

# THE Bourton BUGLE

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

## SPRING 2020



*Picture courtesy of: Tom Dixon*

- Bourton Community Orchard & Gardens
- Cheese & Wine Event
- Bourton House Garden News
- Annual Meeting of the Parish
- Music on the Hill
- And more!



Welcome to the Spring edition. We have news of a great new initiative to provide the village with a resource to grow our own fruit. As usual there is news about forthcoming events and a local author has been busy.

In these challenging times it is important to help our neighbours, keeping an eye out for each other and helping where we can.

Wishing you all a healthy (and drier) Spring.

*Ailsa Vigrass*

**ST LAWRENCE’S CHURCH**

*We would be delighted to welcome you*



Sunday 22nd March  
**Mothering Sunday**  
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 29th March  
**Benefice Service at Blockley**  
9.30am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 5th April  
**Palm Sunday**  
6pm Holy Communion (distribution of palms)

Thursday 9th April  
**Passover Seder in Blockley**  
(time to be confirmed but early evening)

Friday 10th April  
**Good Friday**  
2pm – Last Hour by the Cross

Sunday 12th April  
**Easter Day**  
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 19th April  
**Easter 2**  
11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

(followed by the APCM and a buffet lunch in the Old School)

Sunday 26th April  
**Easter 3**  
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 3rd May  
**Easter 4**  
6pm Evensong (BCP)

Sunday 10th May  
**Easter 5**  
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 17th May  
**Easter 6**  
11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 24th May  
**Easter 7**  
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 31st May  
**Pentecost – Benefice Service at Blockley**  
9.30am Holy Communion (CW)  
*Philip Gee*

**PARISH COUNCIL**

**Blockley Turning**  
There have been regular accidents at the Blockley turning and so the Council have decided to ask Highways to change the Blockley turning from a “Give Way” to a “Stop” junction.

**Planning**  
The latest planning application (reference 19/00987/FUL) for “High Beeches” at the Longborough turning were submitted in February 2020. At the Parish Council meeting in February we voted to support the application, we thought that it represents a



good resolution to the state of the current building and the surrounding land.

### **District Council**

Everyone should have had their new recycling boxes and bags ready for the new collection services which start on March 23rd. Our collection days remain on Mondays. Details of how the collections will change can be found on the [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk) website.

### **Gloucestershire County Council**

Our County Councillor, Lynden Stowe, joined us at our meeting on the 24th February and told us how the Gloucestershire County Council budget has been increased by 3.99% with 2% ring fenced for adult social care, that the Javelin Park recycling plant, next to the M5 near Gloucester, will be opening a visitor centre in early summer, and that there is now no waste going to landfill. He also mentioned that the County Council are committed to planting one million trees in the county to help offset climate change.

### **Sign Up For Parish Alerts**

We now have an email service to keep people up to date with village news and to give us a way to contact many people quickly should the need arise.



We're using Mailchimp for this service, which caters for the GDPR regulations, allows users to subscribe and unsubscribe. To sign up for these alerts just go to the village website ([bourtononthehill.co.uk](http://bourtononthehill.co.uk)) and use the sign-up link on the home page.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will be held in the Old School hall at 6pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Annual Meeting of the Parish**

This will be on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30pm** in the Old School. Come along to hear updates

from the Parish Council, our District Councillor, the Parochial Church Council, the Old School Committee, the Help in Need Trust and the Education Trust. Wine and nibbles will be available.

### **Councillors**

The Parish Councillors are Andy Vigrass (Chairman), Liz Bowden (Vice Chairman), Louise Davis, Angela Hay, Anna Stanley, Tom Martin & Mark Norton. The Clerk to the Parish Council is Alexia Monroe.

### **Phone & Email**



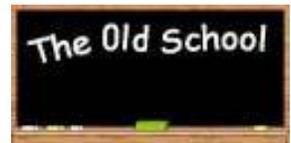
The phone number for contacting the clerk: **07594-169499**



The clerk's email address is **clerk@bourtononthehill.co.uk**

*Alexia Monroe / Andy Vigrass*

### **THE OLD SCHOOL**



The Old School continues to be used regularly for a variety of events including family occasions, private parties, Bridge club and U3A Scottish dancing.

The hall was used as a Polling Station for the General Election in December when the Returning Officer and his wife commented on the facilities provided and the friendliness of all who attended to vote. In particular they wish to thank the unknown lady, who after voting, returned with a plate of home-made biscuits for them. True neighbourly spirit!

### **Village Christmas party**

The Christmas party on Saturday 7th December with a festive meal, carols, readings and a hugely enjoyed "Call my Bluff" game was a great success with 47 people attending.



### Opening Ceremony for Disabled Ramp



We were pleased to have an official opening ceremony for the long-awaited disabled ramp on 2nd November. Suki Peake cut the ribbon and Jerry Freeman rode his mobility scooter up the ramp following which

20 people enjoyed coffee, cake and chat in the hall.

### Rural Cinema

This continues to be a good fundraiser for the hall, with hot dogs and a donations bar as well as up to date films. The film in January was Yesterday and February's film was Downton Abbey.



On 21st March the film will be Judy with Renee Zellweger who got the Oscar for best actress in the title role.

Renée Zellweger is phenomenally good in this captivating account of Judy Garland's final London concert run.

Dates for film nights for the rest of the year are; 25<sup>th</sup> April, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 28<sup>th</sup> November.

### Cheese and Wine Event

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March we are holding a Cheese and Wine event with a speaker from Majestic Wine in Stow and cheeses provided by the Cotswold Cheese Company.

Tickets priced £10.00 to include a cheese and bread supper available from Anne Robertson: Tel. 701564  
Email [anne.robertson1304@gmail.com](mailto:anne.robertson1304@gmail.com)

Other dates for **2020 Harvest Supper and Quiz** on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. **Autumn Fete** at Bourton House Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. **Christmas Party** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

*Anne Robertson*

### **BOURTON COMMUNITY ORCHARD AND GARDENS,** **LET'S GET GROWING!**

We are excited to announce the establishment of the Bourton on the Hill Community Orchard and Gardens.

The entrance gate to the Bourton on the Hill allotments:



*Tom Dixon, Bourton CGA*

Late last year, a group of enthusiastic village members came together to set up a community orchard to reinvigorate the Bourton allotments, and to beautify the village by planting wildflowers and bulbs at various locations. The gardens aim to create a new community space, encourage our kids (and us adults!) to grow their own sustainable food, and energise local conservation and climate efforts.

After being awarded a small community grant from the Cotswold District Council, we have secured tenure of, and cleared, an unused area



of the village allotments. At time of writing, we have planted 12 fruit trees (mix of apple, pear, plum and cherry) and are drawing up ideas to create an expanded open community space for all village members to visit and enjoy.

In the middle of this year, we aim to launch a second phase of the project to encourage more wildlife, and we will plant native trees including crab apple, dog rose, hawthorn, hazel, wild cherry, dogwood and others on the larger site. We are currently in conversation with the Cotswold AONB about this phase, and have secured a number of native trees.

We are hoping to encourage a child-friendly allotment and orchard space, and welcome members of the community, including those with children, who would like to get involved in developing this further to contact us.

### **Community gardening**

The current area being worked is suitable for planting approximately 20 fruit trees, and a second plot of land next to this is available for us to expand the orchard in future. The planned orchard, when fully planted, will contain 50% apple (local varieties where possible), and 50% mixture of plum, pear and cherry. The long-term vision of this project is that all produce from this orchard will be available to the community.

In addition to the allotment site, we hope this project will encourage more community gardening throughout the village. Following in the footsteps of residents such as the late Sir Peter Herbert, we have started to plant the verges and entrances to the village with a

mixture of wildflowers and bulbs – keep an eye out as some of the bulbs are starting to come into flower this week!

### **More information & join us!**

The group (the Bourton Community Gardens Project) is working in conjunction with the Bourton Parish Council and includes members of the Old School and Parochial Church Councils.

If you would like to be part of this new and thriving community, would like to sponsor a tree, or would just like to visit the site to see what's unfolding, please contact Tom Dixon from the Bourton Community Gardens Association on [BourtonCGA@gmail.com](mailto:BourtonCGA@gmail.com).



Over the coming months, we will be looking for donations of unused garden benches, polythene sheeting and various garden equipment – so if you have anything you are not using, we would love to hear from you.

Please note, there are also a limited number of allotment plots now available within the village – if you're interested in growing more of your own fruit and vegetables please get in touch.

This project is made possible through funding from:

- Cotswold District Council
- Bourton on the Hill Parish Council
- We also acknowledge the kind contributions from other village members who wish to remain anonymous

*Tom & Elisabeth Dixon*



## **BOURTON HOUSE** **GARDEN**

What a winter it has been!  
The team have developed webbed feet....and if it wasn't cold and wet enough they then climb in the Basket pond, in December.. just for extra iciness!



Luckily we haven't seen much snow...just a beautiful sprinkling one morning at the end of February; which quickly disappeared when the sun came out and it turned into a glorious day.



As always, the team have been busy bring in tender plants to protect them from the winter frosts and taking cuttings to create the Garden for 2020...replanting takes about a month



The gardens open on Wednesday 1st April and entrance is just £5 in April (cash only please as the gardening team will take payment).

One change you might spot is in the Potager. After losing the box hedging to blight, the opportunity was taken to redesign the layout so that the paths are wider for visitors – photos of before, during and after! It is now ready for planting up...

Tuesday 5th May sees the Tithe Barn café reopen and we will be open on Friday 8th May (despite it being a Bank Holiday!) to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. Do come along and enjoy delicious homemade cakes and light lunches – hopefully in some warm spring sunshine!



## MUSIC ON THE HILL

A concert was held at St Lawrence Church on Friday 28th February. The weather was not helpful but we still managed to sell nearly 50 tickets.

The Concert started with our organist Henry Betts playing an organ piece followed by the second movement from Beethoven's 7th Piano Sonata, in celebration of Beethoven's birth 250



years ago.

For the remainder of the concert we were entertained by The Meon Singers from Mickleton.

Led by their Musical Director Rebecca Mills and accompanied on the piano by Claire Williams; they sang a selection of pieces from John Rutter to Andrew Lloyd Webber as well as a number of others.

It was a wonderful evening and the singing was magical, in particular from the soloists.

An occasion to remember and we also hope to follow up with another concert in the Autumn, so look out nearer the time for details."

*Mike Bunston*



And a date for your diary - the Garden will be open on Sunday 16th August for the National Garden Scheme – the only weekend date of the year and for such a great causes.

And don't forget we do a 'Friend of Bourton House Garden' scheme which allows you to visit the Garden as many times as you like over the season.

**Become a Friend  
of Bourton House Garden  
£24 per person  
or  
Buy one get a 1/3 off the 2nd  
(two memberships for £40)**

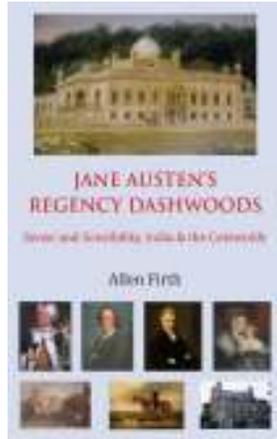
We hope to welcome you all to the Garden at some point in 2020. We hope that you will come and visit us often and make the most of the truly beautiful garden on your doorstep!

*Kate Allen*



## **NEW BOOK**

Allen Firth's new book "Jane Austen's Regency Dashwoods: Sense and Sensibility, India and the Cotswolds" explores Jane Austen's several links with the North Cotswolds and high-profile Regency characters living in the area. This includes the notorious Dashwood Baronets with their hunting lodge here at Bourton-on-the-Hill.



Jane and her Cotswold relatives at Adlestrop and Longborough had connections with Warren Hastings, Humphry Repton, and Horatio Nelson among other well-known Regency figures. Austen's fascination with the Dashwoods inspired the central family name in 'Sense and Sensibility', her first published novel, which also includes other Cotswolds-influenced names and allusions. Further Cotswold links involve wider contemporary aspects, including the Indian themes influencing the Cockerells' early 19th century Mughal-style Sezincote House and its gardens.

The Dashwoods, infamous for their association with the C18th Hell-Fire Club, also launched the career of topographical artist Thomas Daniell. Daniell's first significant commission was for the Dashwoods at West Wycombe Park, in 1781. His ground-breaking artistic adventures in India from 1786 to 1794, led to his key design role at Sezincote, from 1803. On its completion, Sir Charles Cockerell commissioned a series of paintings by Thomas Daniell of Sezincote, including its Wellington Pillar, commemorating the Duke of Wellington's victories in India and the Napoleonic Wars. Thomas Daniell provides a recurring backdrop to other themes in the

book, and his contribution neatly spans not only Jane Austen's adult lifetime but also the wider Regency period.

The book [382 pages, £12.99] can be obtained from Amazon, or via other websites such as Waterstones. Alternatively, copies can be obtained direct from the author (avoiding retail margins) enabling him to donate £2.50 to the Old School Hall for each copy sold.

*Allen Firth*  
*Porch House, Bourton-on-the-Hill*  
*allen.firth@btinternet.com*  
*01386 700939*

## **POLICE ALERTS**

In the last two months the police have alerted us to the following:

### **Police Call Scam**

The police have received two reports from residents in the Cotswolds of phone calls being made to elderly residents in an effort to obtain their bank card details. In each instance the fraudster claims to be a Police Officer calling from Paddington Police Station in London. They tell the victim that they have arrested a suspect who was using the victims own bank card. They then ask the victim to hang up and call 999 immediately to confirm that they have spoken to the Police. The fraudster does not hang up though, keeps the line open and goes on to try to obtain the victims bank details. Neither the Police nor your bank would ever ask you to do this.

### **Driveway Resurfacing**

Police have received a report of two males in a white transit style van cold calling in Fosseway Avenue on the 21st February. They have been reported as being aggressive in their sales manner, trying to sell driveway resurfacing. If anyone witnessed them and has taken the vehicle registration the police



would like to hear from you. Incident reference: 129 22/02/20.

### **HMRC Calls**

There is a spate recently of calls purporting to be from the HMRC, the recorded message threatens arrest for non payment of income tax. Be aware of this scam and don't press any buttons.

### **Amazon Prime Calls**

People have been receiving telephone recorded messages asking people who wish to cancel their Amazon Prime contract to divulge their personal details. Even if you do want to cancel this contract, contact Amazon directly and do not give any personal or financial details over the telephone.

*Andy Vigrass*

### **THE NEXT ISSUE**

.. is due out in July. We've been delighted to receive feedback from readers such as 'It just gets fuller and fuller with news' so please do let us have any pieces that you think would be of interest to your neighbours.



Items for inclusion should be submitted by early July to: -

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