

The Fulbrook News

Our Quarterly Newsletter

September 2020

Number 82



John Hoyle on 12th August when he invited a few neighbours to celebrate the 50th anniversary of he and his wife Anne moving into East View Cottage, Meadow Lane on 12th August 1970.

Sadly, Anne was not able to join us as she is now in Rosebank Care Home in Bampton suffering from dementia.

A note from the Editorial Committee

We apologise that this issue of The Fulbrook News is a little later than usual. We aim to distribute during the first week of the month but Burford School, who print it for us, was closed for the summer holidays until the first week of September.

Many of our regular contributors still have nothing to send us due to coronavirus so this issue again looks rather different from usual. Please bear with us until the situation returns to some sort of normality.

WANTED for publication! Please send us your articles, comments, ideas, letters, poems, whatever. This is your Newsletter – please send contributions to our email address: fulbrooknews@gmail.com

Next Issue: December 2020, Copy Date – Monday 16th November 2020

The Fulbrook News is distributed free to every household in the village. Subscription copies are available by post at £5.00 per annum from the distribution office at Dolphin House, Westhall Hill, OX18 4BJ

Dear Readers,

CONGRATULATIONS to the village for 20 years of the Fulbrook Newsletter – an outcome of the village appraisal in 2000. Be sure to have a look at the 20th Anniversary feature on page 8, and the Conversation with David Woolley, one of the original editors, on page 6. Who could have anticipated in 2000 that 20 years later there would have been such a strange and confusing year? As a village we have thankfully remained relatively unscathed by Covid-19 but it has still brought particular pressure on all those working, with children, those more vulnerable through age or other health conditions and local businesses. As we head towards autumn and winter, we cannot be sure what there is yet before us, but we can do so safe in the knowledge that we are blessed to live in a village where people are willing and able to help one another. The parish council and the church have networks which have worked well so far in helping us to support each other in many different ways – please make use of these if you need to – or tell others that help is available if needed. Contact the parish council through any of your councillors (contact details on page 3) or the churchwardens (contact details on page 15).

Although the rhythm of usual village social activities has been disturbed we hope we will be able to re-introduce more of these as the year goes on - wouldn't it be wonderful if we could have even a few people singing carols round the village? – ideas are always welcome. Keep your eyes open on notice boards in the village for news too. However, the church is now open again for services (see the church news on page 15).

Congratulations to Sam and Rebecca Meek in Beech Grove on the birth of their new baby boy, Rory, born on 24th June, a brother for Dylan. Congratulations also to Zoe Alexander (granddaughter of Brian and Myndeg Alexander of Upper End) and Edward Thomas who will be married in Fulbrook Church on October 3rd. Congratulation too, to Penny Sturgis and Tim Messom of The Rickyard whose marriage will be blessed in the church on October 6th.

We offer our sincere condolences to the families of those who have recently passed away. The father of Maurice Eldridge who died on 25/02/20; Reginald Eaves of Meadow End who died on 05/03/20 and whose ashes are interred in the garden of remembrance in the churchyard. Joyce Richford, my own dear Mum, who died on 11/06/20 at the Cotswold Home where my Dad still lives; Keith Slater of Orchard Row who died suddenly on 30/07/20; Anna Adshead, daughter-in-law to Sally Radcliffe who died in Coromandel, New Zealand. May they rest in peace.

We are sorry to hear that the post office and newsagent in Burford is closing in October as the building has been sold to create an extension to the Bull Hotel. We very much hope that negotiations will be successful and that both of these much needed services will be relocated elsewhere in Burford.

Diana Brown passes on this warning having received some strange unsolicited seeds as a 'gift' in the post from Singapore: *If you receive seeds that you have not ordered please DO NOT open the packet, plant them or dispose of them in the rubbish. These potentially represent a biosecurity risk. Instead please email planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk and they will give you instructions on how to send the seeds to them so they can be safely destroyed.*

We know that you still value this little mag and we thank the generous donors who have secured funding for the next two years, and the small team of volunteers who produce and deliver it. However, this is your magazine, and we always welcome contributions – news, articles, snippets - that are of interest to villagers, and volunteers to help at any time!

Lyn Bibbings Burns

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**FULBROOK, OXFORDSHIRE
PARISH COUNCIL**

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Mike Thompson 07849 192612

Malcolm Taylor 07788 391665

Parish Clerk:

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- On the matter of speeding traffic, we are confident that we can install another ‘vehicle activated speed sign’ on the western (Burford) side of the village. We have the funds in place and are presently looking at options and legalities;
- Have you noticed any impact of the Burford lorry ban? Are you finding it easier to walk over Burford bridge? Is the A361 any quieter?
- With regards to climate change, the parish council is thinking about a small grants scheme to help fund assessment of individual houses for energy efficiency. The information would help residents understand what they have to do to future proof their homes. Do you think this is a good idea?
- Finally, whilst nearly all dog owners are responsible people who love both their pets and our environment, there has been a bit of an increase in owners failing to clear up the poo. Please ensure this is done.

FULBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

On behalf of my fellow councillors, we continue to wish you well during these challenging times. Whilst direction from central government means that formal (physical) meetings of the Parish Council remain suspended, we do hold Zoom meetings on a regular basis to ensure we are meeting our responsibilities to you.

Please be aware that you are not only invited, but encouraged to join in as observers to our parish council Zoom meetings. For dates and details, please contact our parish clerk on: clerk@fulbrookvillage.net.

Here are some of the ideas, actions, and plans your councillors have at present. We would welcome your feedback and comments:

- The children’s playground in Meadow End has now re-opened. Given that the council cannot supervise or monitor usage, we urge users and parents to be sensible and respect all necessary social distancing and hand hygiene rules. In effect, just follow the well-publicised government guidelines;
- Can we ask you to look at the grass verges post-Gigaclear and let us know if grass remains damaged, or if any areas need re-seeding. To be fair, Gigaclear were re-seeding during the hottest part of the year so seeds didn’t stand the best chance! If you think some wild flowers sown in with the seeds is a good idea, let us know;
- We are in positive communication with Thames Valley Police regarding Community Speedwatch so the chances of this being revived are quite good (but matters are on hold during lockdown);

**Don’t forget the website:
www.fulbrookvillage.net**

Peter Burns, Acting Chair of Fulbrook Parish Council

From the Parish Clerk:

Please note the new email address for Kim Kekwick the Parish Clerk is: clerk@fulbrookvillage.net and her mobile number is 07792 020903.

The Parish Clerk sends out a weekly e-mail to those who ask for it, detailing events in the village, planning applications and other information from West Oxfordshire District Council. If you would like to be added to this list please e-mail clerk@fulbrookvillage.net

*Kim Kekwick
Parish Clerk*

THE FULBROOK FORUM

All meetings of the Fulbrook Forum since March and all future meetings have been cancelled until further notice due to the coronavirus lockdown.

If you would like a notification of when we are able to resume our meetings please e-mail fulbrookforum@gmail.com to join our mailing list.

Meetings take place at 3pm on the first Thursday of the month in the Fulbrook Meeting Place at the back of Fulbrook Church. All welcome, no membership required. A donation of £2 please which includes refreshments.

Oliver Sharpley

HISTORY GROUP

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone all meetings of the History Group due to the lockdown restrictions.

We will let you know when we are able to resume.

Laurence Balbes

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH, September 2020 Safer Communities, Safer Fulbrook

LOCAL ACTIVITY UPDATE

This newsletter's round up is a somewhat random collective of all that is going on in the world of Neighbourhood Watch – hopefully something in here to inform you and brighten your day!

Do not buy at the door – thank you.

The Nottingham Knockers have been around and about Fulbrook of late. The recommendation is to send them on their way, politely stating that you do not buy at the door. Remember they could just be checking your property out for a return visit! Keep your house and car keys out of sight.

Say No to scam and nuisance calls.

Apply for a free call blocker from the Friends Against Scams website today:

www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/blocker

This is a government funded initiative and supported by the National Trading Standards Scams team. Units are available on a first come first served basis. Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions units will be posted out to consumers who can self-install only; currently it is not possible for an engineer to visit to carry out the installation.

There's safety in neighbours.

As lockdown eases in the UK, TVP are sadly expecting a rise in burglaries. To raise awareness and encourage neighbours to look out for each other a new awareness campaign 'Safety in Neighbours' has been launched. It has been designed to grab young people's attention in the hope that they can play a larger role in communities especially as many

of them are out and about in the evenings. If you have children/grandchildren please encourage them to engage.

Co-op encourages continued neighbourliness.

With restrictions easing for many, how do we ensure that neighbourliness does not leave with lockdown? The Co-op is supporting a study on what it takes to be a good neighbour. Initial findings include the following:

- Keep in touch: pop round for a socially distanced brew, pick up the phone for a chat
- Give a wave: a wave shows you care; it helps people to feel more connected
- Lend a helping hand: see if a vulnerable neighbour needs a hand with anything

We see plenty of examples of this in Fulbrook and there are many kindnesses that are often quietly undertaken. Let's continue to look out for each other. These times have certainly shown the good there is in man.

Online Shopping Fraud

Almost 34% of retail sales in May were carried out online with many consumers saying they will not now return to their old shopping habits. This is fertile ground for online scammers so please be aware. Action Fraud received over 16,000 reports relating to online and auction fraud during lockdown with over £16m losses.

That said, we all make mistakes and the scammers can be incredibly convincing. If you think you have made a purchase on a bogus website, take a note of the website address and close down your internet browser. Please report the details to Action Fraud and contact your bank to seek their guidance and advice. If you have provided personal or bank account details, keep an eye on your bank transactions – fraudulent withdrawals can often start with just small amounts. Be vigilant.

www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime

Crimestoppers: report information anonymously

If you have seen something, or know of something, that is going on in our community and you think the police should know but are worried about speaking out it's easy to pass on the information.

Visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org or ring 0800 555 111. Your anonymity is 100% guaranteed. Nobody will know you have helped to keep your community safe.

Think Before You Dial
When you find yourself in need of contacting the police, do you know the best way to get in touch?

999 should only be used in emergency situations; when a life is in danger or a crime is happening right now.

To speak to the police about anything else, you should call 101.

Crime cannot flourish in a community that cares; let's do our bit to keep our Fulbrook and our neighbours secure.

*Jim MacAllan, Email: jimmacallan@aol.com
Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator for Fulbrook*

**Here is the latest poem from our resident poet
John Hoyle:**

And now abideth hope

We're lost amid a universe
Of interacting forces
Not understanding anything
Beyond our mean resources.

No love nor liking binds us
Nor ranks or rancours part.
We are adrift and lonely
And fear we may lose heart.

We need to pull together,
To find a sense of purpose.
Without it we can never
Hope to live in peace.

John Hoyle

Fulbrook News and Views

From the Editorial Team.....

In this issue we include a feature on the 20th Anniversary of the first publication of the Newsletter in April 2000, an item on a memorial seat to the Crook family erected by John Learoyd, an article on Lockdown Blues from Simon Park and much more ...

The purpose of Fulbrook News and Views is to highlight issues or interests within the village. For this to work successfully we need contributions from as many readers as possible. As you can see here, these can be of a serious, flippant or humorous nature. Please contribute!

A conversation with

David Woolley (Pictured here with his wife Molly)

It was lovely to see David and Molly Woolley in their delightful home in Chipping Norton. As almost a founding member of the Newsletter editorial team it was really interesting to find out about the early issues and David does possess a wealth of Fulbrook village knowledge. He moved to Fulbrook in June 1975 and lodged at Pool House until he completed the purchase of Chubbs Close in September when Molly joined him. They both taught at Burford School for many years.

When asked about his early life David replied “Did I have one?”. His parents had a grocery shop in Burton-on-Trent during the war; afterwards his father started a taxi and funeral director business. Many of David’s fishing rods and toboggans were made from coffin off-cuts. To help his younger sister with her piano lessons he taught himself to read music and this encouraged him to pursue his interest through singing and he has been a longstanding member of the Burford Singers. He was a keen scout and it was therefore only fitting that it was at a scout/guide walking weekend that he met the love of his life, Molly, in 1958. At the time they were both attending courses at Manchester University from which they graduated in 1959. They were married at Hampton, Middlesex, Molly’s home, in 1962 after David’s National Service. They have three children: Hilary, Alan and Catherine. On moving to Fulbrook Hilary, aged 10, persuaded their neighbour Peter Craddy to give her piano lessons on his Steinway. She became an excellent musician and later used her talent as a primary school teacher. David and Molly have five grandchildren.



Having studied Chemistry, David worked for some years with chemicals companies and completed a PhD on the Ionisation of Smokes in Flame. He expressed his early career as “Enjoying himself”! A short sabbatical spell after his PhD gave rise to his burgeoning interest in teaching and he wrote to the local authorities in the West Midlands, where they lived at the time, feeling that with his Chemistry degrees he could find temporary employment in secondary schools. He received one reply - from Woodside Primary School in Dudley. As a chemist it was not quite the response he expected, but at interview he was told ‘You’ll be alright – you’ve got a funny face!’ and he completed a term and a half. Thereafter he gained a

Post Graduate Certificate of Education and took up his first permanent post as Chemistry teacher at Burford School. Molly also worked at the school teaching Special Needs pupils.

The Village Appraisal was published in 1999 and stimulated a big change in helping to cohere it as a community. Arising from this, three main projects were identified: a village Newsletter, a Local Exchange Trading scheme and a village hall. A team of interested coordinators was set up and the first issue of our Newsletter was printed in April 2000. The first editorial team appears on the front cover reproduced here on page 8. David joined the team the following February as Treasurer. The project was community led from the start as the general consensus amongst villagers was that the different areas of Fulbrook needed to come together. Compiling the Newsletter was always a pleasure for David. As well as the outstanding regular features like Nora Thomas on gardening and Meg's column to look forward to there were the 'one offs'. Picking up Issue 39 at random gave articles on climate change, hedgerow surveying, 'allotmenting' and a personal thanks to the village – an impressive collection for a small village. A particularly notable piece was 'Father's Wartime Diary' in Dec 2005 (Issue 23), a fragment of the diary which Joan Smith's father's kept in France during WW1, illustrated with his sketches.

A village hall was close to David's heart and to raise money for the project he embarked on his 'end-to-end' cycle ride in 2003 from Land's End to John o'Groats, raising around £3,500. The proceeds were to be split between the village hall and Burford School's Uganda Link, but after much research and discussion, a village hall was found to be unworkable. So, the move to incorporate a substitute at the back of the church delivered the Fulbrook Meeting Place and very soon it was put to good use with regular coffee mornings and lunches featuring the Market Stall. After trying his hand at making marmalade, a tribute to his late brother who had always made copious amounts of the stuff to donate to the Lion's Club for charities, David started the popular Market Stall advertised in each Newsletter issue to promote the sale of village grown produce. He commented that people were very generous with their contributions and the sales raised money for local charities. The first donation was to the Lion's Club in Witney for their Message in a Bottle Scheme, which provides elderly or infirm members of the community with a small plastic canister into which they inserted a list of current medication to be kept in the fridge. In this way if the emergency services were called they could always find it and act accordingly.

David and Molly didn't want to leave Fulbrook and had there been a bungalow in the village they would still be here. However, their move to Chipping Norton has been successful and they are very happy. The community has been very supportive and they are well integrated enjoying various pursuits. Molly is still involved with Amnesty International and David works with the Green Gym, a scheme offering charitable outdoor projects. He has been helping out with clearing footpaths, hedging and tending the community orchard. I began this piece with David's involvement with the Fulbrook News and I can also tell you that he remains a 'news' man by proof-reading the Chipping Norton News!

Some Quick Fire Questions

Best memories of Fulbrook? Friendliness

Any advice for Burford students? Don't panic!

Lockdown thought? Wonderful community support

Dream holiday? After the 'end-to-end' I've always wanted to cycle to Scotland, get on a ferry and tour Scandinavia

Favourite meal? Coq au Vin (Molly chipped in at this point "Not for me" - she prefers haddock)
Sorry about the pun!

We're 20 years old this year!

As David Woolley says above, the first issue of The Fulbrook Newsletter was printed in April 2000 so the editorial committee decided to include a 20th Anniversary feature in this issue. Here is a copy of the front page of the April 2000 issue, which David Woolley has kept all these years:

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April 2000

Quarterly

Number 1

This is your first real Newsletter, not just of the Millennium (if you believe it's this year and not really next), but also for the village, created by pressure evident from the Village Appraisal returns. But now your volunteer editorial team is flumoxed: what do we call it? "Fulbrook

Give us a name!

Newsletter?" That will excite - well, nobody, really. Therefore we have decided to have a competition: *you* can name it and/or design a front page, and win a mystery prize, yet to be donated by a wealthy well-wisher. All you have to do is fill in the coupon inside and give it to any of the Editorial Team, with your suggestion. Every offering will be considered and after due deliberation - by an independent panel - the new design will appear on the next issue, due out July 2000, where we will also be announcing the name of the brilliant individual or group who came up with the name. To them will be awarded the Mystery Prize! Can you wait? No, we thought not.

Entries by 15th June, please.

Editorial

Introducing your independent

Team

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Patricia Townsend
18 Meadow End
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Toby Tupper -
Children's Representative
15 Meadow End
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.....
Pass information to any of the above for inclusion in this YOUR newsletter. We will publish the news you give us; announcements; For Sale and Wanted; hatches, matches and dispatches; farewells and welcomes; good news and bad; ideas and moans - all FREE to residents of Fulbrook.

**Next issue deadline:
15th June.**

As well as the conversation with David Woolley, we have received contributions from Bill and Heather Long, who effectively co-founded the Newsletter with David and from Angela Weller who was an early committee member. All of the current editorial committee have also written a short piece about their involvement and we have included a note of thanks to our distributors, without whom you would not receive your copy of the Newsletter.

The start of the Newsletter

Hello Fulbrook!

It is thirteen years since we left No 1, Walnut Row and moved to the Forest of Dean and much as we enjoy living here, we have always and will always have a very soft spot for Fulbrook. Such a lovely, active and friendly village, we really valued our time there and are so pleased to receive our regular copy of The Fulbrook Newsletter to keep us up to date. We can hardly believe that, incredibly, it has now been running for 20 years!

The Newsletter started from the results of the Millennium project questionnaire sent round the village in 1996/7, in order to compile the Fulbrook Appraisal. The Appraisal was published and distributed to every household in the village in July 1999. Bill was very pleased to be part of the original steering committee.

As a result of that questionnaire, we realised that there was a need for a good system of village communication and the Fulbrook Newsletter was conceived. At the time Bill and I already ran our small photocopying, publishing and stationery business from The Loft above our garage at No1, Walnut Row and this seemed the ideal place to collate, print and publish the newsletter, together with a team of willing helpers and distributors for each section of the village. I can't recall all the original team now but certainly Robyn Sharpley was one volunteer.

The Newsletter has certainly taken on a life of its own since those early days and is an up-to-date vibrant, informative and chatty communication.

Congratulations and well done to all the teams of editors, printers and contributors over the past twenty years. You have done a wonderful job and we are immensely proud that our germ of an idea has grown to such a worthy and useful production.

Keep up the good work, and here's to the next 20! Cheers!

Heather and Bill Long

Newsletter memories

You should always beware when a neighbour drops in for a friendly chat when you are new to a village. You can guarantee there will be a committee to join or a job that needs doing. We moved into Upper End in September 2006 and it took less than a year for Andi Gallagher to persuade me to join the editorial team for the Fulbrook News. (About the same time as it took to persuade me to join the Amenities Group and the PCC – I did say beware!) ‘Just four issues a year’, she said. It was one of my best decisions; being part of the dedicated team that produce this chronicle of Fulbrook life really put me at the ticking heart of village life.

I enjoyed the lively committee meetings, attempted to proof read the final product after the compiler had put it together, took turns in writing the editorials, wrote the occasional article, collected the finished magazines

from Burford top school after printing and bundled them up ready for the great team of volunteer distributors to deliver.

There were many changes over the years; new committee members each bringing their own thoughts and ideas to the publication, new features like the spotlight interviews with members of our community and later the introduction of colour.

I eventually moved on in September 2015 when I became President of the FaB WI and needed to concentrate more on that role. Long may our very local publication continue to trace the heartbeat of our community.

Angela Weller

Lesley Beveridge

Compiler	2012 - 2015
Advertising Manager	2015 - 2019
Local Correspondent	2019 - present

It was 2012 whilst shopping in Sainsbury's that I first stepped into the world of our Fulbrook Newsletter. Angela Weller approached me with "I'm glad I've bumped into you as I need to ask if you'd like to take on the Newsletter - I know you are retiring this year". The rest is history - David Woolley was moving out of the village and he helped me to get started.

My new role involved setting up the Newsletter using my desktop publisher and I soon became really immersed in the whole process. I would receive articles and pictures and slot them into the limited space available in our 24 pages. There were, of course, the regular pieces that held permanent positions, but the joy of building each issue lay in the variety of articles and photos that people wanted to share. At our editorial team meetings we discuss each issue in depth and it's always interesting to develop new ideas (alongside copious amounts of tea and cake).

Over the last few years I have been very fortunate to have met with many villagers through our 'Conversation with' regular feature. Learning of the rich lives people lead and their family histories has been fascinating. If you haven't been 'done' yet you may well be on our list!

Diana Brown

My main responsibility is the distribution of the Fulbrook News. This first involves collecting all the newly printed magazines "hot off the press" from Jean Lane at Burford School. I then separate them between Jenny Jones, my co-distributor, and myself. She deals mainly with the central and west side of Fulbrook as well as the postal copies. My next job is to deliver copies to those wonderful people at my end of the village who bring the News to your door. After that copies have to be circulated in Burford which includes taking them the Town Council at the Tolsey, the Visitors Information Centre, the Library, the Post Office, the Churches, and the schools, as well as the Burford advertisers and other persons who subscribe to it. The whole thing has to be done as speedily as possible so it is a busy day! I do, of course, have to make sure that any changes to people's addresses, etc. are noted and filed.

Jenny Jones

I joined the Newsletter committee as a result of a request for secretarial help. As a relative newcomer to the village it seemed a good idea to find out what went on. I remember Bill and Heather Long and The Loft in Walnut Row where the Newsletter was first printed. I am now involved in taking my turn writing the editorial page, dealing with postal subscribers as well as Newsletter distribution.

Laurence Balbes

I have two roles on the Newsletter, treasurer and compiler.

Being treasurer means I keep track of the finances and manage our bank account with TSB. I pay in cheques and cash received, record inflows of money mainly from advertisers, postal subscribers and, in the last few months after our appeal in January, donors. I also pay the bills, mainly from Burford School for their printing services.

As compiler I invite contributions each quarter from our regular contributors, send out reminders to those who miss our copy date and then fit all the contributions received into the 24 pages of the magazine – sometimes we're oversubscribed and I have to edit contributions to fit the available space and sometimes the space isn't filled and I have to spread things out. I send a draft copy to each member of the editorial committee for proof-reading and then make any corrections before printing out the final copy and delivering it to Burford School where they turn 24 pages of A4 into 290 A5 booklets. It keeps me pretty busy for the two weeks before each issue is published.

David Foster

I'm the "new boy" on the Committee, having only recently had my arm twisted – and I'm still feeling my way. As Advertising Manager I am available to discuss their requirements with traders who are thinking of bringing the services they offer to the attention of local people by means of a notice in The Fulbrook News. Advertisers normally provide their own designs in suitable format – but we have the capability to produce simple designs if need be. The cost of production of the newsletter is largely met by income from advertising – so it is important that local businesses support us in this way.

Thanks to our distributors

The editorial committee would like to acknowledge and thank our distributors, all volunteers, without whose help you would not receive your Newsletter:

Jean Nelson - Westhall Hill to Field House

Pauline Ingelby - Burford Road

Gilly Kay - Garnes Lane, Church Lane, Dolphin Lane

John Harrington - Shipton Road

Angela Weller - Upper End

Jane George - Beechgrove

Anne Weir - Meadow Lane

Peter & Lyn Bibbings Burn - Cotland House to Meadow End, Walnut Row

Deborah Knight - Waterloo Farm to Downs Lodge

Diana Brown - Cocklands Hill to the bridge, Burford and Tadpole Farm

Jenny Jones - Orchard Row, The Spinney, The Rickyard, Postal subscribers and Fulbrook Church

Memorial seat

John Learoyd erected this seat in memory of the Crook Family of Fulbrook, Harvey and Gladys and their daughters Peggy and Joan, who welcomed him and his sister Carol when they were children to live with them in their home West View and adopted them. John and his wife Veronica still live there.

The seat makes a welcome rest on the walk to Swinbrook not far after Beech Grove Farm.

Recently a beautiful apple tree has been planted behind it.



Anne Weir

RIDE AND STRIDE 2020

THE ANNUAL OHCT RIDE AND STRIDE WILL TAKE PLACE AS USUAL ON SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART EITHER WALKING OR CYCLING (OR KNOW MORE ABOUT IT) FURTHER DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE FROM DIANA LETHBRIDGE Tel: 01993 824196.

VILLAGE WELCOME PACKS

If you know of someone who has moved into the village and would like to receive a WELCOME PACK, please could you let Nicola Hillman know either by phone on 01993 823260 or by email to nicolahillmanart@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you.

Nicola Hillman

Lockdown Blues – and Symphonies

Aside from a pleasing sense of déjà-vu occasioned by the unaccustomed sight of Burford looking uncannily like it did 65-70 years ago, our enforced incarceration due to the cursed Covid-19 had little to commend it. My decrepit memory still just stretches back that far when, each summer for several years, I came to stay for a few weeks with my aunt Maisie and uncle Richard at Greyhounds in Sheep Street (he being assistant editor of 'The Countryman' at the time). In those days, though, one encountered neither gargantuan HGVs nor selfie-sticks; and the (few) cars were all black.

By happy coincidence, however, lockdown began soon after I had finally acquired the practical means to re-focus on slightly more recent, very different memories; namely, my two most charismatic and captivating tutors at Oxford in the 1960s – composers Edmund Rubbra (a quintessentially English musical voice who had studied with Holst) and Egon Wellesz – a son of Vienna, born in the shadow of Bruckner and a pupil, alongside Berg and Webern, of Arnold Schoenberg. Just a few months ago I discovered two CD box sets containing all of their symphonies (Rubbra 11, Wellesz 9 – so not quite a 'score' draw) and now had the time to concentrate on listening, and once more learning from them, at my leisure.

Both were prolific in their output, but both were largely ignored or forgotten by the 'influencers' of the musical establishment (yes Auntie, that's you...). However, that didn't stop either from composing with relentless vigour until their final days (Wellesz in 1974, aged 89, and Rubbra in 1986, at 85). And both espoused that most imperious of musical forms, the symphony, with unerring fidelity and passion. But until the beginning of this year, I'm ashamed to admit, I hadn't heard so much as a single note of any of them... Why? Well, after leaving Oxford I quite quickly found myself ensconced in an entirely different musical milieu with a career to establish, new imperatives to embrace, new paths to tread. Put bluntly, for 50 years I simply forgot about them.

That said, the marked indifference shown by that 'musical establishment' to their music meant that opportunities to acquaint myself with it were virtually non-existent until these relatively recent recordings were made. But, as often happens in one's dotage, nostalgic memories start to recur and demand attention. And in my case, I was struck quite recently by a desire to discover what I had been missing in respect of these two figures so pivotal to my early musical development. And so the coincidental arrival of those CD box sets and Covid-19 couldn't have been more timely.

I did have other stuff to do, including some music of my own to write and a book to finish (which I did, about a very different genre of musical heroes – but that's another story entirely). So lockdown wasn't so much about boredom as about the inability to interact socially with friends and family – a kiss and a hug, a pint in the pub, a game of bridge, and so on. Just like millions of others, in other words...

But meanwhile, those 20 symphonies have acted as a series of beacons illuminating the way to better times ahead, whilst at the same time reconnecting me to a past with which I had gradually lost touch. The music has been, generally, a delight – a fantastic journey (still far from finished) with a good few surprises, occasional puzzlement, and many moments of pure ecstasy. And so my much-revered teachers have come up trumps once again, and reaffirmed the important part they both played in my life. Dr. Wellesz, Dr. Rubbra, I salute you.

Simon Park

It was quite a storm . . .

These three trees were blown down in the storm of 12th August in the garden of Triggers Cottage, Meadow Lane, the home of Anne and Jim Weir and their daughter and son-in-law Lynn and Dean Newland.





NEWS FROM FULBROOK CHURCH and a Warm Welcome to All

Hello Church family and everyone in Fulbrook village – GOOD NEWS! The Church is open again for services, every Sunday 9.30am. After months of having to close the church because of the Coronavirus threat, we have been able to gradually ease on our lockdown and we are now open again, albeit in a still more limited way than before. After a massive deep clean we opened the church again for anyone to come into the church who wished to pray, for just one hour a week, often with some gentle organ music played by either Brian Kay or Jo Glyde (thank you!). From the beginning of August we have been able to have a service of morning prayer at 9.30am. This has been a shortened service, simple and spoken, with a cantor each week for the hymn as we have not, so far, been permitted congregational singing. We are still missing our bellringers and the call to prayer is with the single, quieter sanctus bell only.

We now have confirmation that we can continue with this regular pattern of services in Fulbrook for the autumn, **Morning Prayer, every Sunday 9.30am (except October 4th which is at 11am for Harvest festival – see below)** – we shall introduce a holy communion service when we are able to safely do so. Everyone is very welcome to attend – and we have been delighted recently to have been able to welcome some newcomers and visitors. However, because of the restrictions on social distancing, it is immensely helpful if you can reserve your seat in advance. However, we do try to keep some seats free to enable us to welcome those who may come unexpectedly, so please don't let that put you off! It is a requirement to wear a mask (some are available at the door if you forget) and to sanitise your hands please, as you enter, and as you leave.

We have very much missed having coffee together after church as the current rules do not allow that. However, we are now considering ways that we could meet up in small groups for some social exchange, so watch this space.

Harvest Festival 4th October 11am – followed by (weather permitting) a picnic at small tables in the churchyard. We should be grateful for any contributions you can make to our harvest festival – the goods will be taken, as usual to St Mungo's in Witney to support those in need. Non-perishable dry goods can be left in the box that will be put outside the church from Sunday 27th September. We are very much hoping that we shall be able to have a picnic on small tables in the churchyard – plans are underway but details not yet confirmed. – please look at the noticeboard and listen for notices in church !

Ride and Stride September 12th – there will be a sponsored walking and riding event this year with a group from Fulbrook walking the churches of the Windrush Valley. Please join in the walk or sponsor one of the walkers – to raise money for Oxfordshire Historic Churches and Fulbrook Church.

Besom, Witney – collections of food and other items for emergency parcels for those in need. Huge thanks to everyone who has been continuing to donate to Besom by putting items in the box which is always outside the church. Currently there is a particular need for cleaning materials and we should be very pleased to accept donations of these along with toiletries and non-perishable food items.

Weddings – we have two weddings in the church in October: October 3rd – Zoe Alexander, granddaughter of Mynddeg and Brian (previous Churchwarden) Alexander to Edward Thomas and Penny Sturgis to Tim Messom, who will be having their marriage blessed in the church on October 6th. We wish both couples much happiness in their lives together.

For further information or comment please contact Lyn Bibbings Burns 07941 267955 or John Radcliffe 01993 824044.



NEWS FROM THE FULBROOK MEETING PLACE

The Fulbrook Meeting Place is the back half of the Church, our village hall, but is currently closed due to the coronavirus restrictions.

Regular events which will resume when the restrictions are lifted – everyone is very welcome to come to all of these.

**** Keep Fit Group** A lively **weekly** group that meets to exercise with music at 9 – 10 am every Thursday. Led by Pat Ferret, it is £3 a session – and a lot of fun as well as being good for you!

**** Coffee morning at 10.30am** on the **4th Thursday each month**, with conversation, coffee and delicious biscuits – just turn up for a warm welcome. £1 donation.

**** Fulbrook Forum – 1st Thursday of every month at 3pm**, speakers, discussion and tea - just turn up for a warm welcome - £2 donation.

**** Quiet prayer every Monday** at the back of the Church at 5.30pm.

The Fulbrook Meeting Place is our village hall and as such is available for hire, subject to conditions, at a very reasonable rate. If you are interested in hiring the FMP for a meeting, afternoon get-together or a family party, please contact our Booking Clerk, Lyn Bibbings Burns on 823640 or e-mail lynbibbings1@gmail.com.

The Arts Society Cotswolds

Wednesday 9th September – via Zoom – join at 10.50 for 11am start.

“The Making of Landscape Photographs” with Charlie Waite

A fully illustrated talk with in excess of 60 images exploring the relationship between the making of an image and the way in which it is perceived by the viewer. Further discussion around the “eye and the brain” as an extraordinary double act made up of visual references and intellectual interpretation. A fascinating and thought provoking lecture.

As one of the world’s leading (and multi-award-winning) landscape photographers, Charlie’s images are held in collections all over the globe. He has lectured for 25 years throughout the UK, Europe and the US.

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, TASC lectures are now given “virtually” via Zoom. Members receive an ‘invitation’ via the newsletter but non-members are welcome for a suggested donation of £5 either by cheque or by bank transfer. For more information please contact Frances Sparkes on 01993 823943, publicity@theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk or www.theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk.



BURFORD and DISTRICT SOCIETY

Welcome back to looking forward

After many years of serving as Fulbrook's representative on the Burford and District Society's Committee, Tricia Picking has sadly just stepped down. Tricia has made a tremendous contribution to our work by not only sharing her considerable experience and amazing local knowledge but also helping in so many other ways. We are all going to miss her much appreciated support and are so grateful that we have benefited for so long.

Fingers crossed that another person will step forward to represent Fulbrook in the near future. Could that someone be you, please?

Huge thanks to everyone who responded to the Survey Monkey questionnaire which proved to be very popular. Your very helpful answers collectively gave us a very clear steer for the next 6 months and have enabled us to adjust the programme as follows.

22nd September – 'Travels with Auntie' talk. Postponed until 2021.

20th October – The Annual Lunch with a talk by Susan Ashton is cancelled. In lieu, subject to the regulations at the time we are hoping that it may be possible to have an outdoor Get Together (no speaker or food). If this is permissible it will simply be an opportunity for us all to meet and chat again. Everyone will be happy to know that Sue has very kindly agreed to postpone her talk until 2021.

17th November – Tibesti Mountains Expedition, talk by Clendon Daukes. Subject to the prevailing advice, we are hoping that this talk may be able to proceed as planned with social distancing. Hand wash dispensers will be provided on entry.

In the meantime because regrettably we have not yet been able to 'resume normal service' we have introduced a monthly Digital Supplement to continue to keep in touch – we hope you enjoy. If any non-members would also like to receive copies just email me as shown below.

Peter Martin, Chairman

peteremartin@btinternet.com

Burford Singers

We were very sad to have to cancel both spring and summer concerts due to the coronavirus this year, and have been keeping in touch meantime via a monthly newsletter to the membership, with contributions from members as well as our conductor, Brian Kay, while we have waited to see how the situation developed. However, while some of the issues around singing are being investigated by the scientists, and the advice is moving towards the view that this may not necessarily pose a greater risk than other group or musical activities, the requirements and rules around social distancing mean that it is still not viable for us to restart rehearsals in September, nor could we plan for a concert with an audience in the autumn. Should the prevailing situation allow us to restart rehearsals in January, then it might be possible to look towards a concert in the spring, but the necessary limitations on this at the time will determine whether or how this might take place. But we nevertheless continue to look forward to the day when we can bring choral music back in Burford, whenever that may be.

Catherine Martin



BURFORD ARCHIVE

The Burford Archive project is to convert an 18th century Barn (now purchased) in the heart of Burford into a modern archive capable of saving and securing our wealth of local heritage artefacts and documents and which will be open to all.

We have been encouraging people to look in their lofts for old documents, magazines and artefacts. One such quest revealed some research into seventeenth century Fulbrook wills and inventories. If the authors of this fascinating report were to make themselves known we would happily acknowledge them. The following extract will give you a taste of what they discovered:

“...to my servant Elizabeth Hickers my tagged calf at the wood, with the nethermost flockbed, one pair of sheets, one coverlet and boulster where I now lie, two platters, my biggest posnett, my second petticoat and partlett and double kerchieffes.”

This comes from the will of Margerie Grinder of Fulbrook, widow, and is dated 23 December 1604. She died early next year. Her husband, Edward, had died in the summer of 1601.

We are determined to keep possession of such historical and contemporary records, to not only discover such interesting glimpses of times gone by but also to safely secure such material for the use of future generations. Your contribution will be greatly welcome to help ensure their preservation. You can donate online (www.burfordcommunityarchive.org), by cheque or by bank transfer to Falkland Hall Charity, 30-91-43, 00157448. Gift Aid is available.

Additionally everyone is invited to receive our new Archive News, which is a monthly digital magazine full of entertaining videos, articles and progress reports on the Barn conversion. Simply email me writing ‘Archive News – yes please’ and I will do the rest. Many thanks.

Peter Martin peteremartin@btinternet.com

Remembering the Millennium

On Sunday 9th July 2000, the Parish Council's Amenities Committee organised a Millennium Children's Party and published the leaflet reproduced below to commemorate the event. A copy of the photo, signed by most of those who attended the event, is now on display in The Carpenters Arms, having previously been on display in The Mason's Arms until it closed.



THE FULBROOKIAN

BIG TURN-OUT FOR VILLAGE PHOTO



One hundred and fifty Fulbrook residents turned-out to help make a piece of village history.

On Sunday 9th July 2000 the Millennium Children's Party sponsored by Fulbrook Parish Council's Amenities Committee was the scene for a touch of history in the making as 150 residents, old and young alike got together for the first village photograph of the new century.

Spirits were not dampened by the weather in Jill North Lewis's paddock. Nearly sixty children gathered with parents for an afternoon of children's entertainment, a bouncy castle and an impromptu soccer match.

Parents enjoyed a BBQ with tea

MILLENNIUM MUGS GO ON SALE

A Limited Edition, Bone China, Fulbrook Millennium Mug was given to all the children in the village as a memento of the new century.

The design for the mug is based on the place names and signs of the village and created by designer Richard Leonard who lives in Fulbrook. A further 150 mugs have been produced and can be purchased from Stewart Cribbes phone 822461 or The Masons Arms priced £3.00 each.

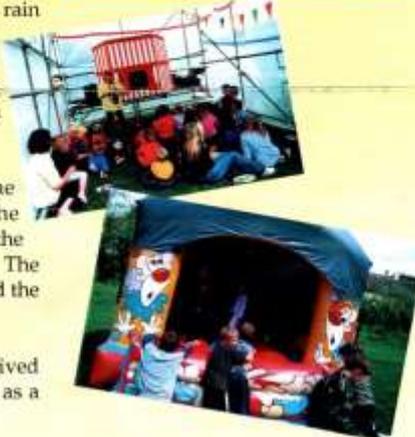


cakes, and lashing of lemonade for all.

Despite a damp start the rain held off and a warm and enjoyable afternoon was had by all as the smiles on every face in the photograph testify.

Bryan Gough provided the theatre structure for the children's entertainer and the set for the photograph. The Burford Scout Troop supplied the tent for the refreshments.

Each child in the village received a limited edition china mug as a memento of the occasion.



News From The

Carpenters Arms

When faced with the prospect of shutting the pub, not a moment's thought went into keeping our doors open, one way or another. Revitalising the Carps has been a labour of love for us all, and having received huge support from Fulbrook and Burford from the outset, it was now our opportunity to return the favour. The menus were redesigned to travel in newspaper and tupperware, the pub was turned upside down to service takeaway and delivery meals, and the snug became a day care centre for the boys. Home schooling for Leo was heavily weighted towards food, drink and gardening, with grocery day doubling up as mathematics, counting out vegetables into delivery boxes.

The overwhelming response to our new menus was somewhat unexpected, with orders of haddock and chips pushing into the 40's most Friday evenings. We served meals to houses who were celebrating lockdown birthdays, anniversaries, and even a golden anniversary as grand plans had to be cancelled. Tips are always greatly appreciated, and they took a new form during lockdown - sunflower plants which now greet you from the front garden, broccoli and runner beans which have since grown and found a place on the menu, and children's toys for the boys as people cleared out cupboards with their new found spare time.

As the pandemic worsened and lockdown deepened, there was only one thing to do. 'Take the gin to the people', we got busy converting the back of the car into what we would later name the 'Har har car bar'. Like the most wonderful sort of adult ice cream van, we travelled from house to house offering cocktails and and gins on a Sunday afternoon. This would culminate in a miniature street party at the very top of Upper End. Sadly, the bar was short lived and only made two appearances as the lockdown was lifted and the new normal commenced.

In the wake of what was hopefully the worst of the pandemic, we must all be thankful for the community around us, and all 5 of us are so grateful and proud to be a part of Fulbrook.

Siobhan, Tom, Ryan, Leo and Max

Here's the latest recipe from our resident chef Peter Burns:

Bill Granger's individual cheesecakes

As well as nature's seasonal bounties (free stuff from the hedgerows, fruit and veg from the garden etc.) summer also delivers for many a crop of grandchildren. Along with the patter of tiny feet comes the pleasure of cooking with the little darlings. Bill Granger, who recently graced our TV screens, has an excellent recipe for cheesecakes made in muffin cases, ideal fodder for preliminary culinary explorations – and something I have made with my own grandchildren. The cheesecakes need a couple of hours in the fridge before eating so make them ahead of time.

Ingredients (base)

- 100g digestive biscuits
- 85g ground almonds
- 50g melted butter
-

Ingredients (filling)

- 400g cream cheese
- 105ml soured cream
- 110g caster sugar
- 1 medium egg
- 1 egg yolk
- Vanilla essence (five drops)
- Grated zest of one or two limes
- Juice of half a lemon
- Punnet fresh raspberries (frozen ones could be used)
-

To finish

- Raspberries to garnish
- Icing sugar to dust

Method

1. Turn the oven on to 170 degrees C
2. Line a 12 hole muffin tin with paper muffin papers
3. Crush the biscuits (in a plastic bag with a rolling pin or in a food processor), add the almonds, place in a bowl and add the melted butter. Mix round and then share the mixture between the muffin cases, press down using the back of a spoon or the bottom of a suitable sized wine glass or similar. Place in the fridge.
4. To make the filling, beat the cream cheese, soured cream, and caster sugar until light and fluffy. Add the whole egg followed by the egg yolk, vanilla, lime zest and lemon juice beating well after each addition. Spoon the mixture into the bases, then place two or three raspberries on each one and pop them in the oven for about 20 minutes. They will fluff up a little and take on a very light brown colour.
5. Allow to cool and refrigerate for at least a couple of hours. They last up to about 36 hours before the bases get a bit soggy.
6. To serve, place on a nice plate with a puddle of raspberry coulis and a spoon of lemon curd!

Extras

You could try ginger biscuits instead of digestives, but check with the grandchildren first, to ensure ginger is acceptable to their sometimes fussy palates. Being harder than digestives, gingers will take a bit more crunching up. Lemon curd goes very well with these little fancies. Either shop-bought (Burford Garden Centre does a version that is delicious but wallet bashing) or making lemon curd is very easy. Try the BBC recipe to be found on https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/homemade_lemon_curd_15350 Don't forget to sterilise the jam jars!

Tuck in!!





Carpenters Arms

FOOD SERVING TIMES

Mondays – closed
(except bank holidays)

Tuesday – Friday
Lunch 12 - 2.30pm
Dinner 6 - 9pm

Saturday 12 - 9pm
Sunday 12 - 5pm

Fulbrook's local family friendly pub run by Siobhan, Tom and Ryan.

Come and join us for great food, local gins and beers, and lots of laughs.



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