

# The Bugle



*Resounding for a better Burton*

Issue 11: April-June, 2016



**PLAY PLOT:** The site to be covered with top soil and turf in the play area project

## Turf's up for play area

THE site for Burton's first children's play area in the photograph above should soon start looking a very green and pleasant land. Some months ago Tormarton-based Cotswold Homes, which built The Grange homes nearby, kindly levelled the land. Since, villagers have toiled with spades, rakes and wheelbarrows to remove rocks, stones and broken glass from the surface, and kill off many of the weeds.

Burton Community Association is ordering 28 tonnes of top soil from the Bristol and Avon Group and 325 square metres of turf from Gloucestershire Turf, and both companies are both contributing to this as a charitable community project.

The BCA is appealing for volunteers with wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes to help spread the soil on Friday/Saturday June 17 and 18, and anyone with a tractor or digger who can help. The turf will be ordered after the soil is laid. There will also be an appeal for village volunteers to help lay the turf.

BCA chair Al Caie explained: "The BCA play area sub-committee is keen to get the site grassed so it is available as useful community land even before we have all the funding to purchase and install all the play equipment. Wiltshire Council planning department advises that we do not need planning permission to grass the site, but we will need planning consent for the play area. BCA will apply for planning permission in the next few weeks."

The site is being rented to BCA by Paul and Karen Lysley from Castle Combe. The total cost for both topsoil and turf of £975 can be paid from BCA reserves. However, to

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## The turfs up for first play area...Continued from Page 1

enable BCA reserves to be used on other projects too, the association is appealing for donations to help fund the play area work, with more than £200 coming in so far. If you would like to make a donation, email Al on [acaie@burtonwilts.org.uk](mailto:acaie@burtonwilts.org.uk) or contact any BCA committee member.

# Community group makes a big difference to village life

BURTON Community Association has made a 'big difference' to village life, the group's chair Al Caie (pictured right) told the 21 villagers who attended its second AGM at St Mary's Church in April. He added that in the past 12 months progress included:



- the village looking tidier thanks to villagers' work in the Tidy Up Days organised by the Burton in Bloom campaign leaders, and the efforts of villagers at other times (*see the report on the latest Tidy Up Day on page 3*);
- largely thanks to the Burton lottery, £3,500 being invested in village facilities including a community defibrillator outside the Old House At Home pub;
- proposals for the first play area for children taking shape (*see page 1*);
- volunteers' Speed Watch sessions clocking hundreds of drivers speeding through the village, with their speeds being reported to police;
- and village events including the annual fete, the Halloween party and a Ladies' Night.

Referring to the £3,500, Al said: "It is the first time in decades that such money has been invested in the village, outside of the church."

Al produced a full 11-page annual report and accounts for the meeting. The BCA committee voted in for the next 12 months is Al Caie (chair), Grant Cambridge (deputy chair), Chris Bennett (secretary), James Towers (treasurer), Rachel Scott, Missy Sell, Victoria Hitchens, Trystan Hitchens, Judith Bird, Glynis Morris and Steve Symons.

## Built for speed to keep it within the limit!

BURTON'S Speed Watch has been given permission to extend the campaign from The Street to also now include Hillside. In the first session there, 245 cars were logged in just over an hour, but only seven were speeding at levels to be reported to the police, with the fastest at 52mph. The Speed Watch team is appealing for more volunteers so it can increase the number of speed clocking sessions on Hillside. Anyone interested should contact Burton Community Association committee member Judith Bird on 218686.

On the first anniversary of the Speed Watch in Burton, a total of 62hr 40min had been spent logging 17,660 cars, 478 of which were reported to police for speeding, with the fastest recorded at 58mph in a 30mph limit.

The new Police Community Volunteer car (*pictured right*), whose police markings should encourage drivers to slow down when a Speed Watch team is recording speeds, will be in Burton on Wednesday, June 15.



# Spring clean of our village

BUILDING on the success of previous Burton Tidy Up Days in the last couple of years, another session was held in April. Good weather helped encourage around 20 villagers working throughout the day using their own gardening equipment to clear weeds, debris and rubbish from pavements and public areas, and cut and mend grass verges.

Tidy Up Day lead Trystan Hitchens said: "The impact of a Tidy Up Day is immediately noticeable, but there is more to be done throughout the village. Burton Community Association is keen to encourage the involvement of the whole community outside of the Tidy Up Days at times that are convenient for them to contribute to this overall effort.

"We have identified zones in the village for which we are seeking volunteers to 'own and manage' as part of our vision to keep our village clean, tidy and presentable. Anybody interested or who would like to know more, please contact a member of the association."

Locations which got the Tidy Up Day treatment included parts of Nettleton Road, The Street including The Triangle, Church Hill and Toll Down Way.

Trystan added: "A special thank you goes to Diane, Joe and family for hosting the mid-morning refreshments at the old Burton Farm House and all those who contributed to the fantastic spread. The next Tidy Up Day will be on July 2, meeting at the church at 10am. There will be a focus on litter collection throughout the village including on Hillside, where people have thrown litter out of cars. All help will be very welcome."

After concerns raised at the May BCA committee meeting, Al Caie and Chris Bennett mowed and strimmed the overgrown verges at the junction of Toll Down Way with Toll Down Road so drivers can now see oncoming vehicles.



**TIDY UP PATCH UP: Toll Down corner**

## Burton briefs...

**TEDDY'S CHALLENGE:** Is your child's teddy for the high jump - could Ted manage a 100ft parachute drop from the top of St. Mary's Church tower to win a prize? Mums and dads might ask their little ones if their bears can bear the drop. The event will be the popular highlight of the village fete at St Mary's Church on Saturday, June 11. There will also be stalls for tea and cakes, hot dogs, ice cream and Pimms, and bric a brac, plants and produce, plus tombola, lucky dip and hook-a-duck fun. Anyone who would like to help on the day should contact Marje Caie on 218072.

**NEW WARDENS:** Marje Caie from Burton and Bobby Hamilton from Nettleton have been elected churchwardens at St Mary's Church, Burton, filling posts vacant since 2013. The roles are to support the clergy with the smooth running of the church.

**QUIZ CASH:** The Friday Fun quiz night at St Mary's Church, with a good spread of food and entertaining and challenging questions, raised £87.93.

**HAVE YOUR SAY:** The next meeting of Burton Community Association will be on June 27. starting at 7.30pm at the Old House At Home. All villagers are welcome.

**Burton and its people: the first in an occasional series**

# Paul Bird: my hobby as a car racer



I FIRST began competing in cars around 20 years ago, starting in what is called sprinting in 1996. Was I any good? Well, I did achieve wins in sprints for my class of car. A more notable achievement was getting second place in class out of 15 cars in my standard Renault 19 16v. I even beat seven out of eight Lotus Elises!

I later went racing in a Peugeot 205 GTi and my first race driving it was on the Snetterton 300 circuit in Norfolk, where I qualified seventh on the grid as the fastest dual-valve car and fastest novice. Later, I bought a Peugeot 306 1800 and started racing at Castle Combe. I didn't do well until an inspection on my rear suspension revealed a missing bolt and £1.36 later I was putting in very competitive lap times.

By the way, did you know that the racing circuit at Castle Combe is on what was a Second World War airfield and bomber base? Currently, the 1.85-mile clockwise route is the third fastest circuit in the UK. And about one in four of all motor racing accidents in the UK happen at Castle Combe on one corner, the infamous Quarry.

Most of 2013 was spent waiting for a new two-litre engine for the 306 and I didn't get out until the last race of the season. Even in the process of "running the engine in", I put in very good times that would beat most of the two-litre cars.

The year 2014 saw many technical problems with the 306. However, I wasn't going to miss another season so I bought a spare race



car, a Saxo VTS in very striking light purple (pictured above). The Saxo had a standard engine, but I had a blast all season and it taught me various handling lessons. I expected to get the 306 out for 2015, so the Saxo was sold. Again, technical difficulties prevented a season start in the 306 and, consequently, a Polo GTi Turbo was bought from Grant Motorsport in Warmley, Bristol. The Polo isn't competitive, but it gets me "out there" and the last wet race was very exciting with a lot of overtaking including an overtake on current Castle Combe instructor Tony Dolley. Now that was fun.

For the moment, I will be contesting 2016 in the Polo, as the 306 has been sold. Grant Motorsport will be building me a Golf Mk.5 2.0 Turbo, which should be ready later in the year. I must make clear that racing really is a team effort and that I wouldn't be able to do any of this without the help of mechanics Lewis Bird and Matt Johnston, my wife Judith and her ready supply of moral support, bacon rolls, cakes and coffee, and, of course, Grant Motorsport.