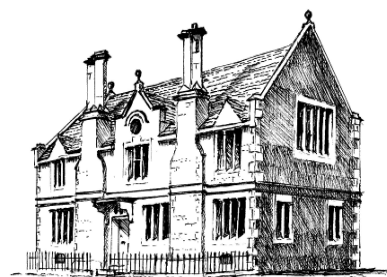


BOURTON BROWSER



ISSUE NO.318

www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk



October 2025

DIARY DATES

- 1st Sight Loss Advice Hub, **GMCC**, drop in 1-2pm, join social group 2-4pm. Call 01242 221170, or email info@insight-glos.org.uk
- 6th & 20th Mindsong, Sing 2 Remember **GMCC**, 10.30am & 2.30pm. 07764 212506 or 01451 821216.
- 8th Irene's Charity Knitting Circle, **WP**, 10am-12pm. See page 4.
- 8th & 22nd Bourton Community Day Club, 10.30am - 2.30pm, **MC**, GL54 2HE. 01608 652019.
- 8th u3a Scrabble, **GMCC**. 2-4pm. 07341 094206. peterdawson790@icloud.com
- 8th Horticultural Club, **BCH**, 7.30pm, Philip Aubury, 'Ponds and Water Features'. See page 13.
- 8th Old New Inn, Curry night. £22 per head for curry, rice, naan & sides. <https://www.theoldnewinn.co.uk/events-and-offers/curry-night-8-oct> See advert page 3.
- 10th & 24th Dementia Friendly Cafe, **StLC**, 2-4pm, 07746 672726. See page 16.
- 13th Probus, 10am, **GMCC**. 'Walk from Edinburgh to London, 1807' by Peter Crump. See page 6.
- 14th WI, **VH**, 7pm. See page 6.
- 15th Sale of Greeting Cards, £1 each, Alice's Cottage, Victoria St, all day. See page 14.
- 17th RNLI sale of Christmas Cards & Souvenirs. A'Moore Coffee House, 10am-12noon. Please bring cash. See page 12.

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 News

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER
PARISH COUNCIL



News from the Parish Council for October Notes from the Parish Council meeting on 3rd September 2025.

Co-Option of new Parish Councillor: We were pleased to receive four applications for the vacant seat and Council co-opted Roger Frampton at the meeting. Councillor Frampton was also co-opted to the Community and Services Committee.

Finance Committee: Councillor Sharon Coventry was co-opted to this committee.

Coach parking, pick-up and drop-off: County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson updated that the Cotswold School has been unable to progress their plans due to the very high costs involved. There is still a need to expand parking on site as the size of the school has increased so alternative plans are being investigated.

Clr Hodgkinson was disappointed that the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order at Meadow Way is still not in place as this had been planned to start before the Easter holidays. GCC Highways are now expecting underground electrical cabling to be moved during September which will allow the correct signage to be installed. This will enable the trial to start and the ETRO to become legally enforceable. It is understood that GCC Highways plan for the trial to include the summer of 2026.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding: The Parish Council is expected to receive around £100,000 in funding from the development at the old Co-Op Site in Station Road, to be received in phased amounts as construction on the site progresses. A strategy was agreed that 50% of these funds will be used towards essential improvements at the grade II listed George Moore Community Centre and the remaining 50% to replace old play equipment at The Naight, for consultancy work to support future burial provision and a biodiversity audit.

Melville outdoor gym equipment: A quote was approved for new equipment to attract adult users to participate in outdoor fitness. Grants have been obtained from Gloucestershire County Council's Build Back Better Fund and the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association, and the remainder of funding will come from CIL monies already held.

Remembrance Day Parade from 10.30am on Sunday 9th November: The Parish Council and Royal British Legion have arranged a parade and wreath laying at the war memorial and all are invited to attend. Please note that for public safety reasons we have arranged for road closures of the High Street at the junction of Moore Road to the junction with Victoria Street and Sherborne Street from the junction with High Street to the Mill Bridge between 10.30 and 11.30am and this will be marshalled by members of the Rotary Club. Please plan any journeys accordingly to avoid the village centre during this time.

Statement on actions taken by the Parish Council to mitigate the impact of tourism on the village: It was agreed to make a written public statement to update on actions taken. Please see the separate statement in the Browser. See page 3.

County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson highlighted that the local government reorganisation now has a definitive timetable, and it is likely that

Continued on page 2, Column 2

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 November edition is **Noon on 15th October**

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fullcirclehairdesign.co.uk

Continued from page 1 column 1

- 18th Tayler & Fletcher, Fine Art, Vintage & Interiors auction, from 9.30am, **NCS**, GL54 2AR. 821666.
- 20th Rural Cinema, Casablanca, Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman. **VH**, 2.30pm & 7.30pm. Refreshments from 2pm & 7pm. Tickets £4pp (or £12 family of 4) on door. See poster page 17.
- 22nd u3a, **BLH**, 10am-12noon, 'Hearing Dogs for the Deaf', by Merleen Watson MBE. £2pp. See page 13.
www.bourton.u3asite.uk
- 25th-26th Gift Fair, **VH**, 10am-5pm. All welcome.
- 26th Farmers Market, **BLH** Car Park, GL54 2AR. 8.30am-12.30pm 07980 080073.
- 26th Halloween Tractor Run, In aid of Sunflowers Suicide Support & Cancer Research. Start Manor Field, 10am. £10 entry. See page 6.
- 26th British Summer Time Ends, clocks go back 1 hour.
- 27th Probus, 10am, **GMCC**, Talk by a member. See page 6.
- 29th Board Games Night, The Old New Inn, Rissington Rd. Book a table or just turn up. 01451 820467, or enquiries@theoldnewinn.co.uk
- 30th Book Club Bourton Book Club meeting, 7pm. The Old New Inn. dpayne056@hotmail.co.uk
- 31st Fish & Chip Supper & Quiz, Jubilee Lodge, bookings, 01451 823100

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 3.

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

we will be advised next summer which of the reorganisation models is favoured. May 2027 will be the finish of the current GCC term and there will be elections to determine the shadow unitary authorities. However, this means there will be no new spending in 2027-28 until matters are transferred across.

District Councillor Len Wilkins (Bourton Vale) updated that all seven Gloucestershire District Councils are working to gather feedback on how local services can best meet the needs of residents both now and in the future. Three options are under consideration for the new council structure.

Cotswold District Council is fast-tracking updates to its Local Plan to ensure homes are built in the right place at the right time, after government planning reforms more than doubled the number of houses the district is expected to

deliver.

District Councillor Jon Wareing (Bourton Village) received complaints about waste emptying in the village centre. CDC's contractor was unable to deliver the schedule of emptying three times a day due to staff shortages and times were altered to later in the day during the very busy weeks at the end of August. Parish Councillors met with CDC to discuss problems with collections and the waste produced by local takeaway businesses was being investigated by CDC.

Thames Water is continuing upgrade works at the Rissington Road Sewage Pumping Station, with preliminary activity underway ahead of full planning approval expected later this year. The project, which includes installation of a Rising Main and Gravity Main will require a road crossing at Rissington Road to facilitate connection to the pumping station and this is planned for October 2025. The work aims to improve network resilience and is expected to take 12-18 months to complete. The Thames Water letter to residents advised that they may notice increased noise and vehicle movement during these works, but pedestrian and emergency access will be maintained throughout. The Parish Council will be seeking further clarification on the planned temporary road closure at Rissington Road. Thames Water can be contacted about this project on 0800 316 9800 (option 1) and quote ref BB00389517.

Date of next meeting: 7pm on Wednesday 5th November in the Windrush Room at the George Moore Community Centre.

The up to date schedule of meetings can be found on our website at <https://>

www.bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk/the-council/meeting-calendar/

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

9th September 2025. Statement from Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council:

Update on Tourism Mitigation Measures

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council wishes to update residents, local businesses, and visitors on the actions being taken to address the growing impact of tourism on our village.

We recognise that the increased visitor numbers this year have placed significant pressure not only on the village centre but also on surrounding residential and commercial areas. While tourism brings economic benefits, it also presents challenges that require coordinated and sustained efforts to be managed effectively.

The Parish Council has limited statutory powers, but we are actively engaging with Cotswold District Council (CDC), Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), and other relevant bodies to advocate for our community's needs and concerns.

Understanding Parish Council Powers

It's important to note that the Parish Council is only responsible for maintaining land and buildings it owns—such as the village green, cemetery, allotments, play areas, and the Community Centre. The Parish Council has no control over visitor numbers and has no power to close the village.

Many of the issues residents raise—such as litter, dog fouling, potholes, street lighting, and road signage—fall under the remit of CDC or GCC. While the Parish Council does work on behalf of residents to raise concerns and push for action on these matters, it is often more effective for individuals to report problems directly to the appropriate authority:

- **Environmental issues** (e.g. fly-tipping, overflowing bins, graffiti): Visit www.cotswold.gov.uk/environment or call **01285 623000**
- **Roads, travel, and parking issues** (e.g. potholes, blocked drains, streetlights): Visit fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk or call **08000 514514**

Alternatively, residents can use www.fixmystreet.com to report any issue, which will be forwarded to the relevant authority.

Waste Management

One of the most pressing issues has been the accumulation of litter, particularly from takeaway outlets and picnickers. We met with the Head of Waste and Environment from CDC in August to highlight the severity of the problem. Historically, waste col-

lection occurred three times daily, but this year it was reduced to two collections without prior consultation due to staffing issues. Following our meeting, we received reassurance that weekend collections will return to three per day. We are also initiating discussions with local takeaway businesses to encourage their cooperation in reducing waste. The Parish Council remains committed to achieving a "bin-free" village by 2030, in line with other tourist destinations.

Coach Traffic and the ETRO

We continue to work closely with County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson to progress Gloucestershire County Council Highways' **Meadow Way Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO)**, aimed at managing coach traffic through the village. Although the scheme was scheduled to begin in April, delays caused by infrastructure issues have postponed its implementation. We are hopeful that GCC Highways will be able to implement the ETRO by the end of September and understand that it is their intention to run the trial for a year until September 2026 to ensure it includes the busiest time during next summer. We would like to highlight that until the correct signage is in place on site, the ETRO scheme is not legally enforceable.

Any comments on the coach ETRO trial should be emailed to troconsultation@gloucestershire.gov.uk and copied to clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk.

Traffic Management: We are in ongoing discussions with Gloucestershire County Council Highways regarding signage and traffic flow improvements. Despite repeated requests, temporary signage to redirect traffic has not yet

been installed and permanent signage still requires replacement on the Fosseway which may have contributed towards traffic problems in the village. We share residents' frustration and will continue to press for timely action.

In addition, we have submitted to Cotswold District Council a request for **Tourist Levy funding**—generated from the Rissington Road car park—to commission a comprehensive **visitor traffic management survey** by a professional consultant. This study would assess all forms of transportation and parking, with the aim of improving traffic flow, maximising access to the village for residents and tackling inappropriate visiting parking in residential areas. Should this funding proposal be approved, a full public consultation will be held to ensure community input is central to any future changes. The Parish Council has made several attempts to arrange a residents' parking permit system, but this has not been allowed by Gloucestershire County Council Highways.

Community Involvement

We understand the importance of clear communication and are exploring ways to keep residents informed, including through the website, social media and local publications. We also welcome support from residents who can offer their skills, knowledge, and energy to help us tackle these challenges.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Council by emailing clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk or calling **01451 820712**.

Together, we can work towards sustainable solutions that preserve the charm and liveability of Bourton-on-the-Water for all.

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council

THE OLD NEW INN

Come and try out new seasonal menu!

We've launched our new Autumn/Winter menu that celebrates all things seasonal when it comes to food!

As we value our local customers, we'd like to offer **10% off food** with this voucher! Valid for dinner only throughout October, 6pm - 8.30pm, Monday to Thursday. One use per customer. Valid for tables of up to 4 people per voucher.

Call or email to book, quoting Bourton Browser and be sure to bring this voucher with you on the night you're dining.

T: 01451 820467
E: enquiries@theoldnewinn.co.uk

View Menus



OUT AND ABOUT in October

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

Mondays - NorthLeach Bridge Club, Cotswold Hall, Northleach, 7:15pm. Contact northleachbridgeclub@gmail.com

3rd-5th, 10th-12th, 17th-19th, 23rd-31st, Pumpkin Patch, Cotswold Farm Park, Guiting Power, GL54 5FL. PYO & face painting in daytime, spooky trail & Live Music in the evenings. <https://cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk/seasonal-events/pyo-pumpkin-patch/>

4th Vegan Fiesta, Marriotts Walk Shopping Centre Witney, OX28 6GW. 10am-4pm. Vegan food stalls, skincare, gifts etc. <https://www.marriottswalk.co.uk/>

4th A Pocket Opera, Northleach Church, 7.30pm, Carmen's story with wonderful musicianship and highly entertaining storytelling. Tickets at northleachevents.co.uk

16th Cadillac Kings, one of the nations finest bands, roots, R & B, & Rock n' Roll. Merrymouth Inn, Stow Rd, Fifield, OX7 6HR. 01993 256620. See advert below.

17th Rissingtons Local History Society, 7.30pm, "Katherine of Aragon", by Dr Gillian White. Short AGM prior to the talk. Village Hall, Upper Rissington GL54 2QW. Visitors Welcome £3.50 to include refreshments. Kate O'Brien 07815 606770 or information.RLHS@gmail.com

18th The Village Market, Great Rissington Club, 10am-noon. Look forward to seeing you. Jackie Palmer, 01451 822285.

19th Wood Craft + Autumn Market, 'In Steam'. Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, OX29 8ET. Woodturners' clubs, Al's Owls, Charbury Morris Dancers, Adults £9, seniors £7.50, accompanied children FREE. Open 10.30am to 4.30pm. Dogs welcome. See page 11.

23rd Michael Bochmann and Orchestra Pro Anima, Northleach Church, 7.00pm Tickets at northleachevents.co.uk

23rd-2nd November Spooky Halloween Trail at Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, OX20 1UL. www.blenheimpalace.com

25th-2nd November Epic Pumpkin Trail at Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, GL54 5LP. A seasonal adventure filled with mystery, discovery, & delight. www.sudeleycastle.co.uk

25th RNLI Autumn Fair, 'The Lifford Memorial Hall', Broadway, WR12 7BU. Free entry. 10am-4pm. RNLI gifts & Christmas cards. Local artists, crafters & producers stalls. Tombola & Bric a Brac. Teas, Coffee & Tasty Cakes. See page 12.

31st Tudor Halloween, Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, GL54 5LP. A hauntingly immersive experience set within the ancient walls. www.sudeleycastle.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.

FREE Pine & cream 5 drawer chest, 3 drawer bedside cabinet. Matching (dismantled) single wardrobe. 01451 820917 Will be destroyed after 5th October!

For Sale

A selections of Royal mugs, £5 each.
3 wheel Invacare Walker £10.
01451 820409

For Sale

DeWalt cordless drill with spare battery, £15.
01451 822258 or
07736 572212

Wanted

Small Battery Radio.
01451 821910

For Sale

A Booster Plus Wellform Exercise Machine, cost £129.99, hardly used. Will sell for £70 ONO.
01451 824325

For Sale

Outdoor Garden Swing Seat with cushions. Very good condition. Photos available. £40. 07368 431102.

Irene's Charity Knitting Circle

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 10am-12.00pm at Willoughby Place, Station Road, Bourton-on-the-Water. Do come and join us. Enjoy coffee/tea with biscuits. Everything we receive will be donated to worthy causes. There is no parking available at Willoughby Place, but we can collect anyone who needs a lift within Bourton. For details, call either: **Irene or Peter on: 01451 824175 or 07764 699594.**

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Live Events for 2025

Blues Club - All Welcome

18th Sept - John Doe Trio (Blues)

16th Oct - Cadillac Kings (R&R/Blues)

13th Nov - Split Whiskers (Blues)

Tickets £12.50 online £14 on door
Doors - 7pm Food & Drink available on night

See website for details & booking

Scan QR for Events



www.cotswoldmerrymouth.co.uk - 01993 256620

cotswoldmerrymouthltd@gmail.com - OX7 6HR

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An Organised Voice for

Bourton-on-the-Water Residents (3)

This has been an appalling Summer for residents bearing the impact of overtourism in the village with so many examples of appalling behaviour from visitors towards local residents, our natural environment and indeed to the people working for CDC who endeavour to keep Bourton clean.

I have spoken with a number of journalists who are all shocked at what they have witnessed when they have come to Bourton. I think this has been reflected in the media coverage locally, nationally and internationally.

I am happy to report that an initial meeting of 18 local residents, who are keen to be actively involved in establishing a forum for residents, took place at Bourton Rovers Football Club on the 8th September. (Thank you to the Club for hosting us!)

There was a great cross-section of the community represented, a very positive response from all and a great level of energy to develop the group. The frustration with all Councils to consult with, listen to and acknowledge residents' perspectives on the issue of overtourism is very high.

A charter is in development with strong alignment on its principles and a steering group formed. By the time you are reading this I hope that the steering group will have met to develop an agenda, identify work streams and to plan a public meeting.

I can say that, for the first time, I am optimistic that the tide is turning against the resistance to any change in the status quo created by people with vested interests in the tourism economy. These people frankly demonstrate no consideration for the grossly negative impact on local people and the social fabric of our community due to the overtourism and fast

tourism that they welcome.

Just a word on the Meadow Way Coach drop-off and pick-up point. This scheme, which was supposed to start in April, has not yet legally commenced. Coaches have however been using the marked bay in Meadow Way, parking for longer periods than the 10 minutes allowed, using Meadow Way in both directions and even stopping on both sides of the road to obstruct traffic flow. It is a total farce. Meanwhile other coach companies have been dropping off and picking up visitors at all points in the village including the High Street where they are expressly prohibited. This Experimental Traffic Order has already failed.

It is time for the Parish Council to withdraw their support for this poorly conceived scheme and to prioritise the implementation of proposals that were approved at the meeting of 6th March 2024 for exclusion of coaches from central routes in Bourton-on-the-Water, by way of Traffic Regulation Order.

You can express your views on Meadow Way scheme by emailing troconsultation@gloucestershire.gov.uk and copying in clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk

**Jon Wareing, District Councillor,
Bourton Village Ward**

Petition: Address Tourism's Impact on Bourton-on-the-Water

What's it all about?

Many residents feel that the impact of tourism has significantly increased in recent years. However, many elected officials say there is not clear evidence of local feeling on the issue, or actively seek to deny it.

For this reason, a petition has been created on change.org. We have almost 400 signatures at time of writing, but need more! If you agree, please sign. By signing and sharing, you will help to give

this issue the high profile it deserves.

What does the petition say?

The overwhelming and continuing influx of visitors to Bourton-on-the-Water is taking a significant toll on this beloved village, affecting the quality of life for the residents and destroying the very character that draws tourists here.

As residents, we are expressing growing concern over issues including, but not limited to, traffic congestion, littering, public safety, environmental damage and fracturing of the community.

To address these pressing issues, it is imperative that local and regional public officials recognize the negative impact that unchecked tourism has on Bourton-on-the-Water. We urge them to prioritize the development and funding of sustainable solutions.

Help preserve the unique nature of Bourton-on-the-Water and improve the quality of life for its residents by supporting this initiative. Sign this petition to call on public officials to take responsible and effective action. How can I sign it?

Simply scan the QR code to go directly to the petition website. Signing is completely free – just skip the payment request. You'll just be asked to share the petition with at least one other person.

Alternatively, you can visit the [Change.org](https://change.org) website and search for the petition by its title. This will take you to the same page.



Gemma Wingrove

Bourton Probus Club



At our meeting on 8th September, David Head gave us a talk on the Panama Canal. There had been a thought of a waterway as early as the 16th century but the real stimulus was the Gold Rush of 1849. The two proposals were, one across Nicaragua and the other across Panama, which at the time was part of Colombia. Ferdinand de Leppes, who had built the Suez canal, started to excavate but became bankrupt, leaving a small distance completed. Theodore Roosevelt then stepped in and built the canal, and as a Republican, it has been the desire of all Republican Presidents since to own the canal!

He went on to explain the completion of the canal and it was incredible to think that the boats traversing it only had about 1 foot either side to negotiate the locks under their own steam. They were guided by electrical mules but couldn't risk touching the lock sides as they were concrete. The gates were made of soil. He told us that around 60,000 died, many due to yellow fever, malaria and cholera. He also explained the building of the lakes to keep a steady supply of water for the canal. The workers mainly came from Barbados and the Caribbean. He concluded with pictures of the rare animals seen from the surrounding rivers. All in all, a fascinating talk.

Probus is for retired men and women who are interested in informative talks and social events. We welcome new members, so please come to one of our meetings and meet us. Alternatively, contact our secretary Kevin Hick on 01451 860435.

Roger Harris



Halloween Tractor Run

In aid of Sunflowers Suicide Support and Cancer Research.

Sunday 26th October

£10 per Tractor. Leaving Manor Field at 10am.

For any information contact Steve Freemantle or Carol Groom
c.groom187@yahoo.com

Bourton WI



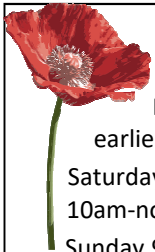
Our speaker this month was Mike Rees from Morton in Marsh and he gave us an interesting insight into the History of Jazz. Mike showed some snippets of film of Jazz through the ages and his enthusiasm for his subject was infectious (although I still prefer the Beach Boys, sorry Mike). It all began with the African slaves in America and the music that they made to overcome the dreadful lives that they had to endure. In the early days came the Blues and, in New Orleans, Buddy Bolden, a cornetist, was a key figure in the development of Ragtime. A later development was the Big Band Sound - Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller and Benny Goodman became household names. More recent names include Dave Brubeck and The Modern Jazz Quartet. And so Jazz left the cotton fields of slavery to become a respectable music genre.

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.

June Renshaw

2025 Poppy Appeal



Thursday 23rd October is the official start of the Poppy Appeal. Poppies will be in the shops etc earlier in the week.

Saturday 1st November: Coffee Morning for the appeal 10am-noon in the British Legion Hall.

Sunday 9th November: Remembrance Sunday at the War Memorial, 10.40 Parade, Wreath laying and 2 minutes silence. This will be followed by a service in the Baptist Church.

Tuesday 11th November: Primary School wreath laying 10.50am, War Memorial.

Mike Marshall


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"The detailed evidence brought forward was striking".

"She's obviously very skilled and extremely personable".

"I felt I was experiencing a real exchange between my Dad and you".

"Aspects of the reading completely floored me, as to the number of experiences I could understand and the depth of detail".

"I think people who can speak to someone from the spiritual world are very gifted people. Thank you Tina!".

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Bourton on the Water

Message from the Church

Angels

Annually on the 29th September we commemorate *St. Michael and All Angels* (Michaelmas) and on 2nd October *The Holy Guardian Angels*. Angels are regularly mentioned throughout the Bible. They are spirits (they do not have a human body like us) but they have intelligence and will, are immortal, and surpass humans in perfection. The name *angel* means 'messenger'. St. Luke tells us that an angel foretold the future birth of John the Baptist. The angel Gabriel came to visit Mary at the Annunciation. Angels appeared to the shepherds on Christmas Day. They were present with Jesus after his Temptations. An angel speaks to the women at Christ's tomb to announce the Resurrection.

The Book of Revelation explains that there are also 'fallen angels'; who, originally good, of their own free choice rejected God; the most notorious of these being Satan. 'War broke out in heaven,

when Michael with his angels attacked the dragon. The dragon fought back with his angels, but they were defeated and driven out of heaven'.

But what do Christians believe about Guardian Angels? In the 4th century St Basil wrote; '*Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life*', something that was confirmed by the Lord, especially in the context of children: *See that you never despise any of these little ones, for I tell you that their angels in heaven are continually in the presence of my Father in heaven.*'

The knowledge that we have a Guardian Angel reminds us that God cares for and loves us all as individuals, deeply. They are present at our birth, through life and at our death. The presence of the Angels is, then, very much part of our Christian faith and tradition and we should rejoice in the help they give us.

Fr. Stephen



The Benefice of Bourton with Clapton & The Rissingtons

For Pews News with information

www.bourtonparishchurch.co.uk

Email: admin@bourtonparishchurch.co.uk

All welcome on Sundays - 11am service every week
or pop in for a quiet moment during the week

HARVEST—Family Friendly Holy Communion for Harvest Festival – 11am – 5th Oct
with a collection for the Foodbank.

HARVEST SUPPER @6pm on 4th - Sign up in church.

Wednesdays - Midweek Holy Communion at 10:00am plus coffee & chat

Regular services - 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion –12th & 26th
6pm - Holy Communion with traditional hymns 5th

Breakfast Church - Saturday 11th 9am start

Together on Tuesdays – Lunch Club 12-1.30pm every week – all welcome

BumbleBeez (parent and child group) every Thursday 9.30-11.30am

St James, Clapton-on-the-Hill: Harvest Festival at 6pm on 5th Oct

BCP Holy Communion at 9.30am on 19th Oct



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 with Wavemakers Children's Ministry

Cafe' Tots returns Wednesdays 9.15am

Lots of lovely toys, craft and refreshments. All Welcome

Open 4U Thursdays from 10 until 4pm in the Church Hall

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

Coffee morning - Saturday 10-12

See our website for this month's diary and more details <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.

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. Non Catholics are very welcome. Phone or email Fr. Stephen for more information.

Fr. Stephen

Westcote Methodist Church

An active Fellowship meeting weekly for Sunday Worship at 11.am. Also meeting Thursday afternoons at 2.30pm in term time for Bible Study, testimonies and teas for local charities.

For more details contact Tony Gibson,
01993 830699 or

tony.cotswoldview-guesthouse.co.uk

Our website is updated monthly,

westcotemethodists.co.uk

Tony Gibson

QUAKERS

The Religious Society of Friends
Every Sunday 11am
at The Friends Meeting House,
Pytt Lane, Burford
Enquiries welcome Myra Ford
01451 810484.

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



For The Younger Generations



THE COTSWOLD SCHOOL

Bourton Vale Tennis Club

2025 Championships

Our 2025 Club Championship Finals took place on 31 August, and while the weather was unpredictable, the standard of tennis was outstanding.

The day began with the Men's Singles final, where Seb Wyatt overcame Alex Peyton in a closely contested match. In the Ladies' Doubles, Debbie Jagla and Vicky Palos proved too strong for Yoko Peyton and Gwyneth Simmons. The Mixed Doubles final provided the day's biggest drama, with Suzanne van Heyningen and Richard Hardy edging past Gwyneth Simmons and Alex Peyton in a thrilling three-set battle that swung back and forth as quickly as the skies shifted from rain to sunshine. As the only entry, Clare Bailey secured the Ladies' Singles title, while the Men's Doubles final will be played at a later date.

The Junior Club Championship followed on 7 September, with 12 players taking part. Excellent tennis and great sportsmanship were on display throughout the afternoon. The final saw Will Bell defeat James Stirling 4-2 in a fast-four format, while Ben Redding claimed third place after a hard-fought playoff against Ary Denjoy. Congratulations to all the juniors who took part, and thanks to parents for their support.

Although the 2025 season has officially closed with these championships, the courts remain busy. Members are competing in Gloucestershire Winter League and Over-60s League matches, alongside singles box leagues, social sessions, and coaching for both adults and juniors.

New members of all ages and abilities are always welcome. To find out more, please visit our website.

See you on court!

Alex Peyton

A message from the Headteacher

Awards Evening

One of the highlights of the new academic year is our Awards Evening, a celebration of the progress, effort and achievement of our students. Subject Awards are presented for excellence across every subject and year group, while the Headteacher's Awards recognise those who shine not only academically, but also through their contribution to school life, their community, or the determination they show in overcoming challenges. We were delighted to welcome Pete Woollard, Assistant Musical Director of Wicked in London's West End, as our guest speaker, who inspired us all with his words and experiences.

Congratulations to every award winner - we are extremely proud of you.

Open Evening

We warmly invite families to join us for our Open Evening on Wednesday 2 October, 5.30 - 8.00pm, with the Headteacher's address at 7.30pm. Following two successful Open Mornings, this event is a chance to explore classrooms, try practical subjects, and meet our dedicated staff and students. If your child is moving to secondary school in 2026 or 2027, we would be delighted to welcome you. Find details and register at: www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Looking further ahead, our Sixth Form Open Evening takes place on Thursday 13 November. Year 11 students and their families can explore our facilities, meet subject specialists, and hear directly from Sixth Form students about their experiences. Each year, many of our students progress to top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge, or pursue degree apprenticeships and high-quality vocational routes.

PTA Craft and Artisan Food Festival

Our first PTA event of the year will be held on Saturday 1 November, 10am - 3pm. Join us for a wonderful day of crafts, delicious food and local produce - entry is just £1.

Will Morgan

Headteacher

www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk/latest-news



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



Headspace: Supporting Young People Through Life's Toughest Transitions

The start of a new school year can be exciting, but it can also bring stress and anxiety. Transitions to secondary school, exam pressure, friendship issues, or home challenges can be overwhelming for many young people.

That's where **Headspace** steps in. Based in the North Cotswolds, Headspace is a local charity supporting the mental health and wellbeing of young people. We offer:

- **1:1 counselling** for those struggling emotionally
- **Mentoring** to provide trusted, consistent support
- **Wellbeing sessions** that build confidence and resilience
- **Parental support** to help families navigate mental health challenges

We work closely with schools like The Cotswold School, train local volunteers, and partner with professionals and service providers to deliver effective, joined-up care. Our outdoor wellbeing sessions take place on **allotments kindly donated by the Parish Council**, offering a calm, natural space for reflection and growth.

Our work is only possible thanks to the incredible generosity of

our community. We're funded through grants from trusts such as the Albert Hunt Trust, Cash for Kids, and the Notgrove Trust. Local businesses, including Teague Trees and Cotswold Custom Clothing, support us through donations and fundraising. Events like Phil's "7 marathons in 7 days" and our Christmas tree collection raise both funds and awareness.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supports us — whether with your time, your donations, or simply by spreading the word. We couldn't do this without you.

If your child is struggling or you'd like to know more, visit www.myheadspace.org.uk

You are not alone — Headspace is here to support young people and their families every step of the way.

Paul Heming, CEO - Headspace
07748 965227

WESTCOTE VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 22nd November at 7.30pm

CarmenCo presents **A POCKET OPERA**

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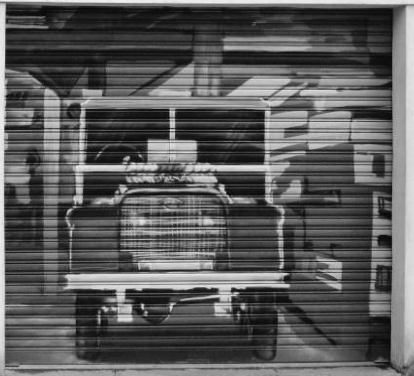
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Cotswold Youth Theatre 4th Anniversary: Looking Back, Stepping Forward

Cotswold Youth Theatre is heading into its **fourth year**, and the future looks brighter than ever. Since 2022, the Theatre has grown to over **100 members**, offering **eight weekly classes**, a variety of exciting performances, unforgettable **Arts Award** summer camps, and outstanding **LAMDA results**—including 27 distinctions and 9 merits this summer alone! We've enjoyed theatre trips, welcomed inspiring workshop leaders, and built a thriving community where creativity and confidence flourish. From the very first curtain call to today, it's been a journey of growth, imagination, and friendship. As we look forward to more productions, workshops, and creative adventures, we'll **keep the creativity flowing** and the spotlight shining. The next act promises to be the best yet!

Sarah Dowie, Jen Morafkova, and Sarah Dowie

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JOIN US AS A VOLUNTEER

“My volunteer has helped me to come out of my shell and become more confident. They have taught me life skills which have helped me to feel calmer and more settled - I feel I'm a better mum”



- Do you want to make a difference by supporting a family experiencing tough times?
- Do you have parenting experience?
- Can you spare 2-3 hours a week to help a family with young children?

At Home-Start Cotswolds, our trained volunteers are carefully matched with a family that they visit once a week. They don't judge; they just offer a listening ear and practical support with everyday family life. It's simple, but we know it has a real impact.

If you would like to make a difference by supporting a local family, we'll be running our FREE 8-week volunteer training course on Thursday mornings, from 22nd January 2026 in Cirencester. As a Home-Start volunteer, you gain access to free, high quality training, learn new skills and enhance your own wellbeing!

Join us to find out more at our 'Information Morning':
Thursday 20th November at 10.30am
Cirencester Baptist Church, Chesterton Lane, Cirencester, GL7 1YE



Further details and an application form can be found at:

www.home-start-cotswolds.org.uk

Or contact us for more information:
office@home-start-cotswolds.org.uk
01285 885391



Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxon OX29 8ET

19th October 'In Steam' Wood Craft + Autumn Market

We have invited Wood Turners Clubs along with vintage demonstrations, spoon carving, pole lathe and much more, come along and see how it was done in the day.

Autumn Market Stalls with lots to browse, meet our regular Stall Holders, Al's Owls will be join us again come along, see and hold a real Owl. Charlbury Morris Dancers will join us in the afternoon.

Combe Mill a late 19th Century Restored Water Mill on Blenheim Palace Estate by the River Evenlode, all Machinery running 'In Steam' volunteers will be on hand with lots of interesting information. Go in the Forge and see the Blacksmiths you might just be able to make a poker. Tea room will be open, BBQ, Gift Shop, Raffle and Tombola. Dog on Leads most welcome. Ask about a season ticket.

Adults £9.00, seniors £7.50, accompanied children FREE open 10.30am to 4.30pm (last entries 3.30 pm.)

Sunday 1st December, Annual 'Christmas Fayre, 11am to 4pm. Market Stalls with lots to browse, get your Christmas gifts early. Santa will be in his Grotto, bring the children along (Santa's Grotto slots can be booked at combemill.org). BBQ, Chestnuts & Mulled Wine, Tea Room, Gift Shop, Tombola and Grand Raffle. Free Parking and Entry. Dogs on Leads most welcome.

NORTHLEACH BRIDGE CLUB

Play, Compete, Enjoy – Every Monday Night
Cotswold Hall, Northleach, Mondays at 7:15pm

If you know how to play bridge and enjoy a friendly, sociable atmosphere, come and join our welcoming local club. Whether you're looking to sharpen your game or just play for fun, there's always a seat at the table.

Contact northleachbridgeclub@gmail.com if you don't have a partner we'll find you someone helpful and welcoming to play with. Come and be part of our vibrant local group.

New faces always welcome!

Halloween

Halloween has changed a lot since we were little kids
We ducked in bowls for apples, now they're tying balloons on grids
We carved out spooky faces from a rock-hard solid swede
(How we've still got all our fingers is a mystery indeed)

Now youngsters dress in costumes and parade around the streets
Witches, zombies, vampires, little ghosties wearing sheets
Pumpkins, bats and cobwebs decorate many a porch
We fake a fright when someone lights their face up with a torch

Tell stories in the dark that bring the giggles and some screams
(Not too horrific mind, don't want to give 'em scary dreams)
Traditions come, traditions go, but one thing still remains
It's still a time for family fun no matter what has changed

Bryony Holden

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RNLI

We will be 'Saving lives' with Tea, Coffee and Cake at Lechlade Crafty Boaters on Saturday 11th October, Saturday 15th and 22nd November.

Carly and Ruben, at A'Moore Coffee House, have invited us back to sell RNLI Christmas Cards and Souvenirs. Come and enjoy their coffee and cakes and catch up (see poster) Friday 17th October 10-12noon. Please bring cash.

We are also holding an RNLI Autumn Fair on Saturday 25th October at 'The Lifford Memorial Hall' in Broadway (WR12 7BU). Free entry, with RNLI gifts and Christmas cards to browse and early Christmas presents to buy from local artists, crafters and producers stalls. Tombola and Bric a Brac as well as Teas, Coffee and Tasty Cakes. All welcome. (See poster)

Look forward to catching up at one of our Autumn events.

Julia northcotswoldrnli@gmail.com



North Cotswold RNLI Branch Autumn Fair

Saturday 25 October 2025

The Lifford Memorial Hall

Lower Green, Broadway, WR12 7BU

10.00am until 4.00pm - All Welcome

Free Entry

RNLI gifts and Christmas Cards

Local artists

Crafters and Producers

Stalls Tombola Bric a Brac

Teas Coffee and Tasty cakes

Help Save Lives at Sea



The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea

Lifeboats are registered charities in the United Kingdom and Ireland. They are not for profit and their funds are used to support their lifesaving work.

Photo: Stephen Duncanson



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RNLI Pop-In Social

with

RNLI Souvenirs and Christmas Cards for sale
A'Moore Coffee House, Moore Road,
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Friday 17th October 2025

10am-12noon

Please bring cash

All welcome

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COTSWOLDS RADIO

BORN TO BE HERD

This month we welcome Ross Andrews to Cotswolds Radio. Ross is launching not just one but two new shows: Stars of the Stage and A Paranormal Guide to the Cotswolds. Ross is a multi-talented musician, singer, actor, performer and author. He has written and performed in many musicals and has also written and recorded soundtracks for films. Plus he's published a series of books on the Paranormal, so there's no-one better qualified to guide us through music from the musicals and ghostly experiences! Stars of the Stage airs on Mondays at 1pm, with a repeat on Tuesday at 7pm. A Paranormal Guide to the Cotswolds goes out at 9pm on Mondays with a repeat on Sunday at 10pm.

He's also involved with Sticky Productions, the production company who are hosting a series of fun events at The Old Prison in the autumn, including the Rock and Horror Show Halloween party (31st October), Incarcerated Cabaret (14th November, 12th December) and Escape Rooms (15th November).

We love to hear from 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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Listen again!
14-MID-OCT

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 Reading and Writing Poetry Quizzes
 Playing the Recorder or Ukelele
 Playing Scrabble Playing Skittles (in a pub!!)
 Country Walking Eating Sunday Lunch!
 Short Discovery walks Walking Basketball
 Watercolour Painting

Our next General Meeting, held in the Royal British Legion Hall in Bourton-on-the-Water is on Wednesday 22nd October, from 10am to 12 noon, when Merleen Watson will speak on the subject of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

Merleen has recently been awarded an MBE in the King's Honours List for raising awareness and understanding of deafness and hearing loss. **Everyone welcome (Entry £2)**

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

www.bourton.u3asite.uk



Bourton Vale Horticultural Society your friendly garden club

Well, we wanted rain and we got it!! Everything changed from brown to lush green in a matter of days. And now we are definitely in Autumn. The days are growing shorter and the temperatures are dropping. But the gardens are having a second spurt with Michaelmas daisies, dahlias and summer bedding still looking good. But now it's time to think of spring and getting the bulbs planted. I bought some lovely violas today from the nursery near the Evesham bypass roundabout. Pack of 9 for £2.99 and really good plants. Also some bare root wallflowers, so I'm well prepared. Just got to plant them now! Our speaker for the September meeting was Robert Bryant and his subject was Villa Gardens of the Italian Lakes. A very interesting man with a varied career which eventually led him (via some time at Dunlop in Liverpool, the Electricity Board in Gloucester, Painswick and Highgrove) to garden design. He gave us a guided tour of the Italian Lakes with beautiful photographs and entertaining and humorous observations and tips, including cutting down Hydrangea Arborescens to a few inches in March.

We had lots of lovely entries for our competition of Flowers from my garden, which was won by Sue Davis.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 8th October, starting as the usual time of 7.30 pm in the Baptist Church Hall in Station Road, Bourton when our speaker will be Philip Aubury talking about Ponds and Water Features. The competition will be three dahlia flowers stems.

Do come and join us. Just £3 a visit.

Happy Gardening

Sheila Thorpe

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Bourton Roadrunners

Bourton Roadrunners Rebecca Townsend and Kevin Goodwill ventured north to Cumbria and the Lake District, where they took-on another ultra quest to test their fitness at **The Lap**. Whilst no strangers to demanding races, the 47 grueling miles, including 9446 feet of elevations, was definitely their toughest challenge so far. The intrepid pair finished in 314th and 315th position respectively from a field of 1100-plus runners, with Rebecca just nosing ahead at the finish in 13 hours, 49 minutes and 44 seconds, and Kevin in 13:49:51.

Also opting for a longer run was Craig Colwyn, who took part in this year's **Worcester Half Marathon**, joining a field of almost 2000, where the veteran achieved a very respectable time of one hour, 30 minutes and 50 seconds.

There were also a couple of local 10Km races to choose between this weekend, with members making their selection based on personal priorities.

Veterans Tony Goodwill and Liz Hulcup travelled to the village of Ashleworth for the **Angels 10k**, the ninth race in this year's Gloucestershire AAA Road Race series. With both runners trying to keep their series medal hopes alive in their respective categories. Tony completed the undulating course in 54 minutes and 54 seconds and Liz, preparing for Berlin Marathon next week, 62:52.

Meanwhile, at Stratford-upon-Avon, Susan Hunt joined a further contingent

Bourton Roadrunners at Stratford Big 10k (l-r Imogen Cox, Allie Quinn, Lorna Shawcross, Susan Hunt and Louise Hamilton-Smith)



from the club at the **Stratford Big 10k**, leading the team home in 50 minutes and 55 seconds. Other Bourton runners were Lorna Shawcross (56:00), Louise Hamilton-Smith (59:13), Allie Quinn (63:38) and Imogen Cox (74:56). Louise and Allie will be joining Liz Hulcup at the Berlin Marathon next weekend, so using the 10k as a final training event.

Louise, Gillian and John

**Christmas Charity
 Band Concert
 Featuring Carols
 & Festive Tunes
 Saturday 6th December 7:30pm**



North Cotswolds Rotary are delighted to welcome back the Waterloo Band and Bugles of the 7th Rifles to the stage in the main hall at The Cotswold School in Bourton-on-the-Water on Saturday 6th December 2025. The Band will be playing their specially arranged Christmas programme which will include the opportunity to sing along to carols. There will be a fully licensed bar, a free mince pie at the interval and a raffle with prizes that include Christmas hampers. Come along and enjoy the warm atmosphere and festive spirit. Accompanied children under 15 are free and you'll be helping raise funds for the Royal British Legion and Rotary Charities. Tickets available from Bourton-on-the-Water and Stow on the Wold Post Offices.

John Barber



Charles Chapman
 3rd December 1939 –
 16th August 2025

It is with intense sadness that I publicly announce the death of my dear husband, Charles (Chas) Chapman, who

passed into Glory on 16th August after a long struggle with oesophageal cancer. My children and I have been truly humbled by the number of sympathy messages and cards we have received and wish to thank ALL those who have been in touch. The youngsters have been pillars of strength for me when I was unsure which way to turn.

Chas' wishes that he be at home at the end and to fall asleep, were BOTH granted! Facts for which we can only be grateful. Relatives and friends, near and far flung, have kept a circle of prayer around Chas and us through this gruelling journey which has helped enormously.

Our sincere thanks must go to Dr. Sean Elyan, Clare and the whole oncology team at Cheltenham General, our wonderful district nurses and the angels from Kate's Home Nursing, who knew exactly what we needed and when, even before we did ourselves!

At his request, Chas' body was taken for direct cremation by the lovely people from Wright's in the village and a celebration of his life will take place at Bourton Baptist Church on Sunday 12th October at 3pm. All who wish to join me and our family are most welcome. No black please!!

After a short service there will be refreshments in the room at the rear of the church. Any donations or money from a collection will be divided three ways for the Baptist church, Gloucestershire Air Ambulance and Kate's Home Nursing.

Blessings,

Ann Chapman

Greeting Cards Sale

Come and browse and buy Greeting cards for £1 each in aid of Cheltenham Hospital Orthopaedic department, wards, and medical equipment.

The sale is throughout the day, just pop in, buy and stay for a chat but this is not a coffee morning.

Wednesday 15th October, Alice's Cottage, Victoria Street, (opposite Clapton Row).

Please bring your old greeting cards so that more can be made, or drop them in the black boxes at Alice's Cottage or 19 Moore Road.

Your Rubbish is our gain!

Bone problems and arthritis are very painful and a number of you have had surgery to relieve the pain and get back to normal living. It mostly appears in older years but Gloucestershire has over 100 children, the youngest just two years old, who also suffer.

I am delighted to be sending another cheque for £1000 to the orthopaedic department.

I look forward to seeing you on 15th October, or if you can't make it then, drop in when you can.

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL NOT BE COLLECTING ANY MORE CHRISTMAS CARDS.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Mollie Wise
01451 822365

Harvest What You Can Supporting Local This Season



As the fields around Bourton turn golden and the hedgerows fill with berries, harvest time reminds us how much our countryside provides. It's also the perfect moment to think about how we can give back; by supporting the people, producers and places that keep Bourton thriving year-round.

Here are a few seasonal ways to do just that:

- **Adopt a farmer's field** – Choose one local farm shop or grower and commit to buying from them each week through autumn. From pumpkins to preserves, your steady custom helps them plan ahead
- **Harvest with your hands** – Join a local pick-your-own or volunteer for a day on a community allotment. You'll bring home fresh produce and give your time where it matters.
- **Bake with the village** – Use flour, eggs, butter or milk from local producers and organise a cake swap or bake-off with friends and neighbours. It's a delicious way to spread support.
- **Seed swap season** – As gardens wind down, share seeds, bulbs or cuttings with local growers. It keeps

gardens colourful and traditions alive for next year.

- **Share the feast** – Host a harvest supper sourced entirely from nearby businesses, pairing each dish with a local drink. Apple crumble with cider or cheese with regional spirits; it all celebrates what's close to home.

Preserve the story – Ask shopkeepers and makers about their harvest traditions, then share them with friends or online. A simple story can inspire dozens more supporters.

For more ideas, Cotswold Collective is the community-led rewards card giving members perks and discounts at



over 350 businesses across the Cotswolds, including Bourton favourites Cotswold RAW, Cotswolds Distillery, BOHO House, Reflexology with Chrissy, Soul Bowl and Wild Thyme.

Special for Browser readers – get your first year's membership for just £10 (usually £30). Visit www.cotswoldcollective.co/membership/ - use coupon BROWSER10 at checkout and hit enter to apply the discount.

If you're a local business, we'd love you to join. Find out more and get in touch via our website. **Jacqueline Randall**

Co-Founder, Cotswold Collective



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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, see 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

Cirencester History Festival

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24 OCT - 2 NOV 2025
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Wychwood Players'

next production for the Autumn will be: 'Enchanted April'

by Matthew Barber.

Previously a very successful 1991 film, starring Miranda Richardson, Josie Lawrence and Joan Plowright, it was nominated for three Academy Awards and Richardson and Plowright were awarded the Golden Globe for Best Actress in a Musical or Comedy and Best Supporting Actress, respectively.

Hazel Hughes will be directing and says "It's a charming story starting in 1920s London and ending in an Italian villa! Two housewives recruit two very different women to embark on a holiday and get away from their bleak lives. In their new enchanting surroundings they learn more about themselves - and one another - and regain precious happiness! It's a wonderful and uplifting story for any month of the year!"

The performances will be at New Beaconsfield Hall, Shipton under Wychwood OX7 6BQ on 27th, 28th and 29th November at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £12.00 plus booking fee and will be available from Ticket source from mid October. Further details available at: www.wychwoodplayers.com

Ralph Wears

Starling Riffs

Starlings so simply surprise -
Black, purple, blue, green,
Dotted with slivers of diamonds,
Forming their gleaming sheen.

Even the sound of a drainpipe,
Gurgling and bubbling with rain,
Starlings pick up on the sound
And riff along like jazz musicians.

Up on the guttering they'll perch
Prior to insect feasting, singing
Whistling, clicking, squawking.
Mimicking rain as if champagne.

Hugh O'Connell



Panto Group

We're back, so why not come and join the adventure!

It's that time again – Bourton Panto Group is back on stage, and rehearsals are already in full swing! The cast are busy learning lines, songs and dance moves (some of us with two left feet, but that's all part of the fun!) And we're excited to have some new faces joining us alongside our regular stars!

Of course, panto magic doesn't just happen on stage. Our brilliant production team is already hard at work, but we'd love a few more people to join us on the journey. There are plenty of ways to help: stitching costumes, painting sets, shifting scenery, running the lights and sound – or even welcoming the audience front of house during show week!

No experience? Oh yes you can! Enthusiasm, a sense of humour and a love of community spirit are the only requirements. Whether you can spare a little time or a lot, you'll be part of the team that makes the show sparkle.

Panto is about more than putting on a performance – it's about fun, friendship and bringing the whole village together. So, if you'd like to get involved (or just find out more), we'd love to hear from you.

Get in touch with Clodagh (07894 577091) or Emily (07938 390407) – and let's make this year's panto the best one yet!

Clodagh Ogden and Emily Franks

Bourton Dementia Cafe

2nd and 4th Friday's at 2pm St Lawrence's Church. We have healthy living advice coming up with the local dementia advisor and the 'Music Men', with their dog, later in the month!

Come for a chat and as always help and advice from our volunteers.

Bill Wragge



Ghosts of Bourton-on-the-Water

When night falls, Bourton-on-the-Water becomes a different place. For generations, stories have been told of things unseen - and some are still whispered today.

One night in 2014, two brothers set up a camera at St Lawrence's Church. As they worked, they heard footsteps crossing the gravel. A hooded figure appeared on the path - then melted into silence scarcely six feet away. No image was caught, yet the memory of that night lingers like an imprint.

There are also the so-called "murder alleys," narrow shadowed passages running behind the High Street. By day they are simple shortcuts, but after dark walkers speak of a sudden chill, the sense of being pressed in by the walls, and the quick echo of footsteps that vanish when they turn to look. Old lintels bear scratched "witch marks," as if

villagers once tried to ward off something malevolent from slipping through those lanes.

And then there is the Windrush itself. In the 19th century, a boy is said to have tumbled from one of the bridges and was never found. Even now, laughter is sometimes heard drifting along the riverbank, though no child is there to be seen. Some claim to glimpse ripples in the water as if someone unseen had just climbed out.

The Old New Inn carries its own mysteries. Guests speak of unseen hands brushing past them on the staircase. Within the famous Model Village, staff have spotted shadows shifting in tiny windows long after closing time, and faint voices sometimes murmur from the miniature streets when no visitors remain.

These are only some of Bourton's ghost stories. For more tales - from forgotten inns to spectral figures in churchyards - visit Ghosts of the Cotswolds on YouTube, where the haunted heart of the Cotswolds is explored in full.

[youtube.com/@ghostsofthecotswolds](https://www.youtube.com/@ghostsofthecotswolds)

Nature Changing

Oranges, yellows ranging,
As our trees are changing,
Shedding their summer glow,
Some stand naked in a row.
The crisp crunch under foot,
All gathered around the tree root.
Pumpkins carved in design,
We approach Halloween.
Carol Groom



Update on the Memorial for the Bourton Geese

I thought I should give the people of the village an update on the Bourton Geese. I will put the same on Facebook. After chasing our tail for quite a while and talking to different Councils, I decided to contact Paul Hodgkinson to see if he could help us in anyway, which he has!

Paul did talk to someone for us and has been able to give us a contact name. I have now spoken to this person and put our proposal forward. We are due to go to a meeting on September 24th where the discussion will be had on what can be done.

Once we have had that meeting i will be able to make people aware of what options we have. I will Keep you posted

Keith Steer



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MONDAY NOVEMBER 17TH**

STARS:-

**HUMPHREY BOGART
INGRID BERGMAN
DIRECTOR:-
MICHAEL CURTIS**

Easy to enter harder to leave especially if you are a wanted nazis. Such a man is resistance leader Victor Lazlo (Paul Henreid) whose only hope is Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart) a cynical American who sticks his neck out for no one especially Victors wife Isla (Ingrid Bergman) the ex lover who broke his heart. Isla offers herself in exchange for Lazlos transport out of the country and bitter Rick must decide what counts more - personal happiness or countless lives hanging in the balance.

Chirps from the Perch (or Peru) In-situ humboldt penguin

conservation in Peru

On Wednesday 10th September, our Head of Living Collections, Alistair, set off to the Estacion Cientifica Programa, Punta San Juan in Peru. Whilst there, he will be taking part in many in-situ conservation projects including one which has a close link to us here at Birdland. Punta San Juan is home to large colonies of wild Humboldt Penguins, which we keep here at Birdland, and it will give us some great experience of how they live in the wild but also to put into practice many of the husbandry techniques which we have developed and use here.

This is the first time that we have sent a team member to partake in a full volunteering role following on from our sponsorship of an ecological penguin study at the same location last year.

The sad news is that Humboldt Penguins are declining significantly in the wild. Populations are suffering from climate change, reduction in food sources and the destruction of nest sites due to guano harvesting (penguin poo). The main purpose of the trip is to help local people collect this rich fertile resource in a safe and less destructive way, meaning that



less nest sites are destroyed during the harvest.

Alistair and the team of other volunteers will also be counting nest sites, monitoring seal and sea lion populations and facilitating the installation of many artificial nesting boxes (see image).

Alistair will be returning back to Birdland on 7th October where I'm sure he will be adding in some content into our daily penguin talks at 11am and 3pm daily, and be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok for regular updates of his project work.



Become an Umpire Support Your Local Hockey Club!



Bourton and Sherborne Hockey Club is calling on the community to help keep our matches running smoothly and fairly — by training as an **umpire**.

Whether you're a seasoned hockey enthusiast or simply someone who enjoys being part of a vibrant local sports scene, umpiring is a fantastic way to get involved. You don't need to be an expert — just bring enthusiasm, a willingness to learn, and a love for the game.

Why Umpire?

- **Be part of the team:** Umpires are essential to the spirit and fairness of the game.
- **Training provided:** We offer support and guidance to help you feel confident on the pitch.
- **Flexible commitment:** You can choose matches that suit your schedule.
- **Great for CVs and personal development:** Learn leadership, decision-making, and communication skills.
- **Get Paid:** We offer payment for every game umpired.

Who Can Umpire?

Anyone aged 16+ with a reasonable understanding of hockey rules — or a desire to learn them! Parents, former players, students, and sports fans are all welcome.

How to Get Involved

If you're interested or want to learn more, please contact the club (Rhys Davies 07817108970 or admin@bashc.co.uk) or speak to any committee member at the next match. Let's keep the game going strong — **your whistle could make all the difference!**

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*** BOURTON ON THE WATER ***

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Dear reader, may I share my story with you?

I was raised in Slovakia, where my dad and both grandfathers passed down their skills in house construction, maintenance, and gardening. When I was still a teenager, the four of us built a house in the mountains—now a peaceful retreat where my parents enjoy their retirement. I later solidified these skills through college studies and hands-on workshops.

After graduating, more than 20 years ago, I felt a strong urge to travel across Europe. I visited many remarkable places, but the most poetic moment was my arrival in London on a late autumn evening in 2004. As I stepped off the coach, I was greeted by a hurricane-blown, icy rain that stung my face. But the next morning, the rain stopped and the sun emerged. Its golden beams warmed my cheeks as they filtered through the raindrops clinging to the old oak outside my window. That moment stayed with me—I took a liking to England.

My journey eventually led me to Gloucestershire, where I've since put down roots and built a family. My career took an unexpected turn when I received my first job offer in logistics. I embraced the opportunity and the people I worked with, and over time, I built a fulfilling career in the industry. Yet, I never let my handyman skills go dormant. Over the years, I've renovated many properties in my spare time.

In recent years, I've noticed how fast-paced the world has become, and how people seem to drift apart. That realization inspired me to return to the basics—to do something less reliant on technology, to swap a computer screen for a human face, and to use my skills to make a meaningful difference in people's lives. **Mike Ciger, (see advert above)**



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Broadwell Village Hall Tracey Spragg
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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 Sue Roberts 01451 822230
Wyck Rissington Village Hall Vicky Lathe 07584 188 200
vhwyckriss@gmail.com

LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS For amendments email: team@bourtonbrosver.co.uk or call 01451 822431

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Bell Ringers, Gt Ris	Andrew Fleming 07711 867280
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Moreton Bowls Club	Linda Bennett mbcbowling1@gmail.com

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North Cotswold Gymnastics Club	Caroline Gill	01451 263130
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Windrush Carers Support Group	Barbara Newstead	01451 821523
4 Shires Swimming Club	Jo Shaw	membership@4ssc.uk

Bourton Library

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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 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.

The Bourton Browser

is printed by Peter Dunford,

01608 658104,

petedunf@aol.com

Rates and Dates for advertising in the BOURTON BROWSER

Full details: www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk

6 x 9 cm per mth £36, per 3 mths £77, per 6 mths £148, per 12 mths £275. 9 x 12 cm per mth £72, per 3 mths £154, per 6 mths £296, per 12 mths £550. Deadline 15th of preceding month. Email team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk to enquire about booking. 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 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



Did you know that some Bourton Businesses give residents a local discount? We have compiled a list of them below

To get your residents card simply take **proof of address** along to one of the distribution points: The Parish Council office in the Community Centre, Boho House, Magic & Mischief or The Willow. Simply show this to one of the businesses below to get your local discount applied discreetly and embarrassment free. **PHYSICAL CARD ONLY VALID**

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Funeral Directors & Bereavement Care

Bourton-on-the-Water
Telephone: 01451 810700
info@wjwrightfunerals.co.uk

Personal Caring 24 Hour Service
Family Owned Funeral Home
Serving our Community
Private Chapel of Rest

Funeral Directors

Rachael Pickard

Natasha Flynn ~ Julie Smith