



Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

About Upper Stour

serving the villages of

Bourton

Kilmington

Stourton

Zeals



November 2025

Parish Contacts

Clergy

Revd Dr Graham Southgate, Rector

01747 476 316 / Email [\(day off Tuesday\)](mailto:rector@uswmb.co.uk)

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

Parish Administrator, Helen Bedford (works part time)

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should be sent to the Editor

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Tel 01985 844613 email celiacotton1@outlook.com

by **Friday 14th November 2025** please

Remembering in Hope

November is a month of remembrance. The days grow shorter, the air turns colder, and the Church's calendar invites us to pause and reflect on time, loss, and hope. At the beginning of the month, we mark All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day—sometimes together called All Soulstide—when we remember all those who have gone before us in faith. Some were saints famous for their holiness and courage; others were the quiet, faithful people whose love and kindness shaped our families, churches, and communities.

We shall gather for the Commemoration of All Souls Service at Zeals, at 4 p.m. on Sunday 2nd November, to give thanks for those whom we have loved but see no longer. Names will be read aloud, candles lit, and prayers offered in thanksgiving and remembrance. It is a tender and holy moment in our year—sorrow and gratitude woven together, as we entrust our loved ones and ourselves to God, who holds all life, both in this world and the next.

A week later, our remembering takes on a national character. Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day—with the silences that still speak so powerfully—draw us together to honour those who gave their lives in war and conflict. On Sunday 9th November, we shall mark Remembrance Sunday at Maiden Bradley and Bourton, gathering with our neighbours and local communities to keep silence, lay wreaths, and pray for peace.

As we share silence, we contemplate both the horror of war and the preciousness of peace, a silence where grief and gratitude meet. The red poppy, worn by so many, remains a fragile yet enduring symbol of remembrance: a reminder both of the cost of human conflict and of the resilience of hope.

For Christians, remembering is never only about looking back. It is also about bringing the past before God in thanksgiving and allowing it to shape how we live now. Every time we gather around the altar, we “do this in remembrance” of Jesus—recalling his sacrifice and resurrection, and proclaiming that love is stronger than death.

So this November, whether we are lighting candles in Zeals, standing in silence at Maiden Bradley or Bourton, or pausing to reflect at home, may our remembering lead us to hope. May we hold before God the pain of the world, and renew our trust that one day every tear will be wiped away, and all shall be made whole in the peace of Christ.

Graham Southgate, Rector (01747 476316)

St George's 100 Club

October Winners

1st prize

Claire Reed

2nd prize

Inge Royall

3rd prize

John Burrows

Contact Philip Newton for details
(07947 054534)

The next draw will take place on
Monday 3rd November at the
Bourton Village Lunch

St Martin's Millennium Club

October Winners

R Lauder

J Hurt

R Denbigh

M Bullen

Next draw: 6th November

This lottery raises funds in support of St Martin's Church Zeals. You can register for inclusion at any time. We shall shortly be renewing our licence for 2026. For inclusion in draws, booking numbers or questions, contact Ashley Kemp 01747 840272
treasurer@agkemp.co.uk

Mobile Library : November 2025

Nov 6, 20	Zeals	School, Chapel Lane	10.00-10.45 am
		Zeals Rise	10.45-11.00 am
Nov 6, 20	Kilmington	Home Guard Club	11.20-11.35 am

Cornerways Cottage Zeals, Annex/Lodge

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Contact: Irene Snook 01747 840 477 / irene.snook@btinternet.com



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Now read on.....

Moon Tiger by Penelope Lively

(published by André Deutsch 1987)

'I'm writing a history of the world.....The whole triumphant murderous unstoppable chute – from the mud to the stars, universal and particular, your story and mine.'

The opening lines of this fascinating and complex novel, which won the Booker Prize in 1987, set the scene for the heroine, Claudia Hampton's, ambition. Claudia is a popular, rather than academic, historian, publisher of several successful history books. As the novel opens, she is 76, terminally ill, and reviewing her life. She is emphatically not a woman of her times (born in 1910), but feisty, rebellious, independent, determined, sometimes obnoxious, opinionated and very much her own woman. The novel plots the trajectory of her own life (rather better than the promised history of the world). At its core, though, is a romance set in 1943, in war-torn Egypt. Penelope Lively grew up in Egypt and has drawn heavily on her childhood memories of Cairo to recreate it, as she says: 'understanding little but seeing a great deal.' The novel is multi-layered, but its huge appeal comes from 3 things: her reflections on and memories of her life as it nears its end; the insights into a woman at odds with the times she has lived through; her very different experiences in wartime Cairo, which provide richly different texture.

Many of the other characters (especially the women) seen as they are through Claudia's eyes, are rather one-dimensional. Almost all are family members: her mother; her sister-in-law and her daughter, Lisa, in particular. Claudia loves Lisa, but she has little or no maternal feelings towards her. Instead, she allows Lisa's grandmothers to bring her up, very conventionally. In adulthood, the consequence is a difficult relationship between Claudia and Lisa. (One reviewer has also noticed that, by contrast, the nurses patronise Claudia and have difficulty in seeing her as anything but a sick old woman.)

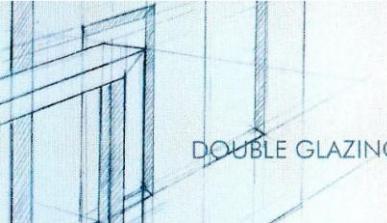
Claudia's relationship with her older brother, Gordon, is more complex. Very close and very competitive as children, their exclusivity in their late teens which morphs into both mutual criticism and support in adulthood is fascinating. Gordon has become a highly successful international economist with a very conventional family life, while Claudia is, well, Claudia. By contrast, her relationship with Jasper, Lisa's father is fairly straightforward, though unconventional, with each holding the other at arm's length.

/continued on page 7 ...

Her wartime relationship, however, is human, close and passionate. Towards the end of the novel, she reflects on the impact it has had on her life, especially when, years later, she revisits Egypt and experiences it very differently.

Moon Tiger is beautifully written and fast-paced while its central character is a fascinating, complex woman, almost totally at odds with her times. I loved it (so did my husband) and highly recommend it.

Ann Tasker (ann.tasker@gmail.com)



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Country Calendar

November

November; and my heart stops, because November means Bonfire Night. It is no longer a singular one night as Bonfire Night is now “Bonfire Nights!” Fireworks are let off consistently night after night! They are so sophisticated with extremely large patterns and even louder explosions. Fireworks for farmers, especially those with livestock, can and often do create problems. Incidents involving farmers and fireworks include livestock panics and injuries from startled animals, significant barn and property fires ignited by stray fireworks, and fatal explosions at fireworks storage facilities located on farms, such as the Marlie Farm explosion in the UK, which killed two firefighters. To prevent these incidents, farmers are advised to warn neighbours about livestock, and the public is encouraged to attend organized events rather than private displays. The loud noises and flashing lights of fireworks cause animals to panic, resulting in injuries from running into fences or farm equipment, and even fatal escapes onto busy roads. Stray fireworks can ignite hay and straw piles, leading to large fires that destroy barns, farm machinery, and stored feed, as seen in a 2024 incident in West Norfolk.

When I was a child Bonfire Night was for one night, and always on the actual date - 5th November. It is 400 years since Guy Fawkes was unsuccessful in his attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament, also referred to as the Gunpowder Plot. I remember the little ditty we all use to chant as children.

*Remember, remember
The fifth of November
Gunpowder, Treason and Plot
I see no reason
Why Gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot*

Hardly any chance of forgetting, as Bonfire Night is now wrapped in with Halloween hence the longevity of the occasion. Commercialisation has taken over. I wonder if they actually know what Bonfire Night is really about – a bit like Christmas. I was absolutely horrified when I visited a local garden centre mid-September to be greeted by Santa’s Grotto and shelves of tacky Christmas Decorations already on display alongside just as many shelves of Halloween paraphernalia. Guy Fawkes has a lot to answer for as his “remember, remember the 5th November” should be “remember, remember the whole of November”! On a serious note, not only do farm animals come under stress with continual loud explosions but also horses, pets, wildlife, and even me!

Jane Parker

Evensongs

An evening with Bishop Andrew Rumsey

Featuring songs from his new album and readings from his acclaimed book English Grounds: A Pastoral Journal (described as "a total delight" by Simon Jenkins). Evensongs follows Andrew's poetic route through unlikely corners of our country's heritage.

Thursday 6th November -7pm

St Michael's Church, Mere

Tickets: £10 (advance) £12 (on the day)



Bishop Andrew in Mere

Bishop Andrew Rumsey will be performing in St Michael's Church, Mere on **Thursday 6th November 7pm**

Songs from his new album and readings from his acclaimed book "English Grounds A Pastoral Journey"

Tickets from
www.friendsofstmichaels.org or
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News from Stourhead

**National
Trust**

As the beauty of autumn quietly leaves the garden over the month of November, there's a spark of festive magic that is beginning to glimmer - promising a magical visit to all.

During the first week of November you can still enjoy Bat's autumn adventure trail and Stableyard fun and games. So do come along and catch the last of the autumn spirit while you still can.

The house will be closed from 3 - 20 November, while important conservation work takes place and we fill the house with enchanting Christmas decorations. Reopening on 21 November, the Christmas house will feature twinkling lights, festive floral arrangements, and showstopping trees. Visitors can enjoy different themes in each room, inspired by the history, nature, and beauty of Stourhead and its heritage.

Coming up this festive season, we have lots of Christmas events for everyone to enjoy. Towards the end of November, get into the Christmas spirit by learning wreath-making in a relaxing and creative workshop, with all materials provided. Tickets include hot drinks and festive snacks. Tickets are also selling quickly for our famed Christmas light trail and snuggly Storytime with Father Christmas, so grab your tickets soon to secure the date and time of your choice. Further event information and ticket booking is available on our website.

We look forward to welcoming you to Stourhead soon.

Lucy Fenna, Communications & Marketing Officer
lucy.fenna1@nationaltrust.org.uk or 01747 842021



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Christmas Lights Trail at Stourhead

The Trail ends at the garden again this year which will encourage visitors to come into the decorated St Peter's as their final point of enjoyment.

We need 3 or 4 volunteers in the church from 6.00 - 9.00 pm on each of the following evenings : 5-7th, 12-14th and 19-21st December. If you can help, please contact Jane Joyce 01747 840149/j-joyce@dircon.co.uk.

During these evenings, we will be looking for produce for sale – such as home made jams, chutneys, small cakes, flapjacks (or similar), biscuits, or get your children to make friendship bracelets – or anything else you may feel might be popular. If you have any queries or help getting produce to the church, please contact Emma (07980 272621), or Sarah (01747 840144) or Celia (01985 844613)

Christmas Wreath Making

Zeals Village Hall

10.00am Saturday 6th December 2025

Come along to Zeals Village Hall for a demonstration and to make your own Christmas Wreath. Tickets £15.00 to include wire ring base, wire and/or twine. Limited places so buy early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets available at Zeals Post Office from 14th November to 2nd December 2025

In aid of restoration of the East Window of St Martin's Church



Farm Fresh Turkeys



Orders for Christmas are being taken.

Various weights available.

For details contact Elizabeth Hames:

01747 685514 or

elizabeth.hames@hotmail.co.uk

SERVICES IN UPPER STOUR WITH MAIDEN BRADLEY

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday 2nd	Fourth Sunday before Advent
10.00	Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington
16.00	All Souls Commemoration at St Martin's Zeals
Sunday 9th	Third Sunday before Advent ~ Remembrance Sunday
10.45	Act of Remembrance at Bourton War Memorial followed by
	Remembrance Service at St George's Bourton
10.00	Remembrance Service at All Saints Maiden Bradley
Sunday 16th	Second Sunday before Advent
10.00	Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton
Sunday 23rd	Sunday next before Advent ~~ Christ the King
10.00	Parish Communion at St Martin's Zeals
Sunday 30th	First Sunday of Advent
	Benefice Communion at All Saints Maiden Bradley

DECEMBER 2025

Sunday 7th	Second Sunday of Advent
10.00	Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

~~ o0o ~~

Weekday Services

Mondays:	09.00 Morning prayer at St George's Bourton
Wednesdays:	16.00 Midweek Communion at St Martin's Zeals
Thursdays:	09.00 Morning Prayer at St Mary's Kilmington

Harvest Praise & Pet Service Sunday 5th October

The Harvest Praise & Pet Service took place at Home Farm Stourton, courtesy once again the Parker Family. The preparation for this is very time consuming so much appreciated. This informal, friendly service was well attended by pets & their owners including Desmond the Donkey. Attendees were very generous with their gifts and donation, and our thanks once again to our popular Auctioneer, Charles Spencer, for his charm and wit. The event was followed by a Ploughman's Lunch, also with apple pie and Dorset Apple Cake.

The guest speaker Rebecca Hill (a farmer) was a representative from The Farming Community Network (Dorset). Linda Curry our local CinnamonTrust volunteer was also present. Music Master Chris Reeves played for us in his very jovial way.

The total amount raised was £521.66 = £260.83p to each charity. A big thank you and much gratitude to all helpers, & their generosity – this was a fantastic team event.

Barbara Borwell

“Unity, Doctrine, and the Birth of a Creed” – Reflecting on the Nicene Creed.

A Course for the parishes of Upper Stour and Maiden Bradley
to be led by the Rector Graham Southgate (01747 476316)
on Monday evenings in the Parish Room at Saint Martin's Church
Zeals, beginning at 7 p.m.:

Sessions 1 and 2 took place in October, and continue . . .

3rd November ~ God the Son (Part 1): Begotten, Not Made.

10th November ~ God the Son (Part 2): For Us and for Our Salvation.

17th November ~ God the Holy Spirit: The Lord, the Giver of Life.

24th November ~ Church, Sacraments, and Hope.

*Everyone is welcome to attend and participate,
but it would be good if you booked a place by letting Graham know.*



All Souls Service of Reflection

Sunday 2nd November

This Service will be held on Sunday 2nd November at 16.00 at St Martin's Church Zeals.

The Rose Memorial Pedestal in St George's Church Bourton will be created by St George's Flower Group in remembrance of loved ones deceased (such as spouse, family member, friend etc.- in fact anyone even a pet).

Names are recorded in the Commemoration Book, which will be on display with the Memorial Pedestal at the back of St George's church.

Names should be written/printed on an envelope (to include donation)

by Monday 27th October please, and forwarded to

Barbara Borwell, 25 New Close, Bourton (01747 840411)

Kilmington & Stourton Women's Institute

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 25th November - Christmas Party

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

For more information contact

Bernie Isted bernieisted@gmail.com or Jane Parker 01985 844248



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News from Parish Councils

Bourton

Dorset Local Plan

Dorset Council has extended the deadline for responses to the Local Plan following high levels of public engagement and technical issues with the online consultation platform, for which the Council has issued an apology. The new deadline is Friday 31st October 2025. Residents who have not yet submitted comments on the proposed allocation of 125 dwellings on land between West Bourton Road and Brickyard Lane, adjacent to the A303, are encouraged to do so before the revised deadline.

More information can be found at: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorset-is-changing>

Planning Appeals

Appeal Hearings for the two major planning applications refused by Dorset Council over the past year - Sandways site: 30 dwellings and Land East of Chaffeymoor Farm: 50 dwellings -are due to be held on 18 November 2025 at 10:00am, held in Committee Room 1, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ. Anyone wishing to attend should register with the Council in advance by emailing appeals@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk providing their name, email address and details of their status within the context of the appeal. At the Inspector's discretion, individuals may be permitted to speak. Relevant documents can be accessed via the Dorset Council website under the original planning application reference at: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning/planning-application-search-and-comment>

Act of Remembrance Service

On Tuesday 11th November a short Act of Remembrance service will be held at Bourton's war memorial, which all are welcome to attend. The Act of Remembrance will commence at 10:50am ready for the 2-minute silence at 11:00am

Such positive news for the village is that Forge Garage is now under new management, and the shop is once again fully stocked. Residents can now access fuel from the pumps, restoring a vital local service and bringing renewed convenience to the community. This marks a welcome step forward in supporting local infrastructure and ensuring Bourton remains well-served for everyday essentials.

Agendas and Minutes will continue to be published on the Parish Council website, the village Facebook group, and displayed on both village noticeboards.

Eve Wynn

Email: clerk@bourton-pc.gov.uk Website: <https://bourton-c.gov.uk/>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/639361217139818>

Kilmington

Most Kilmington residents receive a copy of Kilmington News (the “pink paper”) which gives a monthly report on as much information relevant to the village as possible. However, I omitted to include a phone number for the new bus service Wiltshire Connect – this is 01255 712900 lines are open between the hours of 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

We are still awaiting dates for when the Traffic Surveys will be undertaken at The Common and on the B3092 at Norton Ferris.

The RoSPA inspection of the playing field should have taken place in September but we have not yet heard if it did or had any report.

The council agreed that 20 x 20kg bags of salt for the coming winter should be requested and Cllr Chris Reeves has volunteered to collect these from the WC Warminster depot for which we are very grateful. The discretionary gully service is due to visit the village during the first week of November - we were requested to provide our top 5 gullies to be cleared and this has been done.

The annual Bonfire and Firework display will be taking place on Wednesday 5 November in the playing field - the event starts at 6.45 pm. Our thanks go to Cllr Mrs Hames and Cllr Chris Reeves, along with Darren Davis who undertook specific training on the safe operation of category 3 fireworks, who have been organizing this event for many years. Please come along and support it; there is no charge for entry but donation buckets will be available.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 17 November when the precept for the next financial year will be decided.

Ruth Burrows, Clerk (parishclerk@kilmingtonwiltshire.org)

Stourton

The next Stourton with Gasper Parish Council meeting is Wednesday 3rd December. The meeting is at 6pm in the Memorial Hall,

The draft minutes from the September meeting are now published on the Stourton PC website <https://www.stourton.org.uk/agendas-minutes-2025/>

The much-awaited Traffic Regulation Order Consultation for Stourton Lane has been announced by Wiltshire Council. This is a public consultation and is your chance to show Wiltshire Council the strength of local opinion regarding the speed limit on Stourton Lane and the need for a reduction.

Copies of the draft Orders, plan and Statement of the Council’s Reasons for proposing to make the Orders may be inspected at the offices of Wiltshire Council, Trowbridge during normal office hours. Details of the proposed scheme may be seen Mere Library between the hours of 10am – 7pm Monday, 9.30am – 5pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10am – 1pm Wednesday and 9.30am – 1pm Saturday until 27th October 2025. Documents can also be viewed online at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/troconsultations>

Any comments you have on this proposal should be sent in writing by email and must include your name and address; without this Wiltshire Council cannot accept any comments. You also need to quote Reference: HKB/TRO/STGA and

the consultation name: TRO Consultation on proposed - 30mph Speed Limit - C55 Stourton Lane, Stourton with Gasper The email address is: trafficorderconsultations@wiltshire.gov.uk

You can find out more details and can submit an online form on the below link: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/14882/TRO-Consultation-on-proposed-30mph-Speed-Limit-C55-Stourton-Lane-Stourton-with-Gasper>

The deadline for the consultation is on 27th October.

It has recently been brought to our attention there is a service available for those not registered with an NHS dentist but have urgent dental pain.

The Dental Access Centre service aims to offer patients with urgent dental pain an appointment within 48 hours. The service will always try to offer an appointment as close as possible to the patient's home, but it may be necessary to travel in order to see a dentist within 48 hours.

Unfortunately, they cannot offer routine treatment and courses of treatment at this time, but if you are in urgent need of help you can make an appointment by calling the Dental Helpline on 0345 7581926 (Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 5pm)

Lisa Gilby, Parish Clerk, clerk@stourton.org.uk

Zeals

The next Zeals Parish Council meeting is Thursday 20th November at 7pm, at the Village Hall. There will also be a Village Hall meeting, which will start at 6.45pm. All are welcome.

The Parish Council recently held its September meeting, and the draft minutes are now published on the Parish Councils website www.zealspc.org.uk. There was some discussion at the last Parish Council meeting about the new Wiltshire Connect bus service, with questions about how to book the bus and what to do if you aren't online to do the booking, so here is a little more information about the new service: Wiltshire Connect is an on-demand public shared ride service to help you get around Warminster, Mere and Frome in Somerset and Gillingham and Shaftesbury in Dorset. The maximum ride duration is 13 miles.

The service is available Monday – Friday: 6am - 8pm, Saturdays: 8am - 7.30pm and you can book up to 7 days in advance or with as little as 30 minutes notice. The rides cost £2 or £3 for Adult single rides depending on the length of the journey. Young people aged 18 and under receive discounted travel. Concessionary bus passes are also accepted after 9am Mon-Fri and all day Saturday. To book you can either download the App and follow the instructions or phone 01225 712900

We are nearing the end of the growing season at the allotments, and we currently have 3 half plots available to be taken on. The cost for a half plot is £15 pa, with the year running April to March. The annual fee would be charged pro rata, and it would be an ideal time to take a plot on to give you time to get ready for the start of next season. If you are interested in taking an allotment on, please contact the Clerk to express your interest.

Lisa Gilby, Parish Clerk: clerk@zealspc.org.uk clerk@zealspc.org.uk



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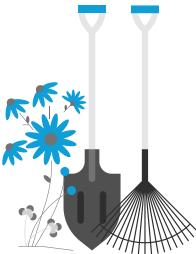


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Green Fingers

Notes from a Fairweather Gardener

November

When the weather gets gloomy in November, it is good to have a task to hand that will remind you of the summer. Sweet peas are some of the most attractive all-round plants for the garden. These days

they come in many different varieties and you don't need a large space to grow them. There are some that will grow in pots or even hanging baskets. You can grow them up a trellis or build a wigwam of canes to grow them in the border, or you can grow them like runner beans in the kitchen garden to be used as cut flowers. A small bunch of these pretty butterfly friendly flowers will scent a room delightfully. They positively thrive on a rigorous dead-heading regime and will produce a mass of blooms all summer long. November is a good month to start them off indoors to ensure an early display. The seeds can be a bit tricky to germinate, but soaking them overnight first tends to help. You can use old toilet roll or kitchen roll tubes filled with compost to plant them. Sow two or three seeds in a pot and keep them in a cool dark place until they start to sprout.

Once again looking forward to the warmer weather, tulips can be planted now to bloom in the spring. The massive variety of bulbs available means that you can have a tulip display throughout the spring from March to May in almost any part of the garden to match your chosen colour scheme. If you are growing tulips in pots, you can try lasagne planting where the smallest varieties are planted closest to the top. In the border, be sure to plant a group of tulips close together to make a good display. You can plant them almost touching each other for maximum impact. This applies to any bulbs, wherever you grow them. Tulips can also be grown in the grass, and if you have a tolerant person to mow the lawn, you can make all sorts of attractive displays in this way. The display at Forde Abbey in Somerset boasts spirals of tulips in the grass. The reason for a tolerant grass gardener is that, of course, the grass cannot be cut while there are still leaves above ground or there will be no display next year.

Daphne Knott



Craft & Chat : Our meetings continue on Tuesdays at Bourton Village Hall 2pm-4pm



Wastewater Treatment Plant Installations for Owners of Septic Tanks

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CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Bourton Village Hall



Drinks & nibbles on arrival

**Traditional Turkey with all the Trimmings
(vegetarian option available)**
Christmas Pudding & Mince Pies

**Festive music and the King's Speech on the big
screen with a quiz in between**

Tickets £10

**This is aimed at members of our community, either
singles or couples, who are on their own**

Places are limited so get in touch asap

**Text Sarah on 07484 321924 or email
bookings@bourtonvh-dorset.org**

Bourton Gardening Club

Bourton Garden Club is pausing now until February 2026, due to deciding not to have meetings in December and January because of the weather and not being able to secure a speaker for November.

So hope to see as many of you as possible at our February 2026 meeting.

Jan Cowan janne_cowan@yahoo.co.uk



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Bourton Village Hall

Volunteers & Trustees Needed
New in the village and need to meet new people? No major commitment expected, just do what you can when you can. If you'd like to know more, please email hello@bourtonvh-dorset.org and we'll get back to you.

See all Bourton Village Hall activities for November and beyond on page 26



Bourton Village Hall : November 2025

- **Village Lunch** – 1st Monday of the month from 12.30-14.00, pay on arrival - £4. (Next: 3rd November)

- **Bourton Film Night:**

Last chance to buy HALF PRICE TICKETS! A few annual season tickets are still available until end of November. Help to choose future films. Email: hello@bourtonvh-dorset.org for details or buy on the night.

November 5th – **Four Letters of Love**,

- A glorious, uplifting story about faith, about seizing the moment, believing in your instincts and acting on impulse - and about following your heart.

An adaptation of Niall Williams's novel of the same name,
starring Helena Bonham Carter & Pierce Brosnan.

December 3rd – still TBC. You choose

If you would like advance notice of films, send your email address to hello@bourtonvh-dorset.org and you will be added to the mailing list.

Something to look forward to:

- **Live Sport on the Big Screen:**

Men's Rugby Internationals:

Saturday 1st November - England v Australia, 15.10 ko

Saturday 15th November - England v New Zealand, 15.10 ko

Sunday 23rd November – England v Argentina, 16.10 ko

Ladies International Football:

Saturday 29th November - England v China, friendly. 17.50 ko

- Saturday 13th December, 19.00. **Another CODA-LELE Christmas** (Mark James and friends).

This festive extravaganza smashes together two duos you never knew you needed in one evening.

* CODA – the multi award winning musical theatre pair who hit notes higher than your Christmas electricity bill

* Opera-lele – the comedy-opera-ukulele duo who prove that two ukuleles and a lot of mischief are more dangerous than mistletoe at an office party.

Tickets £15 on Sale NOW, online www.musicalcoda.com or Bourton Garage.

- **CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH.** In the true spirit of Christmas, a small group of villagers are willing to prepare and serve a traditional Christmas Day lunch at the village hall for anyone who would otherwise be on their own.

Expressions of interest are invited by emailing Sarah at bookings@bourtonvh-dorset.org or calling her on 07484 321924. Please respond to her ASAP or by Thursday 20th November absolute latest.

****SEE ALSO AD ON PAGE 24****

White Lion Inn

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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 5.30-6.15pm at St Martin's Zeals. New singers welcome. Contact Tom Wheare 01747 840622

diary

Dates for November

Saturday 1 st	Sport at BVH, Men's Rugby, ko 15.10	page 26
Monday 3 rd	Bourton Village Lunch, 12.30pm, BVH	page 26
Wednesday 5 th	Bourton Film Night, 7 for 7.30pm, BVH	page 26
Thursday 6 th	Bishop Andrew "Evensongs" 7pm Mere Church	page 10
Wednesday 12	Wessex Wine Society meeting 7.30pm SMH	
Saturday 15 th	Christmas Coffee Morning 10am-noon, Silton	page 16
Saturday 15 th	Sport at BVH, Men's Rugby, ko 15.10	page 26
Sunday 23 rd	Sport at BVH, Men's Rugby, ko 16.10	page 26
Tuesday 25 th	Women's Institute Christmas Party 7.30pm SMH	page 16
Sunday 29 th	Sport at BVH Ladies Int Football, ko 17.50	page 26

Future Dates

Sat 6 th Dec	Wreath Making at ZVH, 10 am	page 13
Sat 13 th Dec	CODA-LELE Christmas, BVH, 17.00	page 26
25 th December	Christmas Day Lunch,BVH	page 24
Sat 17 th Dec	Jazzuary Nick Sorenson Quartet 19.30 (SAVE THE DATE!)	

IN REMEMBRANCE



All items for the December 2025/January 2026 issue by Friday 14th November please