

Looking to God, Looking to Care, Looking to Grow

About Upper Stour

serving the villages of

Bourton
Kilmington
Stourton
Zeals



July and August 2026

Parish Contacts

Clergy

Revd Dr Graham Southgate, Rector

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

(day off Tuesday)

Lay Pastoral Assistant

Caroline Worthington

(also Lay Worship Leader)

Barbara Borwell

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, Sarah Pike (works part time)

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All items for the September 2026 issue

should be sent to the Editor Josh Larcombe at

joshlarcombe26@outlook.com / 07487 582243

by **Friday 21st August 2026** please

July: The Fifth month that's now called the Seventh

Back in October I wrote about how October (a word meaning "eighth") came to be the tenth month, reflecting a fascination I've had with the meaning of Time ever since I was a child. At first glance, there seems to be nothing unusual about July being the seventh month of the year. Yet the story is rather more complicated, since in the earliest Roman calendar, the year began not in January but in March. This made sense in an agricultural society, as spring marked the beginning of a new growing season.

Under this arrangement, March was the first month, April the second, May the third, and June the fourth. July was therefore originally the fifth month and was known simply as Quintilis, from the Latin word meaning "fifth".

The calendar we use today owes much to reforms introduced in ancient Rome in around 45 B.C. In that year the Roman Dictator Julius Caesar introduced a new arrangement that became known as the Julian Calendar. As part of the changes, January and February were firmly established at the beginning of the year. This shifted Quintilis from fifth place to seventh, where it remains today. Not long afterwards, the Roman Senate renamed this month in honour of Julius Caesar himself, since he had been born during the month of Quintilis. Thus the month of July received the name we still use more than two thousand years later.

A similar story lies behind August, which was originally called Sextilis ("sixth") before being renamed after the first Emperor Augustus. The names of September, October, November, and December come from Latin words for seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth, even though they are now the ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth months of the year. Clear as mud? It is remarkable how the past leaves its mark upon everyday life. Most of us glance at a calendar without giving much thought to its history, yet the names of the months carry echoes of ancient civilisations and changes made centuries ago.

As a Christian, I perceive the passing of the months as a reminder that time itself is a gift from God. The changing seasons, the rhythm of worship, and the cycle of the Church year all help us to mark the passage of our lives in God's presence. As we can read in the ancient Psalms of David, "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24).

So, as July begins, perhaps we can pause to appreciate not only *the* warmth and beauty of summer, but also the rich history hidden within the pages of our calendar, and to give thanks for the God who is Lord of every season.

Graham Southgate, Rector (01747 476316)

St George's 100 Club

winners of the June Draw

1st Prize –

Caroline Worthington

2nd Prize – Inge Ryall

3rd Prize - Pat Ross-Hurst

The next draw will be held on
Monday 6th July.

Contact: Philip Newton
on 07947 054534

St. Martin's Church: Millennium Lottery

Winners in June 2026:

D Shean

C Stratton

C Maynard

D Butler

Next draw: w/c 1st July 2026

This lottery raises funds in support
of St Martin's church in Zeals
For inclusion in monthly Draws, or
questions, please contact:

Ashley Kemp

treasurer@agkemp.co.uk

01747 840272

Mobile Library : July and August 2026

July 9, 23	Zeals	School, Chapel Lane	10.00-10.40 am
Aug 6, 20		Zeals Rise	10.45-11.05 am
July 9, 23	Kilmington	Home Guard Club	11.20-11.35 am
Aug 6, 20			

Advance Notice:

Bourton September Show

Saturday 5th September
at Bourton Village Hall at 2.30pm

The show will have the usual classes of Fruit and Vegetables, Flowers and Arrangements, Cooking, Crafts, Art/Photography and Children's entries.

*Please plan your entries as the more we have, the better the show!
Schedules and entry forms will be available from the shop later next month*



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Now read on ...

Metroland by Julian Barnes

(published by Jonathan Cape Ltd, 1980)

Julian Barnes' first novel was published in 1980. I wished it had been published in 1970 - it would have given me, then 18 years old, a much better insight into the minds of a particular type of adolescent – cynical, denigrating the world and everything in it, preoccupied with sex and drunk on their own intellectual prowess. For example, they are very proud of their command of French, and much given to quoting from the great French writers, such as Flaubert, Rimbaud and Verlaine

Set in the period 1963 to 1977, the novel is written in 3 parts: Part 1 in 'Metroland' – located outside London at the end of the Metropolitan Line. Part 2 is set in Paris in 1968, while Part 3 is back in Metroland in 1977. The central character, Christopher Lloyd, is 16 when the novel opens. He and his 'soulmate', Toni, are truly appalling examples of a certain kind of mid-teen male – pretentious, admiring of their own thoughts, aspirants to join the literati. Christopher lives in suburban middle-class Metroland – which, of course, he despises. He also despises his teachers, his parents, his peers. Just about everyone. At the time of publication, Edward Blishen, in The Times Educational Supplement wrote: It's one of the best accounts of clever English schoolboyhood I've read.

Part 2 finds him post-university, living in Paris, with a grant to research The Importance and Influence of British Styles of Acting in the Paris Theatre 1789-1850. He is 21, still totally preoccupied with sex in general and with (losing) his virginity in particular. It is 1968. Notably, the student riots in Paris in May 1968 totally pass him by. Instead, at the outset, he lives almost exclusively inside his own head – at least until he meets a lover, Annick. One of the most fascinating aspects of the novel is his developing sense of the adult world – from a theoretical view based on total naïvety to one rather better rooted in reality.

In Part 3, it is 1977. He is back in Metroland, he is 30 and his whole perspective on life has changed. He is married, with a child, a mortgage a car and a respectable job in publishing. He is living a life which his parents would recognise and, probably, applaud.

If you want better to understand the inner workings of the mind of an intellectual (or pseudo-intellectual?) male growing up in the '60s and '70s, you will love this novel. While I found the 'hero' both unsympathetic and deeply irritating, it is beautifully constructed, and the writing is wonderful. I suspect it will stay inside my head for some time. On second thoughts, maybe I was and am better off not knowing what is going on inside the heads of such young males after all.

Ann Tasker (ann.tasker@gmail.com)

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News from Stourhead

Summer has arrived at Stourhead, with the gardens in full leaf and colour, and a packed programme of events offering something for everyone to enjoy over the coming months.

Our ever-popular Summer of Play returns on 4 July. Families can look forward to a full day of outdoor fun in the Stableyard and the Summer of Play meadow, with games, challenges and activities designed to spark imagination and adventure.

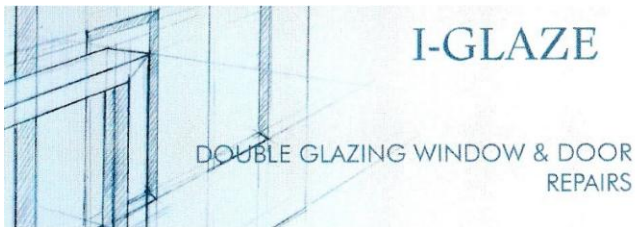
Plus, we've teamed up with Pokémon, so get ready to unleash your energy. Discover all-new Pokémon zones, get stuck into the Pokémon trading, take part in mega games, flex your skills and collect stickers.

A brand-new Drawn to Trees trail, created in collaboration with artist Luke Adam Hawker, invites visitors to discover the stories and folklore behind 17 remarkable trees around the garden. Alongside this is a striking outdoor exhibition of etchings inspired by the Celtic tree zodiac. Pick up a trail booklet from visitor reception for £2.

Outdoor entertainment returns to the garden this summer, starting with a series of open-air cinema evenings in July. Pack a picnic and enjoy classic films including Dirty Dancing, EPiC: Elvis Presley in Concert, and Pride & Prejudice in a truly spectacular setting. Into August, the garden becomes a stage for open-air theatre, with performances of The Sword in the Stone by Cambridge Touring Productions and the fast-paced, family-friendly King Arthur and the Holy Fail from The Three Inch Fools. Younger visitors can also get involved with a pre-show theatre workshop for The Sword in the Stone, where they can learn songs, meet the characters and discover the story before the performance begins.

Please visit our website for more details on our events and to plan your visit.

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



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Country Calendar

July/ August

What do you know about Crop Circles? Are they myth, legend, aliens or simply human designs? Books are written, podcasts are made and social media is on fire when a new circle is found. We had our first circle at the end of May, quickly followed two weeks later by the second one. Seeing people lying down in the centre circle, chanting, placing crystals and stones is extraordinary. Others took pictures and flew drones. Then the touts. Those wishing to make money from them by suggesting they will collect an entry fee, others suggesting an honesty box to cover the damage. That made me smile. When items regularly go missing from the church in Stourton an honesty box in the field does not stand a chance! Many people asked to see the crop circle. When I replied "it is not a crop circle, it is criminal damage" their happy faces changed. In fact, one chap, who appeared normal, was an expert and influencer (those that are a content creator on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or YouTube), who has built up a dedicated following. So, the use of terms like 'radiation lay lines' and 'signs from outer space' certainly attract the attention of followers who put messages on social media. I noticed this one: ***"Some people who have visited crop circles, have been healed of their ailments, each crop circle is a message for humanity, so that the earth can move forward into a better place of being, for all life on her. When we can view all life forms as being sacred, with each being doing their part to become a better person, then earth will shift enormously, hence the world is in chaos."*** Or my favourite: ***"Just cranks commenting about old guys using boards!"***



On a serious note, for us it is trespass and criminal damage; we have a crime number from the police and our insurers are involved. The people who make these circles also make lots of money. Another circle appeared in between our two, at Kingweston, near

Street. The farmer saw the circle and took a picture. He went back with a friend the following morning to find it had been extended! Obviously they had run out

of time to finish the pattern. Crop circles are created by human artists using simple tools like ropes, wooden planks and measuring tapes to flatten crops—such as wheat or barley—without breaking the stalks. Groups work under the cover of darkness to map out complex geometric designs, leaving no trace of their entry or exit. To ensure perfectly straight lines and symmetrical patterns, artists often use trackers, lasers, or simple baseball caps with wire attached as sighting device. Depending on the complexities of the design and number of people involved, circles can take as little as four hours and up to 12 hours. Then of course there is the famous confessions: The phenomenon exploded in the 1980s and 90s, but two Englishmen, Doug Bower and Dave Chorley, famously came forward and admitted to creating hundreds of circles across southern



England. They demonstrated how they used basic planks and strings to bend—rather than break—the stalks without leaving footprints, but still people really do believe that aliens have landed. Oh dear, beam me up Scottie!

Jane Parker

MERE SURGERY PPG

Raising money for automatic doors in the surgery

COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 16th July

10.30 am - 12.30 pm

at United Reform Church, Mere BA12 6DD

RAFFLE ~~~ REFRESHMENTS ~~~ CAKE STALL

PLEASE COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Paganini Concert on 6th June

Paganini in St. Peter's Stourton was amazing and a real entertaining *tour de force*. Thank you to all who contributed and helped us to raise £566 for our church repairs.



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About Upper Stour Parish Magazine

Josh Larcombe – New Editor

I have now taken over as Editor. Please send me directly any contributions to upcoming editions of this Magazine. I am pleased to receive any writing, news or updates about life and events in the parish. Celia will remain involved as back up so for the time being **please copy her into anything you send to me so we can both have input.**

Please address all advertising and billing questions to Celia while copying me in. Thank you.

Josh Larcombe

Tel 07487 [582243](tel:07487582243) / joshlarcombe26@outlook.com

Film Nights in Stourton Memorial Hall

starting again in September 2026, and our proposed lineup is:

Friday 11 Sep - Mother's Pride - a film we think is perfect for the Memorial Hall starring Martin Clunes and shot locally.

Thursday 8 Oct - Springsteen Deliver Me from Nowhere
- a biographical musical drama about Bruce Springsteen.

Thursday 12 Nov - One Battle After Another
- a political action film from 2025 starring Leonardo DiCaprio.

*If you would like to be on our mailing list please email us
at stourtonfilm@gmail.com*

More details about each screening will be sent out nearer the date



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SERVICES IN UPPER STOUR WITH MAIDEN BRADLEY

JULY 2026

Sunday 5th **First Sunday after Trinity**
10.00 Parish Communion at Saint George's Bourton

Sunday 12th **Sixth Sunday after Trinity**
10.00 Parish Communion at St Mary's Kilmington
10.00 Morning Worship at All Saints Maiden Bradley

Sunday 19th **Seventh Sunday after Trinity**
10.00 Parish Communion at Saint Peter's Stourton

Sunday 26th **Eighth Sunday after Trinity**
10.00 Morning Worship at Saint Martin's Zeals
10.00 Parish Communion at All Saints Maiden Bradley

~~o0o~~

Weekday Services

Mondays: 09.00 Morning Prayer at Saint George's Bourton

Wednesdays: 16.00 Holy Communion at Saint Martin's Zeals

Thursdays: 09.00 Morning Prayer at Saint Mary's Kilmington

From the Registers

Wedding

On 13th June at St Peter's Stourton: **James Dredge & Wiktorja Blaszczyk**

Burial of Ashes

On 3rd June at St Martin's Zeals: **Sheena Tully**

SERVICES IN UPPER STOUR WITH MAIDEN BRADLEY AUGUST 2026

Sunday 2nd Ninth Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Parish Communion at St George's Bourton

Sunday 9th Tenth Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Morning Worship at St Mary's Kilmington
10.00 Morning Worship at All Saints Maiden Bradley

Sunday 16th Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Parish Communion at St Peter's Stourton

Sunday 23rd Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Parish Communion at Saint Martin's Zeals.
10.00 Parish Communion at All Saints Maiden Bradley

Sunday 30th Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
10.00 Benefice Communion at St Peter's Stourton

~o0o~~

Weekday Services

Mondays: 09.00 Morning Prayer at Saint George's Bourton
Wednesdays: 16.00 Holy Communion at Saint Martin's Zeals
Thursdays: 09.00 Morning Prayer at Saint Mary's Kilmington

Making Time with Richard Price

This successful event in aid of St George's Church fundraising for kitchen and cloakroom facilities raised in the region of £450. Very many thanks to everyone who contributed and supported this very sociable and enjoyable evening.

Barbara Borwell

The Stourton Flower and Produce Show

Sunday 16th August in Stourton Memorial Hall.

Plan your entries! The Show is open to ALL - not just residents. It will follow the usual theme: Flowers and Foliage, Flower Arrangements, Fruit and Vegetables, Cookery, Handicraft, Art and Photography. Entry forms available from the Farm Shop and Zeals Garage from late July

For those who are growing entries the flower and vegetable categories are set out below:

Flowers and Foliage

- A1 Vase of dahlias: 3 stems
- A2 Vase of cosmos – 10 stems
- A3 Spray of Roses – 3 stems
- A4 Vase of mixed foliage
- A5 Vase of mixed fresh flowers - up to 5 varieties of similar colour - (We suggest Salvias, Phlox, Asters, Zinnias and Snapdragons - all good for Aug)

Flower Arrangement (Flowers need not be grown by exhibitor)

- B1 'A Cottage Garden' - simply an arrangement of flowers and foliage
- B2 Posy of garden Flowers (Max 8" wide)
- B3 A miniature arrangement 4" wide

Fruit and Vegetables

- C1 5 x Potatoes – any variety
- C2 3 x Onions
- C3 5 x Runner beans
- C4 5 x French beans
- C5 3 x Cucumbers
- C6 3 x Carrots
- C7 A pair of courgettes or squashes
- C8 Plate of tomatoes (5)
- C9 A mixed bowl of salad
- C10 5 x Fresh herbs in a jam jar
- C11 A plate of mixed soft fruit
- C12 An amusingly shaped vegetable

Photography

The themes this year will be: "Upper Stour Parish" and "Trees"

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Upcoming Date for your diary: Concert in St Peter's

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News from Parish Councils

Bourton

Cllr. Martyn Westwell continues to cut and roll the grass in the Jubilee Meadow which is required to enable construction of the new play park and which is intended to be the location for the village's new children's Play Area. Over the next two months, PC members hope that progress will be made in connection with securing planning permission for the Meadow's change-of-use.

Across the village, a number of privately owned hedges are growing vigorously and, in some locations, are now obstructing footways. We would like to remind homeowners of their responsibility to ensure that pavements adjacent to their properties remain clear and safe for pedestrians.

The Parish Council has also received several complaints from residents regarding parking during school hours. Parents and carers are asked to park with care and consideration when waiting for children, particularly in Church Track and West Bourton Road, where inconsiderate parking can cause significant disruption, especially for residents.

With regard to Bourton's current planning issues, there is still no sign of the Voscombe Farm (8 dwellings) development commencing since the 'Reserved' planning application has not yet been approved by Dorset Council. Similarly, the 'Reserved' applications for the Sandways site (30 dwellings) and Land East of Chaffeymoor Farm site (50 dwellings) have yet to be submitted to DC by the developers.

Eve Wynn, RFO & Clerk: clerk@bourton-pc.gov.uk

Kilmington

The Parish Council continues to work with Wiltshire Council on several local highways and drainage matters, including blocked drainage on New Road and ongoing surface water issues in The Street.

After a long delay, traffic survey equipment was finally installed at Kilmington Common in early June. The parish council now eagerly awaits the release of data to review at a future meeting.

The future of the parish's shared Speed Indicator Device (SID) will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting on 13th July. Following confirmation that the existing unit has suffered significant water damage, Councillors will consider whether to repair the current device or seek a replacement.

The Council is also pleased to welcome Alice Moore, the new Police Community Support Officer for the Mere area, who will be attending the July meeting to introduce herself, provide a local policing update and answer questions councillors may have.

Steven Willis, Clerk clerk@kilmingtonwiltshireparishcouncil.gov.uk

Stourton with Gasper

The Parish Council held its annual meeting in May, and was grateful for contributions including from the National Trust, the Western Estate, and the Memorial Hall amongst others; the PC was also grateful for those unable to attend who sent reports. All these reports, along with the minutes, have been published on the Council's website. The next PC meeting is on 2nd September at 6pm in the Memorial Hall. The agenda is published on the website www.stourton.org.uk three working days before the meeting.

After the successful litter pick in April, it has been decided that October would be a good month for the next one as the verges and hedges won't be so overgrown. Once again, Connie Gray has said she will organise it and once a date has been decided we will let you all know.

With the recent positive news about Mere Fire Station, the PC Chair, Cllr Ashley Gray, spoke at the Wiltshire Council full council meeting at County Hall recently. This was to support a motion against the closure of the station brought by Cllr Pauline Church (Wilton) and Cllr George Jeans (Mere) When it came to the vote 87 voted for the motion, with none against it; there were 3 abstentions. We hope that this motion with support from our Chair and others had a positive effect on the outcome.

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

Zeals

The Parish Council held its annual meeting in May and were pleased to hear reports from Seeds 4 Success, Rev Graham Southgate, PCSO Alice Moore amongst others. The council are very grateful to those who came and spoke so eloquently to update us on the wonderful things that happen in the parish during the year. The council is grateful for the reports sent from those who couldn't join us. All reports will be added to the council's website alongside the minutes. The next meeting will be on 16th July at 7pm in Zeals Village Hall. The agenda will be published on the website www.zealspc.org.uk three working days before the meeting.

The Parish Council have been working hard to enable a refurbishment of the Zeals play area, this is about to come to fruition, but while the refurbishment is taking place the play area will be shut. The contractor is hoping to start around the beginning of July.

We would like to remind Zeals residents that the general waste bins are for 'general waste' not household waste or dog poo bags. Please can household waste be put in your own bins and dog poo bags go into the specific dog waste bins and not the general waste bins.

The last article generated some interest in the available allotment plots, but we still have a couple available. The larger plots are £30.00pa and the smaller plots are £15.00 pa. If you are interested in taking on a plot, please contact the clerk on the email address below to get started.

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



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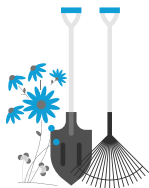
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Green Fingers:

Notes from a Fairweather Gardener



July and August

While the summer is in full swing, it seems odd perhaps to be thinking of planting for next year. However, August is an excellent time to sow hardy annual seeds to get the earliest blooms. Spring bulbs make a wonderful display, but there are always gaps in the garden that could usefully be filled with some colourful annuals. Tulips look beautiful grown in a pot amongst a cloud of forget-me-nots. More brightly coloured annuals will cover the bare earth in late spring before summer perennials start to bloom.

Traditionally, July and August is also the time to sow biennials for spring blooming. Foxgloves, wallflowers and honesty are good examples. Wallflowers pair well in larger pots with tulips, and as they can be hard to come by as bare roots in the autumn, sowing some seed now will ensure that you have plenty of plants for the spring. Honesty is a plant to scatter about the border as its flowers are pretty but unremarkable. Their real value is in their seed heads which make elegant indoor displays with their silvery moon shapes.

It is not too late to sow some vegetable crops. French beans can be sown now for autumn cropping and salad leaves will mature soon enough to eat before the frosts get them. Some plants such as swiss chard will overwinter as well, providing greens for the winter and early spring. Strawberry plants throw out a multitude of runners which root easily, quite often in the wrong place. August is a good time to replant any robust rooted runners away from the parent plants to make a new bed for next year.

Although there are new beginnings to be made, August is also a time to start winding down the garden in some areas. Lavender bushes should be pruned back to make sure they don't become too woody. This also applies to woody herbs like rosemary and sage. In the vegetable garden, broad beans should be cut down to the ground after harvesting, but their roots should be left so that they can release valuable nitrogen into the soil. Runner beans and French beans also have nitrogen producing roots, so they too should be cut down but not uprooted after harvesting later in the year.

Daphne Knott

BURROW



Wastewater Treatment Plant Installations for Owners of Septic Tanks

Septic Tank Owner?

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

Please contact us to arrange a free assessment visit.

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Craft & Chat

The summer meetings for Craft & Chat at Bourton Village Hall are:

14th July, 28th July

No meetings in August

Starting after the summer:
8th September and each Tuesday following

2.00 – 4.00 pm

£3.00 includes tea and biscuits

**BOURTON VILLAGE HALL
SUMMER EVENTS**

JULY VILLAGE DROP IN

**Saturday 18th July
11am to 3pm**

Breakfast Rolls, Cakes & Savouries
(Vegan & gluten free options available)

Tea, Coffee & Bar open

Free Kids Activities & Afternoon Film at 1pm

Cash and card accepted

AUGUST AFTERNOON TEA
Raising funds for Weldmar Hospicecare



**Weds 5th August
1pm to 5pm**

**Book a table with friends, enjoy a traditional afternoon
tea, stay for a golden oldie movie (tbc)
Dress up for the occasion**

Tickets £10

Cash and card accepted

Contact Sarah for more information 07484 321924 sarahkg1959@gmail.com

**The Bourton Players
Need You!**

Ever wanted to try your hand at performing on stage?

Or looked at our costumes and scenery and thought you could do better?!

Or can you play keyboard or have ideas for our dance moves?

Experience the excitement of being a part of our next production and entertaining the crowds!

Go on, be brave and take that step and join the Bourton Players in our next adventure!

No experience necessary, just commitment, enthusiasm and a very good sense of humour!

Teenagers and adults all welcome.

Contact Jan - janne_cowan@yahoo.co.uk

Bourton Village Hall:

Village Lunch:

You can attend a Bourton Village Lunch on the first Monday of each month from SEPTEMBER to JUNE. More and more people are coming along and telling us they really enjoy themselves. Put **Monday 7th September**, 12:30 to 2pm, in your diary for the start of the new season. It's just £5 and you'll be well fed.

Bourton Film Night:

Bourton Film Night also runs from September to June. – on the first Wednesday of each month.

We start again on **Wednesday 2nd September** – we'll choose another good / interesting / funny film for that date, so put this one in your diary as well.

Film Night costs £6 a ticket but there is a secret way of getting a great price and showing your support for the Village Hall in general and Film Nights in particular ... ask us about the "Founders' Club" membership. But be quick; there is a limit as to how many of these special deals are available.

World Cup Football LIVE – England Fixtures on the BIG SCREEN

Keep a watch out for England games as long as the England and/or Scottish teams do well and progress beyond the group rounds
And yes, our brilliantly priced Bar is OPEN

SUMMER EVENTS see also top of preceding page

July 18th (Saturday) - Village Drop In - from 11am to 3pm. Enjoy a bacon roll, cakes and savouries with coffee and tea (or more as the bar will be open). There will be activities and an afternoon film for the kids.

August 5th (Wednesday) – Afternoon Tea fundraiser for Weldmar Hospice care from 1pm to 5pm - Book a table with friends, enjoy an afternoon tea, and stay for a golden oldie movie.

and an important message

A BIG THANK YOU to all our **great volunteers** without whom the events you enjoy would not happen! They are a fabulous group of people, and they are very much appreciated.

Want to know more? email hello@BourtonVH-Dorset.org.



Diary Dates

July 2026

Saturday 4 th	Whitesheet School Summer Fair 12-3pm	page 9
Tuesday 14 th	Craft & Chat, 2-4pm, BVH	page 25
Thursday 16 th	Mere Surgery Coffee Morning 10.30 URC Mere	page 11
Saturday 18 th	July Village Drop In, 11am-3pm, BVH	page 26/27
Tuesday 28 th	Craft & Chat, 2-4 pm, BVH	page 25

August 2026

Wednesday 5 th	Craft & Chat, 2-4 pm, BVH	page 25
Wednesday 5 th	August Afternoon Tea, 1-5 pm, BVH	page 26/27
Sunday 16 th	Stourton Flower & Produce Show, SMH	page 16

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

**All items for the September 2026 issue by
Friday 21st August 2026 please**