



Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

# About Upper Stour

serving the villages of

**Bourton**  
**Kilmington**  
**Stourton**  
**Zeals**



## April 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. Contact her 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:celiacotton1@outlook.com">celiacotton1@outlook.com</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>

## About Upper Stour Magazine : Contacts

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All items for the May 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 May 2023 issue by noon on Fri 21<sup>st</sup> April please**



## St George's 100 Club

Results for the  
March 2023 draw

**1<sup>st</sup> prize Liz Baylis  
(no. 67)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> prize Finlay Moorby  
(no. 30)**

Enquiries to

Philip Newton  
Ladyfield, High St,  
Bourton SP8 5AT.  
[pipnewton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pipnewton@hotmail.co.uk)  
Tel 07947 054534.

## St Martin's Millennium Club

March winners:

**C Spencer  
K Bullen  
A Etherington  
N Fowler  
Mr J Lane**

April draw Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
at Zeals Motors

Contact Nigel Blackmore  
01747 841110  
SDC Lott 842

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### Mobile Library Times : April 2023

April 6, 20	<b>Zeals</b>	School	10.00-10.40 am
April 6, 20	<b>Kilmington</b>	Home Guard Club	11.25-11.35 am



**National  
Trust**

## News from Stourhead

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Spring is truly here; Stourhead House is open for the season and there are plenty of exciting events and activities going on in the garden and wider estate too.

In the house, don't miss the opportunity to find out more about the work of former owner Sir Richard Colt Hoare, who worked alongside William Cunnington and a team of 19th-century excavators and changed archaeology forever.

There's also a chance to enjoy fun with the whole family this Easter. There are plenty of lively Easter-themed activities to explore in the garden, make your way around and be rewarded with a chocolate egg!

Our guided garden and estate walks have now begun, offering visitors the chance to find out more about the genius of Stourhead, its history and the family who created this special place as you walk through the garden.

Throughout the year you can also accompany one of Stourhead's knowledgeable volunteers and explore the wider estate, with each walk focusing on a different place including Bonham Wood, Whitesheet Hill and King Alfred's Tower. King Alfred's Tower is also now open most weekends; scale the 205 steps for far reaching views across the Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset countryside.

We look forward to welcoming you at Stourhead soon!

For more information about our upcoming events for April, visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/wiltshire/stourhead/events](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/wiltshire/stourhead/events)

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)  
call Helen on 07971 811347 website: [stourtonmh.co.uk](http://stourtonmh.co.uk)

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# School News

## Whitesheet

This term in particular seems to have gone quicker than ever! It's been non-stop and full of learning. The spring term is always one of my favourites because the children are settled into the school routine, have established relationships with adults and peers, they become even more keen to learn.

A few highlights for me this term:

- **'The Parcel'** theatre production was fantastic! It was so powerful for the children to be up close to the performers, be a part of the storytelling and see the use of props, songs and different languages within one show. It was a joy to hear their laughter and audible gasps.
- **Music workshops** - a big thank you to our Friends of Whitesheet Academy who have enabled us to have music workshops across the school this term. Golden Eagles have experienced different music genres each week and Woodpeckers had a brilliant percussion workshop. It was a fabulous enrichment experience and we look forward to developing our music curriculum even more next term.
- **British Values Day** - working with children from Shrewton, we had a brilliant time designing our own countries and laws. They have such a good understanding of our fundamental British values and really showed what brilliant future leaders they could be one day!

*Emily Mullord Executive Headteacher*

### **Governor Recruitment**

If you know of anyone within the local community who may be interested in joining our Academy Standards and Ethos Committee and support school improvement, please email the school office on [office@whitesheet.dsat.org.uk](mailto:office@whitesheet.dsat.org.uk) or visit our trust website [www.dsat.org.uk](http://www.dsat.org.uk) where more information can be found. Governors play a vital role within our small schools in adding to capacity and bringing wisdom from different backgrounds.

### **Don Durrant 18.12.39 - 01.02.23**

Laraine & family would like to thank Revd Mac for the service and especially for the marvellous tribute to Don. Thanks also go to the bell ringers, organist Ian and Graham who assisted Martin and Nigel with the music. We were amazed at the attendance. Thank you Barb, Karen, Mary and David Turner for all your help at the wake and for those who provided the lovely refreshments. Also we would like to thank you for all the cards and letters of sympathy received. They mean a lot. We are so pleased to announce £600 of kind donations were received which will be split between Dorset Air Ambulance and Salisbury Hospital Stars Appeal.

*Laraine, Elaine and Martin*

## Country Calendar: April 2023

It's Spring at last, so we can look forward to turning the cattle out. Seeing the new calves experience their first taste of spring grass, running kicking their legs with excitement at this new phenomenon, never fails to give me pleasure. Cows and calves enjoying the peace and tranquillity of the pasture is as it should be - or is it? Since Covid and lockdown, the general public have found enjoyment in our beautiful countryside and quite rightly so, hence the public footfall has increased massively. The problems associated with this increase are now regularly creating more issues. The constant worry of dogs out of control chasing and attacking the livestock is for us a real concern. We often read headlines in the farming press "*A series of horrific attacks by dogs on livestock is a consequence of lockdown and more people walking in the countryside who are oblivious to the threat posed by out-of-control pets.*" We are seeing more people with dogs not on leads, straying off the signposted footpaths into areas set aside for conservation and wildlife. I looked at the Government website "Countryside Code Advice for visitors" , and the first word I read was 'respect'. I quote "*Respect everyone - be considerate to those living and working in the countryside. Leave gates and property as you find them or follow instructions on signs. When in a group, make sure the last person knows how to leave the gates. Farmers close gates to keep animals in or leave them open to give access to food and water. Do not interfere with farm machinery, horses or livestock. If you think a farm animal is in distress, try to alert the farmer. Give wild animals, livestock and horses plenty of space. Their behaviour can be unpredictable, especially when they are with their young and you could get hurt. Do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking - be nice, say hello, share the space. Follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available. Farming, livestock and wild animals - your actions can affect other people's lives and livelihoods. Co-operate with people working in the countryside. For example, follow the farmer's directions when animals are being moved or gathered. This helps keep everybody safe. Do not feed livestock, horses or wild animals as it can cause them harm.*"

I have to say I was quite impressed, except it is obvious no one knows anything about there being such a thing as a "Country Code". Regularly we have vehicles blocking access to fields, and there are excuses such as they can see nothing in the field and anyway it is Sunday! This is one of my favourites mainly because their excuse was not abusive, and it made me laugh that they think farmers do not work on a Sunday!

There was a much more serious incident: two large vehicles parked in a field of wheat, occupants scattered *en masse* and about to light disposable BBQs. Asking them not to do this, and requesting they please move elsewhere, we

explained the reasons: BBQs are not a good idea, being a serious fire hazard in a dry field of wheat! And there is more than a high probability it would set the crop alight spreading extremely rapidly, potentially causing the loss of a whole crop, or damage to wildlife, but much more concerning, putting their own selves in danger. This did not move them. They fiercely defended their actions, and seemed unable to accept that they were doing anything wrong. I took it, by their chorus of expletives, they were not going to oblige. Even my protestations that the combine was in the field only heightened their indifference. Ok I said carry on but I think you will move sooner than later. I left them to it and waited, the combine appeared across the field, roaring in a haze of dust. The reverberating noise of the engine as the crop was gathered and threshed the straw deposited out the rear creating a steady flurry of dust, a perfect harvest day. The realisation the combine was heading towards them did finally make them move.



Exasperatingly the combine was forced to alter its course from its straight run to avoid the unwelcome BBQ assembly, which resulted in a huge cloud of thick straw dust to rise and encompass everything in close proximity.

I think they got their desert, but possibly not the one they expected. Of course, I spent half an hour clearing up their abandoned rubbish. Not as bad as this heap (*pictured*) which was dumped a year ago, which took several days to clear and dispose of correctly - as if we have not enough to do...

Unfortunately there is no respect shown for countryside or farmers in either of these two examples... I doubt these people even know the meaning of the word!

*Jane Parker*

## **Cornerways Cottage Zeals, Annex/Lodge**

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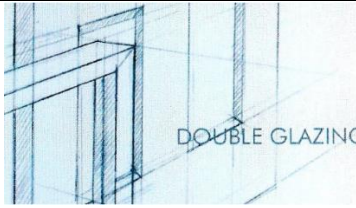
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## Craft and Chat : Blankets for Ukraine



Bernard Sullivan contacted Elsa Thornley at Christmas time and asked if there was anyone who could knit blankets for Ukraine. Elsa sourced a pattern and alerted members of Craft & Chat and when we returned after the Christmas break we had enough squares for one blanket (48) and for about another half

blanket. More squares were produced and Elsa, Angela, but mainly Sandra crocheted the squares together. Sandra completed both blankets and added edging. They are now being sent off to Ukraine.

*Angela Ambrose*

## Wylve Valley Art Trail

Saturday 29th April - Monday 8th May 2023, with over 240 artists and 73 venues. The WVAT'23 is happening at the same time as the Coronation and, as they achieved the Queens Award for Voluntary Service 2022 (the organisers are all volunteers), and as King Charles is a passionate supporter of the arts, they have put together a presentation binder with examples of work by all the WVAT exhibitors to be sent to the King as a Coronation gift!

This is a 10-day festival of art and craft in south west Wiltshire: visit open studios and workplaces, group exhibitions and galleries. Meet and talk to the artists and craftspeople, maybe purchase a piece of original art!

Following the Trail map gives an approximate location of each venue. All listings in the guide have directions from a main road. There is also a *///what3words* location code for each venue (find out more and download the app at [www.what3words.com](http://www.what3words.com)).

Brochures are available from Tourist Centres and locally from Zeals PO. Look out for the yellow trail marker signs as you get close to each venue. Venues are open daily from 10.30am - 5.30pm unless otherwise stated as 'OPENING VARIATIONS'. Admission to all venues is free, dates in pale grey indicate that the venue is closed on that day.



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## **BOURTON GARDENING CLUB**

Does your patio look boring?  
Come along to the Gardening Club and find out how to liven it up.

**Wednesday 19th April**

7.00 for 7.30 at Bourton Village Hall

Pay bar, tea/coffee and raffle.

Visitors very welcome, entry £3

## **SILTON SURGERY**

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

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 25th April:  
Drinks Party at Stourhead House at 6.30 pm  
to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III

*Kilmington and Stourton WI hold their meeting every fourth Tuesday of the month unless otherwise stated. Venue Stourton Memorial Hall @ 7.30 pm.  
Contact Bernie Isted [bernieisted@gmail.com](mailto:bernieisted@gmail.com) or Jane Parker 01985844248*

## **Stourton Film Nights**

We are screening films once a month throughout the winter in Stourton Memorial Hall. The Spread Eagle provide a meal at a very reasonable price, served in the hall before the film – food served at 7.15pm, film starts at 8pm  
Our next film on Friday 14th April is “Tar”, starring Cate Blanchett and set in the world of classical music. Although not a winner the film received six nominations at the Oscars including Best Picture and Best Actress.  
For more details / to join the mailing list, please email: [stourtonfilm@gmail.com](mailto:stourtonfilm@gmail.com)

## **Advance notice of Rogationtide at St Mary's Kilmington Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 10am**

This will be an outdoor Service (wet weather provision) with refreshments provided. Please note that children under 11 should be accompanied by a parent. Well behaved dogs on short leads welcome. Please bring your own chairs. More details next month.

## **Advance Notice : Pop Up Café 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> May**

The Friends of Whitesheet School will be holding a Pop Up Cafe in Stourton Memorial Hall on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th May. Please come and join us. More details next month

## **From the Registers**

### **Baptism**

On 5<sup>th</sup> March at St George's Bourton: Archie James Fielding

# SERVICES FOR APRIL 2023

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Palm Sunday**  
10.00 am Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday**  
6pm Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Good Friday**  
2pm-3pm Reflections : Last Hour at St George's Bourton

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Easter Day**  
6.00 am Sunrise at Search Farm Stourton  
10.00 am Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Family Worship at St Martin's Zeals

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am Morning Worship at St George's Bourton

## MAY 2023

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter : Coronation Sunday**  
10.00 am Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

### Weekday Services

**Mondays:** 9.00 am Morning Prayer at St George's Bourton  
**Wednesdays:** 4pm Midweek Service at St Martin's Zeals  
**Thursdays:** 9.00 am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Kilmington



## **KILMINGTON and STOURTON CORONATION CELEBRATIONS**

Kilmington Home Guard will be the *GoTo* destination for the Coronation celebrations on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>, bringing together the communities

of Kilmington and Stourton for this fun-packed family event with the generous support of both Kilmington and Stourton Parish Councils.

The Club will open as normal on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon with celebrations anticipated to commence from 2pm until about 10pm. Attractions include; Bouncy Castle, Morris Dancing, Local Stallholders, Local Produce, Coffees, Teas and Cake, Learn about the history of The Home Guard with the Wiltshire Living History Group, Fully Stocked Bar + BBQ food (two sessions 2-3pm & 6-7pm) and culminating with evening entertainment from our live band "Loose Connections".

Children under 16 residing in the Parish of Kilmington and attending the event will be given a commemorative mug (limited availability). All welcome!

# **CORONATION PARTY**

**Bourton Village Hall**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**10:30am onwards**

**Watch the Coronation of King Charles III  
live on the big screen**

**BBQ \* Teas \* Bar \* Kids Craft Table**

**Free Entry All Welcome**

Cash and contactless card payments accepted

COME AND JOIN THE NATIONWIDE

# CORONATION BIG LUNCH

SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 12.30pm

## ZEALS VILLAGE GREEN

**Tickets £10** on sale at Zeals Village Hall on Sat 29<sup>th</sup> April 9-11am  
(for non Zeals residents subject to availability)

'No ticket?' - then bring your own picnic and join the party on The Green

Lunch for those with tickets

Refreshments, Pay Bar, Tombola, Games & Bouncy castle

Photography competition Prize Winning Entries on display

Free Zeals Souvenir mug for each child of primary school age in Zeals with special ticket

Coronation Big Lunch Raffle, Draw 3.30pm with fabulous prizes to be won

Bells will be ringing, Flags will be flying to greet you

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

Further details..... 01747 841359 carol@caffleck.com  
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## News from Parish Councils

### Bourton

Works have been taking place to redefine the edges of the pavements. This is all part of the scheduled maintenance works with our parish contractor, PM Cowell. But special thanks should go to Jamie Rogerson, who is the young apprentice who has been working stoically through all weathers to get the works done. It has been great to see so many positive remarks about Jamie on the local Facebook groups.

If you are a keen walker you may have seen notices regarding a DMMO and these refer to Definitive Map Modification Orders. The BHS are undertaking a national project to submit applications to record routes which they believe should be shown on the definitive map. The project was initially set up to submit as many applications as possible before the cut-off date of January 2026, which is the date after which no further applications could be made. The cut-off date has since been repealed by the Government, but the project is continuing. The applications are all based on documentary evidence and may or may not be successful. The BHS are not trying to prevent off-road users using bridleways (the route claimed is not recorded as a bridleway), they are trying to establish what public rights do exist and how they should be recorded. We have a very large backlog of similar applications which means that this one is unlikely to be investigated for many years. When it does reach the front of the queue, all interested parties including the local member, landowners and the Parish Council will be notified and will have a chance to make representations. Until the application is fully investigated, there will be no change to the current situation. If you have any questions regarding these notices, please visit <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/countryside-coast-parks/rights-of-way>

We still have approx 18 copies of the book "Bourton Village" written by Brian Martin. Cost £5 each from Cllr Firbank on 01747-840848 or email the clerk.

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

### Kilmington

There is very little to report from Kilmington PC. We have a meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March, so there will be a fuller report next month.

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

*/continued on page 19*

## **Stourton with Gasper**

**Coronation Celebrations at the Kilmington Home Guard Club on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May!** This will be a fun-packed family day for everyone in Kilmington and Stourton, supported by Kilmington and Stourton PCs.

**Voter Authority Certificate.** There is new legislation regarding voting at all levels of elections; parish, town and general. You must be registered to vote before they apply for a Voter Authority Certificate, and you only need to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate if:

- They do not have an accepted photo ID
- They no longer look like the photo on their ID
- The name on the photo ID is different from the name on the electoral register

If the elector does not possess any of the above forms of photographic identification, they can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate. They can apply online or download a form at: <https://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk/>.

**Government's Energy Bills Support Scheme (EBSS AF)** The EBSS AF is providing support of £400 for energy bills for households in England, without a direct relationship to a domestic electricity supplier. This scheme is open to eligible households until 31 May 2023.

People eligible will need to fill out a short online form via the GOV.UK website. The form can be found by searching "Apply for energy bill support if you do not get it automatically" into the search bar on GOV.UK or an internet search engine. Applications are made directly to the Government. Those who do not have online access can apply via a contact centre on 08081 753287..

**Alternative Fuels Payment (AFP).** The Government has also announced a sister scheme called Alternative Fuels Payment (AFP) for people that use alternative fuels for heating. This one-off payment would be on top of the £400 from their electricity supplier. Most eligible homes will get it automatically as a credit on their electricity bills.

**Other support the Council has provided during the cost-of-living crisis.** A reminder that Wiltshire Council has a range of support, advice and guidance on our dedicated cost-of-living pages which can be found at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living).

**The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 3 May 2023**

- We will begin at 6pm with the Annual Parish Meeting. This is an opportunity to meet your councillors, and other organisations who represent you within the community.
- 3 May 2023 Annual Parish Council Meeting
- 3 May 2023 General Parish Council Meeting

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

*/continued on page 20*

## **Zeals**

Casual Vacancy – Zeals Parish Council : The Parish Council have a vacancy for a Councillor to join them. Parish Councillors are public servants rather than volunteers bound by rules and regulations. They support, maintain and provide many amenities at grass roots level as well as consult on planning and wider issues. Please consider if you have the time and wish to give back to your community as they would love you to come on board. Feel free to speak to any of them about what is involved.

For anyone with a problem to report to Wiltshire Council, the easiest way is to use the MyWilts App. <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts-online-reporting>. You can report things such as pot holes, broken signs, abandoned vehicles, weather emergencies, fly tipping, dog mess and graffiti. The more people who log issues the more likely they will be addressed.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on 4 May 2023 at the Village Hall  
*Fran Hill, Clerk*

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

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## **Stourton Memorial Hall AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Stourton Memorial Hall Committee will take place at 1800 on Fri 21 Apr 2023 in Stourton Memorial Hall. Residents of Gasper and Stourton are cordially invited to attend. This is your chance to put your views to the committee as to the direction of use of the Memorial Hall and all are most welcome. Should village members who have points to raise with the committee be unable to attend, points can be put to the secretary who will ensure they are raised at the meeting.

All enquiries through the Hon Sec: [cmetopham@hotmail.com](mailto:cmetopham@hotmail.com)

**PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY!**

## **The Stourton Flower and Produce Show**

is back! and will be held on **5/6 Aug 2023** in Stourton Memorial Hall.

**Plan your entries!**

Details of the Schedule will be available in April but will follow a traditional theme: Flowers and Foliage, Flower Arrangement, Fruit and Vegetables, Cookery, Handicraft, Art and Photography.

# Green Fingers

## Notes from a Fairweather Gardener

### April 2023

We are often advised to leave a weedy or untidy patch to encourage wildlife, but some of us might prefer to find space for a small wild flower meadow which can be sown this month to brighten the garden in the summer. Mix a packet of wild meadow seeds with some sand and scatter them over a patch of ground you have weeded and raked flat. There is no need to cover the seed, just firm it in with the back of a fork and water in. You may need to keep the birds away from this free meal, so string up some old cds to scare them off. You shouldn't have to wait long to see some reward for your labours as some of these plants will be blooming in six weeks.

As the cost of living rises, the attractions of growing our own vegetables increases. We needn't assume that a vegetable garden should always consist of serried ranks of vegetables like soldiers on parade. In fact, growing our vegetables in rows actually encourages the pests that eat them because they are provided with an easily accessed feast. Think about mixing your plot up a little and scattering the different vegetables amongst each other, perhaps growing each crop in a small square like a chequerboard. Alternatively, you could mix your vegetables in with your flowers in the border to make a very fashionable potager. In some countries runner beans are grown for their flowers, so you could consider having a wigwam of the more decorative varieties to provide height in a border. The frilly varieties of lettuce make a lovely border edging and the bright stems of rainbow chard make a vibrant statement. You could also grow these in a pot, perhaps with some pansies as an alternative patio decoration.

We all need some inspiration for our plot on occasion and what better way to get it than by visiting somebody else's garden. The National Gardens Scheme enables individuals and organisations to open their gardens in aid of nursing and health charities. The famous yellow book detailing openings throughout the year should be available now or you can find out which gardens are open on the website [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk). There is even an app for finding a garden when you are out and about.

*Daphne Knott*

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[nicolacorbett@mac.com/](mailto:nicolacorbett@mac.com)

07855 256338

## Bourton Village Hall

**LUNCH AT THE HALL – MON 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL** Homemade soups, bread & cheese, cake & coffee, still only £3. Doors open 12:30pm until 2pm. All welcome. Pay cash or contactless on the day.

**FILM NIGHT – SEE HOW THEY RUN (12) – WED 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

In the West End of 1950s London, plans for a movie version of a smash-hit play come to an abrupt halt after a pivotal member of the crew is murdered. Inspector Stoppard (Sam Rockwell) and eager rookie Constable Stalker (Saoirse Ronan) take on the case and find themselves thrown into a puzzling whodunnit within the glamorously sordid theatre underground. 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.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Film: Top Gun Maverick (12A) (see separate advert)

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Coronation Party (see separate advert)

**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)

*Bourton Village Hall presents*

# **TOP GUN: MAVERICK** (12A)

## **Saturday 15th April**

*\* Showing on the big screen at the Hall \**

*Doors and Bar open 7pm for 7:30pm start*

*Tickets £6 from Bourton and Zeals Shops or on the door*

*Cash and contactless card payments accepted at the Hall*

## Success at Crufts



Congratulations to 10yr old Hollie Batchelor, a Young Kennel Club (YKC), member and Jasmine on her successful achievement as Toy/Utility Group winner of the 6-11 years old handling competition at Crufts 2023. Crufts, the world famous Dog Show is held annually in March at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. To compete at Crufts ALL competitors whatever category have to qualify at special Championship Shows in the preceding 12 months where points are awarded in whatever group you are entering e.g. Breed Classes/Group Activity/Handling etc. Therefore all those competing, dogs or humans, have already demonstrated their expertise. Hollie who attends St George's School Bourton became interested in dogs through Pets As Therapy (PAT) where PAT Dog Daisy or Jasmine are weekly visitors primarily in the Read2Dogs Scheme.

Along came the Coronavirus and lock-down whereby all routine activities were suspended, with everyone being encouraged to engage in a daily walk. Once restrictions were relaxed, I soon had additional walkers to assist with my three Cavalier King Charles Spaniels: Hollie, her sister Sophie, and friend Chloe. This routine soon extended to playing with the dogs, grooming, and also Hollie's interest in going to Crufts. In response I said that if this was her aim, hard work and dedication would be involved in developing knowledge and responsibility about caring for dogs and handling technique including effective communication between dog and handler. This became a routine afternoon activity. Jasmine, the younger of the dogs was 9 months old, and bonding between the two was apparent. Membership of the Young Kennel Club was an eighth birthday gift, and one of the criteria to compete in specific shows.

COVID restrictions were gradually being lifted by August 2021 and some outdoor dog shows were advertised. Bath Championship Show was her first visit to witness a dog show. Jasmine was entered and Hollie was keen to participate; entries to forthcoming shows soon followed, finally achieving points for Crufts. Coinciding with this the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Ringcraft Group re-opened where Hollie could gain more expertise and discipline in the technique and art of dog handling. In February 2022 Hollie became the South West Junior Handler of the Year and also qualified and participated at Crufts 2022. These past 12 months have involved commitment and hard work to qualify again for Crufts 2023. The hard work and dedication paid off resulting in her winning her category at Crufts. Family, friends and St Georges School are all very proud of this achievement.

***Barbara Borwell (Jasmine's Owner/Pets As Therapy Volunteer)***

## Dates for your Diary April 2023

Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lunch at Bourton Village Hall, 12.30 BVH	page 26
Weds 12 <sup>th</sup>	BVH Film Night "See How They Run" 7 for 7.30 BVH	page 26
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Stourton Film Night "Tar" 7.15 for 8pm SMH	page 13
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	Film "Top Gun: Maverick" 7 for 7.30pm BVH	page 26
Weds 19 <sup>th</sup>	Bourton Gardening Club, 7 for 7.30 BVH	page 12
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Stourton Memorial Hall Cttee AGM, 6pm, SMH	page 18
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup>	K & S WI Drinks for Coronation Stourhead Hse 6.30pm	page 13
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup>	Wylve Valley Art Trail (until Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> May)	page 11



# HAPPY EASTER

***All Items for the May 2023 issue  
by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April latest please***