

# THE **Bourton** **BUGLE**

LOCAL NEWS, VIEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BOURTON-ON-THE-HILL

## SUMMER 2015



*Wildflower Verge  
Anne Robinson*

- The Horse & Groom comes out top
- Harvest Supper date
- New village gates
- The who, what and why of the Food Bank
- And More!



Welcome to the Summer edition of the Bourton Bugle.

We are very lucky to have the Horse & Groom in the village - the editor can attest to the restorative power of their 'Granny G's Toffee Meringue'. So its hardly surprising that they've received further recognition with another terrific award. Well done to Tom, Will and their team.

The wildflower verge on Back Lane has been a great success as you can see from the picture on the front cover.

We have updates on this and other village activities in the issue.

With best wishes for the summer,  
*Ailsa Vigrass*

## **ST LAWRENCE'S CHURCH**

### **The Services:**

9th August, 11.15am  
Holy Communion. **Patronal Festival**

16th August, 11.15am  
Holy Communion (BCP). Taken by Rev. Paul Bond

23rd August, 11.15am  
Holy Communion. Taken by Rev. Paul Bond

30th August, 11.15am  
Holy Communion.

6th September 6.00pm  
Evening Prayer (BCP) with hymns

13th September, 11.15am  
Holy Communion



20th September, 11.15am  
Holy Communion (BCP Said)

27th September, 11.15am  
Holy Communion. **Harvest Festival**

We were very pleased to have had a Baptism on 2nd August; a highlight of the Church's services.

**Please note the two festivals during these two months, The Patronal Festival of St Lawrence and the Harvest Festival. Do come to these services. You will be very welcome.**

### **Other Matters**

The PCC are discussing obtaining better notice boards and signs near the church gates to encourage people to visit our lovely Church. We are also thinking seriously of creating a "Quiet Garden" in the lower churchyard, to create a place of peace and reflection.

This also leads to our wish to have more benches to encourage people to sit and look at the view and contemplate. If anyone would care to help fund these benches (in remembrance perhaps) we would be very grateful.

*Peter Herbert*

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

#### **Highways**

The resurfacing of the A44 between Troopers Lodge and Fish Hill was completed on schedule. Gloucestershire County Council Highways have also now resurfaced the A44 near the entrance to the Arboretum and cleared the footpath from Bourton to Moreton. We are grateful for all these improvements and are now asking Highways to resurface the footpath to Moreton; however they have informed us that only the



worst parts will be patched up as they are short of funds.

You will have seen that there are now white gates at the entrances to the village on either side of the verge. These serve to highlight to drivers that they are entering a built-up area and remind them to slow down. We are very grateful to a local resident for helping with the cost of the gates. Highways are looking to reposition a few of the signs in the vicinity of the gates.

### **Speedar Gun**

Longborough Parish Council has now bought the speedar gun that we will be sharing with them under the 'Community Speed Watch' programme. We are looking for someone to volunteer to act as our coordinator for the gun. If you would like to do so then please contact Alexia Monroe. (Clerk to the Parish Council 01386 700277).

### **Council Meetings**

The Parish Council meetings for the remainder of 2015 are:-

- Monday 12th October
- Monday 7th December.

We usually welcome County Councillor Lynden Stowe and District Councillor Alison Coggins to these meetings. All members of the public are also welcome and if you would like to raise any issues at the meetings please contact Andy Vigrass or Alexia Monroe beforehand.

### **Allotments**

We are pleased to report that all the allotments are now taken.

### **Councillors**

At the Parish Council AGM on the 12th May Andy Vigrass was re-elected as Chairman and Liz Bowden was re-elected as Vice-Chairman. At our meeting on the 14th July 2015 it was agreed to co-opt Mrs. Jacqueline

Jobs from Chantry Gardens onto the Parish Council. We would like to welcome her onto the Council.

Your Parish Councillors are: Andy Vigrass (Chairman), Liz Bowden (Vice Chairman), Louise Davis, Sir Peter Herbert, Tom Martin & Mark Norton. The Clerk to the Parish Council is Alexia Monroe.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will be held in the Old School hall at 6.30pm on Monday 12th October.

*Alexia Monroe /Andy Vigrass*

### **THE OLD SCHOOL**



We have had the electrics checked and some electrical work done in the hall to bring it all 'up to spec' for safety and insurance purposes. New exit lights for the car park have been installed. The steps at the back of the hall to the car park have all been repainted so that they stand out at night. Other minor repairs have been undertaken to keep the hall up to standard.

Since February we have held a quiz and a sausage and mash supper. The village gardens have been open and we had had a village Barbeque held in Sandra and Philip Gee's garden for which we thank them.

The monies from 'Open Gardens' in June were shared with the church on a 50/50 basis. Although the weather was good there were other things going on locally but despite this we still made £630 on the day. Many thanks to Roelof and Cheryl Quintus for opening Bourton House gardens on the day. Some extra new tables have been purchased for the hall with the funds generated.



We will be having our combined Harvest Supper with the Church on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September**. Please note the date and keep an eye out for posters for more details.

The next film will be in September. Keep a look out for leaflets & posters with the details.

May we remind anyone using the hall car park to take care with their parking so as to make best use of the available space.

We would love to see more people attending the functions we put on – these events are for the whole village. If you have any suggestions for an event please let me know on the number below – any ideas would be appreciated.

Enjoy your summer and we hope to see you at the next film in September.

*Pat Freeman  
Tel. 701396*

## HORSE & GROOM

We were thrilled to win the **Best Pub Restaurant 2015** award at the Cotswold Life Food & Drink Awards last week.



We'd been nominated by our customers to make the shortlist (up against the Kingham Plough and the Mount Inn at Stanton). From there we were mystery visited and the winner was announced on the award night.

Butterflies were building as our category drew nearer but when they announced our name as winners all nerves turned to delight! To win is a great boost to the team and coming in the month of our 10th Anniversary it made the best birthday present ever!

## **Car Park**

People are probably wondering what is happening. Having completed the archaeology we invited six companies to tender for the construction works. Sadly all of the quotes came back significantly higher than our budget and despite our best haggling we've been unable to bring them down to an affordable level. For now the project is on hold but we haven't given up completely.

## **Vacancy**

Finally, we are currently looking for a chef to join our team. The position is for a Junior Sous Chef and would suit a Chef de Partie looking to take on more responsibility. If anybody is (or has family or friends who might be) interested then do please get in touch!



Here's a picture of our award.

*Tom Greenstock  
700413.*



## **BOURTON HOUSE GARDENS.**

Bourton House Garden is enjoying a busy summer season with, as usual, many groups visiting from around the world. We are perhaps a little bit biased but we think the garden is looking lovelier than ever and would like to offer congratulations to our wonderful gardening team: Paul Nicholls (Head Gardener), Jacky Rae and Gareth Griffiths. They do an amazing job.



*Christine Walkden*

We took part in the first ever RHS National Open Gardens Day on 17th April when over 400 visitors enjoyed free admission to the garden. When we reported our number of visitors, the organisers were stunned as apparently most gardens averaged around 40 - 50 visitors during the day! In June we were pleased to support the Village Open Gardens. The garden is open in aid of the National Gardens Scheme on Sunday 16th August, so do come along and support this national charity.

We have hosted several press visits this year (journalists from Canada and The Netherlands) and we are currently in the planning stages for an Austrian TV gardener to visit in 2016 and film a clip for his programme. TV gardener and presenter Christine Walkden, from BBC TV's 'The One Show', visited us in July with a group of garden enthusiasts and was full of praise for the garden, promising to return next year.

We were also pleased to welcome the Volunteers from the Gordon Russell Museum to the Tithe Barn and the Garden to enjoy a reception organised by the museum in thanks for their work during the year.

Carolyn and Tom Coleman took over the Tea Room and Shop in the Tithe Barn this year. Carolyn's cakes are proving a huge success and many visitors have commented on their friendly welcome and cheery smiles. This all helps us to continue achieving many 5\* reviews on Trip Advisor and we are delighted to tell you that we have been awarded the Trip Advisor 'Certificate of Excellence' 2015 for consistently receiving good reviews.

Bourton House Garden took another step into the online world this year and we now have our own Facebook page [www.facebook.com/bourtonhousegarden](http://www.facebook.com/bourtonhousegarden) as well as a Twitter account. We are still feeling our way in this new environment but if anyone in the village would care to 'like' our page or 'follow' us, we would be delighted!

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

*Roelof and Cheryl Quintus*



### **WILD FLOWER VERGE**

Visitors and villagers alike have been delighted by the verge in Back Lane (*see front cover, Ed.*) which is a mass of wild flowers. It is a really beautiful and colourful sight with a wonderful variety of flowers including cornflowers, poppies and daisies.



Sir Peter Herbert had the original idea for the verge and then it became a reality thanks to the extremely hard work and dedication of Lorna Fawcett, ably assisted by her husband Thomas.

Lorna spent weeks caring for the seedlings in Sir Peter's greenhouse and planting hundreds of them in the verge. Then there was weeding and watering to be done over the ensuing weeks to produce the wonderful display. Hopefully, they will self seed and we will have the pleasure of an annual display. So a very big 'Thank you' to Peter and Thomas but more importantly to Lorna for all her hard work.

*Linda Bunston.*

### **EDUCATIONAL TRUST**

Are you under 25? Would you like to have some money to help pay for extra things for your school, college or training? You might need a new uniform, sports kit; music lessons, a school trip, a laptop or books – if so, then the village Educational Trust can help you.



We look after money that is invested on behalf of the young people of the village, and we want to spend it! We managed to spend a lot last year, and hope to do even better this

year. We'd love to be able to help you, so please ask us, either by email ([allen.firth@btinternet.com](mailto:allen.firth@btinternet.com)) or in person. We are Dr. Catherine Firth, Dr. Louise Davis, Rupert Crawshaw and Carlin Anderson.

*Catherine Firth*

### **SCAM ALERT**

The Parish Clerk received notice of this scam alert from Gloucestershire Police in July:

On the 14th July 2015 a local resident received a phone call at home in the evening. The caller told the resident that the bank recently had problems with transactions on debit and credit cards. The caller knew the NAME, ADDRESS and DATE OF BIRTH of the victim. Can we please remind everyone not to give out any details over the phone. Please visit your bank in person or call your local branch yourself. The banks generally have advice leaflets on this kind of fraud. Pick one up, keep it handy and read it.

If you think you have become a victim of fraud please call your bank immediately and the police on 101.

### **FOOD BANK**

Thanks to Rev'd Dana Delap we now have a collection box for the North Cotswold Food Bank in St Lawrence's Church. So why do we need a Food Bank when we live in such a wealthy part of the country?

We do not have the problems of the inner cities with people sleeping rough on the streets or an area of large unemployment like the old pit towns of the North East or South Wales or indeed the port towns dealing with huge numbers of immigrants – but we do have lots of families on very low wages. Most of the



individuals and families supported by the North Cotswold Food Bank are in low paid or part time work. They could be struggling to pay for new school shoes or essential car repairs (how many of us would want to be in a rural village relying on public transport?), benefit changes or delays in receiving essential support.

Occasionally we have domestic breakdown issues and families in desperate situations. Sometimes it doesn't take much to push people into financial difficulty. Shop prices are high and we do live in an expensive area and there are many people are struggling to cope – the elderly and children suffer.

There are many agencies such as the Police, Village Agents, P3, Cotswold District Council, Fair Shares, doctors' surgeries and school support workers who can give out vouchers to those who are in crisis. The vouchers can be redeemed at any Food Bank (from the Trussell Trust) nationwide and the North Cotswold Food Banks are at Moreton-in-Marsh, Bourton-on-the Water, Chipping Campden and Winchcombe with a warehouse in Guiting Power.

**So can you spare an item or two every month from your shopping to donate to the Food Bank?** 'Smash', sauces and tins (as they have the longest shelf life) e.g. fish/tuna, vegetables, meat and fruit make the best donations. Thank you to everyone who donated at the bi-annual Tesco collection in Stow – see you again at Christmas.

[www.northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk)

*Alexia Monroe*

*Volunteer and Steering Committee Member of  
the North Cotswold Foodbank*

### THE NEXT ISSUE

is due out in early November. Items for inclusion should be submitted by mid October to:-



*Ailsa Vigrass*  
[amvigrass@gmail.com](mailto:amvigrass@gmail.com)