, of how not to excessively tidy a garden, as well as being a rich source of shape and form for Julia's lifelong work as an artist.

The home is an ongoing experiment of restoration using, wherever possible, recycled and upcycled materials eg kitchen units have been made by Ian from discarded oak flooring, pallets and granite and oak surfaces. Church pew ends, old church beams and bell stocks have been used in a porch. In evenings Julia might be weaving curtains from old bedding, clothes and the wool that farmers are unable to sell, making mosaic floors with discarded tiles or decorating walls with murals. All in all, a different form of living from the modern throw-away society.

Repair Cafes

Talking of our throw-away society, there was a time when every town had its repair shops. Everyone knew where to go when they needed something fixed. That know-how was often close at hand, practised by parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbours, or a local "fix-it man" or "odd-job man". We can call this a remnant of the Great Depression, of course, but its roots stretch back further than that to the concept of thrift, which was once universal.

How has our society changed? The immediate answer, almost always, is that we no longer get things repaired because ours has become a throwaway culture. The economic explanation for this is that, since the Second World War, the world has embraced the materials economy, that is to say, a wasteful, rather than regenerative, use of precious resources. The argument can't be made that this is sustainable.

To combat this mindset, the world's first Repair Cafe came about, organised by Dutch journalist Martine Postma in Amsterdam in 2009. The idea rapidly gained traction in Europe, and crossed the Atlantic in 2012.

So, if there is a Repair Cafe or Tool Library in your town, you have a different answer. The place to get something fixed is at the library, your town hall or community centre, and BEAGles have regularly held repair cafés in the Warwick Hall and elsewhere in Burford. The concept couldn't be simpler:

A community repair event invites you to bring a beloved but broken item to be repaired for free, by an expert who is also your neighbour. Now we are spreading our wings (or paws) to encompass other local towns and villages, and we've found particular success in Carterton. But despite our best efforts, footfall in Burford seems to elude us. Why is that? The most obvious answer would seem to be that more affluent towns have less need for repair cafes; richer people tend to be less green. Or is there another explanation? Are these articles with advance notice of repair cafes just not being read? Any help that you, our readers, can give us would be welcome. Answers - not on a postcard - to beagles.burford@gmail.com, please!

Please look at our website, burfordbeagles.org, for more on our programme events for the second half of the year. Andy Hayter

LEVELLERS' DAY

The annual Levellers Day took place in Burford in May. It has been held over forty years to commemorate the shooting of three Levellers in the churchyard of Burford by Cromwell's troops. The day began with socialist songs sung by Didcot Red Kites and Oxford Seagreen Singers. The Rev Canon Professor Mark Chapman blessed posies commemorating the three Levellers. He has performed this ceremony for twenty five years. He read from the 1649 Leveller Agreement of the Free People of England: Tendered as a Peace-Offering to this Distressed Nation. It had called for legal equality, religious toleration and representative government. It was a more radical programme than that espoused by Cromwell's republic.



Canon Mark Chapman. credit: Megan Dobney The traditional march through the town with its trade union banners was followed by a panel discussion on how to confront poverty and inequality.



Panel member Professor Danny Dorling; credit Megan Dobney.

Danny Dorling joined Mark Chapman on the panel. Professor Dorling is an Oxford statistician who is an expert on the geography of poverty and inequality. He stated that there was great inequality in Oxfordshire, with one in ten children living in abject poverty. Canon Chapman finalised the day by calling for the end of demonising refugees. Although an Anglican priest, he espoused the separation of the Church of England and the State. Bert Clough

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

A VISIT TO CHASTLETON HOUSE



Photo source Wikipedia

The Burford and District Society recently visited Chastleton House, which was in private hands and in the same family, until it was acquired by the National Trust in 1991. From around 1610 it was owned and inhabited by the descendants of Walter Jones, who built a new house after knocking down what remained of an older one. Why is it much the same now as it was 400 years ago? The answer usually given is that Walter Jones was a wealthy man but his successors could not afford to keep Chastleton in good repair, let alone make expensive alterations or even finance running repairs. There is a good deal of truth in this; but the story is a little more complicated.

Walter Jones was a wool merchant's son who became a lawyer and acquired the status of a gentleman, having supplied the College of Arms with a pedigree which started in the 8th century BCE with King Priam of Troy. Walter and his son Henry acquired Chastleton (and a dozen or so farms) from Robert Catesby, the principal conspirator in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605, but Walter's son Henry married Anne Fettiplace, daughter of a family long-established in Oxfordshire. Yet the history of Chastleton after Walter and Henry is one of decline, culminating in the sale of the last of the estate's farms in 1936.

Barbara Clutton-Brock, who lived alone in the house between 1976 and 1991, told visitors that the family had lost its money 'during the War', by which she meant the English Civil War of 1642-6; and during the 1640s and 1650s the Joneses were indeed fined as Cavaliers by the victorious Roundheads. In addition, they were Jacobite sympathisers in the 18th century and therefore not in favour at court. Yet many Englishmen made huge fortunes at that time from the rewards of office.

The family might have enjoyed renewed prosperity in the 19th century, had it not been for the failure of the male line. To explain, John Henry Whitmore-Jones (owner between 1828 and 1853) had high hopes of restoring the fortunes of the dynasty; and by 1844 he had four sons and six daughters, with every expectation that he might become a grandfather many times over. He arranged his affairs accordingly, creating a complex land settlement, including an entail whereby the house and land would pass to his eldest son, then to his eldest son and so on.

Alas, 'The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft agley'. John Henry's eldest son Arthur was an invalid; son Willie was 'a failed soldier, whose wild behaviour and gambling were a constant source of anxiety'; and none of the four sons ever married or had children. As a result Chastleton passed to the eldest daughter, Mary. She was a capable woman but could not reverse the long decline. Indeed, it is a minor miracle that Chastleton survived, to become the gem that it is now. Stephen Cooper, Chairman of the Burford & District Society

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.

THANKS TO OUR READERS

Thank you very much for your kind donations towards helping to ensure the current and future success of The Bridge.

We are hoping to thank you all individually but cannot do so in the case of anonymous donations or those whose contact details we do not have. But you know who you are so please accept our thanks!

> If you have not yet contributed, but would like to do so, our bank details are: Barclays - The Bridge Community Magazine, Account Number - 33956032, Sort Code - 20-97-48

> > Thank you once again from The Bridge Team. Karl Morris, Martin Tighe, Gordon and Elaine Elliot

FRIENDS OF BURFORD LIBRARY

The remedy for a perfect summer's day.... sun shining, bees buzzing, a comfortable chair and a good book. Complete your relaxation with a good read borrowed from your local library. We look forward to helping you choose your 'ticket to escape.'

July is a busy month in the library and we have many special events to attract you, apart from our ongoing activities.

From 5 July to 6 September, children can participate in the Children's Summer Reading Challenge, Story Garden. This celebrates adventure, fantasy and the great outdoors. Head to Burford Library for more details.



On 20 July, from 3.30pm, at Greyhounds on Sheep Street, join us for our Pimms, Poetry and Prose 20th anniversary extravaganza.

Tickets at £12.50 each are available at the Library or the Stone Gallery.

On 22 July, at 7pm, we are excited to welcome comedic crime author Steve Lunn. He will be discussing his first novel, The Price of Dormice, which is set in Oxford. Booking is essential, at no cost. Please ring 01865 815123, or ask any of the Library staff.

Maureen PercivalLOCAL INFORMATION



Summer Reading Challenge Launch & Activities!

Saturday 5 July | 10am - 1pm

The Cotswold Voluntary Wardens are coming to Burford Library to launch the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge, Story Garden.

They will be bringing lots of nature-based activities with them, so come along to join the challenge and have lots of fun.

We are very grateful to everybody who has contributed.

A BARGAIN - 1984 STYLE

Inflation

While we were helping in the library Eleanor Dobson kindly showed me a copy of a booklet which was written to mark the centenary of Burford Methodist Church. The church building was originally a large mansion which was later converted into a Weslevan chapel, becoming Methodist in 1932 as part of a merger. It appears that it will now revert to being a residential building. When it was sold in 1849 the property was much bigger than the present site, being divided into three lots:

Lot 1(a) Comprising the dwelling house with the garden, stables, coach-house and yards

Lot 1(b) The large yard and two barns therein; with entrance from Witney Street

Lot I(c) All the excellent close or garden with a separate entrance from Guildenford.

The whole site was said to cover one acre 39 perches, ie just under an acre and a quarter (or half a hectare, if you must). The writer of the booklet reports:

In these days of astronomical property prices it may be a surprise to learn that only £500 was proffered for the whole including lots (a), (b) and (c).

This was written in 1949 when the average price of a threebedroom new build was around £1300 (source: Google). Clearly concern about house price inflation has been around for longer than we realised.

Explainer: A perch was a a traditional measure of both distance and area. In length it was 5.5 yards which is a quarter of a chain (22 yards) - the length of a surveyor's chain used for measuring land (and also cricket pitches). Ten chains made a furlong (220 yards) while a strip of land a furlong by a chain (220×22) was 4840 square yards or one acre, considered to be what one man could plough in a day (are you keeping up at the back?). A perch was also an area 5.5 yards square, 40 perches making a rood while four roods made an acre. So that's all clear. -Gordon Elliot

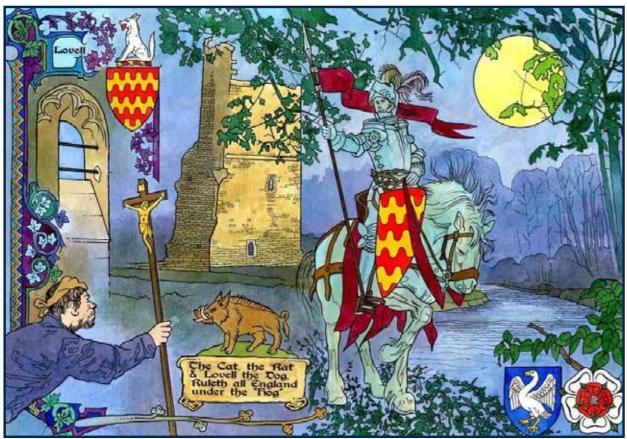
DO YOU DRIVE?

Have you spare an hour or so occasionally, to help support our Time Out Club on a Monday?

We are in desperate need for some more volunteers to transport our members to and from the Warwick Hall. We meet at 10.45 for coffee and then they leave at 3 pm. No need to be there all day, just deliver and take members home. If you think you could help us, even if it is only once a month and would like more information please could you contact Penny Barraclough pennybarraclough@btinternet.com or Tel No; 01993 824949



BURFORD TOLSEY Tolsey Talks



THE HISTORY OF MINSTER LOVELL

Graham Kew

Thursday 7.30pm, 24th July. Burford Baptist Church, Witney Street

Join Graham Kew, who has lived in Minster Lovell since he was five, to enjoy his wealth of historical tales, and ghostly legends of the village. His talk will include characters of Old Minster the ghostly legends that are attached to the picturesque medieval ruins of the village's manor house, and the story of the Chartist cottages, which were built in 1847. Chartism was a working-class movement for political reform in Britain between 1838 and 1848, which took its name from the People's Charter of 1838. He says "Only a few of the original Chartist cottages, which range from two to four acres, remain now. It's an incredible story."

Tickets are £6 per person and can be booked online, www.burfordtolsey.org/events. Admission is free for all Benefactors of the Burford Tolsey, simply turn up at the door where we will check you in.

NEW THIS YEAR: 'LINGER LONGER AFTER THE TALK' OPTION - WITH A GLASS OF WINE

OCC COUNCILLOR REPORT

With the OCC elections now completed, attention reverts to improving our roads. Various areas of road re-surfacing and gully cleaning are scheduled this summer. Initial details can be found below:

Gully Cleaning

Oxfordshire County Council is committing to clearing our road gullies in order to try and prevent standing water and flooding throughout the county. Parish councils are encouraged to report gullies needing clearing to FixMyStreet and to the county councillor.

A schedule for gully clearance can be found here: Planned, routine and reactive road maintenance information | Oxfordshire County Council at: https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-travel/ roadworks/planned-road-maintenance

Gullies that need cleared can be reported to https:// fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/?

Road Surface Dressing Commences

Road surface dressing has commenced throughout Oxfordshire. You can find out which roads are being surface dressed here:

https://oxfordshire.highway-iams.uk/Live/PBLC_ANON/PIP/? cg=scheme

Upcoming Road Works

Useful link to One.Network to identify any upcoming roadworks in West Oxfordshire. Causeway one.network. *https://us.one.network/*



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



Help Your Festival!

The Burford Festival needs a new treasurer to join a small and enthusiastic team of volunteers on the Organising Committee for the **June 2026** Festival. Might this be of interest to you?

The role is neither onerous nor time-consuming. It does, however, provide the opportunity to contribute towards an exciting range of activities and events for the benefit of the whole community.

If you have relevant experience and might be interested in the role, please drop an email to Ivan Hall at trustees@burfordfestival.org for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you! *Ivan Hall*

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

Batsford to Blockley Circular – Tuesday 1 July – Moderate 3.5hr 5.5ml

A moderate walk from the edge of Batsford Arboretum via its church to Blockley where Father Brown is filmed, We then have a steep climb out of the village before descending back to Batsford Arboretum. Bring snack and drink for a break midway.

Start: 9.30am Batsford Arboretum, Batsford, GL56 9AT OS Map ref: SP 182 333. W3W: shuttled.chitchat.chest Evening walk – Fabulous Finstock - Wednesday 9 July Easy: 2 miles 1 hour 6:30pm start

Starts: The Plough Inn, Finstock OX7 3BY

A short evening walk enjoying the fields and woodlands around Finstock. Gently undulating terrain with some uneven ground. The Plough serves good food which can be enjoyed after the walk.

A Valley, a Wood and a glorious Common – Thursday 10 July – Moderate 5.5hr 9.5ml

A delightful route up the Sudeley valley before walking steeply through the woods at West Wood and up onto Cleeve Common. If the weather is kind we will enjoy spectacular views. Please bring lunch/drink.

Start: 10.00am Winchcombe Back Lane car park (pay & display £1 all day).OS Map ref: SP 024 285.

Walking the Ways 5 (of 5) – Tuesday 22 July – Moderate 5.5hr 9ml

The last in a series of circular walks exploring the Wardens' and Windrush Ways, which both end in Bourton-on-the-Water. On this walk we go to Lower Slaughter on the Windrush Way, before returning to Bourton on the Wardens' Way. We then explore to the east of Bourton using the Oxfordshire Way.There will be mid-morning and a lunch stops, so please bring refreshments.

Start: 10.00am British Legion Hall car park, Lansdowne, Bourton-on-the-Water. £3 all day – cash only.

OS Map ref: SP 165 208. W3W: tuxedos.dissolves.crowds A Butterfly Walk - Thursday 24 July Easy: 5 miles 3 hours 11:00am start

Start: Chadlington Village Hall OX7 3NA

Late July sees the Big Butterfly Count. We will be joined by an expert who will help us identify the different butterflies and learn something of their amazing life cycle.

Burford and Beyond II - Friday 25 July Moderate: 9.5 miles 5.5 hours

Starts 10:00am - Burford main car park OX18 4SF A companion walk to the one on 11 June looking at a different group of villages and hamlets.

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 and Rosemary Wilson

BURFORD & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

May's speaker was Roger Umpleby on the subject of the kitchen garden.



Roger is a professional entomologist and horticulturalist with many years' experience of consultancy and research with government and industry. He is a part-time advisor to the RHS and occasional lecturer at Pershore College. He is also a keen gardener and passionate plant and nature lover who enjoys sharing his love and respect for the natural world with anyone prepared to listen.

Roger pointed out the negative impact that the buying of vegetables etc, from overseas or even British-grown that then get moved around the country for cleaning, packaging etc has on our planet. Hence grow your own at home – so much tastier and fresher to just go out and pick as required. Roger recommended the no-dig system (sounds ideal!) and if something grows happily in a space keep using it.

He inspired us all to go home and plant some veg and fruit; a great speaker.



A quick reminder of the Annual Summer Flower Show to be held at the Burford Bowls Club on Saturday 5 July, please see the schedule for more information,

www.burfordhorticultural.com or contact Dave Cohen on 01993 822288. Everyone can enter, just 20p per entry, or come along to see the exhibits from 1.15 p.m. Jan Cohen

VOLUNTEER FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST IN 2025

Volunteers wanted for Lodge Park



As a rural location, the Cotswold Countryside Portfolio rely on many skilled volunteers to make our places safe and accessible for all. We have a brilliant team of volunteers and we're always keen to hear from more people who want to get involved.

If you'd like to help look after nature, for everyone, forever, and inspire millions more people to act on climate issues, why not start in 2025?

Did you know we are currently recruiting for volunteers at Lodge Park, both visitor-facing and behind the scenes? Whether you prefer to be indoors or outdoors, we may have a role for you. Our volunteers at Lodge Park help with preparing the building, grounds and activities ahead of opening days and welcoming visitors, alongside assisting with events and leading walks across the Bridgeman Landscape.

To find out more about our House Experience Guides, our Outdoor Guides, our Events Volunteers and Grounds Maintenance Volunteers, please email

Cotswolds@nationaltrust.org.uk stating the role that you are interested in.

Please note that these roles are suitable for volunteers 18+. On occasion we can accommodate younger volunteers with an accompanying supervisory adult. Jacob Little

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

All advertisements in The Bridge are accepted subject to The Bridge Terms and Conditions of Advertising 2021 which can be viewed on our website www.thebridgeburford.co.uk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

VE Day Praise

I am writing in response to the letter titled VE DAY DISAPPOINTMENT.

The author mentions a couple of things she was aware of, unfortunately she missed many more.

The April edition, under Special Events, listed events and advised checking the relevant article. Page 12 of The Bridge was a full page listing at least six events, coordinated by Jennie Craven, deputy mayor.

The May edition also points out celebrations and refers to posters in Burford. The Masonic Hall also hosted a celebration.

The June edition shows just how much was happening in Burford, and thanks to everyone who made it a great celebration. You did well.

The mention of the town council 'lacking in effort' was incorrect and disrespectful to the councillors, who work hard for Burford on a totally voluntary basis.

I would add, the Annual Town Meeting took place on 21 May, as advertised in The Bridge. This is when the council tell the residents of Burford what has happened in the last year and what is going to happen in the following year. All work done by the council. Speaking of disappointment, the turn out was verv poor.

And just to finish, my Union Flag was flying in Windrush Close.

Sue Lofthouse

We received a number of comments supporting this view and also praising the councillors for their selfless dedication. Ed

Obituary Correction

The obituary written about Nicholas Dewey unfortunately contains an error as it was written that Margaret passed away at the Cotswold Home, and Nicholas followed her there. In fact both Margaret and Nicholas were residents at Burford Nursing Home, Whitehill Burford OX18 4EX, where they were both very happy.

Jane Macdonald Breaks - Burford Nursing Home

BURFORD SCHOOL NEW **SMARTPHONE POLICY FOR YOUNGER PUPILS**

Making space for children to grow

This September, Burford School will introduce a new smartphone policy designed to create a more focused, connected, and emotionally healthy environment for its younger students. Under the policy, pupils in Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9) will no longer be permitted to bring smartphones or similar smart devices onto the school site -or use them during their journey to and from school, including while travelling on school transport.

The change follows an extensive year-long consultation involving parent surveys, school forums, and direct input from students. While the benefits of technology were acknowledged, the consensus was clear: restricting the use of smartphones during the school day would improve concentration, reduce social pressures, and support healthier relationships among peers.

Burford School is not alone in this move. In February 2024, the UK Government issued formal guidance encouraging schools to ban the use of mobile phones throughout the day-including break and lunchtime. The guidance reflects growing national concern about the detrimental impact that smartphones can have on young people's learning, wellbeing, and mental health. Schools across the country are being asked to reassert their role in helping students develop in ways that aren't overshadowed by digital interference.

Burford's new policy defines a smartphone as any device with internet access, messaging apps, social media, video streaming, or multimedia capabilities. Smartwatches and tablets with similar functions will also be included. However, recognising that emergencies may occur, students will still be allowed to bring a basic "dumb" phone-a device that supports only calls and texts-



provided it remains turned off and stored in their school bag.

For students with documented medical needs requiring access to technology, the school has created an exemption process. Applications will be reviewed case by case to ensure appropriate accommodations are in place.

This shift is not just about limiting devices; it's about creating space for children to develop key life skillsresilience, self-regulation, empathy, and independence. Many of today's educators and psychologists are calling attention to the unintended consequences of growing up in a digitally saturated world. Among them is Jonathan Haidt, social psychologist and author of The Anxious Generation. His recent work explores how the sharp rise in adolescent anxiety, depression, and loneliness correlates with the widespread adoption of smartphones and social media during the last decade.

Haidt argues that childhood has been rewired too guickly by technology, removing the real-world experiences that help young people develop confidence, social skills, and the ability to navigate challenges without immediate adult intervention or online validation. He urges schools and parents to work together to restore balance, advocating for device-free time, outdoor play, and face-to-face connection-all things Burford's new policy seeks to support.

Older students in Key Stages 4 and 5 will see minor revisions to their current device guidelines, reflecting their greater academic responsibilities and developing maturity. However, all students will still be expected to keep any devices stored in their school bags and switched off during the day. A review in the 2025–26 academic year will consider whether to extend the stricter policy to include Year 10 students as well.

Burford School acknowledges that change is not always easy, especially in an era where connection feels synonymous with safety. But by limiting the presence of smartphones, the school hopes to strengthen its core values: Respect, Participate, Reach-and above all, to give students the breathing room they need to grow into confident, capable young adults. Matthew Albrighton - Headteacher



"I have only to break into the tightness of a strawberry, and I see summer – its dust and lowering skies." Toni Morrison, *The Bluest Eye*.

As the world beyond our shores appears to get crazier I am comforted by the beauty on Burford's doorstep and the peaceful surroundings of books. We celebrate the freedom we have in the UK to publish and read without censorship because reading not only gives us the ability to run away to other worlds, reading can significantly enhance our political and economic awareness. By reading, we can develop a more nuanced and informed understanding of political and economic issues, which is crucial for navigating our complex world.

June gave our bookshops the opportunity to celebrate PRIDE. Giving a visual presence to our support of diverse communities acts as a beacon of acceptance and solidarity, fostering a sense of belonging and helping to normalize LGBTQ+ identities.

We were thrilled to welcome children from Burford Primary School who came to visit Narnia and the Moon and say hello to our underwater friends – The Little Madhatter Emporium is our way to engage younger readers in the world of stories and encourage the readers of the future.

A MASSIVE thank you to the people who donated books to our collection for The Children's Book Project, a charity we support who distribute books to children – because of you, over 100 children will now have a book to call their own.

Burford Literary Festival was created to bring the community together with authors. It is a not-for-profit festival designed to be small and intimate to encourage conversation and the sharing of ideas and information. Now in our fifth year we are delighted to welcome authors from across the genres from renowned artist Francis Hamel to Gill Hornby and Susie Dent and many more. Tickets are now on sale at www.burfordlitfest.co.uk Join the conversation.

We look forward to seeing you *Kim Harvey*

BURFORD'S FREEMASONS

As a part of Burford's celebration of VE Day, the Wychwood Freemasons opened their Lodge in 35 Sheep Street to the public. It was apposite, since the Nazi regime had regarded Masons along with Jews as the most implacable enemy of the German state. The Gestapo forcibly closed many Masonic lodges and confiscated their assets, including libraries and archives. If Britain and its allies had not been victorious, then the same fate would have befallen Wychwood Lodge.

The building was first leased to the Lodge in 1892, and twenty-six years later, the Wychford Freemasons were able to purchase it. Behind its unassuming door is the lodge's magnificent Masonic Temple and dining room. The booklet *One Hundred Years of "The Wychwood" 1892-1992* provides a fascinating glimpse of the Lodge's history. The first Worshipful Master was the Rev D Horlock, Vicar of Milton-Under-Wychwood. A very experienced Freemason, he was invested Grand Chaplain of England in 1903. Another Worshipful Master was H.F. Piggott, headmaster of Burford School, who was also the Lodge's Secretary for as many as thirty seven years. In 1901, the Lodge was honoured by a visit from the Deputy Grand Master, the Rt Hon W Bro the Earl of Warwick. His ancestor Richard Neville had donated land on which the almshouses were built in 1457.

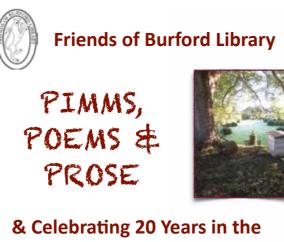
Another past Master was M E G R Wingfield of Barrington Park who was Taynton's Lord of the Manor. A wealthy landowner, he played a large part in steering the fortunes of the Lodge with notable success. Three generations of the family held the office of the Treasurer, almost unbroken, for the Lodge's first seventy years.

Another long-serving member of the Lodge was Dr. C.T. Cheatle, Burford's legendary general practitioner. His son followed his father's footsteps, both as the town's doctor and member of the Lodge. On the night of his initiation, his son complained to the Tyler (whose role is to bar entry to non-masons) "Do you mean to tell me that my father went through all this?"

In its early days, the Lodge's members must have been quite well heeled. The cost of the Installation Banquet was fixed at 10s 6d a head, with the charge for evening meals on the other days being usually 5s. This was at a time when a farmworker's average weekly wage was only about 15s.

Thirty-four freemasons feasted well at their 1896 Anniversary meal. The menu comprised mock turtle soup, followed by turbot and smelts. Entrees comprised stewed kidneys and sweetbreads. Then came a haunch of mutton. Plates of turkey, geese and pheasant followed. Those with a sweet tooth savoured plum pudding, mince pies and jellies. This enormous repast ended with bloaters on toast.

In those early days many of the Bretheren came by horse and trap from neighbouring villages. The horses were stabled at The Lamb. Some Brothers languished in the inn's Snug until they were summoned to attend to Masonic business across the road. One cannot fail to feel sorry for the poor horses, having to return home carrying a much heavier load. Bert Clough



& Celebrating 20 Years in the Library's new building.

Sunday 20 July 3.30pm Greyhounds

(by kind permission of Michael Taubenheim)

Tickets £12.50 (includes a Pimms, shortbread, strawberries & cream) from the Library or The Stone Gallery

THE BURFORD HISTORY GIRLS



Many people responded positively to the picture in the May 2025 edition of The Bridge of the 'Burford History 200 Girls' (Barbara 95, Irene 91 and Joanne 100), who between them have over 200 years of experience of life in and around Burford, and very nearly 300 years of life experience too! Here we can add some snapshots of fascinating lives which have impacted our community in so many ways. Burford is famously characterised as the 'Gateway to the Cotswolds', but for many visitors to our town, whether from elsewhere in the UK or around the world, it also seems quintessentially English, with its ancient buildings and quirky street plan. Interestingly then, our three Burford history girls all began life on what some have labelled the Celtic fringes of the British Isles.

Anyone who has met Joanne, whether in former days in the Sue Ryder shop, or as a regular attender at Sunday Mass at Burford Catholic Church, or over one of the famous teas at Burford Baptist Church, will immediately be aware of her rich Northern Irish accent. She was born, one of six brothers and sisters, in County Armagh, in the days when there was still considerable prejudice against the minority Roman Catholic population in Ulster. But she was a bright girl, joined the Civil Service and gained a promotion which meant that in 1953, aged 29, she was sent to London to work for the Inland Revenue. Her office was in Berwick Street in Soho, which was an 'interesting' place for a young woman to work in the 1950s and 60s! Initially she was in digs but when she met and married her son Charles' father, they moved to the leafier suburb of Dulwich. Sadly, her first marriage did not work out, but after her divorce she married again and had ten happy years with her second husband, who was then cruelly taken away by his sudden death. When the Civil Service started to move out to the regions, because Charles was then at school she stayed in London and worked until her retirement for a South African company which traded in gold and other precious metals. In the early 1990s she moved to Oxfordshire to be near to Charles and has now lived in Hunts Close for over 30 years. Before volunteering in the Sue Ryder Shop, she worked at the weekend for Cotswold Antiques on the A40 and was also an active volunteer in the Cottage Hospital before its closure. Until very recently Joanne was always active and engaged, a regular powerhouse as she marched up and down Burford's famous Hill, come rain or shine.

Many people will know Irene from her days when she and her late husband Ken served as local shopkeepers. But in earlier years she was also known for her roles in so many local community groups, from the Mothers' Union to the flower club, from the Horticultural Society to the WI, where she served in various roles on the committee, including 12 years as treasurer. She also supported Ken in his role as Group Scout Master, especially during summer camps when she ensured the boys who did the cooking were not about to poison themselves or anybody else! Although firmly part of the Burford community, Irene was born in Dingwall in Scotland. Her mother, who hailed from Shipton- under-Wychwood, met her father whilst on holiday in Scotland, and it was there that she and her elder sister were born. Her father was employed on the railways which gave him a travel pass that enabled her mother to travel a couple of times a year to see her family in Oxfordshire. When they came on one of these regular visits in May 1939, already the threat of war was looming, and it was decided they would remain in Oxfordshire, growing up as part of a family of ten children. She attended what was then Burford Grammar School, went with her family to the Baptist Chapel in Milton-under-Wychwood where she was baptised. After leaving school she trained as a telephonist in Cheltenham, worked for a while in Cirencester, but returned to Burford with Ken, who had trained in retail management, and whom she married in 1958. They held various roles in different establishments in Burford, living for most of the time quite literally 'over (or at least behind) the shop'. Their sons Andrew and Ian were born in the 1960s and after retirement she also volunteered at the Cottage Hospital and cooked for the lunch club, then at Hunts Close. Until the pandemic, she was the lunch club secretary, by now at the Baptist Church, where she has continued as an active member, especially as the driving force behind the annual Christmas shoe box campaign.

Barbara's mother was from Cardiff, her father was from the Forest of Dean, and she spent her early years on the Welsh border in Herefordshire. Her father was a cattleman, who had worked on ranches in the USA, but who moved to Oxfordshire to take charge of the cattle at Col Savage's farm, now the site of the Cotswold Wildlife Park. At 17 her older brother volunteered for the Royal Navy, but with her parents, Barbara lived in farm cottages also occupied by the carter, who quickly adapted to driving tractors, and the shepherd. During the war two empty cottages were used to house first Italian, and later German, prisoners of war who laboured on the farm, and with whom the families struck up perhaps unlikely friendships. The Germans even managed to conjure up a Christmas tree with some hand-crafted decorations. Barbara went to school in nearby Holwell, and started work in Burford where she met her first husband, John Holloway, whose family ran one of the four garages to be found in Burford in those days. They were staunch members of the Methodist Chapel, which is where Barbara, and subsequently her daughter Louise, were married. John was a carpenter, but Barbara worked in the garage dispensing petrol and, having learnt to drive, later operated a private hire car. They moved into the cottage in Priory Lane, where Barbara still lives, paying the princely rent of four shillings a week until they were able to buy it for themselves for £65.00. Their son Robin and daughter Louise were born in the 1950s, but sadly at the early age of 42 John passed away. She remarried another John (Bradley) but he died a few years later, and she finally wed Thomas Jeacock, this time at Burford Parish Church. Tom was the Chief Inspector of Police for Oxfordshire (in the days before TVP) and oversaw the arrangements for Churchill's funeral when the coffin arrived at Hanborough station for the final journey to his burial in Bladon churchyard.

Do take the time to speak to these amazing 'history girls' and find out more about their long and fascinating lives and the story of our community through almost a century. We are grateful that they brought their energy and commitment to community life and are living examples of the ecumenical spirit of the twentieth century as they combined their varied Christian heritage, Anglican, Catholic and Nonconformist, for the greater good.

Dr Nicholas Wood, Burford Baptist Church

BURFORD & KINGHAM ROTARY CLUB



In the last edition I posed the question, "What does Rotary actually do?"

I thought it would a good idea to expand on the answer I gave last month.

Rotary is one of the biggest charitable organisations in the world with over 1.2 million members. It started in 1905 with four members!

Burford and Kingham club started in 1983 and we continue today to provide volunteer and charitable help to individuals, groups and charities locally, nationally and internationally. We do this by giving our time to plan and run fund-raising events and to help other organisations to run theirs. Recently, we have supported Bridewell Gardens, Medical Detection Dogs, SeeSaw and End Polio Now (see below). Rotary is a great example of how effective a group of people can be when we get together to help others, while having fun and enjoying fellowship. There are no peculiar requirements to membership and no ongoing tests of loyalty; there is a small financial cost, but no requirement to donate from your own pocket. We are always keen to hear from you to discuss how Rotary works and how you can bring your knowledge and abilities to help our small club provide assistance to those who need it. Please get in touch with our secretary John if you think you can help – there's no commitment to join – you can just help out at our events to get an idea of how it all works. Below are two examples of the biggest programmes which Rotary International has been involved in. Most donations our club provide go to local and UK charities.

Mercy Ships: In 2020, Rotary worldwide donated US\$1.125 million to fund training of healthcare professionals volunteering to work on board Mercy Ships. https:// magazine.rotarygbi.org/rotary-mercy-ships-june-2025 Polio: Rotary began the polio vaccination programme in 1989

when there were 1000 cases every day across 125 countries. With continued vaccination since then, and with help in recent years from The Gates Foundation and The World Health Organisation, the incidence has decreased by 99.9% - with only 291 cases in two countries in the period January 2024-June 2025. https://www.rotarygbi.org/our-causes/



end-polio-now/ Secretary: burfordandkinghamsecretary@gmail.com FB: https://www.facebook.com/burfordkinghamrotary Web: www.burfordkinghamrotary.club *Stuart Jackson*

GARDENERS

You are welcome to visit the garden at Whitehill Farm, which is open for the National Garden Scheme. 13 July 2-6pm Anne Youngson



July/August 2025

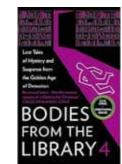
Our next lecture will take place on Wednesday 10 September, on the topic of Rembrandt: Family, Faces and Friends. Until then, the Committee of The Arts Society Cotswolds wish you a happy summer break.

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

Or contact Alison Morgans on 07771 817050

ALICE'S BOOK GROUP

Bodies from the Library, selected and edited by Tony Medawar, is one of a series, each being titled as "something" from the library. One member of Alice's Book Group did read *Ghosts from the Library* and it appears they are all in a similar format. They feature short stories, written in the earlier years of the 20th century, 1900-1950, never before published, or which appeared in more obscure publications; each tale is by a celebrated author, sometimes lessknown now, but noted in their time.



The potted biography of each author before their story was very welcome, and we found it added to the interest of their tale, but overall we were rather surprised that the series had been published recently, as we were not enamoured of the format. Detective mysteries especially, do not, apparently, benefit from the short form. Few provided decent clues or had much mystery, and though there was occasionally some complexity, most were merely stories, some interesting others not. It appears that writers generally have become more sophisticated in their style than most of those of the earlier period. As a whole, however, the book was a nicely written easy read, indeed some of the group enjoyed a "wallow" in the occasional purple prose, though others found the language too dated; all agreed, however, with one comment: "You can see why Agatha Christie lasted so long" as her skill obviously blossomed early on, but sadly some of the other writers we still know of were disappointing. A minority of tales did sustain our interest. Euthanasia of Hilary's Aunt by Alexander Clark writing as Cyril Hare was one of those, it was funny and wry, while some others had their high spots too. Many of the stories felt derivative, but we were reminded that the authors were, mostly, contemporaries of the ones we thought they had plagiarised – perhaps too strong a word. It was surprising how many of the writers used a nom de plume, could it be that to write detective novels in the early 20th century was considered infra dig?

It is difficult to review a selection of authors, but overall, we found it an underwhelming book as a whole; next month's choice is more promising: *The Bookbinders of Jericho* by Pip Williams.

Veral Marshall

FarmED

Honeydale Farm, Station Rd, Chipping Norton OX7 6BJ, Booking: www.farm-ed.co.uk

Friday Farm Walk (Most Fridays) 10.30 - 14.30

Explore Honeydale Farm on an inspiring and informative guided farm walk, led by a member of the FarmED team. Discover the regenerative demonstration farm and learn about sustainable farming and food systems, whilst taking in the beautiful views of the Cotswolds.

Summer Foraging Farm Walk Tuesday 08 Jul 9:45 - 12:30 Would you like to uncover the edible and ecological secrets hiding in the hedgerows, trees and fields around you?

Grow Your Own Wildflowers Wednesday 09 Jul 11:45 - 14:00

Learn everything you need to know about how to establish and manage your own wildflower meadow, however large or small.

Introduction to Agriculture Tuesday 15 July - 9:45 - 16:30 For people with little or no agricultural experience who are either entering a career in the rural sector or would like a basic knowledge of farming and food production.

Dung Beetles with Sally-Ann Spence Wed 23 Jul - 9:45 - 16:00

An informative workshop to learn what dung beetles do for us and what we can do for them.

Regenerative Chocolate Tue 29 Jul - 11:45 - 14:00 Grown in Grenada, crafted in the Cotswolds: One family's journey to regenerative chocolate, with fourth generation cocoa farmer Bobbie.

Minibeast Safari (Several dates during the school holidays) 10.45-12.00

A fun-filled bug hunt around the farm!

Trees, Bees & Honey Please! Wednesday 06 Aug - 11:45 - 14:00

Learn how honeybees live in the wild and how we can support these wonderful pollinators. *Fiona Mountain*

BURFORD OIL SYNDICATE



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

Next order date is Thursday 24 July 2025 by 5.00pm. Late orders will not be accepted. Deliveries for the July order are expected to be between 29 July and 12 August, depending on holidays and market conditions at the time. The following order will be on Thursday 11 September 2024.

Please note for existing members there is no need to renew your membership. For new members there is a £10 membership fee.

You can join the syndicate and order online at www.burfordoil.co.uk, or membership application forms, and order forms are available from Reavley's Chemist. *Any questions please contact Peter Higgs - 822462*

CALLING ALL BRIDGE PLAYERS -

Save the Date – Thursday 4 September



Organised by Pat Barbour, a new-to-Burford social duplicate bridge event, Burford Café Bridge, is coming on Thursday 4 September. It's the perfect combination of a day out in beautiful Burford, with its range of fabulous eateries, the social, health-giving, mentally-stimulating game of bridge and a jolly good cause – in this case continuing refurbishment of the Fulbrook play area, loved by many families over decades. Pat says that Café Bridge is a very friendly environment for players. Pairs of pre-registered players are given a movement card, which tells them which café or restaurant to go to at what time, to play against another pair. Social time is built in - part of the purpose is to enjoy meeting new fellow bridgeenthusiasts. Lunch is included in the registration fee, with a range of menus on offer from several of Burford's splendid cafés and restaurants. Moving between venues gives participants an opportunity to explore our stunning medieval townscape.

Fulbrook play area, supported by Fulbrook Parish Council, needs funds to continue improving the facility. Review of two pieces of play equipment and the signage remain on the wish list. The play area provides an important outdoor space for many local children and visitors to the village to play together in the fresh air.

This is a perfect example of the adage "it takes a village to raise a child": spear-headed by Fulbrook locals, games of bridge and a delicious lunch will contribute to the play park which is part of that indefinable "glue" which holds together vibrant communities. If bridge is your thing, do register – and tell your friends!

Ruth Reavley

TREASURES OF BURFORD PARISH CHURCH

In the reredos of St Peter's Chapel is a statue of St Dorothy, the patron saint of orchards and small gardens. She is shown carrying a basket of flowers and fruit and holding a rose. The statue dates from the 1870s when the Lord of the Manor's pew was converted into St Peter's Chapel. The statue stands in a niche appropriately decorated with gilded flowers and painted leaves. The other figures in the reredos are Christ, the Virgin Mary and St Peter.

St Dorothy is a popular saint in Germany and Italy, less so in England although the rural Cotswolds seems a fitting place for a statue of her. Her feast day is 6 February. Clare Milner



FOOD BANK OUTING



Here is a photo from Witney Foodbank's visit to Cotswold Wildlife Park in support of Volunteer's Week (2-8 June). The Park have been great supporters of Witney Foodbank so we were especially grateful to have been invited to see behind the scenes and meet some of the amazing animals.

L to R: Volunteer Andy and his four-year-old granddaughter Mabel, Chair Maria Grindley, volunteer Alison, Gill and Jo. Alison Barnes 07986562554

THE ARTS SOCIETY COTSWOLDS

Treasurer Role Vacancy

We have a vacancy arising next March 2026 for the role of Treasurer.

We are a friendly membership society, with a volunteer committee (ten of us). As Treasurer, you will be part of that committee (nine morning meetings a year.)

We are seeking a replacement now to facilitate a handover allowing plenty of time. We simply need someone to pay bills (approximately two-three a month), check bank receipts and prepare a basic Excel account record (this Excel sheet already exists, so it's a matter of continuing current practices).

Please contact Alison Morgans on 07771 817050 or email her on chairman@theartssociety.org.uk to have a friendly, non-committal conversation to find out more about the role.

To learn more about The Arts Society Cotswolds please log into the website: www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk Alison Morgans

CHADLINGTON FESTIVAL

With only a few days to go until the festival we currently have availability for all concerts, but supplies are getting very low for some events. All tickets are available at https:// www.chadlingtonfestival.org.uk/ or by calling the Box Office on 07884043712.

Thursday 3 July

7.00pm Dinner & Opera Arias at Bruern Farm Café Friday 4 July

7.30pm Classics of the Swing Era at Dean Manor Barn Saturday 5 July

10.30am Desert Island Discs with Jack Straw at Chadlington Church

2.00pm Afternoon Tea Concert at Kingham Lodge 6.00pm Gala Picnic Concert at Churchill Church

Sunday 6 July

10.00am Next Generation: Young Professionals Classical Singing Competition at Kingham Lodge

2.30pm Next Generation: Junior Royal Birmingham

Conservatoire at Kingham Lodge

9.00pm Candlelit Twilight Concert with Craig Ogden at Ascott-under-Wychwood Church

Andrew Otterburn

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.



Bird Keeper's close shave for charity raises £2,500 for Prostate Cancer UK

Recently at Cotswold Wildlife Park, Bird Keeper Chris Green raised £2,500 for Prostate Cancer UK by shaving off half his beard and half his hair for the leading men's health charity. Chris was keen to raise funds after Prostate Cancer UK supported two of his good friends who are currently undergoing treatment for the disease. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men but the earlier you find it, the easier it is to treat.



Chris' challenge comes during Men's Health Week when Prostate Cancer UK were encouraging more men to check their risk of getting prostate cancer - the disease that one in eight men will get and the only common cancer still without a screening programme.

The Bird Keeper is famous for his beard at the Park and has even gained a following on social media praising his impressive facial hair. After nine months of growing it, he wanted to do something different to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK by shaving half his hair and the opposite side of his beard off (known as a 'halfsie'). Chris commented:

"This is a charity close to my heart as unfortunately two of my friends are currently receiving treatment for this disease. Prostate Cancer UK have been such an incredible support during their time of need, I really wanted to do something to raise funds for such an amazing and life-changing charity"



Chris Jarrett, Director of Fundraising at Prostate Cancer UK (pictured left with Chris Green), said: "We're so grateful for the innovative support of Chris, who for many years has been a passionate supporter of many great causes. We're told he never does things by halves, so this hair-raising challenge is fitting and will certainly make him hard to miss! We thank him and Cotswold Wildlife Park for raising crucial funds and amazing awareness too. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and an early diagnosis can save your life. Chris' story illustrates just why more men need to be aware of the risk of prostate cancer. Men are at higher risk if they are over 50, Black or have a father or brother who has had prostate cancer. Anyone with concerns should visit the charity's online risk checker."

Commenting on his appearance post-shave, Chris Green said: "My new look may have raised a few eyebrows but it has also raised a lot of money for one of my favourite charities. You never know, I may even have started a new trend for hipsters! I'm now half the hairy man I used to be but am thrilled that by shaving off half my beard and hair off for Prostate Cancer UK, we've hopefully helped raise awareness and funds for this life-saving charity. I'm lost for words at everyone's generosity. Thanks to all those who have supported me."

Penguin Keeper Laura volunteered her services and gave Chris a 'halfsie' by the Penguin Pool (pictured top left). As well as receiving the support of visitors and colleagues who crowded round the Penguin pool to witness his transformation, a curious Penguin called JJ (pictured right) waddled straight over to Chris and watched her keeper's close shave for charity. JJ was the first Penguin Chris helped to hand-rear when he joined the Park back in 2007 and she didn't leave his side during the fundraiser. Following the shave, Chris' beard and hair clippings will be used as bedding material for the Park's many rodent species.



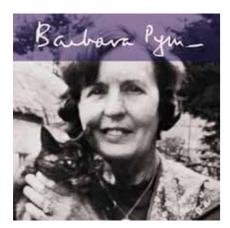
Thanks to the generosity of visitors, friends and Cotswold Wildlife Park staff, Chris has so far raised £2,500 for the charity – beating his own target of £500 by 500%. He vowed to keep his 'halfsie' for another week, in which time he hopes to raise even more funds for Prostate Cancer UK. His unusual look has sparked curiosity from visitors who enquire about his bizarre facial hair. After initial puzzlement, they have been quick to congratulate him on his fundraising efforts and many have donated generously after hearing his story. The donation page will remain open for the next few weeks. If you would like to support Chris, please visit: https://www.justgiving.com/page/chris-green-2? utm medium=FR&utm source=CL&utm campaign=015

Chris has been a Penguin Keeper at Cotswold Wildlife Park for 18 years, during which time he has helped with numerous charity events. He dressed up in a penguin costume for "Dreamnight At The Zoo" (photo in link), a charity event for chronically ill and disabled children and their families who enjoyed the wildlife park after hours. Chris joined other members of staff at Cotswold Wildlife Park by volunteering his time to make the night one to remember. He also won the coveted title of Oxfordshire Cotswolds Tourism Superstar in 2014 and was shortlisted to the national finals in 2015.





IN PRAISE OF BARBARA PYM



On 19 July 1963 the author Barbara Pym received a letter from her publishers, Jonathan Cape. They had already published her first six novels and she had submitted to them the manuscript of her seventh, An Unsuitable Attachment. The letter explained that the publishers had read it it "not without pleasure and interest" but had regrettably come to the conclusion that it was unsuitable for publication. They put forward various economic explanations for that decision but Pym was not deceived. The reason, she realised, was that her bittersweet stories of vicars and spinsters did not fit in with the prevailing fashion of that period. "Like Jane Austen," one admirer, Alexander McCall Smith, later said, "Pym painted her pictures on a small square of ivory and covered much of the same territory as did her better known predecessor. The details of smallish lives led in places that could only be in England. Neither used a megaphone and neither said much about the great issues of their time." Cape was being run by the young and dynamic Tom Maschler whose tastes in literature were very different from those of Pym. He was about to publish The Collector, the first book by John Fowles, which promised to make them a great deal of money. Other publishers rejected her book. She carried on writing but these were her wilderness years. She published nothing for 15 years.

In 1977 the Times Literary Supplement celebrated its 75th birthday with a feature in which high-profile writers and academics nominated authors of the last 75 years they thought were underrated or overrated. Pym was selected in the first category by Lord David Cecil and her friend Philip Larkin the only author to appear twice. The publishing world woke up. Cape offered to publish her latest book, Quartet in Autumn, but she never forgave them for their earlier treatment. It was published by MacMillan together with The Sweet Dove Died, a book she had written 10 years before but had reworked. Her previous books were reissued. Her fame reached America and she achieved modest success there. Quartet in Autumn was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. She even received the ultimate accolade of appearing on Desert Island Discs.

Sadly, Pym did not enjoy her new-found fame for long. After retiring from her daytime job at the International African Institute in London, she lived with her sister at Finstock and died of breast cancer in 1980. She is buried in Finstock churchyard and her former home, Barn Cottage, is marked by a blue plaque. But her books remain in print and she has a legion of admirers and an active Barbara Pym Society with branches in the UK and America. **Editors**

BIRD SPOTTERS' CORNER

Ian Lazarus kindly provided photos of a Corn Bunting in Alvescot and a mother and fledgling Greater Spotted Woodpecker in Shilton.

> The goldfinches were spotted and photographed by Gordon Elliot.







DIARY OF SPECIAL EVENTS

Sat 28 June	Charity Sale for Shilton Village Ha
Sat 28 June	Windrush Film Night
Sun 29 June	Burford Singers Concert - see Artie
Wed 2 July	Much Ado About Nothing
3-6 July	Chadlington Festival
Sat 5 July	Burford Orchestra Concert - Music Spy Films
Sat 5 July	Summer Reading Challenge Launc Event
Sat 5 July	BDHA Summer Flower Show
Tue 8 July	FABW1 talk - Coleshill, Nerve Cen Resistance in World War Two
Sat 10 July	Windrush Flower Show and Fete
Sun 13 July	Open for the National Garden Sch
Sun 20 July	Pimms, Poetry and Prose
Tue 22 July	Talk by Author Steve Lunn
Sat 26 July	Windrush Film Night
25 Jul- 3 Aug	Guiting Music Festival
Tue 12 Aug	Garden Party - Members Only
25 - 30 Aug	Cotswolds Art Assoc. Summer Exh
Thur 4 Sept	Burford Cafe Bridge
Tue 9 Sept	FABW1 talk - Indian Block Printin Demo and Activity by Maria Brow
Wed 10 Sept	TASC Lecture - Rembrandt: Famil Faces and Friends
26-28 Sept	Burford Literary Festival
Tue 14 Oct	FABW1 Harvest Festival Supper

Gentle Readers! This page takes an enormous amount of time to put together so please help us by always giving the Day of the Week as well as the Time of the event, otherwise we have to look it up each time and we can easily get it wrong.

11	The Tolsey, Burford	10-3pm
	Windrush Village Hall	7.30pm
ele	Burford Parish Church	7.30pm
	Asthall Manor	TBA
	See Article	
c from	Burford School	7.30pm
h	Burford Library	10-1
	Burford Bowls Club	1.15pm
tre of	Baptist Church	7.30pm
	Village Hall Great Barrington	1pm+
eme	Whitehill Farm Garden	2-6pm
	Greyhounds, Sheep St	3.30pm
	Burford Library	7pm
	Windrush Village Hall	7.30pm
	Guiting Power	
	ТВА	TBA
ibition	Warwick Hall, Burford	10-5pm
	See Article	11-4
g n	Baptist Church	7.30
У	Warwick Hall, Burford	10.50am
	ТВА	ТВА
	ТВА	ТВА

FUN IN THE SUN

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

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	Burford Baptist Church	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	nd Tuesday of every month Burford Baptist Church Hall		
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 <u>01993 891 043</u> 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 <u>windrushcinema@gmail.com</u> Dan Boyle	

In bright sunshine on a perfect summer's day, members of the Burford and District Society convened in the lovely garden of Greyhounds in Burford for their traditional annual garden party. All the great and good from our area were present, along with the rest of us. Stephen Cooper, chairman of the Society welcomed members to the party and thanked Michael Taubenheim for kindly hosting the event. Many of the prodigious quantities of tea and cake were provided by local people (Michael must still be eating the leftovers) and members had the opportunity to meet old and new friends from different areas in our part of the Cotswolds. The crowning attraction was a second-hand bookstall with the proceeds going to (ahem) this magazine. Many thanks, Michael.



Above photo by Maureen Percival; others by Gordon Elliot











CHURCH SERVICES

BURFORD BENEFICE

St John the Baptist, Burford PARISH CHURCH SERVICES

6 July

oouiy	
Benefice Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am
Evening Meeting	7.00pm
13 July	-
Choral Matins (BCP)	9.30am
Holy Communion	11.00am
Evening Meeting	7.00pm
20 July	-
Holy Communion (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am
Evening Meeting	7.00pm
27 July	*
Morning Service (CW)	9.30am
Morning Service (CW)	11.00am

Every Wednesday at 10.30am we have Holy Communion Service followed by Coffee & Company.

St James the Great, Fulbrook

13 July	
Morning Prayer (CW)	9.30am
20 July	
Matins (BCP)	9.30am
27 July	
Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30am

St John the Evangelist, Taynton

20 July	
Evening Prayer (BCP)	6.00pm

St Nicholas, Asthall

13 JulyEvening Prayer (BCP)6.00pm

St Mary, Swinbrook

St Mary, Swiibiook	
6 July	
Holy Communion (CW)	11.00am
13 July	
Morning Prayer	11.00am
20 July	
Morning Prayer	11.00am
27 July	
Morning Prayer	11.00am

St Oswald, Widford

27 July 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

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. ll are elome.

WINDRUSH BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICES

Church Services 2025	Sherborne	Little Barrington	Aldsworth	Windrush	Great Barrington
Sunday 6th July Trinity 3	11:00am Morning Prayer				6:00pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 13th July Trinity 4		6:00pm Evening Prayer			
Sunday 20th July Trinity 5			11:00am Holy Communion		6:00pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 27th July Trinity 6	6pm Evening Prayer			11am Holy Communion	
Sunday 3rd August Trinity 7	11:00am Holy Communion		6:00pm Evening Prayer		
Sunday 10th August <i>Trinity 8</i>		11:00am Morning Prayer			6:00pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 17th August <i>Trinity 9</i>	6:00pm Evening Prayer		11:00am Holy Communion		
Sunday 24th August <i>Trinity 10</i>				11:00am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 31st August Trinity 11		L	ate Lammas (Bibury)	1	

BURFORD ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Burford Allotments Association is seeking any Burford residents who wish to join the waiting list for an allotment in the future. Please contact Rob Alexander (robalexander979@hotmail.com) if you wish to express an interest.



SAVE A LIFE IN 20 MINUTES

Journalist Caitlin Moran recently wrote about a decision she had taken. We are told, she wrote, that we should remember all the things we should be grateful for. However she decided that she should do something extra - to *do* grateful. So she became a blood donor. Giving blood, she says, is probably the greatest thing that you ever do.

She went to a dusty church hall where a group of assorted people were doing the same thing. She reflects:

"Somewhere out there, one day soon, one of your fellow confused, well-meaning, frangible mammals will suddenly have their life explode. There will be a crash, a clutching of the heart, a fall - and then: blue lights and wailing sirens...And loved ones sitting next too them, fists clenched tight, offering anything - *everything* - to God to make it better....And the thing that will make it better, the thing that is sent, is *you*. You, on some distant day, will be someone's astonishing life-saving miracle." To save someone's life you only need to fill in a form and lie on a bed for 20 minutes. And at the end you get a biscuit.

NHS Blood and Transplant need more donors urgently as blood stocks are critically low. More information from: <u>blood.co.uk</u>

GARDEN FASHIONS



When we saw these elegantly accoutred figures in Fulbrook we thought for a moment that we had found John and Sarah Horner engaging in horticulture. Closer inspection revealed them to be ... what? Surely too smart to be scarecrows. Avatars, perhaps? *Editors*

THE BRIDGE TIMETABLE

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

editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk

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

Advertisements need to be booked before the 10th of the month, and artwork provided before the 12th of the month preceding publication. Please contact:

advertise@thebridgeburford.co.uk

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

Company Name	Business Type	Phone
Antiques @ The George	Award winning, friendly antiques centre	01993 823319
Hickman Brothers Landscapes Ltd	Garden Design and Construction, Landscape and Garden Supplies www.hickmanlandscapes.co.uk	01993 822226
Tayler and Fletcher	Estate Agents / Chartered Surveyors / Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers / Commercial Agents / Rural Specialists	01993 220579
Peter Garratt	Painter and Decorator	01451 810376 07788 896496
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.
Burford Foot Clinic	Chiropody Castles Yard, Pytts Lane, OX18 4SJ	07884318091
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
Radnor Martin	Estate agents covering Burford and the surrounding villages	01993 765115
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

JOIN US FOR 3 HOURS OF CREATIVE FUN AND NEW FRIENDSHIPS THIS IS THE • Develop impressive new skills in a warm and friendly atmosphere

- Fun, easy, step-by-step sessions in 3 hour classes, morning or afternoon, for 3¹/₂ months
- Make new friends at our fun social classes for complete beginners to improvers

LEARN TO PAINT AND DRAW PEOPLE AND PLACES

Explore 4 media: **Drawing**, Painting with **Watercolour**, **Acrylics**, and **Pastels**. Discover how to paint faces, figures, beautiful landscapes, animals, birds, still life and much more! Learn artists' secrets needed to create beautiful pieces of original art.

easons

WN BOWLS

Class

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

ASH "IN FRAME" KITCHEN DESIGNED - CRAFTED - COMPLETE INSTALLATION



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



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



BURFORD

PANTON DESIGN Office 1 17 Market Street Woodstock Oxfordshire **OX20 1SU**

t: 01993 810704

m: 07801 258899

e: henry@pantondesign.info w: pantondesign.info



Burford Oxon

Sunday

gatewayantiques.co.uk



The 3rd of July 2015 marked the grand opening of Burford Foot Clinic, which welcomed a strong turnout of individuals interested in booking appointments that day.

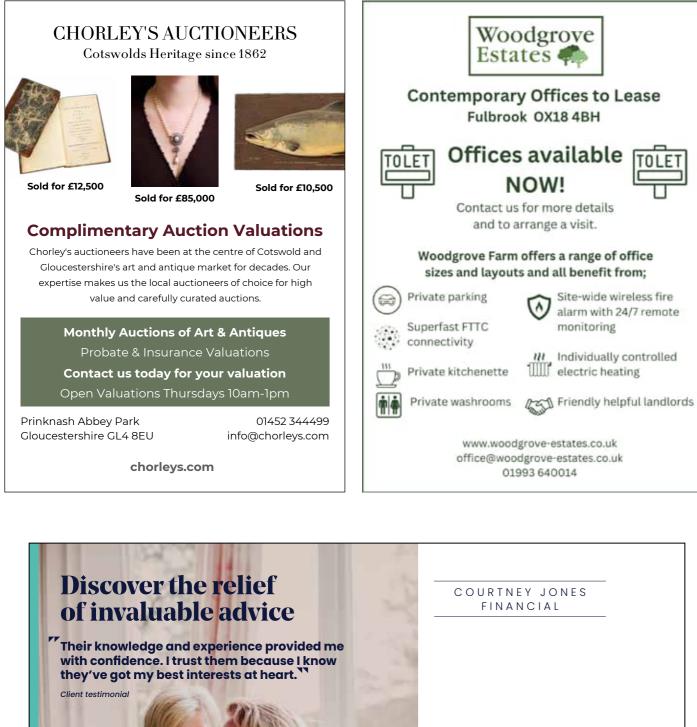
Since then, Ramona Gogolos, the foot specialist, has helped many clients maintain happy and healthy feet.

Ramona stated, "The foot clinic has experienced growth year after year, and this success has allowed me to modernise the facilities to a higher standard.

To celebrate our 10th anniversary, I would like to offer a £5 discount on each appointment booked in July as a token of appreciation for your continued support. Looking ahead, I hope for another decade of success, growth, and healthy feet."



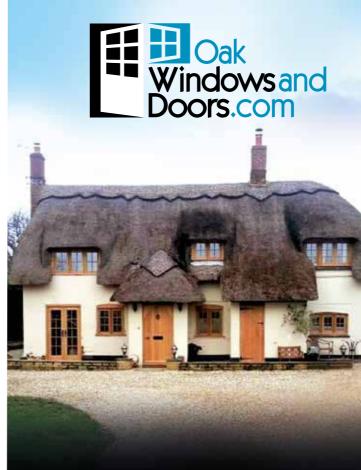






SJP Approved 07/05/2025





SJP15035e_DS B2 (01/25)

Your Planning, Building & Renovation Partner

• DESIGN & BUILD •

Making your dreams a reality

07793 74 73 72 info@sdd-b.com www.sethddb.com

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



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

07824 392813

emmawhittington@btinternet.com

AKEMAN COTTAGE • ASTHALL • OX18 4HW

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



the highest standard.







C P 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



ELECTRICAL

07834 983155

www.chrislewiselectrical.co.uk



- 32 -



CP Home Improvements









Book online at www.guitingfestival.org



Guiting

25 July -3 Aug 2025



ALL ASPECTS OF GROUND CARE GOVERED - FROM PROFESSIONAL PRESSURE WASHING, MOSS REMOVAL & EXTERIOR CLEANING, TO BORDER MULCHING, TO LAWN MOWING, LAWN LEVELLING, ALLOTMENT RESETS, HEDGE & BUSH TRIMMING, PLUS EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!



RADNOR MARTIN

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





Room To Learn is a local charity started by Brian & Ann Mills, which currently supports 88 Below Poverty Line children in West Bengal. Every pound raised through donations goes directly to the children's education. Children aged 3-6 attend pre-school classes, educating the families on how to achieve, and enabling the children to excel and enter the best state

schools locally.

We hold an annual 'Garden Party' in Old Minster Lovell (Manor Lodge) where you can find out more about what we are doing, and chat directly with our Trustees. Please mark Saturday 9th August, 1pm in Old Minster Lovell, in your diary. We would love to see you!

Brian, Des & Trustees.

http://www.roomtolearnuk.org/ www.facebook.com/R2LUK









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

TOP 20 CARE HOME GROUP carehome.co.uk

34 Forest Grove, Burford OX18 4FF

NURSING • RESIDENTIAL • DEMENTIA • RESPITE