

BOURTON BROWSER



ISSUE NO. 314

www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk

June 2025

DIARY DATES

- 1st Gift Fair, **VH**, 10am-5pm. All welcome.
- 2nd, 16th, 30th Mindsong, Sing 2 Remember **GMCC**, 10.30am & 2.30pm. 07764 212506 or 01451 821216.
- 4th Sight Loss Advice Hub, **GMCC**, drop in 1-2pm, join social group 2-4pm. Call 01242 221170, or email info@insight-glos.org.uk
- 9th Probus, 10am, **GMCC**, "Why civilisations rise & fall & rise again," by James Love. See page 5.
- 10th WI, **VH**, 7pm, "Racing Richard - the world of Horse racing". See page 5.
- 11th Irene's Charity Knitting Circle, **WP**, 10am-12pm. See page 6.
- 11th u3a Scrabble, **GMCC**. 2-4pm. 7341 094206. peterdawson790@icloud.com
- 11th Horticultural Club. Garden Outing. No evening meeting. See page 18.
- 11th & 25th Bourton Community Day Club, 10.30am - 2.30pm, **MC**, GL54 2HE. 01608 652019.
- 13th & 27th Dementia Friendly Cafe, **StLC**, 2-4pm, 07746 672726. See page 5.
- 14th Tayler & Fletcher, Fine Art, Vintage & Interiors auction, from 9.30am, **NCS**, GL54 2AR. 821666.
- 16th Rural Cinema, Breakfast at Tiffany's. Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Micky Rooney. PG. 1hr 50mins. **VH**, 2.30pm & 7.30pm. Refreshments £1. 2pm & 7pm, £4pp or £12 family of 4 on door.

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

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER
PARISH COUNCIL



Notes from the Annual Meeting held on 7th May 2025

Election of new Chairman: Council unanimously elected Councillor Lynda Hicks as Chairman for 2025-26. Lynda, who has served on the Parish Council for 10 years, takes over from Councillor Andy Roberts who is now Vice Chairman. We would like to thank Andy for his hard work as Chairman over the past two years.

Committees: Council adopted a new Committee structure made up of Finance Committee, Community and Services Committee, Planning Committee (incorporating Highways quarterly) and Staffing Committee. Committee members and Chairmen were elected at the Annual Meeting.

Coach Parking, pick-up and drop off: County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson updated on 7th May that the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for a coach drop-off and pick-up bay in Meadow Way had not been published by Easter as anticipated as it incorrectly showed a 20-minute waiting time rather than 10 minutes. In addition, there were issues on site which prevented the installation of the signage, without which the Order could not be enforced.

Gloucestershire County Council's Deputy Area Highway Manager attended an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on 12th May and updated that GCC were awaiting a response from the utility company before the signage could be installed. The scheme will run for six months from the eventual start date, during which time feedback will be invited from local residents, organisations, businesses, the Parish Council and County Councillor on the suitability of the temporary arrangements.

At the Extraordinary meeting on 12th May, three Parish Councillors put forward a motion for the Parish Council to "withdraw its support for the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for Meadow Way given the publicly stated lack of support for the proposal by residents and coach operators". Some residents were given the opportunity to share their concerns and opposition to the ETRO. Following debate, the motion was not carried.

If you have any feedback on the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order please email Gloucestershire County Council Highways at troconsultation@gloucestershire.gov.uk and copy the Clerk on clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding: Council has received a total of £11,919.56 from the development on land at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church and this will be used for infrastructure projects.

End of Year Accounts and Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2024-25: Documents were approved for submission to the external auditor and are available to view on our website <https://www.bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk/the-council/agar/>. The accounts will be available for public inspection

Cont. Col. 2 & 3 P 2 & Col 1 p 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 July edition is **Noon on 15th June**

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Continued from page 1 column 1

22nd Greystones 10K Trail Run & Farm Open day. Race starts 10.30am. www.entrycentral.com/Greystones10KTrailRun See page 14.

23rd Probus, 10am, **GMCC**, Talk by a member. See page 5.

25th u3a, **BLH**, 10am-12noon. Pamela Holland describing 'The Bard's Italy'. www.bourton.u3asite.uk See page 6.

26th Book Club Bourton Book Club meeting, 7pm. The Old New Inn. dpayne056@hotmail.co.uk

27th Fish & Chip Supper & Quiz, Jubilee Lodge, booking essential, 01451 823100 to reserve your place.

28th-29th Gift Fair, **VH**, 10am-5pm. All welcome.

28th St Lawrence Church Fete, teas & Duck Races. The Green, 10am-4pm.

29th Farmers Market, **BLH** Car Park, GL54 2AR. 8.30am-12.30pm 07980 080073.

Bourton Library

The George Moore Community Centre,
Moore Road, Bourton-on-the-Water,
GL54 2AZ. 01451 820964

Opening Hours

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

Regular Weekly Bourton Events

Mon. "Old Sweats" Meeting, **BLH**, 10am—12 Noon, 07714 852364 bourton.secretary@rbl.community

Mon, Wed & Fri, Bourton Men in Sheds, 9.30am-12.30pm, Behind **RBL**, Keith 01451 831886.

Mon. & Thurs. Stay Strong & Steady, **BLH**, 1-2.30pm. 07957 546067 cotswoldactivehealth@gmail.com See advert on page 5.

Mon. & Fri. Cotswold Yoga, **VH**, Mon 10-11am, Fri 5-6pm, 07490858775.

Tue. Drop in Digital Help Group, **GMCC**, 10.30am-12.30pm. 07707 281803.

Tues. "Together on Tuesdays", soup lunch, **StLc**, 12-2pm.

Thurs. Flexercise, **BLH**, 10-11am. 01993 882350 kathy.kirk@live.com



Continued from page 1 column 2

between Tuesday 3rd June and Monday 14th July. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to make an appointment, although many documents are available on our website.

Re-Opening of Rye Crescent Play Area: We are excited to announce that the refurbishment work is now complete and the play equipment available for use. You are invited to attend an opening event at **10am on Saturday 7th June** at which we hope you will be able to meet some of our sponsors.

New Administration Officer: We are pleased to welcome Frances Kirk who will be joining our team at the end of May. Frances will be clerking the Plan-

ning Committee as well as carrying out a variety of administrative tasks in the Parish Office.


 **Volunteer Tree Friend Needed!** 

Do you love trees and want to help protect and nurture them in our community?

We're looking for a Tree Friend – a local volunteer who can help keep an eye on our parish trees, report any concerns, and support tree-related activities.

Responsibilities include:

- Keeping a friendly watch over local trees
- Reporting any damage, disease or issues to the Parish Council
- Supporting occasional tree planting or care events
- No experience needed – just a love of nature and a little time to spare.

 Interested? Please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk

Let's grow a greener community together!

Room for commercial rent at the George Moore Community Centre: We will have a vacant room from the end of June which would be suitable as a small office or clinic space. Please contact the Clerk if you would like further information.

Meetings Schedule: A six-month schedule was agreed to trial the new Committee structure, with the full Parish Council now meeting every two months,



Meeting Calendar

please see schedule below. To view the full schedule of Council and Committee meetings please use the QR code on p.2, col.3.

Schedule of Parish Council Meetings May-Oct 2025

Date	Meeting	Time	Meeting Room
Wednesday 28th May	Parish Council	7pm	Windrush Room
Wednesday 2nd July	Parish Council	7pm	Windrush Room
Wednesday 3rd September	Parish Council	7pm	Windrush Room

Springvale Allotments vacant plot: A reminder that there is one plot available at present – anyone interested should contact Jo Herbert, Assistant Clerk on assistant.clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk

Electronic Newsletter: A reminder to subscribe via our website or by using this QR code

For further details and enquiries, please contact the Parish Council Clerk Sharon Henley by emailing clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk

or by phoning 01451 820712.

You can visit the Parish Council website at

www.bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk.



George and Mildred

Two gorgeous geese who won local affection. The patrolling pair caught everyone's attention.

Besides the Windrush, every day on parade,

Their waddling and wagging displayed.

They gave so much daily pleasure

With 'goosey behaviour' we all treasured.

How they honked to flag down and get ahead

For bus drivers to throw them some bread!

They loved and looked after each other

And, in their passing, both went together.

The only 'blessing' we can derive,

How hard if one should have survived.

Though we shall never forget such a pair

Who have now, surely, flown into His care.

Hugh O'Connell

(Editor's note - "George and Mildred", the two much-loved Bourton geese, who had lived along the riverbank in Lansdowne, sadly died in an RTA on Wednesday 30th April. Keith Steer, who lives opposite the river, kindly arranged for the cremation of the geese. He has since raised over £3800 which will be used to cover the cremation costs and fund a memorial (still to be decided at the time of going to print). The photo above was taken by Keith of the geese in his garden, which they often used to visit. The photo of the geese on page 1 was taken by Samantha S Goode. Thanks to Samantha for her permission to print it.



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Events for 2025

Blues Club - All Welcome

15th May - Teed Up (Blues)
19th June - Guy Tortora & Band (Blues)
18th Sept - John Doe Trio (Blues)
16th Oct - Cadillac Kings (RnR/Blues)
13th Nov - Split Whiskers (Blues)

Darts - Pool - Theme Parties

Check website for details

Scan QR for Events

www.cotswoldmerrymouth.co.uk - 01993 256620
cotswoldmerrymouthltd@gmail.com - OX7 6HR

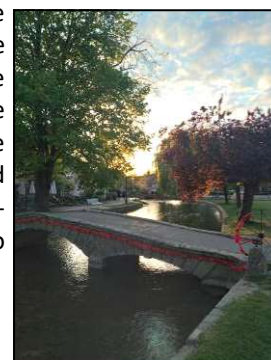
VE Day, 80th Anniversary Commemoration



Helen and I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who was involved in any way in the display of knitted poppies which recently commemorated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. We're grateful for all of your efforts, and would like to give a special mention to Gemma of The Lansdowne who so generously sponsored all of the expenses, Revd Hannah of St Lawrence's Church who kindly gave us use of the church to sew the poppies onto strands and, of course, our army of local knitters and crocheters including, but not limited to: Ann, the two Eunice's, Fiona, the two Gill's, Marie, Molly, Susan, Tracy, as well as other ladies from Knit n Natter and the local WI, amongst others. If we've omitted anyone please accept our apologies - it's no reflection on your contribution, rather our poor memories.... Thanks also to the Parish Council for giving permission for us to set up the display and to fund-raise on the Green and to Mike Marshall for coordinating the fund-raising, finally thanks to Martin and Bill for putting up with having poppies all over the place and for running us around endlessly.

In all, well over 2,000 poppies were created, with those not used on the bridges being sold as badges to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal. We hope the community enjoyed seeing the village centre decked out in poppy red as part of the national commemoration to help ensure that all those who served will never be forgotten.

Helen Macklin & Sue Cretney



Poppies and VE Celebrations

Many thanks to Sue Cretney and Helen Macklin for organising and making 2000 knitted poppies, used to decorate the bridges and War Memorial in the village. In addition, they sold the surplus poppies to visitors over three days and raised £466 for the Poppy Appeal, a great achievement and reward for their hard work and commitment.

Thanks also to the management of The Wellington for their bucket collection and sales of memorabilia during the week, which produced valuable funds for the Poppy Appeal.

Mike Marshall, Bourton PAO

OUT AND ABOUT in June

Mondays - Yoga for All, 9.30-10.30am, Pilates 10.35-11.30am, Wyck Rissington Village Hall. 07950 424037 Enquiries: franyoga@rocketmail.com

6th Fiddle player Ric Sanders (Fairport Convention) & singer/guitarist Vo Fletcher. Westcote Village Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets £15, 07834 493637 or westcote.bookings@gmail.com

11th Rockcliffe Open Gardens, in aid of Kate's Home Nursing, 10am-5pm, Upper Slaughter, GL54 2JW. £8pp, children free, refreshments available. See page 13.

13th-15th Royal Three Counties Show, Malvern, WR13 6NW. <https://royalthreecounties.co.uk/buy-tickets/>

14th The Village Market, Great Rissington Club, 10am-noon. Look forward to seeing you. Jackie Palmer, 01451 822285.

15th Eastington Manor, GL54 3PJ; 2.30pm-5.30pm. Open Garden. Tickets £6 www.northleachevents.co.uk or on gate.

15th Father's day BBQ at Sudeley Castle, Father's eat free (with paying guest). Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, GL54 5LP. <https://sudeleycastle.co.uk/>

15th The Mill at Work, volunteers demonstrating equipment. Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, OX29 8ET. Tea room. Dogs welcome. Adults £9, Seniors £7.50 Children FREE. combemill.org See page 18.

19th Guy Tortora & Band, Blues, Roots & Americana. Merry-mouth Inn, Stow Rd, Fifield, OX7 6HR. 01993256620.

20th Rissingtons local History Society visit @ 1.30pm - Visit to Kenilworth Castle with Elizabethan Garden and Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick. Details from Kate O'Brien 07815 606770.

22nd Antiques Day hosted by TV's Paul Martin, Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, GL54 5LP. 1-4pm, £29.50, includes Paul's talk, refreshments, chance to have 1 small object valued. <https://sudeleycastle.co.uk/>

22nd RNLI Open Gardens, The Old Vicarage, Bledington, OX7 6UX, 11am-5pm. 300+ David Anderson roses in traditional English Garden, plants for sale, tea & cakes, £5 entry. See page 12.

22nd Elkstone Village Gardens Open Day, 2-6pm, refreshments & plants stalls. See page 12.

27th Northleach Church, 6.30pm. Maxwell Quartet, Scottish Folk Music. Tickets £25 (£10 for under 18s) at www.cotswoldfestivalofmusic.co.uk

27th-29th Blenheim Palace Flower Show, Woodstock, OX20 1UL. www.blenheimpalace.com or call 01993 810530

28th-29th Cotswolds Show & Food Festival, 9am-6pm, discounted tickets <https://cotswoldshow.ticketsrv.co.uk/tickets/>

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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

2 Seater Settee, suitable for conservatory, good condition.
£30. 01451 820770.

For Sale

Single Fold-up Bed,
used twice.
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01451 822291

FREE 6ft x 4ft Greenhouse,
metal Frame, Polycarbon
Glazing, (one roof panel
missing) Interested?
Must collect 01451 821655

HIRE of HALLS

Baden Powell Hall lettingsbph@gmail.com

Baptist Church Hall Tim Newstead 01451 821523

Bourton Cricket Clubhouse jlthepavilion@gmail.com

Bourton Farmers Market Miles Salmon 07980 080073

British Legion Hall Branch Office 01451 824303

Broadwell Village Hall Tracey Spragg

broadwellvillagehall@gmail.com

Cotswold Hall, Northleach Jacques Astic 01451 860366

George Moore Community Centre Jo Herbert 01451820712
assistant.clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk

Lower Slaughter Village Hall annclass@yahoo.com

St. Lawrence's Mrs Gill Willett 01451 821484
familywillett@hotmail.co.uk

Victoria Hall Lydia 07768722514

Wyck Rissington Village Hall Vicky Lathe 07584 188 200
vhwyckriss@gmail.com

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Bourton Browser Team News

Articles: We welcome articles, letters, poems, etc (**maximum 300 words**) & photographs, from adults, children and local community groups on any subjects of local interest.

Bourton On-line Village Diary: To see what's going on in Bourton for this, and future months, use the QR code or go to our website below. If you are planning a **Bourton based** event, email the details to: team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk We will add them to the on-line village diary and include them in the "Diary Dates" column in the relevant month's Browser. Events welcome for dates throughout 2025. The on-line diary is a useful tool that can prevent major events clashing, so check it before scheduling your event! Remember we can only put events in if you tell us about them!



team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk

www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk

The Bourton Browser Team

Bourton WI



It was Race Night at this month's WI meeting.

As always at race meetings, there was "liquid refreshment" on offer to help things along! And it did! Lots of encouragement (shouting) for horses with names such as Skip Vindaloo, Pants Too Tight, Manic Monkey and Miss de Meanor which were spread across 8 races.

As usual, confusion reigned over some of the betting slips but a winner was eventually found and Janet took home a box of chocolates.

Our speaker next month will be "Racing Richard" who, unsurprisingly, is involved in the world of racing.



We meet every second Tuesday at The Victoria Hall at 7pm. New members are most welcome. For more details please contact Victoria Jackson (President) on 075496 40492

Best wishes, June

Dementia Friendly Cafe

2nd and 4th Friday's at St Lawrence's Church at 2pm.

We have a trip to Birdland on June 13th, with the Stow Café and Edwardstow Court members. Memory Boxes and Falls advice will be coming up soon. Otherwise, see you all soon and keep safe.

Bill Wragge

STAY STRONG AND STEADY

A class that focuses on strength and stability and maintaining independence. All abilities welcome.



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Bourton-on-the-Water Probus Club



On 28th April, our secretary continued the story of his life and career. Having become very active in designing printing for computers, he was sadly hit when a German firm sold all its companies including his. Despite this setback he bought an old armament factory in Wetherby and set up his own printing press. He stayed in this business for the rest of his working life but then became involved in shipbuilding and sailing, which has continued to the present day.

This led very conveniently into our talk on 12th May by John Barnett, on Titanic. He reviewed the history of the three White Star vessels, Britannic, Olympic and Titanic and their fates. Then he told us about the Carpathia the boat that saved over 700 of the passengers and crew, before turning to the Titanic. He disabused many of the stories told. It was never described by the company as unsinkable. It is said that there were too few lifeboats - 16 + 4 inflatable ones. This was the maritime recommended number, and nothing at all to do with the White Star Liner Line shipping company. At the time of the sinking, Titanic was travelling at 22 knots through the ice. He described the sinking and the surrounding boats - the California and Carpathia and why the ship California, which was nearer, did not help. Titanic was launched on 10th April 1912 and sank on 15th April. One myth for filmgoers - if you see smoke coming out of the rear funnel of a boat with 4 funnels, that never happens - the rear funnel has steps inside for boilermen to reach their accommodation!. All in all, a fascinating and revealing talk.

Probus is designed for retired men and women who are interested in interesting talks and social events. If you are interested in joining us, attend one of our meetings (advertised on diary pages) or contact our secretary Kevin Hick on 01451 860435.

Roger Harris

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 coffee/tea with biscuits. Everything we receive will be donated to worthy causes.

Please note, there is no parking available at Willoughby Place, however we are happy to collect anyone who needs a lift within Bourton. Just give us a call.

For further details, call either: **Irene or Peter on:**

01451 824175 or 07764 699594



**Probably the largest club in Bourton
(280 members and growing)!!**

If you have ceased working full time or raising a family and are interested in *any* of the following, **why don't you look us up?**

We neither require or give any qualifications

(Groups underlined are recently formed New Groups)

Archaeology Ballroom Dancing Reading Books
 Playing Bridge Country Dancing
 Chatting & Drinking Coffee Watching Interesting Films
French Conversation Table Tennis Indoor Curling
 History Mahjong Mexican Trains!!
 Nature walks and Talks Photography Reading Plays
 Reading and Writing Poetry Quizzes
 Playing the Recorder or Ukelele
 Playing Scrabble Playing Skittles (in a pub!!)
 Country Walking Eating Sunday Lunch!
Walking Basketball Short Discovery walks
Watercolour Painting

Our next General Meeting, held in the Royal British Legion Hall in Bourton-on-the-Water is on Wednesday 25th June, from 10am to 12 noon, when we will be entertained by Pamela Holland describing 'The Bard's Italy'.

Everyone welcome (Entry £2)



For more details on all these topics, please o to:

www.bourton.u3asite.uk

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

North Cotswold Art Association

The North Cotswold Art Association is holding its Annual Summer Exhibition at The New Warwick Hall, Burford from Monday 25th to Saturday 30th August. We are open daily from 10am-5pm and have an interesting mix of art, cards, jewellery and ceramics .

Bourton Panto Group

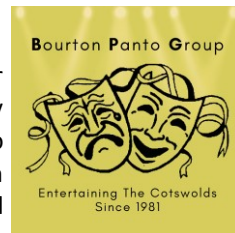
We might be approaching long summer days and our winter pantomime may seem a long way off, but Bourton Panto Group is not resting on its laurels.....oh no it's not!! A script has been chosen and now first preparations are underway. The production and direction teams are ready to embark on the project. An era must be chosen for costumes so designs can be drawn up, material and patterns sourced, ready for making any outfits that will be required. Scenery is being planned, making sure the scenes run smoothly to keep the story flowing, so the plot is easily followed. Scene construction will be tackled later on. The membership will then be invited to view the script and decide if they wish to take part in this traditional "institution"! All this takes place way before we all meet up in September to begin rehearsals.

Feeling brave? Our Panto is going rogue and YOU could be a part of the mayhem! Open auditions are happening BEFORE the summer hols. Keep your eyes peeled for details on all our socials for JULY dates dropping soon. Trust us, you won't want to miss this wonderfully weird adventure!

Now, something all of you can do. Let's see who can guess our Panto! It is set around a cursed castle, a not-so-charming host with a hairy problem and a magical flower with a serious time limit! Throw in some eccentric villagers, enchanted furniture with attitude and a brave lass who sees past appearances – and you have a tale packed with laughs, love and a touch of transformation. We have added a few new faces (and possibly a talking teacup or two) but the heart of the story remains the same.

Think you can crack the mystery? Don't be beastly – take a guess!

Ann Chapman



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Peter Shaw BA HONS, DIP.LA
 Mobile **07974 577924**
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 Tel **01451 821671**
 Email petershaw1951@btconnect.com
www.stonesmemorials.co.uk
 Bourton on the Water

Message from the Church

As I write Revd Hannah Allen is on leave having completed her curacy (training role) with our churches and before taking up the role of Priest in Charge of St Lawrence's, St James Clapton, and the churches in the Rissington Villages – Great, Little, Wyck and Upper.

If you would like to be present to welcome Revd Hannah to her new role, do come along to her Licensing Service on Tuesday 10th June at 7pm at St Lawrence's. Hannah will be licensed by the Bishop of Gloucester and installed by the Archdeacon of Cheltenham in what will be a wonderful service, and we would love to see you there.

It is a real time of change this month, because shortly after Revd Hannah takes up her new role, I will be leaving to take up the role of Priest in Charge of the Benefice of Lydney in the Forest of Dean. My last service here will be at 11am on Sunday 29th June at St Law-

rence's and again, everyone is so very welcome to come along to what will be a happy/sad occasion – hard to say goodbye but so excited by "what next".

I know that both Hannah and I would value your thoughts and prayers in this time of change for us both and for the churches we love and serve. Times of transition can be challenging, but they are also times when God can work in us as individuals and as communities to show us new ways of being and of doing. There may be laying down of old ways, there may be the establishment of new ways, but if we pray and put the future into God's hands, we can look forward with hope.

And in this time, which is full of human busyness for Hannah and myself and all the folks in the churches, the verse that comes to mind is Psalm 46 vs 10 "Be still and know that I am God."

Be blessed

Revd Nina Summerfield



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

All are welcome every Sunday at 11am

**Rev Hannah Allen is licensed as Priest-in-Charge @7pm
on 10th June - All Welcome!**

Church Fete Saturday 28th June - PLEASE SUPPORT US!

Regular Services: Holy Communion on Wednesdays @ 10.00am followed by coffee & chat
6pm - Holy Communion with hymns – 1st June
8am - Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion – 8th & 22nd

Breakfast Church - Saturday 14th June 9am start – everyone welcome

Together on Tuesdays – Lunch Club 12-2pm every week – all welcome

TOAST - for primary children and carers at 3.15pm on Tuesdays in term time

BumbleBeez (parent and child group) every Thursday 9-11am

St James, Clapton @ 9.30am 1st June– Morning Worship

15th BCP Holy Communion



The Water Church/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 Service 10.30am All Welcome

Wavemakers Children's Ministry

Communion Sunday 10.30 am

Cafe' Tots Every Wednesday from 9.15 - 11.30 am

Lots of lovely toys, craft and refreshments. All Welcome

Open4U Open every Thursday from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm in the Church Hall.

A light lunch is served at 12.30 pm and refreshments are available through the day.

Everyone is welcome.

See our website for this month's diary and more details of all our activities

<http://www.bourtonbaptist.co.uk>

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

stow-bourtoncatholic.net

Fr. Stephen Lambert 07836 384932

Email:

stephen.lambert@cliftondiocese.com

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.

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

Special Masses:

Sunday 8th June: Pentecost Sunday:

Solemn Sung Mass 9 am; Sunday 22nd June: Corpus Christi, Solemn Sung Mass 9 am; Sunday 29th June: Solemnity of SS Peter and Paul, and First Holy Communion for the children who have completed the course.

Young children: Every Sunday there is a special facility for young children from 3 years old upwards at all Sunday 9 am Masses. During the first part of the Mass they have some simple teaching about the Gospel of the day and then they create or paint something to show the congregation what they have learnt.

Fr. Stephen



QUAKERS

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at The Friends Meeting House,

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Enquiries welcome Myra Ford

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To request a free info pack,
email: outreach@quaker.org.uk

For The Younger Generations

A Packed Month for Cotswold Youth Theatre

It's a busy and exciting time for the Cotswold Youth Theatre Groups as we have been gearing up for our Summer productions, which began on 17th May. But before the curtains rise, two of our groups shone at the Cheltenham Performing Arts Festival, held at the beautiful Cheltenham Town Hall on Friday 16th May.

On 10th May, two of our senior members—Leah Lucas Leslie and May Dyer—took part in the Duo-logue Category, performing a powerful scene from *The Great Gatsby*. They were awarded a Distinction and received glowing feedback from the judges—an amazing achievement!

Later that day, one of our youngest Junior members, Jack Arnell, competed in the Public Speaking Category. He delivered a heartfelt



and confident speech about his experiences living in Thailand, impressing a packed audience. Despite it being a first-time festival experience for all three, they showed incredible courage—and we couldn't be prouder!

This term's theatre trip took us to the Barn Theatre in Cirencester to see the brilliant production of *In the Mouth of the Wolf*—a moving play by Michael Morpurgo about his great uncle's experience during the war. We brought 30 members and their families across four different groups, and everyone was amazed by how just three actors, with minimal set and props, delivered such a powerful and emotional performance.

All our regular classes are currently full, but if you're interested in joining us in September, you can join our waiting list via our website. There, you'll also find details on how to book for our Summer shows.

And don't forget—our ever-popular Summer School is back this August! Running across two weeks, it's open to everyone aged 7–11. You can book individual days or take advantage of discounted full-week rates, with the exciting option to earn a Trinity Arts Award.

To find out more and book online visit
www.cotswoldyouththeatre.co.uk.

Sarah Dowie



THE COTSWOLD SCHOOL

As we approach the final term of the year, we have said goodbye and good luck to our Year 11 and 13's, who are currently working hard in their exams.

We have an exciting calendar of events planned for the upcoming term and we invite you to join us in celebrating our vibrant school community.

Cadence Festival

On Thursday 10th July 2025 from 5.30-9pm, we will host our annual Cadence Festival, a programme of entertainment and events celebrating the amazing work in our school, our talented students and our community. We have a fantastic line-up that is yet to be announced but will include music, entertainment, arts, drama, food and drink stalls and much more!

The Cotswold School V Bourton Vale Cricket Club

Join us at Bourton Vale Cricket Club on Monday 23rd June from 2.30pm for an afternoon of cricket where past and present students and staff of The Cotswold School will face off against Bourton



Vale Cricket Club. The match will consist of 30 overs per side, and refreshments, including a bar will be available. We look forward to welcoming friends and supporters of The Cotswold School!

PTA Wellbeing Evening

Join us for an evening of wellbeing on Friday 27th June from 7-10pm. The PTA run event will include a range of taster holistic therapy, beauty treatments and workshops including holistic massage, yoga and even Bollywood dance, with refreshments and a PTA bar also available. We look forward to seeing you there!

Old Cotswoldians

Are you an alumnus of The Cotswold School? We would love to hear from you! By signing up for our Old Cotswoldians network, you will become part of our community and receive exclusive alumni newsletters, event invitations, and important updates from the school.

Visit www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk/old-cotswoldians/ to sign up.

Will Morgan
Headteacher

Local Groups and Organisations for the YOUNGER GENERATION

Beavers	Stephanie Lewis	07308 144397
	1stbourtonbeavers@gmail.com	
Bourton Gymnastics	Tom Eden	01451 870778
	Bourtongymnastics.co.uk	
Bourton Primary School		820458
Bourton Road Runners Juniors	Chris Hartley/Richard Buffton	0772 0509894
	brrjuniors@gmail.com	
Bourton Rovers Youth (U10 Upwards) -	Catherine Williams	07889 694545
Bourton Rovers Youth (U9 & below) -	Amy Wright	07876 458571
Bourton Vale Cricket Club	Lucy Gillespie	07949 227128
	craiglucygillespie@yahoo.com	
B'n Vale Equestrian Centre	Leanne Launchbury	821101
Bourton Vale Tennis Club	Kingsley Harris	07879 644218
	www.bourtontennisclub.org	
Bumblebeez babies & pre-school tots	Pat Taylor	07518 457652
Cafe Tots	Sue Woodley	07828 781246

Children's Jujitsu	Andy or Hayley	07951 587398
Cubs	Nick Hawke	07788 406728
	1stbourtoncubs@gmail.com	
Hockey	Rhys Davies	07817 108970
Little Hurricanes (Babies & Toddlers)	littlehurricanes@hotmail.com	
Pre-School	Lisa Sorley	07950 048066
Scouts	Phil	1stbourtonscouts@gmail.com
Squirrels	Emily	1stbourtonsquirrels@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
Youth Theatre	Sarah Dowie	sarah@cotswoldyouththeatre.co.uk

Bourton Vale Tennis Club

Sunshine, Smiles, and a Great Start to the Season!

We've been making the most of the recent sunshine at Bourton Tennis Club, enjoying time on court following our season opener competition in April.

Our Open Day on May 11 was a great success, especially with the younger players. Club coach Clare Bell kept the kids busy with fun tennis games, while Kingsley Harris gave two potential new adult members some on-court practice. We hope to welcome them as full members soon!

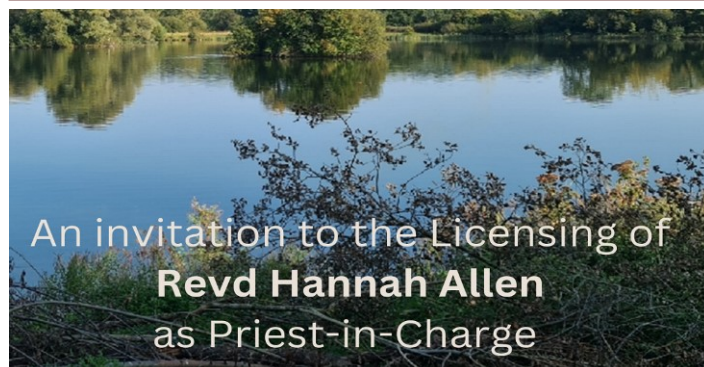
Team News The Men's A team is finding things tougher in Division 3A, with 2 wins and 3 losses so far. The brand-new Men's B team is off to a solid start, with 1 win and 2 draws.

The Ladies' A team, playing in Division 2B, has had a challenging start, with 1 win and 2 losses. Meanwhile, the Ladies' B team in Division 3A has had a balanced start with 2 wins & 2 losses.

Coming Up We're excited to be holding our very first Parent/Adult + Child event on Sat. 29 June – a fun and friendly afternoon designed to get grown-ups & kids on court together. It promises to be a fantastic new addition to our club calendar, & we can't wait to see families getting involved!

We always welcome new members throughout the season – whether you're a beginner, rusty returner or Wimbledon hopeful! www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/BourtonValeLawnTennisClub

See you on court! Alex Peyton



An invitation to the Licensing of **Revd Hannah Allen** as Priest-in-Charge



The Benefice of Bourton on the Water with Clapton and the Rissingtons

You are invited to the Licensing
by the Bishop of Gloucester
and the Installation
by the Archdeacon of Cheltenham
of

The Revd Hannah Allen
as Priest-in-Charge

on Tuesday 10th June at 7pm
in St Lawrence, Bourton GL54 2AW
followed by refreshments in church.

Parking is available on Rectory Field, accessed via School Hill, Lansdowne.

All are welcome to come!

*There will be colouring in the north aisle
for children and young people during the service.*



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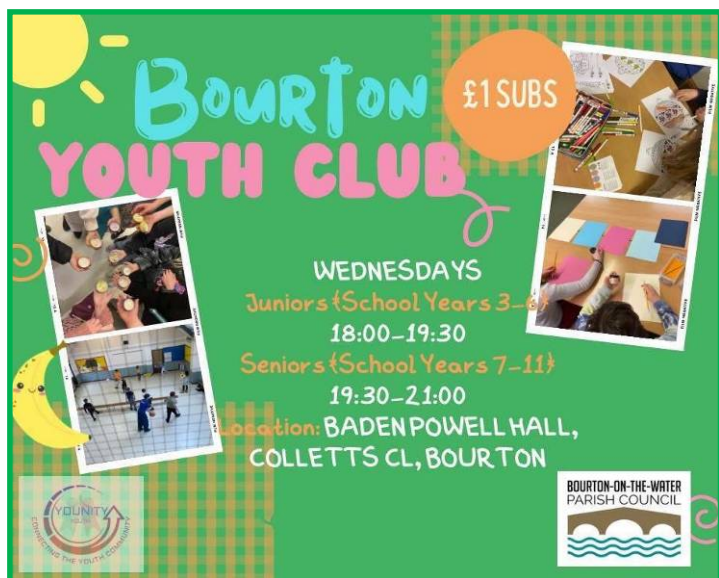
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www.zenathebarber.com



Bourton Youth Club meets every Wednesday evening at The Baden Powell Hall and has an exciting Summer of activities ahead. We run two groups, Juniors; for School years 3-6 and Seniors for school years 7-11.

Weekly activities include; Basketball, Cricket, Football, The Naught/Park with our outdoor equipment, trips to Greystones or the green by the River often with a visit to the Chip Shed or Oli Bonny Pizza, Arts & Crafts, Games, Bracelet Making, Candle Making, Nintendo Switch and much more.

The Junior session is a little more structured with lots of activities on offer and the senior session is a little more relaxed and activities are often led by the attending Seniors and what they'd like to do.

New members are always welcomed even if it is on an adhoc basis, just turn up!

A HUGE thank you to Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council for funding Bourton Youth Club on a weekly basis.

Bourton Primary Academy

What a busy month May has been – from a residential visit to sports to trips to SATS. I would like to start by saying how incredibly pleased we are of all of Year 6 with regards to their SATS tests. They undertook them with such maturity and resilience and we hope they are as proud of themselves as we are of them.

Our Year 4 children went on a 3-day residential visit at the beginning of May. Not only did they have fantastic weather, but they thoroughly enjoyed all of the activities; the campfire, zorbing, problem solving, a water fight, Jacobs ladder, crate stacking and a sensory trail to name but a few.

Year 5 visited the Kingham Lodge Sculpture garden and saw their work on display in amongst other schools and professional artists' work. We are very grateful to all of the artists at Kingham Lodge and have been very lucky as a school to take part in many of their workshops in the last few years. Year 1 and 2 have been on a trip to Cogges Farm at Witney and put the knowledge they have learnt from their growing topic into good use.

Year 1 and 2 would also like to say a big thank you to all parents who attended their restaurant. They loved being able to cook and serve them some of what they have grown in class.

The summer term is busy with sports and the KS2 athletics event is being held as well as children busy preparing for cricket, tennis and rounders events. We will update you next month about the results from the athletics event as this is one of our biggest events of the sporting calendar where we are taking over 90 children to participate!

Tori Gainford

Deputy Headteacher

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7th, 14th & 21st May
11th, 18th, 25th June and 2nd, 9th & 16th July

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With thanks to Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council
for funding this session



Our Play Ranger activities take place outdoors in all weathers and are open access. This means there is no registration, children are free to come & go as they please.

Our Activities are aimed at school aged children. Under 8's are welcome and should be accompanied by an adult.

We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional support to enjoy Play Rangers. We welcome disabled children & their families.

Play Gloucestershire
Transforming lives through the power of play
www.playgloucestershire.org.uk

@play_glos playgloucestershire

Play Rangers Bring Fun, Freedom, and Creativity to Bourton-on-the-Water

For over a decade, Play Gloucestershire's Play Rangers have been a playful presence in Bourton-on-the-Water—but not everyone knows what we do!

Our Play Rangers are trained playworkers who bring their skills and equipment directly to children in schools and community spaces. The focus is always on child-led play, meaning the children decide what they want to do. We simply help create a space where fun, creativity, and freedom thrive.

You'll spot us arriving with a van full of kit, setting up our Base Camp—usually an art table with wind-breaks—and from there, the adventure begins. Children may get stuck into anything from den building and water fights to art, tag, hide and seek, or even experimenting with special equipment (under Ranger supervision, of course).

Our sessions are designed for school-aged children, but under-8s are very welcome when accompanied by a parent or carer. We love it when whole families get involved—there's something for everyone!

All our sessions are open access, meaning there's no need to register, and children are free to come and go. While Play Rangers keep a watchful eye, we won't stop children from leaving the site and may not always know they've gone.

We encourage children to take responsibility, learn from their experiences, and even work through disagreements. Our team steps in only when absolutely necessary.

At Play Gloucestershire, we believe children need to take risks in order to grow. Outdoor play does carry the possibility of scrapes and bumps, but we carefully manage the environment to keep risk within safe boundaries.

Every child has the right to play. If your child needs extra support to take part, just talk to us—we're here to make play possible for all.

Katie Spencer-Jefferies
Deputy Director of Play

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Elkstone Village Gardens Open Day Sunday 22nd June 2025. 2pm - 6pm.

Enjoy the atmosphere of this historic Cotswold village and see parts of it not accessible to the casual visitor. Amble through lovely, and varied, private gardens and enjoy the special village atmosphere. Relax with cream teas, homemade cakes or ice creams.

The Grade 1 listed Norman church, the highest in the Cotswolds, will be made extra special with glorious flower displays. Hear its wonderful peal of bells ring out and a community choir singing. The churchyard has various environmental initiatives including the wildflower Coronation Meadow, bug houses installed to encourage wildlife and the environmentally friendly loo!

Visit the plant stalls to take back a reminder of a special day. All proceeds from the event go towards the upkeep of our church and our village hall.

For further information contact the organisers:
Email: admin@elkstonevillage.com

The Village Playground

Screams and squeals of delight,
Ducks in and out of the river at full flight.
The river a play mat for young and old,
Dipping their toes to find its cold.
Green river banks a blanket for a picnic to be had,
To find a space to rest, people are glad.
Seagulls and ducks alike wait,
To find dropped crumbs and soggy cake.

Carol Groom



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We have a word 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.



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of Man, the Bailiwick of Guernsey and Alderney, of West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ
OG/EP/2020





Kate's Home Nursing

A Special Kind of Palliative Care

We're heading into a busy and exciting summer here at Kate's Home Nursing, with several wonderful events on the horizon. Whether you're a gardening enthusiast, a keen golfer, or a classic car lover, there's something for everyone to enjoy, while helping to raise vital funds for the work we do. Here's what's coming up.

Rockcliffe Open Gardens

Wednesday 11 June, 10:00 – 17:00, Upper Slaughter, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL54 2JW



Photo credit: National Garden Scheme

Emma and Simon Keswick are once again opening the gates to their stunning garden in support of Kate's Home Nursing. All proceeds from refreshments will be generously donated to the charity.

Enjoy eight acres of traditional English garden, featuring a pink garden, white and blue garden, herbaceous borders, rose terrace, and a large walled kitchen garden with greenhouses. A topiary-lined pathway leads through the orchard to a charming stone dovecote.

Please note: regrettably, no dogs are permitted. Tickets can be booked in advance via the [National Garden Scheme](https://www.nationalgardencheme.org/) website. Alternatively, you are welcome to pay on the gate (adults: £8.00, children: free). Tea, coffee, and homemade cake will be served in the car park.

Charity Golf Day Friday 1 August 2025

Wychwood Golf Club, Lyneham, Chipping Norton OX7 6QQ

Join us at our annual Charity Golf Day, for a great day of friendly competition and comradeship in support of Kate's Home Nursing. The Wychwood Golf Club is hosting a Pairs Better Ball Stableford Competition, open to ladies and gentlemen in any combination (maximum handicaps: Gentlemen – 24, Ladies – 30). This event promises great competition and delicious refreshments.


Entry fee is £130 per pair and includes a bacon roll, coffee on arrival, a Pimms stop at the Halfway House, charity raffle, auction and an evening BBQ.

To register, please visit www.kateshomenursing.org/events

Kate's Cotswold Rally, 14th September 2025, The Cotswolds

We're delighted to announce that this popular event returns in 2025! Kate's Cotswold Rally is a charity event, generously held by Manfred Schotten Antiques and Christopher Clarke Antiques Ltd to raise money for Kate's Home Nursing.

All cars are welcome. If you drive something special, fun or classic please use it, you may win a prize! Kate's Cotswold Rally is not about speed but about navigating an accurate course mileage whilst answering treasure hunt questions along the way. There are also points to be gained from various games. To register your interest, please visit: www.cotswoldrally.com.




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Enter the Greystones 10k Trail Run on 22nd June 2025

We're calling runners to enter our 10K run on Sunday 22nd June, held at Greystones Farm, Bourton-on-the-Water. The run, which starts at 10.30am, is well marshalled and each runner will be chip tag timed by LUSH Race Timing. The course goes through the beautiful Cotswold countryside and is a mixture of trails, paths and some roads and there are prizes for the first 3 men and women to finish.

The cost of entry is £15 to the closing date of online entries and £17 on the day. The money raised will be shared between the charities that North Cotswolds Rotary supports and Greystones Farm.

To enter the Run, go to www.entrycentral.com/Greystones10KTrailRun

Easter Online Charity Auction and Helping Hand



We'd like to thank everyone who donated lots to our Easter Online Charity Auction. And of course, we'd like to thank all the bidders too! Their combined generosity amounted to a total of £7,366 which will be used to fund our Helping Hand Scheme.

Helping Hand is a small grants scheme run by North Cotswolds Rotary to support the amazing work carried out by small chari-

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ties and community organisations across the North Cotswolds. This year grants of up to £500 were awarded to 15 community organisations at an awards night on 13th May at the auction sponsors, Brio Retirement Living's Beechwood Park development. Projects covered all age ranges from children with mental health problems to young mums needing advice on parenting to older people suffering from strokes and Parkinsons. They included schools, youth clubs and football and scout clubs. Due to the success of the project (now in its 4th year), and the fundraising from the auction, we will be running the scheme again early in 2026. So, a big thank you to our community for supporting us. It really does make a difference.

John Barber

Pancreatic Charity Sale

On Easter Monday we held a charity sale in St Lawrence Church to raise awareness and funds for Pancreatic Cancer.

The church was beautifully decorated for Easter and although it was a miserable wet day, we were well supported by many locals, family and friends.

We had lots of delicious cakes, bric a brac and clothes to sell and made an amazing £2124.

Saying 'thank you', doesn't seem enough, to all the wonderful helpers who made it all possible, to the cake makers, who provided an endless supply of cakes, the generous donations made, and to the PCC and Hannah for allowing us to use, without charge, the very special St Lawrence Church.

Just as we were packing up we had a request from a family of Romanians, asking if they could sing in the church, our day was finished with this lovely group of people singing, in their own language, a beautiful Romanian hymn.

Thank you everyone.

Sue Gilbert, Sue.gilbert@rocketmail.com

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Bourton Roadrunners

Wells Completes a Bourton Double with Victory in the Mile

Harry Wells won the **Bourton Mile** and, in a thrilling sprint finish, it was only the shortest of strides that separated him from his friend and former team-mate, Richard De Camps. For Wells, 24, a long-time Gloucester AC athlete who now competes for Victoria Park Harriers & Tower Hamlets club in London, it meant a Bourton double, coming after his victory in February's Bourton 10km. The pair finished well clear of Western Tempo's Luke Carroll in third but there was no course record bonus as Wells clocked 4min 21.5secs, only half a second in front of De Camps. He said: "The aim was to try and feel comfortable, wind it up through each quarter and any sprint finish was me reacting to Richard coming alongside me in that final stretch." "I know Richard well and he always used to beat me. I thought he might catch me this time so it's nice to get the win."



Harry Wells (left) and Richard De Camps battling at Bourton Mile finish;

With three-time winner, Ben Robinson opting not to run, it was Wells' loping stride and impressive pacing that proved enough to secure victory. His times for each quarter mile were 67sec, 66sec, 66sec and 61sec.

The women's race saw a first Bourton Mile win for Abbie Milnes as Weston Tempo secured a one-two. Milnes, an Art teacher from Cheltenham College, crossed the line in only her second road mile in 4min 57.6sec. Her team-mate, Amber Watson took second place in 5min 9.6sec, holding off the chal-

lenge of the fast-finishing Steph Lane from Bourton Roadrunners. "That was my best time for the mile," said Milnes. "I felt good until half-way but I enjoyed it."

In this, the biggest Bourton Mile ever staged, there were 50 entrants for the Junior Mile, with the boys' race won in 5min 3.1sec by Jack Taylor of Witney Roadrunners and the girls' race won in 5min 34sec by Lily Sienna Hodgeson from Chepstow Harriers.

A total of 179 runners completed the mile along the flat course which starts on Rissington Road and ends in the centre of the village.

Race Director, Gill Carrick said: "It was a fabulous evening for running fast and that was reflected in the times in a top-quality race. We'd like to thank everyone who turned out to support the runners."

The host club, Bourton Roadrunners was represented by Alex Pye (4:54.4 - PB), Steph Lane (5:10.5 and 3rd woman), Dougal Hamilton-Smith (5:33.0), Rebecca Townsend (6:05.0), Lisa Braid (6:37.9), Tony Goodwill (7:22.8), Graham Lane (7:43.4 and MV70/3), Liz Hulcup (7:43.6 and LV70/3) and Janice Townsend (8:32.3). **Louise, Gillian and John**



Bourton's Alex Pye finishing the Bourton Mile.

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HARTWELLS THE IRONMONGERS

Many of you will now have heard that Hartwells will be closing towards the end of the year, because our lease is expiring and my landlord does not wish to renew it.

I understand that the business has been in Bourton since about 1805 – the year of the Battle of Trafalgar. Originally in another building, and in the present building since about 1880.

The business comprised the existing shop, (which used to have a petrol pump outside), a branch in Chipping Norton, (which was also a hardware shop) and the garage in Broadlands, which dealt in the sale & maintenance of agricultural machinery. It provided employment for quite a lot of people in the village, and some of their families still live here, such as the Cyphus, Minchin & Mosson families.

In the early 1930s, during the depression, the Hartwell family sold the business to the Galloways, who then lived in what is now the Dial House Hotel. For many years, the Bourton shop was run by Ron Penny.

I purchased the business in 1993, and have run it since then, with a huge amount of help from Bridget Cullimore (who has worked here since 1971!!), Erin Holden (who has worked here since 1998), and, more recently, Ken Lamacraft, who started 4 years ago.

I am very sad that the long connection of Hartwells and the village of Bourton is coming to an end, but it has been a very special thing to me, to have been able to run a useful shop in such a wonderful location. We have had our “moments” over the years, and as all the residents will know, Bank Holidays in Bourton can be quite a trial, but I want to say a very big “thank you” to all those of you who have supported us so well for so long.

David Barker



**Photo—Hartwell's in
the Model Village**

*(Editor's note—
Hartwells will be
greatly missed, all
good wishes to David
and his team, for the
future.)*



Loneliness Awareness Week: Supporting our Community

At Cotswold Friends, we are proud to support Loneliness Awareness Week 2025, taking place from 9–15 June. This year's theme, “Reducing the Stigma Around Loneliness,” resonates deeply with our mission to support older and vulnerable people across the Cotswolds.

Loneliness can affect anyone, but older adults are particularly at risk. By 2026, it's estimated that over two million people aged 50 and over will be experiencing loneliness. Many go days without seeing or speaking to another person. This level of isolation not only affects mental wellbeing but also physical health, and it's something we see firsthand in our community.

At Cotswold Friends, we are working every day to tackle loneliness through a wide range of services designed to bring people together and support independent living. Our Community Transport service helps people stay active and connected. Our Befriending and Carer Respite services offer vital companionship and support. And through our Friendship Cafés, Lunch Clubs, and Community Garden, we provide spaces for people to meet, chat, and share life's moments, big and small.

Loneliness Awareness Week reminds us that feeling lonely is not something to be ashamed of, it's a natural part of life that we can all talk about and address together. This week is a chance to open up those conversations, challenge stigma, and reach out to those around us.

We invite everyone in our community to join us in marking this important week. Whether you volunteer, donate, or simply check in on a neighbour, your actions can make a real difference.

Find out more about how you can get involved at www.cotswoldfriends.org and learn more about the national campaign at www.lonelinessawarenessweek.org.

District Councillor View on the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting of 12th May

An Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting was held on 12th May in order to consider the following proposal

"We propose that the Parish Council withdraws its support for the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) for Meadow Way (for a coach drop-off and pick-up bay) given the publicly stated lack of support for the proposal by residents and coach operators."

This was put forward by Cllrs Wilkins, Davis and I because, at the time of the previous vote, Councillors were not fully aware of:

- The legitimate anxieties of residents about the scheme. In particular, their public health and safety concerns.
- The concerns of some coach operators about the safety and workability of the scheme and subsequent withdrawal of some coach services as a direct consequence. (Who described it as *"ill-thought-through and could be prone to operational disasters."* and *"The site that they have chosen is right at the junction so it's not safe."*)
- The nonsensical, baffling and frankly self-defeating negative impact of the scheme on the visitor experience.

Cllr Paul Hodgkinson (GCC) had said that he would not push this scheme without the support of the Parish Council which was duly given by a majority vote of 5 to 3 at the parish Council Meeting of 5th Feb, 2025

Given that Parish Council support was required to progress this scheme (developed without consultation with the Parish Council or residents) and that the opinion of our residents should be intrinsic to the decision of the Parish Council, we believed that we needed to create the opportunity for residents to have their say. Especially as the proposal was rushed through at the February meeting without any full discussion or debate by Council.

I'd like to put on record my appreciation for residents who took the trouble to voice their concerns about the Meadow Way ETRO. There was a solid body of correspondence and a good showing in person at the 12th of May meeting.

Residents who spoke up did a great job in expressing their deep reservations about and also their opposition to the scheme.

In the end, disappointingly, the views of residents fell on deaf ears and made no difference whatsoever to the prevailing view of the majority of councillors to give the scheme a try. A named vote was requested. Those in favour of withdrawing Parish Council support for the Meadow Way ETRO were Cllrs Wareing, Wilkins and Davis; those voting to continue support for Meadow Way ETRO were Cllrs Hicks, Hadley, Wragge, Milington and Macklin. Cllr Coventry abstained

The lack of acknowledgement of the concerns of residents was, in my view, a poor reflection on the Council's new Mission (that was approved at the April Council meeting) which is: *"Working together to ensure community is at the heart of everything we do."* Neither did it seem congruent with one of the three primary objectives of Council which is *"To be representative of residents' interests whilst managing their expectations. Focused on the wellbeing of the community."*

This was a golden opportunity to demonstrate that this is a Council that listens to the people who it is supposed to represent. Instead, it reinforced the perspective of residents who believe the Parish Council is unrepresentative of their views and that there is no point trying to voice their concerns.

There is no official or formal monitoring of the way this scheme will work, so it is up to local residents to keep an eye out and report to the Parish Council and Gloucestershire Highways any issues once the scheme goes live.

Finally, let me say that I have no issue with being part of a collective decision if the process to arrive at the outcome has been thorough, taking into account all the relevant information and perspectives, and weighting these accordingly. In my view this has not been the case and such is my deep dissatisfaction with the entire way this ETRO has been handled, I confirm that I have resigned my position as a Parish Councillor. Not an entirely easy decision to make given the importance of work the Council needs to progress, but a principled decision nonetheless.

I will explore if there are other means, alongside my position as District Councillor, of serving the community, listening to residents and making a positive impact in reversing the degradation of our social, natural and economic environment, to build a stronger, resilient and more sustainable community.

Jon Wareing, District Councillor, Bourton Village Ward

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Bourton and Sherborne Hockey Club

As the season draws to a close for Bourton and Sherborne Hockey Club, the teams here reflect on a very successful season and encourage members of our community to come help us build a stronger club.

The Men's 1st team were the only side not to lose to the eventual league winners, and finished tied on points for second place. Huge thanks to outgoing captain CJ, and his three years at the helm.

The Women's 1st team finished a very creditable 7th in their league following significant changes to personnel leading into the season. Well done to Ellie for leading the team into mid table safety.

The Men's 2nd team, a newly formed team at Bourton, only lost two games, including to the eventual league winners, and will be looking to cement their place in the league next year.

Of course, hockey does not stop over the summer. We had a very successful fancy dress fun day in April, followed by awards (see photo). Hockey for the juniors and minis starts again from the 30th April for 10 weeks, on Wednesday evenings. There also continues to be mixed summer league evening matches for the adults throughout the summer. So whatever standard you are, come along and get involved. Email: admin@bashc.co.uk or find us on Facebook and our website. **Adam Symons – Minis Coach**



Bourton Vale Horticultural Society

– your friendly garden club

Finally, its spring and in fact almost summer – nearly the longest day!!!

One storm with some lovely rain a couple of weeks ago but now back to hot and dry and lots of watering.

Our speaker at the May meeting was Mary Fenton who took us on a tour of Chile. She travelled from the South to the North and showed how different the landscapes were from green oasis and vineyards to barren deserts. All with a backdrop of the Andes. And temperatures as low as -6. There were coots the size of turkeys and Rheas and flamingos. In Patagonia in the south the wind is so vicious it shreds the trees but sheep and llamas cope with the harsh conditions.

Our competition of A vase of Tulips and/or Iris was won by Sally Gummery.

There will be no meeting in June as it is our Garden Outing on Wednesday, 11th June and the competition will be a button-hole. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 9th July.

Enjoy the sunshine,

Sheila Thorpe, 07973 391741, sheila@bobbelfarm.co.uk

Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxon. OX 29 8ET

15th June themed event 'The Mill at Work'. Volunteers will be demonstrating equipment. Combe Mill a late 19th Century restored Water Mill by the River Evenlode. We will have all Machinery running 'In Steam' & volunteers will be on hand with lots of interesting info. Tea room open, BBQ, Gift Shop & Tombola. Dog on Leads welcome. Adults £9, seniors £7.50, children FREE. Open 10.30am to 4.30pm (last entries 3.30pm). Also open every Wednesday for 'self-guided tours' with volunteers around. Adults £5, Seniors £4. Accompanied children FREE. 10.30am to 4.30pm (last entries 3.30pm).

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COTSWOLDS RADIO

BORN TO BE HERD

Warren Turner has recently joined Cotswolds Radio and has hit the ground running, presenting our new Wednesday Drivetime show (4-6pm) and taking over from Richard on Friday Breakfast (7:30-9am). Big shoes to fill! Warren has had the radio bug for decades: his first radio appearance was in 1983 on BBC Radio Leicester at the age of 16 where became a regular contributor.



After university he worked in healthcare and then higher education, training future generations of healthcare professionals. Eventually he became a professor and finally Pro Vice Chancellor for a major London University.

A huge change came in 2019 when he and his partner decided to retire early and bought the Horse and Groom Inn at Upper Oddington to do something they could enjoy working at together. However, retirement had to wait as his worlds collided when within a year of taking on the pub, the Covid pandemic struck. He spent the weekdays advising government on pandemic preparedness and trying to keep the pub going at the weekends. Eventually he retired from Academia in April 2024. He and his partner have opened two other restaurants – Flipside in Stow-on-the-Wold and Broadway, with a new hospitality venture about to start.

Warren responded to a Facebook post from Cotswolds Radio looking for new presenters and we were delighted to welcome him to the team. Warren says "I love what Cotswolds Radio stands for – a truly local radio station, staffed entirely by volunteers. It produced some amazing output given its incredibly limited resources. The direct engagement with listeners is fabulous, I've had so many people call into the pub and tell me they have been listening!"

As Warren says, we love to hear from our listeners, so get in touch: Message while you're listening on the Cotswolds Radio App, WhatsApp on 07824 368947 or email contact@cotswoldsradio.com.

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Badminton Club	cclare@gmail.com
Bell Ringers, BOW	Stephanie Hemming 01451 810996
Bell Ringers, Gt Ris	Sheila Jesson, 01451 820395
Bourton Road Runners	Nicky Patterson Brr.clubsec@gmail.com .
Bourton Rovers Chairman	Liam Williams 07769 216528
Bourton Vale Cricket Club	Kevin Langley 07375 033609
Bourton Vale Tennis Club	www.bourtontennisclub.org
Brass & Silver Bands	Stephanie Hemming 01451 810996
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	www.cotswoldsfriends.org
Cotswold Yoga	Nazuna Yeo 07490858775
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JASON SPINNEY - DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGY SOCIAL PRESCRIBING LINK WORKER (NORTH COTSWOLDS)

Jason Spinney is a dedicated Social Prescribing Link Worker in the North Cotswolds, specialising in addressing clinical digital needs. He helps individuals navigate the increasingly digital landscape of healthcare by connecting them with online health services, digital resources, and tailored support. His role ensures that everyone, regardless of their digital confidence, can benefit from modern health technology, ultimately enhancing well-being and creating a more accessible healthcare experience for the community.



MORETON IN MARSH

Every Monday at Jameson Court in Moreton in Marsh, you can drop in between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm to access local support tailored to your needs.

On the 1st Monday of each month, GRCC hosts the **North Cotswolds Community Information & Services Hub** which offers expert guidance and helps you build valuable social connections within your community.

On the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Monday of the month, you can join the **Jameson Court Community Club** - a team of dedicated volunteers who can signpost you to local services and courses. Computers are available to use for job searching and learning basic digital skills.

Please call or text us on **07469 583395** or email lead volunteer [Caroline Sandles](mailto:Caroline.Sandles@gmail.com) at csandles75@gmail.com for more information.



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Every Tuesday, drop in at the George Moore Community Centre between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm for hands-on digital skills support and courses. Whether you're looking to learn the basics of using a smartphone, enhance your online safety, or explore new digital tools, our sessions cover a wide range of topics designed to boost your confidence and help you navigate the digital world with ease.

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See volunteers **Allison, Dinah, Lynn, Marc, Paul, Simone or Barry** for more details or contact daisi.northcotswolds@gmail.com / **07855 524266**.

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