

# PARISH PLANET

BURSTON AND SHIMPLING PARISH COUNCIL QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

Send items for the magazine to [clerk@burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Season's Greetings from the Parish Council

After a useful and well attended Parish Council meeting in November the Mill have indicated their hours over the festive period and will not run vehicles on Christmas Day. During the 26th and 31st December and 1st January they are expected to be 07:00 to 17:00.

As part of the discussion the speed of vehicles travelling through the villages was raised. One of the few ways we can have a visible deterrent is to have a Community Speed Watch Team. Anita and Liam are offering to start this again however, we need support from the community. More details on our web-site <https://burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/new-community-speed-watch-team/>

We are continuing to monitor the situation with Back Lane in Shimpling and welcome updates from anyone walking the path. The route is especially vulnerable given the unsettled wet weather.

Many thanks to all the residents who help with our Community throughout the year.



## AUTUMN LITTER PICK

On a blustery Saturday morning at the start of October ten volunteers helped with the latest litter pick in Burston and Shimpling. As fewer villagers were available to help with the clean up on the day I was grateful to those who 'pledged to pick' their usual routes earlier that week and to the volunteers who completed picking more than one area, ensuring the whole of both villages were covered. A dozen rubbish sacks full of discarded litter were piled under the willow tree on Church Green and subsequently collected by the council.

The volunteers commented that there were noticeably less discarded bottles and cans with a move towards cardboard and paper packaging replacing plastic waste, particularly for fast food. At least this is biodegradable - although no less unsightly.

The next litter pick will be Saturday 18th April 2026 and I hope to see you then.

Angela Belgrove - [angela@burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:angela@burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk)



## Join the Parish Council.

We are looking for a new member for our Parish Council and welcome applications from our community.

### What's involved?

Having a passion for their community, Parish Councillors are volunteers who meet regularly to maintain and improve the parish for all and you can support this by proposing or getting involved in local projects, research and local conversations bringing your skills and expertise to the council and our villages

To find out more come along to a meeting or contact the Parish Clerk Fran Sharp or any Councillor. See page 4 for all our details.



TWO VILLAGES • ONE PARISH



## News from Open Gardens 2025

After another successful event in May 2025, we have decided to continue and repeat the event again in spring 2026. Date for your diary is Sunday 17th May 10am until 4 pm. for the public to come and visit the gardens. Leading up to the event there are various tasks that we need to be involved with such as insurance, promotion as well as getting the gardens looking beautiful.

We would love new gardens to add interest for our visitors but we also need individuals on the day to either bake, sell maps or help some of our refreshment sites on the actual day. Being part of the event will automatically include you in visiting some of the gardens on the Saturday afternoon followed by a glass of wine and a social back at my Garden.

Please get in touch if you want to be part of this Great Garden Event. All proceeds raised from the open gardens now become part of the Burston Community Grant fund that residents of Burston and Shimpling can apply for to help with educational or personal development opportunities.

You can find more details about this by visiting the Parish Council Website under Local information. If you have an adventure coming up for someone in your family and a little bit of assistance would be helpful then give it a look and maybe apply.

I do hope your Gardens through the winter are going to offer natural cover and protection to all of nature that may need it from hibernation habitats to bird feeding stations, allowing you to still enjoy how you have designed your space. Look forward to hearing from you soon.

If you are new to Burston/Shimpling or now feel it is an event that you would like to be involved in PLEASE contact me on 07776141457or [j0leyb0wley@gmail.com](mailto:j0leyb0wley@gmail.com) (0 are zeros).



Jo Bowley

## IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY PAULINE SWANTON

23/11/1928 to 27/8/2025

Dorothy was born to Hephzibah and William Tuck the founder of Tucks mill in Burston. Early years were spent at Mill house beside the windmill until a fire in 1931 destroyed the house. Dorothy distinctly remembered the event even though she was such a young age, running across the fields to Culpher Farm to escape the fire.

She was both academic and sporty at school and even appeared in a school production of Much Ado About Nothing. She gained a B.Sc. and later a postgraduate diploma in Dietetics.

She married Gerhard Hauser and they emigrated to America where they adopted 2 children, Alison and Mark. The family then moved to Switzerland for a couple of years before returning to Burston. In 1984 she married Donald Swanton and later inaugurated the Don Swanton Award in memory of her husband.

Faith was a big part of Dorothys life and she was a keen supporter and attendee of Burston Church. She was one of the early committee members of the Friends of Burston Church and helped to arrange many of the FOBC community events throughout the years. She also regularly attended the Carols at Candlelight event at St. Georges in Shimpling.

She continued to paint, sew whilst continuing to play an active role in the church

She is survived by her 2 children, 2 grandchildren and 2 greatgrandchildren

Dorothy was kind, always had an interest in the village and its people. She will be missed very much.



## BURSTON RECREATION GROUND

As I'm writing this in mid November I'm thinking where's the rain and frosty mornings with the mild weather seeming to be set in for a few more days so it will be interesting to see if by the time this reaches your doors the weather has changed to more wintery days. However things in the recreation ground are closing down now with trees in our orchard area shedding their leaves and the grass hopefully giving up growing every time its cut. A couple of dead trees have been replaced and we hope to have a new cherry tree for the one that's died in the orchard.

Recently we installed an educational insect hotel unit in the community orchard following funding from our county councillor, Catherine Rowlett, and the local B4RN volunteer group. Hopefully this will become populated by all the right insects over the coming months. We also hope that pupils from the school will be able to visit the unit in the summer as part of their biodiversity studies.



The picnic benches in the play area are undergoing repairs and will be back in place as soon as these are completed. We have also installed a dog poo bag dispenser by the bin leading to Audley Close. Please make use of these to pick up your dog waste and deposit in the bins provided. If this dispenser proves successful we shall look to install more in the park.

Lastly we have decided to level the raised bunds in our meadow area as this will allow the hay cutting in the summer to be carried out more efficiently and also hopefully eradicate the abundance of thistles we have seen there. No matter what the weather's like please keep using the recreation ground throughout the coming months and have a happy Christmas.

[keith@burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:keith@burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## AUTUMN TERM HIGHLIGHTS FROM BURSTON SCHOOL SUMMARY OF EVENTS - (full version and photos on schools website)



### An Excellent Start for Willow Class!

It's been a wonderful start to the school year for our youngest learners. Our new Reception children have settled in brilliantly, making new friends and becoming confident members of our school community. Across Reception and Key Stage 1, the children have been busy exploring the signs of Autumn and learning about the changing seasons through outdoor adventures and creative activities. Next half term promises to be just as exciting!

### Life in Oak Class (KS2)

This term in **Science**, Oak Class have been learning all about the digestive system. Our **History** topic has taken us back to the **Stone Age**. Alongside these exciting projects, Oak Class have been working incredibly hard on the fundamentals of the curriculum. They are **enthusiastic readers** who enjoy reading individually and in groups every day. We continue to focus on our school values — the **MARK Awards**: Motivation, Ambition, Resilience and Kindness .

As we look ahead to the final few weeks of term, there's still plenty to look forward to:

- Our Christmas Fayre will take place on 5th December.
- We look forward to inviting our friends and family to our Christmas lunch on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December
- We will finish off the Autumn term with our Christingle Service at the Church on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December.
- We have our last two open events for families applying for entry in September 2026. These will be on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2pm-4.30pm and 9<sup>th</sup> January 2pm-4.30pm.
- As we move into 2026 and the New Year, we have family cafes booked in, Children's Mental Health week and our older children will start their swimming lessons .
- From everyone at Burston Primary School, we wish you and your families a happy and joyous Christmas and New Year! Miss Sally Underwood—Head of School

Contact: [office@bps.set.education](mailto:office@bps.set.education) Website: [www.burston-tivetshall-schools.co.uk/](http://www.burston-tivetshall-schools.co.uk/)

Facebook: [Burston and Tivetshall PrimarySchools](#) X: [@BurstonSchool](#) Instagram: [@Burstonandtivetshall](#)



## St. Mary's Church

Is now part of the Redenhall Deanery.  
For further details please call  
Robert Beck 01379 740834

### Youth Café

If you are High School age then the Youth Café is open during term time every Thursday in St. Mary's Church from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm with free pizza and milk shake. Run by Integrate Youth for Christ



## Burston Chapel

All Welcome—see the Burston Chapel Website for latest information

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

Sunday Morning Service at 11 am

Sunday Evening Service at 6.30 pm

### Jamie's Gang

(Reception to Year 6)

During term time on Wednesdays 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm.

## Burston Mill Operations

At the November parish council meeting two representatives from 2Agriculture gave a presentation explaining the current and proposed operation of the Mill now it's under new ownership. This was followed by lively discussions with residents in which a number of issues were clarified.

For a full version of these discussions please see the draft minutes of the meeting which are on the parish councils website.



### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

The Carols by Candlelight event will be held in St. Georges Church, Shimpling on Wednesday 17th December starting at 7pm. This makes a lovely start to the festive season so please come along. Dress up warmly, wear boots and bring a torch. Adequate car parking in Shimpling Hall Farm has kindly been provided by the Gowing family follow the signs and directions.

## Parish Council Newsletter

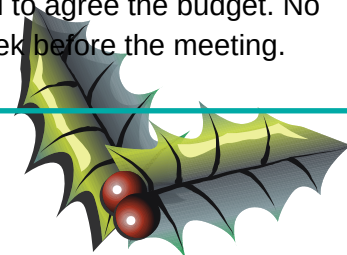
For regular news updates from around the parish plus links to information relevant to the region subscribe to our regular Newsletters. You can do this by going to our Website and signing up.

Next Meeting: January 7th 2026 starting at 7.30 pm in Burston Strike School to agree the budget. No February meeting. The agenda will be posted on the website during the week before the meeting.

## Contact Information for the Parish Council

Website: [burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://burstonandshimplingparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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