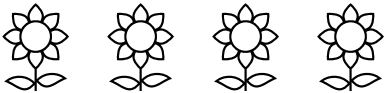


# BROADSHEET

THE BOURTONS

May 2026



*Hi...*

How wonderful the lighter evenings and even the April showers – trying hard to capture as much rain water as possible – preparing for possible garden drought in my optimism for a lovely warm sunny few months!

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We've got lots going on locally and have also been quite busy with Easter, we enjoyed Banbury Spring fair (between showers) and community litter picking – it took us almost 3 hours, 2 of us, to do all Foxden Way – our findings were umpteen beer cans, bottles (plastic and glass; incl 2 vodka, 1 liqueur and a Jim Beam bottle!), a tv wall bracket, a football, a vape and a pair of tights 😬. Little B and also Saturday's GB litter pick teams did well also – see page 10.

17<sup>th</sup> May brings the ever-popular Gardening Club garden party, open to all – perhaps consider baking a cake or donating plants for the sale. Do join us anyway and see page 3 for more info.

Happy May and don't forget to vote on the 7<sup>th</sup>!

*Sue xx*

**Love to hear from you...**

**Email:** [bourtonsbroadsheet@gmail.com](mailto:bourtonsbroadsheet@gmail.com)

**Tel:** 01295 758036

**Copy deadline:** 17<sup>th</sup> of each month

**Browse our Parish website for more local info:**

<https://bourtons-cherwell-pc.gov.uk/>

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## **Bourtons' Gardening Club (BGC) – Sun 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2<sup>pm</sup>**

Garden Party courtesy of Jenny & John in Church Close where you may enjoy refreshments, cakes and buy some plants! Donations of cakes and plants are welcomed – please let Clare [csteans@hotmail.com](mailto:csteans@hotmail.com) or Ann [annmurray233@gmail.com](mailto:annmurray233@gmail.com) know. Thank you!



**Bourtons' Music Society - Wed 20<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30<sup>pm</sup>** in the Village Hall: The theme is 'PROTEST/POLITICAL'. Choose something which makes a strong point, using music to make the listener think. Byo refreshments. New members are always welcome, so if you would like to come along to see if it



is for you, the evening only costs £1.50pp for non-members. Membership is £12pp pa. Information about the Music Society is available from Margaret on 01295 758519 or Paul on 01295 750596.

## **Bourtons' Popup Wine Bar!**

**Thurs, 21<sup>st</sup> May 7:30-10:30<sup>pm</sup>** in the Village Hall.

It's wine and cheese night! Any pairing you like, and all the wines and cheese will be on a sharing table so everyone can choose what to try. £2pp to cover the hall hire, BYO only. If you prefer something else to drink that's fine too, it's just a social gathering.



Want to know more? Please contact Jane on 07498 761155 or [janefostersmith@gmail.com](mailto:jane fostersmith@gmail.com)

**\*\* \*\* \* \*\* \* \*\* \* \*\* \* \*\***

## **The Belfry was lit and the flag flying during April for...**

**2<sup>nd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> in memory of Brian John Evers** - much loved and always missed, let's support All Saints Church and Bell Tower together.

**18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> for our darling Poppy** (23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016–18<sup>th</sup> April 2019) whose light continues to shine in our hearts. xxx  
Tom, Lucy, Nell, and Bonnie

Want to light the belfry/fly the flag – call the Editor 01295 758036

**\*\* \*\* \* \*\* \* \*\* \* \*\* \* \*\***

**LittleB WhatsApp Group** call Bobbie on 07730 570639 to join.

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## **Cropredy C of E Primary School – Spring Term Update for Our Community**

It has been a wonderfully rewarding term and we are delighted to share some of the highlights with our local community.



### Academic Success

We are incredibly proud to announce that our school has been named the top-performing school in North Oxfordshire for our Year 6 SATs results. This recognition reflects the tremendous effort of our pupils, the dedication of our staff, and the strong partnership we continue to build with families. Since my arrival as Headteacher, we have been working hard on raising expectations and celebrating every child's potential—and it is wonderful to see such a marked and positive upturn in outcomes across the school.

### Our Wider Ethos

While academic success is something we value greatly, our vision for our pupils extends far beyond test results. We remain committed to offering a broad, rich, and inspiring curriculum that helps children develop confidence, resilience, and a genuine love of learning.

A core part of this is our Forest School provision, which every child in the school accesses throughout the year. These sessions encourage problem-solving, teamwork, creativity, and a deep connection with nature—values we hold at the heart of our curriculum.

We continue to see wonderful engagement in our Mandarin lessons, where children are developing both language skills and cultural understanding. This sits alongside our much-loved Folk Music teaching, which remains a defining and cherished part of Cropredy life. Our musicians are already preparing for the exciting opportunity to perform at Fairport's Cropredy Convention in August—an unforgettable experience for our Y4 and Y6 pupils each year.

The school continues to work alongside Revd. Sarah Fenby and David Upton in giving children a chance to explore their faith within our C of E school. Revd Sarah visits the school weekly, leading assemblies to classes, whilst David kindly comes in to practice hymns and songs to children, which children thoroughly enjoy showcasing at our Easter service.

### New Partnerships and Local Learning

Looking ahead to the autumn, we are excited to be working in partnership with the Banbury Canoe & Kayak Club, right here in the village. Our Y6 pupils will be taking part in kayaking and canoeing as part of their PE curriculum, making full use of our wonderful local environment. Alongside this, children will be learning about local history, including the Battle of Cropredy Bridge and its significance within the English Civil War. This blend of physical activity, historical study, and outdoor learning offers a rich and meaningful educational experience.

### Trips and Experiences This Term

Our curriculum is brought to life through hands-on experiences, and this term has been filled with exciting learning opportunities across the school:

- Y3 visited the Stratford Butterfly Farm, deepening their understanding of the rainforest and the incredible species that inhabit it.
- Y5 took part in an immersive Earthquake Day, arriving to find their classroom transformed into a post-quake scene. Experiences like this help children consolidate their learning in unforgettable ways.
- Y2 have been learning about maps and fieldwork, exploring Cropredy to develop their geographical skills and understanding of the local area.
- Y1 enjoyed a brilliant Frozen Day, learning about how people live in very different climates and habitats around the world.
- Y6 have been studying the ancient civilisation of Benin, exploring its art, culture, and history as part of their wider topic work.

We are extremely proud of the rich learning taking place within our school and the enthusiasm our pupils show each day.

Thank you to our local community for your continued support and interest in the life of our school. We look forward to sharing more news and achievements as the year continues.

Kind Regards

*Will Reeves*

**Headteacher**



\*\* \*\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

**The Bourtons' Community Hall**



For information on the facilities,  
please go to

[bourtons-cherwell-pc.gov.uk/the-bourtons-community-hall/](http://bourtons-cherwell-pc.gov.uk/the-bourtons-community-hall/)

To book or make an enquiry:

Sue Montgomery would love to hear from you...either  
text Sue on 07967 631770

Or email: [Bourtonscommunityhall@mail.com](mailto:Bourtonscommunityhall@mail.com)

Facebook: The Bourtons Community Hall

## SAVE THESE DATES

**!! Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June !!**

**!! Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> September !!**



Reminder that Wildlife Day this year is on the afternoon of **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June**, in and around, All Saints Church. There will be activities for all ages: bug hunts, pond-dipping, arts and crafts plus two talks on Citizen Science – one by members of Wild Banbury and the other from Lisa Phipps a local environmental enthusiast.



Using all our Senses... children will be able to

- |       |                                    |
|-------|------------------------------------|
| See   | – cardboard crafting;              |
| Hear  | – make a shaker, differing sounds; |
| Touch | – feely bags – what's inside?      |
| Taste | – decorate biscuits                |
| Smell | – guess what?                      |

And a Scavenger Hunt – using all our senses outdoors!

There will be music and a singalong...

Refreshments will be available throughout the afternoon.

5<sup>th</sup> June is World Environment Day and 6<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June 'Love your Burial Ground and Churches Count on Nature Week' as well as The Great Big Green Week!

Whilst May features several key environmental awareness days focused on biodiversity and conservation, including 20<sup>th</sup> May - World Bee Day, 22<sup>nd</sup> May International Day for Biological Diversity, and 23<sup>rd</sup> May - World Turtle Day. And of course the tradition of No Mow May runs for the entire month to support pollinators.

For your diary – Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> September – WFC afternoon tea party!

# Bourtons' Village Hall

For more information go to:

<https://bourtons-cherwell-pc.gov.uk/bourtons-village-hall/> and to book, please contact Maggie 01295 750497 or email [m.macangus@sky.com](mailto:m.macangus@sky.com)

# bVh

## TmK's Cheers and Chat Returns!

Come along on  
**May the 29th**  
from 7.30pm in bVh.

A great chance to catch up with friends and neighbours, have a laugh, and enjoy each others company!



### **BYO drinks and nibbles.**

The Raffle on the night will be raising funds towards the upkeep of our lovely Church and bVh.

## **The Bourtons' Parish Council (PC)**

Draft (extract) Minutes of the meeting held in the Community Hall

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7:30<sup>pm</sup>

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**In attendance:** Cllr Upton (Chair), Cllr Johnson, Cllr Beales, Cllr Brooks, Cllr Duckworth, Cllr Martin, Mrs Pheasey (Clerk/RFO), Mr Bowen (Asst Clerk-Planning), DCllr Brant

**Declarations of interest:** None    **Public participation:** 3 members

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The Chair has been keeping in contact with OCC regarding the footpath that runs across The Stables site.

**Bridle Ways:** There has been a report that the large gate to the Bridle Way from Foxden Way to the Southam Road is locked and there may be drainage issues. This will be investigated.

DCllr Brant updated the PC on the Secretary of State's announcement that all large developments over 150 houses will have the decisions taken by them and not the local council planning department.

**Enforcement issues:** Chair is still in contact with OCC in regarding this. The solar farm towards Hanwell will not be addressed in the April planning meeting but may be in May.

**Parks:** LittleB - Repairs are still to be carried out and are being managed. GB - Chair is still trying to contact the Landlord in regarding the lease. We have received a report that there is a muddy area in the GB park that will need looking at to see if there is a leak somewhere that is causing it.

**Allotments:** The broken tap has been repaired and the worn fence posts replaced. The CCTV camera will be up and working again asap.

**Village Hall:** The new lease is being updated by the Chair.

The contract for the EV charging units for the Community Hall carpark will be reviewed by the PC.

**Finances:** The financial report and bank statements were circulated and RESOLVED that the associated bank recon be accepted and that 4 payments totalling £2,714.10 be approved. The payments in excess of £100 are:  
Allotment fenceposts - £1,524; SW Services (mowing) - £514.75  
WTG Consultants (Internal Audit) - £112.50; CDC (dog waste collection) - £562.85;

**Correspondence:** Report received about the condition of a tree on The Green. It was confirmed that it was the responsibility of the PC and will be investigated.

**AOB:** There has been a request for a new salt bin to be put in Buzzards Close LB. This will be looked at in the next meeting to see if one can be re-sited or if we can get a small new bin before next winter.

\*\* \*\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

**The Bourtons Annual Parish Meeting** was held before the PC meeting on Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> April. The minutes for this will be put on the website along with the reports received from the Community and Village Halls, Cropredy School, Wildlife Day and the Speedwatch Team. The Chair thanked everyone

that supports the PC in taking care of our villages. The Chair's full report will be available on the website in due course.

### **The Bourtons' Spring Clean**

The PC would like to thank everyone involved in the recent Spring Clean over the two villages. There were several large bags of rubbish collected and some reports of hard-to-get rubbish on the Southam Road that will be reported via Fix-my-Street to be cleared away.

We have had a comment from a visitor from OCC Highways that the villages are looking lovely and tidy.

There was a pair of EarPods in their case found along Foxden Way that we would like to get back to their owner, so if anyone has lost some please get in contact with the Rachel, the PC Clerk : [clerk@bourtons-cherwell-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bourtons-cherwell-pc.gov.uk)

\*\* \*\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*



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## Shires Edge Benefice May

When:		Service:	Where:
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sun</b>	9:30 <sup>am</sup>	Family Communion *	Cropredy
	<b>11<sup>am</sup></b>	<b>Family Communion *</b>	<b>Bourtons</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> Sun	9 <sup>am</sup>	Family Communion **	Mollington
	10:30 <sup>am</sup>	Morning Worship **	Cropredy
		Family Service	Wardington
14 <sup>th</sup> Thurs Ascension	7 <sup>pm</sup>	Holy Communion	Wardington
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sun</b>	10 <sup>am</sup>	Seeker Service	Cropredy
	<b>11<sup>am</sup></b>	<b>Family Communion</b>	<b>Bourtons</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> Sun	9:30 <sup>am</sup>	Family Communion	Wardington
	11 <sup>am</sup>	Family Communion	Claydon
	6 <sup>pm</sup>	Pentecost Evening Prayer	Mollington
<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sun</b>	<b>10<sup>am</sup></b>	<b>United Benefice Communion</b>	<b>Bourtons</b>

Visiting clergy: \* Bishop Gavin; \*\* Revd Sue Cooke

All Saints will be open daily from 1<sup>st</sup> April until the Autumn clock change.



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Fri@Wardington

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funeral enquiries

chat to Revd Sarah on:

01295 750486 or  
07747 181868;

Or email

[vicar.shiresedge@outlook.com](mailto:vicar.shiresedge@outlook.com)



## Bourtons' Goings-On 'at a glance' :: May

BCH = Community Hall

bVh = Village Hall

When		What	Where
Every Mon & Tues	2 <sup>pm</sup>	BEAT – Mon: Yoga Lite - £5 Tues: Strength - £5	BCH
Tuesdays	2:30-4 <sup>pm</sup>	Knit, Natter and Craft!	bVh
7 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	7 <sup>am</sup> -10 <sup>pm</sup>	District Council Elections	bVh
17 <sup>th</sup> Sun	2 <sup>pm</sup>	Gardening Club garden party	See page 3
20 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7:30 <sup>pm</sup>	Music Society	bVh
21 <sup>st</sup> Thurs	7:30 <sup>pm</sup>	Wine Bar – Byo	bVh
27 <sup>th</sup> Wed	10:30 <sup>am</sup>	Community Coffee morning	bVh
29 <sup>th</sup> Fri	7:30 <sup>pm</sup>	Cheers & Chat - byo	bVh
<b>What's coming up... watch out for more info...</b>			
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Wildlife Day & Messy Eco Church		
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Coffee Morning in aid of Katharine House Hospice		
18 <sup>th</sup> June 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Wine bar – bVh (Please note amended July date)		
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	WFC afternoon tea garden party		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	Bourtons' Big Breakfast!		

## Beyond the Bourtons...

Claydon Church Room:

Coffee & Cake: 10<sup>am</sup>-Noon – every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month,  
20<sup>th</sup> May, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 15<sup>th</sup> July...

Mollington Fete & Dog Show: Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 12:30-5pm  
Roundhill Road, Mollington OX17 1AY

\*\* \*\* \* \* \* \* \* \*\* \*\*

Coffee morning in aid of Katharine House Hospice – **Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> June; 10:30am-1pm**  
at Heywards House, Spring Lane, Little B.

**Everyone welcome!**

Donations of baked goods are welcomed!  
Prosecco Bar, tea and coffee!

Come along to socialise.

Barbara & Mike Spicer



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**