



Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

# About Upper Stour

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



**December 2022**  
**January 2023**



## **Parish Contacts**

### **Clergy**

Rev Mac MacCormack *Associate Priest*

07470667118 (day off: Friday)

Email: [revmac@upperstour.co.uk](mailto:revmac@upperstour.co.uk)

**CONTACT REV MAC FOR PASTORAL CONCERNS ONLY**

### **Licensed Lay Minister**

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 Administrator, Emma Chandarana***

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

Parish website [www.upperstour.co.uk](http://www.upperstour.co.uk) /Facebook Group Parish of Upper Stour

The day-to-day management of the Parish is the responsibility of the Churchwardens and the PCC. Our Parish Administrator, Emma Chandarana, works part time and she should be contacted **by email:**

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

For urgent matters such as arranging a funeral etc, you could contact your churchwarden in the first instance. Contact details below:

<b>Bourton</b>	Margaret Martin	01747 840433	<a href="mailto:bookworminbourton@gmail.com">bookworminbourton@gmail.com</a>
<b>Kilmington</b>	Chris Reeves	01985 844894	<a href="mailto:c.reeves110@btinternet.com">c.reeves110@btinternet.com</a>
	Celia Cotton	01985 844613	<a href="mailto:celiabeale@globalnet.co.uk">celiabeale@globalnet.co.uk</a>
<b>Stourton</b>	Jane Parker	01985 844248	<a href="mailto:jane.homefarm@gmail.com">jane.homefarm@gmail.com</a>
	Crin Fearon	01747 841400	<a href="mailto:fearoncrin@hotmail.com">fearoncrin@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Zeals</b>	Sue Evans	01747 840600	<a href="mailto:smebad@btinternet.com">smebad@btinternet.com</a>

***For magazine contacts see page 30***

## Advent Absentee by Sylvia Sands



Here I go again,

Carefully unpacking the figures of the crib,  
Tenderly wiping dust from Mary`s eyes  
And Joseph`s beard,  
All the while practising my contemplative skills.

Here I am,  
Duster in hand,  
Seeking to emulate  
The shepherds` enthusiasm and openness,  
(wipe, wipe)  
The wise men`s courage and generosity,  
(dust, dust)  
Mary`s mysticism,  
Joseph`s humility,  
The Christ Child`s vulnerability.

Who am I kidding?

It is the absent figure that haunts me.

I stand shoulder to shoulder  
In grim, callous, irritable solidarity  
With that wretched innkeeper.  
No room, no time, no way.

Nobody has ever dared to carve him in wood  
And include him in the Christmas crib,

Have they?

## St George's 100 Club

Results for the October and  
November draws

### OCTOBER 2022

1<sup>ST</sup> Gillian Haskell (60)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rosemary Firbank (39)

### NOVEMBER 2022

1<sup>ST</sup> Joan Brashier (32)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Max Hughes (88)

Enquiries to  
Ruth Burrows  
01747 840371

## St Martin's Millennium Club

### November winners

F Ransome

C Harvey

K Ramsay

P Aldred

D Turner

December draw on 8<sup>th</sup> December  
at Zeals Motors

Contact Nigel Blackmore  
01747 841110  
SDC Lott 842

## Mobile Library Times

### December 2022

Dec 1, 15, 29	<b>Zeals</b>	School Zeals Rise	10.00-10.40 am 10.45-11.05 am
Dec 1, 15, 29	<b>Kilmington</b>	Home Guard Club	11.25-11.35 am

### January 2023

Jan 12 26	<b>Zeals</b>	School Zeals Rise	10.00-10.40 am 10.45-11.05 am
	<b>Kilmington</b>	Home Guard Club	11.25-11.35 am



**National  
Trust**

## News from Stourhead

---

The festive season has arrived, and we are pleased to have opened the doors to Stourhead House once again, so that visitors can enjoy the decorated house which has been lovingly created over the past few months thanks to a wonderful team of volunteers.

Alongside the decorated house, Christmas at Stourhead is in full swing and it is always lovely to see so many people enjoying the illuminated trail. We welcome a mix of first-time visitors, and those that know and love Stourhead, coming to the event. We find that those who are visiting for the first time often return to see the property in a different season the following year.

Christmas at Stourhead has also become a Christmas tradition for many, to visit with friends and loved ones, making new memories together each year. As Christmas passes and we move into the new year, the garden offers a wonderfully tranquil walk, and an opportunity to see the foundations of this man-made landscape. Through the bare branches you can make out the stone edging on the lake and glimpse the many different varieties of bird and other wildlife that call Stourhead home.

The new year will also see us offering our popular behind the scenes tours of the house, these are an opportunity to peek into rooms that are usually closed to visitors including the attics and basement storerooms. More information on these tours and details on how to book tickets can all be found on our website.

We hope to welcome you and your loved ones again soon. 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.

Alice Moran, Marketing & Communications Officer  
[alice.moran@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:alice.moran@nationaltrust.org.uk) or 01747 842021.



## Stourton Memorial Hall

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

For enquiries and bookings please email [bookings@stourtonmh.co.uk](mailto:bookings@stourtonmh.co.uk)  
or call Helen on 07971 811347 website: [stourtonmh.co.uk](http://stourtonmh.co.uk)

## WELDING AND MECHANICAL SERVICES Including Metal work and Machinery Repairs

- Domestic – Agricultural – Industrial •
- Onsite fabrication and mobile welding •
- Bespoke ironwork, design and repairs •
- Vehicle repairs from tractors to bicycles •

**DALE** 07507594990 - @welderbeastuk

## SIMON NICHOLLS

**INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING**



**PLEASE CALL FOR A QUOTE**  
**01747 840300 / 07852355086**

# FOXED BY ESTATE PLANNING?



by Stephanie Bebbington Dyke, Founder & CEO of Blue Fox Wealth, Chartered Fellow FCISI, DipPFS



What is meant by estate planning? In broad terms, it is a planning and forecasting exercise to manage the size of your Estate to limit the burden of inheritance tax (IHT).

The rapid increase in property value can unknowingly place your Estate into a position whereby the beneficiaries to your Will would be liable to pay inheritance tax, which must be settled six months from the date of death, even if your Estate does not have the means to pay.

Working with an independent financial advisor you will understand how the size and nature of your Estate will impact on your loved ones.

You will be informed of the rates and reliefs that can apply, and what steps you can take now to mitigate any future problems.

Planning provides structure but will always be flexible so, should your circumstances change, we can update and adapt your strategy to ensure your loved ones do not receive a nasty surprise on your death.

If you would like to discuss your position with a friendly, independent chartered advisor, please get in touch.



Investments | Tax Planning | Charities & Trusts | Pensions | Insurance & Protection | Inheritance Tax

[bluefoxwealth.co.uk](http://bluefoxwealth.co.uk)

01935 507230

[hello@bluefoxwealth.co.uk](mailto:hello@bluefoxwealth.co.uk)

Blue Fox Wealth is directly regulated and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority.  
Past investment performance is no guarantee of future performance. Clients typically have a minimum of £150k to invest.



Offering a Prompt and Courteous Service

- Septic Tank Emptying
- Temporary Toilet Hire
- Luxury Trailer Toilets and Showers
- Welfare Units
- Refrigerated Trailer Units

01747 871464

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

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

[admin@temporaryfacilities.co.uk](mailto:admin@temporaryfacilities.co.uk)

## Country Calendar: December and January

What a year - 2022! It has been given the name "Permacrisis", 77 years since the end of WWII and Europe is again at war. We celebrated Queen Elizabeth's 70 years on the throne, then mourned her loss. A new King Charles and three Prime Ministers in as many months. Excessive heat and a drought, continuing with unseasonable high temperatures into November. The cost-of-living crisis, rising food and fuel prices, fears of a cold harsh winter and energy shortages. Covid still rearing its ugly head and the prediction of a flu epidemic. With a real epidemic of avian flu killing thousands of wild birds and commercial flocks. You could not make this up; it is unbelievable, but we must keep battling on as best as we can. Farmers have to be resilient and optimistic, otherwise you would not bother to get out of bed in a morning. Tomorrow is always another day, having livestock keeps you focused, their welfare being our main priority. Then I read about the tide of illegal meat coming into the UK via Dover. At the start of October, a 24-hour undercover investigation called "Operation Ouzo" checked the adequacy of border controls at the port. Shockingly out of 22 vehicles of Romanian, Moldovan, Ukrainian and Polish origin checked, 21 were found to have large amounts of raw animal produce, despite supposedly increased measures to prevent such illegal meats entering the country. Unfortunately, the outgoing Jacob Rees-Mogg's parting gift was to mothball the UK side checks on such imports, instead allowing shipments to come in unhindered. It is illegal to bring meat products into the country unless they are produced to the EU's commercial standards. Alarmingly these vehicles were found to contain raw animal products loosely stored in carrier bags without temperature control or refrigeration, with no labelled identification, mixed with ready to eat items such as cheese, crisps and cakes, all intended for circulation within the UK. Dover MP Natalie Elphicke has serious concerns, as up to 10,000 vehicles enter the UK at Dover every day. She is quoted as saying ***"It is clear that the risk of maggoty meat, and meats of unknown origin, which often means horse or other illegal meats rotting due to lack of temperature controls is of real concern. The illegal pork trade is rife at the port of Dover, so rife that around 80% of that illegal trade comes through the short straits without adequate checks; there is nothing to stop it."*** If the animal health risk is not alarming enough, surely the risk to human health must serve as a wake-up call to UK Government to introduce UK Import Health Certificates on all meat imports immediately. I am horrified to think where this illegal meat ends up, and the fact that a high proportion of these black-market cargos contain illegal meat i.e. horse donkey etc. The risk of diseases such as African swine fever being brought in with such products is much more than a high probability, it is only a



matter of time. What is happening here is criminal: thousands of vehicles arrive unchecked every day. On that particular day the only time any checks were made 21 of the 22 vehicles were found to be ferrying illegal meats; 9978 vehicles went unchecked. Today when no checks are made someone should be held to account! Yet again one has to ask the question - is this Government fit for its office? Never has it been more important to make sure we buy British and local.

It just leaves me to wish you a very Happy Christmas and hoping that what is coming in 2023 is better than what has gone.

Happy New Year!

*Jane Parker*

## **SILTON SURGERY**

**GPs Dr Neil Harding, Dr Moyra Reid**

**Silton Surgery, Gillingham Road, Bourton, Dorset SP8 5DF**

**Tel: 01747 840226**

*(Just off the B3092 from Bourton to Gillingham)*

We offer a wide range of services

including family planning and travel advice.

We accept patients from a seven mile radius.

Same day appointments available (phone before 10.00 am)

See Surgery Newsletter for details

*In an emergency please phone the Surgery: 01747 840226*

*Repeat Prescription line: 01747 840950*

## **Diamond Jubilee Oak in Bourton**

I am writing about the young oak tree in the centre of new cemetery field in Bourton. It was found on the bank in the school grounds where a huge oak planted to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee had recently been felled. We kept the tiny sprouting seedling and by the time of our late Queen's Diamond Jubilee it had reached a good metre tall. It was planted out during the four days of village celebrations by Albert Ware, a keen gardener and long term resident, and his granddaughter. To protect it from Gerald Moore's sheep and machinery, Bourton Fencing kindly donated materials and erected an enclosure. Trevor Griffin of village shop fame took it on himself to water and nurture it as he lived opposite.

Ten years on, it is now a splendidly shaped oak tree and to record its history and importance, Jack our 13 year old grandson, has made and carved a plaque using a piece of oak from Stourhead Estate.

***Viv Sturt***

# **Green Fingers: Notes from a Fairweather Gardener**

## **December 2022 / January 2023**

As I write this, it is pouring with rain and the prospect of going outside for anything at all is most uninviting. This prolonged wet spell should be a reminder to us that the weather can wreak havoc on any garden structures that we may have in place, so on the next fine day, it is worth checking that sheds and greenhouses have remained weatherproof and that fences, pergolas and trellises are secure for the winter. If you have a heated greenhouse, try to ensure that the insulation is as efficient as possible in these times of rising energy costs.

While the plants are dormant in the garden, it is a good opportunity over the next couple of months to prune trees and shrubs, especially those that are prone to bleeding after they have been pruned; it is no longer recommended that pruning cuts are bound because this might encourage fungal growth. Plants that should be pruned before Christmas to minimise bleeding are acers, mulberry and vines. Now is also a good time to prune apple and pear trees that have been grown in open ground, but not wall trained fruit. Most shrub roses can be pruned in January if the weather is mild.

Although it seems that any new growth is impossible in the dark days of January, this is a very good time to start sowing seeds indoors in a warm spot. Many annuals, perennials, vegetables and even exotic indoor foliage plants can be sown in January, and this is an economical way of restocking the garden for the summer. Sow your seeds thinly in a seed tray filled with seed compost and cover them lightly with compost. Sprinkle with water, cover with a fitted plastic cover, a sheet of polythene, glass or even cling film and put in a warm light place. Most seeds will germinate in a couple of weeks, which is very satisfying to watch.

At this time of year, the indoor garden is alive with colourful bulbs and exotica such as poinsettias. We tend to keep our houses rather warmer than most plants would like, so if you want them to last as long as possible, try to find a bright, draught free corner so that you can have the pleasure of them for longer.

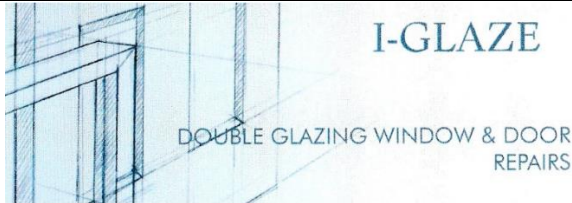
***Daphne Knott***

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

Kilmington and Stourton WI hold their meeting every fourth Tuesday of the month unless otherwise stated at Stourton Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm.

**Our next meeting is on 24th January 2023: it will be a Games Evening**

For further information contact Secretary Bernie Isted 01985 844933  
or Jane Parker 01985 844248



**REPLACEMENT-** Double Glazed Sealed Units,  
Handles, Hinges, Locking Mechanisms

PLEASE CALL FOR A QUOTE - FULLY INSURED

**01747 841403**

**07963 853968**



### **Boiler Servicing & Maintenance**

**- Breakdowns - Repairs - Oil - Gas - LPG –**

**Mark Benfield**

**01747 828689 or 07974 249287mark@mabheatingservices**

## **BOURTON GARDENING CLUB**

We would love you to join us at one of our friendly meetings in Bourton Village Hall.

Doors open at 7pm, talks start at 7.30.

Pay bar and hot drinks available.

**Wednesday 21 December**

Gardeners' Call My Bluff. Can you tell who is pulling your leg?

**Wednesday 18 January**

A history of the front garden

Visitors always welcome. £3 entry

## **Martin Rose**

Electrical Contractor

Tel: 01747 841352

Mobile: 07813535799

email:

[mrose230@btinternet.com](mailto:mrose230@btinternet.com)

*With over 30 years experience*



**Join our  
Heating Oil  
Buying Club!**



and **SAVE** up to  
**10%** on your  
heating oil cost!



- Free to join
- Independent of suppliers
- Order for more than one location
- Pay the supplier direct
- Fortnightly reminders
- Monthly budget scheme available
- Over 900 members

FOR FREE REGISTRATION AND TO  
COMPARE RECENT PRICES VISIT

[www.nadder.oilbuyingclub.com](http://www.nadder.oilbuyingclub.com)

# SCHOOL NEWS

## St George's Bourton

The school year is well underway and the children have been fully immersed in all their learning.

Our Year 3/4 Children (Badgers) have enjoyed a trip to Wyke Farms as part of their work finding out where our food comes from while the younger children enjoyed a trip to the Haynes Motor museum as well as a car show on the playground as part of their topic "Hit the road".

The whole school joined the community of Bourton by the War Memorial to take part in the Act of Remembrance on Armistice Day. It was a lovely way to pay our respects and remembrance to fallen together.

We also took part in Anti Bullying week with Friendship house challenges and by wearing odd socks - celebrating how everyone is unique and special. We discussed bullying and thought of ways to help STAMP out bullying altogether.

We are very much in the swing of preparing for Christmas in school with carols being sung and Nativity plays being rehearsed. We have a trip to Salisbury to watch the Panto and our Choir will be singing outside Bath Abbey during the Bath Christmas Market.

The PTFA are kick starting the festivities with a PJ and Christmas Movie night and then our Christmas Fayre (Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 4-6pm) please do come along.

---

It has now been 7 years since we last consulted on our Admissions policy. Part of the consultation process requires us to inform interested parties of our policy and any changes within it. Please click this link [http://www.bourton.dorset.sch.uk/web/admissions\\_policy\\_and\\_arrangements/521875](http://www.bourton.dorset.sch.uk/web/admissions_policy_and_arrangements/521875) to find a copy of our Admissions Policy for 2024/2025. We have adopted the SDBE policy since last year and our previous consultation.

Any questions or comments regarding the policy please contact the School Governors on ([office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk))

*Jill Farndale, Head*

## Whitesheet School



Last Friday we went down to the Zeals war memorial with our prayers and pictures, to participate in the service and to remember and respect the people who died in the war protecting our nation.

### Remembrance Day by Carson

Today we gather to remember the countless deaths of millions of men and women who did their job to keep us safe. We also remember the animals that charged onto the battle, the factory workers who made the ammunition, the farmers who grew the rations, the doctors and nurses who helped the wounded and the survivors whose life changed forever. We will remember them.

*Jamie Smart Finance and Admin Officer*





## Carols in Kilmington Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December

We will be gathering around the War Memorial in Kilmington at 6pm on 17<sup>th</sup> December to sing Christmas carols. On this occasion Nomi and Charlie Miller, who live in Rose Cottage right next door to the War Memorial, are very kindly offering mulled wine, hot chocolate, and mince pies. Everyone is very welcome.



### Zeals Christmas Lunch

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30 pm  
we are holding a  
Village Christmas Lunch in the village hall.  
We hope you can all come along and enjoy  
a festive soup lunch  
with mince pies and Christmas cheer  
AND a Christmas Raffle.  
Start the celebrations in style with your  
friends.



### Bourton Bells

The bellringers are very grateful to Bourton Parish Council and St George's Church, Bourton for funding a second set of muffles for the bells, which enabled the bells to be rung fully muffled as required, during the mourning period for Queen Elizabeth II. The leather muffles were made to order by JR Reynolds in Gillingham and should last well into the future.

Bells are rung half muffled for many reasons with a single muffle deadening the sound of the clapper against the bell but keeping the hum of the bell creating a very atmospheric sound. Bells are fully muffled only for the passing of the Sovereign, the Bishop of the diocese or the incumbent Vicar.

*Georgina Muir*



## SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2022

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>**      **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
10.00 am      Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**      **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
10.00 am      Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington  
*with Trade Craft stall in church*

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
6 pm      Carol Singing round the War Memorial at Kilmington  
6pm      *Followed by Mulled Wine, Hot Chocolate & Mince Pies  
at Rose Cottage (see page 13)*

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>**      **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
10.00 am      Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton  
6.00 pm      Carols Around the Tree - *Breech Close Green, Bourton*

**Weds 21<sup>st</sup>**  
7.00 pm      Carols on the Green, Zeals Village Green

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve**  
4.00 pm      Crib Service at St George's Bourton  
*with Open the Book*  
6.30 pm      Carol Service at St Peter's Stourton  
*Collection in aid of "help for HOMELESS" charity*  
11.00 pm      *Arrive at St George's Bourton for*  
11.15 pm      Midnight Mass at St George's Bourton

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day**  
10.00 am      Parish Communion at St Martin's Zeals





# SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2023



**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>**     **Second Sunday of Christmas**  
*NO SERVICES IN UPPER STOUR*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>**     **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany : Baptism of Christ**  
10.00 am     Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>**     **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**  
10.00 am     Service (*form of Service tba*) at St Mary's Kilmington

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>**     **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**  
Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>**     **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**  
10.00 am     Morning Worship at St Martin's Zeals

## **Weekday Services**

<b>Mondays:</b> 9.00 am	Morning Prayer at St George's Bourton
<b>Wednesdays:</b> 4pm	Midweek Service at St Martin's Zeals
<b>Thursdays:</b> 9.00 am	Morning Prayer at St Mary's Kilmington
<b>Thursdays:</b> 2.00 pm	Toddlers Half Hour at St George's Bourton

## **From the Registers**

### **Baptism:**

On 27<sup>th</sup> November at St Martin's Zeals: **Willow Rose Snell**

### **Funeral:**

On 18<sup>th</sup> November at St George's Bourton: **David Frank Samuel "Chic"**

### **Hann**

### **Interment:**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> December at St Martin's Zeals: **Mrs EM Sutton**

## Christmas at Stourhead



A reminder about the parish fundraising effort planned at St Peter's Stourton to coincide with the Illuminations at Stourhead

The church will be open and fully decorated for Christmas. Very many thanks in advance to all the talented flower arrangers.

There will be a produce table selling homemade goods to the public. This has proved to be very popular in the past so we are hoping to equal this success. We would welcome any contributions to this home produce stall in terms of jams, chutneys, marmalades, etc plus baked goods such as small cakes, flapjacks, biscuits, brownies, or anything else anyone might feel like making/offering.

We can arrange delivery to the church if you wish, so please be in touch with one of us if you feel you can contribute

Jane Parker 01985 844248 / [jane.homefarm@gmail.com](mailto:jane.homefarm@gmail.com)

Sue Evans 01747 840600 / [smebad@btinternet.com](mailto:smebad@btinternet.com)

Celia Cotton 01985 844613 / [celiacotton1@outlook.com](mailto:celiacotton1@outlook.com)

## Remembrance Sunday



The Remembrance Day Service was held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at St Mary's Kilmington when around 72 people and 10 children were present in church and others at the gathering for the Act of Remembrance at Kilmington War Memorial. Wreaths were presented in church during the Service and subsequently laid at the War Memorial. As ever we were extremely grateful to Henry Spencer who played the trumpet in church and also the Last Post and Reveille at the War Memorial. The collection in church for the Royal British Legion amounted to £263.

# White Lion Inn

**OPEN FROM**

**12 NOON-11pm**

**FOOD SERVED 12-2PM AND 6-9PM**



## JAZZuary in Stourton

Nick Sorensen Trio featuring JOHN LAW

20<sup>th</sup> January

7.30 pm at Stourton Memorial Hall  
(doors open 7.00 pm)

Tickets £15 from Jane Joyce 01747 840149 [j-joyce@dircon.co.uk](mailto:j-joyce@dircon.co.uk)  
byo refreshments

## News from Parish Councils

### Bourton

The ward report from Dorset Councillor Belinda Ridout can be seen on the village website [www.bourtondorset.org](http://www.bourtondorset.org) and on the Parish Council Facebook group. To contact Councillor Ridout: [Cllrbelinda.ridout@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Cllrbelinda.ridout@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) or 07496 413114. For those residents not online, who have important questions or concerns, call Dorset Council on 01305 221000, 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week or email: [communityresponse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:communityresponse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk). All minutes of meetings can be found on the Dorset Council website: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>. At the October PC meeting, AC raised the subject of the eleven-week consultation, which commenced on 25<sup>th</sup> October, in relation to the provision of library services mentioned in BR's ward report for October.

We currently have approximately 20 copies of the book "Bourton Village" written by Brian Martin. These cost £5 each and can be obtained by calling Councillor Firbank on 01747-840848.

Planning applications continue to trickle through and can be viewed at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning/planning-application-search-and-comment>

*Eve Wynn* [clerk@bourton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bourton-pc.gov.uk)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/639361217139818>

### Kilmington

At the Parish Council (PC) meeting on 14 November, councillors were informed that the rumble strips and SLOW markings on the B3092 had been installed after a very long wait. These had been installed at the request of the PC in an effort to improve the safety of the junction with Coombe Barn Lane. It was resolved at the meeting to request via the Wiltshire Council Local Highways Footpath Group, that consideration now be given to traffic lights being installed at the junction as both the installation of an acceleration lane or a junction realignment have already been ruled out due to the huge amount of money either of these would cost.

Our Broadband project which is being spearheaded by Cllr Chris Webster has now been stalled due to Wiltshire Council 's signing up to the procurement of Project Gigabit and a full update can be read in the minutes which should be published by the time this magazine is issued. We are slightly more optimistic regarding mobile phone signal strengths in and around the village and work is underway to complete the fibre trunk to the new mast on the Deverells; this should be ready for additional testing in January.

The annual budget for the next financial year was agreed and full details will be given in the next magazine (February) but details will be posted on our website

and on the noticeboard before the end of the year. The next meeting of the PC will be held on Monday 9 January.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Chairman and Councillors for all their hard work and support over the past year and to wish all readers a very happy Christmas and New Year.

**Ruth Burrows, Clerk ([parishclerk@kilmingtonwiltshire.org](mailto:parishclerk@kilmingtonwiltshire.org))**

## **Stourton with Gasper**

### **Commemorative tree planting for Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Join us on 19th January for a tree planting ceremony at the bottom of the drive to Stourhead House, meeting at Clock Arch at 3pm. Stourton with Gasper Parish Council obtained a grant to plant a tree and the National Trust have kindly agreed to plant a maple on the drive which will have a plaque to commemorate the event. A local resident with a very long interest in the trees of Stourhead will be on hand to help with the planting. Do come and join this celebration.

Please put in your diaries the date of Saturday 11 February 2023 for the annual village Litter Pick. Further information will be available nearer the date.

Thank you to all those who took part in the recent survey. If you have not returned yours and would like to please hand it into the Farm Shop.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 30 November at 6pm. Members of the public are welcome but please be aware that the National Trust Lighting Festival will be on that evening.

We wish everyone a very merry Christmas and happy New Year

**Fran Hill, Clerk [clerk@stourton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@stourton.org.uk)**

## **Zeals**

By the time this magazine is out Zeals Parish Council will have met for the final time this calendar year. There will be a summary in the next issue.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 26 January at the Village Hall starting at 7 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. There is a public session before the main meeting for people to raise any matters with the Parish Council.

Following the remembrance celebrations what do you think of the clean War Memorial? Do let us know.

Zeals Parish Council wish all our residents a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Please note I only work part time so leave a message on 01747 823699 or email [clerk-zealspc@outlook.com](mailto:clerk-zealspc@outlook.com).

**Fran Hill, Clerk**

<https://www.hugofox.com/community/zeals-parish-council-10408/home/>

EXPECT *Far* MORE

At Farnfields Solicitors  
we always put your  
interests first, that's  
why we have been in  
business since 1936.



At Farnfields Solicitors you can always expect a warm welcome combined with dedicated expertise and transparent straightforward pricing. All in all, when choosing us you can expect far more peace of mind.

e-mail: [info@farnfields.com](mailto:info@farnfields.com) or visit [www.farnfields.com](http://www.farnfields.com)



---

GILLINGHAM 01747 825432 | SHAFTESBURY 01747 854244 | WARMINSTER 01985 214661 |

## Zeals Almshouses:

### The Excellence & Inspiration Award

This has been presented by The Almshouse Association to Zeals Almshouse Charity for an outstanding project. A new almshouse has been built using the old Victorian loos behind the Zeals Almshouses. The 4 original cottages each had an outside loo! Latterly used as storage, the trustees realised the space was perfect for a fifth almshouse. A compact eco friendly one bedroom cottage was completed before lockdown. This design along with all the improvements carried out over the past few years on the other cottages comprised updating each one as it became vacant, which included new kitchens, bathrooms, fireproofing, electrics, insulation, and also removing cement from the building and chimneys, repointing with the correct lime rendering. The metal framed windows were removed, sandblasted, repainted and replaced into the original repointed stone mullion frames.

There are 33,000 almshouses throughout the country, so to be recognised and receive this Award is a huge achievement. Zeal Almshouses were shortlisted and then visited by the judges from the Almshouses Association who made the final decision having seen the work and chatted with some of the residents.

***Lyndi d'Ambrumenil***



**SAND & GRAVELS**

**STONE & TOPSOIL**

**BARK & MUSHROOM  
COMPOST**

**LOCAL DELIVERIES**

**- NO VAT**

**Please call Tim or email**

**01747 841184**

**[timrose58@hotmail.com](mailto:timrose58@hotmail.com)**

**WB  
YEATES**

»—————«  
**Garden & Grounds  
Maintenance**  
«—————»

Gardening, Landscaping, Hedge Cutting, Tree  
Pruning & Felling, Clearance, Repointing &  
General Maintenance

Insured & Certified ~ 0716 000 614

Adobe Spark

**ADE WORKS** 

**Specialist in Disabled Adaptations**

Ramps, Key clamp handrails

Wetrooms

**Building works**

Internal and external painting

Fencing

Concreting

Patios and Landscaping

Refurbishments & Extensions

**[info@adeworks.co.uk](mailto:info@adeworks.co.uk) / [www.adeworks.co.uk](http://www.adeworks.co.uk)**

**01747 229029 / 07454926657**

## PANTO SHOW

A recording of the Bourton Players **Peter Pan**  
will be shown on Saturday 21st January at 3pm  
in Bourton Village Hall



[North Dorset Disability  
Information Service](#)

- **New & used equipment**
- **Hire equipment**
- **Disposable items**
- **NHS hearing aid batteries**
- **Information & Advice**
- **Volunteer opportunities**

Open 10am to 4pm Tue  
10am to 4pm Thu  
10am to 4pm Fri  
10am to 1pm Sat

3 Newbury, Gillingham SP8 4QX  
(Opposite Lidl)  
Tel. 01747 821010

[www.norddisdorset.org.uk](http://www.norddisdorset.org.uk)

Reg. Charity No. 1110328

An advertisement for Pitman Windows. The background is blue. At the top, a white house-shaped graphic contains the text 'No Gimmicks' on the left and 'Quality Products' on the right. Below this is a large, stylized 'P' logo in blue and green, followed by the text 'ITMAN WINDOWS' in blue. Underneath is a red horizontal line, and below that, the text 'Windows - Doors - Conservatories' in blue. The main body of the ad contains the text: 'Combining a personal service with competitive prices using quality products', followed by 'Windows Doors Conservatories' and 'Replacement roofs Fascia Soffits' in bold. At the bottom, it lists 'Tel 01747 840885 or 0800 0833623' and 'Website: pitmanwindows.com'. Three logos are at the bottom: 'CERTASS Registered Installer', 'PLANTHERM Installer Network', and 'FENSA Registered Company'.



# **PEST CONTROL SERVICE**

**[www.molegone.co.uk](http://www.molegone.co.uk)**

**Moles, Rabbits, Squirrels,  
Rodents & Wasps/Hornets**

Covering South Wiltshire and the  
Dorset/Somerset/Hampshire borders  
CRB Checked, Fully Insured  
Yearly/Monthly Contracts Available  
No Catch No Fee on Moles and  
Squirrels, trading since 2010

***Contact Roy on  
01722 716972 or  
07798 570443***

Private Residences, Local Councils, Places of  
Worship, Equestrian & Commercial Sites, Golf  
Clubs & Farms are amongst my clients

***Helen Kennedy***

***Wedding Celebrant***

*Your perfect wedding ceremony created for the most important day of your life!*

*I can marry you anywhere, whether at a licensed venue or a significant location, unique to you. Over 20 years of experience as a marriage registrar and celebrant - Dedicated to creating 'Your Wedding, Your Way'*

*Also specialising in beautiful ceremonies to celebrate your new baby and the renewal of your marriage vows.*

*For information and an informal chat please contact Helen on  
07971 811347 or email [helen@helenkennedyceremonies.co.uk](mailto:helen@helenkennedyceremonies.co.uk)*

## *Music to die for!!!*

*Durufle's Requiem plus Holst's Christmas Day and other jolly festive music make up the programme for the Wincanton Choral Society, one of the best choirs in the West!*

*The concert is on Sunday 11th December at 7.30pm at Church of St Peter and Paul - the big one at the bottom of the hill. It's £15 a ticket and it promises to be an uplifting and moving evening. Do come and sing a few popular carols with us and prepare to be impressed by the soloists, the choir itself and the organ accompaniment.*

*For tickets get in touch with Eliza on 07970678751  
Or there will be tickets on the door.*

# BURROW



Wastewater Treatment Plant Installations for Owners of Septic Tanks

## **Septic Tank Owner?**

New laws mean that you may need to update your system to a wastewater treatment plant to stop your septic tank polluting the environment.

Please contact us to arrange a free assessment visit.

**01935 507 508**

**[burrow-environmental.com](http://burrow-environmental.com)**



## Scouting Activities



Anyone looking to send their children to a Scout group is recommended to go to [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk) where you pop in your post code and find the local groups across the three counties in this corner of Dorset. It is never a decision taken lightly, but in consultation with The North Dorset District Commissioner, the Bourton Committee and Leaders, all with decades of experience in volunteering for Beavers and Cubs in Bourton, the Bourton Scout Group is now closed. Sincerest thanks go to all who have been involved over the last 38 years, from when the Scout Hut was purchased and moved to Silton and then moving to the Bourton Village Hall. Adults and children have all enjoyed their scouting over the years and there are many memories of activities, hikes and camps. Badges were and still remain very important as a tangible reminder that you have succeeded in doing something.

Financial and physical assets go to North Dorset Scouting to be shared amongst the North Dorset Groups. If you have any questions please contact Lesley Love [lesley1ump@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lesley1ump@hotmail.co.uk) who is continuing in uniform as a Scout Active Service Member in North Dorset District.

**Lesley Love**



### **CLIFFORD T. SHEAN LTD** **ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS**

**Tel: 01747 822604**

**email: [office@cliffordtshean.co.uk](mailto:office@cliffordtshean.co.uk)**

- Free no obligation estimates
- Domestic, Commercial & Agricultural Installations
- Part & Full Rewires
- Heating & Under Floor Electric Heating
- Lighting Installations
- Installation and Periodic Certification
- PAT Testing



REGISTERED MEMBER  
**APPROVED CONTRACTOR** **ECAKNX**

## **Bourton Village Hall**

The village hall is a charity and relies on bookings and donations to keep going. We would like to thank everyone who supported our last quiz night where we raised £250. Thanks also to the White Lion for donating £207.01 from their Halloween quiz and to Catherine Potter who donated £170 from her Christmas Craft Sale.

**XMAS LUNCH AT THE HALL – MON 5<sup>th</sup> DEC** – Join us for a warming glass of mulled wine, homemade soups, bread & cheese, mince pies & coffee. 12:30pm until 2pm. All welcome. Only £4. Pay cash or contactless on the day.

**FILM NIGHT – THE RAILWAY CHILDREN RETURN (PG) – WED 14<sup>th</sup> DEC** – It's 1944 and World War 2 is raging. Bobbie (Jenny Agutter), one of the original Railway Children but by now a grandmother, welcomes a group of evacuees from Salford to her home in Yorkshire. One day they encounter a young African American GI (Kenneth Aikens) who, like them, is far away from home, and who is hiding from the authorities. Doors and Bar open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. Tickets £6 from Bourton or Zeals shops or pay cash/contactless on the door.

~ ~ ~

### **JANUARY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Jan – Lunch at the Hall

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Jan – Film Night. Keep an eye on Facebook and noticeboards for details of upcoming films. We'll be offering a Spring Season Ticket for £20 for 4 films, a saving of £4 on the individual ticket price.

### **HIRE THE HALL**

Large hall with raised stage and fully equipped kitchen perfect for parties. £8 per hour for Bourton residents, otherwise £10 per hour. Contact Heather for more information - 07849 673670 or [h.j.ransley@outlook.com](mailto:h.j.ransley@outlook.com)

**M E R R Y   C H R I S T M A S   E V E R Y O N E**



## Regular Weekly Events

<b>Weekdays</b>	<b>Pre-School</b>	08.45 -15.15 at the Preschool Playing Fields, West Bourton <i>[term time only]</i>
	<b>The ZAC (Zeals AfterSchool Club)</b>	Daily 15.15-18.00 (17.00 Fridays) at Mere Youth Centre, off White Rd, Mere: 01747 840077/ <a href="mailto:info@thezac.org.uk">info@thezac.org.uk</a>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Tummies, Tiddlers &amp; Toddlers</b>	09.15 – 12 noon at Bourton Village Hall
	<b>Craft &amp; Chat</b>	2pm-4pm Bourton Village Hall Contact Angela Ambrose 01747 841336
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>Bell ringing practice</b>	19.30 – 21.00 at St Martin's Zeals <i>Contact Georgina Muir 01985 844245</i>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Toddler Service</b>	St George's Church Bourton at 2pm <i>Caroline Worthington (07754 882454)</i>
<b>Fridays</b>	<b>Friday Fun Club</b>	10.00 - 11.30 Whitesheet School Hall <i>[temporarily suspended]</i>
	<b>Choir Practice</b>	Most Fridays (18.00-19.00) at St Martin's Church Zeals. New singers welcome. Contact Tom Wheare 01747 840 622

# NEIL CURTIS

## INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING GENERAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE



Established 1969  
**PLEASE CALL 01747 840606**



## About Upper Stour Magazine Contacts

**Editor:** Celia Cotton 01985 844613

**Deputy Editor:** Sue Evans 01747 840600

**Distribution:** Carol Affleck 01747 841359

**Treasurer:** Ashley Kemp 01747 840272

**Printed by Mail&Print:** Berwick St Leonard 0845 362 0983

All items for the February 2023 issue should be sent to  
the Editor at Bay Tree Cottage, Kilmington, Wiltshire BA12 6RG  
tel 01985 844613

**new email** → [celiacotton1@outlook.com](mailto:celiacotton1@outlook.com)

**All items for the February 2023 issue by  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at noon please**



## Age UK Wiltshire's new Travel Friends Service

We will support older people who have lost confidence in accessing public or community transport on their own. Whether it's getting to and from the shops, a doctor's appointment, or a friend's house – an Age UK Wiltshire Travel Friends volunteer will help people feel more comfortable and confident. Through FREE sessions delivered safely from their home we can help people to make contact with the local community link scheme, get back on the Community Bus, start using the regular bus service again, go to the supermarket, get to outpatients appointments at the hospital, etc. People will be paired up with their own Travel Friend who will accompany them on any type of journey - whether it's by foot, public transport, community transport or taxi - and will help them to build the confidence needed to travel independently.

If you would like to make a referral, or would like to know more about the service, please either call the number below or send an email:

07500 137 135 [travelfriends@ageukwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:travelfriends@ageukwiltshire.org.uk)

## Craft and Chat



The Craft and Chat Group set up the poppy display in Bourton as usual with all the poppies made by them.

They meet every Tuesday from 2pm to 4pm in Bourton Village Hall. All crafters welcome.

They have recently enjoyed workshops and at the most recent enjoyed producing Christmas baubles.



Contact Angela Ambrose if you are interested in joining the Group

Tel 01747 841336 [anglamambrose@btinternet.com](mailto:anglamambrose@btinternet.com)



---

## Dates for your Diary

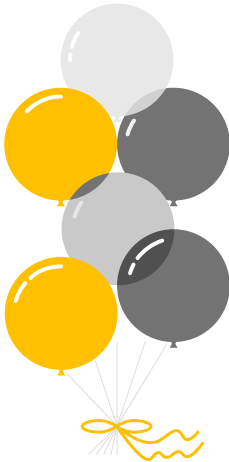
### December 2022



Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	BVH Christmas Lunch, 12.30 BVH	page 28
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	Wincanton Choral Soc Concert, Wincanton	page 26
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup>	Film Night at BVH 7 for 7.30 BVH	page 28
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Zeals Christmas Lunch, 12.30, ZVH	page 15
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup>	Bourton Gardening Club 7 for 7.30pm, BVH	page 12

### January 2023

Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	BVH Lunch, 12.30 BVH	page 28
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup>	Film Night, BVH	page 28
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup>	Bourton Gardening Club, 7 for 7.30pm, BVH	page 12
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Jazzuary Concert at SMH 7 for 7.30	page 19
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup>	Panto: recording of Peter Pan 3pm, BVH	page 24
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	WI meeting, 7.30, SMH	page 11



*HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
to everyone*