

March 2024

SSUE NO 299

DIARY DATES

- Mondays, "Old Sweats" Meeting, BLH, 10am-12 Noon, 07714 852364 bourton.secretary@rbl.community
- Mondays & Thursdays, Stay Strong & Steady (falls prevention exercises), BLH, 1-2.30pm. cotswoldactivehealth@gmail.com See page 13.
- Mondays & Fridays, Bourton Men in Sheds, 9.30am-12.30pm, Behind RBL, 01608 692811.
- Tuesdays, "Together on Tuesdays", Soup lunch. 12-2pm, StLC.
- Thursdays Flexercise, BLH, 10-11am. 01993 882350 kathy.kirk@live.com
- 2nd-3rd Gift Fair, **VH**, 10-5pm, 07832 195427.
- 4th & 18th Mindsong, Sing 2 Remember GMCC, am group 10.30am, pm group 2.30pm. 07764 212506 or 01451 821216.
- $\mathbf{6}^{\text{th}}$ Parish Council Meeting, GMCC, 7pm.
- 8th & 22nd Friendly Memory Cafe, StLC, 2-4pm, 07746 672726.
- 9th-10th Gift Fair, VH, 10-5pm, 07832 195427.
- 11th Probus, "Flying the Fairey Swordfish Part 2" by Mike Aggleton. 10am, GMCC. See page 2.
- 12th WI, VH, 7pm.
- 13th Irene's Charity Knitting Circle, WP, 10am-12pm. See page 14.
- 13th & 27th Bourton Community Day Club, 10.30am - 2.30pm, MC, GL54 2HE. 01608 652019.
- 13th Horticultural Society, Malcolm Moodie, "Orchids of Borneo", 7.30pm, BCH. See page 14.
- 14th Bourton Lunch Club, CCP, GL54

Continued on page 2, column 1

Baptist Church Hall = BCH British Legion Hall = **BLH** Cricket Club Pavilion = CCP George Moore Community Centre= GMCC Jubilee Lodge = JL Market Close = MC North Cotswold Sale Room= NCS St Lawrence Church = StLC Victoria Hall = VH Willoughby Place = WP

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council Notes

.bourtonbrowser.co.uk

Notes from the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 29th January and the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th February 2024.

The Police will be holding a Police Point session between 10 and 11am on Wednesday 13th March 2024.

County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson reported that GCC's budget would be set on 21st February and was likely to result in a 4.99% Council Tax rise. The Police precept would increase by 4.4%.

District Councillor Len Wilkins (Bourton Vale) reported that changes were being made to the planning process and in future there would only be a total of 28 days to put in an objection to an application.

District Councillor Jon Wareing (Bourton Village) reported that the Local Plan Consultation was running from 1st February to 24th March and was available on-line.

Thames Water presented on 'Upgrades to the Sewage Infrastructure in Bourton-onthe-Water' with opportunities for a Q&A. The presentation (available on the Parish Council's website) detailed plans for upgrades to the system to ensure better quality effluent would go into the river, reducing spills, making works more efficient and dealing with growth around the area. There would be a significant investment in the upgrade of the sewage treatment works and pumping station with the sewage treatment works from November 2023 to Spring 2025 and the pumping station from Spring 2024 until early summer 2025. The lane opposite the Rissington Road pumping station (HBW38 leading to Santhill Fishing Lakes) would be closed during works, and traffic management would be in place on Rissington Road.

2024-25 Budget and Precept: An Extraordinary Parish Council meeting was held on 29th January and the budget was approved for the year commencing 1st April 2024 at £193,274 which represents a Band D equivalent sum of £109.46 per household per annum, rising from £103.30 in 2023-24, a rise of £6.16 per household per annum or just under 12p per week. Parish Council services cost parishioners £2.10 per week for a Band D equivalent. The total percentage increase in Precept is 5.96%.

Coach Parking, pick-up and drop-off: The possibility of using the school turning circle for pick-up/drop-off had been discussed but thought to be unsuitable on the grounds of safeguarding, congestion, access to the leisure centre, increased footfall to The Avenue and health and safety. Senior directors of the old Co-Op site had been approached to determine whether there was any scope for coach pick-up/drop offs on their site during 2024.

CDC had been asked several times about coach parking, pick-up and drop off at the Rissington Road car park and had advised that this was not possible. In addition, Council noted the impact of the new two-way entrance in addition to the

Cont. p 2, cols 2 & 3

The Bourton Browser is run by volunteers & delivered monthly FREE to every household in the Village.

Go to the "Get in Touch" tab and then complete the contact form to send questions, articles (max.300 words), adverts & event details to the team.

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The **DEADLINE** for Adverts & Articles for the **April** edition is **Noon on 15th March**



Monica Winch

Monica Winch, much loved mother of David and Marion, sister of Rita, grandmother to seven grandsons and great grandmother to Oliver, Isaac and Francesca. Sadly passed away on the 2nd February, at the age of ninety. She will be missed.

Michelbacher Cycles		
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continued from Page 1, column 2.

adjacent cricket field car parking. Therefore, irrespective of the outcome of the current enquiries, Council saw no further point in attempting to change CDC's mind on the use of the Rissington Road car park for coaches.

Tourist Levy: CDC agreed that Village Green works, additional parking enforcement and the Village Warden would be funded by the Levy each year with any remaining funds going towards projects. CDC may consider increasing the levy per car in future years.

Parish Council open evening with residents to discuss traffic flow and parking – 7pm on Thursday 21st March 2024 at the Royal British Legion Hall: There will be a meeting to hear residents' view on matters outside the scope of coach parking. Following the meeting, the Parish Council will collate views and information for a Strategic Plan to be created by the Highways Committee.

Annual Parish Meeting: This will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 27th March 2024 in the Windrush Room at The George Moore Community Centre. This is not a Parish Council meeting but an opportunity for residents to hear reports from the parish council and local clubs and organisations on their activities during the year. All residents are welcome to attend and light refreshments will be served.

Brighter Bourton: This event will be held on Thursday 4th April from 6.30-8.30pm at the Royal British Legion Hall. Please see separate article, page 16, for



further details.

Next Meeting Date: The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 6th March 2024 at in the Windrush Room at The George Moore Community Centre. All residents are welcome.

Sharon Henley, Clerk/RFO 01451 820712 <u>clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk</u> www.bourtononthewaterpc.org.uk

Colin Ennis

I would like to thank everyone who sent kind thoughts and best wishes, following the death of my husband, Colin. Judith Ennis

Bourton Probus

As our speaker on 8th January had to be changed at short



notice, our member Tom Constant showed us a film about the work of his former firm's car components. He highlighted the difficulty of parts for European models as the engine compartment was much smaller than American cars, which did occasionally cause problems. An interesting film which led to considerable discussion afterwards. On 22nd January we held our AGM, when lan Leppingwell was re-elected as Chairman, and the current committee agreed to continue in post for a further year.

The Bourton Probus is for retired men or women from any background, who are interested in regular talks and social events. If you would like to know more, please come to one of our monthly meetings, advertised in the Diary pages, and talk to us. **Roger Harris**

VJ COLLETT

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Bourton Browser Team News

Relief Deliverers: We need some more volunteer relief deliverers please. The relief deliverers help out occasionally when our regular deliverers are on holiday or unwell. We deliver a batch of Browsers to the deliverers, usually in the last week of the month, and ask them to put the magazines through the letterboxes in a particular street, or streets. Typically there are between 20-70 Browsers to deliver, taking between 30 minutes and an hour. If you think you could help out occasionally please either contact David Tebbutt, Distribution Manager, on 01451 821098 or email at the address below. Your support would be much appreciated.

Events: If you are planning any let us know as soon as possible, we can advertise them in "Diary Dates" and the on-line village diary, <u>www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk</u> It is well worth checking the village on-line diary when scheduling events to avoid clashing with over events!

Articles: We welcome articles (maximum 300 words) & photographs, from adults, children and local community groups on any subjects of local interest. We only have room for <u>one article, per community</u> group, per issue.

team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk The Bourton Browser Team

Mislaid folder of old Bourton Photos

I put an article in the February Browser asking if anyone had, or knew the whereabouts of, a black, A4, plastic folder of old photos of Bourton. This was lent to me last summer with the request to share it with other residents, which I duly did

Unfortunately I can't remember who I passed it on to and, despite asking everybody I know, making announcements at various meetings, advertising in the Browser and on social media, the folder has still not been returned.

The original owner of the photos is very upset and desperately wants it back.

It would make both the owner, and myself, very happy if it could be returned. If you have any information at all, (including if it passed through your hands at some point), please get in touch. If you would prefer to return it anonymously, please place it in the black plastic box by my front door, Alice's Cottage, Victoria St, or contact the Browser on 01451 822431 and they will arrange to collect it from you.

Please contact Mollie Wise

822365

High Bridge Jewellers



VACANCY

A rare opportunity has arisen for a personable, hardworking individual, to join our wonderful team of sales advisors here at Highbridge Jewellers. Ideally, we would like some flexibility over 3 days a week, which would include some weekend working throughout the month.

For more information please drop into the shop for an informal chat or alternatively submit your CV to: High Bridge Jewellers, High Street, Bourton-on-the-Water, Glos GL54 2AQ.

01451 810928. <u>sales@highbridge-jewllers.co.uk</u> www.cotswoldfinejewellery.co.uk

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> > Hello! COTSWOLDS RADIC

Eyes down for a night of music-themed fun!

On Thursday 18th April, Cotswolds Radio Breakfast Show presenters, Nicky and Neil, will be hosting an evening of Music Bingo at The Cotswold Hall, Northleach.

The event starts at 7:30pm, with doors (and the bar!) open at 7pm.

Tickets are available in advance from the Cotswolds Radio website (just click on Shop & Donate at the top of the page). The ticket price of £10 per person includes a delicious charcuterie board and nibbles for the table. The Cotswold Hall bar will be open, serving beers, wines and soft drinks, with payment accepted by cash or card.

And don't forget some spare cash for the raffle, with great prizes including a food hamper and vouchers for local businesses.

As Cotswolds Radio is a not-for-profit company run entirely by volunteers, we rely on donations and fundraising to keep us on the air, working with our community to bring you news, music and great shows.

If you've got a passion you'd like to share, get in touch with Cotswolds Radio. You can send us a message via the app or email at:

contact@cotswoldsradio.com.

OUT AND ABOUT in March

- Mondays, Yoga for All, 9.30-10.30am, Pilates 10.35-11.30am, Wyck Rissington Village Hall. 07950 424037 Enquiries: franyoga@rocketmail.com
- Daily Lambing & Kidding, Cotswold Farm Park, Guiting Power, GL54 5F. 01451 850307. www.cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk
- 8th Rissingtons Local History Society, @ 7.30pm."Mary Queen of Scots" by Gillian White. Village Hall, Upper Rissington GL54 2QW. Visitors Welcome, £3.50 to include refreshments.information.RLHS@gmailcom 07815 606770.
- 8th-10th Craft Festival, 10am-5pm. Imperial Square, Cheltenham, GL50 1QA. www.craftfestival.co.uk/ 01626 836846.
- 8th-23rd Chipping Norton Music Festival, Town Hall, Market Square, Chipping Norton, OX7 5NJ. 07875 454094. https://www.cnmf.org.uk
- 9th Village Market at Great Rissington, Great Rissington Club, 10am-noon. 01451 822285.
- 10th Fat Squirrel Mother's Day Family Bushcraft, Camp Fries & Axe Throwing. 2-4pm, The Manor, Notgrove, GL54 3BT. 07887 500966. www.notgroveholidays.com/activities
- 12th-15th Cheltenham Festival, Cheltenham Racecourse, GL50 www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/cheltenham/events-4SH. tickets/the-festival/ Gold Cup Day 15th. 01242 513014.
- 16th Illustrated talk, Val Bourne. "Growing Organic Vegetables. Successful strategies in the Cotswolds" Northleach Church, 7.00pm. Tickets £12/£15 incl a free drink, northleachevents.co.uk See page 14.
- 17th Guide Dog Mum, Volunteer Taster day, Guide Dog National Centre, CV33 9QJ, 1-4pm. Details from Volunteer-Midlands@guidedogs.org.uk See page 12.
- 17th Crafty Boaters Spring Market, Lechlade Memorial Hall, Oak Street, GL7 3AY. FREE entry. 10am-4pm. 07919 896967. www.craftyboaters.co.uk/crafty-boaters-craftmarkets-lechlade/
- 17th `Science at the Mill`, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Long Hanborough. OX298ET. www.combemill.org. 01993 358694. See page 12.
- 23rd-30th June, Icons of British Fashion, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, OX20 1UL, 10am-4pm .01993 810530 www.blenheimpalace.com .
- 23rd-7th April Join the Big Batsford Bunny Hunt! The Easter Bunny's helpers have escaped & they're hopping around Batsford Arboretum. Find them to win a prize! £3 per plus Arboretum admission fee Visit child, www.batsarb.co.uk for details.
- 29th-7th April, Easter Craft activities , Gloucestershire & Warwickshire Steam Railway, Toddington, GL54 5DT. www.gwsr.com or 01242 621405.

Batstord

Wander amongst daffodils, Magnolia and early flowering cherry trees, and stock-up for the garden at Batsford this month.



www.batsarb.co.uk

FOR SALE / WANTED ITEMS

To advertise items such as Household items, Toys, Garden Equipment etc, complete the contact form on the "Get in Touch" tab. The advert should be no more than 15 words. It must be received before 12 noon on the 15th of the month. No commercial adverts accepted for this section.

For Sale Baby Cot, aged 0-5. Used for approx. 3 months. To be collected. 01451 798125 f20.

For Sale Sharp, 32" TV & DVD player, plus cabinet. £50 ONO. 01451 821799.

For Sale Men's' Raleigh Bicycle. £25. 01451 821799.

> For Sale Beco, 19" TV. £25. 01451 821799.



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Panto Group



Our thanks to everyone who came to the Victoria Hall last month to support us at the performances of Little Red Riding Hood. Red is now safe in Billy's arms, she is reunited with Granny, the wolf is banished and Dame Hood, in her words, has "pulled"! We, on stage and behind the scenes, had a blast and hope you had an enjoyable evening too.

The main tabs have closed this time, but we don't stop! Our audience has barely left the building on Saturday evening and chairs are being stacked, props gathered from the wings, costumes sorted into piles for laundering, raised seating dismantled and the floor swept and mopped, returning the spaces to their former functions. Having arrived for the last two performances around 1pm, we're fortunate if we see our beds before midnight! Several of us return on Sunday morning to clear and clean – those piggy builders left a terrible mess!

We then embark on the next exciting project, a process that has actually already begun! Scripts are scrutinised, music suggested, movement choreographed, scenery planned, costume designed, props sourced or constructed....and so on! There are so many other roles that need to be filled too. Our team includes those who attend to front of house duties welcoming the audiences, selling programmes, raffle tickets and interval drinks, then make-up and hair artists and technicians for sound and lighting. Fancy joining?! It's a great hobby that brings live theatre to Bourton.

If being a full member isn't possible for you, there is another way to support us, by becoming a Patron of the group. For £15 a year you will receive priority booking and a complimentary programme for our performances and an invitation to any of our social events.

Contact Angela on 01451 821344.

Ann Chapman, 01451 820917



Time to spare? Looking for new friends? Seeking a new challenge? Why not try your local u3a?

The u3a is open to all retired and semiretired people. Currently with over 25 special interest groups, there is something of interest for everyone. Group activities are spread throughout the week between our local communities in Bourton, Stow, Moreton, and The Rissingtons etc. Monthly meetings are held on Wednesday mornings at **the Royal British Legion Hall in Bourton-onthe-Water** and are ideal for prospective new members to sound us out.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 27th March 2024, from 10am to 12 noon,

Have you ever found yourself asking about Wall Paintings - Why were they done? How were they done?



Where were they positioned and why? John McCormick will tell you all you want to know!!

Please come along, enjoy a tea/coffee, and see what we have to offer.

We will be very pleased to see you.

Or look us up on: u3asites.org.uk/bourton



Call Emma for a FREE Quote

North Cotswolds Rotary

NORTH COTSWOLDS ROTARY PARTNER WITH BRIO RETIREMENT



LIVING FOR ANOTHER 3 YEARS SPONSORHIP North Cotswold Rotary (NCR) has enjoyed a great relationship with Brio Retirement Living and the Beechwood Park team over the last 3 years during which time they have been our principal sponsor helping us raise £43,000 for charity. We're proud of what we've achieved together for local charities; particularly as some of this period was impacted by Covid.

We look forward to another 3 years working together to put on fundraisers that the community can enjoy and get involved in. NCR's sincere thanks go to Brio Retirement Living for their continued support.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN NORTH COTSWOLDS ROTARY?

Are you looking for a way to make new friends and get involved with your local Then North Cotswolds community? Rotary could be for you. We are a friendly group of volunteers and we welcome men and women from all backgrounds and age groups. We provide an opportunity to work with likeminded people supporting our local community as well as larger international projects. If you joined us and could spare a few hours a month you could make a real difference and have fun at the same time. We also enjoy a full social programme too; allowing us to get to know one another and plan our efforts for the future. For more information:

See our Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>RotaryClubOfTheNorthCotswolds/</u> See our website: www.northcotswoldsrotary.org

If you like to speak to someone about what we do then please call Steve Whincup on 07488 365908.

John Barber

Bourton Rovers

February saw us push through the last of the winter weather to welcome spring, propelling us into



the last couple of months of the football season. With plenty of postponed games to fit in, the silver lining from all that rain is that we get to enjoy more football in the glorious spring weather!

With the change of the clocks upon us, we are expecting a regular influx of midweek fixtures. Our 100-seater stand promises spectacular pink and orange sunsets at Bourton Rovers, as we battle on to catch up on missed matches – Is it too early to dig out my sunglasses? Keep an eye on our socials for fixtures, we would love to see you at a game!

This is our first season in the 2nd division of the Hellenic league, bringing us new signings, a real sense of camaraderie amongst the team and some cracking football!

Having to pull out of the first division last season, due to financial struggles was a real blow to Bourton Rovers with each game costing upwards of £250, having to pay referees, linesmen, match food, flood light cost etc. As a non-profit club it was just unsustainable to carry on, and we made the heart breaking decision to move to the 2nd division. We knew we would lose players, we also lost a coach and secretary, but also knew if we kept going as we were, not only would our adults' team end up folding but our social club and, heart-breakingly, our youth section would also suffer.

So, 23/24 saw us start the season with players still proud to wear the Bourton badge and a barrage of new (and previous) players propelling us up the league table. With such a successful season, division 1 is back in our sights!

Catherine Williams

Bourton Roadrunners

When you are looking for new inspiration on a winter's morning, to get you out of a cosy bed for that all in important run, what better place to do it than Barcelona, Spain? This weekend Bourton Roadrunners' Chris Nesbitt chose the **Barcelona Half Marathon**, with its 8:30 early start. The urban circuit through the heart of this cultural city and its Mediterranean coast certainly did the trick for Chris, who had a brilliant race finishing in the top 10% of the more than 24000 runners, in a time of one hour, 27 minutes and 21 seconds.

Nearer to home the day before, 40 Bourton members of all abilities got together for the club's annual relay race around the country lanes surrounding Guiting Power. This event was supported by Guiting Manor Farm, in aid of the North Cotswold Food







Bank. The ten teams of four runners, with individual times ranging between 25 minutes and 57 minutes for the 6.5km route. ran their hearts out. Whilst designed to be a fun social event, teams were chip-timed with a staggered start time based on their expected finish times, all looking for the bragging rights to be the first team to cross the finish line. Despite the hot competition, runners were encouraged by opposing team members around the course and up the final climb to Guiting Manor Farm.

The weekend wouldn't be complete without parkrun, and club members could be found at the following venues: Fulham Palace: Eva Shoemark - 26:50. Harkerville, South Africa: Gillian James -34:15 (VW50/3). Horsham: Claire Carroll - 30:29 (VW60/2). Leamington: Susan Hunt - 28:07 (VW55/3). Penallta, Caerphilly: Jaq Underwood - 23:42 (VW55/1). Wānaka, New Zealand: Margaret Hollamby - 26:44 (VW65/1).

John Gibson

Spring

Spring brings our gardens awake, Colours bursting through the mud, Birds busy, nests to make, Trees redressing, new with bud, Yellows, whites, pinks and blues, Grouped together, rich in scent, The landscape displaying amazing views, All of these, spring has sent.

Carol Paxton



Message from the Church

The church calendar brings us to the mid part of lent – a 40 day reflective season in which we take stock amid the busyness of life, making space to focus our hearts and minds upon that which holds greatest meaning to us in life. Lent invites us to look inwards with honesty – and there we find love, grace and forgiveness knowing that God knows the depths of hearts and loves us completely. As we do this, we prepare to meet with the promised hope of Easter which we find through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

As we look to the natural world at this time of year, we see there this same promise of hope. As I write the buds of Spring are ripening unstoppably, the dawn chorus is getting louder and the hours of daylight are increasing. Our journey is moving forwards. We face change, but we do so with the promise of God's love and hope with us on our journey now and always. The benefice of Bourton on the Water with Clapton and The Rissingtons is in a time of interregnum as it awaits the coming of a new rector. As we journey during this time, please know that usual services and activities continue and our churches remain open during daylight hours. You are always welcome at any of our services or to pop in for a space of prayer, quiet and peace. **Rev. Hannah**

QUAKERS

The Religious Society of Friends Every Sunday 11am at The Friends Meeting House, Pytt Lane, Burford Enquiries welcome Howard Crook 01451 810447. To request a free info pack, email: outreach@guaker.org.uk



St Lawrence

admin@bourtonparishchurch.co.uk www.bourtonparishchurch.co.uk

Join our main Sunday service at 11am each week

I Including Mothering Sunday (10th) and Easter Day (31st) Holy Week services: Maundy Thursday: Holy Communion 7:00pm

Good Friday: 9:30 Messy Good Friday, 10:45 Walk of Witness, 2:00 Last Hour at the Cross

Other services: - Midweek Holy Communion - every Wednesday @ 10:00am - with coffee 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion – 10th and 24th March 6pm Holy Communion – 3rd March Breakfast Church - Saturday 10th March - 9am start

St James, Clapton-on-the-Hill 9:30am: 3rd – Morning Worship, 17th & 31st BCP Holy Communion



Bourton Baptist Church

Minister: Rev Sue Woodley Manse: 01451 820055 Mobile: 07828 781246 Church Office: 01451 824225 E-mail: minister@bourtonbaptist.co.uk

Sunday Morning Ser Open4U every Thurs Cafe' Tots Easter		10:30 am 10.00am until 4pm every Wednesday from 9.15 - 11.30am
Palm Sunday 28th March 7pm 29th March	Maundy Thur	Aessy Easter 3pm - 5pm rsday Service at St Lawrence ess starting at St Lawrence
30th March	The church w	ill be open
31st March		ation 10.30am IELCOME

See our website for this month's diary and more details of all our activities www.bourtonbaptist.co.uk

Roman Catholic Parish of Our Lady & St. Kenelm, Stow on the Wold

Parish website: stow-bourtoncatholic.net

Fr. Stephen Lambert 07836 38493

Email: sulharcomb@aol.com

Usual Schedule: Weekend Masses: Sat. evening: Vigil Mass 6 pm. Sun. morning: 9 am Sung Mass.

Weekday Masses: At 9 am every day (No Mass Sat. mornings). Mass on Tues. takes place at St. Lawrence's at 9 am.

Please check parish website for any lastminute changes

The priest welcomes all enquiries about the Christian faith, and Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings, Funerals, the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Additional LENT and HOLY WEEK arrangements:-Every Friday at 6 pm Stations of the Cross followed by silent prayer and Adoration.

Holy Thursday 28th March: 7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by watch. Good Friday 29th March 3 pm Liturgy. Holy Saturday 30th March 9 pm Lighting of New Fire, Easter Vigil Liturgy and First Mass of Easter. Easter Day 31st March. 10.30 am Sung Mass.

Fr. Stephen

Bourton Vale Lawn Tennis Club

With spring just around the corner (hopefully!), we're making preparations for the new tennis season. Bourton Tennis Club has two fantastic floodlit hard courts which are available to use every day for members. 2024 memberships officially start from April and our fees are still incredibly good value, just £30 for a junior (age 4-17) for the whole year! We welcome players of all ages, young and old, all abilities, from complete beginner to rusty racquets or aspiring pros! See website for more info: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/BourtonValeLawnTennisClub

We have fun, social competitions throughout the year, a singles box league, regular club nights, and Gloucestershire doubles league tennis. We are putting more effort this year into having more options to play, so for any new members there will always be opportunity to play with people of a similar standard and you'll be able to meet new friends easily. We also have a fun social calendar so if you're wanting to get active and social this year, why not give tennis a go!

We would love to see more children taking up the sport. Tennis is great for hand-eye coordination, getting fit, developing a competitive spirit, sportsmanship, and etiquette. Junior members can also take advantage of free club nights on Thursdays (starting after Easter hols) 17:00-18:00.

We are lucky to have two incredible coaches offering coaching for both adults and juniors, individual and groups. So, if you are a complete beginner or just looking to get back into the sport come along and give it a go.

Looking forward to seeing you on court in 2024!

Alex Peyton

Bourton Scouts

The 1st Bourton on the Water Scout Group invested all the new Squirrels into this newly formed Drey in Bourton.

The investitures which took place at the Baden Powell Hall was well supported by group leaders Nick Hawke (Cub Leader), Emily Mavroudi and Alison Campbell (Squirrel Leaders), Stephanie Lewis (Beaver Leader), Isaac Hemming (Asst.Cub Leader). I was also pleased to invest both Emily and Alison as leaders into the group on the same evening.

It was so nice to see so many parents in attendance. Well done volunteers.

We look forward to seeing them all on parade at St Georges day Service to be held at St Lawrence Church on the 21st April 24 @11.00hrs. Yours in Scouting

Ricky Campbell



Bourton Rovers Youth Teams

Our youth teams welcome spring and put the torrent of winter rain behind us as we forge on with all our league fixtures and look forward to sunny football filled days as we head towards the season's end. The coaches, players and parents will be thankful to have got through the toughest part of the season, and look forward to playing without frozen fingers and numb, cold wet feet!

The turning point, which really tells us we are two thirds of the way through the season, is the move of training sessions from the astro turf back down to the pitch at Rissington road once the clocks change. We really do "Spring Forward" into the last few months of football with the arrival of the spring flowers and finally grass replacing mud on boots and parents' car mats! Our new General manager Mikey is settling in well at the club and is keen to work with the youth for more family themed events throughout the year. As the Spring weather propels us forward and we wave goodbye to the dark, dreary months a positive, happy vibe fills the air amongst our youth set up and within the club.

We are still busy fundraising for our younger players. Our eagle-eyed social followers will have seen our Go Fund Me page go live and slowly gain momentum. Please do support us where you can. All proceeds go straight back into our youth set up and for those not on social media a QR code is available to scan at the football club, so pop on in! It is a prefect time to take a look at our re-vamped clubhouse and enjoy a coffee from our newly installed coffee machine – a very welcome edition for those cold spring morning matches!

Catherine Williams

Bourton Primary Academy

Our first half term of 2024 has flown by, it was only a short term of 5 weeks, but we crammed a lot in during those 5 weeks! We have been very fortunate that we have been joined by students from The Cotswold School as language leaders. They have visited our school and taught our Year 4 classes in small groups. We have been very impressed with their attitudes as well as their knowledge of languages. We are looking forward to more of these sessions over the coming weeks.

Towards the end of the half term, Mrs Townsend took 40 children, mainly from Year 5 and 6, to Far Peak in Northleach. They competed against many schools in our cluster and there were 4 categories; Year 5 girls, Year 5 boys, Year 6 girls and Year 6 boys. Any child that finished in the top 10 of their category has been put through for the county finals, so 40 in total. We had a huge 14 children place in the top 10 to go through plus a child in reserve! We were very impressed by their determination to get round the course on a cold & damp February morning.

Mr Jones, who has been our headteacher for 18 years, is retiring at the end of the Spring Term. For anyone who wishes to say farewell, we are having a retirement bash at school on Wednesday 20th March. All ex-pupils, parents and anyone from the local community is welcome to pop into school from 2.00pm onwards and we will be sharing memories from his time at our school. Anyone who is unable to make it, is welcome to send a card to the school office and we will pass these on. **Tori Gainford**

Deputy Head Teacher

Local Groups and Organisations for the YOUNGER GENERATION

Baby Gymnastics 0–18months Beavers

Bourton Primary School Bourton Road Runners Juniors Bourton Rovers Youth (U10 Upwards) -Bourton Rovers Youth (U9 & below) -Bourton Vale Cricket Club

B'n Vale Equestrian Centre Bourton Vale Tennis Club

Brownies Bumblebeez babies & pre-school tots Cafe Tots Children's Jujitsu

INSPIRE TO

Caroline (Cotswold Clubhouse) 263130 Stephanie Lewis 07308144397 1stbourtonbeavers@gmail.com 820458 Richard Buffton 831733/824379 07889 694545 Catherine Williams Amy Wright 07876458571 07949 227128 Lucy Gillespie craiglucygillespie@yahoo.com Leanne Launchbury 821101 Kingsley Harris 07879 644218 www.bourtontennisclub.org 07941 502222 Steph 821282 Rowena King 07828 781246 Sue Woodley Andy or Hayley 07951 587398

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	1stbourtoncubs@gmail.com		
Guides	Steph	07941 502222	
Hockey	Rhys Davies	07817 108970	
Little Hurricanes (Babies & Toddlers)	littlehurricanes@hotmail.com		
Pre-School	Lisa Sorley	07950 048066	
Pre-School Gymnastics	Caroline	263130	
Rainbows	Steph	07941 502222	
Recreational Gymnastics	Caroline	263130	
Scouts	Phil	1stbourtonscouts@gmail.com	
Squirrels	Emily	stbourtonsquirrels@gmail.com	
4Shires Swimming	Jo Shaw	membership@4ssc.uk.uk	
Taekwon-do	Lee Chapman	01285 640500	
The Cotswold School		820554	
Youth Club	Lynda Hicks	07867 121122	









Cosy little salon based at the George Moore Community Centre. Bookings available online. www.zenathebarber.com



Disney's High School Musical

Did you see the show? The Cotswold School production of Disney's High School Musical ran for several nights to great acclaim. Bourton Primary School pupils were our first guests, with families and friends from our local community joining us to watch the later performances. The show was a powerhouse of acting and singing, with great costumes, music, set design, props, production, stage management and an incredible amount of work behind the scenes. A huge well done to everyone involved. **Bingo Night**

Come and join us for a fun family evening! The Cotswold School PTA Bingo Night will be held on March 15. Doors open at 7pm, eyes down 8pm. Bingo and raffle tickets will be available on the night.

The Cotswold School Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea

As part of The Cotswold School Student Leadership programme, a group of Year 11 students will be organising and running an Afternoon Tea Party for senior citizens and carers in our local community.

The event will take place on Friday 22 March, 12-2pm, with entertainment provided by our talented musicians. Tickets are free to all local senior citizens and carers. To book your free place, please contact Nicola Franks by Friday 8 March. Email: <u>reception@thecotswoldschool.co.uk</u> Telephone: 01451 820554.

The Cotswold School Quiz Night

Join us for our annual Cotswold School Quiz Night on Friday 19 April. More details to follow.

Exam Invigilators

We are seeking to recruit reliable and confident people to join our team of Examination Invigilators. Exams predominately take place in May and June each year, but also November, January and March. No special skills or experience are necessary as training will be provided. Visit our website for more information:

The Cotswold School

www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk/recruitment

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HIRE of HALLS

Baden Powell Hall

lettingsbph@gmail.com

Baptist Church Hall

Tim Newstead 01451 821523

Bourton Cricket Clubhouse

Lourenza Hargreaves 07375 033609

jlthepavilion@gmail.com

British Legion Hall Branch Office

01451 824303

Community Centre

Jo Herbert 01451820712

assistant.clerk@bourtononthewaterpc.gov.uk

St. Lawrence's

Mrs Gill Willett 01451 821484

familywillett@hotmail.co.uk

Victoria Hall

Tony 07879 415073

Wyck Rissington Village Hall

Vicky Lathe 07584 188 200

vhwyckriss@gmail.com

Cotswold Hall, Northleach

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Spring into Action: Join our Community Activities!



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Cotswold Friends has a whole host of Activities aimed at older and vulnerable people for you to get involved with this Spring.

As the weather begins to improve this month (hopefully!) you might feel like getting out and about



a bit more. At Cotswold Friends we have an abundance of Community Activities running throughout each month from Lunch Clubs to Singing, Walking Football to our four Men in Sheds projects across the North Cotswolds. We hope there is something for everyone and we'd love you to join us, either as an attendee or as a volunteer.

It's with particular excitement that we have our beautiful Community Garden at



Stow-on-the-Wold Surgery re-opening at the end of March. The garden is a space to be enjoyed by everyone, you don't have to be a gardener! The garden has been constructed

to allow disabled access both to the site and the planting beds so everyone is welcome and can get involved. It also includes a Memorial Rose Garden which we hope can become a peaceful place to retreat to when dealing with grief - a quiet place to visit, reflect and remember. If you would like to donate and plant a rose in memory of a loved one, please contact Cotswold Friends.

We are also starting a new Walk and Talk group in Moreton-in-Marsh this Spring. This will be an opportunity to have a gentle stroll, whilst enjoying the company of others.



You can view our 2024 Calendar which lists all our activities on offer at our website: www.cotswoldfriends.org or you can call our friendly activities team on 01608 692811 to find out more.

We hope to see you soon!

Unappealing Pealing

We've never quite heard it ourselves -The ringing of daffodils' crown-bells, While swaying in the breeze, Pealing as they please. Tho' a Noise Nuisance to slumbering elves !

Hugh O'Connell



Jubilee Lodge

Jubilee Lodge Care Centre on Meadow Way has recently introduced a new electronic system for storing residents' health information.

The technology in the e-care system allows residents' health and care records to be stored securely, accessible only to the carers who need to see it and supports the team to deliver timely care to each and every resident. It collates all details of a person's care plan, as well as information like allergies in one place, and gives the care team 'real-time' information, tracking all details of the resident's care package. It allows carers to give the safest and quickest treatments to each individual, and to work closely with each resident to help them make informed choices about their own care.

The e-care system went live at Jubilee Lodge in January, and already the care team is finding that they have more personal time to spend with the people they look after.

If you would like to learn more about residential, dementia, nursing, or respite care at Jubilee Lodge, call 01451 823100.





You could have the perfect family dog living with you, with all costs covered



Sight loss charity Guide Dogs is asking for volunteers to give a home to a guide dog mum and in return all costs will be covered.

As a Breeding Dog Volunteer, a doggy mum-to-be would live with you, like any other pet dog, enjoying walks and company, and when the time is right, she would give birth in your home to a litter of guide dog puppies.

You can then enjoy the company of these adorable pups for around eight weeks, before they move out to start the first stages of their guide dog training.

Kelly Newton, Operations Manager at Guide Dogs, said: "We urgently need more Breeding Dog Volunteers to look after our guide dog mums and help us raise the next generation of lifechanging guide dogs."

"Our mums are selected for our breeding programme because of their excellent health and temperament and have the very best 'guide dog' genes.

"You don't need to have any previous experience, as we have expert staff who will give you training and support you,



and your dog, whilst they are part of our breeding programme.

Volunteers must be aged 18 or over and live within an hour's drive of the <u>breed-ing centre</u> near Learnington Spa.

Guide dog mums have a maximum of four litters during their working life and the welfare of mums and pups is the top priority for the charity when making breeding decisions.

Breeding Dog Volunteers look after guide dog mums until they retire, at around six years of age. After this, they are given the option to keep the mum they have cared for as a pet dog.

find out more, contact Volunteering Coordinator Verity O'Donnell via

volunteermidlands@guidedogs.org.uk or call 0800 781 1444.



Guide Dogs National Centre (CV33 9QJ) Sunday 17th March, 1.00 - 4.00pm.

Meet our amazing guide dog mums, chat with our friendly staff and volunteers & find out more about how you can join this life changing team.

For more details, please contact: VolunteerMidlands@guidedogs.org.uk







COMBE MILL

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Our First ` IN STEAM EVENT` at Combe Mill is on Sun 17th March 2024. Themed ` Science at the Mill`

Browse Gift Shop, Tombola, BBQ and Tea Room also open. Accompanied by Spring Market Stalls.

Combe Mill, in its day, was the workshop for Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode. Combe Mill is a Late 19th Century Grade 11 listed Watermill with Steam Beam Engine, Restored Waterwheel, Line Shafting, Collection of Towers Clocks, Barn Engines with all machinery running as used in its day. Make a poker in our Dual Blacksmiths' Forge, Tinkering Area for the children and much more.

Admission: - Adults £9.00, Concessions £7.50, CHILDREN now FREE. Dogs most welcome. Free Parking. Ask about Gift Aid. *Open*: 10.30am to 5.00pm

OPEN WEDNESDAY'S FROM 20TH MARCH 2024, for self-guided tours, with volunteers on hand to talk about Combe Mill and its history.

Admission:- Adults £5.00 Concessions £4.00 Children FREE

*Open:*10.30am to 3.30pm

Contact: Combe Mill Society, 01993 358694. | www.combemill.org



Full Circle Hair Design

Bourton-on-the-Water has recently welcomed a new gem to its community, as Full Circle Hair Design sets up shop. Owned by the talented hairstylist Leigh Hallendorff, this cosy home hair salon has a touch of international flair.

Leigh brings over 20 years of experience in the hairdressing industry to her boutique salon. Having received her training in South Africa, she has honed her skills in the United States, Australia, Canada, and now the UK.

What sets Full Circle Hair Design apart is Leigh's dedication to maintaining strong, healthy hair. Clients at the salon can expect a personalised experience, where Leigh collaborates with them to achieve the desired results while prioritising the integrity of their hair. The salon exclusively uses Salon Professional products that are free from ammonia, parabens, and PPD. These products are not only vegan but also proudly bear the PETA-approved cruelty-free certification.

Step inside and you'll find a vibrant and refreshing space. The homely environment is carefully curated to make clients feel welcomed and at ease. Leigh prides herself on offering personal attention to each client's specific hair needs, ensuring a bespoke experience for each client.



Full Circle Hair Design is a full-service salon, catering to a range of hair needs, including cutting, styling, colouring, straightening, treatments, highlighting, and balayage. Whether you're looking for a subtle change or a bold transformation, Leigh's expertise and experience make her well worth a visit.

To book an appointment or learn more about Full Circle Hair Design, call Leigh on 0786 014 595 or visit her website at:

fullcirclehairdesign.co.uk

Guided Walks with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

Details of the walks available are described on the website (below). Please check walk details carefully on the website, including whether booking is necessary. Additional walks may be published on the website.

https://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/ Beckford to Aston onCarrant, Kemerton and Back – Tuesday 5th March – Easy 3hr 6.5ml. A circular walk from Beckford, home of Beckford Silk, to Aston on Carrant. Then to Kemerton and back. It's an easy walk from Beckford to Aston on Carrant (the east town on Carrant Brook). Then north to Kemerton (the farm-enclosure of Cynemaer). We then finish by heading east back to Beckford (the ford of Becca across the Carrant Brook). An interesting walk in an interesting area. Please bring drink/snack. Start: 10.00am Outside Beckford Church GL20 7AD. OS Map ref: SO 976 358. W3W: hindering.audibly.press

A Watery Walk in the North Cotswolds– Tuesday 21st March – Moderate 3.5hr 7ml. This is a watery walk only in name, as we follow the River Windrush towards its source, cross a Ford, encounter a sheepwash and cross a little bridge. The route wends along less well-known paths through the countryside passing through only very small villages. The paths are hilly with one short, steep slope just after Pinnock up through beech woods. Bring drinks/snack. Start: 10.00am Temple Guiting Village Hall. OS Map ref: SP 090 279. W3W: premises.quality.billiard

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.



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13

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Bourton Vale Horticultural Society Your friendly Garden Club

With spring just around the corner (honestly) it was inspiring to listen to our speaker, Sally Oates who, in just one year, had created a flourishing and productive allotment from a bramble and bindweed covered plot.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 13th March, starting as usual at 7.30 pm in the Baptist Church Hall in Bourton, when our speaker, Malcolm Moodie will be talking about Orchids of Borneo. And the competition will be a display of polyanthus, violets, pansies – either or all.

Visitors are always very welcome. So come and see if you like us and if you do why not join – membership is just £15 for the year, which includes speakers, a plant and seed swop, GQT, a garden party, competitions, a raffle and a visit to some beautiful gardens. **Sheila Thorpe**, **07973 391741**

sheila@bobblefarm.co.uk

Irene's Charity Knitting Circle

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month from 10.00am until 12.00pm at Willoughby Place, Station Road, Bourton-on-the-Water, (opposite the Co-op Filling station).

Why not join us or just pop-in with your knitting? Enjoy a coffee/tea with biscuits. Everything we receive will be donated to very worthy causes. We have been asked by The John Radcliffe Maternity and The Great Western Hospital Maternity for knitted beanie hats for Premature and Newborn Babies. We can collect, give us a call. For further details call

either Irene or Peter on 01451 824175.



Bourton and Sherbourne Hockey Club

Bourton and Sherbourne Hockey Club have three adults' teams, and we play at The Cotswold School Astro next to the leisure centre. We also run Minis (U11) and Juniors (U16) coaching sessions, and specialist goal keeping coaching. All this takes place on Wednesday evening from 6.30pm. Come along and say hello, or look us up on Facebook or Instagram. Our contact number is in the club section of the Browser too.

We are a family friendly and inclusive club, and welcome new players. Whether you have played hockey before, or are new to hockey, there is a place for you here. Come along and try

Tim Wainwright

gnt 🧉

Growing Organic Vegetables Successful strategies in the

Cotswolds Illustrated talk by Val Bourne

Daily Telegraph columnist & organic gardener



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Chorley's Auctioneers

Overlooking the vale of Gloucester, and just a few miles from Stroud and Cheltenham, Chorley's two spacious salerooms in the grounds of the Prinknash Abbey Park estate hold monthly sales of fine art and antiques. Both sellers and buyers benefit from the facilities on offer, from ample free parking to storage facilities, not to mention a café selling mouthwatering cakes! This tranquil setting belies the company's global business, as all auctions are streamed live online, resulting in higher prices and a global audience of buyers. While embracing technology, Chorley's have not neglected their traditional values or forgotten the importance of courtesy in their relationship with clients. Chorley's focuses on sourcing items from private vendors and estates and, even in these straitened times, there is a hunger among buyers for fresh-to-themarket objects of good quality and





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provenance.

Too many provincial auctioneers have crowded salerooms where fine antiques jostle with boxes of prints, tailors' dummies and old brass bedsteads. Stacked in heaps, it is the way things have been done for years and makes for a Dickensian spectacle; however, despite the outward charm, stacking it high often leads to selling it low. It is also disheartening for vendors to see their treasured item stuffed in amongst many others, making them reluctant to sell further items. At Chorley's saleroom, room settings show each item to its best advantage and buyers are able to see an item's potential as part of a wider decorative scheme, often prompting them to bid on items they might have overlooked in a cramped saleroom.

The positive feedback Chorley's receives from buyers and vendors and the professional service provided continues to bring business to this rapidly expanding Gloucestershire company, with referrals increasingly coming from London and across the UK.

Chorley's provides not only auction valuations, but as an accredited member of SOFAA, professional Inheritance Tax and Insurance valuations.



Richard Whitford (circa 1821-1890), The Swanwick Prize Sheep Herd, the herd of sheep bred by Russell Swanwick of The Royal Agricultural Farm, Cirencester, oil on canvas, 74.5cm x 124cm, sold for £32,000 (+ buyer's premium) in October 2023

LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS Numbers without area code are all 01451 (for amendments, team@bourtonbroswer.co.uk 01451 822431)										
Archery Club Badminton Club Bell Ringers, BOW Bell Ringers , Gt Ris	GRArcheryClub@gmail.c clclare@gmail.com Stephanie Hemming Sheila Jesson,	810996 820395	North Cotswold Arts Association North Cotswold Gymnastics Club OPEN 4U Panto Group	Alexa Buffery Caroline Gill Angela Layton	07999589387 263130 824225 821344.					
Bourton Road Runners Bourton Rovers Chairman Bourton Vale Cricket Club Bourton Vale Tennis Club Brass & Silver Bands Bridge Club, Northleach Community Group Club	Margaret Hollamby Liam Williams Lourenza Hargreaves www.bourtontennisclub Stephanie Hemming Tim Morris Bridget/Lorna	822645 07769 216528 07375 033609 .org 810996 01285 750288 01608 652019	Pilates Probus Club Rotary Club Nth Cotswolds Royal British Legion Bourton Rural Cinema Scottish Dancing Group	Robert Cox Kevin Hick Steve Whincup Bill McKenzie Mollie Wise Christine Bucknall	07500 188445 868435 07488 365908 824303 822365 01993 830760					
Dementia Friendly N. Cotswolds Fitness League Gardening Club Glos. Advanced Motorists History Society	Kathy Chesters07746 6Kathy Kirk01993 8Gandra Mitchell07840 8Rod Harrison.821605	07746 672726 01993 882350 07840 898472 821605 822230	Short Led Walks Stay strong & Steady Stow Textile Group T'aiChi	Bucknallce@gmail.com Carol Price Cally Maxwell cotswoldactivehealth@g Julie Smith Valerie Ward	810305 07957 546 067 gmail.com 01608 651006 07779 746346					
Hockey Club Jubilee Lodge Lunch Club (B'n Vale Cricket Club) Men in Sheds Moore Friends Moreton Bowls Club	Rhys Davies Sam Keith Sandra Mitchell Brenda Dix	07817 108970 823100 01608 692811 831886 07840 898472 821020	u3a Bourton & District Village Warden Volunteer Help Centre WI Windrush Carers Support Group 4 Shires Swimming Club	www.u3asites.org.uk/bo Steve Cotton Pat Taylor Barbara Newstead Jo Shaw membe	ourton 07729 114833 01608 651415 07518 457 652 821523 rrship@4ssc.uk.uk					

Bourton Library

The George Moore Community Centre, Moore Road, Bourton-on-the-Water, GL54 2AZ. 01451 820964 <u>Opening Hours</u> Tues 10am-1pm, Wed 2-5pm, Fri 10am-1pm & 2-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm. Friendly staff & volunteers. Internet access, Advert Printing & Photocopying. www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries Emily Sutton-Redford 07823 429150

ABOUT THE BOURTON BROWSER

All articles received will be printed wherever possible in the magazine & on the website, however we reserve the right not to print anonymous letters or anything of a defamatory or controversial nature.

We have a limit of 300 words per article. If your contact details appear in the Bourton Browser they will be on our website copy. If you do not want this to happen, tell us. Unless we hear from you, we will assume consent.

The views of contributors to the Bourton Browser may not necessarily be those of the Editor, nor can the Bourton Browser accept any responsibilities in connection with any companies or organisations mentioned.

Lloyds Bank mobile visits to George Moore Community Centre, Moore Rd, Bourton-on-the-Water. Monday 11th & 25th March, 10am-12.30pm call 0345 601 6943 www.lloydsbank.com

Rates and Dates for advertising in the BOURTON BROWSER

6 x 9 cm per mth £33, per 3 mths £70, per 6 mths £135, per 12 mths £250. 9 x 12 cm per mth £66, per 3 mths £140, per 6 mths £260, per 12 mths £500. See page 1 for deadline.

For full details & to book team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk or go to www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk State size required & attach advert as a jpeg or pdf. I will confirm if space is available or you may call 01451 822431 to discuss. Advertising spaces are very limited, early booking & prompt payment is essential. Delivery-We print 2300 copies & aim to deliver to every house in Bourton-on-the-Water & Clapton-on-the-Hill.

Ray Dodd, Advertising Manager

The Bourton Browser is printed by Peter Dunford, 01608 658104, petedunf@aol.com

Brighter Bourton: Building a Better Community

Record numbers of young people are seeking help for mental health problems. In 2022 alone, 1.4 million were referred to child and adolescent mental health services (Camhs) for treatment of anxiety, depression, eating disorders and other psychological problems.

Experts say that is leading to thousands of under-18s struggling whilst on waiting lists, prompting a 53% rise in emergency and urgent referrals for Camhs crisis care.

There were 32,521 emergency and urgent referrals to child and adolescent mental health services crisis teams in 2022-23, analysis of official data by the



Royal College of Psychiatrists revealed. In 2019-20, the year before the Covid pandemic, the figure was 21,242.

This means that over 600 young people a week are deteriorating to such a state that they have reached crisis point!

"No one should have to watch their child's mental health deteriorate while they wait for care," says the president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Dr Lade Smith. "It's completely unacceptable that this is the reality facing so many families."

The Parish Council through its Youth and Wellbeing Committee are keen to work with all organisations who have an interest in supporting young people to improve things locally. They are holding an event titled **Brighter Bourton: Building a Better Community** to get people's views and ideas on what can be done to improve social connection.

Cllr Jon Wareing says "Government ministers have neglected young people's mental health before, during and after the pandemic. It's a national disgrace. The newly published data are a wakeup call for the next Government. But we can, and must, do what we can locally to improve the situation for our youngsters. Improving social connection is a proven way of improving well-being and this can involve the whole community. So please come along on the 4th April to the British Legion in Bourton at 18:30 and have your say."

Jon Wareing

