

Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

About Upper Stour

serving the villages of Bourton
Kilmington
Stourton
Zeals



June 2021

Parish Contacts

Clergy

Rev Ben Rundell Evans *Priest in Charge*Parish Office: 01747 840221 (Day off Tuesday)

Email: revben@upperstour.co.uk Rev Mac MacCormack Associate Priest

07470667118 (Day off Friday) Email: revmac@upperstour.co.uk

Licensed Lay Ministers

Brian Martin 01747 840433 Mona Tyler 01985 844509

Lay Pastoral Assistants

Caroline Worthington 01747 840266 (also Lay Worship Leader)
Barbara Borwell 01747 840141

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

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Printed by Mail&Print: Berwick St Leonard 0845 362 0983
All items for the July/August 2021 issue should be sent to
the Editor at Bay Tree Cottage, Kilmington, Wiltshire BA12 6RG
tel 01985 844613 email celiabeale@globalnet.co.uk

Contributions for the July & August 2021 combined issue should reach the Editor by **Friday 18**th **June 2021 at noon**

Mobile Library Times: June 2021

June 3, 17 **Zeals** School 10.00-1040 am

Kilmington Home Guard Club 11.25-11.35 am

Message from Rev Ben

This month of June will of course see in the Summer Solstice and the longest day of the year. On 21st December this year (the Winter Solstice) we will see only 7hrs and 50mins of day light; however, on 21st June we will be treated to 16hrs and 38mins of day light. The sun will rise at 4.52am and set at 9.26pm. There is something about a long (and hopefully warm!) summer's day, that can make us thankful and hopeful. At time of writing, there is also the hope that we will also be able to be a little freer with what we are able to do with so much sunlight too!

In Ella Frances Sanders' book *Lost in Translation* she describes the word 'gezellig' - a Dutch adjective which "describes much more than just cosiness - a positive warm emotion or feeling rather than just something physical - and connotes time spent with loved ones, together". It is a wonderfully rounded word that brings together so many human emotions - security, comfort, warmth and love being but a few. Much of last year has reduced our capacity to live a way of life that exudes 'gezellig'. We can feel awkward striking up a conversation with people we bump into because of social distancing, we haven't been able to 'drop in' on people in a way we might have before, and many of our go-to instincts to 'reach-out' have been called into question. This is a very real challenge to a group of communities, which I hope people feel are warm and welcoming.

As we see our days reach the height of their length, and some warmth coming in our weather, it is also great to see some of our village norms return such as teas, the continual invitation to worship in our village churches, and the reopening of our pubs. All of these things and more help us to be communities which live out that Dutch word that says so much about being a warm and welcoming place. As the months go by, I very much look forward to seeing more coffee mornings, lunches and other village events creep back into the diary as we continue to be communities that can be defined by that Dutch adjective 'gezelling' — communities which bring warmth, love and hope to those who live within them.

Ben

Rev Ben Rundell-Evans

St George's 100 Club

Results for the April and May draws are below. The numbers were drawn outside Bourton Garage on Tuesday 11 May.

April

1st Prize: Diane Davies 2nd Prize: Paul Hart

May

1st Prize: Finley Moorby 2nd Prize: Oliver Etheridge

We have 113 subscriptions this year. 1st prize will be £34, 2nd prize £21.50

Ruth Burrows 01747 840371

St Martin's Millennium Club

May winners

A WOLYNSKYJ B MOODIE D CORBIN N HARVEY K MAIDMENT

The June draw will take place at Zeals Motors on 10th June

Contact Nigel Blackmore 01747 841110 SDC Lott 842



Stourton Memorial Hall

Located in the courtyard on the beautiful Stourhead Estate, the hall is covid compliant and offers a wonderful, fully equipped venue for your special occasion.

For enquiries and bookings please email; <u>bookings@stourtonmh.co.uk</u> or call Helen on 07971 811347website; stourtonmh.co.uk

Green Fingers Notes from a Fairweather Gardener June 2021

When we think of the garden in June, we often think of roses because June is the month when they are at their best. Playwrights and poets from many cultures have written about roses, and Shakespeare's thought that 'a rose by any other name would smell as sweet', surely sums up their timeless appeal. For all their variety of colour and form, we tend to associate roses with their fragrance. Old fashioned varieties, whether they are climbers or bush roses, often have the strongest fragrance, but some rose breeders, such as David Austin, have made a point of producing highly scented roses of all types, with the advantage of more disease resistance.

Roses are in some ways quite fussy plants, and although they seem to survive in the most unlikely places, most varieties will produce their best blooms when planted in full sunshine and free draining soil. They also respond well to regular feeding and mulching. To get the best blooms, feed roses in containers every couple of weeks, and those in the ground twice a year, once in spring and once in summer to encourage further blooms. Roses grown in the ground do not need much watering once they have established unless there is a drought; roses grown in containers will need to be kept watered through the summer. However, they do not like competition, so try to keep their roots weed free.

The summer garden can be a riot of perfume, even without roses. Honeysuckle and jasmine climbing up a wall or rambling over a tree stump, philadelphus and lavender bushes are perhaps some the most obvious candidates for a scented garden, but they are not the only options. If you don't want anything as large or as permanent as these, there are several annuals which will provide evening perfume such as night scented stocks or nicotiana. All culinary herbs smell sweetly – have you thought of planting thyme in a path so that it releases its scent as you step on it? And for the chocoholics amongst you, why not try a chocolate cosmos. Yes, it really does smell of chocolate!

All of these will delight the bees and other insects in your garden, so as well as colour and scent, you will get the gentle humming of bees. What better image is there of the perfect summer's day?

Daphne Knott

Kilmington & Stourton Women's Institute

For the May Zoom Meeting the speaker was Daphne Atkinson on a historical subject: Life Below Stairs
The next meeting will be on 29th June 2021
If you are interested in joining the WI please contact:
Secretary Bernie Isted bernieisted@gmail.com
or Jane Parker jane.homefarm@googlemail.com

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News from Stourhead



Introducing Tim Parker - the new Head Gardener at Stourhead.

"Slanting light gleaming through the trees. Wide stretches of parkland with

sheep grazing under old oaks. The distant glimmer of a lake and stream, or the outline of a temple or folly on a hill – nothing is more beautiful, or more 'English', than an 18th century landscape garden." Horace Walpole 1762

We are thrilled to have appointed Tim Parker as our new Head Gardener at Stourhead. In this pivotal role Tim will provide our wonderful team with the vision and leadership to ensure that Stourhead remains an internationally renowned exemplar of an 18th century designed landscape - here to move teach and inspire future generations. Tim and his family will join us in August and he writes...

The Hoare family have an awful lot to be proud of. Stourhead is the zenith of landscape gardens and visiting never fails to leave a lasting impression at the deepest level. It is a garden that lifts the spirits, and I can't wait to play my part in ensuring that it is cherished and protected for generations to come. The work taking place on the wider estate to protect nature and the production of estate timber are fantastic, and I look forward to getting involved in caring for the 2500 acres of countryside in our care.

Some of my earliest memories were spent gardening as have parents who are keen amateur gardeners with a decent sized garden. My love of gardening only grew, and I have now worked in horticulture for over 17 years, most of this time as a Gardener for the National Trust. During this time I have worked at several properties including Claremont Landscape Garden, Clandon Park, Polesden Lacey (where I was Head Gardener) and most recently at the Chartwell Portfolio in Kent where I am Garden and Countryside Manager for the gardens and surrounding countryside at Chartwell, Emmetts and Quebec House.

Opportunities like this are once in a lifetime. To be in a position to support the team at Stourhead in caring for the landscape for generations to come is an absolute privilege. I look forward to leading the management and care of this magnificent garden and estate and to supporting and nurturing the team along the wav.

Country Calendar: June 2021

With her long daylight hours Bursting forth summer flowers Swallows fledging from their nests Busy days, little rest. JP

What weather we have been having - the wettest winter and now the driest April. The first May Bank Holiday was the coldest since records began. Things were getting desperate: continual frosts, cutting winds, no rain for several weeks hindered the grass and crops growth, so warm temperatures and soft gentle rain very much in need. Fodder is in demand as turnout for livestock has been held back and farmers are short of hay or silage. As we hit June, we are keeping our fingers crossed for warm balmy days, with gentle refreshing rain at night - wishful thinking, but farmers have to be the eternal optimists.



At least the sale of our bulls has been very buoyant and Desmond our donkey has been kept very busy accompanying the bulls on their iourney to their new homes. Desmond might be a little brown donkey but he is a very brave loving soul with a heart of gold. And incredibly intelligent: the cattle cannot get enough of him; the females lick and mother him and the bulls are calmed by him. It is the pheromones! For those of us who have seen the movie Shrek you might remember the part when Donkey says to Shrek "Oh, come on, Shrek, wake up and smell the pheromones!"? Well, Donkey was right, pheromones do play an important role in animal behaviour! When we train our young bulls Desmond walks with them, and bulls are

immediately calmed and their experience of being haltered and taught to walk with Desmond next to them is comforting and relaxing. Desmond's talents are unending from training them to walk or travel in the trailer where his presence always makes them calm and the experience trouble free. The best thing is when Desmond is called on to accompany the bulls which have been sold; we always, if possible, deliver them ourselves. With Desmond's presence the animals are chilled, happy and travel safely and stress free. It always makes me smile when I see a huge, big bull follow this little brown donkey out of the trailer like a lamb. The funniest thing is when the bull arrives at its destination: the new owner of the animal is always shocked when the tail gate is lowered and out walks Desmond followed by one very large, swaggering, happy, chilled bull.

Jane Parker

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Whitesheet School News

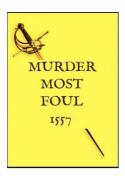
We are delighted to tell you that the children in years 5 and 6 are able to attend the "Kilve Court" residential trip in Somerset in late June/July 2021. This trip was postponed from last year.

Kilve Court is a historical gem, set in 40 acres of wooded grounds and gardens, less than a mile from the beach at the foot of the Quantock Hills, where the children can enjoy a range of supervised activities, such as abseiling and archery. It is a fantastic opportunity for the children to learn outside of the classroom. We know they will have an unforgettable time.

After school clubs are on this term: swimming and cooking club on a Monday, Wednesday dance club and Thursday multi sports club.

Miss Mack from Gillingham School is to visit Whitesheet on 17th June, to meet with Year 6 children who will be moving on at the end of term 6 in July. The transition day is 30th June, when all children move to a new class or school which they will be attending in September.

Vanessa Higgins Head of School



MURDER MOST FOUL

JUNE QUIZ 2021

Win two MMF Tickets by answering the questions below. The questions relate to the period of the Hartgill Murders. All correct answers will go into a hat on 1st July from which the winner's name will be drawn.

- 1. Who was on the throne in England in 1557?
- 2. What is a *Poignard*?
- 3. In which county was Kilmington in the 16th century?
- 4. What is a Marchet?
- 5. What was the purpose of *Peine Forte et Dure*?
- 6. What is a Groat?
- 7. A man drinks a *Pottle* of beer. How many pints has he drunk?
- 8. What is a Halberd?
- 9. In which village did William and John Hartgill live?
- 10. What was the Star Chamber?

Please email answers with your name and contact details to quiz@murdermostfoul.co by end of play on 30th June 2021. One entry per email address.

Stourton Village Show

This is a call for fresh volunteers to run the Stourton Village Show. Last year the Show did not happen for obvious reasons. This year the previous volunteer team find themselves short on inspiration and long on work and family commitments. The show is currently pencilled in for Sunday 1st August. To make it happen a new team is needed. The old team can explain how they used to do it - if required - or a new format can be devised.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Johnnie Gallop on 01747 841565 jgallop66@gmail.com

SERVICES FOR JUNE 2021

Thursday 3rd Corpus Christi

09.00 am BCP Communion at St Mary's Kilmington

Sunday 6th 1st Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

Sunday 13th 2nd Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington

Sunday 20th 3rd Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

Sunday 27th 4th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion at St Martin's Zeals

July 2021

Sunday 4th 5th Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

Churches are now open for private prayer as follows:

Mondays St George's Bourton **Wednesdays** St Martin's Zeals

Thursdays 09.00 am at St Mary's Kilmington for Morning Prayer St Peter's Stourton open **all day** with restrictions

From the Registers

Wedding

21st May at St Peter's, Stourton Holly Fuoco and George Robert

Funeral

14th May at St Martin's, Zeals Glenda Martin

Interment of Ashes

19th May in St Martin's Churchyard, Zeals **Di Williams**

A Service of Praise & Celebration of our Pets & All Creatures, Great & Small Sunday 11th July 2021 @ 4 pm at Home Farm, Stourton, BA12 6QL

(by kind permission of Jane & Harry Parker)



Do come along and enjoy this special service of praise for your beloved pets, whether they have fur, feathers or scales. For those who no longer have a pet, please bring a treasured photo and share your memories with us. This service is suitable for all ages, and will be followed by pet treats and light refreshments.

Donations for Pets as Therapy & Cinnamon Trust most welcome.

This is a working farm: please follow the directions for parking and venue and be responsible, keep your pet under control & clean up after your pet.

Contacts: Barbara 01747 840141/Rev Ben Rundell-Evans 01747 840221

Summer at St George's Bourton Save these dates please!

Art in the Garden Event on Sunday 8th August from 3.0pm-5.0pm in gardens in Old Pound Court. Teas as well as art! If it is wet on 8th August we will try again on 15th August. Some of the art will be available to buy.

ALSO - ALERT TO READERS WHO PAINT!

We would be delighted to receive paintings from readers of the magazine for display in our gardens in August. Paintings may be included which are for sale and not for sale. If you wish to sell a painting please price it. We would ask for a donation to St George's Church as you feel is appropriate should you make a sale. Please bring easels or supports to help display your work. Paintings may be brought to our gardens from 2.30pm before we open at 3.0pm or they may be left with Nick Hall or Margaret Martin before the event.

Any queries please phone Margaret Martin on 01747840433 September Show will be on 4th September in and around the Church

IT WILL BE LOVELY TO SEE YOU ALL AFTER LOCKDOWN!



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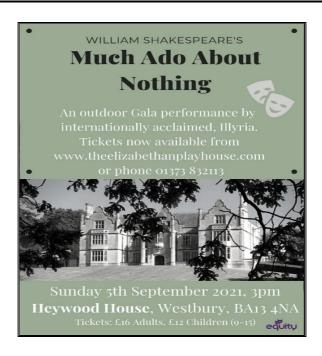
THE SPREAD EAGLE INN at Stourhead is recruiting!!

We are excited to be re-opening The Spread Eagle Inn, and welcome our locals with a great offer on our wood fired Rotisserie and BBQ.



We now have **vacancies** for part time or full time **Waiting Staff, Kitchen Porters and Commis Chefs.** Come and join our great team!

Call us for informal chat to speak to Colin on 01747 840 587 or write to enquiries@sreadeagleinn.com





Sunday 4th July





Walk 3k, 5k or 10k and raise money for the hospital ward/department of your choice

The Stars Appeal - Salisbury District Hospital's Charity Salisbury District Hospital, Salisbury SP2 8BJ Tel 01722 429005 www.starsappeal.org

Holiday Activity and Food Programme

Wiltshire Council has been given Department of Education funding to deliver the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme to children eligible for benefits related free school meals in Wiltshire. The programme is being delivered in Wiltshire using the brand FUEL. The deadline for applications is **5pm on Thursday 3 June 2021**. This tight timescale is to ensure that successful applicants have the appropriate time to plan, promote and deliver their FUEL programme. For information about this funding or application please email fuelprogramme@wiltshire.gov.uk





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News from Parish Councils Bourton

After 14 months of virtual meetings Bourton Parish Council will have held its first face-to-face meeting in the village on Monday 24th May. The Zoom meetings have been very successful and we have managed to conduct all the necessary council business without too many hiccups. I would like to thank all our councillors for their continued commitment and attendance in what have been very strange and sometimes stressful times during the pandemic.

The wonderful volunteers who carry out two litter picks during the year have been busy again recently. At the last Parish Council meeting Bernie Sullivan said "It is now 7 years since our litter volunteers commenced their twice-yearly litter picks in March and September, and this year new volunteers have come forward and helped to increase our range yet again. Not only have all roads and public footpaths been cleared within the parish, but all four of the parish laybys have also been tackled, not only with litter removal, but also fly-tipping cases reported. Our Wincanton Road team has even extended their efforts beyond the parish boundary all the way to the A303 junction, a sterling effort. Bourton has never been cleaner! We are now looking for "Anti-Litter Champions" who will make the picking up and disposing of litter as a routine part of their walking in the parish throughout the year, so please give this some thought and help word!" you interested please the SO if are bourtonparishclerk@hotmail.com

At the previous Parish Council it was agreed that the village needed an extra noticeboard at the eastern end of the village and I recently met with Enrico Dimarino, our Community Highway Officer, to agree the placement of the noticeboard on the grass verge along Main Road, just before Tan Lane.

Eve Wynn, Clerk

Kilmington

The Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council meetings were held on 20 May at our new venue of the Home Guard Club. The Chairman gave a report on the PC's activities over the past year, George Jeans on his work as Wiltshire Unitary Councillor for the Mere district and Elizabeth Hames reported on the Kilmington Parish Amenity Fund and Kilmington News. Copies of their reports will be available on our website https://kilmingtonwiltshire.org Graham Cotton was nominated and elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the next year and Elizabeth Hames was nominated and elected as Vice Chairman. All councillors signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and undertaking to observe the Code of Conduct, including our two new members — Andrew Reeves and Chris Webster.

/... continued on page 19

There was much formal business to get through at this meeting and all the details, including the financial documents will be available on our website and noticeboard.

Two planning applications were discussed:

Application No. PL/2021/03114 Conversion of part of redundant barn to form 1-bedroom dwelling at land adjacent to Greenfield, Butts Lane, Kilmington. The applicants were present at the meeting and the PC resolved to "Support – with conditions" and following discussions the Chairman agreed to put these in writing to the other members before submitting them to Wiltshire Council.

Application No. PL/2021/04538 Installation of replacement mixing plant in the service yard at the rear (south-east) of the premises at The Highlands, Norton Ferris. The applicants were present at the meeting and all members had reviewed the plans on line. It was resolved to "Support" this application.

Ruth Burrows, Clerk: parishclerk@kilmingtonwiltshire.org, 01747 840371

Stourton with Gasper

Stourton with Gasper Parish Council have 3 councillors due to take office at the annual parish council meeting which has been delayed until 26th May. We plan to co-opt new councillors at the meeting. As we need to go to print before the meeting we will provide a report for the next magazine.

Fran Hill, Clerk

Zeals

Councillors held an indoor meeting on Tuesday 18 May for the first time in over one year, but with very limited public attendance owing to continued restrictions. The six elected councillors discussed the applications made by some residents for the single co-opted vacancy, with a decision to be published at the next meeting. Charles Spencer was elected Chairman, with Mark Gibbons as Vice Chair and Caro Hole Jones in charge of Planning. Most of the AGM was devoted to the financial review undertaken by the Clerk before the Annual Governance and Accountability Review is posted locally and sent to our external auditors. The Management Committee of the Village Hall presented a short report to the councillors, as they are the Trustees of the Hall. The normal bi-monthly meeting followed, and many local issues were discussed and some decisions made on issues such as: the Alms Houses; further use of Green pastures; lay-by problems along New Road; repairs still needed to build-out structures within the 30 mph scheme and speeding driver problems along the same route, and the condition of Portnells Lane's public notice board. Full details can be read on our boards and on hugofox.com/communities/zeals website.

Graham Edgar: Clerk to Zeals Parish Council



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Sound interesting? For more information, please email Sarah at:

sarahabolshaw@outlook.com

Next program starts on Monday 21st June. Book now as only 15 places available - £495 (normal price, but see below for special offer)

£395 - early bird special offer

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Lisa Nichols - CEO of Motivating the Masses

Regular Weekly Events

Weekdays	Pre-School	08.45 -15.15 at the Preschool Playing Fields, West Bourton [term time only]
	The ZAC (Zeals AfterSchool Club)	Daily 15.15-18.00 (17.00 Fridays) at Mere Youth Centre, off White Rd, Mere 01747 840077/info@thezac.org.uk
Tuesdays	Tummies, Tiddlers & Toddlers	09.15 – 12 noon at Bourton Village Hall
	Beavers	contact Anne Martin (ZAZU) anne.martin9@btinernet.com or by text to 07368 588270
Bourton Beavers are making the most of the longer evenings and exploring their local villages with their leaders. We welcome children aged 6 to 8 years of age. Try us and see if you like us!! TUESDAY NIGHT IS BEAVER NIGHT 6-7 pm		
Wednesdays	Bell ringing practice	19.30 – 21.00 at St Martin's Zeals [will re-commence when restrictions allow]
Fridays	Friday Fun Club	Contact Georgina Muir 01985 844245 10.00 - 11.30 Whitesheet School Hall
iiiuays	i iluay i uli Ciub	10.00 - 11.00 WHITESHEEL SCHOOL HAIL

Friday Fun Club 10.00 - 11.30 Whitesheet School Hall Zeals

Zeais

[temporarily suspended due to Covid]

Choir Practice Most Fridays (18.00-19.00) at St

Martin's Church Zeals. New singers welcome. Contact Tom Wheare

01747 840 622

[will re-commence when restrictions

allow]

Cubs Contact Lesley Love GSL

lesley1ump@hotmail.co.uk or text on 07967100106

Bourton Cubs are not meeting as our Leaders have changed jobs and are not available to run the sessions currently. We apologise for this and realise it is a disappointment to our young people. We hope to be able to offer Cubs once again in September, watch this space for updates.

Bourton Village Hall

Wow! Our afternoon teas have proved to be very successful! The sun shone on our St George's Day tea and it was lovely to see people of all ages chatting together outside.

The next one will be on Friday 25th June from 2:30 to 4:30 and will be a Wimbledon-themed Afternoon Tea. The gazebos will be up outside in the car park again and although we can't offer lawn tennis, we will have the new table tennis tables set up inside for anyone to have a go. The tea will be £2.50 per adult and there's no charge for children. We're planning on setting up regular table tennis sessions for adults and children so come and have a go and tell us what you think. It would be great to see some youngsters come and play after school - free drinks and cake on offer!

All being well we should all be back to normal very soon and indoor events can start again in the hall.

To discuss hall bookings, please contact Heather 07849 673670 hransley@btinternet.com.

Safety is very important to us and we will ensure that any COVID restrictions are followed at all events.

Cricket!



We have a new Sunday cricket team and would love you to join us, all abilities and ages welcome!

Go to the Kilmington and Stourton Cricket Club facebook page to check timings for nets and come along to support us for matches at the beautiful Stourhead ground overlooking the house.

The team includes all abilities and ages (from 14) so please don't be put off if you haven't played for years or even at all - there's no commitment, you will be welcomed if you can turn out for a single match.

Kit can be supplied, all you will need is a white shirt and trousers and an enthusiasm for the game.

Want to know more? email jim@jamesmann.com or call 07802182375

Contributions for the July & August 2021 combined edition by *Friday 18th June 2021* please