



Burton overy Newsletter

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Burton overy Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Roads and Drains

As you will be aware the wet and stormy weather experienced over the last year or so has contributed to many potholes in the roads and a number of blocked drains. The worst effected area in this village is Scotland Lane. The County Council were made aware of some of the problems in Burton Overy particularly Scotland Lane many months ago. The County Council has a large backlog of notifications relating to potholes and blocked drains and priority has been given to areas where the greatest impact has been felt. I am pleased to say however that the necessary work is proposed in Scotland Lane early in May and blocked drains on Carlton Lane and on The Gravel will be attended to at the same time. With regard to the village as a whole I am informed that it is subject to a yearly inspection by the Highways Team and this is also scheduled for May.

Telephone Box Book Exchange

This is now up and running as a book exchange. Thank you to all those who have contributed books so far. There is still space for a few more books and it would be good to have some for the children. Please feel free to add or borrow books as you like. I will try to keep the shelves in some sort of order but otherwise it will run on trust and goodwill.

In the summer months the box can also be used as a produce exchange for any fruit and veg from the garden that would otherwise go to waste. Again I will keep an eye on this as any produce placed in there will need to have a quick turnaround time.

Parish Council Meetings

These usually take place on the third Wednesday of each month in the Brian Pollard room in the village hall at 7:30. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings. The agenda is normally available by the Friday preceding the meeting. You can find this on the notice board on Main Street next to Wheatridge or on the Parish Council website: burtonovery.leicestershireparishcouncils.org. The website also contains the approved minutes of previous meetings. Just click on the *minute archive* for agendas and minutes.

Email addresses

The Parish Council has previously asked parishioners if they would be willing to supply an email address to enable noteworthy or urgent parish matters to be communicated quickly. If anyone would like to be added to this list or needs to update the details we already hold please would you email burtonoverypc@gmail.com. Emails provide a low cost quick communication media for the Parish Council. The addresses are confidential and will be used to notify you of issues felt to be of interest and concern to the parish.

Fran Brown

Chairman

BURTON OVERY FRIENDSHIP CLUB

After the Christmas lunch in December which was very well supported, the first coffee morning of the New Year was hosted by Jo and Julian Swain at their home at "Bunkers Hill". In February Vicky Ryall kindly held open house at "Cantu" and in March Jennifer and Geoffrey Grant made us very welcome at their home "White House Farm".

Future meetings planned are:

April 24th a coffee morning at "The Sallows" Mary Parker's home.

May 15th a lunch has been booked at "The Waterfront" Market Harborough.

June 19th the coffee morning will be at "Gartree Cottage"

And in July we will be holding the annual "Strawberry cream tea"

The club has gained several new members – but would welcome more! It offers the opportunity to meet other villagers and friends for a friendly chat over a cup of Tea/Coffee and to catch up on village news.

The Coffee mornings are from 10.30 till 12.00 so if you can spare an hour once a month, just turn up and you will be made very welcome.

If you would like further details contact Thelma Short on 259 2137
Or Jean Harris on 259 2251

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Our first village New Year's Eve Party was a really enjoyable night and because the village ladies prepared the food the event raised over £1000 towards the upkeep of the Hall.

This has been well spent as we now have a reliable and cost effective new heating system.

Even better news is that it can be controlled using just 2 buttons in the main hall!

Thanks to Karl for hosting our first Valentine Quiz which raised £140. The next quiz will be on Saturday May 17th. Full details will be with you shortly.

Another date for your diary is the Midsummer Ball which will be held on Saturday 21st June.

Recently we enjoyed a return performance from the evergreen Brian York. This was another super evening. Brian is a true professional and it is a shame that 25 seats remained unsold.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported our 100 club again. The draws for the first 3 months will be held at the committee meeting on April 14th. Results will be in the Hall section of the village website. Good luck.

It's hard to believe that summer is already round the corner and Graham Thompson and his team are already making preparations for our village show which will be held this year on Saturday 6th September.

As always the Hall Committee are always seeking volunteers and the position of secretary is currently open.

If you would like to join the Committee, (just 4 meetings a year) then please contact us at burtonoveryvillagehall@gmail.com

JIGSAWS

We still have some jigsaws left of St Andrews church looking beautiful in spring! £9.00 each. The money raised has been pledged to the DWB fund we just need to clear our stock now!

Contact Sally Muir to purchase.

VILLAGE LEAFLET AND LOCAL MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION

We all receive a number of communications on a regular basis. The Kibworth Chronicle, Glen Sence, Church and Village Hall flyers etc. It takes 3 hours to deliver to each property in the village and there are volunteers who have made this commitment for many years. Those volunteers are not getting any younger!

It has therefore been proposed that if we had 10 households (that includes teenagers!) who could take on an average of just 12 deliveries nobody would have to spent more than 20 minutes to deliver their share.

It would also be possible to coordinate the delivery of items which need to go out at the sane time thus avoiding duplicate treks around the village.

The Village Hall Committee will organise the breakdown of "rounds" so that anyone who needs to distribute anything will just have to drop of the correct number to each of the 10 volunteers.

Please help by volunteering. Simply drop an email to the village hall address above.

VILLAGE SHOW

Show this year will be held on Saturday 6 September, open to the public 2.30pm-4.30pm £1 adults 50p children

Entries received:- Friday 5th 5.30-7pm and Saturday & 9.00 -11.45am (50p each entry but entrants get free pass to the Show)

The village show is a great tradition in the village but we need YOUR ENTRY to make the show great.

Watch out for the list of entries which will be delivered to the village nearer the time.

Sale of produce at the end of the show.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

The church holds its AGM on 15th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. At that meeting we will elect churchwardens and DCC members and receive the annual accounts and other reports. At the AGM we will say thank you to 2 of our current DCC who have decided not to stand for re-election, namely Joan Stephens and Rebecca Broughton. Joan has served on the council for more than 20 years and Rebecca for more than 5 years. We are very grateful indeed to both Joan and Rebecca for all the leadership and commitment which they have shown to the work of the church. Each will continue to be involved on the various rotas as now and so we will not lose their valuable contribution, but we wish to record our gratitude to them both for their service to the Church Council. Two new candidates will be standing for election to the DCC. They are Steve Rankine of Corner Thatch and Anne Warwick of Linden.

During the interregnum we have been well served by a series of very good visiting priests. We are pleased to report that the Area Synod is recommending to the Bishop that we retain a full post in this Benefice. Their original intention had been to recommend a half post but they have been persuaded to change their proposal. If the Bishop endorses this proposal, as expected, we can advertise immediately for a replacement. The new vicar would be mainly concerned to build up St Cuthbert's and would spend 90% of his/her time there. We however would have all our services led as before. We have also committed to work more closely with the Oadby Churches with a view to our new vicar becoming part of a team ministry with the vicars in Oadby in due course.

We would like to thank the many people who offer their time and energy to help with the life of the church. From winding the clock each week, and the opening and closing of the church each day to the manning of the church rotas, musicians and vocalists, and to those who help provide lunches, refreshments and flowers. Not forgetting those who help by cleaning the inside of the church and keeping the churchyard tidy. We thank you all for your continuing support.

The annual visits from Launde School in inner-city Leicester to Craig and Nicola's farm were another huge success this spring. A small child was heard to say to one of the teachers 'Can we do this again tomorrow!' Our harvest collection which finances the transport for these trips is well spent.

Church Repairs

The extensive repairs to the Church roof commenced in early April and are likely to be completed by the end of July. The organ has been encased so that dust will not get in to the pipes and we shall be reliant on the electronic keyboard until the work is completed.

The commencing work will be the erection of extensive scaffolding both outside and inside the church and roof covering. The scaffolding will be alarmed. The Chancel and Lady Chapel will be curtained off. Services will continue in the Church with a nave altar. The church will be locked except during hours when the contractors are there and times of services.

Apologies to those who use the Church for private prayer. However a key can be obtained from Robert Brown 259-3184, Peter Stephens 259-2210 or Richard Bloor 259-2440.

Once again, grateful thanks to so many who have given so generously to enable these repairs to proceed.

Church Break in (or break out!)

Recently one of the windows next to the South Porch was smashed and seriously damaged. Some of the food left for the institutions for the homeless was eaten and a mess made in Church. The Police are investigating and say the fingerprints indicate that someone did the damage while trying to get out of the Church. This would tie in with the fact that the Church is locked overnight and it would appear that whoever is responsible went into the Church while it was unlocked and was then locked in overnight.

The police are continuing their investigations and any one who sees anything suspicious around the church is asked to notify one of the Churchwardens. Fortunately we are insured for the damage to the window but there is a £500 excess.

BURTON OVERY WORLD WAR ONE COMMEMORATION EVENT

AUGUST 3rd 2014

Plans are continuing to mark the 100th anniversary of the commencement of World War 1 and how it affected Burton Overy. Much research is being undertaken to try to find out more about the 8 men from the village who gave their lives between 1914 and 1918 so that their stories can be shared at the commemoration service which is being held in St Andrews Church at 3pm on Sunday August 3rd 2014. The service will be a chance to reflect on the events of a hundred years ago and hear some WW1 poetry, and also to join in with the singing of community WW1 songs. The service will be followed by an afternoon tea in the village hall with a different focus on the war.

To mark the fallen 8 villagers, there will be 8 sites around the village planted with poppies which will hopefully be in bloom for the event.

Burton Overy Parish Council have very kindly supported this event and more details will be available shortly.

A GUIDED WALK OF BURTON OVERY

On Saturday, 9th August members of Vaughan Archaeological and History Society will visit the village for a guided walk. Some members of Burton Overy Society will walk with them and anyone else who would like to come will be very welcome.

We shall meet outside the Church at 2.30 pm. Any queries, telephone 2592260 - Mary Parker

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Junior tennis will start on Wednesday, 7th May for the summer term. Beginners and early stages from 5.00 to 6.00pm and improvers from 6.00 to 7.00pm. – at The Springs, Carlton Lane – crisps and drinks available after the exercise!

Thanks to Dave and Craig who are giving their time to coach the youngsters. Adults who want a game are welcome to come at 7.00pm.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The 2013 Christmas Tree Festival, our 14th, was a resounding success, achieving a total profit of £9,200, an increase of more than £400 on last year.

£2,000 of the amount went to the Village Hall, the remainder to St Andrew's Church.

The organising committee are, as always, hugely grateful to everyone who helped to make the event so successful and so enjoyable.

There were 57 tree entries. Visitor numbers were approximately the same as last year (4,363), and the trees received a total of 2,182 votes.

Winners in the adult section were:

1st. Quite Quickly Quilted, by the Burton Overy Sewing Group;

2nd Tree of Knowledge, by Heather and Angus MacKinnon

3rd Yule Logs, by Craig and Nicola Langton.

In the Junior Section, the winners were:

1st The Enchanted Forest, by Stanley, Olivia and Anna Cockerill;

2nd Stoneygate's Lav-a-Tree, by Stoneygate School

3rd We're having a CRACKING Christmas, by Laurie and Lottie King.

The layout of the trees and decoration of the church was masterminded by Judy Rollin, whose imaginative use of the scaffolding erected to deal with the Death Watch Beetle, produced a Bethlehem crib scene, complete with a star overhead, and was much admired.

Congratulations to all winners and thanks to everyone who entered and helped to maintain the very high standard – visitors often comment on the imagination, ingenuity and decorative skills of the display.

DATES FOR THE 2014 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL WILL BE:

Friday December 5, Saturday December 6 and Sunday December 7.

Note: The 2013 Festival proceeds went to the church in order to swell the Death Watch Beetle funds. For this year's Festival, A N Other charity will be nominated, and will receive a percentage of the total profits. The committee will decide on the charity later in the year, but if you would like to nominate a charity, either local or national, please let Joan Stephens know. (0116 259 2210).

BURTON OVERY FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB.

The Flower and Garden Club held its Annual General Meeting on April 3, when the short business meeting was followed by a demonstration of a small table arrangement using spring flowers, by Beryl Connolly, one of our own members.

Having admired Beryl's skills, members were then provided with flowers, greenery, Oasis and a container to make their own table centrepieces. The variations on the theme were interesting and attractive.

Membership fees (£10 per annum) were due at this meeting and with a majority of existing members renewing membership, and several new recruits paying up too, the Club is now solvent again.

Outings, on the first Thursday of each month, are organised from May – September, and this year include visits to Rothley, Burley on the Hill, Husband's Bosworth, and, closer to home, Gaulby.

Visitors are welcome, both at meetings and for outings.

During the year, Club members have continued to provide flowers in church on a regular basis, and have provided decorations for special occasions such as Easter, Harvest Festival and Christmas.

Members also provided the background decoration for the Christmas Tree Festival, under the expert direction of Judy Rollin, whose clever transformation of the scaffolding put up for the Death Watch Beetle repairs into the Bethlehem stable., was much admired by villagers and visitors alike.

Anyone interested in joining the club, taking part in outings or in the church flower arranging rota, is welcome to contact Joan Stephens, 0116 259 2210.

BURTON OVERY DANCERS

Our New Years Day ramble turned out to be a very wet guided walk round some of the lesser known parts of Great Glen. This was led by Heather who also hosted our usual bring and share lunch at her house. On Sunday 5th January we held a Celebration tea dance to celebrate no less than nine birthdays in January (including a 70th and a 75th). The dance was such a success that a similar event is proposed for 4th January 2015.

The annual lunch was held on 16th February at the Oadby Bowls club, a new venue for this event but one we shall use again.

The 27th annual dance was held on 1st March, Victoria Yeomans was mistress of ceremonies and Dave Yeomans and Caroline Bunting played the music. The usual excellent supper was enjoyed during the interval.

We have met every Wednesday during January, February and March (8:00 pm in the Village Hall) with guest callers for six of those evenings.

New members are always welcome and those who have joined us recently are learning the dances very quickly.

More information from John or Margaret on jandmpollard@gmail.com or 'phone 2592406.

VILLAGE WEBSITE

A new feature on the website is, 'Burton Overy in the News'. This contains links to articles appearing in the press concerning the village. You may be surprised how often this happens. From last year there were several articles concerning the proposed wind turbines and more recently we have 'Anne scales mountain that defeated Robbie'. If you want to find out more, visit the website and follow the 'In The News' link.

www.leicestershirevillages.com/burtonovery