



Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

About Upper Stour

serving the villages of

Bourton
Kilmingston
Stourton
Zeals



April 2025

All good wishes for Easter to everyone

All Easter Services on page 14

Parish Contacts

Clergy

Revd Dr Graham Southgate, Rector

01747 476 316 / Email rector@uswmb.co.uk
(day off Tuesday)

Licensed Lay Minister

Mona Tyler 01985 844509

Lay Pastoral Assistants

Caroline Worthington 07754 882454

(also Lay Worship Leader)

Barbara Borwell 01747 840141

Enquiries regarding Baptisms/Christenings, Weddings and Funerals to the Rector, Graham Southgate

01747 476 316 / Email rector@uswmb.co.uk

Parish website www.upperstour.co.uk

Facebook Group Parish of Upper Stour

Our Parish Administrator, Helen Bedford, works part time.

Contact her by email: parishoffice@upperstour.co.uk

Contacts for Churchwardens

Kilmington Chris Reeves 01985 844894 c.reeves110@btinternet.com

Celia Cotton 01985 844613 celiacotton1@outlook.com

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Tel 01985 844613 email celiacotton1@outlook.com

by **Friday 18th April 2025** please

EASTER SONG

More than 1700 years ago Saint Augustine of Hippo said of the Church, “We are an Easter people, and alleluia is our song.” This is a phrase that has become so ingrained in me ever since Pope Saint John Paul II quoted it: “Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and ‘Hallelujah’ is our song!”.

The phrase has such a celebratory feeling, capturing something of what Christians experience on Easter Day (20th April this year). Christ is risen, our life is changed forever and a natural response is to rejoice and praise God for this gift – new life undreamt of.

Yet what happens in the weeks as Easter passes? A friend rings to tell you of a close family bereavement, your child has to go into hospital, you hear that a neighbour has been burgled. What does Resurrection mean in daily life; the mixed bag of our existence with its crises, its joys and its sorrows?

This has been true from the earliest days of the Church: the apostle Thomas doubting, the Church being persecuted and having to go into hiding, the martyrdom of early Christians for their faith, disputes between Christians about the way forward, about doctrine and behaviour.

One of the most important aspects of Christianity is that it has a strong focus on hope; not a sort of blind optimism or the empty smile designed to smooth over even the most difficult situation. Rather it is something that might only be a tiny grain, a seed; with God, however, it is a distinct promise to us from an eternal future. The light of Resurrection shines in the world, however dimly it might be in some places. Our sense that God’s love for creation goes to unfathomable depths makes it possible that human love can propagate like ripples across a pool.

Challenging, and emotionally draining life may be but where there is Resurrection hope there is also new life. And there are many signs of hope in our world; our hope this year for a new future for the people of the Middle East, Ukraine and Russia; our hope for fairer trade at home and abroad; our hope that fear will become a thing of the past. We may feel insignificant in the face of such need, but the message of Resurrection is that we are not. We can be bearers of hope, lighting beacons that will shine in the world’s darkness. In the reality of our world, Christ has died for us and has been raised for us: “We are an Easter people, and alleluia is our song.”

Graham Southgate (01747 476316)

St George's 100 Club

March Winners

1st prize

- **Beatrice Wienand**

2nd prize

- **Tony Wilce**

3rd prize

- **Daniel Newton**

Subscriptions are now due for the 2025-2026 season. Please complete the form sent in the February magazine to secure participation in next year's draws.

The next draw will be a double draw for April and May and will be held at the Bourton Village Lunch on 12th May.

Contact: Philip Newton
07947 054534

St Martin's Millennium Club

**Winners for
January, February & March**

S Lane

S Todd

C Hurt,

M E Baylis

M Etherington

C Harrison-Allen

M Stratton,

J Palfrey

D Gatehouse

R Lauder

G Poynton

The next draw will be on 7th April
To subscribe to this lottery,
contact Ashley Kemp
treasurer@agkemp.co.uk

Mobile Library Times

April 2025

April 3, 17	Zeals	School, Chapel Lane	10.00-10.45am
		Zeals Rise	10.45-11.00 am
April 3, 17	Kilmington	Home Guard Club	11.20-11.35 am

Now read on...

When God Was a Rabbit by Sarah Winman (Headline 2011)

This is a wonderful debut novel which had me frequently laughing out loud at the pointy wit which peppers the text, and at other times feeling a certain tightness in the throat because of the sheer pathos of the situation. It is essentially concerned with the idea of loss and rediscovery, and it is beautifully and finely observed.

It is the story of Elly and her journey from being a child to an adult, set in a loving and supportive family, with some serious bumps along the way. It is soon obvious that Elly is alive to human quirks and idiosyncrasies, and it makes her endearing from the start. The novel is divided into two parts spanning about 30 years. Part 1 set in 1970s Essex and Cornwall when Elly is going through childhood and early puberty. Part 2 is set from 1995 in London, where Elly at 27 years old is working as a freelance journalist, and then New York and back to Cornwall.

Elly's first loss when her family leave Essex is her best school friend, Jenny Penny, whose background is complicated and tricky, mostly because of Jenny's mother's rather dodgy occupation. Elly is drawn to Jenny's extraordinary spirit because of the, "promise of beyond" that she seems to exude, something away from Elly's norm. They manage to maintain a spasmodic but strong connection over the years, despite obstacles, and it is continuous source of joy for Elly. The other vital person in Elly's life is her brother Joe, who is five years her senior. She looks up to him and says at one point that she, "never felt complete without him". His heart is broken early by his school friend Charlie and it takes him a long time to recover. He eventually goes to live in New York, where unexpected events happen.

To explain about god and rabbit in the title: Elly at about 8 years old is at Sunday School and is strenuously admonished by the Vicar because she refers to the Virgin Birth as a "mistake", in that it involves a pregnancy outside of wedlock. The Vicar is outraged, accuses her of blasphemy and concludes that she will never be loved by God because of her questioning the great Divine Plan. Elly decides that if God can't love her, she needs to find another who will. So, when she is given an adorable pet rabbit by brother Joe for Christmas, he is called "god", because he can love her unconditionally. This rabbit turns out to have an extraordinary power of speech, but only to her, and his successors continue to turn up in her life periodically to provide silent help, wise words and reassurance. I do have to say that this requires a slight suspension of disbelief, but feel it does work in its own way, and having been a passionate rabbit lover and owner from early years, I had no problem with it!

The themes are unconditional sibling devotion, kidnapping, abuse, the trauma of the 9/11 disaster, gayness, amnesia, long misplaced guilt and its resolution, how to cope with winning the pools, the redemptive power of a second chance, a deep sensitivity to nature, and the appreciation of an honest and generous drive in others.

Sarah Winman was born in 1964 and before turning her hand to writing was an actress. Rabbit became an international bestseller, and since then she has published several other successful novels. Her authorial voice feels as if it comes from the heart – even visceral – honest and uncompromising – and makes great reading.

Catherine Potter (catherine.potter@hotmail.co.uk)

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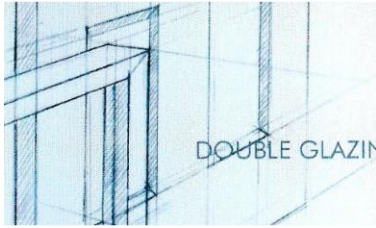
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Country Calendar

April 2025

April: immediately we think “April Showers”, and oh my goodness after months of rain, showers in moderation please. What farmers need is a real boost in so many ways. With confirmation that we have had the wettest 18 months since 1836, coupled with two years of rampant inflation, low retailer returns and much, much more, this has led to a “collapse” in farmer confidence, bringing it to an all-time low. We know how isolated farming can be and we feel for those who are struggling generally, and also with their mental health.

In 2023, 62 farmers died by suicide, according to Parallel Parliament. Suicide rates in farming are much higher than the general population, with elevated mental health symptoms due to high stress levels. In September 2023, 95% of farmers said mental health concerns were a problem. Agriculture is one of the high-risk occupations for suicide in the UK, and also has the worst safety record of any occupation in the UK. The rate of fatal injuries in agriculture is 21 times higher than the average for all industries. These are terrible statistics and 2024 are yet to be collated.

I feel for the younger element coming into farming today. Things are so very difficult and when farmers are asked what would help, it comes down to the UK government. Farmers want the government to provide stable and fair market conditions, support for sustainable farming practices through financial incentives, clear policy on environmental land management, protection against unfair trade deals, and a focus on ensuring they receive a fair price for their produce, all while maintaining a viable food production capacity in the country; essentially, a clear plan for a sustainable future of farming in the UK. So I thought I would look up and see what schemes DEFRA has going which we were told would be up and running by the end of 2024.

Summary of current Defra support schemes and grants:

- Sustainable Farming Incentive – Open
- Countryside Stewardship (CS) – Closed
- Landscape Recovery – Closed
- Capital items – Closed (except for Woodland Tree Health grants, Protection and infrastructure grants, CS Higher Tier capital grants, and management plan grants)
- Farming Equipment and Technology Fund – Closed
- Water Management grant (round 2) – Closed
- Slurry Infrastructure grant (round 2) – Closed
- Adding Value grant – Closed
- Improving Farm Productivity grant (round 2) – Open, but only to those who have been accepted
- Species Survival Fund – Closed
- Farming in Protected Landscapes – Open, but only for farmers in AONBs or National Parks

- Get funding to improve animal health and welfare – Open
- Laying Hen Housing for Health and Welfare grant (round 1) – Open, but only to those who have been accepted
- Calf Housing for Health and Welfare grant – Open, but only to those who have been accepted
- Creating woodland – Open

Well, there you go **“Open, but to those who have been accepted”** translated into straight talking farming language means: “Something will happen at some point in the future, which implies it might not happen for a considerable amount of time”. No wonder we farmers hold our heads in our hands, utter frustration!

Jane Parker

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Bourton Gardening Club

The next meeting is on Wednesday 16th April in Bourton Village Hall
Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

This month we have a talk on
British Wild Flower Seeds - Planting a Wild Flower Border.

Refreshments will be served. Free to members, £3 non members.

See you there!

For details contact Jan at janne_cowan@yahoo.co.uk



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Projects at Stourhead

Tuesday 8 April 3-5pm, at Stourton Memorial Hall

We're inviting the local community to come and find out more

In 2026 two significant projects will be happening at Stourhead: The Reservoir Project and The Garden Pathway Improvement Project.

Come along to find out more about the projects, why we are doing them, how they will be delivered, with the opportunity to ask questions.

Contact: stourhead.estate@nationaltrust.org.uk

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Lucy Fenna, Communications & Marketing Officer
lucy.fenna1@nationaltrust.org.uk or 01747 842032



US Coast Guard Academy

Concert at St Peter's Stourton on 13th March

This somewhat unusual and special concert was given by the Cadet Chorale from the above Academy which is based in Connecticut. The choir travels a great deal and

this event was the penultimate in their England tour, their final concert being at St George's Windsor on the evening of the same day. There were about 35 singers who sang unaccompanied an engaging and very enjoyable selection of national anthems, hymns, folk songs and spirituals. It was an immensely special and very enjoyable occasion.

Stourton Memorial Hall AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Stourton Memorial Hall Committee will take place at 1800 on Thu 10 Apr 2025 in the Stourton Memorial Hall Stourton. Residents of Gasper and Stourton and other Hall users 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. It is also the occasion when the old committee formally resigns and a new committee is elected by those residents of Gasper and Stourton who are present. Should village members who have points to raise with the committee be unable to attend, their issues can be put to the secretary who will ensure they are raised at the meeting.

All enquiries through the Hon Sec : cmetopham@hotmail.com



Ana James

01747 840550 / 07557 369922

Lady Keegan's Cookery Corner

Lorraine Stew

I have adapted this recipe by Keith Floyd, which is delicious but, to my mind, slightly too complicated. So – I have cut down the ingredients, added dry cider and suggested creamed potatoes as an accompaniment.

It is the perfect dish for this unpredictable weather!

Ingredients: (for 4) 2 tablespoons olive oil, 2 onions, 3 leeks, 1 small spring cabbage, 4 carrots, 2 cloves garlic, all chopped, 7oz (200g) broad beans 1 tin haricot beans, drained, 7oz (200g) frozen broad beans, 1 bay leaf, 4 pork sausages, 1lb ham hock or green gammon, 8oz (250g) diced smoked bacon, dry cider to cover, salt & freshly grated black pepper to taste.

Method: Fry the onions, carrots and sausages in oil in a large flameproof casserole. Add all the other ingredients, just cover with the cider, season, and bring to the boil. Cover and simmer gently in a moderate oven (170C) for about an hour, or until the gammon is cooked through. Carve up the hock or gammon and spoon over the rest of the stew. Lovely served with very creamy mashed potato and a sprinkling of chopped parsley.

Wylde Valley Art Trail Saturday 3rd – Sunday 11th May

Welcome to the 12th Wylde Valley Art Trail with 82 venues. A 10-day festival of visual art and craft in south west Wiltshire. Visit open studios and workplaces, group exhibitions and galleries, meet and talk to artists and craftspeople, maybe purchase a piece of original art! This year Zeals area is towards the end of the trail numbers listed in the guide. The Wylde Valley Art Trail is largest visual arts event in Wiltshire. There is a wide and interesting patchwork of art and craft There's something for every taste and every budget. Pick up the free brochure. Find a QR code on the back of the guide. Follow links through to the social media pages for updates/more images. www.wvat.co.uk

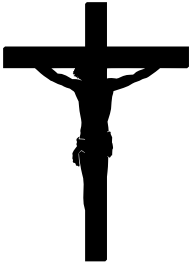
Barbara Ralph

Gillingham Rotary

Gillingham Rotary are organising an open day to showcase all clubs, charitable and business organisations active in the Gillingham area, giving a chance for you to promote your club/charity/ business, with the possibility of demos by some clubs throughout the day. We are offering pitches on Saturday 7th June 2025 (10:00am to 3:00pm). In the sports hall at Rivers Meet, Hardings Lane, Gillingham SP8 4HX At a cost £10 (A few tables are available if booked early otherwise please bring your own stands etc.)

Email: gill.rotarysecretary@aol.com with the name of your club/group or business. Payment for pitches to The Rotary Club of Gillingham:

The bank details for the Club Account are: A/C Name Rotary Club of Gillingham (Dorset) A/C No 00261492 • Sort Code 30-93-45



SERVICES IN UPPER STOUR WITH MAIDEN BRADLEY

APRIL 2025

- Sunday 6th Fifth Sunday of Lent**
10.00 Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington
- Sunday 13th Palm Sunday**
10.00 Procession & Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton
10.00 Morning Worship at All Saints Maiden Bradley
- Thurs 17th Maundy Thursday**
19.00 Parish Communion & Foot Washing at St George's Bourton
- Friday 18th Good Friday**
14.00 Last Hour at St Peter's Stourton
- Sunday 20th Easter Day**
06.00 Sunrise Service at St Peter's Stourton
10.00 Parish Communion at St George's Bourton
10.00 Parish Communion at All Saints Maiden Bradley
- Sunday 27th Second Sunday of Easter**
10.00 Morning Worship at St Martin's Zeals
16.00 Messy Church at St Martin's Zeals

May

- Sunday 4th Third Sunday of Easter**
10.00 Parish Communion and Holy Baptism
at St George's Bourton

~ ~ oOo ~ ~

Weekday Services

- Mondays:** 09.00 Morning prayer at St George's Bourton (not on 21/4)
Wednesdays: 16.00 Midweek Communion at St Martin's Zeals
Thursdays: 09.00 Morning Prayer at St Mary's Kilmington

From the Registers

Baptism

On 9th March at St Mary's Kilmington : **Felix Teddy Bjorn Vere Nicoll**

Weddings

On 12th April at St Peter's Stourton : **Blake George Prince** and **Sarah Jane Wilhemina Murrison**

Church Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll is due this year for complete revision Everyone wishing to be on it will have to renew their membership between 22nd March - 7th May 2025 in preparation for the Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 22nd May 2025. If you would like to be included on the Roll, forms are available in each of the 5 churches or emailed to me. I can also send you an electronic version to fill in online.

Completed forms can be left in any of the churches or emailed to me elizabeth.hames@hotmail.co.uk - tel 01747 685514 or to the Parish Office

Elizabeth Hames (Electoral Roll Officer)

Stourton and Kilmington Home Guard Club

Kilmington Common, BA12 6QY 01985 844458

Open Wed–Sat: 6pm–11pm and Sun: 12 noon – 3pm

Fully stocked bar, skittle alley, garden and BBQ. Social Club open for all. New members and visitors welcome. Venue Hire: Planning a birthday party, a wedding reception, a local fete or a community event? The Home Guard is the perfect venue whatever your occasion; disco available

April events: Sat.12th: Coffee Morning 10am–12am;
Sat.19th Bingo 7.30pm.

**Sunday 4th May : come and join us to have some fun at our
VE Day STREET PARTY celebrations!**



Everyone welcome! There will be Children's Fancy Dress Competitions and much more. Details to follow in May's *About Upper Stour* and *The Kilmington News (The Pink Paper)*.

We would like to thank Stourton Parish Council and Kilmington Parish Council for their generous donations to the event.

Kilmington & Stourton Women's Institute

The next meeting is on Tuesday 22nd April, when the Speaker will be Tim Parker, Head Gardener, Stourhead Gardens.

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

*For more information contact Bernie Isted bernieisted@gmail.com
or Jane Parker 01985 844248*

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Zeals Soup Lunches



The next Soup Lunch will be on 19th May 12.30 in Zeals Village Hall. The final soup lunch of the summer will be on 16th June.

Please note that there is no lunch booked in April because of Easter.

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News from Parish Councils

Bourton

Bourton Parish Council is still awaiting an answer from Pickwick Academy Trust at St George's School with regards to the current lease on the play area, which is due to expire on 31st December 2026. The academy trust has recently informed us that this issue will now need to go to The Department of Education but Bourton PC members are at a loss as to why this is the situation. As this issue has been ongoing since February 2024, it seems highly unlikely that the PC will be in a position to install any new play equipment and will now need to explore other options for a play area. This is likely to be a long process and will involve looking at community funding options, such as The National Lottery. Thanks to Councillor Paul Curry, Bourton Parish Council now controls two 24 hour accessible defibrillators, housed in cabinets, for use in an emergency. Both these cabinets now also contain Bleed Control Kits. The locations of these cabinets are:

- Forge Garage, New Road, SP8 5BD - what3words location: rust.swooned.linen This cabinet is not locked.
- Bus stop/Book exchange, opposite Old Red Lion, New Road SP8 5BD - what3words location: snares.apartment.stowing This cabinet is locked, but a call to 999 (Ambulance) will immediately obtain the lock code.

Agendas and minutes will continue to be published on the website, the Facebook group and within the two village noticeboards.

Email: clerk@bourton-pc.gov.uk **Website:** <https://bourton-pc.gov.uk/>
Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/639361217139818>

Kilmington

The old railings in Butts Lane near the school are in the process of being removed and the pavement made good; this has been confirmed by WC Highways department who see no reason for them to remain. They were originally installed back in the day when local farmers drove cattle along the lane, to protect the local children walking to the school building.

The PC is pleased to be able to support the 80th VE Day anniversary celebrations being organised by the Home Guard Club. These will be taking place on Sunday 4th May and all parishioners are welcome to join in. Full details of the timetable of events will be printed in the May edition of this magazine. *(see also page 15)*

The Community Consultation, held by way of a drop-in session at the Home Guard Club on 1 March, was relatively well attended and several useful comments were received. The purpose of the meeting was to consult with stakeholders about plans to replace and enhance the current equipment. John Harrison, Chairman of the Playing Field Advisory Committee will now proceed

to the next stage and seek funding as well as obtain costs for an area in the field for benches, flowers and trees; he hopes to report back at the next meeting. Minutes of the PC meeting held on 17 March will be posted on the noticeboard and website hopefully by the end of March. This was the last meeting of the current council. Elections are being held on Thursday 1 May. The deadline for candidate nomination forms to be submitted to Wiltshire Council at Salisbury, is 4pm Wednesday 2 April. If you feel you can make a difference and would like to become a councillor this could be your opportunity to do so. Full details of the procedure can be found at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/local-elections>

Ruth Burrows, Parish Clerk Email: parishclerk@kilmingtonwiltshire.org

Stourton

We are moving towards Spring with longer, warmer days and are probably looking to start getting outside more. If you are walking in the Parish using our footpaths, bridleways and byways, please keep an eye out for any issues ie. gates that don't open or shut / paths washed away by winter storms / obstructions and let us know so we can contact Wiltshire Rights of Way for repair.

We are extremely fortunate not to have experienced war in this country for many generations. Those who have are now few and far between, but we remember their sacrifices several times a year, particularly Remembrance Day on 11th November. This year is the 80th anniversary of VE Day on 8th May, Stourton and Kilmington Home Guard Club will be hosting the VE Day celebrations, supported by the Stourton & Gasper Parish Council.

Advance notices on page 15 and further details will be available closer to the time in the next edition of this magazine and on the Parish board and the website.

Lisa Gilby, Clerk clerk@stourton.org.uk

Zeals

As we are coming into Spring with the drier, warmer weather and the water and flooding recedes, any damage to the Highways and pavements will start to become more noticeable. The Parish Councillors will always take note of any damage reported to them and it has been a recurring theme in meetings over the winter months. Please remember to report any potholes / road damage to MyWilts as it will highlight any problems to the County Council and Highways.

If you keep an eye of the Parish Council notice board, you will have seen there has been a Notice of Elections displayed. The local elections are on 1st May and there is a long haul for the councillors until we get there. We have 7 Councillors for our Parish and they all have to fill nomination papers to declare their intention to stay a Councillor, as does any other member of the parish who wishes to become a council member. Nomination papers must be the Electoral Registration Officer by Wednesday 2 April 2025. If there are more than 7 nomination papers registered then the Parish will have to hold an election. Our Councillors are dedicated people, who do this voluntarily to help their community. Please show your support if we hold an election but much more importantly, please show your support as they work to keep the Parish the lovely place it is.

Lisa Gilby, Parish Clerk ,Zeals Parish Council , <https://zealspc.org.uk/>



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Green Fingers: Notes from a Fairweather Gardener

April

Shakespeare thought that “April hath put a spirit of youth in everything”. Do you feel the same? Certainly it often feels at this time of the year as though the winter is behind us and nature has woken up ready to greet the summer. The worst of the weather should be behind us, but there might still be the odd frost, so do take care to protect any seedlings or tender plants.

At last we can think about brightening up the garden with an assortment of hardy annuals. Sunflowers, which give double value as a bright splash of colour and seed heads to feed the birds, can be planted directly into the ground or sown in pots. It could be that the giant sunflowers we are so familiar with are a bit too much for your garden, either too tall or too brash with their insistent yellow flower heads. These days there are so many varieties of sunflower that it is easy to find one that suits your needs – multi-stemmed, dwarf, red, brown and every shade of yellow. They all have the advantage of being easy to grow and making excellent cut flowers.

If you were well organised and sowed sweet peas earlier in the year, you can plant them out now where you wish them to flower. These too make wonderful cut flowers – a small bunch can fill a room with their perfume. You can either grow them on a trellis in a separate cutting bed if you have the space, or they look good climbing through a net on a wigwam to give height to a flower bed. A few plants will also happily twine themselves through other climbing plants like clematis.

We are often told these days that growing our vegetables in rows is an open invitation to all sorts of hungry pests. You can avoid this by growing some of your vegetables in the flower beds. Americans apparently grow runner beans for their flowers and certainly the red varieties are a colour rarely found in other plants. Don't despair if you dislike red – there are pink and white flowered varieties available too! What about growing squashes and courgettes over an arch or trellis? They have spectacular flowers and they would be less susceptible to slug damage. There are all sorts of other possibilities – red cabbages and cavalero nero would provide interesting foliage and some frilly lettuce at the front of the border would make a change from some of the traditional favourites.

Daphne Knott

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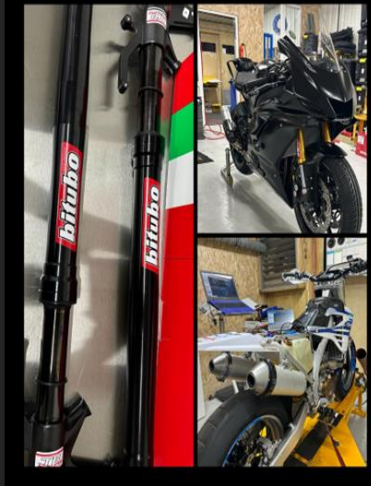


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Bourton Village Hall

LUNCH AT THE HALL
Monday 7th April 12.30 pm
Bourton Village Lunch

CINEMA
Wednesday 2ND April 7pm for 7.30pm
Film "Conclave"

Set in the Vatican, Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) has one of the world's most secretive and ancient events, participating in the selection of a new pope. Surrounded by powerful religious leaders in the Vatican, he soon uncovers a trail of deep secrets that could shake the very foundation of the Roman Catholic Church. Also starring Isabella Rossellini, Stanley Tucci and John Lithgow.

BOURTON PLAYERS QUIZ
Saturday 27th April 7pm

See separate ad with all information on page 27



HELP

Bourton Village Hall is desperately seeking new volunteers to help staff our events. Our amazing team of volunteers are reaching an age where they wish to step back, and we therefore urgently need fresh blood in our team !! It needn't be a huge amount of commitment , as any help would be greatly appreciated.

**If you would like to find out more about what is involved
please contact me on:**

chair@bourtonvh-dorset.org Or call on 07715 664533

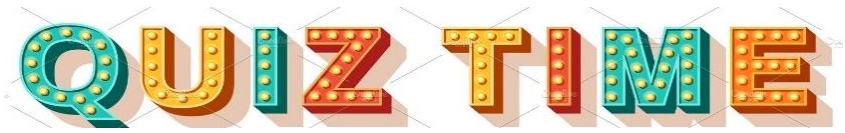
HIRE THE HALL

Large hall (14 x 9.6m/46 x 32ft) with raised stage and kitchen.

Contact the Bookings Clerk at

Bookings@bourtonvh-dorset.org. Or call 07715664533

BOURTON PLAYERS PRESENT



QUIZ & SUPPER EVENING

SATURDAY 26th APRIL ~ BOURTON VILLAGE HALL

Expect a quiz like no other to challenge your creative talents as well as your intellectual ones!!

Doors & bar open 6.30pm for 7pm start

£10 per person to include hot supper.

Tickets must be purchased in advance

Raising funds for the next panto

Tickets from Bourton Garage and Zeals Shop

To reserve tickets, contact Heather on 07849 673 670

Regular Weekly Events

- Weekdays 08.45-09.15 **Preschool meeting** at the Preschool playing fields, West Bourton (*term time only*)
The ZAC Zeals Afterschools Club meets daily 3.15 – 6 on school days at the Playing Field, Wolverton Lane, drawing children from 5 local schools. Contact Sarah on 07908 664 676; zealsafterschoolsclub@gmail.com
- Tuesdays **Toddlers sessions:** 9am-12pm (term time only) at Bourton Village Hall. Contact Caroline Worthington 07754 882454
Craft & Chat – every Tuesday in Bourton Village Hall at 2pm
- Wednesday **Bellringing practice** at St Martin's church Zeals. Beginners and lapsed ringers welcome. Contact Georgina Muir 01985 844245
- Fridays **Choir Practice:** most Fridays 6-7pm at St Martin's Zeals. New singers welcome. Contact Tom Wheare 01747 840622

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 2025

Weds 2 nd	Film "Conclave" 7 for 7.30 pm, BVH	page 26
Mon 7 th	Bourton Village lunch, 12.30pm, BVH	page 26
Tues 8 th	Projects at Stourhead	page 11
Thurs 10 th	Stourton Memorial Hall AGM 6pm, SMH	page 12
Sat 12 th	Coffee Morning, Home Guard Club, 10am-noon	page 15
Weds 16 th	Bourton Gardening Club, 7 for 7.30pm, BVH	page 10
Sat 19 th	Bingo, Home Guard Club, 7.30 pm,	page 15
Tues 22 nd	WI Meeting, 7 for 7.30pm, SMH	page 16
Sat 27 th	Bourton Players Quiz Time 6.30 for 7pm, BVH	page 27

*Happy
Easter*



**All items for the May 2025 issue by Friday 18th April 2025
please**