



# Burton Overy Newsletter

*Issue No. 72*

*Spring 2019*

*Sponsored by  
Burton Overy Parish Council*

## **Burton Overy Parish Council**

A big change within the council is the retirement of Cllr Fran Brown at our last council meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> April. Fran served from December 2005, giving nearly 14 years service to the village as a councillor but also as Chairperson. I am sure the village would like to join us in thanking Fran very much for all she did – and think of Fran when you look at all the new LED street lights that are currently being replaced within the village.

The street lighting project is well under way and hopefully will be complete by the summer. This will ensure the lights are properly monitored and replaced as and when required and being LED, they should last a very long time once in place.

The annual parish meeting will be held on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 at 7pm**. The parish meeting is an opportunity for members of the village to come along and talk to the council about their work and any issues of concern. **This year we have decided to provide a forum to discuss the proposed A46 expressway**, as outlined below. We are aware of the very real concerns this proposed new road has generated and this is a chance to hear about the council's approach to this. Tea and biscuits will be provided.

### **A46 expressway**

Cllr Sarah Rankine attended the 'Stop the A46 Express Way' meeting at the Coplow Centre in Billesdon on April the 4th. The meeting was very well attended, demonstrating the strength of opposition to the proposed plan. The panel was made up of speakers from CPRE (campaign for protection of rural England) and SELAG (South East Leicestershire Action Group) as well as a strategic policy campaigns Advisor and a speaker from Willoughby Waterleys Residents Association. All highlighted the importance of opposing this plan and becoming actively engaged in campaigning. The speakers could see no benefit to the road and all agreed that it would seriously destroy the countryside of South East Leicestershire. A proposed route runs very close to Burton Overy and **38,000** houses have been outlined to circle the new road, starting with Whetstone Pastures. The councils present the road as the lynch pin to their Strategic Growth Plan, which would guide development in the county from now until 2051. CPRE and SELAG believe the plan is deeply flawed and it would only exacerbate congestion travelling into Leicester. The Strategic Growth Plan can be viewed at [llstraegicgrowthplan.org.uk](http://llstraegicgrowthplan.org.uk).

## **Great British Litter Pick**

The Great British Spring Clean, which took place in the parish on Saturday 6 April 2019, saw 24 adults and 2 children join in the litter picking. Everybody worked very hard and as a result the hedgerows and ditches along the lanes, the lay bys on London Road and Maynes Lane and our village itself received a very effective spring clean. The mountain of waste collected can be seen in the photograph. Well done and many thanks to all those involved in the effort. Thanks also to Sarah and Deene Randall for allowing the carpark at The Bell to be used as a collection point and to Harborough District Council who supported the litter pick by providing equipment and removing the rubbish.

## **Neighbourhood Plan**

As you may be aware, the Neighbourhood Plan was voted upon by the village in January and an overwhelming majority voted in favour of its implementation. As such, the plan has 'been made', and Harborough District Council should consider our plan when making planning decisions within Burton Overy. Interestingly, the national Planning Inspector rejected the appeal to build on the left hand side of Scotland Lane, stating very clearly the importance of our conservation status. The council would like to thank Mark Firth and all who worked on the plan for its success and implementation.

## **Burton Overy Flower and Garden Club**

The Club programme of outings is now available and includes visits to Barrowden, Enderby, Newtown Linford and a return visit to Green Wicket Farm in Bitteswell.

In May, we shall spend an evening at Mon Amie headquarters in Kibworth for some inspiring flower demonstrations and ideas for entries to Blooming Burton Overy. The fee will be £7.50 per head, new members and visitors welcome, but please let Joan Stephens know if you would like to join us. (0116 259 2210).

Our autumn lecture will be on Thursday 3 October, when Gill Hadland, whose garden in Great Glen opens for the National Gardens Scheme, will be talking about her visit to Peru.

Meetings are on the first Thursday of the month. New members and visitors are welcome. Phone Joan for details.

## **W.I.**

At the November AGM, Alison Tasker was welcomed back on to committee. All other officers agreed to serve for another year. Due to the Village Hall being refurbished, this meeting took place at Margaret Pollard's home. In December our Christmas party was held at Alison's home. Alison provided the main course and members brought puddings. (Delicious!) Our Christmas charity collection raised £22.50 which was given to the Lifeboats Institution.

The January meeting was the first of three to be held in the afternoon. This was preceded by a New Year lunch. Excellent food was provided by Jane Chandler who with assistance from husband Al also decorated the Brian Pollard room for the occasion. After lunch Peter Motley from VASL showed a video and talked about the work done by this voluntary organisation. In February Alison showed slides of Cambodia which she and her husband had visited. She gave a very interesting and informative talk about the country and people. Money raised from Pennies for Friendship was sent to the Associated Countrywomen of the World.

At the March meeting, the speaker was John Martin, his subject, Agatha Christie. Another good speaker. Also in March, four members attended the Annual Council Meeting of the Leicestershire and Rutland Federation of WIs at the grammar school in Great Glen. The speakers were Michael Vlasco who gave us the history of Trinity House, from its beginnings in the 16th century right up to the present time. Laura Bingham told us of her life as an explorer, and Hazel Coalville, Anna Welch and Anne Miller McCaffrey represented the armed forces, eloquently describing the opportunities available to women in the modern Army, Navy and Air Force. The final speaker was Gyles Brandreth, who kept us laughing all the way through his talk which was about the importance of language and communication. In March too, four members attended a High Leicestershire group meeting at Thurnby. The evening started with supper - kebabs, followed by clementines, dates and Turkish Delight, and finished with a display of belly dancing given by Roxanne and her assistant Rose. A very lighthearted evening.

The speaker in April was from the Air Ambulance service, with particular mention of the Children's Air Ambulance, an interesting and thought provoking talk.

Future meetings.

MAY A discussion and vote on the resolutions being taken to the National AGM in June,

JUNE, Lizzie Hornby, her subject, Richard 111, The man behind the myth. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings.

### **St. Andrew's Church**

**Ascension Day – Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup>.** provides a chance to mark this day by climbing the church tower. This year we are arranging for you to be able to climb the tower from 5.30pm. At 6.00pm there will be a short service to mark the Ascension of Jesus – this will be held at the top of the tower and at ground level for those who do not like heights! Refreshments to follow. **Children climbing must be accompanied by an adult.**

At the **Annual Meeting** held recently, thanks were expressed to all in the village who help in so many ways with the life of the church – arranging flowers, opening and closing the church each day, cleaning, catering and coffee duties and helping at the services. Robert Brown and Anne Bloor were elected as Churchwardens for the year. Others serving on the Church Council are Duncan Barbour, Gareth Dyer, Paul Hadfield, Nicola Langton, Heather McKinnon (Secretary), David Pease (Treasurer), Steve Rankine (Deputy Churchwarden) and Anne Warwick. The Church Council meets again on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm in the church.

**Thelma Short** died in February and her funeral was held in St Andrew's Church. Thelma had long standing Methodist Church connections and the Revd Gordon Webb, a retired Methodist Minister from Great Glen, gave the address. She had worshipped regularly in St Andrew's and she was laid to rest alongside her parents in the churchyard.

**Ian Selvey-Willars** passed away suddenly and his funeral was held in St Cuthbert's Church, Great Glen, where Ian had been a bell ringer. Local bellringers gathered and rang a quarter peal in his memory.

**Junior Tennis Sessions** start on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May at The Springs, Carlton Lane, Burton Overy. Dave Henson is kindly leading these sessions again and children are welcome to come from 5.00-6.00pm. We have racquets to borrow. Anne (259-2440)

## **Burton Overy Village Hall**

The Annual General Meeting of the Management Committee was held on 15 April 2019.

In his Annual Report, Chairman Arthur Buckley noted that the refurbishment and improvements to the Village Hall, which meant the Hall being out of action for two months in the Autumn, had been a success.

Response to the refurbishment by users both in the village and beyond has been positive and the installation of LED lighting and fans to assist with heating has reduced running costs of the Hall.

Thanks to an enthusiastic committee, successful events have included the Produce Show, the Christmas Tree Festival, the Christmas Lunch, a St Valentine's Disco and a Quiz.

The Hall committee always welcome volunteers to help with projects and organise events – participation is an enjoyable way for newcomers to get to know people in the village.

NB The Hall has facilities for both badminton and short tennis and can be booked for individual sessions for just £5 per hour (minimum charge). Contact Norma Hillas on for details.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

BLOOMING BURTON OVERY - Saturday 18 May and Sunday 19 May.

MIDSUMMER EVENT - Saturday 22 June, 7.30 pm

VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW - Friday 6 September and Saturday 7 September

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL – Friday 29 November – Sunday 1 December inclusive.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH - Sunday 8 December, 12 noon.

## **Burton Overy Friendship Club**

**Sadly we have to record the loss of two of our regular supporters.**

**Thelma Short**

**Our treasurer until recently, who died on February 11<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**And**

**Ian Selvey-Willars.**

**Husband of Heather who passed away on February 18<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**All of us in the Friendship Club will miss their presence immensely.**

In January the Coffee morning was hosted by Jo and Julian Swain at "Bunkers Hill" in front of a roaring log fire.

The February meeting was cancelled as a mark of respect.

16 attended the March meeting which was at "White House Farm"  
(Our thanks to Mr & Mrs Grant)

Future meetings planned are:

- April 18<sup>th</sup> "Kingarth Farm" (Mr & Mrs Barbour)
- May 16<sup>th</sup> "Gartree Cottage" (Patrick McArragher)
- June 20<sup>th</sup> "Thorndale Cottage" (Lynn Bayliss)
- July 18<sup>th</sup> Strawberry cream tea "Cantu" (Beadswell Lane)

Thanks once again to all our Hosts for their very kind hospitality.

The Friendship Club meets once a month, normally on the third Thursday between 10.30 until 12.00 at different venues around the village.

The Bring & Buy table and a raffle raise funds for the club's other events.

### **WE NEED NEW MEMBERS!**

The monthly Coffee mornings are for **ALL** villagers and friends of the village. And you will be made very welcome. The Club is friendly and informal. It's a great way to get to know your neighbours and meet socially for a chat over coffee and sometimes even cake. **So if you can spare just one hour, once a month, do please come along, we would love to see you.**

If you would like to receive more details and reminders of the next meeting, or if you need a lift please contact me Patrick on 259 2350, or by email

[patrick@mcarragher.com](mailto:patrick@mcarragher.com)

## Burton Overy Dancers

**Burton Overy Dancers** folk dance club enjoyed a busy winter period with regular club nights on Wednesday evenings. We held our **2019 New Year Tea Dance** on Sunday January 13 when the dance Caller was *Brian Stanton* from Worcestershire with music from the excellent band *The Falconers*, who first formed in Bromyard, Herefordshire, in 1975! On Saturday March 9 was the club's **32nd Annual Dance** when we welcomed another nationally-known Caller, *Ivan Aitken* from Reading, ably supported by the multi-talented band *Kelly's Eye* from Bedfordshire/Northamptonshire. Both events had a capacity crowd of around 60 people travelling from far and wide to dance in the Village Hall.

The club's current dancing season runs until the end of June. We hope to hold a "**Playford & Regency Night**" on June 12th, when members can don their period costumes or formal evening wear for elegant dances from the 17th and 18th centuries, with live music from club member *Jennifer Hawley* and the band *Hobson's Choice*. The **BOD Summer Party** will be held on Wednesday June 26 when we shall welcome as our visiting Callers Pauline & John Osband, from Glenfield, who were responsible for the revival of social folk dancing in Leicester some 40+ years ago! Other planned summer activities include a trip to Kilworth House Theatre to see "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" and a pub Skittles Evening. The club will take a break from dancing over the July/August period and will resume with its 2019-20 programme from September 4th.

We are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members who would like to join us in this sociable and fun activity. We dance in the Village Hall on Wednesday evenings from 8.00 to 10.00pm, with a short refreshment break halfway though. We mostly use recorded music with occasional evenings of live music, for example as detailed above. Dances are called by club members or invited visiting Callers, and all dances are fully explained and walked-through before setting them to music, and then called throughout.

Full details about these all **BOD** activities can be found on our web site at <https://burtonoverydancers.wordpress.com/>, or you can contact Peter Meacock (tel: 0116 279 3600. email: [petermeacock112@btinternet.com](mailto:petermeacock112@btinternet.com)).



 **Blooming Burton Overy, 18th & 19th May** 

All proceeds to Kidney Cancer UK, St Andrew's Church and the Village Hall

We hope you have now received the information leaflet regarding the event and you can enter a flower arrangement or a vase of flowers.

If you would like to decorate the outside of your house with a wreath, bunting, fairy lights or a hanging basket it will add to the 'Blooming Burton Overy' theme.

If anyone would like to make a scarecrow (or has one left over from the scarecrow festival) please let Jo know.

If you would like any more information please contact Sally 259 3581 or Jo 259 0086

Email: [burtonoveryff19@gmail.com](mailto:burtonoveryff19@gmail.com)



## **Christmas Tree Festival**

The CTF team are busy planning this years 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary tree festival already, hoping to build on the huge success of last years. Footfall was up and the festival made a profit of £8698.45.

An amazing achievement, made possible only with the support of so many in the village, and we genuinely thank you for all you do.

The dates for this years festival are Fri 29<sup>th</sup>, Sat 30<sup>th</sup> and Sun 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019. The CTF team are keen to support a very local charity this year and we have chosen to support The Well at Kibworth.

The Well support many people in the local community, including a dementia café, and this is great opportunity to directly help them but also promote the work they do.

Do pop the dates in your diary and we look forward to working together again this year to raise much needed funds for the charity, church and village hall.

## **Poppy Appeal**

This year's Poppy Appeal raised a fantastic **£508.27** from around the village.

Once again, many thanks to Peter Barbour and family for their efforts in collecting and for those who contributed.