



MAY 2026 ISSUE 268

NEWSLETTER

Editor: stfilica@mail.com

If you have anything for the website please email
webmaster@filkins.org.uk

- 02 May Swimming Pool opens
- 05 May Annual Parish Meeting 7pm
- 09 May FT Radio Plays
- 17 May NGS gardens open
- 25 May Fish and Chip van
- 26 May Copy date for June
- 28 May Gardening Club talk - all welcome



By golly it must be summer, the Filkins swimming pool opens at the beginning of this month! Ninety years ago the pool was a gift to the village from Sir Stafford Cripps, as along with the playground he wanted to keep the children off the roads and it has been in continuous use ever since, with highs and lows and fights with County Council who wished it to close. Fifty somethings will remember learning to swim in the freezing water, green by the end of 2 weeks when it was emptied and filled, I believe they learned very quickly in order to get out. It is now kept clean using chemicals so apart from topping up occasionally the water heats up (a relative term). It really is a joy to have such a facility in a small village and members (a club was formed in the late 80's to validate insurance and health & safety) and users come from a wide area.

Co-incidentally the Bowls Club was formed in the same year (1936), again on land gifted by Sir Stafford and to mark the 90th Anniversaries of these fine Clubs there will be a joint Village Day Celebration on 28th June at the Bowls Club. Further details in next month's newsletter.

So much going on in our villages, Filkins Theatre marking their 40th anniversary year with not one but two offerings; there is still time to get your tickets for the 'Radio Plays' on May 9th and June sees the annual open air rehearsed reading. Our glorious gardens will open for the National Gardens Scheme on May 17th -expect the village to be humming with visitors and hopefully enjoying the Scarecrow Trail at the same time (do make one, forms available from the Village shop). Sleepy Cotswold village we are not!

After 44 years it seems Cotswold Woollen Weavers is closing it's doors. Whilst I have had no part in the business for 10 years I can be a little sad. For over 30 years it was pretty much my life, six and a half days a week, eleven and a half months of the year, so I personally would like to thank everyone in Broughton Poggs and Filkins who warmly welcomed the venture and gave huge support both in friendship and custom and for making this such a wonderful place to live. Whatever re-grows at Cross Tree Yard, the glorious 18th century buildings will stand testament to changing times. Ed



Saturday 22nd August 2026

An early warning for one of the photography class subjects. 'Our Villages in Bloom' The winning picture will be used (with permission) on the St Filica Calendar 2027 Schedules are at the printers and will be available by the end of the month.



**THE CHURCHES OF ST PETER
BROUGHTON POGGS CUM FILKINS**

SERVICES FOR YOUR DIARY

SUNDAY 10TH MAY – BROUGHTON POGGS

6PM EVENSONG

SUNDAY 24TH MAY – FILKINS

10.30AM HOLY COMMUNION

Easter Sunday

We enjoyed beautiful weather and a large congregation on Easter Sunday – and it was particularly wonderful to be joined by two sets of new parents who were married in Filkins Church. Leo Fellows made his first visit to St Peters with dad Jack while mum Alex had some well-earned rest after a tricky night, and Adam and Luana McLeod-Brown returned to see us with Ethan, who was christened in Filkins two years ago, and new arrival of six weeks Elliott. It was so good to see you all and share such a happy day with you – made all the more special by Rupert Waterson's virtuosity on the organ

Summer Evensongs – Broughton Poggs

With the weather having turned into what already feels like full summer, this month sees the start of our Evensongs at Broughton Poggs Church. These will take place as usual at 6pm on the second Sunday of every month, starting on May 10th and continuing through until October. It is always special to gather in that wonderful building where Christians have been worshipping for over 900 years and enjoy its quiet stillness and simple beauty as the sun goes down on a summer evening. Do please come along – you will always be most welcome.

Annual Parish Church Meeting

Thanks to all who came to the APCM in mid-April – all went smoothly, and reports were received on the various activities of the church this year. Thank you to all members of the PCC and the Churchwardens who have agreed to stand for another year.

Rector:

Reverend Harry MacInnes 01993 845954

harrymacinnes@yahoo.co.uk

Associate Vicar:

Reverend Canon Dennis Stamps

01367 860555

dennistamps@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Gill Allison 01367 860787

gillian.allison@zen.co.uk

Charlie Payne 01367 860529

broughtonpoggsmill@hotmail.co.uk



Filkins &
Broughton Poggs
Gardening Club



May 2026

Members had their first Garden Club visit of the season to Whichford Pottery on Thursday 23rd April where we saw the most beautiful pots being made for Westminster Abbey and Abbotsford House. There were spectacular tulips and we said Hello to Alan Titchmarsh !

Our thanks to Gill Allison for organising this visit.



BORDERING ON INSANITY

The Filkins & Broughton Poggs Garden Club are hosting a talk by Mr Timothy Walker a renowned botanist who from 1988 to 2014 was Director of the Oxford Botanic Garden. Since 2014 he has been a Senior College Lecturer and tutor in Plant Biology at Somerville College Oxford, he talks with enthusiasm and humour.

His talk is about creating an all-year-round border and looks exclusively at the herbaceous border in his wife's previous garden. The border was created over 25-years and the talk covers the principles and practicalities that were adopted to create a border that is interesting all-year-round. It concludes with a look at a collection of must-have plants for such a border, and associations in which they may be grown.

Friday 28th May 2026 7,00pm, Filkins Village Hall

Members £5

Non-Members £10

Price includes one glass of wine.

Please pay into the Garden Club Account

Mrs Lorraine Chitty

Sort Code: 070806

Act : 32243107

Ref: (Your) Name/Talk

Please do come along.

I wish everyone Happy Gardening! Lorraine Chitty



SWINFORD MUSEUM

It is that time of the month when the Editor likes to have her copy for the newsletter, well done Jane, doing a sterling job.


I have been busy writing the scripts for the Living History which as you know is Sunday 10th May and have researched the various characters. Relatives of some of the characters are attending so I hope they find things ok.

We have had many favourable comments about our new sign at the museum, it is thanks to David Swinford, Andy and Kat Hoad. They have done a great job and we have tried to stay true to the original sign.

We open on Sunday 3rd May and on that day the veteran motorcycle club are making a visit bringing their various bikes which you may like to see. You will also be able to see our recently conserved Bee Skep, the new exhibitions celebrating 90 years of the swimming pool and bowls club and forty years of the theatre club. Filkins and Broughton residents have always been treading the boards from 1930s onwards so do come and see.

Another special object to see, dates back to the 1960's which Trevor Hambidge is bringing for us to see! That's all I'm saying, do come and take a look.
Sunday 3rd May at 2.00 pm.

Diane Blackett



Filkins and Broughton Poggs Relief in Need (FRIN)
***Are you or someone you know facing a time of hardship,
 personal crisis, or needing financial assistance?***

If you, or anyone you know, would benefit from its help then please contact the Trustees via the post box outside the Village Shop, or by email: [**frincharity@gmail.com**](mailto:frincharity@gmail.com)

Filkins Doctor & Hospital Runs

Just to remind you – now all requests for a lift should be made in the first instance to **Sue Hitchcock on 07887 566117**

as before, if Sue isn't available, then call either **Freda Shrouder on 07557 048667** or **Charlie Payne on 07810 158558** or **01367 860529**





F_T presents *"With that '50s vibe!"*

An Evening of Laughter at the Beeb

"Classic scripts, classic fun!"

7.30pm Saturday 9th May

Filkins Village Hall



Tickets: £10 from Filkins Shop & Cotswold Woollen Weavers

For more information: 07973 419476



I shall say this only once! Prepare for some side-splitting moments of laughter as Filkins Theatre treats you to excerpts from some long time BBC favourites such as 'Allo 'Allo, Hitch Hikers Guide to the Universe and Round the Horn, as well as some other surprises. After all you never know what to, expect!

Tickets at £10 are available from the Village Shop and Cotswold Woollen Weavers and there will be a pay bar.

Saturday 11th July

SUMMER
MASQUERADE
BALL

There are a few places still available for the Ball, it promises to be a great evening; welcome drink, 4 course meal, entertainment & dancing. £85

email: stfilica@hotmail.com

NEWS FROM THE FIVE ALLS

MAY HIGHLIGHTS



Bank Holiday Bar B Que on the terrace
Monday 4 May



Quiz Night
Sunday 10 May
£1 per person,
prize for
winning team



WINE TASTING EVENING
Thursday 14 May

SUPPER CLUB - LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

28 May—British Classics
Booking recommended

SPORTIVE BAR B QUE

& kids games

Saturday 30 May



LIVE MUSIC
SUNDAY 31 MAY



FILKINS LOYALTY CARD HOLDERS NOW RECEIVE 10% OFF

7 DAYS A WEEK!

Not signed up yet? pop in and we'll get you sorted



FILKINS & BROUGHTON POGGS GARDENS OPEN

SUNDAY 17 MAY 2PM – 6PM

Come and see the amazing variety of gardens and allotments we have and talk to our extremely talented and knowledgeable gardeners.

While visiting the gardens you can also look out for the scarecrows! It's always a great day out so why not ask some friends over too?

Did you know that your entry fees helped the NGS to raise nearly £4 million last year for the most worthwhile charities, including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Nurses and Parkinson's UK? So if any of your family or friends were helped by these charities then do come along to make sure they can continue their good work.

Tickets £10 on the day covering all gardens opening
Teas in the Village Hall in aid of the Village Churches
The Village Shop will be open for Ice Creams and treats

Scarecrow Trail Competition

First prize: Sunday Lunch for 2 at the Five Alls (adults only)

Closing date 8th May (no late entries)



Entry forms available from the Village Shop

**Please return completed forms and payment to
the Village Shop or 2 Bulls Close
Judging will take place on the 15th May**

Judge's decision is final!



Our
very
own
FT
is
40!

THAT's right... Forty years ago, in 1986, **FILKINS THEATRE** set out to entertain our own and surrounding villages with a production of Noel Coward's '*Hay Fever*'.

There are all sorts of celebratory events planned, but in the meanwhile, I've build a website with a '*Roll of Honour*' of those who have acted in and helped with the **90+ productions** over the years, and hundreds of posters, programmes, and photographs.

Please have a look, and get in touch with more photographs, memories, and suggestions...

www.filkinstheatre.org



WOOLLEN WEAVERS

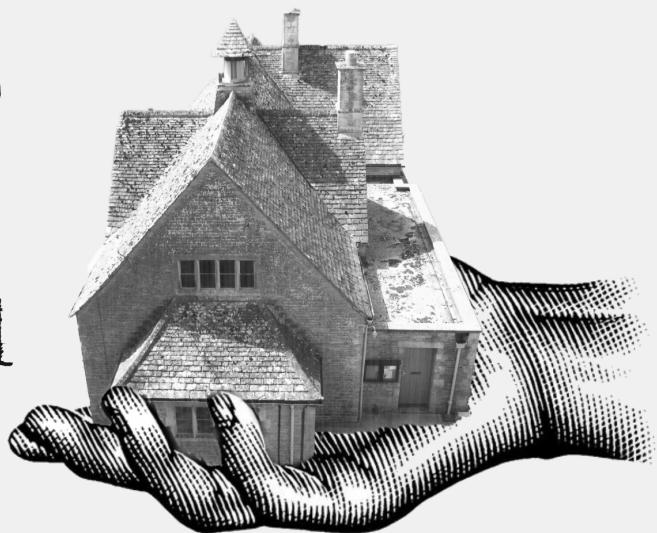
AFTER 44 years in trade in Filkins, **Cotswold Woollen Weavers** will be closing to the general public at the end of May.

We have a great deal of stock to sell, and there is a discount on almost everything. So do please come in and rummage...

**Open 10am to 6pm and free,
every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday**

richard@naturalbest.co.uk

Please help
support our
Village Hall
LOTTERY



MANY thanks to all those who have already indicated that they will join the **Village Hall Online Lottery**, and as a result we are now open for business!

Please everyone & anyone... Simply send an email to lottery@naturalbest.co.uk and you will receive full information about how to join, online payment, & prizes.

The lottery will run May to April at £20 for the year, and the first draw will be for May, and take place at the **Village Coffee Morning on Wednesday 6th May**.



DEMOLITION TEAM NEEDED

Do you like knocking things down? Is demolition your thing? Do you need to vent some frustration on a fixed object? Can you build a bonfire?

On **Saturday 23 May**, we will be taking down the stable at Hardcastle's field – it's so old, it might even be a listed building. It is certainly listing.....one more good storm and it will fall over on its own. To help it on it's way, we need a team to help knock it down and build a bonfire. Can you give up a couple of hours please? Timing TBC but there will be a BBQ and a drink in it for you!

If you'd like to help out, please message me on **07931 286695** or email me at **sara_moule@yahoo.co.uk**. Thank you – BYO sledgehammer!



5ARC

— SPORTIVE —

50 / 75 / 100 KM



RIDE THE
STUNNING
Cotswolds



SATURDAY 30 MAY | 9AM | THE 5 ALLS
FILKINS • GL7 3JQ

FREE ENTRY • BBQ AFTERWARDS • £20

Filkins & Broughton Poggs Parish Council

The Annual Parish meeting will be on 5 May starting at **7pm** in the village hall.

The Ernest Cook Trust will be attending to explain who they are and the opportunities in Filkins.

This meeting will be followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting.


Everyone is welcome to attend both meetings

Jeremy Irwin Singer writes



Filkins Theatre are performing a summer rehearsed reading on the Paddock at 6.30pm on Saturday 20th June.

It's another farce, *Habeas Corpus* written by Alan Bennett in 1973, with a strong cast for our 40th anniversary production. Don't be put off by the Latin! A sex mad GP with whom you can never get an appointment, a young woman tired of her breasts being too small, another proud that hers are rather big. A randy vicar, a young man puzzled why he gets no sex, cross dressing, class snobbery, smutty lines and trousers falling around ankles. How can you resist? No more spoilers, just get your tickets and come early with a picnic. Booze and soft drinks on ale and we perform in the hall if midsummer brings rain.

 **Filkins** presents a rehearsed reading...

HABEAS CORPUS

Alan Bennett's smutty, satirical, seaside farce
6.30pm Saturday 20th June in Filkins
(on the Paddock if fine, in the Hall if not)

Tickets: £8 from Filkins Shop & Cotswold Woollen Weavers
For info & to book, ring/text: 07713 636415

Orange and Almond Cake

We were served this at a recent dinner by the wonderful Avril Payne.. absolutely amazing to eat and, she promises, easy to make. The recipe says it serves 12 but it is so good, I think 6 of us demolished the lot! If in the unlikely event that you have some left, it should freeze well.

Ingredients

2 large oranges
6 eggs
250g caster sugar
1tsp baking powder
250g ground almonds



Method

Wash the oranges, place in a large saucepan, and cover with water. Bring the water to the boil and boil them whole for 1 - 1½ hours or until they are very soft. Keep the water topped up if necessary to ensure they are fully covered at all times.

Remove from the pan and allow to cool. When cool enough to handle, cut them open, remove the pips, and puree the oranges, including the peels, in a food processor.

In a large bowl, beat the eggs with the sugar. Add the baking powder and almonds and mix well. Then mix thoroughly with the orange puree and pour into a buttered and floured cake tin – preferably non-stick and with a removable base.

Bake at 170C fan/gas mark 5 for an hour. Let it cool before turning out.

Serve with creme fraiche. Enjoy!



Platinum Jubilee Garden needs your help!

We have an area of grass in the middle of the Platinum Jubilee Garden which we need to mow about twice a month between now and the end of September, to keep it accessible for all and of course to look its best.

We are therefore hoping we might find a few volunteers to help with this task, ideally with your own mower although we might be able provide if necessary. Please get in touch if you can help, it would be much appreciated by all the village. Contact Kym.ford@filkins.org.uk



ourvillageshop

Filkins Community Shop, Rouse's Lane GL73JE M: 07587 647771

New hours new products: *Our Shop* powers on!

FILKINS Shop Committee and volunteers have been beavering away, further improving for our customers both the look of *Our Shop* and the product range we offer.

Our outlook is increasingly turning towards the importance of local product for our local shop, and not just local product but the best local product available.

Cutler & Cashin in Lechlade have a terrific local reputation, and we are delighted to offer their sausages, bacon, and ham. And for those with a sweet tooth, as well as our well-known **Eastleach Honey**, we now stock some of the terrific range from **Cotswold Chocolate Company** in Stow on the Wold.

We have some bottles of **Filkins Apple Juice** that we hope to be the forerunner of a village-wide project led by *Our*

Shop to co-ordinate apple-pressing for juice later in the year. All views are welcome.

Also from right here in our village, we are very proud to offer an augmented range of candles and diffusers from our very own **Charlotte Spencer Candles**.

We've also got our eye on ranges of salad dressing, chutneys, and drinks of various sorts. *Watch this space!*

Lastly, as ever, Big Thanks to all our customers, and also to all our fabulous volunteers without whom *Our Shop* could not operate. If *you* would like to have a go, please get in touch.

Trish Martin
Our Shop Chair 07976 055308

Our Shop Hours

These are our Summer hours, subject to weather or availability of volunteers

Monday	10-11am	3-5pm
Tuesday	10-11am	3-5pm
Wednesday	Closed	3-5pm
Thursday	10-11am	3-5pm
Friday	10-11am	3-5pm
Saturday	10-11am	3-5pm
Sunday	11-Noon	3-5pm

Ideas Wanted

IT is always really helpful to know what our customers think of what *Our Shop* does, and so we are going to conduct a village-wide consultation.

Do please look out for the questionnaire when it comes through your letterbox, and do please share your ideas.

Local Corner

Here, as you can see, is the '*Our Shop Local Corner*', already including candles, apple juice, honey, greetings cards, and a watercolour book from our very own Ronnie Bailey.



Green week



Grey week



Green/recycling grey/

Friday 1 May

Friday 15 May

Friday 29 May

Friday 24 April

Friday 8 May

Friday 22 May

Friday 5 June