



# ***Burton Overy***

## ***Newsletter***

*Issue No. 66*  
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*Sponsored by*  
*Burton Overy Parish Council*

## **Parish Council**

### **Precept**

We have requested an increase in the precept for the next financial year of £1,000 bringing the amount for 2016/2017 to £5,000. The precept is the amount of money requested by the Parish Council from Harborough District Council. The money is a grant to the Parish to enable it to carry on its work and it is raised through the council tax. The precept has been increasing in recent years to enable the Parish Council to keep pace with the changes in Local Government and the additional requirements and responsibilities being placed on parishes. The Parish Council's financial information including details as to how the money is spent is available to view on the Parish Council website [www.burtonovery.leicestershireparishcouncils.org](http://www.burtonovery.leicestershireparishcouncils.org). There is a host of other information available on the website, including the minutes archive for Parish Council meetings.

### **Clean For The Queen**

We had a very successful morning on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March litter picking in the Parish. Over 30 enthusiastic and hard working volunteers took part on the day with others doing their bit at other times. Over 50 bags of rubbish were collected as well as sundry large items such as car tyres and even an old office chair! Many thanks to all those involved for all the hard work. Thanks also to Sarah and Dean at The Bell for allowing the pub car park to be used for the storage and collection of the rubbish. (See photos on the website).

### **Vista**

This is a charity that supports sight loss. Established in 1858 it is the leading provider of services for the blind and partially sighted in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. As well as providing support and care for people with sight loss, it aims to promote eye health to prevent sight loss. The charity is bringing its mobile information vehicle to Burton Overy on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016 between 1:30 and 3:15. It will be parked on Main Street close to Higher House.

### **Dog Owners**

It's that special time of year again when the fields around Burton Overy are full of lambs. Chasing by dogs can do serious damage to sheep and lambs, even if the dog doesn't catch them. The advice from the National Sheep Association is that dogs should be kept on a lead around livestock even if you can usually trust it to come to call. Lots more information and advice is available from the Association website: [www.nationalsheep.org.uk](http://www.nationalsheep.org.uk).

Fran Brown

Chairman

## **Burton Overy Neighbourhood Plan Community Event**

Please make a note in your diaries, tablets or smart phones.

Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup> 10am to 1pm at Burton Overy Village Hall.

The morning event will be a very informal walk in session to bring everyone up to speed with progress so far and to get more people involved

There will be interactive displays to gain more feedback from the community, as well as an opportunity to get involved with themed groups covering everything from Housing Development to Open Green Spaces.

You'll also be able to see the results of the recent Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire.

Hope to see as many of you as possible.

Mark Firth, Parish Councillor.

## **Women's Institute**

Members enjoyed a delightful evening at Alison Tasker's home in December. We ate delicious food and the company was good! Money raised in our Christmas collection was sent to Great Ormond Street Hospital to be used towards their project providing accommodation for visiting parents.

In January Phyllis Hallam was given a posy to celebrate the Gold Badge award which she had received for 50 years service to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute. This was followed by a quiz organised by Pauline Wells.

After the usual business meeting in February, there was a session of old fashioned games followed by a supper of starters provided by members.

We went on an outing to Farndon Fields in March, this culminated in an enjoyable afternoon tea.

The Leicestershire and Rutland Annual Council Meeting being held at Leicester Grammar School on March 12th has proved very popular. Each institute was allocated 5 tickets, and a ballot was held to select the lucky 5. Jane Spikings was our delegate. The speaker this year was Michael Portillo.

The April meeting will be a craft evening, in May we welcome a speaker from Boots (cosmetics) and in June, Anne King will talk about the Red Cross.

## **Burton Overy Friendship Club**

Since the last newsletter the monthly coffee morning meetings have continued as usual and have been well supported.

On November 12<sup>th</sup> the coffee morning was held at "The Springs" by Mr & Mrs Bloor.

The Christmas lunch was held on Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup> at "The Crown Inn" Tur Langton where 16 of us enjoyed a really excellent meal.

The first meeting of 2016 was on January 20<sup>th</sup> at "Bunkers Hill", our thanks to Jo and Julian Swain

February's meeting was kindly hosted by Jennifer and Geoffrey Grant at "White House Farm".

And in March the meeting will be held at "Cantu", the home of Vicky Ryall.

Future meetings are planned as follows:

April 14<sup>th</sup> at "The Sallows" with Mary Parker

May 19<sup>th</sup> at "Thorndale Cottage" with Bill and Lynn Bayliss

June 16<sup>th</sup> at "Gartree Cottage" the home of Patrick McArragher

July 21<sup>st</sup> The Strawberry and Cream Tea

August 18<sup>th</sup> Venue to be arranged

Later this year in September or October (thanks to sponsorship by the Village Charity) it is hoped to bring back the annual coach outing which was last run in 2008 - suggestions of possible places to go within about 40 miles would be very welcome!

Thank again to all our Hosts for their very kind hospitality.

The Friendship Club meets normally on the third Thursday of each month at 10.30 in different venues around the village. All villagers, old and new, and friends of the village 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 please come along, we would love to see you!

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

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

The Club's first meeting in 2016 will be on Thursday April 14, when the speaker will be local garden designer Chris Gutteridge (you can hear him on the Radio Leicester gardening programme).

Chris has designed gardens for the Hampton Court Garden show, as well as for individual clients, both locally and elsewhere in the UK. His illustrated talk will be on garden designs both large and small.

Visitors welcome. 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Outings for the coming season are arranged for Coton Manor in May, Burley on the Hill in June, Wymondham in July, Knighton Sensory Garden in August, and Gaddesby in September.

The Coton Manor trip will be an afternoon visit on Thursday May 5 - the bluebells will be out in their spectacular glory.

Visitors will be welcome to join us. Admission fee £6. Contact Joan Stephens (259 2210) for details.

The speaker at the October meeting will be Mrs Ann Bird, former President of the Royal National Rose Society.

Flower Club members continue to provide flowers in St Andrew's Church, both on a regular weekly basis and for festivals such as Easter and Harvest. They also help with the background décor for the Christmas Tree Festival.

New members welcome: membership is a mere £10 a year and we are a lively and friendly group.

## **Farm Visits**

Craig and Nicola are hosting two school visits from Uplands Infant School again this year. As you may know the collection from the Harvest Festival service last autumn raised around £300 which will be used to help fund the buses to bring around 120 pupils to the farm over the two days.

If anyone wishes to come and take part on these two mornings they are more than welcome. The dates are Tuesday 12th April and Thursday 14th April, 10 am to 1.30 pm.

## **BOPS**

Burton Overy Photographic Society continues to thrive.

As we enter our tenth year in September, the group continues to enjoy capturing images of all sorts. We are not a school of photography but we learn by sharing ideas and experiences. We certainly have improved our photographic skills, which can be seen at our annual exhibition at the Village Show.

If anyone in the village is interested in joining the group, we meet in the Village Hall on Thursday evenings, on approximately nine occasions, spread over the year.

We often adjourn to the Bell after our meetings, where we discuss the finer points of image making, amongst other matters!

We are quite competitive and below are the winners of the various categories of competition during last year.

### **2015 Most Theme 1st Places;**

This was shared with 2 wins each between:

Alison Handford, Sue Tuxford and Brian Tuxford

### **2015 Photograph of the Year:**

1st Charles Ford - Winter/Snow

2nd Sue Tuxford - Recreate Old Photo

3rd Alison Handford - Food

### **2015 Photographer of the Year**

1st Brian Tuxford

2nd Alison Handford

3rd Sue Tuxford

**Contact:** [BOPS.Committee@gmail.com](mailto:BOPS.Committee@gmail.com)

**Website:** <http://sites.google.com/site/bopsweb>

## **Village Hall**

A big thank you to everyone who supported, either by helping to prepare or attending, the New Year's Eve Ball. It was a super evening's entertainment and on Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our Midsummer Ball in the Hall.

Reserve the date in your diary, get a party together with friends and watch out for the flyer for booking information.

Excitement is brewing for the next Village Hall Quiz which is on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April with Carl hosting the event. A fish and chip supper will be available (£6.50 + £2 for the quiz), but must be booked by 9pm on the evening before. No need to book if you are just attending the quiz (£2). Numbers by text to 07901 855799 or email [burtonoveryvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:burtonoveryvillagehall@gmail.com).

We already have a good number of entries. Don't worry if you can't arrange a team as we can sort that out on the night.

For newcomers to the village this is an ideal way of getting to know a few people.

The 2016 "100 Club" draw for the first 4 months will be held at the quiz. There are still 4 numbers available – 21, 52, 73 and 76. To buy any of these numbers please email [burtonoveryvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:burtonoveryvillagehall@gmail.com). The cost is £24 for entry into 12 draws with prizes of £60, £30 and £10 each month.

## **Village Hall AGM**

This year's AGM will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm in the Hall. The financial situation and items relevant to the running of the Hall will be discussed.

The Hall Committee are always looking for support to assist in the organisation of events. If you would like to register as a volunteer please email to the address above. This would not necessarily be a commitment to committee life but merely an opportunity to help on an ad hoc basis at certain events during the year.

## **Wheelie Bins**

This is not a tale about the withdrawal of the green wheelie bins without an additional charge by Harborough District Council, but something quite different.

On a sunny day towards the end of last year I was walking Milo our Bedlington Terrier, when I rounded the corner into Rectory End to see a resident shovelling some debris into a black bin. I presumed that this was the remnants or some recent tree surgery to the trees outside the village hall. To my surprise it was nothing of the sort. It was in fact the remains of green wheelie bins that had "spontaneously combusted".

Apparently green grass cuttings, possibly aided by the unseasonal warm weather, had caused enough heat to ignite and destroy the bins which had been placed out for the usual collection. So these bins really were FIRED, or burnt.

Steve Kirk.

## **Burton Overy Dancers**

The club was busy over the Christmas-New Year season with several social and dancing activities. As is customary, we entered a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival in St Andrews Church; our theme was "Shepherd's Delight", the title of a popular country dance. Members wrote the names of their individual favourite country dances onto cartoons of sheep, which were then used to decorate the tree. Also members met together socially on New Year's Day for a morning walk followed by a shared lunch and afternoon quizzes.

In addition to our regular Club Nights, so far this year the club has held two special dances featuring live bands and dance Callers of national recognition. The first was a Tea Dance on Sunday January 10th when the Caller was Mr Roy Garrington, a long-time club member, with the band "Belzebub". The second was the club's 29th Annual Dance on Saturday March 5th with Caller Mr John Meechan and band "Narrow Escape". Both occasions were great fun with over 60 people dancing to fabulous live music .

The club meets regularly each Wednesday evening in the Village Hall from September to the end of June, starting at 8.00pm. We dance a mixture of English country and courtly (Playford) style dances along with American square and contra formation dances.

We welcome new members of all abilities who want to learn and enjoy country dancing. For more information please visit our new web site at URL, <https://burtonoverydancers.wordpress.com/> where our current programme of dancing and social activities can be found, or contact the Chairman, Peter Meacock (email: [petermeacock112@btinternet.com](mailto:petermeacock112@btinternet.com); tel 0116 279 3600)

## **Boden**

There will be a Boden shopping event on Saturday 7th May, 10-4 in The Village Hall. 20% off all orders. Lots of other stalls. Tea coffee and cake served. Raffle. All money raised to The Alzheimers Society

Anyone who would like a stall contact Sally Muir 2593581

## **Crafts & Coffee at Cantu**

In aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016**  
**10.00am – 2.30pm** at Cantu, Beadswell Lane, Burton Overy.  
Including items in Leather and Wood.



## **Burton Overy Christmas Tree Festival**

Our Christmas Tree Festival held during the first weekend in December notched up another wonderfully successful event, with the profits of just over £8,000 shared between the Church, the Village Hall and the British Heart Foundation.

More than 1,460 people came to view the display of 57 trees in the Church – the highest number since 2009. Judy Rollins' inspired décor on the theme of While Shepherds Watched, drew much praise, with several people commenting that it was the best the church has ever looked.

New lighting on a tree on the Rectory End corner of the churchyard was a welcome addition and the fact that many villagers put up their Christmas lights in time for the Festival added to the warmth of our traditional Burton Overy welcome.

The stalls in the Village Hall included traditional favourites as well as some newcomers and raised a grand total of £4,966. This included the Raffle total of £1,881, thanks to the colourful display of excellent prizes plus efficient ticket selling, while refreshment sales raised £1,687, proving that the popularity of Burton Overy baking remains undiminished.

In the Adult Section of the Christmas tree entries the winners were Zoe Williamson and Louisa Rawlings with Let There Be Light (bulbs!); second place was taken by Lizzie King with From Rags to Riches; and third place was taken by Snowy, entered by Norma Hillas.

In the Children's Section, the winners were St Cuthbert's Primary School in Great Glen, with You Shall Go to the Bauble; second place was taken by Thomas, Edward and Oliver Baldwin, with We're Dreaming of a Lego Christmas; third place was taken by the Cockerill family, with The Force Awakens.

Sue Tuxford attended a Christmas service in St Cuthbert's Church in order to present the primary school winners with a glass engraved trophy – a first time presentation this year.

As chairman of the Festival organising committee, Sue would like to thank everyone in the village who contributed to the event. As always, village help and support is invaluable in achieving the success of the event.

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATES FOR THE 2016 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

**DECEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.**

The committee would welcome suggestions for the charity to be nominated for a share of the 2016 Festival proceeds. Contact Sue Tuxford (0116 259 2705; e-mail [sue.tuxford@gmail.com](mailto:sue.tuxford@gmail.com)) to put forward your favourite charity.

## **Church News**

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OF YOU!

I hope this note finds you all enjoying the beginnings of Spring! I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you to all of you in Burton Overy. Over the last year and a bit it has been such a great joy getting to know so many of you. Also to all of those who give so much in making all of the events at the church run so smoothly. I can't thank you enough.

We have just had our second annual Palm Sunday donkey walk and it was lovely to have the two donkeys and two Shetland ponies (thanks to Peter Hockenhall) as part of our service. It was a really lovely day with the walk, the bacon sandwiches, a service (where the ponies joined us) and donkey rides after. We had a wonderful time on a special day remembering all that Christ has done for us. It is always good to have a visual reminder of the events that unfolded this week over 2,000 years ago. Hope you can join us for our Easter morning celebrations!

In other church news, over the next few months we are hoping to make some small changes to the interior of the church to make it a place for all of you and others to come and use. We are redoing the children's corner to make it brighter and more 'user' friendly space. A new carpet has been put in and new equipment and toys should soon follow. Also in the corner behind the organ we will soon be creating a prayer space. We are hoping to add a candleholder where you will be able to come and light a candle as you pray or to remember a loved one. It is our wish to create a reflective quiet space for those who wish to pray or just contemplate. In the same corner there will be a prayer box. If you have a prayer in your heart that you would like us to pray, please write it on the slip of paper and every Wednesday morning as we pray for both Great Glen and Burton Overy we will lift your prayer with ours.

I hope you will be able to take advantage of some of the small changes we are in the process of making. If there is any way the church, or I, can be of any help or any ideas you might have please do feel free to share them with us. I wish you all many blessings now and always.

Kim Ford (Vicar)

## **Church AGM**

Everyone is most welcome to attend the church AGM which will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 21st April at 7.30pm.

At this meeting we will elect our church wardens for the next year as well as the members of the DCC. We will also receive our annual accounts which will be presented by our treasurer, David Pease and hear about the latest developments in the fabric work to our church. We are currently engaged in substantial works of repair to the church tower. Richard Bloor will be updating us on the progress of this work. Everyone is most welcome. Please come along if you can.

## **Leicester Cathedral**

Leicester Cathedral has extended an invitation to the parishes of our two deaneries to visit on **SUNDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

The programme is scheduled to commence at 2pm with groups touring the cathedral. This will be followed by Choral Evensong at 3pm. During refreshments there will be a talk led by the Dean, the Very Reverend David Monteith, with further tours of the cathedral offered at 4.15pm before departure at 5pm.

This is the opportunity for parish members to learn about the life of the cathedral and to see what has been achieved following the re- interment of Richard III.

If interested in attending please contact Heather MacKinnon on hevmac@hotmail.com or 0116 259-0141 by 30th April.

## **Website**

[www.leicestershirevillages.com/burtonovery](http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/burtonovery)

As mentioned in previous newsletters the website will, from August, will no longer be funded by Harborough Council and so will cease to exist in its current format. There are plans for it to continue, but as yet nothing is definitive. Since the next newsletter will be out in the autumn, after August, it will hopefully inform you about the new website and all its new features. Until then, why not take the opportunity to visit the current version of the website before it disappears.