



# About Upper Stour

**February 2018**

Serving the villages of  
Bourton  
Kilmington  
Stourton  
Zeals

## Parish Contacts

<b>Priest in Charge:</b> The Rev Graham Perryman	01747 840221
<b>Licensed Lay Minister:</b> Brian Martin	01747 840433
<b>Licensed Lay Minister:</b> Mona Tyler	01985 844509
<b>Lay Worship Leader:</b> Caroline Worthington	01747 840266
<b>Lay Pastoral Assistant:</b> Vicky Goodfellow	01747 840443
<b>Lay Pastoral Assistant:</b> Barbara Borwell	01747 840141
<b>Lay Pastoral Assistant:</b> Georgie Denison-Pender	01747 840533
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<b>Parish office/Rectory email</b>	<a href="mailto:parishoffice@upperstour.net">parishoffice@upperstour.net</a>
<b>Parish website</b>	<a href="http://www.upperstour.net">www.upperstour.net</a>
<b>Facebook Group</b>	Parish of Upper Stour

*Enquiries regarding Baptisms/Christenings, Weddings and Funerals  
to Rev Graham Perryman (contact details above)*

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## Upper Stour Magazine Contacts

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All items for the **March 2018** issue should be sent to  
the Editor at Bay Tree Cottage, Kilmington, Wiltshire BA12 6RG  
tel 01985 844613 email [celiabeale@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:celiabeale@globalnet.co.uk)

***by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at noon***

## Parish website

Upcoming events should be registered on the parish website. You can do this by sending details to Ashley Kemp ([treasurer@agkemp.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@agkemp.co.uk)). This is helpful also when planning your event - you can look at the dates of forthcoming events on the website, thus avoiding any clashes. [\*\*www.upperstour.net\*\*](http://www.upperstour.net)

## Mobile Library Times February 2018

<b>Feb 1, 15</b>	<b>Zeals</b>	43 Zeals Rise	10.10-10.30 am
		School	10.35-11.15 am
<b>Feb 1, 15</b>	<b>Kilmington</b>	Home Gd Club	11.25-11.35 am
		School	11.40 am-12.05pm

## ***Greetings from Graham***

Dear Friends,

### **Thank you**

Thank all to those who sent us cards at Christmas. They were all appreciated, especially those who added comments. Feedback is always valued! And a huge THANK YOU to all those who worked so hard to make our churches and our services even more beautiful and welcoming places over the Christmas season. Thank you to all those who rang, sang, read, arranged, prayed, served, and tidied and cleaned afterwards. I hope those who came along to our services over Christmas caught something of the joy that Jesus can bring to our lives if we allow him to 'be born in us today'.

### **Lent**

We are now in the season between the two great festivals of Christmas and Easter – the festival of Christ's birth, and the season that demonstrates the reason he came. February 14<sup>th</sup> this year is not only Valentine's Day, but also Ash Wednesday – the beginning of the 40 weekdays of Lent.

Traditionally, this has been a time for reflection, thoughtfulness, giving up, preparation for the annual reminder of the sacrificial death of Jesus, the joy of Easter Day, and the celebration of our salvation.

In the Bible, the word for 'save' and 'heal' is the same word. Perhaps 'wholeness' is the closest we get to it in English.

This year our Lent course is called 'Towards Wholeness', and we shall be considering God's healing in the Bible, what that means today, and what it might mean in the future. You will find details of where and when the course is being held (3 villages, 3 different times of day) on page 13, or on the parish website.

If you haven't been to a Lent Course before, why not take the plunge this year. You will sure of a warm welcome, and it might just change your life...

### **And finally**

A minister introduced a number of improvements in his church, including hot air dryers in the wash rooms. He had them removed after two weeks because someone had stuck a notice on one of them which read "For details of last week's sermon, please press here."

Your friend in Christ,

***Graham***

***Rev Graham Perryman***

PS Don't miss the Three Counties Choir's performance of Brahms German Requiem at Gillingham Methodist Church on 24<sup>th</sup> February (*see back page*). And from the sublime to the other thing.... If you haven't bought a ticket for the pantomime at Bourton Village Hall yet (*see page 22*), you may regret it (Oh yes you will....!)

## **St George's 100 Club**

### **November winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Sue Ross

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Jenny Dee

### **December winners:**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Peta Nation,

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Tina Aldred

#### *Contact:*

Mrs Ruth Burrows  
Rowan Lodge, Olde Fairfield  
Bourton, SP8 5YG  
(01747 840371)

## **St Martin's Millennium Club**

The draws for January and February 2018 will take place in February with results for both months being published together. Membership fees for 2018 are being collected and anyone who would like to join are most welcome - please contact Nigel Blackmore

Contact Nigel Blackmore  
01747 841110  
SDC Lott 842

## **Green Fingers : October**

### ***Tips from the not so green fingered***

It is now light at 5.00pm, the snowdrops are out and my Daphne bholua Jacqueline Postill is smelling divine --- so much to be positive about.

#### *Top tips for February:*

1 Buy and chit potato tubers.

2 Prune wisteria, buddleia, and in a warmer spell start to prune the roses.

3 Cut back deciduous grasses and remove dead grass from evergreen grasses.

4 Sow sweet pea seeds in a cold frame or greenhouse but beware of thieving mice who love the seed !

5 Divide snowdrops when they have finished flowering to increase your stock.

6 Visit East Lambrook Manor the former home of Margery Fish to see their famous collection of snowdrops (Galanthus).

Happy gardening!

***Pippa Schofield***

## **The Stourton Memorial Hall**

in Stourton Village, next door to the Spread Eagle

Please check [www.stourtonmemorialhall.co.uk](http://www.stourtonmemorialhall.co.uk) for availability for your event, as well as for dates of our wonderful film nights and suppers.

Also, take a look at details of our grant scheme to help the parish of Stourton and Gasper

# **Whitesheet School**

## **News update at the start of 2018**

As the Spring Term started in early January we were delighted to welcome our new Head of School: Vanessa Higgins. Vanessa was a very strong candidate for the vacancy and comes to us from a large primary school in Weymouth where she was Deputy Head and Inclusion Manager. She brings considerable experience to the post and is a gifted teacher. The governors will be working with Vanessa to ensure that all our children thrive in a positive and creative educational environment. Vanessa will be leading and teaching maths and will build on the excellent work done by Sarah Sprague in the Autumn Term.

Whitesheet School will continue to flourish – a joint venture shared by parents, children, school staff, governors and the community. At this exciting time I would like to thank those who have supported us so far and I hope that we will see Whitesheet School cherished and valued by our local community into the future. We will be working hard to achieve this.

***Margaret Martin***  
***Chair of the Local Governing Board***

It was very good to welcome so many people into St Martin's Zeals on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January, not only because it was a special Service for the commissioning of Mrs Vanessa Higgins, new head at Whitesheet Academy, but also to hear Bishop Ed, the Bishop of Ramsbury preach. This may well be the last time he visits Upper Stour as he retires at Easter.

Mrs Higgins was delighted with the service and commented on the warm welcome from everyone; her family were also pleased to be included in the welcome. It was excellent having so many children there and taking part in the service.

***Sue Evans***

## **BOURTON GARDENING CLUB**

**FEBRUARY 2018 MEETING**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

**7.30 pm Bourton Village Hall**

***12 Months of Colour***

**Neil Lovesey**

**Visitors welcome.**

**Any enquiries please call 01747 861121**

## Zeals Walkers

Despite the forecast of icy winds, fourteen intrepid souls pitched up on Sunday 7th January for the first walk of 2018. On reflection the attraction may have been the invitation to lunch by Liz and Ashley Kemp at the end. A few met up at the usual meeting point, Zeals post-office at 10.00 but most drove straight to the village hall carpark in Silton.

As we left the carpark, there was some consternation as a section of the road was covered by a sheet of ice. The group stayed on the road on through Silton, then took the track down to the river Stour, which was in full flow, and on up over the hill to Whistley Farm. As we came out from the lee of the farm and up over the ridge towards the rugby club we were pleased to have hats and scarves, as the wind was quite keen. We then followed the road down to Milton on Stour, turning left at the Old House. Again the wind was keen but the sun shone and the local wildlife, in the form of deer, put in an appearance.

I'm sure I speak for all of the walkers when I congratulate Liz and Ashley on a wonderful buffet lunch. Well done both.

The next walk will be on Sunday 4th February and will be led by Ros and David Watkins - 01747 840726

*Avril & Tony Wilce*



I take pride in my work!

I'm Alex...  
that's me! ☺

**Alexander The Grate**

*is sweeping through Upper Stour & district*  
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email: alexnews123@yahoo.co.uk



## Zeals After School Club (ZAC)

February 15th 2015 was the date when the ZAC opened its door to three children from Mere Duchy Manor School. On January 16th 2018, 20 children from five different schools were using ZAC. If you would like to hear more about this excellent progress or for any further information contact Ross Coad 01747 841531.

# White Lion Inn

**VALENTINE'S DAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

**A NIGHT AT THE OPERA 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

High Street, Bourton, Dorset. SP8 5AT

01747 840866

[www.whitelionbourton.co.uk](http://www.whitelionbourton.co.uk)



***A Happy and Healthy 2018 from us all at  
The Red.***

***We hope to see you soon!***

***01985 844263***

## **Bourton Village Hall**

**FILM NIGHT VICTORIA AND ABDUL**

**TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY**

STARRING JUDI DENCH AND ALI FAZAL

DOORS AND BAR OPEN 7.00PM FILM STARTS 7.30PM

Tickets from Bourton and Zeals Garages

## **CHARITY BRIDGE AFTERNOON**

**THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 3-6.30PM**

IN AID OF HORATIO'S GARDEN AND BOURTON NEW VILLAGE HALL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

[hatpalmer8@gmail.com](mailto:hatpalmer8@gmail.com) or [sarahnewitt01@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahnewitt01@btinternet.com)

## **Kilmington Home Guard Club Annual General Meeting**

To be held on **Friday 2nd March @ 8.30pm.**

*All welcome to attend to raise any matters or comments you may have and a chance to elect the committee members.  
We hope to see you there.*

## **Dorset Wildlife Trust**

Bovine TB (bTB) costs the UK millions of pounds every year and Wildlife Trusts recognise the hardship that it causes in the farming community. However, the Trusts, including Dorset Wildlife Trust, believe that, based on the science, vaccination is the best long term solution and that badger culling is not the answer.

Dorset Wildlife Trust's Director of Conservation, Imogen Davenport, will give an illustrated talk on 'Badgers, Badger Ecology and Bovine TB on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7.30pm in Fontmell Magna Village Hall (SP7 0PF). All our talks include refreshments and cost £2 (no charge for children under 16) and everyone is welcome to attend. There will be a stall offering a wide selection of DWT goods for sale and a variety of free leaflets and information on the Trust, as well as an opportunity to become a member of DWT.

## **Kilmington & Stourton Women's Institute**

The WI meets every fourth Tuesday of the month (unless otherwise stated) at Stourton Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 27th February (AGM with Puddings, Prosecco and Quiz).

*Contact: Sec Caroline Harris 07795 189845 or Jane Parker 01985 844 248*

## **Zeals Village Hall**

The Committee welcomes you to use your Village Hall, which is available at reasonable rates, and is perfect for children's parties, family functions etc.

Please contact Barbara Moodie at Zeals Village Shop



## **L C HILL & SON**

### ***FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS***

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**WATER STREET, MERE (01747) 860361**

email: [lcillandson@aol.co.uk](mailto:lcillandson@aol.co.uk)

Telephone for arrangements and consultations  
to be made in the privacy of your own home or at our office if preferred

## **Zeals Soup Lunch**

The next Zeals soup lunch will be on Monday February 19<sup>th</sup>, in Zeals Village Hall at 12.30 pm. There will be homemade soup and bread, cheese and biscuits, fruit, and coffee or tea with cake or cookies. The cost is £3. If you would like transport to the hall, please contact Sue Evans on 01747 840600.

## **CLIFFORD T. SHEAN LTD**

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REGISTERED MEMBER



APPROVED INSTALLER



Bourton WW1 Project & Bourton Village Hall present an evening with

**MAJOR NICK  
SPEAKMAN**



**BONNY  
SARTIN**



**NICK** has a formidable knowledge of the Dorsetshire Regiment's history, co-authored the book *Devotion To Duty* and will examine the Dorset's WW1 Successes and Failures.

**BONNY**, one of Dorset's most popular singer/songwriters will perform early 20th Century poems & songs plus some of his own relating to the period. Bonny's a founder member of the famous *Yetties* who recorded over 40 albums.

**Saturday 10th February 2018**  
**7pm for 7.30pm. Bar & Snacks**  
**Tickets £6.00: Bourton & Zeals Garages**  
**or Bourton WW1 Project**  
**t: 07708 015815 / e: sue@eisw.org.uk**

presented by The Dorsetshire Regiment Fund & Bourton Parish Council

## Bourton Neighbourhood Plan

Residents of Bourton went to the polls on 11<sup>th</sup> Jan to vote on their Neighbourhood Plan. The turnout was an excellent 39%, against a national average of 32%, and a massive 93% of those who voted were in favour of accepting the Plan. The Plan has taken five years to get to this point and has involved detailed consultation within the community and the production of numerous supporting documents. It is only the second Neighbourhood Plan to have been accepted in North Dorset.

The policies in the Plan are designed to ensure an appropriate contribution to sustainable development within the village while protecting open green spaces and important views, increasing biodiversity, protecting and enhancing wildlife habitats and enabling the provision of land for a new village hall. Chairman of the Parish Council, Simon Firbank, said "I am delighted with the overwhelming support for this Plan which will help the village to retain its rural character in years to come".

Neighbourhood Planning Group Chairman, Mike Withers, thanks all those who voted and everyone involved in the preparation of the Plan over the last five years, including the volunteers who carried out door to door deliveries and residents who answered questionnaires, attended public events, made observations or just generally took an interest.

Subject to final approval by the District Council, the policies laid out in the Plan will be taken into account when in future planning applications in Bourton. **David Scott**

## Wiltshire Council

There has been a recent proposal from Wiltshire Council that Mere be put in the Trowbridge housing market area rather than the Salisbury market area. We have a history of pre parished areas being in Salisbury Diocese, and about 100 plus years ago we became a parished area with Mere and Tisbury Rural District Council who used the services of Salisbury for valuation. 1974 saw us join with Salisbury District Council. After the 2009 Unitary Council we were and are in the Salisbury market area. Most of the public transport goes east to Salisbury, rather than north to Trowbridge, and the main road route on the A303 leads more east/west rather than north/south, and certainly not to Trowbridge. Buses from Mere travel principally to Salisbury and Gillingham, and few if any go to Trowbridge. From Gillingham station, residents of Mere again travel east/west. Some residents do work north of Mere and in Trowbridge but I have argued Salisbury is thought by most to be where we associate, not Trowbridge. **Cllr George Jeans**

South West Wiltshire Area Board still has funds remaining in 2017/18 to support local youth projects so apply **before end February**. The area boards are committed to providing revenue grant funding for those wishing to provide positive activities for 13-19 year olds and those aged up to 25 with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Projects delivered in the past include arts, music, sports, leisure and other after school activities where young people can make friends in a fun and safe environment.

For more information contact Steve Harris, Community Engagement Manager  
T. 01722 434211 | M. 07584 274 055

# SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2018

## **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> before Lent**

08.00 am Holy Communion at St George's Bourton  
10.00 am US@`10 at St George's Bourton

## **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Next before Lent**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington  
Preacher : Mona Tyler LLM  
2.00pm Baptism of Beatrice Meadows at St Peter's Stourton

## **Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday**

7.00 pm Choral Evensong at St Peter's Stourton

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Lent 1**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Martin's Zeals  
Preacher : Brian Martin LLM

## **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Christ the King**

10.00am Parish Communion and Baptisms of  
William McKenna and James Furmidge-Owen

## **March 2018**

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Lent 4**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton  
Preacher : Mona Tyler LLM

### ***Weekday Prayers***

Mondays 9 am	Morning Prayer (CW) at St George's Bourton
Wednesdays 5.00 pm	Prayer Time at St Martin's Zeals
Thursdays 9 am	Morning Prayer (BCP) at St Mary's Kilmington
Fridays 8.30 am	Morning Prayer at St Peter's Stourton

## **Carol Service at St Peter's**

St. Peter's Church was filled to the rafters on Christmas Eve for the traditional Carol Service. Grateful thanks to all who helped make this a very special Service. It was a lovely start to the Christmas festivities, and a total of £833 was raised, which will be split between the church and Bloodwise, the blood cancer charity.

## ***From the Registers***

### **Baptisms**

28th January 2018, at St Peter's Stourton: Amelia Anne Isted

### **Weddings**

9th December 2017, at St Peter's Stourton: Michael Ian MacCormack & Emily Blanshard

29th December 2017, at St Martin's Zeals: Michael David Bullen & Katharine Emma Johnson

### **Funerals**

10<sup>th</sup> January 2018, at Salisbury Crematorium and Thanksgiving at St Peter's Stourton: Albert Edward Ware

11<sup>th</sup> January 2018: at St Peter's Stourton: William George Norris

12<sup>th</sup> January at St Martin's Zeals: Phyllis May Jelliffe

## ***Towards Wholeness***



***A Weekly Lent Course  
exploring healing in the Bible, healing today,  
and healing in the future...***

### ***Five sessions***

*Fridays 11.00am, Parish Room, St. Martin's Zeals, starting 16th Feb*

*Wednesdays at 7.30pm, Dovecot Barn, Kilmington, starting 21<sup>st</sup> Feb*

*Thursdays at 10.00am, Randalls Barn, Bourton, starting 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb*

*For further information,  
contact Parish Office 01747 840221  
Email: [parishoffice@upperstour.net](mailto:parishoffice@upperstour.net)  
Facebook Page: Parish of Upper Stour  
Website: [www.upperstour.net](http://www.upperstour.net)*



**National  
Trust**

## **News from Stourhead**

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2018 is a year of change at Stourhead as we are launching our new property story delving into the 'Genius of the Place', exploring the aspiration, inspiration and creativity of the Hoare family and the creation of Stourhead itself.

The team have been working on this project for over a year with the aim that it helps to answer some of the questions our visitors currently leave with. 'Genius of the Place' refers to the spirit of the place and the vision of Henry the Magnificent to work alongside the exciting landscape when creating his radical, new design of garden.

The house is being presented in a different way for this new story, with some artwork and furniture being moved out of store and back onto display for visitors to enjoy. It's not only inside the house where changes are afoot, the basement is changing as well, with a new exhibition about the rise of Stourhead; from the founding of the bank, buying the land, building the house and creating the garden. If you haven't visited the house for a while, this is a great reason to come back and take another look at the Palladian mansion house.

The 'Genius of the Place' officially launches on 10 March, but as the year progresses new elements and information to help share the story will be added around the property. The restaurant is also going to be sharing the story of the 'Genius of the Place' and this will be one of the final stages of our restaurant refurbishment project which is currently underway.

We plan to complete the refurbishment in stages, with the project being fully complete by summer. Until that time, if you visit the restaurant you may notice the changes and that there is more activity than normal at times. Do come along and let us know your thoughts as the refurbishment progresses.

If you are keen to find out more about Stourhead or get involved in the work that we do, we have lots of volunteering opportunities across the property. Please do contact me. We look forward to seeing you at Stourhead again soon.

Charlotte Toop  
Marketing and Communications Officer  
[charlotte.toop@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.toop@nationaltrust.org.uk) or 01747 842021.

## Country Calendar: February

February is a month with a foot in winter yet dipping a toe into spring. Thinking of spring my mind turns to lambing and I am reminded of my trip in the autumn to Cumbria. A new ram had been purchased from a family member: it is the perfect specimen I was told. Someone thought it an excellent idea that **we** could collect the ram whilst in the area when "H" would be at the bull sale. I was despatched to the wilds of Wensleydale. It is only an hour down the M6, it is true, except it was another two hours after getting off the M6 ! Thick fog was more than a little taxing. I had expressed concern as to how this ram would be loaded, let alone travel in the rear of the pickup. I was told it would lead like a lamb. I was not convinced, and my fears were confirmed when I saw the look on the cousin's face at the travel arrangement. I was feeling totally out of control and out my comfort zone. A man of very few words, Dick smiled and beckoned me on - "you had better come and take a look" which only increased my anxiety levels. There in the barn was a selection of rams: huge striking beasts. My throat went dry. "It is not one of these?" I feared;" "no they be the show rams". The relief I felt was immense. "This be yours" Dick said calmly pointing. "That's not a ram" I shrieked "it's the size of a donkey especially its head". It took four burly men to load, and it did **not** lead like a lamb, I was in total stress mode. A cup of good old Yorkshire tea did nothing to allay my fears at the prospect of this enormous specimen breaking out. I was reassured that he was haltered and tied quite securely. I can still see the smile on Cousin Dick's and helpers' faces as I drove off over the moors with a goliath of a ram in the boot. My relaying the details to "H" was dismissed as a total over reaction. Releasing the ram turned out to be something of a challenge, since every attempt to untie the head collar was greeted with a fierce attempt to head butt its jailer!! I stood and smiled as one tried to get near this little lamb, and eventually a long handled pair of cutting shears were found. A soon as the rope was cut the ram flew out like a demented banshee missing "H" by a sheep's breath! Justice methinks. Needless to say in the morning the ram was happily grazing in his new surroundings with all his ladies around him.

There was a man that needed a ram  
So he went to the Dales  
Not the ram sales  
And came home with a tup !

I am so looking forward to seeing Goliath's progeny !

**Jane Parker**

### Stourton LCC

The Annual Open Meeting of St. Peter's LCC will be held at 3.30pm on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at Gasper House, Gasper. Everyone is warmly invited to come to hear a report from the churchwardens on the year and to elect officers for the LCC for the coming year.

# News from Parish Councils

## Bourton

The development at Bourton Mill is well underway and the houses on the south side of the road now have all floors laid. The Rugby Cottage development, listed now as Ash Green, has all the new houses in place and will be finished by the autumn.

The recent referendum attracted a total turnout of 271 people, some 39% of the electorate (the national average for turnout on other NPs is 32%). The "yes" vote was 93% with just 7% (19 people) against. A report re the Bourton Neighbourhood Plan will be considered at a meeting of NDDC's Full Council on the 26 January. The report will recommend that NDDC makes (adopts) the Bourton Neighbourhood Plan part of the statutory development plan for the Bourton Neighbourhood Area.

Up until the last meeting in November, our local PCSO Vicky Levy reported that only one crime has been logged in Bourton, that of theft of farming equipment. She also warned of the increased risk of scams over the telephone and via emails, particularly of fraudsters purporting to be from the HMRC.

Our new Parish Clerk, Mrs Eve Wynn, is in post. Eve has lived in the village for 14 years and is very involved with St George's School PTFA and within the wider community. Thank you to our outgoing Clerk, Mrs Helen Bedford, for all her hard work.

***Bourton Parish Clerk Tel: 07702 709 557***

## Kilmingtion

The Parish Council has met four times since September. The extra meetings have been held to discuss and consider planning applications submitted in the parish for which the Parish Council is a statutory consultee. Copies of the Minutes are available to view on the parish website: [www.kilmingtionwiltshire.org](http://www.kilmingtionwiltshire.org)

The Clerk confirmed that the Annual RoSPA Play Area Safety Inspection Report for the Playing Field had been received in September with no significant issues raised.

The Chairman, Graham Cotton, has met with representatives from Zeals Parish Council & Stourton with Gasper Parish Council, regarding the Speed Indicator Device for which the three parishes will be applying for grant funding. Currently discussion are taking place with three manufacturers to compare cost, specifications, and suitability.

The Parish Council considered the likely expenditure over the next financial year in order to determine the precept requirement (Parish Council's share of the council tax) for 2018/19. The Parish Council agreed to increase the precept by 10.36% and felt that this was tolerable when considering the pressures on Parish & Town Councils to help with financial support to provide services that are under threat or being cut by Wiltshire Council. The increase will equate to £4.55 on a Band D house in the village for a year. During recent meetings, the Parish Council has been discussing the future of the village and whether or not there is a need for more housing to encourage local people and local workers to stay in the village and discussing ways in which the community can help the schools, facilities and businesses in the area to remain, thrive and prosper. It was suggested that perhaps a Neighbourhood Plan might be the best way forward to identify how the community wants to shape the future of the village. However, the Chairman said that upon enquiry, he had discovered that it was extremely time consuming and onerous for small villages to embark upon a Neighbourhood Plan.

The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 at 7.30 p.m. in Whitesheet Church of England Primary Academy.

***Lindsey Wood, Clerk***



## Stourton with Gasper

At the December meeting of the Parish Council the estimated expenditure in the next financial year was discussed so that the precept requirement could be agreed for 2018-19. This was confirmed as £2365 which is approximately £390 more than the current year's precept; this increase is due to the decision to join the Speed Indicator Device consortium with Kilmington and Zeals, although some reserves will also be used if our application for a SWWAB grant is successful. Several Highways issues were discussed and agreed and full details of these can be found in the draft minutes of the meeting on the noticeboard and the website (<https://hugofox.com/community/stourton-with-gasper-parish-council-10370>). However, since the meeting we can report that the missing "Stourton Lane" sign has been replaced and Wiltshire Council's CATG (Community Area Transport Group) have undertaken to have a survey completed (at a cost of £4,500) which will look at the full stretch of the B3092 between Maiden Bradley to the junction with New Road, Zeals to see how safety might be improved. A new website for Stourton and Gasper is currently being created and set up by Cllr Nick Hoare and is progressing well; full details and when it will be up and running will be given in the not too distant future.

***Ruth Burrows, Stourton with Gasper Parish Clerk***

## Zeals

At January's meeting of the Parish Council Mark Gibbons was elected vice-chairman and Lyndi d'Ambrumenil was co-opted onto the Council. The members unanimously agreed not to increase the precept for the next financial year but to keep it the same as this year's level. It was a well supported meeting and members of the public who were present were generally happy with the completed works along New Road, although the Parish Council have agreed to monitor the scheme over the coming year and report their findings to Wiltshire Council. All associated construction tasks ought to have been completed by the end of the third week in January, with the new speed limit becoming legal on 19<sup>th</sup> January. Topsoiling and turfing tasks will be completed once the weather improves. The Parish Council plans to improve the build-outs by planting bushes and shrubs where appropriate.

The Clerk will report areas where there are pavement problems and new pothole locations to Wiltshire Council as the South West Area Board have recently received extra funds for such tasks, although not all new requests will be granted in the first instance as funds are limited. However, Wolverton Lane will receive its much needed attention from Wiltshire's contractors as the whole lane from Longcross through Wolverton to the junction with the Mere to Gillingham (B3095) road is to be repaired and resurfaced where needed. It does mean that the road will be closed to traffic on 1<sup>st</sup> March, probably just for one day.

The Parish Council agreed to host another Defibrillator Awareness Session in the Village Hall possibly 16 October. Once again the event is open to residents from Zeals and from surrounding settlements. More information will be distributed later this year. Full minutes of the meeting can be read from those posted on village noticeboards and from the hugofox website.

The next meeting is due to take place on 8 March at 7pm in the Village Hall.

***Graham Edgar: Clerk 01747 840990***

## Elizabeth Gittoes

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Email: [cowellgardens@gmail.com](mailto:cowellgardens@gmail.com)

## **Bourton Parish Council Meeting**

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February  
2018**

in Bourton Village Hall

**at 7pm**

# **BOURTON PLAYERS**

present

## **JACK AND THE BEANSTALK**



**Bourton Village Hall**  
**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup>-Fri 2<sup>nd</sup>-Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018**

**Doors and bar open 7.00 performance at 7.30pm**  
**Matinee on Saturday at 2.30pm**

**Tickets from Bourton and Zeals garages**  
**£7 for adults £4 for children**

***In aid of Dorset and Somerset air ambulance and CLIC Sargent***  
***More info from Louise Hodgson on 07396 091 310***

### **The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust** **Home Security & Stay Safe Online Schemes**

The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust is an independent charity working closely with Wiltshire Police to provide an invaluable home security service. The Trust has been operating this scheme for the past 20 years, helping to secure homes for the elderly, vulnerable & disadvantaged throughout Wiltshire. Responding to the changing needs of the community, the Trust has launched a new scheme to offer advice on keeping safe whilst online. Through raising awareness about computer fraud and what to do if you have concerns about your online safety the Trust aims to help reduce the risk of this type of crime. If you are aged over 60, or 18+ registered disabled & have concerns about your online safety, you can request a home visit or to arrange a group talk.

To enquire about a home security check call 01380 8611  
or email [bobbyvan@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:bobbyvan@wiltshire.police.uk)

## Regular Weekly Events

Weekdays	<b>Preschool</b>  <b>The ZAC (Zeals Afterschool Club)</b>	08.45 – 15.15 at the Preschool Playing Fields, West Bourton (term time only) daily 3.30 – 6 pm at Whitesheet school, Zeals. Contact Ross Coad 01747 841531
Tue	<b>Pilates Tummies, Tiddlers &amp; Toddlers</b>	10 am – 11 am ZVH 9.30 – 11.00 am at St. George's School Hall (term time only); entrance across the field.
Wed	<b>Pilates Bell-ringing practice</b>	9.15 – 10.15 a.m. ZVH 7.30-9.00 pm at St Martin's Zeals fortnightly. Beginners and lapsed ringers welcome.
Fri	<b>Friday Fun Club</b>  <b>Beavers</b>  <b>Cubs</b>  <b>Choir Practice</b>	10 – 11.30 am (term time) Whitesheet School (Zeals) Hall 18.00-19.00 Bourton Village Hall Contact Anne Martin 07483 893006 <a href="mailto:anne.martin9@btinternet.com">anne.martin9@btinternet.com</a> 19.15-20.45 Bourton Village Hall Contact George Cadnam on 07718 785738 / <a href="mailto:gcadders@hotmail.com">gcadders@hotmail.com</a> Most Fridays (6-7pm) at St Martin's Zeals. New singers welcome. Contact Tom Wheare 01747 840 622

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## Dates for your Diary : February 2018

4 <sup>th</sup>	Zeals Walkers, meet 10 amZeals Garage	page 6
5 <sup>th</sup>	Shortmat Bowls 1.30pm, BVH	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Craft and Chat 2.00pm, BVH	
9 <sup>th</sup>	Zumba 7.00pm, BVH	
10 <sup>th</sup>	Bourton WW1 Project Evening Talk and Music 7.30pm, BVH	page 10
12 <sup>th</sup>	Bourton Village lunch 12.30pm, BVH	
	Shortmat Bowls 1.45pm, BVH	
13 <sup>th</sup>	Craft and Chat 2.00pm, BVH	
	Film Night Victoria and Abdul 7.30pm, BVH	page 7
15 <sup>th</sup>	Charity Bridge Tournament and Tea 3.00pm, BVH	page 7
	Zumba 7.00pm, BVH	
19 <sup>th</sup>	Zeals Soup Lunch, 12.30pm, ZVH	page 9
	Shortmat Bowls 1.30pm, BVH	
20 <sup>th</sup>	Craft and Chat 2.00pm, BVH	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Stourton LCC meeting, 3.30pm Gasper House	page 15
	Bourton Gardening Club 7.30pm, BVH	page 5
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Zumba 7.00pm, BVH	
24 <sup>th</sup>	3 Counties Choir Concert, 7pm, Gillingham Methodist Chapel	page 24
26 <sup>th</sup>	Shortmat Bowls 1.30pm BVH	
	Bourton Parish Council 7.00pm, BVH	page 21
27 <sup>th</sup>	Craft and Chat 2.00pm, BVH	
	Women's Institute, 7.30pm, SMH	page 8



### Brahms Requiem

The Three Counties Choir will be joined by members of the ad hoc chorale in a performance of A German Requiem by Brahms at 7.30 on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February in Gillingham Methodist Chapel.

The work will be sung in English and accompanied by a piano duet, as Brahms prepared it for the first performance in this country in July 1871. The pianists will be Deborah and Stephen Binnington, the soloists Philippa Hardy and Tom Wheare and the conductor Nicholas Spice.

Details of tickets will be posted shortly on the Gillingham Methodist Church Music website [www.music@gmc.org.uk](http://www.music@gmc.org.uk)

**Deadline for contributions to the March 2018 Magazine:  
noon on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**