

ISSUE NO 309

www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk

January 2025

DIARY DATES

- Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council Notes
- 1st Sight Loss Advice Hub, **GMCC**, drop in 1-2pm, appointments, 2-4pm. Call 01242 221170, or email info@insight-glos.org.uk
- 6th & 20th Mindsong, Sing 2 Remember **GMCC**, 10.30am & 2.30pm. 07764 212506 or 01451 821216.
- 8th u3a, Scrabble Group, **GMCC**, 2-4pm. 07341 094206. <u>peterdaw-</u> <u>son790@icloud.com</u> See page 17.
- 8th Irene's Charity Knitting Circle, **WP**, 10am-12pm. See page 17.
- 8th Parish Council meeting, 7pm, GMCC.
- 8th Horticultural Club. AGM, "Great British Gardens" by Vanessa Berridge BCH, 7.30pm. See page 16.
- 8th & 22nd Bourton Community Day Club, 10.30am - 2.30pm, **MC**, GL54 2HE. 01608 652019.
- 10th & 24th Dementia Friendly Cafe, **StLC,** 2-4pm, 07746 672726.
- 13th Probus, 10am, **GMCC,** "Rudyard Kipling" by Mike Bottomley. See page 12.
- 14th WI, VH, 7pm. See page 5.
- 15th Bourton Poetry, new group starting, 7pm, The Willow, <u>c.groom187@yahoo.com</u> See page 5.
- 17th Bourton Panto tickets for sale, 1-3pm, **GMCC**. See page 3.
- 17th-18th Tayler & Fletcher, Fine Art, Vintage & Interiors auction, from 9.30am, **NCS**, GL54 2AR. 821666.
- 18th Musical Interlude, including live organ music, Faure, Bach, ABBA,

Continued on page 2, column 1.

Baptist Church Hall = **BCH** British Legion Hall = **BLH** Cricket Club Pavilion = **CCP** George Moore Community Centre= **GMCC** Jubilee Lodge = **JL** Market Close = **MC** North Cotswold Sale Room= **NCS** St Lawrence Church = **StLC** Victoria Hall = **VH** Willoughby Place = **WP**

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Parish Council Meeting, 4th December 2024

County Councillor Paul Hodkinson recently chaired a meeting between residents of Melville and Springvale, Thames Water, Bromford Housing and other agencies to discuss elevated lead levels in the water supply at some properties. Thames Water is replacing

lead pipework up to the property boundaries for affected homeowners and Bromford Housing is replacing pipework to the properties they own.

A residents' group has been formed for those affected. Grant funding may be available to assist with the costs of remedial works - please contact Cllr Hodgkinson for further information.

District Councillor Len Wilkins (Bourton Vale) reported that Cotswold District Council will increase their Council Tax Support Scheme for 2025-26 for residents on low income, or who claim benefits.

CDC's budget for 2025-26 is expected to include additional expenditure on disabled facilities using grant funding. Gloucestershire Firearms Licensing is not currently accepting new applications for shotgun certificates (excluding for work or elite sports) due to a nationwide staffing problem. The current focus is on renewal of existing licences.

Coach Parking: County Cllr Hodgkinson and local stakeholders continue to explore options for a short-term solution on the industrial estate. Investigations into costs for the longer-term solution are still underway at the Cotswold School.

Cotswold District Council's Tourist Levy Funding 2024-25: Funds have been transferred to the Parish Council towards additional parking enforcement, a Village Green refresh, the resurfacing project at The Chestnuts and a Village Warden budget, totalling £26,750.

Clapton Row Green: The Parish Council used Tourist Levy funds from 2023-24 for the installation of a low hedge around the perimeter together with the removal of large stones which has greatly enhanced the appearance of the Green.

Housing Needs Survey 2025: The Parish Council will progress plans with Gloucestershire Rural Community Council to create a survey for circulation later in the year by the district council to assess the requirements for affordable housing in the parish.

Thames Water is progressing upgrades to the sewage infrastructure in the parish. The new rising main between the pumping station and treatment works has been installed, with final testing underway. Challenges, including weather delays, have shifted some phases to spring 2025. Key timelines are:

• Sewage Treatment Works: Ongoing until summer 2026 • Pumping Station Upgrade: Autumn 2024–Spring 2026

Continued on Page 2, column 3.

The *Bourton Browser* is run by volunteers & delivered monthly FREE to every household in the Village.

Go to the "Get in Touch" tab and then complete the contact form to send <u>questions</u>, <u>articles</u> (max.300 words), <u>adverts</u> & <u>event details</u> to the team.

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The DEADLINE for Adverts & Articles for the February edition is Noon on 15th January

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Continued from page 1 column 1

Gershwin & The Wurzels, **StLC**, 3-5pm. See page 11.

- 20th Rural Cinema, film title not known at time of going to print, **VH**, 2.30pm & 7.30pm. Refreshments 2pm & 7pm, £4 on door. See page 5.
- 22nd u3a, **BLH**, 10am-12noon. "The 'taxing' subject of Estate Planning, covering Inheritance Tax, Wills and Powers of Attorney". See page 14 <u>www.u3asites.org.uk/bourton</u>
- 26th Farmers Market, **BLH** Car Park, GL54 2AR. 8.30am-12.30pm 07980 080073.
- 27th Probus 10am, **GMCC,** Annual General Meeting. See page 12.
- 29th-1st February Bourton Panto Group present "Aladdin & Abanazar", **VH**, 7.30pm daily, also matinee 2.30pm on Sat. 1st Feb. Tickets <u>https://bourtonpantogroup.com/</u> <u>box-office/</u> See page 3.
- 30th Book Club Bourton Book Club meeting, 7pm. The Old New Inn. dpayne056@hotmail.co.uk
- 31st Fun Quiz evening with Pringles and Puds, **StLC**, 7pm, £10pp, teams of up to 8. See page 7. To book. call 07823 887451 or <u>email</u> <u>Rachel75fisher@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Welcome 2025

In with the new year Many memories made are dear. Lots of stories to be told From the young and the old. We start with good intention Some are too delicate to mention. We raise a glass to 2025 Let's keep those memories alive. Carol Groom



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Regular Weekly Bourton Events

Offices also at: Stow on the Wold, Burford and Moreton in Marsh

- Mon. "Old Sweats" Meeting, BLH, 10am—12 Noon, 07714 852364 bourton.secretary@rbl.community
- Mon, Wed & Fri, Bourton Men in Sheds, 9.30am-12.30pm, Behind **RBL**, 01608 692811.
- Mon. & Thurs. Stay Strong & Steady, BLH, 1-2.30pm. 07957 546067 cotswoldactivehealth@gmail.com See page 18.
- Mon. & Fri. Cotswold Yoga, VH, Mon 10-11am, Fri 5-6pm, 07490858775. See page 18.
- Tue. Drop in Digital Help Group, **GMCC**, 10.30am-12.30pm. 07707 281803. See poster page 14.
- Tue. "Together on Tuesdays", soup lunch, **StLc**, 12-2pm.
- Thurs. Flexercise, **BLH**, 10-11am. 01993 882350 <u>kathy.kirk@live.com</u>

Christmas Tree Lighting and Late Night Shopping, 29thNovember

We would like to thank and congratulate everyone involved with organising the evening. It was busy, without being over-crowded, and felt like a real 'Village Event'. The Primary School children sang beautifully and seeing the magnificent tree burst into colour, with its reflections in the river, was a very special moment.

Ray and Susan Dodd

The Bourton Browser is printed by Peter Dunford, 01608 658104, petedunf@aol.com



Full Circle Hair Design 07826 014-595

bookings by appointment only Old Station Yard Business Centre Bourton on the water GL54 2RZ fullcirclehairdesign.co.uk

Continued from page 1 column 2

• Gravity Sewer Pipe Installation: Spring-Autumn 2025

You can contact Thames Water for further details or concerns on 0800 316 9800 using ref BB 00426107.

Memorial Safety Testing: The second phase of memorial testing will be carried out at Bourton-on-the-Water Cemetery in January. If a memorial is found to be unstable, a letter will be sent to the grave owner at their last known address. If you would like to update your details or require any further information about the safety testing procedure, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Christmas Tree: We have all enjoyed seeing this year's tree which was individually chosen by some of our councillors. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank Hacklings Transport for transporting and installing the tree, Bourton Vale Parking Limited for funding the tree and for all the volunteers who helped with the installation and removal.

Date of next meeting: 7pm on Wednesday 8th January 2025 in the Windrush Room at the George Moore Community Centre.

For further details and enquiries, please contact the Parish Council Clerk ,

Sharon Henley, by emailing <u>clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk</u> or visit the Parish Council website <u>www.bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk</u>.

Our schedule of meetings is available at <u>www.bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk/</u> <u>the-council/meeting-calendar/</u>

Bourton Panto Group



We take this opportunity to wish everyone a very HAPPY NEW YEAR! We hope you have

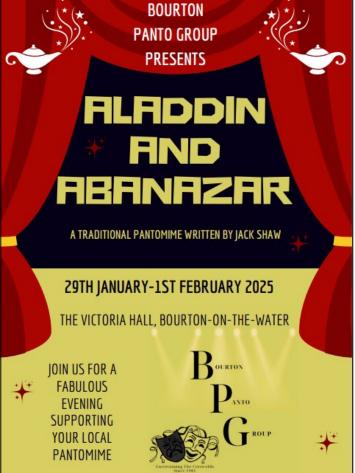
enjoyed a blessed and joyful Christmas and, like us, are now looking forward to launching into 2025 and, of course, coming to see our pantomime, Aladdin, at the end of this month! If you have forgotten to buy your tickets, there just <u>may</u> be some tickets left. Visit the Bourton Panto Group website or try and find some via TicketSource. There is only one more opportunity to possibly purchase tickets face to face and that is on Friday 17th January from 1pm to 3pm. (Margaret's mobile: 07791 917684)

January is the month when we always feel we are way behind with rehearsals! Every department from Front of House to cast, backstage to costume department, scenery painting to props creating. We are working SO hard to be ready for opening night and the atmosphere can occasionally become quite tense! However, we always all work together and pull out all the stops to make the show happen on time.



This means I must get back to my trusty sewing machine, circa 1936, and complete some of the last minute bits that always seem to crop up! Jackie, Barbara and I are often busy with repairs or sometimes even additions!

We would also like to thank everybody who packed into the Victoria Hall, attending our fundraising Quiz Night last month. It was another fun evening, ably hosted this time by Gary, using Emma's sometimes tricky compilation of Christmas based questions. Your faithful support is very much appreciated.



I finally extend personal thanks to all those involved in erecting and decorating our village Christmas tree. It has become a well loved – and photographed – feature in Bourton at Christmas and is particularly beautiful this year. **Ann Chapman**



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Motability

OUT AND ABOUT in January

- Mondays Yoga for All, 9.30-10.30am, Pilates 10.35-11.30am, Wyck Rissington Village Hall. 07950 424037 Enquiries: <u>franyoga@rocketmail.com</u>
- Daily until 5th January, Join the Big Batsford Elf Hunt! Santa's helpers have gone missing and they're all hiding at Batsford Arboretum – find them to win a prize! £3 per child, plus arboretum admission fee. Visit <u>www.batsarb.co.uk</u> for details.
- Daily until 12th Jan, Aladdin Panto, Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, GL50 1HQ. <u>www.everymantheatre.org.uk</u> 01242 572573.
- 1st New Year's Day Racing, Cheltenham Racecourse, Prestbury Park,GL50 4SH . <u>https://www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/</u> <u>cheltenham/events-tickets/new-years-day/</u>
- 17th Rissingtons Local History Society, "Last Supper in Pompeii" by Dr Paul Roberts, An Arts Society Accredited Lecturer and Author. From the Grandeur of the banqueting hall to the simple flat or street take-aways. Village Hall, Upper Rissington GL54 2QW, 2.30pm . Visitors Welcome £3.50 to include refreshments. Enquiries <u>information.RLHS@gmail.com</u> / Kate O'Brien 07815 606770.
- 24th Sarah McQuaid in concert, Singer/songwriter/guitarist, Westcote Village Hall, 7.30pm, 'brilliant musicianship ... and a voice as rich, matured and knowing as the finest Irish malt whiskey' (fRoots magazine). Tickets £15 from 07834 493637 or <u>westcote.bookings@gmail.com</u>
- 25th-26th Snowdrop Weekend, Colesbourne Park, Colesbourne, Cirencester, GL53 9NP. 01242 870264. 1-4pm, £10 adults, U16s free. Dogs on leads welcome. Refreshments provided by local charities. <u>https://</u> www.colesbournegardens.org.uk/
- 1st February, Rotary Quiz, Upper Rissington Village Hall, from 7pm, £15pp includes refreshments, teams of up to 6. Tickets from <u>www.ticketsource.co.uk</u> See page 16.

Christmas Treecycling

Recycle your real Christmas tree this January.

Our reliable and friendly team of volunteers will collect your real Christmas tree directly from your front door, front garden or driveway.

Search Sue Ryder Christmas Treecycling to book your collection today.

Bookings close 8th January 2025.

We'll be collecting from 13th to 17th January 2025 from the following postcodes:

GL2 0, GL2 8, GL2 9, GL3 1, GL3 2, GL20 5, GL20 6, GL20 7, GL20 8, GL50, GL51, GL52, GL53, GL54 1, GL54 2, GL54 4, GL54 5, GL55 6 and GL56 0

With an optional donation, your Christmas tree could become the gift of expert care and support for seriously ill people and their loved ones.

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should face death





To advertise items such as Household items, Toys, Garden Equipment etc, complete the contact form on the "Get in Touch" tab. The advert should be no more than 15 words. It must be received **before 12 noon on the 15th of the month.** No commercial adverts accepted for this section.

For Sale Austrian Alpaca Loden Coat. Ladies, size 16, navy, 3/4 length. Reasonable offers. 01451 822365 For Sale 42" Panasonic VIETA TV. Good condition, plus remote control. £45. 01451 821200

Rural Cinema

Over the past three months the films have not been to everyone's taste, however, these films are chosen by a vote across all the villages involved in the scheme and we have to show what is provided. The last film, "All of us Strangers", was chosen by the villages because of it's excellent cast. Please don't abandon us!

Our next screening will be January 20th, 3rd Monday of the month as usual, 2pm for 2.30pm and 7pm for 7.30pm. Sadly, due to rising costs out of our control, ticket prices in the New Year will be £4pp or £14 for a family of 4, tea and coffee remains £1pp. We look forward to screening a selection of the latest films for you in 2025.

As of yet we do not have the next film title. Please look out for the posters on The Victoria Hall Bill Board at the front of the building, Budgens, Post Office counter and other various public places. A warm welcome awaits residents and visitors.

> Happy New Year. From your Rural Cinema volunteers



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Bourton-on-the-Water WI

Bourton-on-the-Water WI have had a fun filled two months.



In November we celebrated our birth-

day with an excellent meal at Venezia in Bourton.

Two members laid a wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

Our planned skittles competition was thwarted when snow caused cancellations but those of us who braved the weather had an enjoyable lunch and a good natter - who needs the skittles.

Into December and several members enjoyed a wreath making session with Rissington WI.

Our Christmas Party took place in the Victoria Hall.

There was an excellent spread provided by the Committee and members. The new President had made beautiful table decorations with a little assistance from the Men in Sheds.

Many antlers, some strange eyewear and Christmas jumpers were on display and we even had Santa Scratch Cards on the tables.

The entertainers were musicians Hands

on Harps ably assisted by member "Ellen the Elf", in her wonderful green and red costume, who gave a spontaneous and hilarious rendition of The Twelve Days Of Christmas!

Secret Santa presents were handed out and everyone left for home feeling in the Christmas Spirit. **June Renshaw**

Bourton Rovers Forge Ahead Despite Winter Challenges

December proved eventful for Bourton Rovers' adult teams, with storm Darragh causing just one weekend of postponements, though it left its mark by toppling a record number of trees around Bourton!

Our Hellenic team continues to impress, currently sitting just 10 points off the top of the league with three games in hand. Their sights are firmly set on a top-table finish—and perhaps even claiming the top spot—as they charge into the second half of the season.

Meanwhile, our Witney team is thriving in an exceptionally tight division. Eight out of 12 teams are separated by just three points, and with two games in hand, Bourton is showing they're more than capable of holding their own after stepping up to Division 1 this season.

Off the pitch, the clubhouse has been



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buzzing with activity. December saw a fun Christmas quiz, packed Boogie Bingo, and a lively New Year's party featuring local band "One Day Remains." Despite the cold, our regulars have been turning out to support the club. If you haven't been to Bourton Rovers yet, you're missing out! We welcome everyone members and non-members alike—to catch a game or join us for one of our fantastic events.

As the second half of the season begins, the challenges mount, with rising costs for heating and training on all-weather surfaces. The club relies on local support, both through sponsorship and event attendance, to keep things running smoothly.

So why not come down for a coffee, a pint, or a match day experience? Every visit helps keep Bourton Rovers thriving—on and off the pitch. Together, we can ensure the club remains at the heart of our community.

Catherine Williams

Bourton Poetry Wednesday 15th January, 7pm at the Willow. New group starting. Everyone welcome. Please contact Carol Groom for any questions. c.groom187@yahoo.com.

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You can view the full menu on our website, and book using the details below.

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Bourton Browser Team

Happy New Year: We hope you all had a peaceful Christmas, we wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2025.

Kit Gregory: Kit is retiring this month after being a Browser deliverer for about 20 years. We would like to thank Kit for all her efforts and we're very grateful to her for finding a replacement to take over her round. We would like to welcome the new deliverer, Robin, to the team.

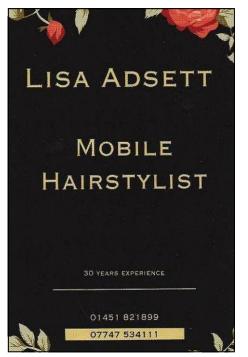
Jennifer Stevenson: Jenny is also retiring after a number of years as a Browser deliverer and our grateful thanks go to her. We would like to welcome Pippa Arnott to the team. Pippa will be taking over the Station Meadow round.

Dawn White: Finally we'd like to thank Dawn, who is also retiring after several years of delivering the Browser. We'd like to welcome Ruth Holt, who will be taking over Dawn's route on the "Birds" Estate.

Extra Relief Deliverers: We can always use a few more volunteers. Our Relief Team fill in when one of our regular street deliverers are sick or on holiday. The deliveries usually take place during the last week of the month and vary in size from about 30–80 drops. If you could help us, please email us at team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk or call us on 01451 822431.

Articles: We welcome articles, letters, poems, etc (maximum 300 words) & photographs, from adults, children and local community groups on any subjects of local interest.

team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk The Bourton Browser Team





We need your help

Dear residents, Many of you will already know me, having been involved with the village in a number of roles with the football and cricket clubs, as well as the parish council. It is with a different hat I write to you today having taken on the running of Headspace, a mental health charity (www.myheadspace.org.uk).

Established in 2020, we provide free counseling, mentoring and therapeutic wellbeing support to young individuals aged 11-19 years old who are navigating mental health challenges.

It costs over £100,000 per year to run our services, which currently receive no government funding, meaning we survive on grants, donations, and the goodwill of parishioners who give up their time.

I am reaching out to all the parishes we support, so if you think you can help either by volunteering, helping fundraise or having any brilliant ideas please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards, Paul Heming CEO – Headspace. Paul.heming@myheadspace.org.uk /

07748 965227

Used Postage Stamps

Please save all the used postage stamps from your Christmas cards and other post. I am collecting them to raise money for the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB). Please put them in the box outside 7 Salmonsbury Cottages, Bourton-on-the-Water. The box will be there throughout January.

Many Thanks, Pam Clifford





Our free volunteer training course starts later this month!

Do you have parenting experience? Can you spare 2-3 hours per week to visit a family in the North Cotswolds area?



We are a local charity, supporting families with young children who are experiencing difficult times. The earliest years of a child's life make the biggest impact, and we want to make sure that those years count. We support families who may be facing challenges such as social isolation, postnatal depression, financial worries, anxiety or bereavement. A volunteer might provide an extra pair of hands in the home, help the family to get out and about, provide support with appointments or paperwork, declutter or help plan for the week ahead. No matter what they get involved with, they always provide a listening ear and compassionate, non-judgemental support.

One Mum recently said: "My Volunteer has helped me get my life back together - I feel I can do anything now and I am finally parenting rather than just surviving"

Our FREE training course starts on <u>23rd</u> January 2025. It will run on Thursday mornings for 8 weeks (not including half term), from 9.30am – 1pm in Andoversford (GL54 4LA).

If you'd like to find out more, we'd love to hear from you...

www.home-start-cotswolds.org.uk / office@home-start-cotswolds.org.uk 01285 885391 Charity Number: 1110632



Message from the Church

The Epiphany

'And by the light of that same star,

Three Wise Men came from country far,

To seek for a King was their intent,

And to follow the star wheresoever it went.'

Who were these Wise Men sometimes termed Three Kings?

St Matthew says they came from the East, the Land of Sunrise and termed 'Magoi' in the Greek text. The title is mainly found outside the Bible, sometimes connected to Zoroastrian priests of early religions of Western Iran, who were deep into alchemy, astrology and other form of esoteric knowledge. (The term 'magic' comes from Magus). But there is no suggestion that these men who came to the manger were anything other than genuine scientists, astronomers and philosophers.

They were fascinated by the powerful star, which astronomers confirm as historical fact, and which occurred in 6 BC, when the planets Jupiter and Saturn came very close together, giving off a tremendous light. That date is now agreed by almost all commentators, to be the year of Jesus's birth.

As philosophers, they sought answers to the human predicament. Why are we here? Who and what is God? What is life after death? The Magi's search speaks of the instinctive search for the God, 'without whom our hearts are restless', as St Augustine famously said.

At the manger, their values were turned over. Their lives began all over again, for using the words of TS Eliot in his great poem *The Journey of the Magi: 'We returned to our places, these kingdoms, But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation'....* The Wise Men found what they had journeyed for, but not what they envisaged. They found a helpless, vulnerable infant, but in that manifestation (or Epiphany) they instinctively recognised God, for whom their souls longed.

Fr. Stephen



Everyone is welcome - just drop in and stay as long as you like.

Cafe' Tots will reopen on Wednesday 8th Jan 2025.

Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda will be performing their.

"Better Days - There is Hope" concert at the Royal British Legion.

on 7th and 8th Feb. Don't miss this one-of-a-kind musical experience - it will inspire and encourage you, your friends, and family. Contact the church for more info on how to get your free tickets. www.bourtonbaptist.co.uk Roman Catholic Parish of Our Lady & St. Kenelm, Stow on the Wold stow-bourtoncatholic.net

Fr. Stephen Lambert 07836 384932 Email:

Stephen.lambert@cliftondiocese.com

Weekend Masses: Sat. evening: Vigil Mass 6 pm. Sun. morning: 9 am Sung Mass.

Weekday Masses: At 9 am every day (No Mass Sat. mornings). Mass on Tues. takes place at St. Lawrence's at 9 am.

Solemnity of the Epiphany: (Sat evening 4th/Sunday 5th Jan.) (Traditional Epiphany-tide Blessing of Houses: contact Fr. Stephen).

The priest welcomes all enquiries about the Christian faith, and Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings, Funerals, the Sacrament of Reconciliation.





Quiz evening with Pringles & Puds

After a very successful quiz last year, we are hosting another in St Lawrence's Church on 31st Jan. at 7pm. Come along with your team of up to 8 people and enjoy an evening of food & fun. Entry is £10 per person at the door, & includes crisps & a selection of puddings, but please bring your own drinks & glasses. It costs £2000 a week to keep the doors of our beautiful church open 365 days a year, offering a warm & safe space for locals & visitors alike. Proceeds from the quiz will go towards ensuring this continues. Last time we had to turn teams away as the church was full, so please book your table ASAP to secure a place. Contact Rachel75fisher@hotmail.co.uk or ring me on 07823 887451.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR YOUNGER READERS

The Cotswold Youth Theatre

What a busy term!

*21 students entered their first LAMDA exam including a performance to parents.

*Our new group 'Sunshine Stars' (yrs 4 and 5 at Bourton Primary School), joined our fantastic Junior Youth Theatre to perform to a full audience in the Victoria Hall for our 'Christmas goes Wrong' sketch show, taking inspiration from the brilliant Mischief Theatre.

* Both our brilliant home education groups performed a Christmas show with the Juniors creating their own story about Father Christmas delivering presents to Aliens on Mars and Unicorns in Unicorn land!



*The Senior group performed an immersive 'Commedia Dell'arte' style show around a treasure hunt in the market square. They also continue to work towards their LAMDA acting and Public speaking exams and their Silver Arts awards. Huge congratulations to Esme and Oliver who have been selected to join the United Nations Youth Council.

*Theatre trips to see 'War Horse' and 'Sherlock Holmes and the Christmas Mystery', as well as taking 3 of our members to London for the United Nations Climate and Sustainability Youth Summit at Imperial College.

The Cotswold Youth Theatre continues to grow with more groups, opportunities and trips planned. We are now a Trinity College Arts Award Centre which means that our members can now start to discover these brilliant set of awards, which are recognised on the National Qualification Framework, with the higher levels equivalent to an A level



with University UCAS points attached. These will be available from January as well as rehearsals of new plays - including an alternative Macbeth commissioned especially for our Junior group!



As we start the New Year I want to say a huge thank you to all those parents and children who continue to support the Youth Theatre. A special thanks to the amazing Polly and Ella who have been with me over the past year and to the fabulous Jen who

joined us recently to help run our sessions. Also a huge thank you to our student leaders - Noah who runs the tech and backstage, Ava, Ruby and Cherry who help me keep some sort of order in the lovely lively chaos!

All our groups are currently full but we hope to open up more spaces soon. If you are interested in joining please use the contact form on the website or email

sarah@cotswoldyouththeatre.co.uk

Sarah Dowie



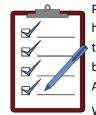
THE COTSWOLD SCHOOL

I hope that you had a peaceful Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year. Our pre-Christmas schedule was, as ever, full of buzz and activity - including our Christmas Concert at St Lawrence Church and Christmas Bonanza. The Careers and Futures Pupil Leadership Group organised a brilliant Christmas Market Day, with students across the school selling handmade cakes, cookies, keyrings, crocheted vegetables, jewellery, cards, and much more.

Comprehensive School of the Year in the

Southwest 2025

The Cotswold School is delighted to announce that it has been named as 'Comprehensive School of the Year in the Southwest 2025' in this year's Sunday Times Parent Power Guide.



Published annually, the guide identifies the highest-achieving schools in the UK, ranked by their 2024 examination results. The tables are based on the percentage of A Level results at A*-B and GCSEs at 9-7.

We have featured strongly over the years,

achieving the accolade of Comprehensive School of the Year in 2015/16 and Comprehensive School of the Year in the Southwest 2023, so to be top school again this year is an incredible achievement for all involved in our school.

I am always grateful to our school community - this accolade is testimony to the excellent teaching and support of our fantastic teachers and support staff; the hard work and commitment of our students towards their learning; the ongoing encouragement of families; and to our supportive governing body. I am

immensely proud of the support both academic and pastoral - that we offer to our students, as well as our extra-curricular activities, helping to create opportunities to enable our students to thrive.



A heartfelt thank you to every member of our school community for contributing to this award.

Will Morgan,

Headteacher

www.cotswold.gloucs.sch.uk/latest-news/

Local Groups and Organisations for the YOUNGER GENERATION

Baby Gymnastics 0–18months Beavers

Bourton Primary School Bourton Road Runners Juniors

Bourton Rovers Youth (U10 Upwards) -Bourton Rovers Youth (U9 & below) -Bourton Vale Cricket Club

B'n Vale Equestrian Centre Bourton Vale Tennis Club

WWW

Bumblebeez babies & pre-school tots Pat Taylor

Cafe Tots

1stbourtonbeavers@gmail.com 820458 Chris Hartley/Richard Buffton 0772 0509894 brrjuniors@gmail.com 07889 694545 Catherine Williams Amy Wright 07876458571 Lucy Gillespie 07949 227128 craiglucygillespie@yahoo.com Leanne Launchbury 821101 07879644218 **Kingslev Harris** www.bourtontennisclub.org 07518 457652 07828 781246 Sue Woodley

Caroline (Cotswold Clubhouse) 263130

Stephanie Lewis

Bourton Rovers Youth: Kicking Off the New Year with



07308 144397

Excitement! December brought an exciting milestone for

Bourton Rovers Youth as our new U15 girls' team played their first-ever 11-a-side match! After just a few months of training together, these talented young players, led by coach Charlie Fletcher, have shown remarkable progress and teamwork. Their hard work paid off in their debut game, where they demonstrated great skill and came away victorious—an impressive feat for a newly formed squad!

We're thrilled to see the team growing, but still have spaces for girls in school years 9 and 10. If you know anyone interested in joining this promising team, we'd love to hear from them! Training takes place on Thursdays at 6 p.m., and we're aiming to enter a competitive league in the New Year.

The winter season hasn't been without its challenges, though. December storms caused several postponed games, leaving our younger teams gearing up for a busy January. To keep the momentum going, many of our age groups will shift to allweather pitches and indoor futsal to brave the cold and keep match-ready.

Off the field, December brought festive cheer with a Christmas

Children's Jujitsu	Andy or Hayley	07951 587398
Cubs	Nick Hawke	07788 406728
	1stbourtoncubs@gmail.com	
Hockey	Rhys Davies	07817 108970
Little Hurricanes (Babies & Toddlers)	littlehurricanes@hotmail.com	
Pre-School	Lisa Sorley	07950 048066
Pre-School Gymnastics	Caroline	263130
Recreational Gymnastics	Caroline	263130
Scouts	Phil	1stbourtonscouts@gmail.com
Squirrels	Emily 1	stbourtonsquirrels@gmail.com
4Shires Swimming	Jo Shaw	membership@4ssc.uk.uk
Taekwon-do	Lee Chapman	01285 640500
The Cotswold School		820554
Youth Club	Lynda Hicks	07867 121122
Youth Theatre	Sarah Dowie sarah	@cotswold youththeatre,co,ul

bingo and disco for our players, complete with a visit from Santa Claus. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the halfway point of the season.

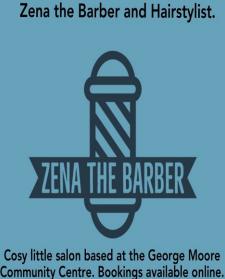
As matches resume from January 4th, we're preparing for frosty mornings and the occasional weather delay. But spirits remain high as we look forward to spring when training can return to grass pitches and we can leave behind the chilly numb toes—for both players and coaches alike!

Here's to an exciting year ahead for Bourton Rovers Youth. Come rain or shine, we'll be ready!

Catherine Williams







www.zenathebarber.com



A big thank you from St James' Church, Clapton on the Hill

Over the past six months St James' Church has been fundraising for major restoration work to the exterior and interior of the building. This 12th century building is much loved by the residents of the village of Clapton on the Hill, the wider area and the many visitors we receive each year. The villagers and supporters of St James in the wider area have shown the most amazing generosity in raising funds. So far, of the £54,000 we need, we have managed to raise a huge £28,300. This includes grants from the Benefact Trust of £2,500 and the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust of £3,500. We continue to fundraise with events planned for 2025 and further grant applications.

Clapton on the Hill is a beautiful place to visit and is on the Diamond Way Walking Trail, and St James' Church is part of the Small Pilgrim Places network.

If you are interested in visiting the church, it is open daily from 9.30am to 4.30pm and we welcome visitors. If you

would like more information on the church, fundraising activities or would like to donate please <u>contact</u> <u>kevan12taylor@gmail.com</u> or you can

donate using the QR code below.



You can also visit us at our facebook page at:

https://www.facebook.com/ stjamesclaptononthehill

Bourton Primary Academy

Firstly, we wish you all a very Happy New Year. We hope you all enjoyed the festive season and are feeling refreshed after the Christmas break!

December was a very musical month for us at Bourton Primary as well as a month where we tried to really be part of our community. Our Reception children visited Jubilee Lodge care home one afternoon to interact with the residents, as well as our wonderful choir singing at The Dementia Friendly Café in the church one Friday afternoon. It was a special afternoon for all who attended and our children enjoyed being able to sing the songs they had practised so hard, and we had a very appreciative audience. Our younger children performed their Nativity to their parents and we were incredibly proud of all of them, but especially the Year 2 children for learning so many tricky speaking parts. Our junior children also performed a carol concert in the church one evening and did a fantastic job of learning all of their songs.

The Rotary Club came and judged our art and writing competition entries. As the subject was all about 'water' this year, our children had some fantastic ideas as we have such a beautiful river so close to us! The 2 winners of this will now go through to the next stage of this competition with other schools in our area.

January is a time for fresh starts and new beginnings and we are looking forward to seeing what 2025 has in store for everyone at our school **Tori Gainford**

<u>Thank you</u>

Together with other grateful residents and businesses, I would like to thank everyone who helped in the clearup after damage caused by Storm Darragh (and others) recently. A special thank you to two local young men Joe and Jake Clarke for clearing the tree that blocked Meadow Way.

Happy New Year 2025! Amanda Davis

VJ COLLETT

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riverside-dental-practice.co.uk



Boudica Mindset Coaching Wins Best New Business at the North Cotswolds Awards

Boudica Mindset Coaching is thrilled to announce its recognition as *Best New Business* at the North Cotswolds Awards. Held on the 25th November, the event celebrated outstanding achievements within the region's thriving business community. Boudica Mindset Coaching stood out for its innovative and impactful work in empowering young people and supporting schools.

Founder Sarah Dowie accepted the award, expressing heartfelt gratitude: "Winning this award is an incredible honour. I am deeply thankful to everyone who nominated me and for the many lovely, positive comments that were shared about my work. Knowing that I've made a meaningful difference in the lives of young people and their families inspires me to continue making an impact in our community."

Since 2023, Boudica Mindset Coaching has worked tirelessly to help young people build resilience, confidence, and a positive mindset. Through personalised coaching sessions and partnerships with schools, the organisation equips students with the tools they need to navigate life's challenges and thrive.

The judges commended Boudica Mindset Coaching for its dedication to supporting young people's mental health and well-being, as well as its collaboration with schools to integrate personal development into the curriculum. Sarah added:

"This award is not just a reflection of my work but also of the incredible community that surrounds me. To all the schools, families, and individuals who have trusted me on their journey, thank you. I am excited to continue this work and explore new ways to support young people in achieving their full potential."

For more information about Boudica Mindset Coaching and its programs, please contact sarah@boudicamindsetcoaching.co.uk.



Winners

From left to right : Annabelle from Cotswold Radio

Flora —Senior Entrepreneur

Sarah —Boudica Mindset



together – we'll have a cup of tea half way through!

* Including live music on the organ

Music from Faure & Bach plus Abba, Gershwin & The Wurzels

18th January 2025, 3-5pm



Suggested donation £5 to church funds

PLEASE RECYCLE YOUR INKJET <u>CARTRIDGES</u>



St Lawrence's Church now has a collecting box for you to recycle your Canon, Epson & HP ink cartridges and other company (e.g. Tesco) equivalents.

All proceeds for church funds

QUAKERS

The Religious Society of Friends Every Sunday 11am at The Friends Meeting House, Pytt Lane, Burford Enquiries welcome Myra Ford 01451 810484. To request a free info pack, email: outreach@quaker.org.uk Enhance the appearance of your property with our quality assured friendly service

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NOSSINATOR

We're thrilled to share that Cotswolds Radio is now a multiaward-winning radio station! On the 18th November, we were honoured to be awarded **Radio Broadcaster of the Year 2024** -South West Community Engagement Excellence Award, part of the Southern Enterprise Awards in partnership with SME News. The Southern Enterprise Awards, now in their seventh year, recognise the outstanding achievements of businesses and organisations across the South of the UK. This year's awards spanned diverse sectors, from creative consultancies to online wellbeing platforms. Amidst such a wide array of innovative enterprises, Cotswolds Radio stood out for its forward-thinking approach, community dedication, and consistent effort to stay ahead of industry trends.



We then followed up with winning the **Best Community Or**ganisation Award at the North Cotswolds Awards, an award scheme set up in 2024 to celebrate the fantastic local businesses operating in the North Cotswolds. This award is really special to us as it's voted for by the local community and so we'd like to take the opportunity to thank all of our wonderful listeners who took the time to vote for us. It's a huge pat on the back to our incredibly hard working team of volunteers who put so much effort into producing high-quality radio pro-



grammes for our community. Annabelle and Colin were delighted to attend the award ceremony and pick up the trophy on our behalf.

We love to hear from listeners, so get in touch! Message using our app or email <u>contact@cotswoldsradio.com</u>.

Cotswolds Radio is a community radio station run entirely by volunteers of all ages – from under 8 to over 80. We broadcast over 30 shows from our studio at The Old Prison in Northleach covering a host of topics – all kinds of music, health and wellbeing, beauty, chat, local news and history, culture and the arts, sports and of course, our popular daily Breakfast Show.



Bourton Probus Club

At our meeting on 25th November, our new member, Ray Tuck, gave us a fascinating talk on his life, starting with his army service in Germany, through to working for Colgate and Palmolive and then Spar. He discussed the development of the so-called "corner shop" and how Spar as a company developed that and are still going today. The meeting finished with a short presentation by Howard Jenkins about the company HH Martyn, originally a Gloucestershire stonemason and woodworking company who moved from designing interiors of luxury liners to the development of the Gloucester aircraft company in World War 1.

On 9th December we had a meeting, which for me, was the highlight of the year. Sue Black gave us a delightful history of her life in opera. She told us a great deal about the development of the voice and also played and sang several early music and opera extracts. As an opera goer of over 60 years, this meeting was an absolute treat.

I would like to remind all members that our meeting on 27th January is our AGM, so please could all members try and be present. Bourton Probus Club is for retired men and women who are interested in talks on a variety of subjects and various social events. If you are interested in joining us, come to one of our meetings (see diary pages) or contact our secretary Kevin Hick on 01451 860435. **Roger Harris**

North Cotswolds Rotary

Grant Applications Welcome From Small Charities and Community Organisations

Helping Hand is a small grants scheme set-up by North Cotswolds Rotary to help support the amazing work carried out by small charities and community organisations across the North Cotswolds.



Grants up to £500 are available; but must be for a specific project or activity. The grants are not available to support day-today running costs. Applicants must be based within the North Cotswolds area (defined as from Northleach up to Moreton-in-Marsh and surrounding villages) or carrying out activities that benefit people living in the North Cotswolds.

This is the fourth year of the grant scheme and in the first three years North Cotswolds Rotary have given grants to 24 charities and community associations totaling over £12,000.

If you are interested in applying please contact Steve Smith at originsteve@hotmail.com for more information or go to the North Cotswolds Rotary website at www.northcotswoldsrotary.org and go to the dedicated Helping Hand page. You will be required to complete a short application form. A short-list of applicants will then be asked to give a 10-minute presentation to a panel of two North Cotswolds Rotary members before the final awards are made.

The closing date for initial applications is 25th February 2024.

Christmas Charity Band Concert – Rising to the Challenge! The Waterloo Band and Bugles of the 7th Rifles braved storm Darragh to perform at The Cotswold School on Saturday 7th December. Despite the chaotic weather conditions, and potential power outages, the show did go on! And all enjoyed some great band music and singing. Moreover, we raised more than last year for our charities. We really appreciated the support of the audience who also



enjoyed, mince pies, wine, festive raffle and a big helping of Christmas good cheer.

Happy New Year from North Cotswold's Rotary

Gloucestershire Arthritis Trust (GAT)

Wanted, old Christmas cards

Please continue to donate used cards for us to remake, no glitter please. We can accept Christmas cards until the end of January. Please deliver them to Alice's Cottage, Victoria Street, (opposite Clapton Row) or 19 Moore Road, opposite the community centre. You will find black boxes by the front doors do deposit the cards.

We also collect used stamps and stamp albums, which go to auction.

Our remade greeting cards (Get Well, New Home, Sympathy, Happy Birthday, Age cards, and Blanks), are sold throughout the year at £1 each, great value for money, at Cheltenham and Gloucester hospitals, also from my house, Alice's cottage, come and have a browse.

GAT fund raises throughout the year to provide surgeons with the latest equipment.

Thank you for your cards and continued support.

Mollie Wise, 822365





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Bourton Roadrunners

Despite the best efforts of storm Darragh, round three of the *Gloucestershire Cross Country* league was judged safe to take place this weekend, despite the surrounding roads providing severe challenges. Held at Bushy Northwood Field, at the University of Bath, the event also played host for the County Championships of the four counties of Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Avon and Somerset.



Bourton Roadrunners' Peter Carrick was the club's sole representative in the highly competitive Senior and Masters men's race, which he was using as part of his strengthening training for next year's London Marathon. The 29 year-old had a brilliant race, completing the 10.3Km course in a time of 41 minutes and 43 seconds.

In the Senior and Masters women's race, which also incorporated the Men's Veteran 65+ categories, Bourton's Tony Goodwill dug deep to complete the 6.6Km course in a time of 34:35. Tony was also third qualifying man in the Gloucestershire AAA County Championship MV65 category. Also representing Bourton, Gillian Carrick ran strongly to finish in 40:21, achieving third qualifying woman in the Gloucestershire AAA County Championship LV65 category.

Earlier the same day, also braving storm Darragh, second-claim member Linda Edwards, who was representing her primary club, Running Somewhere Else, of Cirencester, took part at the *Castle Combe Chilly 10K*, where she was rewarded with a time of 55 minutes and 55 seconds, finishing second in the LV60 category.

Only the ever-present Susan Hunt was able to seek-out a parkrun that survived the storm this weekend, running at her local



Stratford-upon-Avon parkrun, where she completed the 5Km course in a very respectable 27 minutes and 21 seconds, finishing third in the LV55 category. **Louise, Gillian and John**



U30 Bourton & District

If you are not in full employment and would like to socialise with people who enjoy like-minded interests, why not try your local u3a?

With over 30 different Activity groups, spread throughout the week among our local communities in Bourton, Stow, Moreton, and The Rissingtons etc, there is something of interest for everyone. We neither require nor give any qualifications.

Our main get-togethers are usually held on the 4th Wednesday morning of the month at the Royal British Legion Hall

in Bourton-on-the-Water, from 10am to 12 noon

and are ideal for prospective new members to sound us out.

The first meeting in 2025 is on <u>Wednesday 22nd January</u>, when we will receive a talk on the 'taxing' subject of Estate Planning, covering Inheritance Tax, Wills and Powers of Attorney.



Can you afford to miss it?

Please come along, enjoy a tea/coffee, and see what we have to offer. We will be very pleased to see you.

Or look us up on: u3asites.org.uk/bourton



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Exciting New Flight Routes from Birmingham

Great news for Cotswold travellers! EasyJet has announced a range of new routes from Birmingham Airport, making it easier than ever to explore top European destinations. Whether you're dreaming of a sunny escape to Spain, a cultural city break in Italy, or a quick getaway to a charming continental capital on a city break, this new expanded network has something for everyone.

If you're already thinking ahead to 2025, January is the ideal time to book your holiday. The travel industry often launches its biggest sales at the start of the year, offering unbeatable deals on flights, hotels, and package holidays. Booking early not only secures the best prices but also ensures a wider choice of destinations and accommodations.

While it's tempting to book directly online, using a travel agent is a smart and hassle-free choice. Travel agents have access to exclusive deals, often bundling flights with accommodation or car hire for better value than booking separately. Their expertise ensures you get the best price and the perfect itinerary tailored to your needs, too.

It's been an exciting week for our team, too, as two staff members have just returned from an incredible Star Clippers cruise aboard a stunning tall ship, while another has been exploring the delights of Turkey—all in the name of research, of course! Their firsthand experiences ensure we can offer expert advice and insider tips to help you plan your dream holiday.

With EasyJet's exciting new routes and the upcoming January travel sales, now's the time to turn your holiday dreams into

reality. Whether you're chasing sunshine, culture, or relaxation, let a travel agent handle the details, so all you have to do is pack your bags and enjoy the journey!



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Charity Event for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital

If December is the season of good will, it abounded on the 1st of the month when a charity event was held at Maxi's, the tipi behind the Dial House in Bourton. This was in aid of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, a world-class treatment centre. They are on a mission to raise £350,000,000 to upgrade services and buildings.

It was attended by fifty people and organised by Andrew Bill and myself. The event started with a short film highlighting a family whose daughter had been successfully treated there.

A delicious three-course meal followed. Andy then presented a talk accompanied by videos about entering the very popular Birdman of Bognor competition. This entails flying off Bognor Pier with a home-made flying contraption. The person who can fly the furthest can scoop a £25,000 prize.

Andy faced several obstacles. He sourced his components from B&Q but it's not easy to build a flying machine with a vast wing span in a two-bedroom house - or to fit it into a small car. However, he came up with different solutions and tested it out by running down Chosen Hill. Despite improvements to the design each time and his valiant efforts, sadly the prize was beyond his grasp.

After this entertaining talk, there was a raffle with many excellent prizes donated by local people and businesses. Two of the most popular were a Microlight flight and a hamper from Jeremy Clarkson.

The final sum raised was an amazing £2,176 which wouldn't have been possible without the support and generosity of so many people. Our very grateful thanks go to the people who attended and donated, the Dial House team including the kitchen staff, the local businesses and individuals for their raffle prizes, and all those who helped on the day. Thank you all.

Cleo Carruthers and Andrew Bill

15

Catherine Williams



Bourton Vale Horticultural Society Your friendly garden club

We certainly had a windy December with Storm Darragh causing havoc throughout the country. We had a couple of trees down and my greenhouse took a battering. But hopefully things have settled down now. And let's hope we have a calmer, drier rest of the winter.

We didn't have a speaker at our December meeting, but we had a fun evening with a quiz, lots of chatter and some yummy nibbles.

The competition of a Christmas tree decoration was won by Sue Pacini.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 8th January, 2025 starting as usual at 7.30 pm in the Baptist Church Hall in Bourton. Following a very brief AGM, our speaker will be Vanessa Berridge who will be talking to us about Great British Gardens. The competition is winter flowering shrubs.

New members are very welcome. So why not come and see if you like us and if you do, why not join? Membership is just £15 for the year, which includes speakers, a plant and seed swop, GQT and a monthly competition, plus discounts at a couple of garden centres. Or come as a guest visitor for £3 per meeting. We also have a raffle with some lovely prizes, an annual garden party and outings often to beautiful private gardens which are not normally open to the public.

Wishing you a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Sheila Thorpe, 07973 391741 sheila@bobblefarm.co.uk



Guided Walks with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

Details of the walks available are described on the website (below). Please check walk details carefully on the website, including whether booking is necessary. Additional walks may be published on the website.

https://www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk

Broadway Tower Circular – Tuesday 7th January – Moderate 2.5hr 4.5ml. A circular walk starting from Fish Hill car park. On to Broadway Tower and back via the picturesque village of Broadway. Please bring a drink/snack. Start: 10.00am Fish Hill car park near Broadway WR12 7DL. OS Map ref: SP 120 369. W3W: carpeted.grants.kindest

PLEASE use appropriate footwear as some walks may be steep and muddy in places. EASY - Length may vary but terrain is mainly flat (level); MODERATE includes some hills and rough ground. STRENUOUS – may be rough underfoot and ascents and descents may be steep. We welcome guide and hearing dogs sorry, others not allowed.

Walks are free although we do invite donations to help fund our conservation and improvement work.

WASSAIL !!

What do you know about Bourton's community Jubilee Orchard?

It is owned and maintained by the Parish Council and our community volunteer tree warden, on behalf of our community. Jubilee Orchard contains various fruit trees and an abundance of bulbs. Situated near Bourton Vale Car Park on the main footpaths into the village, it is an important part of the green lungs of the village.

A small community event is being planned,



based on the local south west tradition of "Wassail". This toasts the orchard's trees literally, by placing toast among the branches of trees, during a gathering involving performance and song. The toast is soaked in cider (or juice) made from the apples harvested in August this year. The orchard's trees are "toasted" with the "Wassail!!". This tradition reflects the place of the south west in cider making and is based on respecting, thanking and encouraging the future fertility of the fruit trees.

As importantly, a wassail is the chance for local residents to gather in midwinter, traditionally around twelfth night (around 6th January).

Watch out for notices of the details and date on social media or by email at bourtonsnework@gmail.com

For more information or to find out more about what Bourton Sustainable Network is doing, contact <u>bourtonSnetwork@gmail.com</u> or leave a voicemail on 01451 509484.



BOURTON MEN IN SHEDS

The festive season is here and at the sheds, we have been very busy making bird boxes, hedgehog boxes and bird tables. A big thank you to all who bought items and have supported us this year.



The demand for bags of kindling and off cuts is ongoing, so don't miss out for a large bag at £5 and offcuts at £2 per bag, ideal if you have a log burner or an open fire.

We hope you will continue to support the 'shedders' next year.

Come down and see us behind the British Legion. We are there Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9.30 -12.30.

On behalf of all us at Bourton Men in Sheds, enjoy the holiday and we wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2025. Keep warm and stay safe. **Dave Birch**





POPPY APPEAL 2024

Well done Bourton area for producing the best results we have ever had.

By the time you read this, the total will have reached at least £13,000!

This provides vital funds for the work of the Royal British Legion supporting those in the Armed Forces Community who need help because of injury, health, care, dementia, or finance. Last year 40,000 (serving members, veterans, and dependents) received help from the RBL.

Here in Bourton our fund raising is not limited to Remembrance-tide. The money from the RBL Car Park goes directly into the Poppy fund, and you are helping their valuable work each time you contribute to using our car park. Many thanks for an excellent result in 2024.

Mike Marshall, Bourton Poppy Appeal Organiser.

u3a Scrabble Group

Are you retired, or semi-retired, and enjoy a game of Scrabble? If so, come along to the George Moore Community Centre, on 8th January, 2-4pm and give our group a try. We'd love to see you. Give me a call on 07341 094206 or email me at peterdawson790@icloud.com for more details.

If you enjoy the group and decide you'd like to come regularly, you will need to join Bourton and District u3a, a group that offers a wide range of activities.

See the u3a article above for more details.

Patsy Dawson





New Year Waste and Recycling Collections

Food Caddy only collection on **Thursday 2nd January**, (instead of Tuesday 31st December).

Recycling, Refuse and Green Bin Garden waste collection on Wednesday 8th January, (instead of Tuesday 7th January.)

www.cotswold.gov.uk



Irene's Charity Knitting Circle

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month from 10.00am until 12.00pm at Willoughby Place, Station Road, Bourton-on the-Water, (opposite the Coop Filling Station).

Last month was our most successful meeting, with a great turnout. Why not join us or just pop in with your knitting? Enjoy coffee/tea with biscuits. Everything we receive will be donated to worthy causes. The latest collection of hats and blankets is now on its way to Ukraine. Please note, there is no parking available at Willoughby Place, however we are happy to collect anyone who needs a lift within Bourton.

Just give us a call. For further details, call

either: Irene or Peter on 01451 824175 or 07764 699594



Traditional Hatha Yoga

35 years teaching Yoga worldwide

Personalised Therapeutic Yoga one to one Coaching
 Group Yoga classes

 Tuesdays at 5pm & Thursdays at 10am
 Classes take place at: George Moore Community Centre, Moore Road, Bourton-on-the-Water, GL54 2AZ
 www.vogacotswold.co.uk info@vogacotswold.co.uk
 07490858775

YOGA

DTSWOLD NAZUNA YEO

Mist Magician

Nothing can possibly resist The descent of dawn-raiding mist -Engulfs barns, farms, sheep, fields And, stubbornly, refuses to yield.

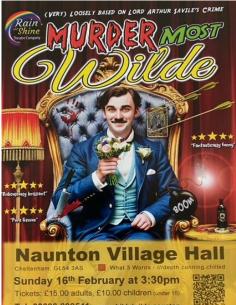
Yet, when dispelled, under the misty cloak It's not the conjuror's snow white rabbit That springs out, but a warren of rabbits Erupting, darting and hopping about!

Hugh O'Connell

Winter

The north wind blows through bare-boned trees, a sky leaden with snow

A heifer with her ghostly breath lifts up her head to low Redwings feed in the holly bush 'mid spiky leaves dark green Majestic firs take centre stage in the changing country scene A puddle with its frozen crust shattered by childish tread Cold winter days bring sunsets bold from purple through to red There's fiery stems of dogwood to brighten days of grey Then drifts of snowdrops tell us all that spring is on its way. Pam Clifford



Tel: 03306 600541 - www.bit.ly/wilde-naunton measure or 01451 850586 * Bar & Light refreshments * Doors open at 3pm www.rainorshine.co.uk - theatre@rainorshine.co.uk

ABOUT THE BOURTON BROWSER

All articles received will be printed wherever possible in the magazine & on the website, however we reserve the right not to print anonymous letters or anything of a defamatory or controversial nature.

We have a limit of 300 words per article.

If your contact details appear in the Bourton Browser they will be on our website copy. If you do not want this to happen, tell us. Unless we hear from you, we will assume consent.

The views of contributors to the Bourton Browser may not necessarily be those of the Editor, nor can the Bourton Browser accept any responsibilities in connection with any companies or organisations mentioned.

STAY STRONG AND STEADY

A class that focuses on strength and stability and maintaining independence. All abilities welcome.



British Legion Hall, Bourton-on-the-Water Mondays 1-2.30, Thursdays 1-2.30

£10 per class (tea,coffee, biscuits and social included)

Cally : 07957 546 067 cotswoldactivehealth@gmail.com

Experienced & qualified level 4 instructor



DIGITAL DROP-IN SUPPORT SESSIONS

GRCC

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If you have a query about how to use a digital device or want to learn about how to get the most out of your devices, come and see us at the digital drop-in.

We are available to help - free of charge - to boost your confidence and skills in using your devices to enable better access to the digital world.

Sessions are held at: George Moore Community Centre, Moore Road, Bourton on the Water

GL54 2AZ

When: on Tuesday mornings from 10.30am to 12:30pm.

CONTACT US JASON.SPINNEY1@NHS.NET OR LEAVE CONTACT DETAILS AT GEORGE MOORE RECEPTION FOR A CONVERSATION.

Rates and Dates for advertising in the BOURTON BROWSER Full details:

www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk

 $6 \times 9 \text{ cm}$ per mth £33, per 3 mths £70, per 6 mths £135, per 12 mths £250. $9 \times$ 12 cm per mth £66, per 3 mths £140, per 6 mths £260, per 12 mths £500. Deadline 15^{th} of preceding month.

To enquire about booking, email **team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk** State size required & attach advert as a jpeg or pdf. I will confirm *if* space is available or you may call 01451 822431 to discuss. Advertising spaces are limited, early booking & prompt payment is essential.

Delivery—We print 2300 copies & aim to deliver to every house in Bourton-on-the-Water & Clapton-on-the-Hill.

Ray Dodd, Advertising Manager

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HIRE of HALLS

Baden Powell Halllettingsbph@gmail.comBaptist Church HallTim Newstead 01451 821523Bourton Cricket Clubhousejlthepavilion@gmail.comBourton Farmers MarketMiles Salmon 07980 080073British Legion HallBranch Office 01451 824303Broadwell Village HallTracey Spraggbroadwellvillagehall@gmail.comCotswold Hall, NorthleachJacques Astic 01451 860366

Cotswold Hall, Northleach Jacques Astic 01451 860366 George Moore Community Centre Jo Herbert 01451820712 assistant.clerk@bourtononthewater-pc.gov.uk Lower Slaughter Village Hall annclass@yahoo.com St. Lawrence's Mrs Gill Willett 01451 821484 familywillett@hotmail.co.uk Victoria Hall Lydia 07768722514 Wyck Rissington Village Hall Vicky Lathe 07584 188 200 vhwyckriss@gmail.com

Bourton On-line Village Diary

To see what's going on in Bourton for this, and future months, use the QR code or go to: **www.bourtonbrowser.co.uk**



If you are planning a **Bourton based** event, email the details to: **team@bourtonbrowser.co.uk** We will

add them to the on-line village diary and include them in the "Diary Dates" column in the relevant month's Browser. Events welcome for dates throughout 2025.

The on-line diary is a useful tool that can prevent major events clashing, so check it before scheduling your event! Remember we can only put events in if you tell us about them!

The Bourton Browser Team





LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS for amendments, team@bourtonbroswer.co.uk 01451 822431

Archery Club **Badminton Club** Bell Ringers, BOW Bell Ringers, Gt Ris Bourton Road Runners Bourton Rovers Chairman Bourton Vale Cricket Club Bourton Vale Tennis Club Brass & Silver Bands **Community Day Club** Cotswold Friends **Cotswold Yoga** Dementia Friendly Café **Fitness League** Gardening Club Glos. Advanced Motorists Hockey Club Jubilee Lodge **McTimoney Practitioner** Men in Sheds Moreton Bowls Club North Cotswold Arts Association North Cotswold Gymnastics Club OPEN 4U Panto Group

Probus Club Rotary Club Nth Cotswolds Royal British Legion Bourton Rural Cinema Scottish Dancing Group

Short Led Walks Stay strong & Steady

Stow Textile Group T'ai Chi u3a Bourton & District Village Warden Volunteer Help Centre WI Windrush Carers Support Group 4 Shires Swimming Club

ourton

GRArcheryClub@gmail.	com
clclare@gmail.com	
Stephanie Hemming	01451 810996
Sheila Jesson,	01451 820395
Nicky Patterson Brr.club	<u>osec@gmail.com</u> .
Liam Williams	07769 216528
Kevin Langley	07375 033609
www.bourtontennisclub	o.org
Stephanie Hemming	01451 810996
Support Service team	01608 652019
	01608 651415
Nazuna Yeo	07490858775
Kathy Chesters	07746 672726
Kathy Kirk	01993 882350
Sheila Thorpe	07973391741
Rod Harrison.	01451 821605
admin@bashc.co.uk	
C	01451 823100
Tina Hamer	07884 312559
	01608 692811
Brenda Dix	01451 821020
Jeni Smith	078506 50763
Caroline Gill	01451 263130
Barbara Newstead	01451 824225
Angela Layton	01451 821344.
0	
Kevin Hick	01451 860435
Steve Whincup	07488 365908
Bill McKenzie	01451 824303
Mollie Wise	01451 822365
Christine Bucknall	01993 830760
Bucknallce@gn	nail.com
Carol Price	01451 810305
Cally Maxwell	07957 546 067
,	
cotswoldactivehealth@ Julie Smith	0
Julie Smith Valerie Ward	01608 651006 07779 746346
valerie Ward	0///9/46346

 Julie Smith
 01608 651006

 Valerie Ward
 07779 746346

 www.u3asites.org.uk/bourton
 07729 114833

 Steve Cotton
 07729 114833

 Pat Taylor
 07518 457 652

 Barbara Newstead
 01451 821523

 Jo Shaw
 membership@4ssc.uk.uk

Bourton

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Units 6-7,Upper Slaughter Business Centre, Upper Slaughter, GL54 2JJ

USEFUL LOCAL TELEPHONE NUMBERS - 2025

<u>CUT OUT AND KEEP,</u> only published in January edition of the Bourton Browser

HEALTH

Doctors' Surgery	01451 820242
Chemist Rowlands Pharmacy	01451 820849
Out of hours GP & Dental Em	ergencies 111
Dental Practises	
Riverside	01451 820306
The Forge	01451 821268
The Dental Clinic	01451 823724
George Moore O/P Clinic	0300 4216940
North Cotswold Hospital	03004 218770
Cheltenham Gen Hosp	03004 222222
Gloucester Royal Hosp	0300 4222222

EMERGENCIES

Police / Fire / Ambulance	999
Police (non emergency)	101
Stow Police Station	01452 907273
Action Fraud	0300 1232040
Crimestoppers	0800 555111
Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)	0808 8000510
(Moreton in Marsh CAB u	usually open Weds
Thurs 10am-3pm but phone	above no. to check).
Samaritans	0330 0945717

COUNCILS / COUNCILLORS

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council		
10am-1pm Tuesday-Friday	01451 820712	
Village Warden Steve Cotton 07729 114833		
Cotswold Dist Council	01285 623000	
Glos County Council	01452 425000	
Bourton Village District Councillor		
Jon Wareing	01451 820418	
Bourton Vale District Councillor		
Len Wilkins	07970 668849	
County Councillor		
Paul Hodgkinson	01285 831359	
Dog Warden	01285 623000	

UTILITIES

Emergency Calls & Hotlines	
Electricity SSE	0800 0727282
Power Cuts	105
Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Thames Water	0800 0093964
Environment Agency	0800 807060

SOLICITORS

Kendall & Davies	01451 820277

IRLIC TRANSDORT

	PUBLIC TRANSPORT Local Bus Service (Pulhams) National Rail Enquiries	01451 820369 08457 484950
	VETS Stow Veterinary Surgeons Dragon Vets, Upper Rissington	01451 830620 01451 600891
	FUNERAL DIRECTORS WJ Wright	01451 810700
	LEISURE CENTRES / GYMS Bourton Leisure Centre Runnerbean Health & Fitness	01451 824024 01451 822541
	SCHOOLS Bourton Primary School Cotswold School	01451 820458 01451 820554
&	CHURCHES Church of England Rev Hannah Allen revhannah@protonmail.com Baptist Church Office Rev Sue Woodley minister@bourtonbaptist.co.uk	01451 821282 01451 824225 01451 820055
	Catholic Church Father Stephen Lambert Stephen.lambert@cliftondiocese Quakers	
	Myra Ford BOURTON BROWSER	01451 810484
	Main Editorial & Advertising Youth articles/Churches/Finance	01451 822431 01451 810724 urtonbrowser.co.uk
	LOCAL SERVICES Newsagent (Stow) Bourton Post Office	01451 830406 01451 820220
	Bourton Lib The George Moore Community Bourton-on-the-Wate 01451 8209	/ Centre, Moore Road, r, GL54 2AZ. 64
	Opening Ho Tues 10am-1pm, Wed 2-5pm, F Sat 10am-1p	ri 10am-1pm & 2-5pm,
	Friendly staff & volunteers. In Printing & Photoc <u>www.gloucestershire.g</u>	nternet access, Advert copying. ov.uk/libraries

Emily Sutton-Redford 07823 429150