



Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

# About Upper Stour

servicing the villages of  
**Bourton, Kilmington,  
Stourton, Zeals**



**December 2020  
January 2021**



## Parish Contacts

**Priest in Charge: Rev Ben Rundell Evans** 01747 840221  
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Parish website [www.upperstour.co.uk](http://www.upperstour.co.uk)

Facebook Group Parish of Upper Stour

### *Enquiries regarding*

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

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***Contributions for the February 2021 issue should reach the Editor  
by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021 at noon***

## Mobile Library Times December 2020 / January 2021

<b>Dec 3, 17,31</b>	<b>Zeals</b>	School	10.00-10.40 am
<b>Dec 3, 17,31</b>	<b>Kilmington</b>	Home Gd Club	11.25-11.35 am
<b>Jan 14, 28</b>	<b>Zeals</b>	School	10.00-10.40 am
<b>Jan 14, 28</b>	<b>Kilmington</b>	Home Gd Club	11.25-11.35 am

For the latest situation regarding the mobile library, please check:  
[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries-news](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries-news)

## **Message from Rev Ben**

### **December 2020 - the year that we....**

This year, for all its oddities and differences will be a year that we remember. This will be the year that we did things differently, the year we looked at life from a different angle. Perhaps this is the year we found more value in things that were not readily available like normal, or we found relief in things that no longer happened. We will all have our various highs and lows from this year, as indeed we do every year. However, this year, things seemed more concentrated, and therefore, more memorable. This year we, the parish, celebrated seven weddings, all of which had restrictions in place. However, even as someone who attends quite a few weddings a year (!), I will always remember the weddings I took and attended in 2020 - all so special because, even with the challenges they faced, all of our couples shrugged it off in order that they could focus on what was important in the moment – their love.

2020 will be memorable, and I wonder what you will take from this year as you 'take a cup o' kindness' this new year. A tradition widely observed at New Year is the singing of Auld Lang Syne, an old Scottish folk song, first recorded by Robert Burns in the late 1700s. Since its humble origins as a Scottish folk song, Auld Lang Syne is now known globally more often than not as a song signifying an ending. It has even become a custom for some shops in Japan to play Auld Land Syne to let shoppers know that it is time to leave!

Often as we look to the future it can be quite daunting. However, as many people joked when the clocks went back 'do we really want to spend another hour in 2020?!'. Looking to 2021 now feels quite exciting. Many of us can't wait to put 2020 behind us and to move on to new and exciting opportunities together. However of course, 2020 for many of us will still have many things to give thanks for. There were many very concentrated and loving moments that happened in our communities, that brought us closer, or that made us appreciate what we have. And so perhaps if we are lucky enough to be able to sing Auld Lang Syne this year, we can call to mind all those things we would rather not bring to mind, but also take a cup and give thanks for those things that have given us new eyes, and new memories this year.

#### **Auld Lang Syne**

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
and never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
and auld lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my jo,  
for auld lang syne,  
we'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet,  
for auld lang syne.

*Ben* (Rev Ben Rundell-Evans)

**St George's 100 Club  
November winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Tony Wilce (No. 3)

2<sup>nd</sup> Ann Collins (No.84)

*December and January draws will  
be done in January and results  
published in the February edition of  
this magazine.*

Any enquiries to Ruth Burrows  
01747 840371

**St Martin's  
Millennium Club**

**November Winners**

D Corbin

N Fowler

C Blackmore

C Spencer

Next draw on 3<sup>rd</sup> December at  
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SDC Lott 842



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## **Green Fingers: Notes from a Fair Weather Gardener**

### **December 2020**

Admittedly it's a bit late, but as I write this in mid-November, I have just finished planting my indoor bulbs. They will probably not bloom in time for Christmas, but they will provide a welcome touch of colour when all the decorations have been taken down. Our gardens may look a bit sorry for themselves at this time of year, but we can bring the garden indoors with flowering bulbs to give us a taste of spring, with the added advantage that they can be planted out in the garden afterwards. Even those exotic amaryllis will enjoy a spell outdoors in the summer and might even surprise you, as mine did this year, by blooming in the garden. They will almost certainly bloom indoors when you bring them in again.

Other Christmas favourites can be a bit more challenging. Having a Christmas cactus actually blooming at Christmas requires some careful timing as they need to be kept in a cool place that isn't too bright while they are dormant and then brought into the warm when they start to bud. Beware, though, they can develop their blooms at an alarming rate and their wonderful show might be over before you know it! Ours tend to bloom best in the hallway. The trick, as with many indoor plants, is not to let the room get too hot or dry – we may love our central heating but many plants don't.

Although we might think of January as a dead month in the garden, there is always the possibility of some early colour. We probably immediately think of snowdrops, but often these will not be in bloom until February. However, some shrubs will be at their best and we can fully appreciate their beauty when other plants are saving themselves for the warmer weather. I particularly love the acid yellow blooms of witch hazel which make a statement on bare branches. A plant by a pathway is a joy as it also provides a waft of perfume as you pass. Another scented plant for the winter is the evergreen sacococca. Its glossy dark green leaves almost hide the tiny white flowers, but you will certainly know you have one of these plants as you walk past and take a deep breath. A garden can excite all of our senses, even in the winter.

*Daphne Knott*

### **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, and we hope to be able to do this in the New Year

*For information contact:*

*Secretary: Bernie Isted 01985 844933 or Jane Parker 01985 844248*

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## National Trust

# News from Stourhead

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Hello! Charlotte Toop, the regular author of this article is now on maternity leave after welcoming a beautiful baby boy in October. Whilst Charlotte is taking time out with her family, I will be covering for her at Stourhead and look forward to getting to know the estate and local community over the next year. I know parts of it very well as I have lived in the area for many years, and it is such a pleasure to now be working for a place I have enjoyed so much in a personal capacity.

December sees Christmas arrive at Stourhead and after a year like no other it will look a little different this year. We are delighted that, following a successful first year, our magical illuminated trail - Christmas at Stourhead - will return on select nights between 4 December–3 January (closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day). We're working closely with our partners to ensure the trail is safe: with a limited number of tickets, a one-way system, enhanced cleaning and other measures. Visitors can book with confidence knowing that we're closely following government guidelines and working with local authorities to ensure we can go ahead as planned. The safety of our visitors is of utmost importance to us.

At the request of the Parish Council, the road through Stourton village will remain open on the evenings of the illuminated trail and traffic will be managed by a traffic light system instead. This will ensure the safety of pedestrians whilst causing minimal disruption to drivers.

Unfortunately, the house at Stourhead will remain closed over the Christmas period this year. We recognise Christmas is a very special time so are disappointed that the pandemic has meant we are unable to open the house. However, we are looking forward to welcoming visitors to enjoy our garden, estate, shop and café which will remain open throughout the festive period. Whether you are young in age, or young in heart, you may also be interested in our Peter Rabbit™ winter adventure trail around the garden. More details and lots of fun family activities can be found on our website.

If you are out walking on the estate you may see the Ranger Team felling ash trees along the roads, bridleways and footpaths. This is largely due to the ongoing progression of ash dieback, a devastating disease threatening the veteran trees and woodlands across the country. The woodlands at Stourhead have not been immune and we are sad to see so many trees affected. In coming years, we will be looking at what species of tree we can plant to replace the ash and to maintain a healthy and biodiverse native woodland. The National Trust has launched a campaign to help restore our native woodland. You can find out more online by searching 'Everyone Needs Nature appeal' on our website.

As the New Year rolls in we look forward to the tranquillity that the garden offers in winter. Hopefully, with news of a vaccine on the horizon, we can look forward to 2021 with more certainty and optimism.

**Louisa Reeves, Marketing and Communications Officer.**

[louisa.reeves@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:louisa.reeves@nationaltrust.org.uk)

# Country Calendar: December 2020

## *THE YEAR OF 2020*

T'was the night before Christmas when all at Home Farm  
Were settling down for some peace and calm  
The cattle were lowing in their warm straw beds  
Young calves lay calmly head to head.  
The moon shone brightly in the night sky  
Thoughts divert to the year gone by.

T'was the year of storms this 2020  
Brendan Ciara Dennis Francis Gerda and Hugh – to name just a few !'  
Week after week the weather was appalling  
Continual wet this was seriously boring.  
Our spirits were lifted at the thought of Spring  
With all the wonderful things it brings.

T'was early March the first we heard  
An outbreak, a virus was the word  
Pandemic lockdown closure of schools  
Definitely fines if found breaking the rules.

T'was late spring the weather unbelievably hot  
Social distancing people were not  
Off to the beaches and countryside  
Media report how many people had died.

T'was unprecedented times we kept getting told  
Everything cancelled many jobs on hold  
Uncertainty fear and no vaccine  
Getting used to the new routine.

T'was continual through summer the virus was rife  
New rules and regulations added to the strife.  
Into the autumn and tempers get hot  
Whenever will this virus stop?

*/ continued on page 9*

**T'was the night before lockdown mark 2  
Another month we had to do  
No friends or family can we see  
And certainly, no going out for tea  
Do not be disheartened do not be sad  
We will get through this - it's not all bad.  
Thoughts turn to Christmas and the end of the year  
Good news is what one wants to hear !**

**T'was the night before Christmas when all at Home Farm  
Were settling down for some peace and calm  
The cattle are quiet the night is falling fast  
2020 will soon be in the past !  
We will appreciate so much more  
The times and lives we had before.  
Proudly stands our Christmas tree  
A glowing beacon for all to see.  
So let us look forward to the New Year  
And I send you all much love and good cheer.**

*Jane Parker*

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## **Dorset Digital Hotline**

A team of dedicated volunteers is on hand to help hundreds of Dorset residents stay connected this winter. Dorset Council's Digital Champions, who used to hold regular surgeries in libraries, have continued offering their expertise throughout the Coronavirus crisis via the Digital Hotline. From online shopping to FaceTiming friends and family on smartphones, the Champions are there to assist with any digital enquiry.

The Digital Hotline – 01305 221048 – is open every weekday (except Bank Holidays) from 10am to midday.

## **SILTON SURGERY**

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### **Bourton Community Support Group**

With another lockdown underway, we just wanted to reassure anyone in need of support at this time that the Bourton Community Support Group is still active and operational. We will be aiming to respond in this lockdown period as we did previously, so please be reassured that there is no need for anyone to feel anxious about being isolated and without any support or assistance during this time. Please use the website [www.bourtongroup.org.uk](http://www.bourtongroup.org.uk) to access the latest information. If you need to make contact then please email [bourtongroup@outlook.com](mailto:bourtongroup@outlook.com) or call 01747 840487 (and leave a message). Please take care and keep safe.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

There are Neighbourhood Watch Groups established in many of our villages including Zeals and Bourton. The Neighbourhood Watch helps support individuals and groups to create safer, stronger and active communities. We believe in a caring society that is focused on trust and respect, in which people are safe from crime and enjoy a good quality of life. There are many good reasons to become a member so if you wish to join, please visit [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk) to find out more.

### **Produce Stall in aid of local charities**

The stall outside Bagmore Farm in Silton closed on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October having made an astounding £4,641.27, and we would like to thank very much the many customers in Upper Stour who bought our produce, preserves, cakes, flowers and plants, and also those who contributed. It will be a great pleasure to distribute these takings to various charities in the near future. Orders for cakes, quiches etc. can still be made by arrangement with Sue Matthews on 01747 840516.

***Diana Masters***

## **Advent Windows in Bourton**

We are all concerned about how our plans for the Festive Season will be affected by the Covid 19 pandemic, but one thing that we can do is to decorate our road-facing windows during Advent. Pick a day in December, notify me by 1st December and then decorate your road-facing window on the day that you have identified leaving it in place until after Christmas . I will try to distribute the list through Bourton to the Forge Garage, the village notice boards and through St George's School.

Every blessing to you all.

**Caroline Worthington 07754 882454**

***Please note Caroline's correct tel no above↑***

## **Christmas at St George's Bourton**

In the week before Christmas we are displaying a crib scene in the porch of St George's Church. The church has to remain locked but the porch will be open from 11 am until 5.30pm. As the light fails in the afternoon the manger will be lit and we hope residents will stroll round the church and enjoy the Christmas scene in the porch. On Christmas Eve at 4.0pm there will be the blessing of the crib and a short time to reflect on the birth of Jesus which we celebrate at Christmas. Do join us with the whole family. We will be outside so wrap up, and a torch could be useful.

## **Bells at St Martin's Zeals**

On Sunday 25th October during morning service Rev Ben Rundell-Evans and the congregation thanked David Gatehouse and his band for ringing the bells: an extra short ring was done during the service. Zeals bells were last rung in the early 1960s when concerns about the safety of the structure caused all ringing to be abandoned. In 2008 a scheme began to be developed to deal with the structural issues to the tower and spire and to rehang the bells. The bells were duly dismantled in January 2010 by Nicholson Engineering and were returned to Whitechapel Bellfoundry. Rehanging commenced in June 2010. The bells were tried out for the first time on Friday June 25th 2010. A notable feature of the project was the provision of able bodied assistance by local volunteers. The bells were then consecrated by Bishop Stephen Conway 10th October 2010 and so this October marks the 10th year anniversary of when these bells were brought back to life. David Corbin was also thanked for his hard work; he raised £105,000 to restore the bells from 2008-2010, which included major work to the tower, and the computer running the clock and audio system in the church

**Jenny Lucas**

# SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2020

*In these uncertain times and restrictions, all our services are subject to change.*

*Please check with your churchwardens, your church noticeboards and/or look at the News and Events page on the Upper Stour website*

## **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Advent 2**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

## **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Advent 3**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington

## **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Advent 4**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

*For our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, please do attend your own village or come to a single service, in order that we can allow the most amount of people as possible to attend a Church Service.*

*Please also let the Parish Office if you would like to attend where indicated below.*

## **Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve**

4.00 pm Blessing of the Manger in the Porch, St George's., Bourton  
(see page 11)

6.30 pm St Mary's Kilmington Christmas Eve Service with recorded Carols – please let the Parish Office know if you would like to attend – [parishoffice@upperstour.co.uk](mailto:parishoffice@upperstour.co.uk)

11.30 pm Midnight Mass at St Peter's Stourton – please let the Parish Office know if you would like to attend Midnight Mass – [parishoffice@upperstour.co.uk](mailto:parishoffice@upperstour.co.uk)

## **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day**

10.00 am Christmas Morning Service at St George's Bourton

~ and ~

10.00 am Christmas Morning Service at St Martin's Zeals

Please let the Parish Office know if you would like to attend either of the Christmas Day Services –

[parishoffice@upperstour.co.uk](mailto:parishoffice@upperstour.co.uk)

## **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Christmas 1**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Martin's Zeals

# SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2021

*In these uncertain times and restrictions, all our services are  
subject to change.*

*Please check with your churchwardens, your church noticeboards and/or  
look at the News and Events page on the Upper Stour website*

## **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas 2 / Epiphany**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

## **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Epiphany 1 / Baptism of Christ**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington

5.30 pm Compline at St Peter's Stourton

## **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Epiphany 2**

08.30 am Holy Communion at St Martin's Zeals

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

## **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Epiphany 3**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Martin's Zeals

## **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Epiphany 4**

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

## **8.30 am Holy Communion**

My hope when we returned to worship in our churches in July was to offer more rather than fewer services, to offer the chance for those who are more vulnerable to attend worship. However, I'm afraid that, with reduced income, churchwardens feel that we can no longer afford to heat our churches more than once a month. Please therefore accept my sincere apologies that we will no longer be having a regular 8.30 Communion Service.

*Rev Ben Rundell-Evans*

## **Parish Giving**

You may notice on the door/notice board of each of our four churches there are now QR squares (black and white signs with strange shapes). For visitors or passers-by with smartphones, who have a downloaded QR reader, their phones can identify the code within the QR which then displays on the phone the details which will perhaps encourage them to make a donation to church funds. In this severe period of low income for our churches, when it is of course still necessary to maintain the building etc, every donation however small is much appreciated.

## From the Registers

### Weddings

26<sup>th</sup> Oct at St Peter's Stourton: **Jessica Clark and Thomas Robson**

31<sup>st</sup> Oct at St Peter's Stourton: **Sam Patterson and Emily Gilbert**

### **Bruce Calver : 22.12.1941-23.10.2020**

Bruce has been a much loved member of the church and community here in Upper Stour and his gentle presence will be greatly missed. He was a wonderful church member, opening up at Zeals and helping with Anne Corrie's fundraising. He was a constant and determined attendee at church until it became physically impossible to do so. Bruce's patient and quiet demeanour contained a deeply compassionate man with an inquisitive mind, a passion for human rights, and desire to right the world. I don't remember him on his scooter, as when I met him he was wheelchair bound, but he continued to dream of getting on the scooter when things improved. The last time I spoke to Bruce he told me that he really loved Zeals and that he had spent the happiest time of his life there. So his struggles are done, and he is home at last in the arms of our Father.

*Georgie Denison-Pender*



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# News from Parish Councils

## Bourton

At the October meeting Cllr Fran Gillet reported that a working group (herself, Andrew Gillet, Sheila Williams and Eve Wynn (Clerk) had been created on the case for a speed reduction for the village. The group had recently met to decide the first steps of evidence gathering which would be done twofold: firstly with a simple petition and secondly with a covering letter with the petition delivered to every household, asking for statements of incidents, how residents felt about their safety etc. This will likely be put together in January. Sheila Williams has also been negotiating with Dorset Road Safe Team regarding the upgrading of the current SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices).

When the agenda is published, members of the public are welcome to join the online meetings via Zoom. Contact [bourtonparishclerk@hotmail.com](mailto:bourtonparishclerk@hotmail.com) and request the Zoom link.

*Eve Wynn, Clerk*

## Kilmington

On Remembrance Sunday, Rev Ben Rundell-Evans led a short Service and Act of Remembrance at the war memorial, when a wreath of poppies was laid commemorating the lives of Kilmington men lost in war.

The annual inspection of the playing field has been delayed and we are unsure as to when we will receive the RoSPA's report. Fortunately, the playing field has been allowed to remain open during the second national lockdown, with Darren Davis continuing his weekly inspections for which the PC is very grateful.

Early in October, our Chairman, Cllr Graham Cotton took photographs of all of the drainage grips and drain gullies in the village and these were passed to our Parish Steward as a list of future works. We are pleased to report here that all of them were inspected and cleared as appropriate during the Steward's scheduled visit at the beginning of November.

A report on the PC meeting held on 25 November will be given in the February edition of this magazine but I hope to have the minutes available on the website and on the noticeboard early in December.

*Ruth Burrows, Clerk*

## Stourton with Gasper

As this year draws to a close the Parish Council are already looking ahead to 2021. It is unlikely that our December (Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm) or March (tbc) meeting will be permitted to be held in the Memorial Hall so we assume they will continue on Zoom for a while longer. At our next meeting we will be agreeing the budget 2021/22 so we can request our precept from Wiltshire Council. Following a year of uncertainties, the council tax base has gone down and our expenses have gone up. It is likely we will see a larger increase than normal.

We are already looking at the National 2021 Litter Pick and have earmarked the 27 February 2021 for this to take place. Nearer the time we will be able to confirm details and how different the days activities may have to be to take in social distancing.

2021 sees the 10-year census take place in March. This is a survey and gives a snapshot of the make up of people and households in England. More details will follow but there is more on the website [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk).

In May we will be having councillor elections to the Parish Council and then an opportunity to join us at the annual Parish meeting.

*/continued on page 18*

All that it remains for me to do is wish you all a Happy Christmas and let's all hope the New Year is kinder to us than this year has been.

*Fran Hill, Clerk*

## **Zeals**

As anticipated it was not possible to hold our open meeting of the Parish Council in November. Consequently, councillors have continued to deal with business matters via remote mean, although recently an outdoor, socially-distanced planning meeting was held at Stonehaven, along Chapel Lane, details of which can be viewed on Wiltshire Council's Planning website. In the meantime Bells Lane's road surface has finally been repaired.

On Armistice Day the Chairman laid a wreath by the War Memorial on behalf of the village at an outdoor service led by Rev. Ben Rundell-Evans. This event was well attended, and masks were worn and social distancing was observed throughout. The service was enhanced by the attendance of a trumpet playing employee from the Tarmac company at Longcross, who provided fitting renditions of the solemn tunes associated with this event.

Readers travelling along New Road just past the Wolverton turning may have noticed that the seven trees which were planted in 2018 to commemorate the centenary of the end of the Great War, all now have name plates fixed beside each tree to remember the seven men from Zeals who lost their lives in that war. The plates and the trees were gifts to Zeals from donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Under normal circumstances a public meeting of the Parish Council should be taking place on 19 January, 2021 at 7pm in the Village Hall. Please remember that all proceedings of the Parish Council can be viewed on our noticeboards and on the [gufobox.com/communities/zeals](http://gufobox.com/communities/zeals) website.

*Graham Edgar, Clerk*

Escape to our glorious

## **OPEN SPRING GARDENS in ZEALS**

over the Spring Bank Holiday

Put this date into your 2021 diary

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> May

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## **Eunice Hillman, former Stourton resident reaches 100**

Eunice Hillman reached her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 15<sup>th</sup> September. She is the oldest and last surviving of the three Aldridge sisters formerly of Home Farm, Stourton. Eunice came to Stourton only a few days old, when her father, George Aldridge, was appointed by Sir Henry Hoare to manage the family's farming interests at Stourhead. Her father continued in this role until his death in 1958.

Eunice and her two sisters attended Kilmington School, walking across the fields each day. On leaving school, Eunice moved to Frome where she ran the White House Dairy for many years. Her last visit to Stourton was on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 when she attended St. Peter's, where she was married exactly 80 years earlier, shortly after the outbreak of war; had lunch in the Spread Eagle; walked a short distance to view the moss bridge in the gardens, where her late husband, Donald Hillman, had proposed to her; before returning to her childhood home at Home Farm for a delicious tea.

Eunice has five children, eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren (at the last count). She now lives in Marlborough still very independent and enjoys gardening. Her younger sister, Barbara, died a few years ago, while the middle sister, Margaret, lived in Gasper until she and her late husband, John Trussler, retired to Mere. John was churchwarden at St. Peter's for many years and he and Margaret contributed hugely to village life. Margaret died in 2017.

*Andrew Hillman*

## **The Hartgill Play**

The Hartgill Play production in Kilmington is planned for the Summer/Autumn 2021. A local person is sought with digital experience to help promote the production and work part-time with a small committee. There will be no pay for this role until funding is obtained, although it will be interesting and fun, and rewarding in other ways. The focus will be to develop and disseminate stories and articles using press releases, news stories, articles, social media posts, and websites. If you are interested please contact Peter Booth: [peterbooth13@gmail.com](mailto:peterbooth13@gmail.com) 01985 845379

## **Bourton Village Hall**

The Hall was closed for hiring from 5th November in order to comply with lockdown legislation, the only exception being the Tuesday morning Tummies, Tiddlers and Toddlers group which was permitted to continue in accordance with Government guidelines.

Christmas Lunch is still pencilled in for 14th December and is dependent on lifting of lockdown rules. If you would like to book a place then please contact Paul Curry 01747 840 432 [npaulc1@outlook.com](mailto:npaulc1@outlook.com).

At the present time it is impossible to say whether our monthly lunches will be able to start again in the new year. Use of the hall is to be reviewed in line with prevailing Government legislation in early December so please do check the noticeboard for updates. To discuss future hall bookings, please contact Heather Ransley 07849 673670 [hansley@btinternet.com](mailto:hansley@btinternet.com).



## To all our Distributors and Volunteers

We will not be able to hold our usual coffee morning for all volunteers and distributors in January, but we do give them our heartfelt thanks for their co-operation, flexibility and understanding especially during this challenging year of pandemic. You know who

you are and we are so grateful to you all, and also to Nick Hart and the Bourton Support Group who have been so helpful through the year. Let's hope for better things in 2021.  
*Carol Affleck, Celia Cotton and all the Magazine team*



## FESTIVE DECEMBER!

**VISIT STOURHEAD WINTER ILLUMINATIONS AND HAVE DINNER WITH US**

We, at Spread Eagle Inn, would like to send out a huge **THANK YOU** to all our guests and customers who came out when we re-opened to support us through this extraordinary year thus far. We are all agreed it has taken some doing but we are still here! We have never had so many positive comments from you, our customers.

So, wholeheartedly, we **THANK YOU**.

Now we roll in to December, hoping to be open again and joining the Christmas festivities with National Trust and their Illuminated Trail. We have a great festive menu throughout December, plus our special Christmas Day lunch. These menus are on our website, do come and join us! Booking is advisable.

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Contributions for the February 2021 edition by  
*Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021* please



**ALL GOOD WISHES FOR  
CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR  
TO EVERYONE**

**FROM THE MAGAZINE TEAM**

