

# The Fulbrook News

## Our Quarterly Newsletter

June 2022

Number 89



**Photo of the Plant Sale taken by Peter Burns**

**The sale was on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May and was a great success – see Malcolm Taylor's report on page 15.**

**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](mailto:fulbrooknews@gmail.com)**

**Next Issue: September 2022, Copy Date – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022**

*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,

This Spring seems to me to have been remarkable. Has anyone seen such brightness in the colour of the trees, the fields, the blossom, the bluebells in the woods, and the sky. One day we have to water the garden and the next there are sudden downpours with thunder and lightning, I presume it's all due to Climate Change.

The village has been busy too. There has been a lot of Covid which has been wreaking havoc with our plans. Poor Tom Putt had to turn his hand to being organist as well as vicar over Easter due to the sickness of our three organists, a job he did very successfully. I wonder how many other churches needed his hidden skill over the period. We had the village clean-up, and the Plant Sale which was missed last year. This time it was held in the garden of The Carpenters Arms and was a triumph, making over £1,200! See the picture on the front cover and read all about it on page 15.

A number of us have also been concentrating our minds on Ukraine. Diana Lethbridge started the ball rolling with a small Coffee Morning to put ideas together on how to support the Ukrainians, and when you read the article on page 11, you will see what a huge success this has become.

Sadly Fulbrook has lost two members of the village; Alan Corney, aged 87, who died of his injuries in the accident mentioned in the March Newsletter when he was crushed between a car and a fence during Storm Eunice, a terrible way to go. He was a born and bred Fulbrook man, much loved and missed by all. Our thoughts and sympathies go to his brothers Peter and Dennis, and the rest of his family. The other is the unexpected death of Laurence Hallett, who was a retired Naval Commander and Jilly Campbell McDonald's partner. Our sincere condolences go to her and his family. Also in the spring issue we mentioned the death of Mavis Perceval and you will see on page 19 an appreciation of her life that Bob Tivey has written.

We have received an interesting contribution from Derek Pratley who used to live in Fulbrook about his mother, Louisa Wilks, who died on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2002 aged 90 and is buried in Fulbrook churchyard. She was born in 1911, one of seven, and brought up in the village. It is a fascinating record of the everyday life of a country child at the time. Four girls to one bed in their parents' bedroom, no pocket money so they used to go stone picking for Mr Eldridge and were paid 3d a heap. They used to help their father who worked at Elm Farm, and grind up mangelwurzels then eat the strips. At 14 she started working for Ivan Horniman at the Old Rectory in Burford from 6.30am to 10.00pm earning ten shillings a week. There is much more of this and it is a charming bit of social history which will be kept in the Fulbrook archives.

I do hope people managed to visit Sally Wyatt's exhibition of her new work during Arts Week. It is always interesting to see what she's been up to, and we are lucky to have an artist of her quality in Fulbrook.

Regarding Social History, don't forget to get your tickets for our Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on 5th June. This should be a splendid day, very kindly hosted by Bob and Pauline Warner.

Diana Brown

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**FULBROOK, OXFORDSHIRE  
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**Amenities committee**

The committee came back with a bang after more or less two years of lockdown. They organised the 2021 autumn clean up ready for Armistice Sunday (followed by tea and cakes in the FMP) and the combined Christmas Carols held for the first time at the Carpenter's Arms - judged by all to be a great success. 2022 revitalised the annual spring clean-up (sadly with no socialising afterwards because of the dreaded Covid).

The Plant Sale held on 14 May raised about £1200 for the village and was also held at the Carpenter's Arms (thanks guys!).

We are really looking forward to the Jubilee celebration, arranged and organised by Angela Weller, on 5 June, and special thanks to Bob Warner, our longest serving Parish Councillor for allowing us to use his field and barn. Sarah our parish clerk has tickets... please get them ASAP so we can plan the details of catering etc.

Most importantly, Malcolm is stepping down from this role and we are looking for someone to replace him. Please phone me or Malcolm if you want to find out more about this central village role.

**Children's playground**

The Parish Council has made a start with the children's playground refurbishment having laid a new, whizzed up playground surface with all sorts of patterns on to help the children play games etc. We are still sorting out budgets for further improvements including new play equipment.

**Vehicle Activated Speed Limit Camera/  
Community Speedwatch**

We have begun to download data from the camera (on the A361 opposite the Carpenters Arms at the old bus stop). Eventually we will use the data to build a case for more traffic calming measures through the village. We have not analysed the data yet, but a quick glance indicated that at least one driver thought 58mph was an OK speed in a 30mph zone! Here is a picture of what the raw data looks like:

	Date and Time	Entry Speed	Average Speed	Exit Speed	Peak Speed
1	01 April 2022 ...	33.65	41.11	43.66	47.03
2	01 April 2022 ...	40.23	40.20	39.00	40.95
3	01 April 2022 ...	38.91	39.36	38.41	40.00
4	01 April 2022 ...	26.46	25.50	24.04	27.52
5	01 April 2022 ...	45.42	41.42	37.46	45.42
6	01 April 2022 ...	43.44	43.24	41.82	44.27
7	01 April 2022 ...	38.20	38.20	37.81	39.92
8	01 April 2022 ...	41.37	39.26	34.15	41.37

Regarding Speedwatch, former restrictions by Thames Valley Police that scuppered our previous team efforts seem to have been relaxed so now is the time for a revival. We need a team leader who can recruit and organise volunteers and pass the data on to the Parish Council to be used to strengthen our traffic calming case.

**Coles Field**

Fulbrook Parish Council raised objection to the proposed housing development on Coles Field, Burford on the basis that an ancient view with historic significance will be deleted from the aesthetics of our local landscape.

**New Councillors**

We are delighted to welcome two new councillors, Filipa Hinton and Heather Cameron who are already having a positive impact on our work.

**Finally**

We all love living in Fulbrook and really appreciate its friendliness and willingness to help each other. Part of that willingness is people coming out regularly for fundraisers, clean-ups, and meetings. So, a big warm-hearted thank you from me and fellow Parish Councillors for all your efforts in continuing to make Fulbrook an exceptional place to live.

**Don't forget the website:  
[www.fulbrookvillage.net](http://www.fulbrookvillage.net)**

*Peter Burns, Chair of Fulbrook Parish Council*

## **FROM THE PARISH CLERK**

I provide a fortnightly newsletter to all residents that wish to receive it, detailing what's going on in the village, Parish council news and anything else I think may be of relevance to you. If you would like to sign up to receive the newsletter, have something added or have any issues you would like to raise please feel free to email me on [clerk@fulbrookvillage.net](mailto:clerk@fulbrookvillage.net) or send me a message or call me on 07484 178143.

*Sarah Ebeling, Parish Clerk*

## **THE FULBROOK FORUM**

**Following a pause due to Covid, FULBROOK FORUM is restarting on Thursday 1st September 2022 at 3pm in BURFORD CHURCH**

For those of you new to our area, the Fulbrook Forum offers a chance to meet other members of our community and listen to a local speaker. Talks typically last about 45 minutes, followed by refreshments. All are welcome and no membership is required.

Normally our talks are held in the Fulbrook Meeting Place at the back of Fulbrook Church. However, our first post-Covid meeting will be held in **Burford Church** at 3pm on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September with free entrance.

On 1st September Brigadier Clendon Daukes, a local expert and guide, will walk us around

Burford Church, highlighting many of its fascinating features and legends.

In Simon Jenkins's book "*England's Thousand Best Churches*," Burford Church of St John the Baptist was one of only 18 parish churches awarded 5 stars.

If you would like a reminder about a week before the meeting, please e-mail [fulbrookforum@gmail.com](mailto:fulbrookforum@gmail.com) to join our mailing list.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to offer refreshments at this our first meeting of 2022.

*Oliver Sharpley*

## **HISTORY GROUP**

The History Group held our latest meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022. We were joined by a new member; John Learoyd – if you still have a copy of the September 2020 issue of this Newsletter, you will find on page 12 an article and photo of the seat that he erected on the road to Swinbrook in memory of the Crook family.

John told us that Alfie Jewell had died the previous week. Alfie had a large collection of photographs he had taken of Burford and the surrounding areas and we had a discussion of what might happen to these photos.

He also showed us a photo of the War Memorial with Pytts Barn in the background showing the section of the barn that was demolished in 1958 to make room for the road widening scheme.

Finally, he showed us a letter that he had found among his late father's possessions, which Anne Weir read out to us. The letter was from Bertie Edward Crook, Harvey Crook's uncle, to his mother Alice and was dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 1917, a week before he was killed in action in France.

Maurice Eldridge showed us a photo that he had found on the internet of Pytts House that showed a canopy over the front door that is no longer there. We had an inconclusive discussion on what date this photo would have been taken.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 at Triggers House, Meadow Lane. We would like to increase the size of the Group,

so if you've been inspired by The Secret History of Fulbrook articles to learn more about the history of our village, please come and join us.

*Laurence Balbes*

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

We are still looking for a new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator after Jim MacAllan stepped down at the end of December 2020. If you would be interested in taking up this important role, please contact the Parish Clerk, Sarah Ebeling on [clerk@fulbrookvillage.net](mailto:clerk@fulbrookvillage.net) or 07484 178143.

### **NOTE FROM THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

We would like to apologise in advance that the September issue of the Newsletter will be late as our compiler Laurence Balbes will be on holiday during the middle two weeks of August when he would normally be compiling the issue.

We hope to be able to deliver it to you during the second week of September.

### **Bewitched Bothered and Bewildered**

Responses to life are so many and varied.  
Depressed or excited or angry or fearful  
We sample them all at one time or another,  
But what will prevail when it comes to our dying?  
Some will have hope of a world to come,  
And some will have hope it does not.

John Hoyle

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



In 1786 Robert Burns wrote in his poem 'To a Mouse' 'the best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry', a phrase later taken up by John Steinbeck in his similarly titled novel. Never could there be a truer sentiment. No sooner had the FaB WI Program Planning Group come up with the final version of our 2022 calendar of events than it was thrown into confusion by our April speaker, Alistair Lack, being sent into isolation by Covid. Fortunately local stone sculptor Martin Cash, who was our May speaker, kindly agreed to step into the breach.

The rest of our 2022 program has now been remodelled. Alistair Lack will now join us in September to talk about 'The Oxford of Morse'. This should be an exciting talk and we anticipate it will attract many guests on the evening. Our traditional September Harvest Supper is moving to October and the October 'Well-Being Evening' was moved back to fill the May gap.

We have no June meeting as we make room for all the amazing events of the Burford Festival but the WI will be out in force serving teas at the Quaker Meeting House on both Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> 2.30 – 4.30 p.m. to support the Burford Open Gardens.

Looking forward, in July we are delighted to welcome back Gareth John from Fulbrook. Gareth's knowledge of bee keeping has fascinated us in the past. This time his talk titled 'Sun Hives & Bees go to Rye Hill Prison' sounds intriguing. Finally as an added bonus on the 19<sup>th</sup> July we plan a visit to Pettifers Garden. Pettifers is an English garden in the Oxfordshire village of Wardington. Since 1984, owner Gina Price has transformed it into one of the most influential gardens in England. It should be a lovely excursion.

Our August meeting is a new departure for our group; we plan a scavenger hunt in Burford with our treasures being used in an art challenge back at our Warwick Hall home.

However, the WI is far more than great speakers and fellowship at our monthly meetings. There is so much more and there are opportunities for individual members to follow their interests at local and national levels. Each year the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) selects a Resolution of national importance to support. This year we hope to be challenging the issues of misdiagnosis and lack of support for women and girls with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Past resolutions have involved members in tackling the important environmental and social issues of our times.

The FaB WI also has a thriving theatre group organized by Sue Newport. So far this season Sue has sold 86 tickets to a total of 9 shows from serious drama to spirit lifting musicals. By booking as a group we get the benefit of excellent reductions on ticket prices as well.

Then as a member of the Oxfordshire Federation of WIs we have the opportunity to join with other WI members to enjoy visits and events beyond our own locality. In April three of our members joined other OFWI members at the NEC Creative Craft Show. Later in the year there are trips to London, Wells, Compton Acres and Poole Harbour and Bristol Docks. There is something for everyone in the WI.

The FaB WI meets on the second Tuesday of each month in the Warwick Hall at 7.30pm and warmly welcomes visitors to all of our meetings. For further information please visit our website [thefabwi.org.uk](http://thefabwi.org.uk) or contact our President, Jennie Craven, on [thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:thefabwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk) or at 07710 103015.

*Angela Weller (a FaB WI member)*

# Fulbrook News and Views

## From the Editorial Team.....

In this issue we include details of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee party, a report on the Plant Sale, articles on the Fulbrook for Ukraine group and the Fulbrook Nature Group 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 Secret history of Fulbrook?

We have not been able to include the next instalment of our Secret History of Fulbrook series in this issue as Lyn Bibbings has recently had an operation and was not sufficiently recovered to write it by the time we went to press.

We will resume the series in the September issue.

## Happy Fulbrook Memories

In the last couple of issues we've been following Annie Purcell's lovely journey through some of her memories of life in Fulbrook. Here she includes extracts from her diary, recalling walks, village fetes and many of us still living in the village. Read on .....

### Diary, 1987, The Walking Group.

At 7.30am, I would be up and about walking with my friends Joan Smith, Mwyndeg Alexander, Margaret Garlick, Cora and sometimes Mary Kennedy. Only if it snowed or the rain came down in sheets, would we give each other three rings and call it off for the next day.

Margaret was a Botanist, and would point out all the many wild life plants and flowers. Walking to Swinbrook, although we couldn't see him, we could certainly smell Foxy. It was a delightful time of the morning to take in all that was before us and breathe in the sweet scented air.

Blackberry picking was a day to look forward to, however the ladies would be up and into the fields long before me. My efforts would be meagre compared with their full bowls of delicious fruit. Eventually we would make our way home, with the ladies giving me a push up the hill to make sure I arrived home in one piece.

In the winter we would loom out of the mist to some unsuspecting motorist on his or her way to work, and I believe they thought we were the cleaning ladies. Joan recalls meeting one of the Mitford Sisters making her way home from Swinbrook, not sure if it was Unity, who belonged to Hitler's inner circle of friends.

### Diary, September 1993.

Fulbrook Fete on July 24th 1993 defied the weather and the recession, showers in the morning gave way to comfortable temperatures and white clouds in a blue sky. A number of flyovers from the Fairford Air Show provided an added attraction, but the variety of activities on the ground resulted in a record breaking

£2,400 being raised. Thanks to Dr and Mrs Sharpley who allowed this invasion to take place on their premises.

The last village fete I remember helping with was held with kind permission of Jill North Lewis, in her field, a beautiful venue for such an event. It rained on and off throughout the day. Nicola Hillman and I were assigned to washing up duty under a small canopy, needless to say most of the time we used the water from the brook. No health and safety around then. It was still a wonderful happy unforgettable day, enjoyed by all.

### **Diary 1st May 2008**

Fulbrook Fellowship Committee Members: Christopher Rose, Ann Purcell, Anne Vessey, Tricia Picking and David Foster

A record number of people turned up to hear Dr Ram Babu-Narayan talk on the subject "From East to West - Experiences of migration". Dr Ram gave a most interesting and thoughtful talk about his experiences as a doctor in Britain since the 1960s, with some very humorous asides. Altogether a most enjoyable event.

### **Diary 3rd May 2007**

"Making a difference For Children" by Wendy Rose. I quote from Wendy's notes:

Three Facts:

England a hundred years ago had laws against cruelty to animals before cruelty to children;  
There are currently between three and four million children living in poverty in England (in households with less than half the average income) leading to restricted opportunities for children;  
There are ten million children orphaned in sub-Saharan Africa as the result of AIDS.

Wendy talked to us about her work on the management committee of Home-Start UK as a trustee, and as a civil servant in the Department of Health, she was involved in determining the government annual grant to a then young voluntary organisation, providing volunteers to families with young children in need of support and friendship.

Home-Start is now the leading family support Charity in the UK, with 20,000 Volunteers working with 345 Schemes across the UK and British Forces in Germany and Cyprus.

### **Diary 5th and 7th of June 2008.**

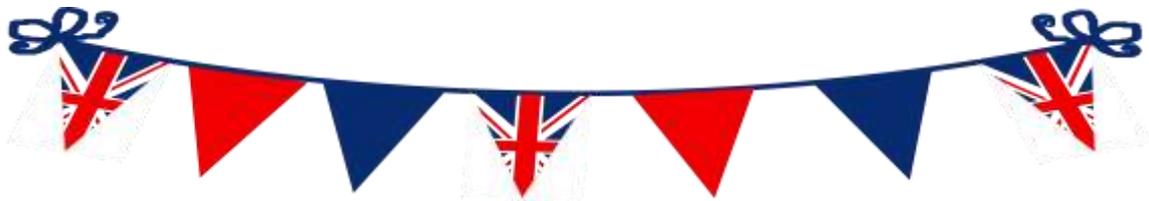
Fulbrook "Past and Present."

An Exhibition of Fulbrook people and places, from the past to present day with contributions from Alfred Jewell, Maurice Eldridge and many other Fulbrook people.

David Foster writes, "We asked for a donation from visitors, hoping to cover the cost of renting the FMP for the day, and collected enough to cover the rental several times over. The surplus, of £89, was donated to SeeSaw, a local charity providing support to bereaved children and young people".

### **Diary 3rd July 2008**

Strawberry Tea held at Chubbs Close by kind permission of Molly and David Woolley.



## **FULBROOK JUBILEE PARTY**

**GRANGE FARM, JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> 12.30 – 4.30 p.m.**

**Entry by ticket only**

**£5 (£3 children under 12) to include BBQ.**

**Children's activities, games, village 'all comers' rounders match.**

**'BRING AND SHARE' afternoon tea.**

**Pay bar (Cash only)**

**TICKETS – contact our Parish Clerk 07484 178143 or**

**clerk@fulbrookvillage.net**



## BURFORD TOLSEY MUSEUM & ARCHIVE



### Friends of BURFORD TOLSEY

#### **FRIENDS OF THE BURFORD TOLSEY 2022/23 MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW NOW**

The free year's membership as a 'Friend of the Burford Tolley' expires on the 31st August. You are invited to renew or join now, because your financial and voluntary support as a new, or an existing Friend, is vital to support the Museum and your new Community Archive Centre that opens later this year.

To become a Friend, or renew your membership, the annual payment is £10 p.p. per year, or £25 to be a Benefactor, although if you are able to contribute more, we would be most grateful. In return, as a small thank you, you will be able to enjoy a range of benefits for the 12 months commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 including:

- Artefacts – our twice-yearly e-update for Friends & Benefactors
- Monthly e-News – our magazine with locally focussed articles
- Free participation in local projects
- An additional discount for subscribing to the Tolley Talks Complete Series

**Benefactors will additionally be invited to an Annual Benefactors Reception.**

There are a two ways to become a Friend or Benefactor

- (1) Download and complete the Application Form from [www.burfordtolsey.org/join](http://www.burfordtolsey.org/join). Or
- (2) You can join online (again see the above address), using a debit or credit card..

**If you are a UK taxpayer, please complete the Gift Aid section so we can receive an additional 25p for every £1 you give to us at no extra cost to you.**

For further information, please contact Lynnette Derry, Membership Secretary on [LDerry1@aol.com](mailto:LDerry1@aol.com)



### TOLSEY TALKS



#### **NEW - TOLSEY TALKS – ON-LINE SUBSCRIPTION SERIES**

As part of our commitment to introduce new experiences, we are planning a series of ten 'Tolley Talks' to be exclusively delivered via Zoom on the fourth Thursday in the month, commencing later this year. They will feature a wide range of topics, predominantly Burford & District related but will also include some topics of County interest.

We intend to charge £5 per household for access to each Talk, payable online, although a special 'complete series subscription rate' will be available, and for Friends & Benefactors, there will be an even lower charge.

Full details of the Tolley Talks programme will follow shortly, but the speakers already include Clendon Daukes, Chris Walker, Sue Ashton & Raymond Moody. In the meantime, if you wish to suggest a speaker, a topic or have any other queries please contact David Cohen on [cohen4sp@btinternet.com](mailto:cohen4sp@btinternet.com).

**Clendon Daukes, Chairman**



A small group of us met in early March. We, like everyone, were desperate to send help of any sort to Ukraine to try to alleviate some of the pain and trauma which has been stalking their land since the beginning of the Russian invasion. The initial plan was to raise money for Stand with Ukraine - a Justgiving initiative which was aiming to send a lorry full of medical aid directly to surgeons in Kyiv, but also to give any surplus to RefugEase - a small but worthy charity working very much on the ground in Ukraine supplying aid and evacuation relief.

The first point on the plan was founded on the hope that our brilliant pub, The Carpenters Arms, would be able to help us host a big fund raise. The rest, as they say, is history, and a Ukrainian evening was planned to celebrate Ukrainian culture, show solidarity with the people of Ukraine and most importantly to raise funds for our two chosen charities. The evening of 1 April was such a sell out that the Carpenters held another event, complete with silent auction and raffle, the very next night! Flags, a huge banner outside the pub, table decorations and ribbon badges, together with themed blue and yellow lighting and a feverish sowing of sunflower seeds were all generously whipped up and produced in the desire to do something helpful and hopeful. The generosity of a large number of shopkeepers and businesses in Fulbrook, Burford and the surrounding area in giving prizes for the auction and raffle was staggering. Equally astonishing was the generosity of Fulbrook Villagers and others who attended the two evenings - the total raised was an incredible £5,558!



A display of photographs and information about the work of RefugEase together with an appeal for further donations was made at Swinbrook Church on Easter Sunday and the following two Sundays, raising the astounding sum of £6063, and Tricia Picking's delightful Coffee Morning added a further £350, so that now the GRAND TOTAL has almost reached £12,000. We have helped send two consignments of medical aid direct to surgeons in Kyiv, delivered by heroic volunteers in the face of immense dangers. We are also providing the monthly running costs for a minibus (+ team), who are evacuating desperate families and children from dangerous areas, together with aid in the form of food parcels, hygiene packs and baby items, blankets and even some toys for the children (all sourced in Ukraine or nearby countries).

There is a waterproof poster at the foot of Westhall Hill which documents how much we've raised and it will also advertise upcoming events. These include "Duets for Ukraine", on the 29th of May at 1.00pm at Burford Garden Company with other events in the pipeline at the Burford Festival.

We now have a beautiful Fulbrook for Ukraine logo, plus a "tool kit" for fund raising. It includes poster materials, display boards with photos and information about RefugEase, very smart badges, a card reader for those who are cashless, together with help and/or support from both Sarah Horner and Hilary Tadman-Robins. If anyone would like to pick up the baton and run any sort of fund- raising event, (a coffee morning, a lunch, a BBQ, a children's event, a sponsored-something or a garden party?) please contact Sarah or Hilary, who have all the kit and can introduce you to our little group.



Finally, huge thanks to the amazing people who have given so much with unstinting generosity of time, money, energy and support - and all in the time frame of a few, short weeks! There is more to do. PLEASE plan an event and get stuck in to continuing Fulbrook's determination to stand alongside Ukraine in their terrible hour of need.

## **Burford Singers – Summer Concerts**

Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 7.30pm

Church of St John the Baptist, Church Green, Burford OX18 4RY

Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 7.30pm

Parish Church of St Mary, Horse Fair, Banbury, OX16 0AA

Morten Lauridsen: Lux Aeterna

Choral 'lollipops' including works by Handel, Parry, Fauré, Elgar, Bruckner and others

Burford Singers

Conductor: Brian Kay

Accompanist: Robin Baggs

**Burford tickets:**

Tickets reserved at £20, £15, £10, unreserved £8

Online booking to 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (Booking fee applies)

at <https://www.burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/>

Booking in person (unreserved tickets only) to 18<sup>th</sup> June at

The Madhatter Bookshop

122, High Street, Burford OX18 4QJ

And on the door

**Banbury tickets:**

£15 – all unreserved

Online booking to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (Booking fee applies)

at <https://www.burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/>

Personal booking to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at Banbury Tourist Information Centre, Castle Quay Shopping Centre

And on the door

Full details on our website <https://www.burfordsingers.org.uk/events/>

### **WELCOME PACKS**

If you know of someone who has moved into the village and would like to receive copies of the Fulbrook Village and Burford and District WELCOME PACKS, please could you let me know either by phone on 01993 823260 or by email to [nicolahillmanart@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nicolahillmanart@yahoo.co.uk). Thank you.

*Nicola Hillman*

## Your new District Councillor

This is my first article for the Fulbrook News and also my first as your new District Councillor. Thank you very much to Laurence Balbes for his invitation to contribute.

At the time of writing, I have only just been elected and news on progress of changes in control at WODC and on my campaign issues lie ahead. So I thought that it might be of interest to tell you about what it's like to campaign for such a post.

First, I would not have thrown my hat into the ring if Derek Cotterill had not been retiring after his 16 years of service to the Burford Ward, for which we all owe him a tremendous vote of thanks. During his tenure, he has taken on a wide range of roles in the District and in other bodies and charities, and has been very effective in them. Long may many of those continue!

I confess that I approached my campaign with some trepidation as to the reception I might receive while marching under a Lib Dem banner. Would political party trump local credentials? Clearly not in retrospect, but this was not to be taken for granted and I know it has been a novel, if not unique, experience for many to shift the allegiance of a lifetime. Thank you for entrusting me with your vote. I won't let you down, and promise that my support at the District will be for the policies that best serve our community.

Campaigning was a new experience for me. I have endured job interviews before, but only a handful of times over my career. Canvassing is like presenting yourself to be assessed at every door. *Will I be recognised?* This became easier as my leaflets were read. *Will I be welcomed?* It takes a moment for a disturbed resident's expression to soften from "What do you want?" into "I am interested to hear what you have to say". *What will the top issue be?* Luckily this was mainly things like lorries, speedsters, car parking, Windrush pollution, over-development - matters I know something about. Not so often about bin collection, housing support, dog waste, fly tipping – matters I know less about now, but will know more about in the future! Occasionally about veganism, transgender issues and fracking – I can guarantee there will be no fracking in the Burford Ward under my watch!

But the process of getting out and about across the Ward and experiencing all the byways and lanes was very rewarding. The weather was fine and our town and villages are a pleasure to walk through and explore anyway. No hardship there. It was fascinating to discover the nooks and crannies of Fulbrook, as well as Burford and Taynton, and to see that we come from all walks of life. We live in a very privileged place, with some of the most beautiful properties in the land, but there are also doors behind which life is clearly a struggle. That contrast was very much brought home to me.

And then there was the count itself. It was 5am before the Burford Ward box was tipped open for counting, it did not take too long until it seemed they had lost a bundle of 25 votes. Panic on the faces of the counting team, but they discovered it had been attached to another bundle. The sun was rising through the mists in the Windrush valley as Sue and I made ourselves home in exhausted shock, and filled with sympathy for the counting team that was due to reassemble in just three hours to count the town and parish votes!

So, quite an experience! And now the work begins. I am sure you need no encouragement to let me know of any District-related issues for me to follow up on your behalf.

**Hugo Ashton, District Councillor for Burford, Fulbrook and Taynton**  
hugo.ashton@westoxon.gov.uk or 0771 2490517



## NEWS FROM FULBROOK CHURCH

### and a Warm Welcome to All

The Church of St James the Great has a small but very friendly congregation church that welcomes all comers, whether you are villager or visitor, and whether you are thinking of coming regularly or just to an occasional service. The services are traditional, with plenty of lusty hymn singing, lovely organ music and following either the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) or Common Worship (CW).

There is a service on most Sundays at 9.30am (see the schedule below). The church is open during the hours of daylight, whether you want to look at the lovely ancient Norman building which dates from 1120, to feel the peaceful atmosphere or to pray quietly. The church is for all of us and the Fulbrook Meeting Place (at the back of the Church) is the nearest we have to a village hall and is available for residents to book for meetings, classes and small parties at very reasonable rates. Please contact Lyn Bibbings to make an enquiry or a booking on 01993 823640.

**Please come and find us, you will always be very welcome.**

Date All services at 9.30am	Week in the Church year	Type of service	Led by
<b>May 29th</b>	Easter 7th	Benefice Holy Communion (CW)	Rev. Dick Farr
<b>June 5th in BURFORD</b>	Pentecost	Benefice Holy Communion (CW)	BURFORD
<b>June 12th</b>	Trinity Sunday	Morning Prayer (CW)	Rev. Tom Putt
<b>June 19th</b>	Trinity +1	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Congregant Led
<b>June 26th</b>	Trinity +2	Holy Communion (BCP)	

**The usual pattern of Sunday services for future months**

- \*1st Sunday of every month there will be a single Benefice Holy Communion service at 9.30am in either Fulbrook, Burford or Taynton (in rotation) where everyone is invited.
  - \*2nd Sunday will be a clergy led 9.30am service of Morning Prayer in Fulbrook
  - \*3rd Sunday will be a lay led 9.30am service of Morning Prayer in Fulbrook
  - \*4th Sunday will be a clergy led 9.30am Holy Communion service.
  - \*5th Sunday, where it occurs, will be a Benefice Holy Communion service similar to Week 1.
- We welcome feedback (good or ill) on how this on this new pattern of services works for you.

**HELP NEEDED PLEASE!**

Lyn has resigned as Churchwarden after 5 years of service, and while we are looking for a new Churchwarden we need some extra help please. The Church is an asset belonging to everyone in Fulbrook village and we welcome help from any residents. There are a number of things that need doing and we have rotas for some of these, such as:

- Helping to maintain the church building
- maintaining the churchyard
- opening and closing the church every day for one or two weeks in the year so that we can keep it open for people to use freely
- arranging flowers in the church for one or two weeks of the year;
- cleaning the church (dusting, polishing, sweeping) for an hour or so twice a year
- plan and organise events - both fundraising and for social events (or a bit of each!).

**If you feel you could help - a little or a lot - we should be very pleased to hear from you - please ring Lyn on 01993 823640 or John on 01993 824044.**

**Thank you!**

# Fulbrook Plant Sale - 2022



The Fulbrook Plant Sale returned on a lovely sunny Saturday, in the new venue of the Carpenters Arms garden.

All the favourites were there:

- Plants
- Homemade Cakes
- Bottle Stall
- Bric-a-brac
- Raffle
- Bacon butties
- Tea and Coffee

Many thanks to all of the villagers running the stalls and the Carpenters Arms for providing the venue and the bacon rolls!

And even more thanks to everyone who came and made it a great success. It had the feel of a village fete, which may be an idea for next year.

We raised a splendid £1,219.30 and this will go towards the upgrade of the Playpark as well as under writing the Jubilee celebration on Sunday 5th June.

Here's hoping that this will be the first of many successful Plant Sales to come.

Malcolm Taylor  
Amenities Group



## NEWS FROM THE FULBROOK MEETING PLACE

Hurray! The Fulbrook Meeting Place is now open again for bookings! This is the space at the back of the church which we use for church and community events, both regular and for special occasions such as lunches or parties. Contact Lyn Bibbings on 01993 823640 for more information or to book.

We already have booked in the post-Covid Keep Fit classes run by Pat Ferret. These run every Thursday morning from 9-10am, £3 per class or £12 per calendar month. Please contact Pat on 01993 822892 if you would like to join, or just turn up with suitable shoes and a mat if possible.

*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](mailto:lynbibbings1@gmail.com).*

### **Fulbrook Nature Group**

As we all know, nature is having a very difficult time at the moment. In February a few villagers with support from the Wychwood Forest Trust, came together and decided we wanted to do more to support nature in the village. We've now had two meetings at the Carpenters Arms (who've made us very welcome!). We've decided on three main areas to focus on. The first is surveying butterflies in our gardens and the churchyard – butterfly records are very sparse for this part of West Oxfordshire and the Wychwood Forest Trust are working with lots of local parishes providing the ID guides and recording charts– we hope that by gathering data on an annual basis we'll have a better understanding of which species we have in the village and how their numbers are changing over time. We can try also to plant appropriate butterfly-friendly plants. If you'd like to have a go at recording butterflies please do let me know as I have lots of packs available and it only takes a few minutes a month.

Our second project is to look at our wildflower verges and how to manage them better for wildlife. Verges are such important corridors for nature and with slight changes in the mowing regimes they can provide a vital habitat for wildlife. We've just been given the go-ahead from the parish council to trial a new wildflower verge on the left hand side of Cocklands Hill as you head towards Burford. Currently a tightly mown verge we hope that with less mowing in the summer months any wildflowers that are there will be given the opportunity to grow. Keep an eye out on your walks into Burford! We hope to build on this and work with the parish council to look at all the village verges, including re-surveying the designated Nature reserve verges so carefully established by Joan Lilly and others.

Finally, as part of my involvement with Tree Planting initiatives in the county, in the Autumn I'm hoping to be able to give away some free native garden trees in the form of saplings (silver birch, rowan, crab apple, hawthorn etc). As a village, it would be lovely to be able to plant 70 garden trees in Fulbrook for the Queen's Green Canopy and have a real benefit for wildlife in years to come. Do let me know if you'd like one!

Our next Fulbrook Nature Group meeting is on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm at the Carpenters and everyone's warmly invited to come along. As always do get in touch if you'd like to know more.

Lucy Staveley;      lucy.staveley@gmail.com, 07929 861712



Connect! Is a Citizens Advice project where trained Volunteers visit clients to help them make the most of their digital devices for FREE.

Since the start of Covid-19 many people are isolated. People can't socialise or go shopping, some go days without seeing anyone. Our volunteers can help with any digital need, from how to use a smartphone to making video calls to shopping online and online safety, all at the client's pace.

This is an exciting project that has been a great success in Cherwell and we are now rolling it out throughout Oxfordshire

Do you know someone who could benefit? Do you know someone with spare time who would like to help others?

Further details from:

Website: <https://www.canosn.org.uk/cat/connect>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BridgingtheDigitalDivideOxon>

Email: [connect.info@cano.org.uk](mailto:connect.info@cano.org.uk)

Telephone: 0300 004 0401



## BURFORD and DISTRICT SOCIETY

### **Annual Garden Party – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, Springfield House, Witney Street**

This year to avoid clashing with the magnificent Burford Festival, our ever popular, annual Garden Party, will take place a little later in the month, on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June.

Springfield House is only a short, comfortable and enjoyable walk just beyond the 'Burford gates' but for those who prefer, there will also be ample onsite parking. If you are coming by car, you may wish to pop a couple of folding chairs into the boot.

The Garden Party will be from 3 to 5pm. This is a free event but it is strictly a members only event and pre-registration is essential. Booking is now open on our website.

If you have yet to renew or would like to join there is still time. Membership is £10 for the calendar year and application forms can be completed online, see [www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk](http://www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk)



### **Looking ahead**

To enable those members who simply have to climb the Himalayas, need to go white water rafting or must revisit their clinics to top up the elixir prolonging their youthfulness, we do not meet during the summer holiday months. We will return on the 20<sup>th</sup> September for a fascinating talk with amazing images to be given by Dr Richard Smith, entitled 'Wonders of the Ocean: The World Beneath'.

**Peter Martin, Chairman**

[peteremartin@btinternet.com](mailto:peteremartin@btinternet.com)

[www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk](http://www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk)

## Mavis Perceval, 25 January 1935 – 17 February 2022

Mavis moved to Fulbrook with her husband, Spencer, in the early 1980s, after he retired. Mavis loved her home on Garne's Lane, then called Southview, and was a keen and creative gardener, a creativity which she carried over to her new home in Banbury when she moved there a few years ago to live with her son, Adrian.

Her house in Fulbrook was a source of great pride to her and was always immaculate – *as was she!* She loved entertaining – you didn't go to dinner there dressed in tee shirt and shorts. And you would be served an ample and delicious meal with no shortage of good wine (and gin!) and good company.

But Mavis was also adventurous and, together with Spencer, travelled extensively around the UK and Europe in a mobile home in the 1980s and 1990s. She loved to reminisce about the trips that she and Spencer had made and the adventures they'd had. They got as far as Lake Balaton in the middle of Hungary before the end of the Soviet era in the 1980s, which must have been quite an adventure at the time.

Mavis's spirit of adventure and willingness to try new experiences didn't end there. She continued to travel after Spencer's death and made several quite arduous but exciting trips with Adrian and his wife, Josie.

- To the Harley Davidson, 110 years of Freedom, European Celebration, in Rome in 2013, where she happily played grandmother to the bikers, riding round the eternal city on the back of a bike to be blessed by the Pope.
- And to the Philippines, twice, to visit Josie's family and take part in life there for a while. Not a journey to be lightly undertaken by a near octogenarian.

But Mavis wore her age lightly. She was never less than perfectly dressed and stylish, taking great care with her nails and hair, reflecting her early training as a hairdresser. And her choice of clothes had timeless good taste.

When not on her travels, Mavis played a full part in Fulbrook village life. Although not a regular church-goer herself, for many years she helped arrange flowers for services at Fulbrook church, again with a very good eye for style and appearance, and she was instrumental in establishing the weekly Keep Fit group which operated in the Fulbrook Meeting Place at the back of the church and which is still going strong.

She supported the many regular village events such as fêtes and plant sales, running stalls or making teas, and raised money for the Air Ambulance – a charity she and Spencer both strongly supported - by selling her own jewellery at the village's Queen's Jubilee celebrations in 2012 together with Gilly Kay, and running raffles for the Keep Fit Group at its Christmas lunches - which she organised to undo the Group's good work over the rest of the year.

And, in the best possible way, Mavis supported the two pubs we had in the village, The Mason's and Carpenter's Arms. She formed firm friendships there with Jim and Anne Weir, Anne Anderson and me, and introduced us all to the particular delights of Keith Fitchew's company and skills as a teller of dubious tall tales. Together with Jim and Anne she would sit at a table in my garden in September peeling and cutting apples for our annual cider-making, whilst enjoying a glass of last year's product.

Mavis was kind, generous and thoughtful. She always remembered and marked family and friends' birthdays and Christmas with cards and presents.

We miss you, Mavis, our kind, elegant, and warm friend.

*Bob Tivey*





## **The Arts Society Cotswolds Lecture**

Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 at 11am

The Warwick Hall, Burford or via Zoom.

### **Music in Art with Sophie Matthews**

Orpheus could literally charm the birds out of the trees with his music, yet he failed to bring his beloved Eurydice safely out of the Underworld. All he had to do was to lead her up to the light without looking back at her. Unsurprisingly this tale of a legendary singer who lost his beloved through a single glance has inspired much great music (including the first masterpiece of opera, Monteverdi's Orfeo), and visual artists too have responded to this tragic story of love and loss. Explore the wealth of art and music on the theme, with a rich array of paintings and musical examples from Monteverdi, Gluck, and Offenbach, even taking in the Can-Can!

About our speaker:

Sophie is a musician well-known for her prowess on the English border bagpipes and has become one of the foremost players of the instrument in the UK. She also plays a variety of early woodwind instruments such as shawm, rauschpfeife, crumhorn and recorder.

Members can book via the website and Zoom invitations are sent via the newsletter. Non-members are welcome and can also book via the website for a suggested donation of £10. For more information, please contact Frances Sparkes on 01993 823943, [publicity@theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk](mailto:publicity@theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk) or [www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk)

## **NORTH COTSWOLD ARTS ASSOCIATION**

Not to be confused with The Arts Society, Cotswolds, NCAA are a friendly group of local artists who meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at The Warwick Hall, Burford Church at 2-4 pm. The NCAA has been going for over fifty years, initially at Broadwell, then Stow on the Wold and latterly at Burford, so truly North Cotswold.

Our members use a variety of media including jewellery, ceramics and glassware. Most months we have a demonstration and, so far this year, we have had talks on mixed media, a comparison of art and photography, and print making. In previous years we have been taught how to make reed pens and create mosaics. However unlikely the subject seems there is always something that inspires or improves our own technique. Sometimes, we just meet to paint together or offer critiques to each other. We also have a regular painting group who meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at Broadwell Village Hall.

The big event of our year is the Summer Exhibition, held in The Warwick Hall at the end of August. This gives our members a chance to sell not only their varied work but also both prints and cards of their pictures. There are tables for the crafts so there is something of interest for everyone and we get a good number of visitors over the week.

Although we continued throughout the pandemic by 'zooming' we are now back to normal and would like to invite other artists, beginners to experts, to join us. Our annual subscription is only £25 but do come along and try us out.

For further information please do contact Alexa Buffery on 07999 589387 or email [alexa\\_buffery@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alexa_buffery@yahoo.co.uk).

Our programme for the next few months is as follows:

Wednesday 8th June: Painting en plain air, or still life in the hall, Warwick Hall, Burford, 2-4 pm.

Wednesday 13th July: 'Using Coloured Pencils' by Jackie Cox, Warwick Hall, Burford, 2-4 pm.

Monday 28th August: Annual Summer Exhibition, Monday 28th August to Saturday 3rd September, Warwick Hall, Burford, 10am – 5pm.

Wednesday 12th October: 'Mixed Media/Drawing & Painting' by Eleanor Campbell, Professional local Artist trained at Glasgow School of Art. Warwick Hall, Burford, 2-4pm.

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

### Chargrilled baby aubergines meze

As spring hesitantly morphs into summer and the smell of hot charcoal combines with the waft of expensive perfume as metropolitan elite visitors from London descend upon you for their free Cotswolds holidays, their strange new ways will no doubt include vegetarianism and perhaps even veganism. Thus, the stars align and I have the perfect opportunity to share a vegetarian BBQ recipe with you; make a few substitutions- see below- and you could be heading towards gold star territory with a dairy free offering. This is a Middle East inspired meze type dish that is fun to make and delicious to eat. You will impress friends and let them know you are on trend!

#### Ingredients

- 700g baby aubergines, halved lengthways
- 2 tbsp olive oil, plus extra for the couscous
- 500g giant couscous, or use buckwheat (if buying in Sainsbury's you may as well get Risana Kasza, which you will find in with the Polish foods)
- 1 litre vegetable stock (I recently spotted *umami* stock cubes by Kallo who also make the vegetable stock cubes I usually use)
- 2 lemons, zested and juiced
- a small bunch mint, chopped
- a small bunch dill, chopped
- 2 x 200g tubs hummus (try Sabra or Ramona brands both available from Waitrose or Sainsbury... they are particularly flavoursome)
- 150ml natural yogurt (I prefer Greek full fat for both flavour and texture) Your local supermarket helpfully sells dairy alternative on of which is Alpro 'Greek style yoghurt alternative' (made from soy)
- 4 large roasted red peppers from a jar, chopped
- 4 tbsp pomegranate molasses (if you don't routinely stock this erotica, boil and reduce some cranberry juice with a couple of spoons of sugar and a dash of balsamic vinegar as a substitute... or as a last resort, use honey and lemon)
- 200g block feta, crumbled (for the vegan option, our reliable friends at Waitrose do a Violife produce called 'Greek white block' which can be your substitute)
- 4 tbsp pine nuts, toasted
- mini pittas warmed to serve

#### Method

- **STEP 1 The aubergines:**

Heat the oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6. Toss the aubergines with the olive oil and lots of seasoning. Spread out on a large oiled baking tray and cook for 20-30 minutes or until completely soft and golden, and there's no sponginess left. Alternatively, you can BBQ over indirect heat, turning and cooking until completely soft and golden. Once cooked, cover with foil to keep warm and soften a little more.

- **STEP 2 The Couscous (or buckwheat)**

Pour a little olive oil into a large frying pan, add the giant couscous then fry for 2-3 minutes or until golden. Pour in the vegetable stock and cook for 10-15 minutes or until just tender. Stir in 1/2 the lemon zest and juice, cool and stir in most of the herbs.

Buckwheat is simply cooked in boiling water for about 15 minutes (though I expect vegetable stock would be tasty)

- **STEP 3 Assembly and service**

Mix the hummus with the yogurt and the rest of the lemon juice and zest, then spoon onto 8 plates and spread out. Top with the couscous and red peppers. Arrange the aubergines on top of the couscous and drizzle with some of the pomegranate molasses. Scatter over the feta and pine nuts, then another drizzle of molasses and the remaining herbs. Serve with the pittas.

**Extras**

*There are a number of alternatives in the ingredients list... be daring, experiment... you friends will dine out on the experience for months*



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[info@thecarpentersarmsfulbrook.co.uk](mailto:info@thecarpentersarmsfulbrook.co.uk)

Phone: 01993 823 823

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

June 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> - Beer & Steak festival

June 3<sup>rd</sup> 7pm-midnight – Tickets for sale  
5 PIECE MOTOWN BAND & BBQ

August 29th - BBQ & Music 12-4pm

July 1<sup>st</sup> – Feast night 7pm



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