

# The Fulbrook News

## Our Quarterly Newsletter

March 2022

Number 88



Cyclamen in the  
entrance to  
Fulbrook  
Churchyard,  
taken by Lyn  
Bibbings to give  
us all a foretaste  
of Spring

**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: June 2022, Copy Date – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 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,

How variable the weather has been recently; bright, sunny and still days followed by wind and driving rain - but the winter has been pretty mild and the spring bulbs are well advanced. A wagtail has been seen on Westhall Hill pond - an endorsement of the sterling work of those who refurbished it recently and made it much more wildlife-friendly. But I'm often depressed by the decline in birdlife I've witnessed in the village in the 30-odd years I've been here, and it's sad that a wagtail is worth reporting.

It's good news that the plant sale is going to happen again this year after a break of 2 years (see page 11 for further details) - and I won't have to have a table by my gate with a notice inviting passers-by to help themselves to my surplus plants; and also that the Forum is in the process of reviving.

Congratulations to the stalwart team at the Carpenters' Arms for being picked by the Times newspaper as one of 31 best pubs in the country for a "festive drink" (31! - what an odd number to pick!). Congratulations also to Lesley and Gavin Beveridge for their forthcoming golden wedding anniversary celebration in May, to Gareth and Lynne John for the arrival of an adopted granddaughter Juliet Anothando who lives in South Africa, and to Joan Smith who will be 103 on St George's Day. Jennifer Capon has achieved the age of 90 - High Meadow has been her home now for 53 years.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Tony Picking and send our condolences to Tricia. Please see the tribute to Tony on page 4. We have also heard the sad news that Mavis Percival, who used to run the keep fit classes in the village, died on 17<sup>th</sup> February.

By the time you read this Cedric Reavley should be back at home and recovering after his stay at the Churchill Hospital to treat an infection that arose after his cancer surgery. We wish him all the best and that the recovery goes well.

There was a nasty accident during Storm Eunice on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February and Alan Corney was crushed between a car and a fence, requiring an air ambulance. At the time of writing, he is in intensive care. The air ambulance crew did a fantastic job trying to land the helicopter, given the weather conditions.

At our recent editorial team meeting we highlighted the need for vigilance in the village after sightings of suspicious vehicles parked on or near our verges. We no longer have a Neighbourhood Watch report in the issues so this is just a reminder that the need to look out for, and report, these incidents is paramount. Some of us have been disturbed by callers asking us to buy at the door - young people on some kind of scheme to provide them with work. Perhaps we feel that we'd like to help, but it has come to our attention that these unfortunate souls could be being 'run' by unscrupulous managers for ill-gotten gains and the best way to make a difference is to contribute to registered charities set up for this purpose. One last comment on our security is to remind everyone of the scammers who seem to come up with new and even more plausible ways to extort monies from us. At the meeting we had ALL experienced very unsettling telephone calls to this end. The advice here is not to say anything when picking up the receiver if the number is not recognised. There is a BT facility available that logs troublesome numbers and blocks them from your telephone.

David Foster

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There is no Parish Council report for this issue as I had planned to do a report on the new traffic limiter, but have still not been able to access the data from the sign. I am planning to do this as soon as I can get the data.

**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 or send me a message or call me on 07484 178143.

*Sarah Ebeling, Parish Clerk*

**THE FULBROOK FORUM**

The Fulbrook Forum committee is planning to meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 to plan a programme for the Autumn starting in September. Watch this space for further details.

If you would like notification of our future 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**

The History Group was unable to hold our first post-lockdown meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January at Plovers, Westhall Hill as announced in the December issue of the Newsletter due to the death of Tony Picking the previous day (see tribute on page 4). We apologise to anyone who turned up for this meeting but we had no way of notifying you.

Instead, we held our meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> January at the home of Anne and Jim Weir.

Anne Weir told us more about the Collier Tomb, which was featured in the Secret History of Fulbrook article in the December issue. Please see Anne's article on page 8 about where it was originally in the Chancel of Fulbrook Church and why it was moved outside.

Maurice Eldridge showed us a will he had found online of Job Lewis of Fulbrook who died on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1885 and left a legacy of £19-9s to Burford Cottage Hospital. He also left a legacy to Fulbrook Church and a three light stained glass memorial window was placed at the East end of Fulbrook Church in his memory.

Maurice also told us that he has created a website: [www.fulbrookhistory.uk](http://www.fulbrookhistory.uk) to record his research into the history of the village. It is at an embryonic stage so far with just a few pictures but he hopes to build on it in the future.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 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*

## A TRIBUTE TO TONY PICKING

We came together at the Church to both celebrate Tony's life and to mourn his loss from our lives.

Tony, with Tricia, was a regular congregant at St James the Great and we miss him, but were delighted that we were able to have 130 family and friends in the church and churchyard to give him a loving and fitting send-off. Tony had also chosen to be buried in the churchyard, so he is not far from us.

This is the first time in 2 years, because of the pandemic, that we have been able to have a funeral service in the church where everyone who wanted to could come and pay their respects, and it was joyful for that, with many lovely stories being shared over afternoon tea that was served in the Fulbrook Meeting Place at the back of the church after the service.



Thursday, 3rd February, 2022 at 14:00 hrs

Here is the tribute to Tony that Brian Kay gave at the funeral service:

Those of us who live in Fulbrook, as friends and neighbours of Tony and Tricia, will retain an everlasting image of Tony – his upright bearing,

so suitable for a Squadron Leader of such distinction, his immaculate dress and his impossibly shiny shoes! But beyond that we shall always remember a true gentleman, always ready with a good and often rather long and involved story, harking back to the days of his illustrious career.

There is also the joy of his marriage to Tricia, in the 22 years they were able to share together. None of us will ever forget their wedding – right here in this church on May Day 2000 – and after it, the procession through the village, led by Rosie the dog, up Westhall Hill to Plovers!

It's hard to imagine any other couple being involved in so many things at their time of life: endless visits to theatres and concert halls, up to and including their obvious love for all four of those interminable operas in Wagner's Ring Cycle! And there were those adventurous trips to many exotic parts of the world. Not for them a quiet life of retirement.

When Tony and Tricia came to stay with us in our beach house in New Zealand, They faced a very long car journey in order to be with us in time for dinner. Tony had been fishing on Lake Taupo the day before and had caught a particularly fine trout, which he determined we would consume together. An hour after they set out on their epic drive, they realised that they had left the fish in the hotel fridge! Most of us would have said 'forget it', but having promised they would have it with them, they went all the way back to the hotel to retrieve it, thereby adding a couple of extra hours to their already exhausting journey. Then Tony was a man of his word and would never have dreamt of letting us down.

Of course he had strong views politically and could express them pretty forcefully! But you couldn't fall out with Tony – just change the subject and talk about the depressing state of English cricket!

Those are some of the memories we shall recall so fondly, as we imagine Tony entertaining the heavenly host with his stories and opinions!

And with that in mind, Tricia has asked me to read this short poem on her behalf, which so splendidly pictures Tony on his onward journey:

## **THE LAST FLIGHT**

THE ANGELS HAVE WEPT THAT ONE OF  
THEIR OWN  
SHOULD BE KEPT FROM THE SKIES FOR SO  
LONG.

THEIR GAIN IS OUR LOSS, NOW YOU'RE  
FINALLY THERE,  
RIGHT BACK TO THE PLACE YOU BELONG.

THE HEAVENS ARE YOURS TO PLAY WITH  
AGAIN  
TO FLY AND TO DIVE AND TO SOAR.  
AND NOW YOU HAVE WINGS OF YOUR OWN  
TO USE,  
NO NEED FOR AN ENGINE'S ROAR.

SADNESS, YOU SAID, WAS RETURNING TO  
EARTH  
WHILE YOUR SOUL STILL GLIDED ABOVE;  
NOW FREEDOM IS YOURS TO FLY FOR ALL  
TIME  
AND KNOW THAT YOU DO IT FOR LOVE.

ALTHOUGH MY HEART IS NOW CLEFT IN TWO  
AS YOUR FACE I NO LONGER CAN SEE,  
THE THOUGHT OF YOU SOARING THROUGH  
CERULEAN BLUE  
BRINGS SOLACE AND COMFORT TO ME.

NOW STARLIGHT AND SUNLIGHT AND  
CRYSTAL CLEAR AIR  
WILL NEVER ALLOW ME TO MOURN,  
AS YOU SPEED YOUR WAY TO ETERNITY  
THROUGH DIAMOND NIGHT TO GOLDEN  
DAWN.

This poem, taken from a novel by Joy Ellis, was suggested by Jim MacAllan and adapted by Brian Kay.

## **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

In the meantime, our local PCSO Darryn Moulding has kindly offered to provide us with some local crime information and advice until a new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator can be found.

## **Speed Watch**

Fulbrook has in the past had a speed watch programme, which due to Covid, disappeared and failed to return. However if the village would like to recommence the scheme, then they can apply via the [communityspeedwatch.co.uk](http://communityspeedwatch.co.uk) website.

The scheme has become almost independent of the police now, meaning that ownership is down to the volunteers of the village.

All admin and assistance is offered to restart the scheme, and it is very straight forward to organise so, should anyone be interested in kick-starting this very successful scheme, they should apply through the website.

*PCSO Darryn Moulding*

Note from the editorial committee: We have made the Parish Council aware of the facility to re-start the Speedwatch programme.

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

## **Prayer**

When two or three are gathered together  
At least one's at the end of his tether.  
Put four or more all at once on the floor  
And one is bound to resort to the law.  
Assembly in numbers greater than these  
Is only safe if we stay on our knees.

John Hoyle



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The Fab WI has planned an exciting and varied programme for 2022.

At our February meeting we hosted a truly inspiring speaker. Al Sylvester, an outstanding inspirational speaker renowned for his exceptional leadership and motivational skills, who presented the story of his amazing adventure leading an RAF team to the South Pole. As a Team Leader with the RAF Mountain Rescue Service (MRS) he had been actively involved with over 400 operational rescues, and has adventured to the extremes of our planet in numerous hostile environments. He was awarded an MBE for his services to the MRS.

Following our AGM in March, on 12th April we have another block-buster speaker, Alastair Lack, who will be speaking about the 'Oxford of Morse' and about the scenes and locations of some of the best-known cases of Inspector Morse. The television series featuring John Thaw was based on the novels of Oxford writer Colin Dexter and remains immensely popular worldwide. Alastair, an expert in speaking about Oxford, will conjure up visions of dreaming of spires, colleges and quadrangles alongside stories of this eternally popular character and the crimes he solves. Alastair read Modern History at University College Oxford then taught in India and worked in publishing in New York. He then worked for the BBC for more than twenty-six years making programmes for the World Service. Moving back to Oxford, he became The Secretary of The Oxford University Society (the organisation that supports Oxford alumni groups throughout the world), and then moved to freelance work, including Oxford city and university guiding, local journalism and tutoring students in media studies. This promises to be a very interesting talk.

In June and July we have two local speakers both giving us insight into their individual passions. Martin Cash is a full-time traditional stone sculptor living in Burford who uses predominantly British stone to carve one-off pieces. He resists making copies of his work in other media, preferring that each sculpture is a unique artwork that will last for generations. Gareth John, a passionate natural bee keeper living in Fulbrook, is making a return visit to our WI. We were enthralled by his talk in 2013 and can't wait to learn more about these very important creatures.

The FaB WI is part of the Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month in the Warwick Hall at 7.30 p.m. and warmly welcome visitors to all of our meetings. For further information please visit our web-site [thefabwi.org.uk](http://thefabwi.org.uk) or contact Jane Arnell our secretary at [gjaarnell@icloud.com](mailto:gjaarnell@icloud.com) or on 01993 822755. Alternatively contact our President, Ginny Renwick on 07802 351888 or [FABWI.ginny@gmail.com](mailto:FABWI.ginny@gmail.com)

*Angela Weller (a FaB WI member)*

# Fulbrook News and Views

## From the Editorial Team.....

In this issue we include news of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the return of the Plant Sale and the Burford Festival, information about power cuts in Fulbrook 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?

This is a series of articles about different places in the village with information from the history group which we are hoping to add to with other information from our readers to include their own recollections and information from, for example, the deeds of their house, things found or their experiences (any ghosts anywhere?), to update and enrich what we know about the past and how this relates to our daily life in Fulbrook. So please read, explore, enjoy and feedback to us by email to [lynbibbings@icloud.com](mailto:lynbibbings@icloud.com)

On our last Secret History foray we were in the churchyard in Fulbrook looking at the newly renovated listed tomb of Joseph Collier. Ann Weir, of the Fulbrook History group, has kindly provided some updated information on this, so please read her article on the following page. As we are now back in the churchyard, and before we move on, take a quick look at the Yew tree by the church door - this huge tree is more than 1,000 years old and was there when the village was a prosperous area in sheep farming and the wool trade and adjoined the Wyewood forest.

The village of Fulbrook was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 as Fulebroc - possibly meaning *foul brook or muddy water*. So where is this brook or water? Come with me from the churchyard to the northern boundary, climb the stile and cross the next two fields diagonally to emerge near the top of Upper End. At one time Upper End was called Spring Hill and it is in the field to the north of here that the spring rises and makes its way down the hill to a fair sized cistern which sits beneath the village pump, still to be seen, towards the top of hill on the left verge.



The cistern overflows into the stream that you can see running down the hill in a channel before disappearing underground by Rose Cottage and eventually making its way down into the Windrush. However, this water is not muddy, but sparklingly clean - so perhaps an alternative derivation of the Ful of Fulbrook is from fullers earth found in the bank below Westhall Hill. This was used to absorb grease from fleeces as they were washed and processed as they were made ready for sale in the markets of Burford and Chipping Norton.

The water from the village pump was used, as late as the 1970s, by one of the residents as their only source of drinking water. The pump handle is not original, but the pump was refurbished as a tribute to Edna Coleridge who lived in the cottage opposite, gardened the top of the cistern and filled her jug from it, being convinced "it is very pure and straight from the Arctic and tastes

better than the stuff from the tap.”

There is other evidence of the secret history of Fulbrook in Upper End if we stroll down to the bottom of the hill before the rise to the main road. In Saxon and Norman times the village was on the edge of the great Forest of Wychwood, a royal hunting estate and a safe retreat for those wishing to disappear from the eyes of authority for one reason or another. You will notice a house on your left that has a long flat lawn in front of it, bearing the name ‘Knights Spill’ and it is thought that this field was used for jousting tournaments and the house name of the neighbouring property “The Roarings’ also refers to this noisy and dangerous sport.

A more modern part of our history also can be seen here in the neighbouring house to the left, discreetly tucked away, called Applewood. This is an earth sheltered house built into the hillside - it is a two-storey underground eco-house with a sedum roof and covered with grass, trees and plants in a productive “forest garden”. It is made light and airy by clever use of windows and light wells and its heating is supplied by a small 1.5kw heat pump which is sufficient to warm it in winter, cool in summer and highly energy efficient. It also has an indoor swimming pool which acts as a heat store, and a double garage but all the while being barely visible in the street scene.

If you know of anything you can add to this, or have some secret history yourself (perhaps from your house deeds, or anecdotes that you know of) PLEASE DO SHARE THEM by sending to Laurence Balbes at [fulbrooknews@gmail.com](mailto:fulbrooknews@gmail.com). We should love to receive them!

### **The Collier Tomb**

Following the article in the Secret History of Fulbrook series in the December issue, I have been thinking about the location of the Collier tomb. It measures 6 feet in length which would have fitted easily against the north wall of the chancel inside the church. However there is a memorial there to John Thorpe and his two sons, John and Jordan. In the seventeenth century John Thorpe was the vicar of Burford and Fulbrook. According to Raymond Moody's “Book of Burford”, Thorpe was an honourable man who may have lived in Fulbrook. As the vicar of Burford he would have known about the Collier gifts to Burford Primary school. He would probably have agreed to the erection of the memorial. Why was it not permitted to be in Burford Church?

The history group possess some very detailed work on the history of the Jordan Family of Fulbrook in the seventeenth century (This was collected by Joan Garlick, who lived in Upper End). The very impressive memorial in the church was erected by Thomas Jordan. His sister Hannah married John Thorpe and it was likely that the family lived in Fulbrook. John Thorpe was a great friend of Thomas Jordan who requested that Thorpe presided over Thomas's funeral. I think Thorpe wanted the memorial to his sons and himself erected in the church where he and the boys had lived. Who made the decision to move the Collier tomb into the churchyard is unknown. Was it the new vicar after Thorpe's death or the grieving widow? The memorial to Joseph Collier would have meant nothing to the people of Fulbrook at that time.

It is so tragic that both Thorpe's sons died at college in Oxford at the age of 19 years.

*Anne Weir*

BREAK OUT YOUR RED, WHITE AND BLUE.

FULBROOK IS CELEBRATING

**THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**

**AT GRANGE FARM, JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> 2022 12.30 - 4.30 P.M.**

At the kind invitation of Bob and Pauline Warner.

A fabulous Fulbrook village event for residents and their families

TIMETABLE. 12.30 p.m. Gates open.

1.00– 2.30 p.m. BBQ

2.30 – 3.30 p.m. Family All Comers Rounders Match.

### ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY

BBQ tickets (vegetarian and meat options) £5 adult £3 child under 12. (Many thanks to Lyn and Dean Newland)

“Free ground entry only” tickets available for those not wishing to have the BBQ.

A Pay-Bar will be in operation throughout the afternoon. Many thanks to James Sandy for taking charge of the organization of this.

Ticket sellers will be out and about around the village or you can contact our Parish Clerk on **07484 178143** or [clerk@fulbrookvillage.net](mailto:clerk@fulbrookvillage.net)

### ENTERTAINMENTS

- Fun games kindly provided by Sue and Richard Newport.
- Children's Activities led by Lucy Stavely.
- Family Rounders Match organized by Martin Weller (just sign up on the day to join a team).

### AFTERNOON TEA.

This is everyone's chance to participate. Please bring a plate of food for the tea table when you come. Many thanks to Lyn Bibbings-Burns for heading up the tea team.

- Sandwiches
- Scones and jam
- Biscuits
- Large or small cakes

Gluten free items would be very welcome. (please label)

### "A CAKE FIT FOR A QUEEN" Competition.

Decorate your cake in extravagant royal style. Prizes for the best child and adult entries.

There will be a free commemorative MUG for each resident child under 12. Please register your child/children's names with our parish clerk or when you purchase your tickets. Mugs may be available to purchase at cost price for other family members.

Your organizing committee welcomes all offers of help on or before the day. We are especially looking for someone with a current first aid certificate. Just contact Angela Weller on **822012** or at [wellersativy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wellersativy@hotmail.co.uk) (if she hasn't already signed you up!).

If possible bring a chair so you can sit back and enjoy the afternoon.

Do you have any bunting we might borrow?

# Burford School News

## **Mistletoe & Miscellany**

In December we were delighted to be able to stage our Christmas Miscellany concert in the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford as part of our 450th anniversary celebrations. The Grade 1 listed building provided the perfect venue for our seasonal event, which featured our Symphony Orchestra, Training Orchestra and a choir of over 100 members from both within school and beyond

## **'All the World's a Stage'**

Our GCSE and A Level Drama students had a fabulous weekend in London – our first school trip for many months. At the Wyndam's Theatre, they enjoyed a wonderful performance of 'Life of Pi (a combination of puppetry and acting) participated in a Greek Chorus workshop at Danceworks studio, visited the Shakespeare Globe and immersed themselves in a lively interactive production of 'The Great Gatsby'.

## **FarmED was fantastic!**

How fortunate we are to have a centre for sharing ideas on regenerative food and farming right on our doorstep. Our Year 7 *Attenborough Club* members thoroughly enjoyed their day trip to FarmED in early February. They learnt about the history of farming, food supply and enjoyed a tour of the farm, which included looking for rare and unusual species in the orchard, identifying aromatic herbs and visiting the three resident cows in the micro-dairy.

## ***"To Learn to Read is to Light a Fire"***

Dominic Sandbrook, distinguished historian, columnist and author held two exciting events on Friday 11 February. During the day, our KS3 students participated in a talk and Q&A session and, in the evening, Dominic stayed to give a talk to the older students and adults within and beyond school.

## **Primary Partnership Links**

How lovely it has been to welcome pupils from our Partnership Primaries into school once again. One hundred Year 4 students enjoyed their street dance skills workshop enormously. Leading the session was *Step2Dance School*, who were supported by our Year 7 and 12 students. This was followed by the U11 *Sportshall Athletics Programme* event for Year 5 and 6 students. Year 10 students, studying for their Sports Leader Award, recorded times and distances and gave everyone lots of support and encouragement!

## **From the barricades!**

**It is June 1832 in France and an atmosphere of unrest and disenchantment prevails.**

**Into this mêlée of poverty and cholera, a peasant steps out from prison seeking a new life. In doing so he breaks the terms of his parole and, despite his best efforts, is pursued by a police inspector who refuses to let him escape justice. As the tension builds he is swept up in its fury – an unintentional victim of the Paris Rebellion.**

**Join us to hear his story.**

Our 450<sup>th</sup> Birthday Musical Spectacular! *Les Misérables* is almost upon us. Tickets are selling fast for this fantastic event which runs for six performances, including a matinée, from 29 March – 2 April. Don't miss out. Visit [Ticketsource](#) to book.

**[www.burford.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.burford.oxon.sch.uk)**

# Fulbrook Plant Sale

Saturday 14 May 10:00 – 12:00

## The Carpenters Arms

The Fulbrook Plant Sale is back! New look and new location, with the old Fulbrook community spirit!

Proceeds this year will go to the Queens Jubilee celebration and the upgrade of the playpark.



Plants

Homemade Cakes

Bottle stall

Raffle

Refreshments and bacon rolls

All this is made possible by David Foster and your generosity. Please bring any donations of plants, bottles, cakes, raffle prizes etc on the day or let me (Malcolm Taylor: 07788 391665) have them beforehand. Also, please let me know if you can help with any of the stalls as well as setting up on the day before.



## Burford and Kingham Rotary



John Smith, Mike Clark, Jane Coombs and President Ros planting up Crocus Pots to sell to raise money for Rotary's Polio fund. We will be selling them **on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March outside the Tolsey in Burford**. Just right for Mothering Sunday presents. Please come and see us and learn about Rotary at the same time.

It has just been announced that Pakistan has been polio free for a whole year. Three clear years and then we can say it has been eradicated. Please help us support this very important Rotary International Charity

Here is a taster of some of our meetings coming up

March 14<sup>th</sup> International Meal

March 28<sup>th</sup> Brian Barber Aid Working in a Civil War in Liberia.

April 5<sup>th</sup> Theatre Trip and Supper

Would you like to get involved with your community, meet new likeminded people, enjoy entertaining speakers and new social life while helping to raise money for local Charities. How do I do that? Join Burford and Kingham Rotary

Why not come along to one of our meetings at Burford Golf Club on Mondays, 6.45pm for 7.00 pm (except Bank Holidays). We are a small but very friendly group with members from all the local villages in the area. We are always looking to increase our membership. You will get a very warm welcome.

Contact our Secretary John Smith email: [jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk](mailto:jpw.smith@jasss.co.uk), 07717883182.

If I can also give you any more details about Rotary, please do give me a ring I would love to hear from you for an informal chat.

Ros Richardson, President, Burford and Kingham Rotary

01608 643844 or 07702 135731

## **Burford Singers – Bach St John Passion**

Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 7.00pm  
Cirencester Parish Church, Market Place, Cirencester GL7 2NX

Burford Singers with  
William Wallace (Evangelist)  
Jon Stainsby (Christus)  
Jessica Cale (Soprano)  
James Neville (Alto)  
Freddie Long (Bass)

Baroque Ensemble Canzona  
Theresa Caudle (Leader)  
Conductor: Brian Kay

Tickets £25 (reserved) and £15 (unreserved)  
Online booking to 8 April '22 (Booking fee applies) available at [www.burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/](http://www.burfordsingers.org.uk/buy-tickets/)

Booking in person (unreserved tickets only) to 8<sup>th</sup> April from The Madhatter Bookshop,  
122, High Street, Burford OX18 4QJ and from Cirencester Visitor Information Centre, Corinium Museum,  
Park Street, Cirencester GL7 2BX.  
Tickets also available on the door.

## **TRUSTEES WANTED - Campaign to Protect Rural England - Oxfordshire**

Do you care about your local countryside? Want to make a difference?

CPRE Oxfordshire is the voice of the countryside in Oxfordshire. Due to retirement of current members, we are looking for new trustees to join our team.  
This is an excellent opportunity to play an influential role in a respected and long-standing environmental charity, applying your experience to make a real difference and to be part of a friendly group that is passionate about the Oxfordshire countryside.

Application deadline is **31 March 2022** in the first instance, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis.

For further info, please contact our Branch Secretary Dorian Grier.

E: [dorian.cpre@gmail.com](mailto:dorian.cpre@gmail.com)

T: 01491 612079

See our website for more information: [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)

### **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*

## Power Cuts in Fulbrook

Over the past year there have been 11 electricity power cuts at the end of the village towards Burford, affecting around 60 homes.

Residents have become increasingly upset by this and early last month Jan Park, together with other affected residents, arranged a meeting with SSEN to understand what was happening and what could be done.

The response from SSEN, over the course of two meetings, was very forthcoming, and they explained that the majority of the power cuts were due to excess vegetation (trees) that had been allowed to grow after one 4 year cycle of maintenance was missed due to a change of contractors. They also explained the plan that they had in place to complete the maintenance over the next three months.

As well as this, they offered us advice on how to help vulnerable people, which we share below.

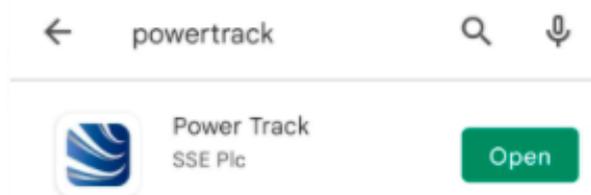
### 1. Registry for Priority Services

Everyone within the at risk categories is encouraged to register, which can be done on line at [www.ssen.co.uk/PriorityServicesRegister](http://www.ssen.co.uk/PriorityServicesRegister) or we have leaflets for this if preferred.

It is important to note, that during a power cut, SSEN will prioritise those for whom power is a necessity for medical equipment, consequently we will also need to help ourselves where we can.

### 2. App for showing current power cuts.

The App below can be a useful source of up to date information.



### 3. Glow-sticks

SSEN have given us a supply of glow-sticks for the most vulnerable, which are much safer than candles as there is no naked flame. These last for up to 12 hours, and will be useful, especially at that initial moment of being plunged into darkness. Please contact Sarah (Parish Clerk) or any Parish Councillor if you would like to have some of these glow-sticks ready for emergencies. The supply is limited and they are intended for those most at risk.

We are hopeful that the work now being done by SSEN will mean that there are much fewer power cuts in the future.

We will give any further updates here and in the Fulbrook email circulated by Sarah Ebeling. Please email her ([clerk@fulbrookvillage.net](mailto:clerk@fulbrookvillage.net)) if you would like to be included on the circulation.

*Malcolm Taylor*



## NEWS FROM FULBROOK CHURCH and a Warm Welcome to All

The Church of St James the Great is a small and friendly church that welcomes all comers, whether you are villager or visitor, and whether you are a regular congregant or just want to come for the regular festivals or only to an occasional service. There is a service on most Sundays at 9.30am (see the schedule on the next page). The church is open to all during the hours of daylight, whether you want to look at the lovely ancient 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, Churchwarden to make an enquiry or a booking - 01993 823640. **Please come and find us, you will be very welcome.**

### LOOKING BACK

We were thrilled to be able to offer celebrations of Christmas with Carol singing in partnership with the Carpenter's Arms and the Parish Council, albeit held outside save for the smaller church service. Having been unable to get together for services at all for the previous Christmas, because of the pandemic, this was greeted with much excitement. There were three opportunities for Carol Singing: in Meadow End where Jack very generously offered food and drink to the carollers - a tradition that we really appreciate (Jack - thank you very much indeed); at the Carpenter's Arms where Brian Kay magnificently led and hosted an evening of community carol singing, delightful stories and readings, punctuated by Tom's hog roast and mulled wine. Amplification and music was enabled by Maurice Eldridge. Very many thanks to you all and to everyone at the Carpenters who made magnificent preparations and provided a wonderful welcome with fire-pits, lights and seating.

In all about 200 people enjoyed these celebrations together and most of all we thank all of you who took part. Any feedback (good or ill) on any or all of the events would be gratefully received, but we should like to plan to repeat this kind of pattern next year but with a full 9 lessons and carols in the church too, Covid permitting.

### LOOKING FORWARD

We have now resumed regular weekly 9.30am services, but these are following a different pattern to the past as we are working as a Benefice to ensure the delivery of services across the 5 parishes even though we have only one stipendary Minister, the Rev. Tom Putt. As many of you know Cedric Reavley, who often ministered to Fulbrook villagers, has had treatment and a serious operation for cancer this year, and, while he is recovering at home, he needs plenty of time to get really well and to recover his strength. We have therefore made plans so that we support both our congregations and our clergy in providing services that everyone can access.

This means for Fulbrook that on the:

\*\*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!

We need help - from anyone in the village - with a number of activities - to help maintain the church buildings, the churchyard and activities for the village community. These include being on one or more of the rotas for: 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 one or two weeks in the year.

We also need help to 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!**

<b>9.30 services for Fulbrook</b>	<b>Type of service</b>	<b>Officiating</b>
<b>20th February 2nd before lent</b>	Morning Prayer - Book of common Prayer	Lay led by Fulbrook congregants
<b>27th February Sunday before lent</b>	Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer	Alex Ross
<b>6th March Benefice service - BURFORD *** 1st Sunday of Lent FULBROOK will have a Lent lunch at 12.30pm in the church- free for all to attend. Donations and goods for Besom in Witney are welcome</b>	Holy Communion - Common Worship	Tom Putt
<b>13th March - 2nd Sunday of Lent</b>	Morning Prayer - Book of Common Prayer	Tom Putt
<b>20th March - 3rd Sunday of Lent</b>	Morning Prayer	Led by visiting Licensed Reader, Mark Foster from Selby
<b>27th March - Mothering Sunday</b>	Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer	Tom Putt
<b>3rd April - 5th Sunday of Lent Benefice service in TAYNTON</b>	Holy Communion - Common Worship	Tom Putt
<b>10th April - Palm Sunday</b>	Morning Prayer	Tom Putt
<b>HOLY WEEK Tuesday 12th April 6pm</b>	Compline	Tom Putt
<b>Good Friday 15th April 10.30am</b>	Meditation	Tom Putt
<b>17th April -Easter Day</b>	Holy Communion - Common Worship	Alex Ross
<b>24th April - 2nd Sunday of Easter</b>	Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer	Dick Farr

### **The Children's Society Coin Box Collection**

This is my final report as coin box coordinator for the Children's Society. As I highlighted in the last newsletter, for various reasons, this method of fundraising is simply not sustainable any more.

The total amount paid in a few weeks ago was £769.41, a very worthwhile amount. This will enable the Society to continue their work to fight poverty and adolescent neglect across the country and to ensure that children's voices are heard.

A big thank you to all the box holders, some have been collecting for many years. Thousands of pounds have been raised for this amazing charity. If you would like to make a donation at any time all details are available on the website: [childrenssociety.org.uk](http://childrenssociety.org.uk)

*Gilly Kay, 01993 823193*



### **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).*



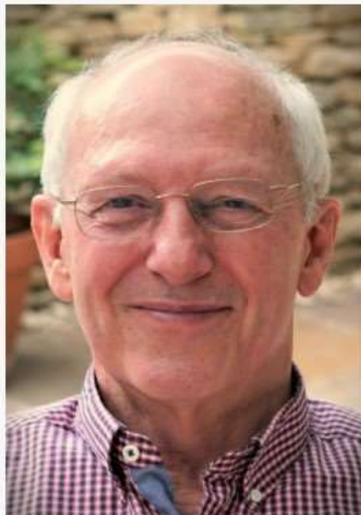
BURFORD and DISTRICT SOCIETY

**Our 2022 Programme** is now on our website [www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk](http://www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk). All members should have received their copy, if not please contact [kenneth\\_craven@hotmail.com](mailto:kenneth_craven@hotmail.com).

#### NEXT MEETING

**TUESDAY 15th MARCH - 7pm at WARWICK HALL**

### From aircraft spotter to Gentleman Usher to the Sword of State



**Sir John Allison** entered the Royal Air Force College Cranwell and was commissioned in 1964. On graduation, he won the prize for the best pilot in his entry, also the aerobatic trophy. During his subsequent career, he rose from front line pilot to, ultimately commanding all operational forces of the RAF as Commander-in-Chief of Strike Command, with the rank of Air Chief Marshal.

Between 2006 and 2013 he was a member of the Royal Household, serving as Gentleman Usher to the Sword of State.

He has flown over 100 aircraft types as captain and is still an active pilot.

**The aim of this illustrated talk is very much to entertain,  
while offering some serious content.**

Guests welcome for a £5 charge

**New Members welcome.** The annual fee for five talks, a visit and annual lunch plus a free garden party is £10. It is possible to join online on our website

**Living in Burford & District Packs.** We will be very happy to arrange for the delivery of our free Packs, with details of the local facilities, clubs and societies, to anyone who has recently moved into the area. Simply email your name and address to [lizannjack@gmail.com](mailto:lizannjack@gmail.com)

**Visit to Whittington Court - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April.** Booking is now open on our website

**Peter Martin, Chairman**

[peteremartin@btinternet.com](mailto:peteremartin@btinternet.com) [www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk](http://www.burfordanddistrictsociety.co.uk)



The countdown begins as we look forward to Burford Festival 2022 **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June**. We have a wide range of activities planned, including concerts, theatre, childrens' storytelling, speakers and workshops; something for everyone whatever their age!

We are especially delighted that **Tony Hall**, Lord Hall of Birkenhead and Director-General of the BBC between April 2013 and August 2020 will be joining us to talk about the Future of Broadcasting. In addition, **Jack Straw** former Member of Parliament, Foreign Secretary and Home Secretary will be talking about his recent book *The English Job: Understanding Iran and Why it Distrusts Britain*

The organising team are all volunteers and we really need your help with the Festival, whether as a guide, with events, as a steward, with signage or any of the myriad of tasks we may not yet have identified. More details on volunteering and how to apply are on our website [www.burfordfestival.org](http://www.burfordfestival.org). We are also looking for someone to help us with administration and secretarial work so if anyone is looking for flexible, paid, part time work starting from March to June (and for the duration of the festival itself), please contact [sara@burfordfestival.org](mailto:sara@burfordfestival.org) for more details.

Another vitally important way of supporting the Festival is by becoming a Friend which provides you with priority bookings and an invitation to our Summer Thank You party. Details of how to become a Friend are also on our website.

The organising team's aim is to bring the whole community together, not just Burford but for all the surrounding villages and hamlets too. So, whether you are new to the area or a long-term resident, please join us by volunteering or by becoming a Friend. We will welcome you with open arms!

*Sara Hall, Adrian Jackson, Jane Arnell, Jennie Craven, John Hendry and Ann and Karl Morris*

The Burford Festival  
[www.burfordfestival.org](http://www.burfordfestival.org)

### **Volunteer to assist with reading and writing paperwork**

We have received the following message from Age UK via The Burford & District Society:

*We have a client living in Fulbrook who needs assistance from time to time with reading and responding to his letters.*

*Do you have any volunteers able to assist with this? We look forward to hearing from you. Kind Regards Age UK.*

If you are able to help, would you please contact Age UK on [network@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:network@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk).

The Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford in person or via Zoom

**9th March - AGM 10.30 lecture at 11am.**

*"The Bayeux Tapestry, the World's Oldest Comic-Strip"* with Eveline Eaton

**13th April**

*"Matisse, Master of Colour"* with Liz Strang

**11th May**

*"Carl Linnaeus, Botanist & Art Appreciator"* with Mark Spencer

These 'hybrid' lectures will be held at the Warwick Hall, Church Green, Burford, OX18 4RZ and via Zoom. Numbers at the Warwick Hall are restricted to comply with Covid-19 guidelines, booking is essential via [www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk)

Visitors are welcome, space permitting, for a suggested donation of £10.

For more information contact Frances Sparkes on 01993 823943 or [publicity@theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk](mailto:publicity@theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk)

To learn more about The Arts Society Cotswolds and to keep abreast of any additional activities, please log into the website [www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietycotswolds.org.uk)

### **Have a thought for couriers**

I enjoy walking the paths and roads around Fulbrook. Several times over the past year I have been asked by couriers (sometimes whose English wasn't confident) where a particular house is. It set me wondering why they have difficulties and I started to examine house names (and the lack of them). It's probably much easier for couriers when there's a numbering system but we don't have that in the village. So I thought I'd write in the newsletter a plea from the couriers who've stopped me for clearer house names, perhaps at the entrance to the property rather than by the front door which is often some distance from the entrance. I also noticed that many of the house names that are at least visible are hard to read because the letters are the same colour as the background.

Have a look as you walk around. And have a thought for couriers who have a difficult job and who are, since the pandemic started, much more numerous, and valuable.

*Lindsey Stevenson*

## **The Sewing Circle 1985.**

After Christmas, early in January, there would be a great deal of activity in the Village, preparing for the summer fete. On one such day, Sybil Adams, a prominent member of the Sewing Circle, invited me to join. I accepted gladly and at the next meeting I was introduced to Joyce Curtis, Joan Lee Wolfe, Edna Wilkinson and Kathleen Watkins.

The Ladies were formidable company, and as we worked together, I enjoyed so much listening to all their different stories and experiences of the Second World War and the years after. I was the youngest member and I seem to remember it was a little like Last of the Summer Wine. When I was hosting the meeting for the first time, Edna informing me that she would let me know when to make the tea and she hoped I would have all the brass and copper shining next time.

We all worked hard at producing our different pieces of needlework. Joyce Curtis was a legend for her knitted farm complete with farmer and animals, and Joan Lee Wolfe for her most beautifully knitted baby layette.

Sybil also had a nearly new stall. To my surprise she seemed to know our exact size and if she rang to say she had just the right blouse or skirt for you, one would dare not say "No"!

It was a privilege to have known these wonderful ladies, there were serious moments but also much laughter and the greatest of friendship, I miss them.

*Anne Purcell*

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

### **Weight-loss friendly ham, cheese and spinach breakfast muffins (makes 6)**

After two years of on-off lockdown and engaging with the delights of daytime TV, and reintroducing the crafty winter afternoon snooze I feel the need to lose some excess weight. I'm not a fan of 'diets'; the science tells us they tend to fail. The magazine Psychology Today reports "...Scientists at UCLA reviewed the long-term outcomes of diets to assess whether dieting is effective. The studies revealed that one- to two-thirds of dieters *regained more weight* than they lost on their diets. The researchers concluded: *In sum, there is little support for the notion that diets lead to lasting weight loss or health benefits...*"

The article, which reported that the key to weight loss is behaviour change, can be found here: [www.psychologytoday.com/gb/blog/mind-body-food/202008/why-do-most-diets-fail-in-the-long-run](http://www.psychologytoday.com/gb/blog/mind-body-food/202008/why-do-most-diets-fail-in-the-long-run) and is well worth a read to get some understanding of how to develop a long-term, sustainable eating pattern.

So, fear not! For I am here with a high protein recipe that will help keep away the munchies whilst you contemplate the actions needed for a fitter, leaner you.

## Ingredients

- 55 grams cream cheese
- 4 medium free-range eggs
- 30 grams ground almonds
- tsp baking powder
- 50 grams Gruyere or Cheddar, grated
- 50 grams ham, roughly chopped
- 1 block of frozen leaf spinach, about 50 grams, defrosted and excess liquid squeezed out (and then given an extra little chop)

## Method

1. Preheat oven to 200c/180c fan
2. Line a muffin tray with six muffin cases
3. Combine cream cheese, eggs, ground almonds and baking powder in a medium bowl and whisk until smooth.
4. Mix with remaining ingredients and salt and freshly ground black pepper.
5. Pour into prepared muffin tin and bake for 15 minutes.

## Extras

This is an adaptation from Dr Clare Mosley's 'Fast 800' recipe book designed to support weight loss actions. They can be baked in advance and kept as a snack or eaten for breakfast or even lunch. If your teeth can stand it, add some whole unpeeled almonds or toasted whole hazelnuts to give a bit extra texture and add some chili and chopped spring onions at stage 4 to liven things up. Maybe those with children or grandchildren of an appropriate age (in my view little ones can start cooking from about two and a half) could make these instead of the ubiquitous fairy cakes! Maybe that's a step too far... but worth a thought...



Carpenters  
Arms

Kitchen opening times:

Tue-Sat 12-9pm

Email:

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

Phone: 01993 823 823

### EVENTS CALENDAR

Easter Monday Brunch 11am - 3pm

May 2<sup>nd</sup> BBQ & Music 12 - 4pm

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

August 29<sup>th</sup> BBQ & Music 12 - 4pm



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