

THE Bourton BUGLE

LOCAL NEWS, VIEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BOURTON-ON-THE-HILL

SUMMER 2019



From Sir Peter Herbert's obituary, The Daily Telegraph

- A fond farewell to 'the Father of the Village'
- Open Gardens – a call to action
- Where elephants once drank
- The date for our Harvest Supper
- And more!



Welcome to the Summer edition. This is a poignant issue for me. After having set up the village newsletter, ten years ago Peter Herbert handed it over to me. I hope that we're keeping the spirit of his newsletters alive with every issue.

Peter was a gentleman in every sense. Kind and gentle, loved and respected by our entire village. Always ready for an adventure, whether driving to Luxembourg to visit his son or driving someone to the hospital, he was utterly dependable. He was as polite to the delivery man as he was when he met the Queen who presented him with his OBE.

In their book "The Silent Deep", Hennessy and Jinks give an account of the Royal Navy submarine service from 1945 and refers to Peter and his fellow officers as the

"... first commanding officers in the Royal Navy to take what was then the most advanced of Her Majesty's warships into the frontline of the deep Cold War.

Just as other COs had done with conventional submarines in the 1950s, under minimal supervision, they operated with a degree of unparalleled independence and flexibility which had much in common with that given to their eighteenth and nineteenth-century predecessors, who often took risky and sometimes controversial decisions, independent of any senior authority while operating on the far side of the world. The advent of the nuclear-powered submarines raised the Submarine Service to a central position within the Royal Navy."

The authors compare Sir Peter and his colleagues to the likes of Admiral Lord Cochrane or the better-known fictional characters of Horatio Hornblower and Jack Aubrey.

Sir Peter was amongst the early commanders who tracked Soviet warships and submarines, staying submerged for weeks at a time monitoring activities and gaining intelligence. In her funeral address, Revd Canon Delap recalled with affection Peter driving his lawn mower to church along the A44. In earlier years the same man manoeuvred one of the world's most sophisticated weapons system underwater, undetected by the Soviet navy. His crew trusted in his judgement and skill not only to complete their mission but to keep them alive.

Peter and Ann moved to Bourton in 1983 on his retirement. Peter served our village tirelessly in various capacities on The Old School Committee, The Parish Council, The



Memorial Service for Sir Peter Herbert

A Memorial Service for the life of Admiral Sir Peter Geoffrey Marshall Herbert KCB OBE will be held at The Chapel of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Old Royal Naval College, London on Friday 11th October 2019 at 11:00am.

Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets no later than 11th September either by email to nicky.lee855@mod.gov.uk or by letter to Mrs Nicky Lee, HMS TEMERAIRE, Room 107, Portsmouth, PO1 2HB. Applications should include full names and addresses. Tickets will be despatched by post no later than 25th September.



Parochial Church Council and the Help in Need Trust.

In addition to these local responsibilities, Peter was Chairman of the armed forces charity SSAFA (formerly the ‘Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association’), a governor of Cheltenham Ladies’ College and Chairman of governors of Cheam preparatory school. Peter was devastated by Ann’s death in 2012, but continued their long-shared passion of gardening and kept up his other passion of woodwork. His was a constant presence at St Lawrence’s services and many of us will remember his thoughtful prayers and readings especially at Christmas and Remembrance Sunday.

I will leave the last word to Lord Michael Boyce quoted in Peter’s obituary in ‘The Times’. Boyce had served under Herbert in HMS as a junior officer. According to him, Herbert was “a remarkable commanding officer ... he really knew his business. He was absolutely unflappable and everybody loved him.”

Ailsa Vigrass

ST LAWRENCE’S CHURCH

Services to the end of September 2019

We would be delighted to welcome you



Sunday 4th August, Trinity 7
6pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Sunday 11th August, Trinity 8
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 18th August, Trinity 9
11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 25th August, Trinity 10
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 1st September, Trinity 11
6pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Sunday 8th September, Trinity 12
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 15th September, Trinity 13
11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 22nd September, **Harvest Festival**
11.15am Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 29th September, Trinity 15
9.30am **Benefice** Holy Communion
(CW) **at Blockley**

Philip Gee

Eco-Church Report

The congregation at St Lawrence has become increasingly conscious of the growing ecological threat to our planet. We are aware that our churchyard holds the stories of both the individuals remembered personally there, and the story of the life of our community. We encourage the churchyard as a space for reflection and have a number of benches around the site which are used by locals, walkers and other visitors.

To compliment our membership of the Quiet Garden Trust, we have applied for and been accredited with the A Rocha Silver Award for our work on sustainable living. Our commitment to sound ethical resourcing in our church and its environs includes reducing the use of oasis for flower arranging, reducing chemicals in cleaning, more sustainable light bulbs, recycling, and leaving parts of the churchyard unmown to encourage the flowers for bees.

We would like to enhance this peaceful environment by encouraging even more



wildlife, and we are applying for a Gloucester Diocesan grant of £250. With it we will buy bat and bird boxes, bug hotels, a hedgehog box and a range of wildflower plugs to plant in Paupers Piece. A local beekeeper has asked if we would consider putting two beehives there and has offered to help support and fund this. Look out for more news about bees in the spring.

*Revd Canon Dana Delap
The Vicarage, Blockley, GL56 9ES
700676*

PARISH COUNCIL

Swarming Bees

There are certain times of the year when bees will leave a hive and start swarming looking for a new home. They can attach themselves to trees or houses and need to be removed safely. If you come across a swarm help can be found at the British Bee Keepers Association (www.bbka.org.uk/swarm) enter your postcode you will be directed to the nearest collector.

Village Clean Up – Saturday July 13th

Thank you to all the villagers who came out to tidy and clean up the village. Special mention to Keith and Catherine Lewis who tackled the jungle surrounding the middle bus shelter, Andy Vigrass and Angela Hay who cut back the overhanging branches on the pavement from the pub to the petrol station, Anna Stanley and Mike Bunston for the weeding in and around the churchyard, Catherine Firth for the Old School car park and Richard Hudson who did sterling work with his strimmer by the new bench opposite Fenhill Close. You may also have noticed that the white gates at the entrances to the village are looking a bit brighter having had a good scrub. Thank you to Philip and Sandra Gee who regularly clean the bollards at the top of the village but couldn't join us on the day. If you missed this year, why not join in next year? The date will be chosen at the Annual Meeting

of the Parish and then advertised on the village website www.bourtononthehill.co.uk .

Every May – Annual Meeting of the Parish

Usually in the third week of May, there are two important annual meetings. The first is the Annual Parish Council Meeting with the election of the chairman and vice-chairman and the second, and far more entertaining, is the Annual Meeting of the Parish. This is an opportunity for all the village to gather with wine and nibbles to hear what has been going on. Reports are given by St Lawrence Church, the Old School Hall Committee, the Educational Trust, the Help in Need Trust, the Police and our District and County Councillors. Everyone is warmly invited and if you are new to the village and have never been, please join us next year.

Fenhill Bench

Margaret Tidmarsh had a good laugh when the Police were called because 'two shifty looking men had been seen trying to steal the bench' - Martin Brace and his colleague. She reassured the Police that they were installing the bench rather than stealing it...

Fenhill Defibrillator

Community Heartbeat Trust have apologised for the late delivery of the defibrillator for the bus shelter by Fenhill Close; it should be installed by the end of August.

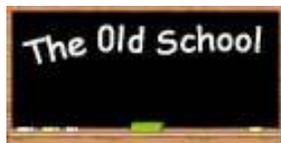
Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Old School hall at 6:30pm on Monday 9th September.

Alexia Monroe
clerk@bourtononthehill.co.uk
07594-169499



THE OLD SCHOOL



We are delighted to report that the disabled ramp and handrail to the front door of the hall is finally completed and in action. It has taken a long time in planning and fundraising but is worth the wait. We have also replaced the window in the storeroom next to the car park which was rotten.

Regular activities at the Old School include the North Cotswold Bridge Club, U3A Scottish dancing and Rural cinema. The Toddler group is taking an extended summer break at present. The hall is available for booking for meetings, rehearsals and private parties. Please contact Sandra Gee on 701385 for all bookings.

The monthly Rural Cinema nights with wine and hot dogs are very popular and continue to attract large audiences, many from outside our village. Recent films shown include A Star is Born, First Man and the Favourite. As we now have to buy the films we are setting up a film library for the village. If you wish to borrow any of the films shown please contact Anne Robertson on 701564. There is no film in August and the dates for the rest of the year are; Saturday 28th September, Saturday 26th October and Saturday 30th November. We look forward to welcoming you.

Other dates for your diaries are; Village Open Gardens Sunday 18th August. See poster below.

Harvest Supper and Quiz with quizmaster Peter Mansion will be on Saturday 5th October.

I would like to thank all members of the committee, Philip and Sandra Gee, Catherine Firth, Pat Freeman, Frances Stone and Sophie

Le Métails for their help in keeping the Old School running and organising events.

Anne Robertson

OPEN GARDENS – 18th AUGUST



Bourton on the Hill Village Open Gardens will take place on Sunday 18th August 2019 from 1pm to 5pm. The award-winning Bourton House Garden will be open along with 8 or 9 other gardens in the village. Tickets £6.00 on the day from Bourton House car park or the Old School. Teas and cakes will be available in the Old School.

Thank you to all those who have agreed to open their garden. We would be grateful for help with serving teas and car parking/ ticket



sales. Also for home baking or bought cakes as these sell out fast. If you are willing to help in any way with this popular village event please contact Anne Robertson 701564 for opening gardens, Catherine Firth 700939 for teas and cakes, Philip Gee 701385 for car parking.

Let us hope the weather will be kind.

Anne Robertson

EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Are you about to start a new school? Go off to university or college? If so then the village **Educational Trust** can help you. We give grants towards the cost of uniform or equipment to those aged under 25 living in the parish, as well as activities such as sports or language coaching, essential school trips or the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



Are you new to the village, with children? please look at our section on the village website to see how we might be able to help (www.bourtononthehill.co.uk)

To apply, or for more information, please chat to one of the Trustees: Louise Davis, Carlin Anderson, Rupert Crawshaw, or the Vicar Dana Delap, or email me.

Catherine Firth
Porch House (catherinefirth54@gmail.com)

BOURTON ON THE HILL HELP IN NEED TRUST

Established in the 19th century for the benefit of residents in the parish, this is perhaps one of the lesser known charities still active and providing assistance to those living here.

The Trustees are keen to raise awareness of its existence and purpose. The remit of the Trust

enables considerable discretion to be applied by the Trustees when offering help, and the following examples may clarify the type of circumstances in which assistance can be offered as a contribution towards:-

- Adaptations in the home or specialist equipment such as large button telephones;
- Respite time for carers;
- A course to acquire a new skill;
- A grant towards travel to a job interview;
- Helping with winter fuel payments or Christmas expenses for families in difficult circumstances;
- Replacement of essential home equipment such as cookers or fridges.
- No complicated forms to fill in.
- All information is handled in strict confidence.

We would wish to put on record our gratitude and thanks to the late Sir Peter Herbert for his substantial contributions in his role as Trustee over many years.

We are delighted that Anne Martin has been recently appointed as a new Trustee.

The Trustees are: Revd. Canon Dana Delap, The Rt Hon The Lord Dulverton, Mrs Patricia Hayes (Chair), Mrs Rachel Hudson, Mrs Anne Martin. The Clerk to the Trustees is Dr Allen Firth

For more details, please contact:

- Rachel Hudson (Trustee), 14 Fenhill Close, 07885 708288
- Allen Firth (Clerk), Porch House, 01386 700939.

Allen Firth



BRIDGE CLUB

Classes are held in The Old School on Tuesdays to Fridays



Church View residents certainly had a prime view of Peter Herbert's recent funeral. The few minutes spent in respect at this author's doorstep brought back memories from decades ago, not about his public service, nor that fascinating career, but about his and Anne's involvement in the Old School Village Hall project. Although not their only local good work, it was in the late 80's when they, as relative newcomers, and not forgetting many others, set themselves to establishing a prestigious new venue for the village. This unsurprisingly went on to replace the almost-decaying premises across the road, and further improvements were progressively made. So much of the labour of installing this-and-that was achieved by endless voluntary labour, and other parishioners have been inspired to give many years of commitment subsequently. I remember Trish & Pat's initial involvement, to name two more players, part of their fund-raising being the very popular Saturday bridge-and-supper evenings, held regularly with significant donations to the British Heart Foundation. These sessions were the basic stimulus for our Bridge Club moving here, going almost full time, and meeting ever since, for an amazing 30 years now .. so far. We have lost three of the four aforementioned, and many other players from the village, but there are still enough to remember Peter as a real force in that original committee, and what they achieved. 'Thank you' just seems such an understatement ...

Any enquiries about playing, coached sessions or classes are best made by email, contacting the host through the website:

www.bridgewebs.com/northcotswolds

*Alan Lamb
700583 (not after 8pm, please).*

FRENCH CLASSES

A vacancy has occurred for another French student from the village. The French class takes place Tuesday afternoon and is not serious but good fun and lighthearted



Liz Bowden

THE TROUGH IN RECTORY LANE

Anyone walking down Rectory Lane in recent weeks might have noticed the trough on the left-hand side. This has now been beautifully improved in appearance and is looking good. A relative of the late Chris Davies of Rectory Cottage, has taken on the work of improving and maintaining the trough and has also done a great job with the allotment beyond.

In 1996 when Bourton won the Bledisloe Cup for best kept village some of the prize money was used to improve the trough and again in 2010. For a few years neighbours in Chantry Gardens had helped to maintain it, but now it is looking quite splendid. It is thought that years ago, when the circus came to Moreton in Marsh and was billeted above Bourton, that the Elephants were taken down via Rectory Lane to drink at the trough.



Mike Bunston



BOURTON HOUSE GARDEN

After many months of renovation work following a flood in their house, Roelof and Cheryl Quintus were able to move back into Bourton House in June. The scaffolding has come down as work on the windows has also been completed.



A group of artists called Just Four had an exhibition in the Tithe Barn this June, which was a great success, despite the rain during the week of the exhibition



Unfortunately, Gareth was knocked off his bike, when cycling back from his holiday in

Wales and hurt his back. He is having some time off to recuperate at the moment and is hoping to be back very soon. Tom is holding the fort while Jacky is on holiday. Tom celebrated his 21st birthday in June.



The Bourton House Garden Instagram account has been a great success and now has nearly 2,000 followers. Please do follow us, if you aren't already! The garden continues to delight its many visitors, who often comment how very special it is.



The garden will be open on Sunday 11th August for the National Garden Scheme and on Sunday 18th August for the Village Open Gardens Day.

Kate Allen



RSN TRANSPORT CONSULTATION

The Rural Services Network work closely with Rose Regeneration and they have asked us to circulate the message below on their behalf:

The University of Lincoln and Rose Regeneration are carrying out a study to explore the potential for rural mobility innovations to address rural needs. The project is funded by Midlands Connect but it is expected that the findings will be relevant to rural areas across the UK. To assist in the initial phase of the project, they invite your input here: https://survey.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cXXTRENP46xA0W9

If you have any queries or would like any further information, then please don't hesitate to contact Gary Bosworth at GBosworth@lincoln.ac.uk

The RSN is calling on the Government to develop a Rural Strategy to ensure that rural areas are properly considered. Too often policies are designed for urban areas and the result is that rural communities miss out on the benefits or experience unintended consequences from policies which are poorly thought through from a rural perspective.

Sign up to support our call for action and to find out more here:

<https://www.rsnonline.org.uk/time-for-a-rural-strategy>

*Graham Biggs MBE
Chief Executive*

Rural Services Network

OUT & ABOUT

If you have any spare time on the morning of Open Gardens (18th August), you may wish to pop along to Broad Campden for a little 'One Man and his Dog':

SHEEP DOG TRIALS
SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST
 AT
BRIAR HILL FARM
BROAD CAMPDEN
CHIPPING CAMPDEN
GL55 6XB
ALL DAY - 1st DOG @ 9.00am
 Spectators £2 each (under 16 free)
 Refreshments Available
 Parking
Presented to Broad Campden Village Hall, County Air Ambulance

THE NEXT ISSUE

.. is due out in November. We've been delighted to receive feedback from readers such as 'It just gets fuller and fuller with news' so please do let us have any pieces that you think would be of interest to your neighbours.



Items for inclusion should be submitted by early October to: -

Ailsa Vigrass
amvigrass@gmail.com