



# THE BRIDGE

September  
2020

A monthly magazine covering people and events in our area of the Cotswolds, and delivered to Aldsworth, Asthall, Asthall Leigh, the Barringtons, Bradwell Village, Burford, Fordwells, Fulbrook, Holwell, Sherborne, Signet, Swinbrook, Taynton, Upton, Widford, Westwell, Windrush. Volume 11 Number 8 £1.50



A wonderful photograph showing the sun setting over Upton in August kindly provided by Peter Martin

“At least Dick Turpin had the decency to wear a mask” quipped Garry Richardson on the Today programme, teasing John Humphrys about the size of his salary. Now we are all becoming accustomed to wearing masks in shops, on public transport and other places. A pity, then, that a small minority dispose of their used masks by dropping them in the street for some poor soul to pick up. Yuck.

Please forgive us, gentle reader, if we indulge in a little introspection this month. The reason is that it is ten years since the first edition of *The Bridge* plopped onto our doormats in this area. The magazine was founded by Clendon Daukes and was edited by Geoff and Jenny Smith. We are therefore taking a brief look back over that period. Appropriately Clendon is our interviewee of the month and is able to tell us of some of the exploits in his eventful life.

His latest project is helping to raise funds for the Burford archive. (Does that make him an activist and an archivist?) The town has a cornucopia of documents, photographs and other records of its history and the organisers of this appeal hope to ensure that these are preserved for posterity. There is a big push to raise the necessary funds and more information about this can be found within.

Over recent years *The Bridge* has carried a number of stories about the serious pollution to the once pristine waters of the Windrush and the failure of Thames Water to comply with their obligations. Taking on these big corporations costs money and OCC councillor Nick Field-Johnson is leading the charge on this. He is also launching an appeal which we hope our readers will support. It is hard to believe that it was once common for people to swim in the river as shown in the photograph in this edition. Could that happen again one day?

*Editors*



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## ADVERTISING IN THE BRIDGE

We are sorry that we have not been able to include all the requested advertisements in this issue of The Bridge.

If you wish to advertise in future editions, please contact the Advertising Manager on

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## THE BRIDGE INTERVIEW WITH BRIGADIER CLENDON DAUKES



If you wanted to find someone who would lead an expedition across the Sahara, launch a new magazine or raise money to build an archive, you would need someone like Clendon Daukes. During a 30 year military career and a further 26 years working in civilian appointments he has seized many projects and seen them through to a conclusion.

Clendon comes from a military family. He was born between VE and VJ Day and his mother was a WRNS officer during the Second World War. His maternal grandfather served in the Royal Navy in the First World War and rejoined (over age) in the Second. His other grandfather was an officer in Indian Army during the First World War and then served in the Indian Political Service for the rest of his career. Clendon's father was an officer in the Royal Artillery before becoming a senior administrator in NATO's international headquarters. For some 13 years from when Clendon was 2 ½ his father served in turn in Tripolitania (now part of Libya), Germany, Paris and Brussels. As a result Clendon spent much of his childhood abroad though he was sent to school in England, first to Cheam School (where he was later the Chairman of Governors) and then on to Charterhouse. Although he says that it was not preordained that he would join the Army, he was impressed by seeing a marching military band and at the early age of 16 took and passed the Regular Commissions Board. On leaving school he was not able to go straight to Sandhurst so he enlisted as a private soldier in the Queen's Own Buffs for a sort of military gap year. During that time he took and passed the Civil Service exam which entitled him to join the Civil Service or any of the three armed services. He opted for the army and spent two years at Sandhurst before being commissioned in 1965.

He decided not to follow his father into the artillery and instead joined the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards (now the Royal Dragoon Guards). This is a cavalry regiment and at that time was equipped with armoured cars. After three months of armoured training he was sent to join his regiment on active service in Aden. This was an exciting introduction to army life but in retrospect (and now as a father) he didn't appreciate the dangers. He was blown up on a mine but saved by the robust construction of his 16 ton, six wheeled Saladin armoured car. Perhaps the fact that it was called a Saladin had upset the locals!

The regiment was then posted to Northern Ireland and was based at Omagh under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Nigel Bagnall who later became a field marshal and head of the British Army. This was before the Troubles began and was a peaceful time. He hunted three times a week, shot and fished. The hunting was with the Fermanagh and the South Tyrone Fox Hounds. "The master of the latter said they had not seen a fox for 14 years." As for shooting, "We were told that there was a pheasant somewhere in Northern Ireland but we never

managed to find it." The regiment remained in Northern Ireland for the first few months of the Troubles but was then transferred to Germany and re-equipped with Chieftain tanks (main battle tanks in military jargon). During the Cold War these were part of the British Army on The Rhine (BAOR) ready to repel a land attack by Warsaw Pact countries. They were based at Sennelager, near Paderborn.

Clendon met his wife Camilla in 1973. "I ran our regiment's ski team. We went to Klosters in Switzerland to train for the divisional skiing championship. Camilla came out to manage a chalet. She had met my sister on a course on how to run a chalet, who told me that Camilla was coming to the same place. It was a good job I knew in advance as otherwise the other officers would have been all round her like bees round a honeypot." Perhaps this foreshadowed Camilla's later career as a beekeeper. It turned out that her father, two uncles and a great uncle had served in Clendon's regiment. They were married in 1974. Among her other skills she is a qualified Cordon Bleu cook and an expert in packing and unpacking as a result of 15 postings in 20 years. They have three children: Anthony, a director of an American bank; Tom is a director of Leconfield Property Group, a company he and a friend set up in 2010; and Rosie is a lawyer specialising in energy at law firm Simmons & Simmons.

Clendon's next job was as ADC to the general commanding the 2nd Division in Germany after which he returned to his regiment which had moved to Catterick in Yorkshire where they trained Armoured Corps soldiers and NCOs in specialist disciplines. From there he assumed command of the Independent Armoured Squadron in Berlin, a city which was still then divided into four zones of occupation controlled by British, American, French and



Russian forces. The unit was based at Spandau Barracks which shared a boundary wall with Spandau prison in which Rudolf Hess, Hitler's former deputy, was incarcerated. The duties of guarding Hess were shared between the occupying powers on a monthly rotation so the squadron had Russian soldiers as next-door neighbours one month in every four. During this period Clendon devised the Berlin camouflage pattern or "Berlin camo" which was intended to break up the outline of a vehicle in an urban setting. This was adopted by the British Army as a whole and by NATO allies, and was later copied by Warsaw Pact forces.

After a year in Berlin Clendon was selected to attend the Army Staff College. His first appointment after the staff college was as war planning officer for the United Kingdom Mobile Force, a divisional size force of 11,000 available to provide rapid support to NATO allies in time of war. Two years later, on promotion to lieutenant-colonel, he was posted on to the teaching staff of the Australian army staff college. He and his family spent two happy years in the sunshine of the Victoria coast, 60 miles south of Geelong. Command of his regiment, now based at Detmold in Germany, followed. At that time the regiment was equipped with 54 main battle tanks costing at least £2m each..

After two years in command during which he took an Open University degree he was promoted to full colonel and posted to the Ministry of Defence where his job involved researching the sort of equipment that might be needed in 25 years' time. In 1991 he was appointed as a member of the Royal College of Defence Studies. "This was a highlight of my career". This organisation comprised a mixture of military, intelligence and civilian officials from a wide range of countries. It provided a forum for discussion between those from, for example, Israel and Egypt and India and Pakistan to get to know each other and establish working relationships. While at the RCDS he led a group of eight on a tour of a number of African countries.

In 1992, by this time a brigadier, he went to the Ministry of Defence as Director NATO and European Defence with the unfortunate acronym of D NED. This, he says, gave him two very busy years as his responsibilities included Bosnia and Croatia where NATO forces were heavily involved. "This was my most stressful job apart from being the chairman of a prep school! There was what we called the CNN factor. Sometimes the world knew what was happening before we did. We had to work out our responses very quickly."

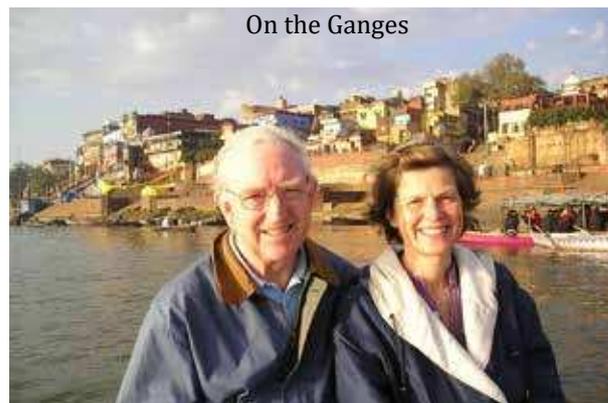
In 1994 Clendon decided to take early retirement from the army. "I was 49 and had had a good run. I could foresee that my remaining career would be as a bureaucrat in the Ministry of Defence or Army Headquarters". The family home was in Hampshire and he was spending every week in London which he found tiresome. He enrolled at the Manchester Business School to learn about profit and loss. "I had had heavy financial responsibility in the army but had never dealt with profit and loss. My first job was a short-term consultancy with Marconi and I am sure that my involvement there contributed significantly to their subsequent downfall! Then out of the blue I was invited to join a small team to help set up a new national magazine." The Week was founded in 1995 and is still going strong. "At the start there were two journalists and me. They did the creative work while I was the 'office boy'."

A longer-term job came his way when he was appointed in 1996 as a fellow and the estates bursar/treasurer of St Peter's College, Oxford. He and Camilla sold their house in Hampshire and moved to Signet, just south of Burford, where they still live. He enjoyed working with world experts in their respective fields. "The college was poor. It was founded in 1929 for ... 'the sons of clergy and schoolmasters' ... The richest (invariably the oldest) colleges need only draw down a small percentage of their investment income and reinvest the rest". He was a member of the Estates Bursars' Committee and helped to introduce a contribution scheme whereby richer colleges supported their poorer siblings. He retired from Oxford University in 2006. Between 2004 and 2009 he was chairman of a couple of Service charities and held the position of colonel of his regiment.

Those are the bare facts of Clendon's career but he has many other facets. Perhaps the most important of these is travel. He took part in an expedition across the Sahara Desert while he was still at Sandhurst, in summer temperatures that rose to 105 ° F (40°C). "I am fascinated by ancient archaeology and classical ruins. The North African littoral has some of the best classical ruins in the world as long as they have not been blown up in a civil war." In pursuit of this he and Camilla have travelled throughout Europe and visited Tunisia, Libya, Egypt and Syria. Other trips have included Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand and Uzbekistan. His recreations include fishing, shooting, gardening and



electric trains. He and Camilla have an extensive garden and he is assistant keeper of her half million or so bees. "I am a country bumpkin at heart. I don't like cities." He is a voracious reader and often has ten or more books on the go at a time.



Locally he has been on Burford's Parochial Church Council (PCC) and is also a guide for visitors to St John the Baptist Church – "One of the dozen or so finest churches in the land". He and Camilla are now active members of Swinbrook church. He was chairman of the Burford & District Society for six years and is on the committees of the Tolsey Museum and the Burford Archive Project. He serves on the Patient Participation Group of Burford Surgery and is a volunteer guide at the National Trust's Lodge Park. "I write letters to the Daily Telegraph but only have a hit rate of about one in four." His involvement with this magazine arose when the previous vicar asked him to create a community magazine rather than a parish newsletter. He found volunteers to edit it, others to arrange advertising and still more to distribute it. Ten years on some 60 people in the community are involved. His main role now is to encourage and support those who put it together each month, organise the distribution and keep a wary eye on the finances.



A man, therefore, of many parts. One question remains. How does he ever find time to sleep?

*Editors*

## BURFORD TOWN COUNCIL

**“We’re having a heatwave, a tropical heatwave.**

**The temperature’s rising - it isn’t surprising**

**Burford Town Council’s in session”**

This is being written on Friday 7 August, billed as the hottest day in England ever. Whether your preferred chanteuse is Ethel Waters, Ella Fitzgerald or Marilyn Monroe, all of whom had hits with this 1930s standard (except the last line), is immaterial. It still accurately sums up what can happen at this time of the year. There are two, or possibly two and a half, reasons why.

Let’s start with the half first. Since March all council meetings have been held by Zoom. I have a theory that Covid-19 is an invention of Zoom because nobody had heard of Zoom before lockdown and now it is a major channel of communication. Zoom enables everybody to take part in debate from the comfort of their own sofa but there are dangers. If you are crammed cheek by jowl in the council chamber and get over-excited, Cllr Snoggs can poke you in the ribs or give you his/her basilisk stare nose to nose and the outburst is instantly quelled. A tightly rolled up copy of the day’s agenda hurled from close quarters is equally efficacious.

Locking the lavatory door has brought many a malcontent to heel. But none of these regular remedies are available on Zoom. Instead, a dedicated ranter can hold sway for minutes (which seem like an eternity) until the meeting host – a Zoom term for somebody who understands technology – remembers that he has an overriding mute button and exercises the finger of doom. If there were two such hosts would they be commuters? Boom! Boom! Or Zoom! Zoom! I could go on – and will. Liquor freely available, pets and children jumping on the computer, delivery drivers knocking at the door, coffee dropped all over the keyboard all enliven the Zoom experience. I can’t wait to get back to the traditional staid council meetings in the Tolsey.

The second reason why debate became quite exciting at our last meeting was the vexed question of the reopening of the play park on the Rec. When the government announced that play parks could reopen and issued the guidelines to be observed in doing so, it rapidly became apparent that we did not have the resources so we decided to wait until the guidelines were made less severe. Imagine our surprise, and concern, when it was officially announced on the day after our meeting that all local authorities in West Oxfordshire had reopened their play parks except Brize Norton and us. We are still trying to find out why so many authorities took an entirely different view from us. I suspect that, because the guidelines are just that and not the law of the land, they decided to take the risk. In other words they are willing to ignore the guidelines in whole or in part and gamble that the users – children, parents, other carers and friends and relations - would prefer to expose themselves, and those with whom they come into contact, to Covid-19 rather than staying home and staying safe. Sounds like a no brainer to me. But we do understand the frustration of parents not being able to give their children an outlet for their energy and high spirits which they have formerly enjoyed so we have

decided to take the first tentative step of making a risk assessment which hopefully will have been done by the time of the next issue.

The third cause of additional hot air was permits for local businesses allowing them to drive their HGVs up and down the High Street notwithstanding the 7.5 tonne limit which came into force on 5 August. I thought I noticed an immediate improvement but that may have been coincidental. The exemption scheme has been publicised by OCC and we have been inundated with applications. These demonstrate two factors of which we

were previously unaware. First, “local” starts at the Isle of Skye and finishes at the Isle of Wight. Secondly, the imposition of a weight limit is intended to encourage HGVs to use the High Street, not the reverse! We are still struggling with the detail of the exemption – more next month.



*John White - Mayor*

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## MRS BUMBLES

This month my husband was planning to tell you about his adventures delivering groceries in the Cotswolds in an electric car.

I thought that you might be more interested in hearing about our ghost. Ghost ?

Yes. A ghost. No, we have not finally lost our marbles. We have definitely got a ghost in the shop. It’s a lady. She’s calm, means no-one any harm and has a gentle sense of humour.

Virtually anywhere can feel a bit spooky in the dark. At night the shop actually has a tranquil atmosphere but at some point in the wee small hours things start to happen.

Now, I have already told you that the ghost is a lady. Have we seen her? No. We have heard her but that might be a story for another time. Somehow we definitely know that the ghost is a lady.



Spending eternity in a shop cannot be anyone’s idea of having fun and when she gets bored she starts rearranging the shop and the stock.

Now you are probably thinking that it must be the lorries thundering past that cause the stock to fall from the shelves. Well, it’s definitely not the lorries that turn main switches off at the wall and recently several packs of Cotswold Fudge moved overnight a dozen feet from the shelves to just behind the front door...and we have loads of similar stories.

We actually like her but it would certainly be better if she could spend the night stacking up the waste cardboard – at least that would save us having to do that chore every week.

*Sally Colter*

## CAFE ON THE A40



Between Burford and Cheltenham

## BURFORD & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

The committee has decided that members are unlikely to want to attend meetings this autumn and winter until the lockdown restrictions are ended, or at least eased. We therefore propose to start again with our Annual General Meeting afternoon tea at the Bowls Club on Thursday 25 February at 2.15 for 2.30. From then on we hope to continue with a largely traditional programme beginning with a Spring Show on 27 March. We then expect to have talks on 22 April and 27 May and the Summer Garden Party at David and Jan Cohen's garden on 24 June. There will then be talks on 23 September, 28 October and 23 November. We also expect to replace the coach outing with a second car outing.

The other important announcement is that in view of the cancelled programme for 2020 members who have already paid for 2020 will be sent membership cards for 2021 FREE, so no membership payment for existing members.

*David Day*

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## FRIENDS OF BURFORD LIBRARY

Well. It seems such a long time since we could enjoy our library and all the services it provides, not to mention the friendly faces we meet inside. However, things are moving on slowly. Last month we learned that there is a phased reopening of the larger libraries starting. We are not in that category but recently we did receive some encouraging news from Oxfordshire Library Services which I will share with you below.

### Community Library Volunteers

We are currently in discussions with Library Friends Groups and with senior management in OCC about prioritising and planning the reopening of the Community Supported Libraries. Volunteers will be key to this but we need to ensure that we have considered the needs and position of each individual volunteer. In the next few weeks you are likely to receive an email with more details.

This will be the next step and we will keep all our loyal volunteers updated as soon as possible.

I hope many of you have taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge which will have ended by the time you get this.

No more news but we are keeping our fingers crossed that we can go ahead with Plonk and Pudding in the not too distant future.

*Elizabeth Mortimore*



### The Cotswold Outpost Opens at Windrush Heights!

Sensational views and a warm welcome await at newly opened The Cotswold Outpost, just off the A40 at Windrush Heights.

In the style of a spacious, airy, barn conversion, The Cotswold Outpost provides a calm and relaxed atmosphere to enjoy the spectacular vista of the Windrush valley.

Offering an extensive menu of delicious breakfasts, lunches, afternoon tea, daily specials as well as barista coffee, tea and alcoholic beverages, owner Vicky Wills supports regional food suppliers by using only the best, local, seasonal produce whenever possible.



Open daily from 7am until 6pm and from 9am until 4pm on Sundays, manager Gary Quigley and his team are on hand to assist whether you pop in for a coffee with freshly baked cake or to browse the selection of fresh food and gift items on sale.



Free WiFi means you can linger for longer whilst surfing online, but the expansive view probably will be all that you need to unwind.

[www.thecotswoldoutpost.co.uk](http://www.thecotswoldoutpost.co.uk) 07856 241051

*Joanna McKerlie*

## HOPE FOR POST OFFICE

We understand that discussions are still taking place about Burford's much-valued post office. It is hoped that it will be possible for the post office to continue in some form through a local rescuer. More news when we have it here or on our website.

*Editors*



**9 September Zoom Lecture  
“The Making of Landscape Photography”  
with Charlie Waite**

In the light of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was with regret that all of our programmed activities in the Warwick Hall were cancelled. However, following the successful use of Zoom for recent lectures, the September lecture will also be presented via this virtual format.



Palouse, Washington State

Charlie Waite writes: “For me, the camera provides a unique conduit to assist us to engage profoundly with the natural world and the sense of wellbeing that comes from it. And nature is a world that we are in danger of becoming blind to; to becoming dislocated from. But with landscape photography there is the hope that we can provide a link that draws us closer to our sacred, natural and beautiful world” (TAS magazine, Summer 2020 p.34)



Roverto, Italy

This fully illustrated talk will explore the relationship between the making of an image and the way in which it is perceived by the viewer. Charlie will discuss how the eye and the brain perform an extraordinary double act made up of visual references and intellectual interpretation.

As one of the world’s leading (and multi-award winning) landscape photographers, Charlie Waite’s images are held in collections across the globe. He has lectured for 25 years throughout the UK, Europe and the US and has held numerous one-man exhibitions in London, exhibited twice in Tokyo, and was awarded the prestigious honorary fellowship of the British Institute of Professional Photographers, as well as a direct fellowship by the Royal Photographic Society. He was invited by the Royal Academy to exhibit in 2015’s summer exhibition.

Members will be invited via our newsletter, but guests are welcome to join us with a suggested donation of £5 per person.

For more information on how to join the Zoom lecture, please contact Frances Sparkes on 01993 823943 or, preferably, by email, [publicity@theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk](mailto:publicity@theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk)

To learn more about The Arts Society Cotswolds and to keep abreast of any additional activities, please go to the website [www.theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietycotswolds.org.uk)  
*Frances Sparkes*

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## CHELTENHAM LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2020

The Times & The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival 2020 will take place between 2 and 11 October. The Festival will present 100 live-streamed events with a socially-distanced live audience (government guidance permitting) in Cheltenham Town Hall and the Everyman Theatre. And, in a year when international travel is limited, an innovative series of filmed events with major international names, supported by a global network of festival partners and publishers.



The events will be streamed via the Cheltenham Festival’s website through a digital hub, where the audience can interact with speakers and other Festival-goers. Visitors to the hub can navigate the virtual Festival site, browsing in the bookshop and exploring activities for book-lovers of all ages. More details from [cheltenhamfestivals.com](http://cheltenhamfestivals.com)

*Information from festival website*



**Don’t forget to look at our website  
[www.thebridgeburford.co.uk](http://www.thebridgeburford.co.uk) for updates on local  
news, previous features and topical photographs  
And for more photos about Burford events do  
look at Burford Life on Facebook**



### Welcome back to looking forward

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

**22 September – Travels with Auntie** talk. Postponed until 2021

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

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

But no sooner had we rearranged your programme for the remainder of the year than the government announced a pause in the easing of the restrictions. Consequently we must all wait and see whether the above will be possible or not. We remain driven by whatever is stipulated to safeguard the health of you, our members and the community. We will keep you fully informed via Mail Chimp.

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

Fingers crossed that another person will step forward to represent Fulbrook in the near future.

The committee is also losing the support of Kathryn Kyle who has also contributed much to the society but is now moving away from Burford. I am however very pleased to welcome Marie Jackson to our team. She has very kindly agreed to take over the ‘Living in Burford’ initiative that was mentioned in last month’s edition. There is still time if your organisation wishes to be included. Please contact Marie on [info@mariejacksonassociates.com](mailto:info@mariejacksonassociates.com)

Thanks to the continuing support of our magnificent mask makers we are still supplying the community and Burford Surgery with cloth face coverings. Due to the recipients’ generosity, the donations to the Burford

Archive fund have now topped an incredible £900 – will we make £1000?

Finally, because regrettably we have not yet been able to ‘resume normal service’, we have introduced a monthly digital supplement to continue to keep in touch – we hope you enjoy it. If any non-members would also like to receive copies just email me as shown below.

*Peter - Chairman* [peteremartin@btinternet.com](mailto:peteremartin@btinternet.com)

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### MISSING THE BUS?



So farewell, then, to the Swanbrook bus along the A40. Stagecoach West has taken over the operation of the bus service, which connects Burford to Oxford City Centre and Cheltenham, from 26th July

2020. There are four services each way from Monday to Saturday. A £10 853 Dayrider Gold ticket allows unlimited travel throughout Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire on the day of purchase. There is also a ‘five tickets for the price of four’ deal, which will be available on the Stagecoach app. For more information and to view the full timetable, please visit <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/west/cheltenham-to-oxford-bus>



*Editors*

### AND ANOTHER BUS



I am pleased to announce that, after four months of suspension due to lock down, we will have resumed all Villager Bus services from Monday 3 August. Because of the continuing need for caution over

the spread of the virus, we have carried out a thorough risk assessment of the dangers posed to our drivers and passengers. As a result, we shall have only 50% of normal seating capacity. Unfortunately, we are unable to run extra buses as our driver numbers have been reduced by those who still need to remain isolated. This may cause some passengers to be disappointed but we will make every effort to make extra journeys where possible. Please note also that passengers will be required by law to wear face coverings on the bus.

I should also like to inform you that we have had to change our website to <http://www.villagerbus.co.uk>. This will be up and running this week.

*Keith Gowing - Chairman The Villager Bus*

*Typical. You wait for ages for an announcement about bus services and then two arrive together - Ed.*

## HMS BURFORD 1757 1785

*Tony Hodgkison completes his series about the three vessels which have borne this name.*

The last Burford was built in Chatham with improvements to arrest the seas swamping the lower gunports above a faint breeze, better agility and speed. She also had a secondary title 'George Beauclerk' (Duke of St Albans and Earl of Burford) and cost £38,118 8s.

Her service history covered the Seven Years War (1756 – 63) in the struggle with the French for control of North America, and later in India during the American War of Independence (1775 – 1783).

In May 1758 Burford under Captain James Gambier, in a fleet of 40 warships, 150 transport vessels, and 14,000 soldiers, gathered in Halifax, Nova Scotia to attack the French in Louisbourg. Following a siege the fortress was captured on 26 July which allowed the British access along the St Lawrence River to Quebec, ultimately leading to the French ceding Canada. Burford also took part in further attacks on the French in the Caribbean in 1758-59, a failed attempt to capture Martinique, followed by capturing Guadelope at a very heavy price. Many British were buried there, mainly from disease.

Meanwhile the French had a 'cunning plan' - invade Britain (again). This time they were going to land up to 100,000 troops in southern England using flat-bottomed vessels, and put Bonnie Prince Charlie on the throne in Scotland, followed by the English throne, sometime late in 1759.

This was known about through the British spy-network, and Admiral Sir Edward Hawke's fleet blockaded Brest for most of 1759, where Admiral Comte de Conflans' fleet was gathered, but suffered from shortages of food and experienced sailors, and lacked additional ships the British had intercepted in Cadiz and Gibraltar. Conflans was left with a muddled plan to invade Scotland and was ordered to escape the blockade and collect the 17,000 soldiers and 100 transports assembled in Vannes near Quiberon Bay.



In November, the winter storms arrived.

9 November- after three days the severe westerly gales forced Hawke's fleet to run for shelter in Torbay.

13<sup>th</sup> - Burford, in a small squadron from the West Indies, joined Hawke's fleet.

14<sup>th</sup> Approaching Brest, Hawke was informed that Conflans' 21 ships had slipped away heading for

Vannes. 15<sup>th</sup> At 2pm Love and Unity, a small British victualling ship, had sighted the French fleet 70 miles

west of Belle Isle and on the 16<sup>th</sup> informed Hawke. The British fleet sailed hard into a SSE gale for Quiberon to catch the enemy.



19<sup>th</sup> With the severe gales Conflans had to slow down before entering the narrow southern entrance to Quiberon Bay at dawn, in some daylight.

20<sup>th</sup> 8.30 am. The French fleet sighted off Belle Isle.

9.00 am Hawke gives the signal to give chase, in full sail, into a violent NWW gale, high seas and into a bay strewn with dangerous rocks and shoals – a very daring decision. In these treacherous conditions Conflans used local pilots to guide his flagship 'Soleil Royal' into the bay, confident that the British would not attack here.

2.30 pm - The British attacked the rear French division and in a ferocious battle the division flagship Formidable struck her colours and surrendered. Soleil Royal was under fire and Thesee attempted to intervene by turning quickly, without closing her lower gunports, swamping and capsizing her, leaving only 22 survivors. Other French ships capsized or surrendered, but by 5pm it was dark and Hawke's fleet anchored off tiny Dumet Island in the bay. During the night eight French ships managed to navigate through the shoals and escape to Rochefort. Soleil Royal ended up beached and was burnt by Conflans.

This was a decisive British victory which broke the power of the French fleet, and left the British free to act against the French colonies. Britain lost two ships of the line and 400 killed, France seven ships and 2,500 killed or died through drowning.

Burford remained with Hawke's fleet on blockade duty, capturing Belle Isle in 1761, until the end of the Seven Years War in February 1763.

In 1782-83 her final service was against the French around the east coast of India in a series of indecisive battles noted in the battle honours.

HMS Burford returned home to Woolwich in 1784, old, obsolete, surplus to requirements, and sold in March 1785 for £1320. However she was a large vessel with deep holds, and in fair condition, and went into the merchant service.

**HMS Burford Battle Honours:** Louisburg 1758; Quiberon Bay 1759; Belle Isle 1761; Sadras 1782; Providien 1782; Negapatnam 1782; Trincomalee 1782.  
*Tony Hodgkison. Painting: Richard Wright/National Maritime Museum (1760)*

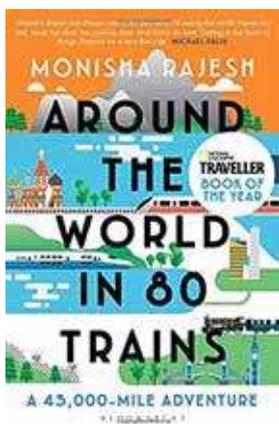
## ALICE'S BOOK GROUP

*Around the World in 80 Trains* by Monisha Rajesh promised to be a soothing read for Alice's Book Group after the rather harrowing previous book, and leaving London it shunted along at a pleasant enough steady rhythm. However by the time she left Europe it was more like a bullet train, and the descriptions and the writer's empathy rather grabbed our attention. (India was not included as Ranesh wrote previously about her railway journeys there.)

Despite the book just occasionally appearing to be merely the holiday diary of the author and her fiancé experiencing the minor fleshpots as well as a lot of the backpackers' usual discomfort and having a lot of fun together, plus a list of train journeys, the images of the squalor or splendour of various locations are vivid, and by the comfort or chaos of the railway carriages of different countries, we get a subtle glimpse into their peoples and regimes. The book gives us snapshots of a multitude of societies and Ranesh is obviously fascinated by people. Her accounts of conversations with the people she meets instantly bring them to life.

Several of her encounters are extremely moving; whilst many Europeans have made the journey on the "Death Railway" she still brings a fresh view of the horrific events there. Japan is, as I write, commemorating the destruction wrought by the atomic bombs on 6 August seventy five years ago. This ceremony is an annual event and Rajesh attended one - the entire book is worth reading for her experience and interviews with survivors. Equally her account of North Korea, where she was allowed supervised access, is interesting in that this brief insight appears to have left her with ambivalent views of the country.

There is no such ambivalence when she visited Tibet, where she abhorred the influence of China on the indigenous culture and the lives of the charming people. I am sure her dislike was not coloured by the disappointment felt on visiting a tourist-ridden Terracotta Army!



The book concludes with the return to England on the Simplon Orient Express from Venice, for which she and her, seldom featured, fiancé had to purchase a smart new wardrobe having worn out all their clothes en route. This final railway is as well described as the rest of the book, with her now familiar brief poetic descriptions, and we realise that the journey has not only given a glimpse of some foreign cultures but

we have seen too the welding of the couple's relationship.

Another factual book next, on genetics, *A Brief History of Everyone who Ever Lived* by Adam Rutherford  
*Veral Marshall*

## CAROLINE'S CLASSICS

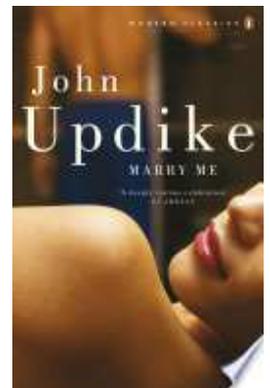
### *Marry Me* by John Updike

Even on my third time of reading, I found this sizzling story still had its finger firmly on the pulse. It literally sets your heart racing as you are flung headlong onto a slide of sexual shenanigans with twists and turns galore.

Two couples are friends: Jerry and Ruth Conant and Richard and Sally Mathias. Jerry and Sally are having an affair and snatch precious but angst-ridden moments on a Connecticut beach or in Washington. They constantly propose to each other – but it's never going to be plain sailing. Their respective partners are also beginning to piece the infidelity puzzle together. And, to make it more complicated, Updike soon makes it clear the lovers themselves are beset by doubts, indecision and clouded vision. In his first sentence the reader is told their usual tryst destination is symbolically a 'relatively obscure' beach, down a road 'full of unexplained forks and windings and turnings-off'.

You are virtually whipped into a frenzy before the inevitable denouement and a totally unforeseen revelation. The author relentlessly builds on Jerry and Sally's 'will they, won't they?' dilemma as each individual in the hapless foursome is also forced to confront their own and their relationship's insecurities. With his talent for elevating the everyday into the surreal, Updike portrays his characters often looking on helplessly at their own predicaments as if detached from reality. Scenes are consistently compared to famous artists' works of fantasy such as Chagall and Matisse, adeptly used as metaphors for the characters' interpretations of their state of mind or an incident. When Ruth crashes her car into a wood she thinks 'It seemed like a Rousseau: the literal leafage, the air of static benevolence, the peaceful monster browsing, self-forgetful, on ferns and soft weeds.' Updike writes with such depth and intensity, with both huge wit and pathos, that every sentence is almost a work of art. I'd happily re-read this book for a fourth time as it is a timeless tour de force portrayal of the human psyche.

*Caroline Fisher*



## ALMSHOUSE VACANCY

The Burford Almshouse Charity invites applications for a vacant almshouse, suitable for a single person or couple, with limited resources who live in or have connections with the Burford area. Application forms and further information is available from [aneyoungson@btinternet.com](mailto:aneyoungson@btinternet.com), 07946273902, or 01993824949 The deadline for applying is Monday, 27 September.

*Anne Youngson*



# BURFORD ARCHIVE

## Wills and Inventories

The Burford Archive project has been well promulgated in recent editions of *The Bridge* and we have been encouraging people to look in their lofts for old documents, magazines and artefacts. One such quest revealed some research into 17th century Fulbrook wills and inventories. If the authors of this fascinating report were to make themselves known we would happily acknowledge them. The following extract will give you a taste of what they discovered:

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

This comes from the will of Margerie Grinder of Fulbrook, widow, and is dated 23 December 1604. She died early next year.

Her husband, Edward, had died in the summer of 1601. He was said by his contemporaries to have been a 'husbandman' and they lived in a nine or ten roomed house, ...'well appointed'. He left goods worth £56 (about £17,000 today) but the farm had evidently flourished in the intervening three years as the total value of Margerie's goods was £72 (£23,500 today) or was she engaged in some other activity such as money lending?

Before 1858 the proving of wills was the business of the ecclesiastical courts. This was necessary if a deceased person had goods worth £5 or more, and before probate had been granted a full inventory of the deceased's personal goods and chattels was required. This was compiled by two or more people of similar standing to the deceased. They were often relatives, neighbours or friends and would be able to estimate the value of the deceased's goods. To ensure that a widow was not left destitute on the death of her husband her 'bona paraphernalia' were omitted from her late husband's inventory. These might include items for her future use such as her clothes, jewellery if any, a bed, a coffer and all the things she had brought with her at their marriage. So at death a man might appear to have left a poorer household than was the case. The inventory listed all the deceased's personal possessions and, besides household

effects and clothing, included all farm stock and equipment.

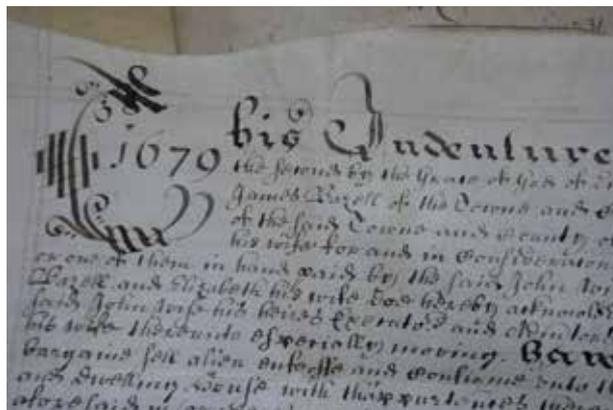
Happily domestic cats and dogs were excluded, as were pigeons and doves, but crops, both growing in the fields and gathered into barns, were included! Permanent grass (for grazing) did not count but grass cut for hay was included from the beginning of the 17th century. Duty on the declared value of an estate was payable to the bishop!

For those of you unfamiliar with some of the words used in the will, here are four of them:

A 'flockbed' described a mattress stuffed with flock (tufts of wool, cotton or both). A 'kerchieff' was a head covering or scarf. A 'partlett' was also a covering for the head and shoulders. We might recognise it as a shawl. A 'posnett' was a small metal pot with a handle and three feet.



The above is just a small example of the wealth of material that still exists and which the Burford Archive is anxious to assemble and preserve for posterity. To lose our historical heritage through neglect and the ravages of fire, flood and pest would surely be unthinkable. So do keep a look out for similar documents, magazines and artefacts which might throw light on our shared and fascinating past and, in due course possibly be added to the Burford Archive's collection.



Please consider donating to this exciting project. We are determined to keep possession of our historical and contemporary records, and your contribution will help ensure their preservation. You can donate online (see website), by cheque or by bank transfer to Falkland Hall Charity, 30-91-43, 00157448. Gift Aid is available.

In future editions I anticipate giving further examples, together with their meanings, of everyday 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century words that are no longer used today. One such is a 'boulting hutch' - any ideas?

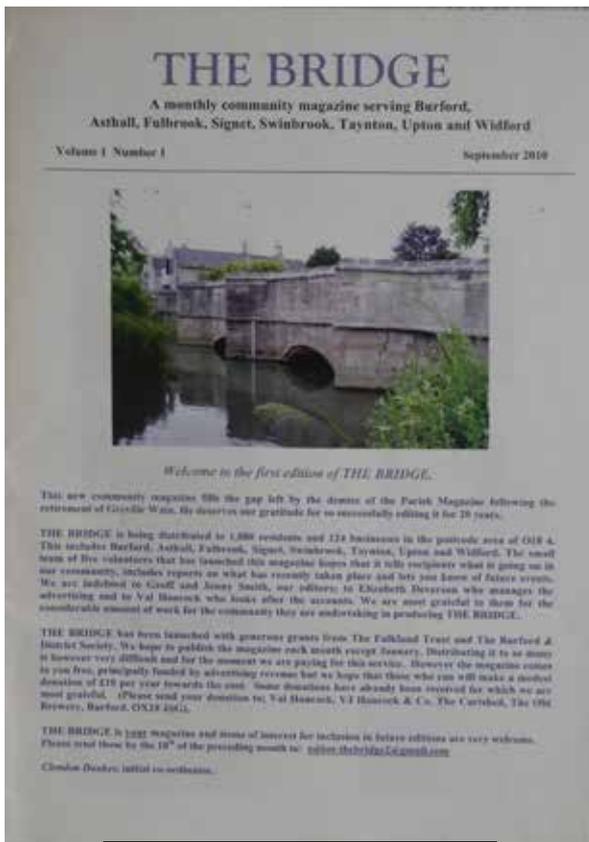
*Clendon Daukes*

[www.burfordcommunityarchive.org](http://www.burfordcommunityarchive.org)

[cddaukes@gmail.com](mailto:cddaukes@gmail.com)

Follow us on: [facebook.com/burfordarchive](https://www.facebook.com/burfordarchive)

## TEN YEARS OF THE BRIDGE



The first edition of The Bridge

“This new community magazine fills the gap left by the demise of the Parish Magazine following the retirement of Greville Wain.” These were the opening words of the first edition of The Bridge in September 2010, written by Clendon Daukes with the title of “Initial Co-ordinator”. He said it was being edited by Geoff and Jenny Smith and would be distributed to residents and businesses in the OX18 4 postcode area. He also expressed the hope that readers would make a modest donation to the running cost. The magazine had 24 pages. It included a number of articles from contributors and quite a few of these, including the Burford and District Society, Tolsey Museum, Oil Syndicate and Burford School, have continued to this day. Some of the original advertisers have also supported us throughout. The design of the magazine including the layout of the front page was Geoff Smith’s work. After a short while, hawk-eyed Judy Cumming joined to do the proof-reading.

In Bridge no. 2 Clendon said that future editions were likely to contain between 12 and 16 pages. He also asked for help with distribution of the magazine and many volunteers came forward. Without these distributors, some of whom are still performing the same service today, The Bridge would have never got off the ground.

In December 2015 Clendon reported that, after producing 58 editions, Geoff and Jenny wished to stand down as they were leaving the area. (Geoff sadly died in 2018). The present editors tentatively expressed interest in taking over from them and soon found themselves with the daunting task of producing 11 editions per year with December off for good behaviour. Armed with a new computer and the latest Apple software, we gradually got into the groove. The basic look of the magazine remains as first designed by Geoff with a few minor tweaks. The

biggest change has been the introduction of colour throughout instead of just on the four outside pages. This increased the cost of printing but made the appearance of the magazine more attractive and helped to bring in more advertising. There are a few more features, especially interviews with a range of interesting people who have contributed to life in our patch. Our IT guru, Pete Freeman, set up a new website. This enabled us to provide up-to-date news in a way that is not possible in a monthly magazine and enabled former residents in distant parts to keep in touch with events here.

The core content of The Bridge has always been news from local clubs, societies, schools and churches but gradually more contributors appeared and a more varied range of articles was published. This also meant that the magazine got bigger, making it a longer read, heavier for the distributors to lug around and more expensive to print. We decided that we would try to keep it to a maximum of 36 pages, going up to 40 for exceptional events such as the Burford Festival for which we gave wide coverage. This meant having to ask contributors to limit the length of their articles to save space. Sometimes we have been forced to hold articles over to a later edition or even omit them altogether. Expansion also took place in the geographical sense as we began to distribute in other villages such as Holwell, Aldsworth, Sherborne, Westwell and Windrush, spreading our area into Gloucestershire. The magazine was called The Bridge to symbolise its role as a link between the whole community of Burford as well as between Burford and surrounding villages. We are always anxious to provide coverage of what goes on in all of our area.

One thing we never expected was to find ourselves in a pandemic and lockdown which caused so many local activities to cease. However our splendid printers, Flying Press in Witney, continued to print and readers continued to provide articles so we have been able to produce the magazine through this challenging time.

The Bridge is distributed free of charge but, like a free lunch, there is no such thing as a free magazine. The magazine is produced entirely by volunteers. Even our super-efficient accountants, V.J. Hancock & Co, kindly provide their services free and printing is our only expense. Each edition costs about £1600 to print, depending on the number of pages. Most of the cost is covered by advertising, masterminded by our advertising manager Steve Richards, but we are grateful to readers who have made generous donations to help make up the difference. We put the notional price on the front page as a gentle reminder of the approximate production cost of each copy. Sadly in the present economic climate some of our advertisers have said that they wish to cut down on their spending. We have limited reserves so any significant drop in income may mean that we have to produce a slimmer magazine, but we hope it won’t come to that.

Editing the magazine is quite a challenge each month and we know that we may not please everybody all the time. However it is a great privilege to be able to produce something that reaches several thousand people in this part of the world and, we hope, provides useful information and some entertainment. We owe a big thank you to so many: to Geoff and Jenny for setting up The Bridge on such secure foundations; to our contributors, distributors, advertisers, printers, team members, V.J. Hancock, Clendon, Steve, Judy and Pete; and of course to all of you, our readers. We hope The Bridge will still be flourishing in another ten years from now.

*Editors*

## FUN AT THE BURFORD SUMMER ACTIVITY WEEK

Having initially thought it would be too difficult to organise in this challenging time, and then to see a forecast for heavy rain the week before (!), I will admit to having been slightly nervous beforehand that the Summer Activity Week wouldn't go ahead... But the elements were on our side and my goodness, what a nice time we all had! Sixty one children from 33 local families came and joined the many varied outdoor activities on offer over the three days. Children had a chance to try something completely new and everyone was able to catch up with local friends – a mini holiday of sorts!



On the Wednesday Nick Mills kindly let us use the field behind the car park and we were joined by Windrush Against Sewage Pollution for a fabulous series of workshops, walking the river Windrush, looking at the minibeasts in the water and learning how to measure and track the quality of the water. They are a passionate and informed group and I urge you, if you haven't already, to learn about their campaign to protect the Windrush and to get involved – I think the children will be. Last but not least Abbie Cooke led a beautiful, relaxing painting workshop – a real opportunity for the children to look and appreciate how lucky we all are to live where we do and with the friends we have.



For the first two days we based ourselves at the Pavilion on the Rec. We were joined by Rachel Strachan who led a series of exciting nature hunts and Alex Rae who had everyone making all sorts of natural crafts and edible delights with her fabulous forest school, 'Under the Trees'. Thanks to the Scouts for the loan of the wild garden. The children were extremely lucky to be able to hear Nick Lake and Jay Jay Burridge share their latest books and provide them with some valuable creative writing tips. Kim Harvey, who has recently taken over the Madhatter Bookshop, together with local author Emily Gale delighted us with a selection of stories including Emily's wonderful interactive book *Mighty Maurice*. We had sports sessions galore with John McLaughlin, Dylan Jones and Charlotte Dixon which the children adored – everything from learning to throw a ball with the pre-schoolers to touch rugby and dodgeball with the older children. Burford's expert photographer Jason Warner inspired many a budding artist with his photography walks through Burford - we're hoping to collate the photos into a little exhibition in due course - and the talented Mahnee Titus had a group of girls learning to mend and repair much-loved clothes.



So all that's left to be said is an enormous thank you to all the families who came and supported us, to the session leaders, each and every one who gave of their time and expertise for free, to all those who helped during the week, especially Heidili Bonas and Anna Putt, to Burford Town Council for all their help and to the Burford Festival for kindly funding the week. It was a very special few days and I hope it provided a bit of fun and normality in these otherwise unsettling times.

Lucy Staveley



## BURFORD ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Sadly the allotments were vandalised between late Saturday 25 and the morning of Sunday 26 July. As well as stealing a piece of communal equipment, the damage was wanton. It included breaking the standpipe and tap, which required completely replacing, damage to sheds, broken greenhouse panes and cloches, as well as the wasted water from the broken supply.

The allotment holders would appreciate local residents reporting any suspicious behaviour they may witness around the allotment area at the top of Tanners Lane.

*Helen Blantz*

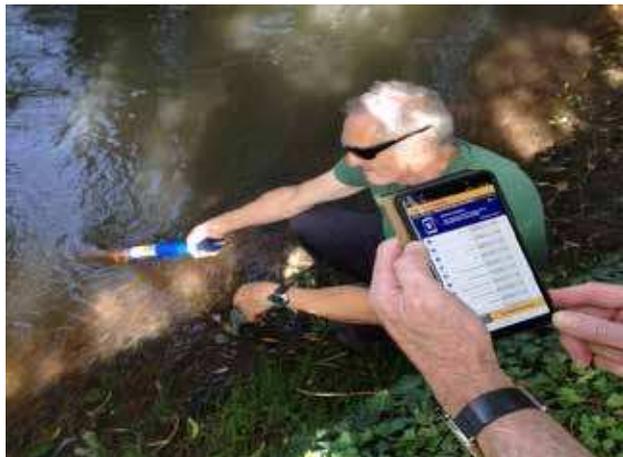
## OCC COUNCILLOR REPORT

### Save Our Windrush – Part 2: An Appeal For Funding

*Let's prevent further pollution of our rivers from raw sewage.*

Further to my article in The Bridge last month, I have received numerous responses and requests asking how to help and contribute to the Windrush Campaign.

We have been working with **Windrush Against Sewage Pollution** ("WASP"). WASP's investigation and analysis reveals untreated sewage and waste is being released into the Windrush by Thames Water in far greater quantities and far more frequently than was being claimed. To provide evidence to pursue a 'safe for all' bathing quality standard, detailed monitoring is required.



*Ashley Smith of WASP testing the river.*

Sophisticated testing with modern equipment will form part of the next phase of work and the WASP Charitable Trust has estimated that we need to raise £30,000 for professional equipment to test important parameters and for continual assessment of the river, leading toward the 'safe for all' water standards which will allow people to enjoy a clean and healthy river as well as for wildlife to flourish.

This equipment will allow the local community, via WASP, to trace the releases of sewage from storm drains into our river and provide a comprehensive picture of the scale of pollution from what is described as the routine dumping of untreated sewage. The Windrush, which runs through Burford and the Cotswolds, is amongst the worst affected. This situation cannot continue and the Windrush over the last ten years has changed from a clear and healthy river to a dark coffee coloured, murky and dirty river.

I would be prepared to match from my Councillor's Priority Fund £1,000 for every £5,000 raised in order to raise £30,000. This would mean if we raised £25,000, I would add a further £5,000 to this worthy cause.

Thames Water needs to be taken to task, but WASP needs the professional equipment to accomplish this. I would ask the residents of Burford and the villages of the Windrush Valley to please contribute to this campaign so that we can get our rivers clean again. We have in the UK a **clean beach policy**, there is no reason why we cannot have a **clean river policy**.

Please give generously to this cause. Payment should be made to (please include reference):

Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (WASP)  
Lloyds Bank - Sort Code 30 90 89  
Account 37881360

Reference – **Windrush testing**  
More information is on the WASP website: <https://www.windrushwasp.org>

Thank you.

*Cllr Nicholas Field-Johnson -  
nick.fieldjohnson@oxfordshire.gov.uk and  
nfjuk3@gmail.com*



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## WODC COUNCILLOR REPORT

The High Street has changed, there are no HGVs in the traffic queue and none thundering by when the road is less busy. The initial response is that the ban appears to be a triumph for John White, Mayor, and Ken Gray who have put so much effort into achieving it. But it has been a long campaign and one must not forget those who protested, attended meetings and counted lorries in past years. Amongst others Ralph Daubeny, Walter Maddox, Gill Edmonds and John Murgatroyd spring to mind. They all played a part to keep the campaign going although they have not lived to see its success.

Groups of teenagers are gathering in the field behind the car park and swimming in the river Windrush. Very pleasant in the hot weather but I am sure they are not aware that the river is not bathing water quality. Sewage Treatment Works upriver in the Rissingtons are not as good as we would like and raw sewage does get into the river. WASP is campaigning hard to improve matters but, hopefully, bathing in the waters does no more than strengthen the immune systems for these young folk.

*Derek Cotterill - 11 August 2020*



## THE MADHATTER BOOKSHOP LAUNCHES

### The Rabbit Hole Gallery

Famed for its witty sign board and quirky mix of books and headwear, The Madhatter Bookshop has opened its doors to a new gallery at the rear of the shop, showcasing the work of local artists with regular exhibitions from August this year.

Kim Harvey, the new owner, took over the store in March, just days before the pandemic forced unexpected closure. However, Kim reopened in late June with new plans to convert the large area to the back of the store into a gallery where visitors will be able to browse and relax in comfort, social distancing notwithstanding.

The first exhibition opened on 16 June, featuring a stunning photographic collection from Blumen Art by local photographer, Andrew McKerlie (see photo below). Capturing the intricate, delicate beauty of floral blooms set against a dramatic black backdrop, Andrew took inspiration from his background in portrait photography, resulting in an intimate study of exquisite natural flora.

The Rabbit Hole gallery will hold regular exhibitions, each running for two weeks, featuring sculpture, painting as well as photography. Open every day between 9am and 5pm.

[www.madhatterbookshop.co.uk](http://www.madhatterbookshop.co.uk) [www.blumenart.co.uk](http://www.blumenart.co.uk)  
*Joanna McKerlie*



## NEW COMMANDER AT BRIZE NORTON



Two group captains, socially distanced.

Group Captain Emily Flynn has joined RAF Brize Norton as the new station commander with effect from 31 July. She succeeds Group Captain Dan James. Group Captain Flynn was commissioned into the RAF in 2000 and most recently carried out a role as the Military Assistant to the Vice Chief of Defence Staff. Group Captain Flynn and her mother are believed to be the first mother and daughter to have qualified as chartered engineers while serving in the RAF. She has represented the RAF at hockey and is a member of the RAF Mountaineering Association  
*Stacey Evans - Media and Communications Officer/Editors*

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### Do you care for a friend or relative?

Do you look after a friend or a relative in their home or yours? If so, Healthwatch Oxfordshire wants to hear from you!

As an independent champion for people who use health and social care, we want to know what it is like to be an unpaid carer and about the help and support you receive or need. Even if you only help someone for a few hours or you don't see yourself as a 'carer', your views are important.

If you are aged 18 or over and care for an adult relative, friend or neighbour who is elderly or has an illness, disability, mental health problem or addiction please share your views by completing an anonymous survey at [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Unpaidcarers](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Unpaidcarers)

If you'd prefer to talk this through over the phone, or to ask for a paper copy of the survey to be sent out to you, please call 01865 520520.

To find out more about Healthwatch Oxfordshire see [www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk)  
*Vicky Tilley*

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## BURFORD OIL SYNDICATE



Covering Burford, Fulbrook,  
Taynton and Bradwell  
Village Only)

Next order date is Thursday 3 September 2020 by 5.00pm. Late orders will not be accepted. Deliveries for the September order are expected to be between 7 September and 20 September. The following order will be on Thursday 15 October, with delivery expected by 1 November. You can join the syndicate and order online at [www.burfordoil.co.uk](http://www.burfordoil.co.uk), or membership application forms, and order forms are available from Burford News and Reavley's Chemist. Any questions please contact *Peter Higgs - 822462*

**Local History For Burford Community**



The chosen logo for many of Burford’s organisations is based on what William Monk referred to as The Town Seal in his book, *BURFORD* (1897).

The inscription on the 13<sup>th</sup> century seal states it to be *The Common seal of the Burgesses of Burford*.

Together with the muniments and other insignia of the Burford Corporation, the seal is symbolic of the desire by the Cheatle family to establish a museum for Burford in which this could be kept safe for future generations to enjoy.



Sixty years on, and the sentiments of the museum’s founding committee to ensure the safe keeping of the Cheatle Collection are echoed by the founding committee for the Burford Community Archive to preserve in the town the papers and documents which have been accumulated by the museum and in many private hands.

It was natural that the symbol chosen to identify all literature for the Burford archive should give a nod to the past, and is based on the mayor’s insignia, as adapted from the corporation seal.

Further, it seems only right that Burford’s Tolsey Museum and the Burford Community Archive should align their image, and the heading for this piece clearly demonstrates the link which now exists between the two.

Once the building for the archive is converted and functioning, the two sites will work together as the repository for historic material from Burford town and district, and the go-to destination for all those interested in its history.

There is a lot of work to do, and there will be many opportunities for people to become involved, working under the newly adopted common banner.

*Chris Walker - [tolseymuseum@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tolseymuseum@yahoo.co.uk)*

**BURFORD AND KINGHAM ROTARY**

Rotary has become a virtual club for the moment. Zoom has become the new venue. A great way to catch up and look out for each other, help where we can, the true essence of what Rotary is about.

District, a group of local Rotary clubs, has raised over £100,000 during lockdown for local foodbanks, a figure to be proud of.

We held our AGM in July, the new team being President Stuart Jackson, Vice President Ros Richardson, Junior Vice President Colin Stringfellow, Secretary John Smith, Treasurer Michael Lyons .

President Stuart’s first job was to thank outgoing president Jane Coombs for all her hard work in the last 18 months.



*President Stuart being congratulated on completing 500k over 95 days, raising over £3,000 for Cotswold friends. A fantastic achievement.*

If you would be interested in meeting like-minded people, and to be able to raise money to help local and national charities, why not think about joining one of our Zoom meetings. In normal times we meet at Burford Golf Club on Mondays 7.00pm for 7.30pm (except Bank Holidays). We are a small but very friendly group of men and women, with members from all the local villages in the area. We are always looking to welcome new members.

So if you would like to find out what Rotary is about why not contact me our secretary John Smith  
[jpw.smith@jass.co.uk](mailto:jpw.smith@jass.co.uk)

We would love to hear from you  
*Ros Richardson*



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

*As is customary with publications, the decision of the editors on what can and cannot be published is final. In particular, they will edit or decline to publish anything which in their opinion includes personal attacks on any individual, or is offensive, in bad taste or potentially defamatory. Opinions expressed by contributors are entirely their own and the appearance of any letters or articles in The Bridge does not indicate that the editors agree with them. Items may also be edited for clarification or length and may be rejected. Where items or services are offered for sale, or advertised, the provider is responsible for ensuring that the goods or services are safe and of good quality. The editors may refuse to publish advertisements or other statements about unsuitable items or services. The Bridge does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of advertisements and does not endorse any goods or services which are advertised. All items submitted for inclusion must give the name and address of the writer and an email address or telephone number. By submitting any article, announcement, letter or advertisement to The Bridge you are deemed to have agreed to the above.*

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## LETTER TO THE EDITORS



### Content of The Bridge

The population of Burford covers a wide spectrum of people's interests, ideas, politics, entertainment etc. but in my opinion your magazine does not reflect all these differences.

The latest issue had the National Treasures article which like the past articles on music and books had little or no content from people living in the south of the town.

In my opinion The Bridge would be much more appreciated if it covered more articles from a wider cross section of the community .

Please don't take this email as a criticism but a personal opinion.

*Roy Dixon*

*We realise that other Bridge readers may like to know the rationale for the content of the May-August editions. Most articles in The Bridge come from local clubs and societies. As these have not been meeting for some months, we ran the features on favourite music, films etc to fill the gap. The people we invited to take part were chosen because they came not just from Burford but from surrounding villages and because they had contributed to the magazine in the past. We welcome all suggestions for articles for The Bridge. - Editors*

### River Pollution

I hope all of our readers have read and noted the item on the Windrush pollution problems, and how this is affecting all the rivers and tributaries in the Windrush valley and associated areas

There has been a long battle with Thames Water and WASP in getting Thames Water to acknowledge the reason for all this pollution . It is cheaper for Thames Water to pay fines rather than upgrading any or all the sewerage plants on the Windrush catchments.

There is good news on the way however, through our contacts with our Parliamentary Representative Robert Courts and our help from WASP. We now have through Robert an agreement that there will be a government independent survey carried out on the river quality and the causes of any pollution to that river. Hopefully we will then get the Environment Agency to direct improvements to the situation. Unfortunately not before the sewerage from the Shilton Road development comes whistling down Burford's already inadequate sewers.

Have our readers all experienced the stench over the last few weeks? We are sorry but expect a lot more. By the way if you wish to remain healthy over the rest of the year stop swimming in the river, it may be hot now, but you could pay a heavy price later on.

*John Histon*

*We understand that the investigation will be paid for by Thames Water and may not be regarded as independent. Ed*

## BURFORD BEACH

*Below is a photograph of swimmers in the Windrush in Burford c 1930 kindly provided by David Cohen. A dream for the future perhaps?*



### Open Letter to the Town Council

Last week I witnessed a gentleman who had tripped over on the pavement on the west side of the Hill, injuring himself on his arm and his nose, and bleeding quite profusely. He was lucky in that the Manager of the shoe shop came to his aid, and a lady from the pharmacy helped.

The town council have been warned about the state of Burford's pavements many years ago, when I myself offered to carry out an access audit on the state of the pavements, then in a poor state. This was put to the council and was not acted on.

As a RIBA trained access auditor I have monitored the maintenance of the pavements over the past years, basically nil on compliance. In this time scale, Witney has refurbished their pavements twice.

The current situation is that there is hardly ten metres of pavement that is free of illegal conditions, that in a claim by any injured person could obtain substantial compensation, as a forgone conclusion.

Last year I carried out a short survey with a representative of the town council to outline what needs to be done. This work is urgent and the town council need to act on the county, to get some progress with this urgent situation. You can have pavements that fit in with the style of the town quite easily and that conform to the legal criterion. It is not a case of there is no money, it is a legal requirement of the county to provide safe pavements and maintain them which they have failed to do. The lack of action on a known defect will mean the authorities would be taken to the cleaners, if a serious incident occurs, negligence being the case in fact.

Unless movement is made I correctly should serve notice on the Health and Safety Executive, just to exempt me from being party to that negligence.

Action please.

*John Histon RIBA FCI Arb*

*Chairman – CPRE West Oxfordshire District*

## ANTIQUES @ THE GEORGE

### A Renovation Tale By Local People.

Lockdown hit *Antiques @ The George* just as it did all other shops in Burford but, determined to convert a negative into a positive, we took lockdown as an opportunity to undertake things we could never attempt normally seeing that we are always open seven days a week. The decision was taken to extend our period of closure in order to fully refurbish the shop and I am delighted to say that *Antiques @ The George* will be re-opening with its new look on 1 October. Hopefully, this will help with the process of bringing the High Street back to life and back to its previous bustling self.

I am grateful to the many local firms that have contributed towards our newly refurbished shop and I would like to publicly thank them via The Bridge.

Logistically, as an antiques centre, we display a vast array of items so the first job was for our various dealers to remove their stock, one at a time to avoid contact with each other. After that, Pete Garratt, a local painter, has had the run of the building for several weeks affording him the time to refresh the whole shop. I'd like to express my sincere thanks to him for patiently working around the empty cabinets that we moved from A to B to C and back again so he could reach all the walls.



Inevitably, some jobs could not be undertaken until skilled trades resumed business after lockdown and, as I write this, we are now in the last stages of carpet fitting and finally having our proper front door back - a replacement for the door that was smashed by burglars what now seems like a world away, last December. It was bespoke and had to be copied and handmade by Oak Windows and Doors of Milton. Simon, and his retired father Dennis, deserve special mention here because they responded immediately when we had our burglary, providing a robust temporary front door within hours of the break-in which we have used for the last eight months. Old buildings are wonderful and *The George* at 500 years old is no exception but they are quirky and can be tricky to deal with. The Carpet Options team, armed with huge rolls of carpets, wisely suggested that floorboards in two rooms needed attention before any fitting and I was faced with having to stand them down after eight weeks of

waiting. But the beauty of local tradespeople is that they frequently 'know someone who can'. Our favourite carpet fitter, Nod, of some twenty-plus years standing, was immediately phoning around and within the day I had a quote and a booking to undertake the work next day. Huge thanks are due to Piers and Tom of Pethers for such a timely rescue! Not to mention all those empty, but still heavy, display cabinets which had to be lifted umpteen times for floorboarding and carpeting. Nobody ever complained!

Our last jobs now include having protective Perspex screens installed at both tills by ShopShields whose screens at Reavley's Chemist shop so impressed me. Also, investigating how best to deal with necessary repairs to our chimney which, inexplicably, is situated not in our roof but in Huffkins's roof, next door! Once again, neighbourly cooperation plus local skills from Henry at Walker's Stoves will prevail. It's good to have such a 'can do' community spirit here in Burford.

After that, my wonderfully patient antiques dealers will be able to restock their units and get back to doing what they love best. Namely, using their knowledge and expertise to buy wisely so that the shop can return to being one of the most affordable antiques centres in the Cotswolds. It will certainly be the cleanest and brightest! We look forward to seeing and chatting to all our locals and our other regular customers again in October.

*Amanda Palmer, owner, Antiques @ The George  
104, High St, Burford. Tel 01993 823219  
Email: ask@antiquesatthegorge.com*

## MARY HANNAH

We are sorry to report the death of Mary Hannah.

Mary and her late husband, John, were much-loved members of the community in Burford.

Her funeral took place at the church of SS John Fisher and Thomas More on 4 August.

We hope to publish a tribute to her in a future edition.  
*Editors*

## THE BRIDGE TIMETABLE AND CONTACTS

The closing date for entries to the editorial sections of the magazine is 10th of the month preceding publication. Please send articles and information to:

[editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk](mailto:editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk)

Alternatively, you can leave letters and articles at Burford News for us to collect.

**Advertisements** need to be received by the 12th of the month preceding publication. Please contact:  
[advertise@thebridgeburford.co.uk](mailto:advertise@thebridgeburford.co.uk)

## TROUBLE AT T'MILL

We recently seem to have acquired a family of what we believe are Buff Orpington ducks here at the Mill in Burford.

They had only been with us for a couple of days when they got into trouble in the mill race and couldn't get back up again. We have experienced this many times but usually with little ducklings who fall over the mill race, so I bought a builder's platform to rescue them! I put the platform into the mill race, then put some food onto the board to entice them to walk the plank and hey presto up they come.

Attached are some pictures that I thought might amuse your readers:

The photos show the ducks in distress, the rescue operation and the happy conclusion.

*Barry & Mandy Cotton*

*A lovely good news story. Thank you. Ed*



### DEAR RESIDENTS OF BRADWELL VILLAGE

A word of thanks to Paul and Rebecca Gotta who have delivered your copies of The Bridge over these past few years. Sadly Paul and Rebecca are leaving the area so we are now on the look-out for one or two local, kind souls who will do this once a month so that all the residents in Bradwell Village can receive a copy. Otherwise you will need to go to Burford to obtain one.

If you would like to help, please contact Clendon Daukes on 01993 823533 or at:

[cddaukes@gmail.com](mailto:cddaukes@gmail.com)

### NB DIARY NOTE

**Something for everyone!** This is advance notice that there will be a special sale taking place on **Saturday 17 October** in the Warwick Hall in aid of the Burford Archive. It is envisaged that the sale will offer antiques, small furniture, pictures, objets d'art, high-grade bric a brac, plants and books as well as other items of interest. If you have articles which you feel would be suitable for this please contact Clendon Daukes on [cddaukes@gmail.com](mailto:cddaukes@gmail.com) or 01993 823533.

## USEFUL CONTACTS + INFORMATION

Please note that some hours of opening may not currently be correct

<b>Burford Recreation Pavilion</b> (Children's Events)	01993 823647	<b>Library (temporary hours)</b>	01993 823377
<b>Burford Pre School,</b>	01993 824031	Tues	13.00 – 16.00
<b>Burford School</b>	01993 823303	Thurs	10.00 – 13.00
<b>Burford Primary School</b>	01993 822159	Fri	10.00 – 13.00
<b>Burford Surgery</b>	01993 822176	24 hour renewal hotline	08451202811
<a href="http://www.burfordurgery.co.uk">www.burfordurgery.co.uk</a>		<a href="http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/burfordlibrary">www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/burfordlibrary</a>	
<b>Burford Town Council</b>		<b>Member of Parliament</b>	01993 702302
Tolsey Office open Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9.00 am and 11.30 am	01993 823647	Robert Courts <a href="mailto:robert@robertcourts.co.uk">robert@robertcourts.co.uk</a>	
Email <a href="mailto:town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk">town.clerk@burford-tc.gov.uk</a>		<b>Oxfordshire County Council</b>	
<a href="http://www.burford-tc.gov.uk">www.burford-tc.gov.uk</a>		General Enquiries	01865 815573
		Highways	08453 101111
		Faulty Street Lights	0800 317802
		<a href="http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk">www.oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Burford Visitor Information Centre</b>	01993 823558	Oxfordshire County Councillor	
Open Mon – Sat 9.30 am – 5 pm		Nicholas Field-Johnson	01993 878309
Sun 10 am – 4 pm			
<b>Carterton Health Centre</b>	01993 841718	<b>Post Office (in Newsagent)</b>	01993 822323
<b>NHS</b>	111	Monday to Saturday	07.30-18.00
<a href="http://www.nhs.uk">www.nhs.uk</a>		Sunday	07.30- 17.00
<b>Centre for Carers in Oxfordshire</b>	01295 264545	<b>Recycling Centre</b>	
<a href="http://www.oxoncarers.org.uk">www.oxoncarers.org.uk</a>		Dix Pit, Lynch Hill, Stanton Harcourt	
		Open 7 days a week	8am - 5pm
<b>Chemist</b> Reavley's	01993 823144	Thursday late night	until 8pm
<b>Chipping Norton Veterinary Hospital</b>		(1 April – 30 September)	
Burford Branch	01608 642547		
Mon–Fri	2.30–4pm	<b>Southern Electric</b> (Freephone)	08000 727282
Saturday	11.30am - 12 noon	<b>Thames Water</b>	0800 3169800
		<b>Tolsey Museum</b> (April – October)	
<b>Churches</b>		Monday	Closed
Anglican St. John the Baptist	01993 823788	Tuesday – Sunday	2pm – 5 pm
Roman Catholic	01993 823219		
Church of SS John Fisher and Thomas	More	<b>Travel</b>	
Methodist	01993 867301	Rail Enquiries	08457 484950
Baptist Church	07967 362885	Public Transport Enquiries	08712 002233
Friends Meeting House	01993 823398		
<b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b>	08444 111444	<b>West Oxfordshire District Council</b>	
Email <a href="mailto:bureau@wocab.org.uk">bureau@wocab.org.uk</a>		General Enquiries	01993 861000
<b>Dial-a-Ride Service</b>		Out of Hours	01993 705056
For Information	0845 3101111	<a href="http://www.westoxon.gov.uk">www.westoxon.gov.uk</a>	
Email <a href="mailto:oxdar@oxfordshire.gov.uk">oxdar@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>		<b>West Oxfordshire District Councillor</b>	
<b>Emergency Services</b>		Derek Cotterill	01993 823188
Police – non essential	101	<b>Witney Hospital Minor Injuries</b>	01865 903841
		Open 10.00am – 10.30pm daily	
<b>Environment Agency</b>		Last Patient seen at 10pm	
Floodline	0845 988118	<b>Witney Police Station, Welch Way</b>	
Emergency	0800 807060	Open Monday - Friday 10am-6pm	01865 841148
		Closed Saturday and Sunday	
<b>Hall Bookings</b>			
Baptist Church Hall	07967 362885		
Burford Town Bowls Club	01993 822330		
Fulbrook Meeting Place			
Chris Wright	01993 822803		
Taynton Village Hall - Anne Thompson	07584 021171		
Methodist Church Hall Anne Weir	01993 823395		
Warwick Hall Bookings and Information			
<a href="http://www.warwickhallburford.org">www.warwickhallburford.org</a>			

*Please let us know if any details need amending. [editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk](mailto:editor@thebridgeburford.co.uk)  
Updates, photos and previous issues on [www.thebridgeburford.co.uk](http://www.thebridgeburford.co.uk)*

## DIRECTORY OF LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

Company Name	Business Type	Phone
Antiques @ The George	Award winning, friendly antiques centre	01993 823319
Cameo Hairdressers. Burford Barbers & Beauty at Cameo	Find us at Christmas Court in Burford	01993 822292
Chipping Norton Vet Hospital	(Burford Branch) Large and small animal care	01608 642547
CJD Architects	Chartered Architects	01993 823646
The Cotswold Cheese Company	We sell Artisan cheese, delicatessen foods, wines, beers, gifts and fresh bread (Thurs, Fri & Sat)	01993 823882
Cotswold Painting & Decorating	All Painting and Decorating	01993 823670 07919 886685
Hickman Brothers Landscapes Ltd	Garden Design and Construction, Landscape and Garden Supplies <a href="http://www.hickmanlandscapes.co.uk">www.hickmanlandscapes.co.uk</a>	01993 822226
Jenny Smith	Spanish & French tutor. Building confidence GCSE/KS2. Experience in schools; DBS check held.	07908 602547
Kendall & Davies Solicitors	Expert, friendly, client-focused legal services with offices in Burford. <a href="http://www.kendallanddavies.co.uk">www.kendallanddavies.co.uk</a>	01993 822025
Tayler and Fletcher	Estate Agents / Chartered Surveyors / Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers / Commercial Agents / Rural Specialists	01993 220579
Light My Night	Garden lighting design & installation with friendly, professional service. Free no obligation quotes. <a href="http://www.lightmynight.co.uk">www.lightmynight.co.uk</a>	01865 460300
Mallams	Auctioneers and Valuers	01993 822666
Pauline Carter BA AmusLCM CTABRSM MISM	Piano Teacher	01993 774568
Peter Garratt	Painter and Decorator	01451 810376 07788 896496
StayCotswold	Holiday/Short Lets, Relocation, Corporate Stays, Property Search, Sales & Lettings. <a href="http://www.staycotswold.com">www.staycotswold.com</a>	01993 259444
Thomas Ellis-Rees	Clock, Watch & Barometer repairs	01993 822132
Vick's Byway Garage	Vehicle servicing & repairs. MOT Testing Station	01993 823142
VJ Hancock & Co Ltd	Certified Accountants / Chartered Tax Advisers <a href="http://www.vjhaccountancy.co.uk">www.vjhaccountancy.co.uk</a>	01993 822817
Mrs Rachel Vetch MSSCh MBChA	Chiropodist/Podiatrist; HPC no.17272 Home Visits	01367 860339
West Oxon Wills & Probate	Legal Services in your home or office. Lasting Powers of Attorneys, Trusts, Funeral Plans <a href="http://www.westoxonwills.co.uk">www.westoxonwills.co.uk</a>	01993 220281
EIWell	Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nutrition Helping people stay independent as they get older	01865 238185
Burford Foot Clinic	Chiropody Castles Yard, Pytts Lane, OX18 4SJ	01993 200980
Adam Carter Chauffeur Services	Local Private Hire Chauffeur <a href="http://www.adamcarterchauffeurservices.co.uk">www.adamcarterchauffeurservices.co.uk</a>	07920 135157
Tony Williams	Welding/Brazing/Soldering & Metalwork Home/Garden & General repairs & alterations	07722334696
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The Stone Gallery	Makers of Gold and Silver Jewellery, agent for Georg Jensen. Paperweights & Pictures. <a href="http://www.stonegallery.co.uk">www.stonegallery.co.uk</a>	01993 823302
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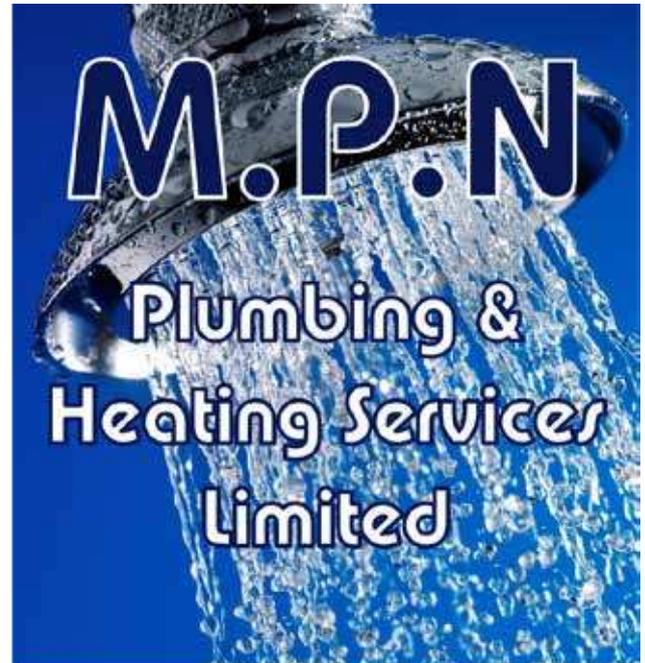
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# Welcome to our NEW Cotswolds Clinic in Burford!

At Reavley Chemist, we are more than just a local pop-in chemist. We are on hand to offer free, confidential advice in the private consultation room 7 days a week, often saving the need for GP appointments. All our staff are highly trained and ready to support you.

We offer NHS services, including NMS (New Medication Service), MUR (Medicine Use Review), Emergency Medication, blood pressure checks, plus the seasonal flu vaccination service to mention a few.

## Book your Seasonal Flu Vaccination today!

Starting this month, patients aged 65+ years will be able to receive a FREE vaccination; all other patients will be offered the vaccine privately for a nominal fee.

Visit or call to find out more and book an appointment.



## Private Healthcare Services

-  Vaccinations
-  Travel Health
-  Weight Loss
-  Health Screening
-  Acne Treatments
-  Migraine Relief
-  Our Private Independent Prescriber

## We open our NEW Cotswolds Clinic this month, offering private services including:

**Travel Clinic & Malaria Prevention** - if you are planning a holiday we offer advice and administer World Health Organisation recommended vaccinations including Yellow Fever. We also offer malaria prevention options.

**Covid-19 Antibody Testing Service** - our fully trained staff can offer a highly accurate, simple, finger prick test to detect antibodies which will determine whether you have had the virus.

We will be launching several new, exciting services over the coming months including a weight loss clinic, female wellbeing, private health checks including cholesterol and blood sugar testing, acne treatment, mens wellbeing and immunisation services.

**Visit us to find out more or call us to arrange to see our pharmacist.**

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### Reavley Chemist

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### Open 7 days a week

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- ✓ Poultry and game birds.
- ✓ Car Park
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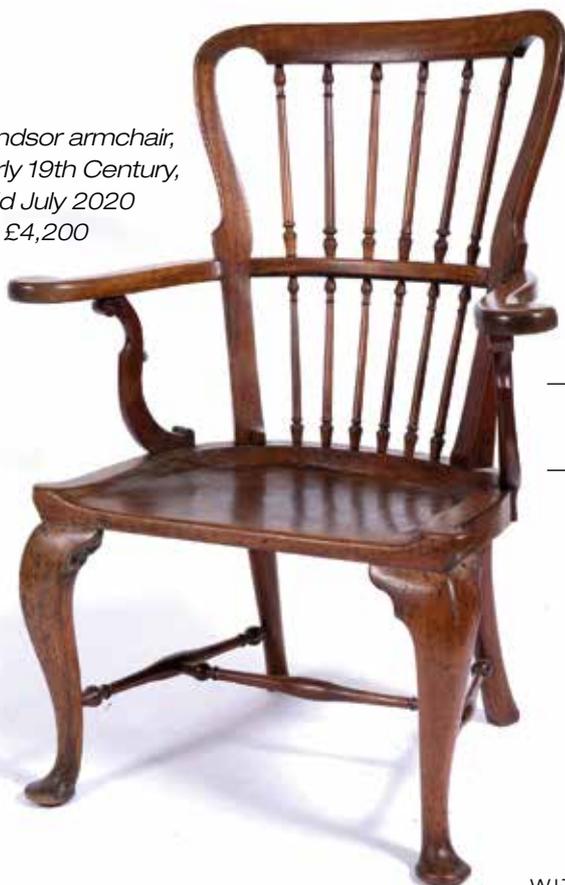
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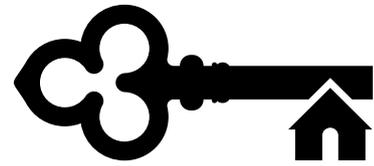
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# Manor Cottages

## Who are Manor Cottages?

Manor Cottages is the longest running cottage agency in the Cotswolds with 30 years of experience. Drawing on a wealth of local knowledge and located in the heart of Burford. Our great success relies upon building close relationships with our owners, who remain at the heart of our business.

Manor Cottages have just completed a record year of bookings and we are now actively looking to increase our portfolio of new properties for both 2020 and 2021 seasons. With over 59 Million British Holiday Makers choosing to holiday in the UK and this year's August Bank Holiday saw more than 7 Million British Holiday Makers choosing to Holiday in the UK according to Visit Britain. The short break market is on the increase and there has never been a better time to join us.



Manor Cottages offer a fully bespoke managed service for owners. In recent years we have seen a change in the way the holiday cottage market operates. The demand for our 24/7 year round comprehensive service is increasing. The service includes housekeeping, linen service, property maintenance, complaint handling and much more.

Manor Cottages can confidently predict the gross annual income, here are some examples of what you could earn.

Cottage sleeping up to 2 persons £24,000  
Cottage sleeping up to 4 persons £33,000  
Cottage sleeping up to 6 persons £50,000  
Cottage sleeping up to 8 persons £65,000  
Cottage sleeping over 10 persons £85,000-£140,000

In 2019 every Manor Cottages property generated on average 13% higher income per booking vs 2018. We have a £30 million annual marketing budget. Come and join us!!

We would love to hear from you, please call 01993 223416 and speak to Chris, Sonja or Jon. For more information, visit our website [www.manorcottages.co.uk/letyourcottage](http://www.manorcottages.co.uk/letyourcottage)



## What can Manor Cottages offer you?

At Manor Cottages we personally get to know you and your property, meaning we offer a very unique service. Every property benefits from the Unique, Dynamic and Sophisticated pricing system. The system prices your property in line with demand flows whilst maximising (or increasing) income and bookings.

**Manor Cottages will give you £300 for joining, alternatively refer a friend and receive £250.**

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