



Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

About Upper Stour

**Serving the villages of
Bourton
Kilmington
Stourton
Zeals**



October 2020

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Priest in Charge: Rev Ben Rundell Evans **01747 840221**
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Facebook Group Parish of Upper Stour

***Enquiries regarding
Baptisms/Christenings, Weddings and Funerals
to the Parish Office 01747 840221***

~ ~ ~

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All items for the November 2020 issue should be sent to
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***Contributions for the November 2020 issue
should reach the Editor
by Friday 16th October 2020 at noon***

Mobile Library Times October 2020

Oct 8, 22	Zeals	School	10.00-10.40 am
		43 Zeals Rise	10.45-11.05 am
Oct 8, 22	Kilmington	Home Gd Club	11.25-11.35 am

Message from Rev Ben

One more step along the world we go!

A hymn that one often hears at weddings, largely because many people learn it at school – “One more step along the world I go”. It’s a school song which reminds us about the ever-changing phases of life. The chorus goes like this “One more step along the world I go; one more step along the world I go, from the old things to the new, keep me traveling along with you.” And the verses below gently remind us about; the many twists and turns that life can take; the good and the bad that life can present to us; the want to leap and sing in all that we do; and the tremendous amount of history that goes before us. As a Parish which has four wonderfully old church buildings, while being a challenge to preserve for the future, they do present us with a humbling reminder of our own place within history which is vitally important. From newest to oldest, Zeals Church was consecrated in 1846, Bourton Church in 1813, parts of Kilmington Church date back to 1338 and parts of Stourton Church date back to 1291. I need not say how much history has passed since 1291! Older than the Church of England indeed! Putting ourselves within such a history reminds us very clearly that while we are in uncertain times, being a part of history means that we live through nothing new, and that our challenge is always to ensure that our part in such a history is honest, loving and compassionate. However of course, as I said last month, we must continue to be kind to ourselves in order that we may be kind to others. And so, as we look to continuing times of uncertainty and change, let us take each step as it comes in the knowledge that with each step we strive to walk a path of faith, hope and love. We must continue to try and remember that while things may feel uncertain, we are walking a path that is a part of a much longer story, and that we never walk unaccompanied.

One more step along the world I go...

Round the corners of the world I turn, more and more about the world I learn;
All the new things that I see, you'll be looking at along with me.

As I travel through the bad and good, keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go, you'll be telling me the way, I know.

Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world is tough;

Leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you:

You are older than the world can be, you are younger than the life in me;
Ever old and ever new, keep me travelling along with you:

Ben

Rev Ben Rundell-Evans

St George's 100 Club

Until further notice, draws will take place bi-monthly. The next one will be in October along with the outstanding September draw. Results will be published in the November magazine, on the Bourton website www.bourtondorset.org and on the Bourton Post Office noticeboard.

*Any enquiries to
Ruth Burrows - 01747 840371*

St Martin's Millennium Club

September winners

D Tadd

E Kemp

C Pattie

P Henriksen

October draw at Zeals Motors
on 8th October

Contact Nigel Blackmore
01747 841110
SDC Lott 842

Kilmington and Stourton Women's Institute

Because of Coronavirus restrictions, the WI is unable to meet for the present and until further notice. As soon as we are able to resume our meetings members will be notified.

For information contact:

Secretary: Bernie Isted 01985 844933 or Jane Parker 01985 844248

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BOURTON GARDENING CLUB

FOLLOWING THE LATEST GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT,
BOURTON GARDENING CLUB WILL NOT BE MEETING UNTIL 2021

It's very sad that we have had to make this decision, but the latest rules seem to be very stringent and we are having trouble finding speakers who are willing to come out, so this seemed to be the best solution.

We hope 2021 will be a better year.

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News from Stourhead

As October arrives, we are looking forward to welcoming those visitors who are all hoping to see Stourhead at one of the most beautiful times of year. Visitors hope to capture the garden at that one magical point where nature comes together to offer a calm sunny day that allows for reflections to be seen on the lake as well as a full spectrum of autumn shades from buttery yellows to vivid reds.

We are still asking visitors to pre-book their visit, with tickets being released on Fridays, to ensure that we can offer a safe and socially distanced environment for all. That said we are also exploring ways that we can enable a more spontaneous visit for those that want it, so do keep an eye out on our website, both for booking your tickets and updates on how to visit.

We're also pleased to be re-opening the house from 1 October but will be opening in a slightly different way than before. Once visitors have arrived at Stourhead, if they would like to visit the house, we will be asking them to book a timed ticket slot. We won't be offering these in advance, and pre-booked tickets to the property don't ensure admission to the house as we will be opening it at limited capacity.

As well as autumn, we are also looking forward to Christmas, both in terms of opening the house beautifully decorated, as well as our evening Christmas at Stourhead illuminated trail. If you want to come along and experience this festive trail, we recommend booking your tickets in advance, and keep an eye on our website for more information about a daytime visit this festive season.

Whatever this autumn brings, we hope that you are able to get outdoors and enjoy the beauty of the nature that surrounds you. A simple walk surrounded by the beauty of autumn, followed by a warming cup of tea (and slice of cake), is one of life's simple pleasures, to be enjoyed by all.

If you want to find out more about Stourhead or get involved in the work that we do, please do get in touch. We look forward to seeing you at Stourhead again soon.

stourhead@nationaltrust.org.uk or 01747 841152



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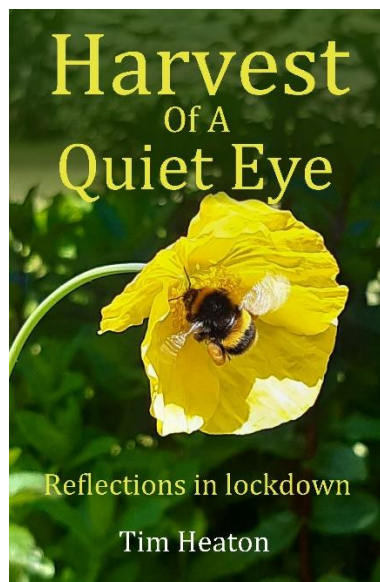
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On Tuesday, 17 March 2020, as the coronavirus pandemic took hold across the UK, the Archbishop of Canterbury announced that public worship in the Church of England would be suspended to help slow the spread of the virus.

The following day, and every day thereafter until public worship resumed on Sunday, 5 July, the author emailed a short “thought for the day” to everyone in his church family.

And so it was that for a strange one hundred and nine days in the spring and summer of 2020 these reflections came into being. They tell the story of a peculiar time, a period first of fear and later of hope, a time of soul searching, of seeking a greater future for humanity, and dreaming of the better life we would one day resume.

Available now from Amazon £1.99 Kindle or £4.99 paperback

All royalties received – minimum £1 per book – will be donated to the parish churches of Gillingham, Milton on Stour and Silton.



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SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2020

All services are subject to change with the restrictions so do please look at our News and Events page on the Upper Stour Website

Sunday 4th Trinity 17

8.30 am Holy Communion at St Martin's Zeals
10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

Sunday 11th Trinity 18

8.30 am Holy Communion at St George's Bourton
10.00 am Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington
5.30 pm Compline at St Peter's Stourton

Sunday 18th Trinity 19

08.30 am Holy Communion at St Martin's Zeals
10.00 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

Sunday 25th Last after Trinity

8.30 am Holy Communion at St George's Bourton
10.00 am Parish Communion at St Martin's Zeals

November 2020

Sunday 1st All Saints and All Souls

8.30 am Holy Communion at St Martin's Zeals
10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton
4.00 pm All Souls Service at St Mary's Kilmington

Sunday 8th Remembrance Sunday

08.30 am Holy Communion at St George's Bourton
10.00 am Remembrance Service at St Mary's Kilmington
- followed by Act of Remembrance at War Memorial at 10.45am
5.30 pm Compline at St Peter's Stourton

Weekday Prayers

Mondays 9am at St George's Bourton, **Wednesdays** 4pm at St Martin's Zeals
Thursdays 9am at St Mary's Kilmington

Annual Parish Church Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting, usually held in April, will be held this year on **Monday 26th October at 7pm in Bourton Village Hall.**
when the PCC will present its Annual Report and elect people to PCC positions

Seeing and Believing Autumn Course

Thank you to all those who have shown interest since my note in September. I have enough people showing interest for one group but I am happy to run a second group if there is the demand. If you are interested please let me know **before 12 OCTOBER** as I will then close the bookings and contact everyone to settle on dates and times. The meetings will be held in Zeals Church Parish Room and can be during the day or in the evening depending on the preference of those registered. We will start the course in the week starting 2nd November and finish in the week starting 7th December.

I am fundraising for the Church and the cost will be £5 for each meeting. If you are interested in the links between art and faith do join us. In each session we will be looking at a painting and discussing its relevance for faith.

Please contact me to register your interest either at 01747 840433 or at bookworminbourton@gmail.com

Our safety will be paramount and we are meeting where we will have plenty of room to social distance.

Margaret Martin

From the Registers

Funeral and Burial:

26th August in the Churchyard of St Peter's Stourton: **Derek England**

Weddings

29th July at St Peter's Stourton: **Sarah Louise Raby and Henry James**

Sackville Hamilton

4th September at St Peter's Stourton: **Richard Coward and Nicole Kozma**

Cards for Sale

The Friends of St Martin's are selling cards depicting the Upper Stour churches and other local views with proceeds going to each of the four churches. These are on sale at Zeals Garage and in other outlets. The aim is to help raise funds in these difficult times.

Debbie Gatehouse

Pets as Therapy



Due to the current COVID19 restrictions many charities are feeling the financial pinch, so I am selling the following items in aid of the above charity:

cotton masks, shopping bags and aprons

All enquiries to Barbara Borwell: 01474 840 141

Country Calendar : October 2020

*Rusty orange red yellow and brown
Adorn the landscape like a regal crown*

Earthy smells pervade the senses

Birds glean berries from sparse damp hedges. JP

After the most prolonged stressful harvest, snatch and grab being the name of the game, for a few farmers salvage would be the correct terminology. The wind/heavy showers knocked heads off the barley; a friend of ours lost a whole field of oats due to high winds blowing the oat grain onto the ground, leaving nothing left to harvest - a whole year's work gone. There is nothing more soul destroying and depressing seeing the rain and winds flatten and damage your crop.

On a lighter note watching "Our Family Farm" (the Owen Family with their 9 children in the wilds of Yorkshire) has been happily diverting. The children are hardy and definitely free range, in fact it reminds me of my own childhood somewhat. My father kept pigs and showed them quite successfully winning prodigious shows with his pedigree large white boars. As a child my brothers and I spent many hours with Father helping and learning everything about rearing pigs. As children we had our favourites: the show ones were well handled and reasonably quiet. We challenged each other to see who could ride a pig and stay on the longest. Pigs are incredibly agile, and we spent much time trying to get on them and seconds to fall off them. Never deterred we kept at it and literally fell about laughing. Gladstone was our father's highly prized boar, Supreme Champion at the York Pedigree Show, and because of this he was in high demand and Gladstone was taken to fellow pig breeders to do the business! One memorable day Father asked my eldest brother and me to walk Gladstone round to the next-door neighbour who required his talents. Gladstone would follow a bucket of food to the ends of the earth. Taking the boar literally just half a mile down a very quiet country lane did not phase us - bearing in mind my brother was a 9 year old bossy irritant and I was just coming up 7. Father had great confidence in our handling skills I still remember him standing there watching with great pride as we both set off. Beautifully turned out (both boar and me - I was in a pretty party dress after being at a birthday tea and Gladstone show-clean and a credit to Father) he trotted out following brother and bucket. My job was to poke him with a stick if he dallied too much. All was going very well, Gladstone was in hot pursuit of the food and I was running on behind trying to keep up. Never under-estimate a pig: they are highly intelligent.

Gladstone soon realised that chasing a bucket when there was delicious watercress in the shallow stream at the side of the road which was much more tempting was pointless, and within a blink of an eye he was totally submerged in slimy mud and watercress. My brother was blaming me totally for not stopping Gladstone (typical brotherly love - NOT) So I whacked him with the stick – the

pig that is, should have been brother. "Harder -- don't tickle him with it" was my brother's unhelpful order.. It took every ounce of my strength, and I meant business as I was so annoyed with my brother, and, just as I was about to bring the stick down on Gladstone's backside, I slipped and fell in the ditch on top of the boar, the shock of which made him lurch forward taking off at speed heading totally in the wrong direction. I was left in ditch covered in slimy smelly mud and my white patent leather shoes full of filthy water. I did not cry, even though my brother stood over me laughing saying I deserved to be in the muck as I was totally useless! I climbed out and walked back expecting trial and retribution as brother would make sure I took the blame. My poor father's face at the sight of me was something - but right was done and my brother got a clip round the ear for leaving me in such a mess. The boar was found happily grazing further up the road. Happy days !!

Jane Parker



***Look carefully – this is
a preciousy preserved
photograph of
Jane Parker, aged 3,
clambering onto the
back of
Gladstone the boar!***

Tummies, Tiddlers and Toddlers has reopened!

...in **Bourton Village Hall** (we previously met at St George's School)

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Caroline Worthington

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News from Parish Councils

Bourton

Since April we have continued holding the PC meetings virtually via Zoom and, in accordance with the regularly revised guidelines from NALC, we will continue to do so. At the July meeting the new prospective scheme for the Sandways site was discussed and, since then, the developer Aaron Pierce (Director, T&A Land) and the PC's planning sub-group have arranged to conduct a public consultation and community engagement morning in the Village Hall on Saturday 3rd October from 10am until 1pm. This event is to inform the community and assess the level of support so please do try and pop in. The VH will be adhering to all the necessary Covid-19 precautions.

There have again been several reports of near-miss incidents at the junction of Brickyard Lane and West Bourton Road. Inconsiderate parking on West Bourton Road contributes to these incidents, along with people driving too fast from the Main Road and using the hatchings. Cars parked by the War Memorial also make it very difficult for the school bus to be able to safely pick up school children. Please be considerate if you do need to park on this road. If you are involved in a non-injury incident please use this link to report it: https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/report_other_highways_issue?select_Enquiry_Type=Obstruction&select_Obstruction=IN03 and also let the parish Clerk know bourtonparishclerk@hotmail.com

Bernie Sullivan and his team of volunteers have been very busy planting 9 trees in the field opposite the church. However, there are still dozens of other small trees and saplings that need to be planted in the village and Bernie would welcome support from anyone interested in planting some of the trees within the parish.

Please may I remind those families using the play area equipment in the school field to adhere to the social distancing rules, to use hand sanitizers and to keep to the guidance given on site via the posters.

Eve Wynn, Clerk

Kilmington

The minutes of our remote/internet meeting held on 2 September are now available on the website and on the noticeboard. We are unsure exactly when it will be possible to resume normal meetings but, when Covid19 restrictions do allow these, it has been agreed that the Home Guard Club will be our regular venue. This is due to the Whitesheet School in Butts Lane being unavailable for the foreseeable future.

It seems doubtful that the annual firework display can go ahead but the final decision will be notified via the Pink Paper and on our website.

The new replacement defibrillator unit has been installed in The Street at a cost of £1400 and any donations from residents would be very much appreciated.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 25 November when the budget for the 2021-22 financial year will be decided.

Ruth Burrows, Clerk

Stourton with Gasper

The Parish Council (PC) has been in discussions with the National Trust and Culture Creative in respect of the future plans for the Christmas Lights Event. We are delighted that it has been agreed that in future there will be no event on Christmas Eve. Discussions are continuing regarding pedestrian and vehicular traffic management during the event but we expect a decision to be made soon. A reminder that the most effective way of informing Wiltshire Council of a problem is the My Wiltshire App. Once you report an issue you will be kept informed of progress if applicable. The link to download is here <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshire-download>

The next scheduled meeting for the PC will be held on Wednesday 30 September via Zoom. Please note if you wish to join the meeting via Zoom you need to email clerk@stourton.org.uk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to be sent an invite to join. Due to the continuing and changing Covid-19 situation, Zoom meetings will continue for the foreseeable future.

Fran Hill, Clerk

Zeals

Once again scheduled events had to be cancelled earlier on this month. First to fall was the bi-monthly public meeting of the Parish Council only to be followed by the cancelling of the Defibrillator Training Event. However, councillors have been operating together via remote means both before and after the cancellation: a summary newsletter bringing everything up to date can be viewed on our notice boards and also on-line. Likewise, the South West Ambulance Trust will be arranging another date for a training session as soon as possible. I am pleased to inform that at the time of writing the Village Hall is now operational with appropriate safety procedures in place.

Currently, the condition of the build-out in the road opposite the Hall; cyclists speeding through Wolverton and irresponsible acts by some of our dog owners all require solving.

Graham Edgar, Clerk

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Bourton Village Hall

We are Covid19 compliant and can open for exercise classes, socially distanced meetings and toddler groups.

- Village Lunch October 12th 12.30pm
- Village Tea October 26th 3.00pm

Please pre book for these events: Paul Curry:01747 840432 or npaulc1@outlook.com. Film nights are a step too far at the moment as we would have to wear masks for 2 hours! The information is continually changing. For updates please go to the Bourton website www.bourtondorset.org. To book the hall for future events please contact Heather Ransley 07849 673670 hansley@btinternet.com.

Future of Bourton Village Hall

A consultation event is being held in Bourton Village Hall on Saturday 3rd October 10am - 1:00pm. At this event, T&A Land Ltd, the new owners of the Sandways site in Bourton, will host a drop-in consultation at which their development plans will be explained to members of the public who might be interested, in order to assess levels of support within the community. These plans include the provision of a new village hall and recreation space on the Sandways site, as well as approximately thirty dwellings.

Cllr Peter Williams

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Dates for your Diary: October 2020

3 rd	Open Meeting 10.00am-1.00pm, BVH	page 16 & 18
12 th	Bourton Village Lunch 12.30pm, BVH	page 18
26 th	Bourton Village Tea 3.00pm, BVH	page 18
26 th	Annual Parish Church Meeting 7pm BVH	page 11

Green Fingers: Notes from a Fair Weather Gardener October 2020

We are now well into Keats' season of mists and mellow fruitfulness and you may still be harvesting apples and pears. It is also time for the birds to set about harvesting all the beautiful berries on your cotoneasters and rowan trees.

Traditionally, gardeners were advised to put the garden to bed for winter, but the modern trend is to leave plants to die down naturally rather than rushing to cut them down to the ground. There are of course some plants that look so straggly that there isn't much point in leaving them to spoil the view, but others can provide months of pleasure over the winter. Sunflower heads are magnets for the birds as they forage for seeds, as are red hot pokers and monardas. It is a pleasure to watch the goldfinches as they enjoy the seeds which in the past might have gone onto the bonfire. Another benefit of leaving plants to die down is that they might self-seed, providing a springtime surprise next year. I love the rather random effect this can produce as my garden is very informal.

Wallflowers seem to be experiencing something of a revival in popularity, and now is a good time to plant them ready to bloom in the spring. They are available in such a wide range of colours now, not just the traditional red and yellow, but anything from whites through to lilacs and hot pinks. They complement tulips perfectly and last well as cut flowers.

October can be gloriously warm and sunny to set us up for the colder months ahead, or it can bring some early frosts. Although there will still be autumn squashes and winter cabbages to harvest, some vegetables will not tolerate the colder weather. If you have been growing tomatoes outside, this will be the last month you are likely to get any ripe fruit. You can dig up the whole plant and hang it upside down in a greenhouse to encourage the last fruits to ripen. Alternatively, you could try the old fashioned trick of putting the remaining green tomatoes into a brown paper bag with one ripe tomato to do the same job. Or you could just give up the unequal struggle and make green tomato chutney - great with fresh bread and a piece of strong cheddar!

Daphne Knott

**Contributions for the November edition by
Friday 16th October please**