



# *Welcome to Burwash*

*This information is available in large type.  
Please call 07375 809 660 if you would like a copy.*

*Burwash, Burwash Common and Burwash Weald* are located at the heart of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The villages offer beautiful walks through breathtaking countryside, fine hospitality in our local pubs, architectural gems and much more.

Bateman's, the Jacobean house where Nobel Prize-winning author and poet Rudyard Kipling lived from 1902 to 1936, is a gentle stroll from Burwash High Street where a stunning bronze statue of Kipling has been unveiled.

Burwash War Memorial, erected in 1920 next to St Bartholomew's church, has a unique feature. Its lantern is illuminated on the day of the death of each of those Burwash men and women who died in the two world wars.

Accommodation is available in local pubs and B&Bs. The south coastal resort towns of Hastings, Bexhill, Eastbourne and Brighton are just a short drive away.

## *Burwash Parish Council – What are we & what do we do.*

Parish Councils, like Town Councils, are the lowest tier of local government. Our three-village community has 13 parish councillors - elected every four years - who meet regularly to make decisions on the work and direction of the Council.

As your representatives we have responsibilities across the Parish and express our views to Rother District Council, East Sussex County Council, the Environment Agency, the Police Authority and Health Authorities. We pursue an active policy through direct action or grant aid measures to improve and enhance the general environment and condition of the villages. We are consulted on planning applications and on such things as schools, roads and planning enquiries. We also have the power to improve the environment and the lives of those living here by spending money on things which are in the interests of the parish and its residents.

The Parish Council has an ambitious rolling programme of projects which you can find on the website. We welcome input from residents so that we can reflect their views accurately when discussing matters with other agencies and when identifying future parish objectives. Residents are also welcome to join Councillors on projects - contact us if you would like to help.

We are very proud that Burwash is a community with many activities taking place. If you are organising a local event and you would like it included on our website, please contact [info@burwashparish.org.uk](mailto:info@burwashparish.org.uk).

In addition to email and telephone, you can also contact the Council by sending a letter to:  
Burwash Parish Office, High Street, Burwash, RN19 7EU

## *Parish Council Meetings*

There are monthly Council meetings held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm alternating between the Parish Room, which is in the Car Park in Burwash Village and the Pavilion in Burwash Common. Agendas are posted on the website and on the Parish Council's noticeboard outside the Parish Office at least three working days before meetings. Members of the public are welcome to attend and we set aside time before meetings for members of the public to speak and ask questions.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish takes place on a separate date in April or May. Everyone is welcome to attend to find out what has been happening in the village.

## *Communications*

Website: Take a moment to explore our website [www.burwashparish.org.uk](http://www.burwashparish.org.uk) It contains information about local groups and societies, news of events in and around the villages as well as agendas, minutes of council and committee meetings, standing orders, newsletters, annual reports, members' information etc. There are also links to East Sussex County Council and Rother District Council.

Parish Office: The Parish Office (next door on the pathway to the Fairfield Doctors surgery) is open from 9.30am to 12.30pm on Monday and Wednesday mornings.

To contact the Parish Clerk please email [parishclerk@burwashpc.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@burwashpc.org.uk).

The Council's mailing address is: Burwash Parish Office, High Street, Burwash, TN19 7EU

Contacting a Councillor: Councillors' email addresses are on the website: [www.burwashparish.org.uk](http://www.burwashparish.org.uk).

You can also sign up for the Burwash E-Bulletin, a mailing which will be sent to your inbox as local matters are posted.

## *Allotments*

The Parish Council currently has two small plots for use as allotments but is looking for land that could be used to increase capacity. If you are a landowner and feel you could have something suitable, please contact the Parish Clerk.

## *Planning*

Burwash Parish Council is asked to comment on all local planning applications. Our comments are significant but not binding on Rother District Council, which makes the final decision. When our Planning Committee sees applications, they consider the impact a proposal may have on the Parish in general planning terms and makes a recommendation as to whether an application should be approved. Planning Applications that will appear on Council Meeting's Agenda can be viewed between 6.45 - 7.00 p.m. Members of the public are invited to attend but are not allowed to speak unless invited to do so.

## *Burwash Village Hall*

A number of local groups meet regularly in the Hall and other events take place there from time to time, including Short Mat Bowls, Snooker Club, Burwash Musical Theatre, Burwash Amateur Pantomime Society, Ladies Group, Not So Young Club, Horticultural Society, Flower Club, Quilters, Whist Club, Monday Painters, Circuit Training and School of Dancing.

For more information about the Village Hall and the activities, go to [www.burwashparish.org.uk/burwash-village-hall](http://www.burwashparish.org.uk/burwash-village-hall) or contact Shirley Viney at [shirley@bowzell.co.uk](mailto:shirley@bowzell.co.uk) or please call 01435 882497

## *The Pavilion at Burwash Common*

The Pavilion at Burwash Common is situated at the top of the Burwash Weald and Common Memorial Fund Playing Field. Activities taking place there include Circuit Training, Pilates, Parents and Toddlers Group, Tai Chi and Yoga, as well as regular Quiz Nights and Music Nights

For more information go to [www.burwashcommonpavilion.org](http://www.burwashcommonpavilion.org)

## *Burwash Playing Fields*

The Swan Meadow playing fields, which are in Ham Lane near to the Rose and Crown pub, are managed by the local community and include a sports pavilion, tennis courts, children's play area, cricket and football pitches, and are the base for the Bonfire Society, Horticultural Society and a number of other groups.

For more information go to: [www.burwashparish.org.uk/burwash-playing-fields](http://www.burwashparish.org.uk/burwash-playing-fields) or contact Halina Keep at [swanmeadow2019@gmail.com](mailto:swanmeadow2019@gmail.com) Telephone:- 01435 882183.

## *Community Defibrillators*

Defibrillators can be found outside Burwash Village Hall and outside Burwash Common Pavilion. Both are available 24hrs a day and can be easily and quickly accessed.

## *Brief History of Burwash*

Although it is quite likely that there was a Roman settlement at Burwash, the oldest building in Burwash village itself is St Bartholomew's Church - parts of the Norman original (1090) can be seen today (a complete history is available in the church). Burwash grew steadily in the 11th and 12th Centuries and its status as a local trading centre was recognised in 1252 when King Henry III authorised a weekly market and a three-day fair in May. These markets continued until the 20th Century and the tradition is perpetuated by the annual village fete on the August Bank Holiday following St Bartholomew's day (August 24th). Although there are now no livestock for sale, the medieval inhabitants would recognise the music, food stalls and spirit of conviviality and fun which continues today.

The current appearance of Burwash village dates to the 18th Century when the rows of 15th and 16th Century cottages were upgraded and tile hung by the prosperous Georgians. Some larger houses were also built at this time including Rampyndene, Mount House, Burghurst and Denes House as a result of the local landowners moving into the High Street. The oldest house in the village is Pelham Hall (1375) but in most of the High Street the old buildings are hidden behind the Georgian tiles.

At one time there were at least seven public houses plus official and unofficial ale houses but gradually they have been reduced to two, the Rose and Crown and the Bear as well as The Wheel in Burwash Weald all of which retain many of their original features. Likewise in the 18th Century there were over 50 shops, traders and craftsmen but over the last 250 years these have shrunk. Now a village store and post office, a butcher, a hairdresser, flower shop and local petrol station meet most local needs

Smuggling was rife in Sussex and Burwash is rumoured to have been an important centre on the back route from the coast to London but no evidence can be found. However, Rudyard Kipling who lived at Bateman's (1902 - 1936) wrote:

"Five and twenty ponies  
Trotting through the dark  
Brandy for the Parson  
'Baccy for the Clerk  
Laces for a lady, letters for a spy  
and watch the wall, my darling, whilst the Gentlemen go by"

Bateman's is owned by the National Trust and is preserved as a faithful monument to Kipling and his work.

Perhaps the greatest change to the village has been the occupations of its inhabitants. 800 years ago it was entirely based on agriculture and local crafts serving the villages and hamlets around. Very few ever travelled out of the area. With the growth of the markets in the 14th Century, travellers came to the village and over the next 500 years the range of traders and shops increased. Even in Victorian times, virtually the whole population worked locally. But with the arrival of the railway in 1851 and improved road transportation, the population became more mobile, travelled more and commuted to work in London and elsewhere. This process has continued until today when few work in agriculture and there are only a handful of shops. Most people work outside the village or are retired.

A more comprehensive history is available on the website: [www.burwashparish.org.uk/history](http://www.burwashparish.org.uk/history)

## *Burwash Village Magazine*

This monthly publication costs £1 per issue. The magazine is delivered to subscribers in the Village and is on sale at the Londis village store in the High Street, Burwash and St Bartholomew's Church. It is also currently available on line.

## *St. Philips Magazine covering Burwash Common & Burwash Weald*

As with the Village Magazine, this is produced by the local church. It includes a lot of information and community news for Burwash Common, Burwash Weald, Southover and Witherenden. It is available for £1 from local shops and the church and is also available on line.

## *Public Rights of Way*

Burwash is within the High Weald Designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and there are many footpaths and Public Rights of Way throughout the Parish. East Sussex County Council's Public Rights of Way Department endeavours to keep the Public Rights of Way clear and free from hazards. ESCC is responsible for their upkeep and maintenance including keeping them clear and passable. On the first Wednesday of every month there is a walk, led by an experienced local resident which starts out from The Bear Car Park at 9am.

## *Refuse Collections*

Household rubbish is collected every Wednesday. Additional collections are made but these vary from area to area. There is a recycle centre in The Bear Car Park. For further information, go to [rother.gov.uk/recycling](http://rother.gov.uk/recycling)

## *Schools*

Burwash has an excellent primary school. Judged as Outstanding by Ofsted, the school's curriculum was praised for inspiring and motivating pupils. The head teacher is Ms Debbie Gilbert.

For further information, go to [www.burwash.e-sussex.sch.uk/home](http://www.burwash.e-sussex.sch.uk/home)

There are a number of Community Colleges in the area: the two nearest being at Robertsbridge and Heathfield.

## *Shops & Businesses*

We have produced a **Burwash Business Directory** which you can see here <https://burwashparish.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Burwash-Directory-24-Aug-2020.pdf>

## *Artists, Makers & Other Services*

Mary Clarke – the Burwash Potter – combines her love of animals and working with clay to create highly individual ceramic art. She also specialises in Raku Glazing which is a traditional method of glaze firing, linked to Japanese tea ceremonies. Mary takes commissions to make ceramic portraits of pet dogs and other animals. Mary runs weekly lessons in her Burwash High Street studio throughout the year. Each term runs for six weeks and the cost is £120 per term. This includes basic materials and firing of the work. She offers one-off courses on introduction to pottery, garden art and hand-built functional ware such as teapots. Mary also runs pottery parties for both adults and children. Full details from: [mary.clarke1@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.clarke1@btinternet.com) or visit her website: [www.burwashpotter.co.uk](http://www.burwashpotter.co.uk)

Altered Images – Picture framing service [www.alteredimagespictureframing.co.uk](http://www.alteredimagespictureframing.co.uk)  
C Waterhouse and Sons – independent family funeral directors E mail [funerals@cwaterhouse.co.uk](mailto:funerals@cwaterhouse.co.uk) or 882219

## *Public Houses*

Our local pubs are The Rose & Crown (Burwash) The Bear Motel (Burwash) & The Wheel Inn (Burwash Weald)  
All of the pubs serve food.

## *Cafes*

The Old Orchard Café (Burwash Common) & the Blacksmith's Tea and Coffee Shop, High Street, Burwash Village  
All serve food & drinks.

## *Take Away Food*

There are two visiting food vans each week: one specialises in Pizzas and the other Fish and Chips. The local shop also sells Pizzas plus the Wheel Inn (Burwash Weald) offers Pizzas

## *Petrol Station & Garage Shop*

There is a BP garage on the western edge of Burwash Village

## *Travel*

A car is very useful. The A21 is about a fifteen-minute drive from Burwash Village.

There are 5 buses daily (Monday to Friday) from Burwash to Uckfield and from the Village to Hurst Green, via Etchingham Station. There is an hourly train service from Etchingham Station and Stonegate Station to London and to Hastings. Etchingham Station also incorporates a Bistro and a café.

## *Taxis*

Burwash Taxis – 07931 605057

Burwash Village Cars – 07966 289758

## *Churches*

St. Bartholomew's, Burwash High Street

Rector and Priest-in-Charge:

Details of services can be found in the Burwash Village Magazine or on the St. Bartholomew's website

[www.saintbartholomewsburwash.org.uk](http://www.saintbartholomewsburwash.org.uk)

St. Philip's, Stonegate Road, Burwash Weald

Vicar: Rev Graham Lewis

Details of services can be found in the St Philip's Magazine or on their Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/stphilipschurch](http://www.facebook.com/stphilipschurch)

Christ the King, St. Anne's Green, Burwash High Street

For further information contact:

Parish priest: 01435 862191

Parish Deacon: 07887 506 592

Parishioner contact 01435 882556 or [www.ctkhcp.org](http://www.ctkhcp.org)

## *Surgery*

Fairfield Surgery was purpose built in 1992 to provide the residents of the parish of Burwash and the surrounding villages with a convenient and easily accessible means to consult their General Practitioners. You will find us behind The Bear car park in Burwash High Street.

<https://www.fairfieldsurgery.co.uk> or Telephone:- 01435 882306

## *Local Groups and Societies*

### *Sport and Fitness:*

Burwash Cricket Club	01435 882832
Burwash Weald Cricket Club	01435 882117
Burwash Football Club	01435 864628
Burwash Junior Sport and Fitness Club	01435 883273/883656
Burwash Lawn Tennis Club	01580 880628
Burwash over 50's Walking Football Group	01435 882444
Burwash Playing Field Association	01435 864628/882183
Burwash Sports Pavilion	01435 883656
Burwash Short Mat Bowls Club	01435 882107
Burwash Snooker Club	01435 882594/882980
Kipling County Carriage Driving Group	<a href="mailto:kiplingcounty@aol.com">kiplingcounty@aol.com</a>
Parish Footpath Walk	01435 884312
Seagulls over Burwash	<a href="mailto:simon.forster@seagullsoverburwash.co.uk">simon.forster@seagullsoverburwash.co.uk</a>
Tai Chi	07968 010851
Walks for Strollers	01435 882045

**For young people:**

Burwash CEP School	01435 882440
Burwash Guides and Brownies	01435 883473
Explorers, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	01435 882126
Musical Theatre	01435 882946
St Bartholomew's Sunday Club and Pathfinders	01435 882360
St Bartholomew's Tuesday Drop-In	01435 882360
St Philip's Parent and Toddler Group	01435 883247

**Support Groups and Local Government:**

British Red Cross	0800 0280 831
Burwash Common & Weald Residents Association	07775 862846
Citizens Advice Bureau	01424 215055
Royal British Legion	01435 882360/882345
Neighbourhood Watch	01435 882444
Burwash Community Action Group	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/533759869986964/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/533759869986964/</a>
Admiral Nurses	01435 882938
Burwash Parish Council	<a href="mailto:parishclerk@burwashpc.org.uk">parishclerk@burwashpc.org.uk</a>
Rother District Council	01323 787000
East Sussex County Council	0345 6080190
Sussex Police, non-urgent	<a href="mailto:101@sussex.pnn.police.uk">101@sussex.pnn.police.uk</a>

**Village Life:**

Bateman's	01435 882302
Burwash Amateur Pantomime Society	01435 883615
Burwash Bonfire Society	<a href="mailto:natcooper13@hotmail.co.uk">natcooper13@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Burwash Common Pavilion	01435 882650
Burwash Common After Eight Club	01435 882117
Burwash Community Fund	01435 883656
Burwash Community Internet Café	01435883510
Burwash Memories	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/burwashmemories">www.facebook.com/burwashmemories</a>
Burwash Duplicate Bridge Club	01435 883654
Burwash Ladies Group	01435 882034
Burwash Save Our Fields	<a href="mailto:contact@burwashsaveourfields.org.uk">contact@burwashsaveourfields.org.uk</a>
The Barnsley Foundation	01435 882301

**Community Information for Older Residents**

Age UK	01435 883483
Music/Movement Exercise for the over 60's	01435 882452
Not So Young Club	01435 882452
Burwash Housing Association	01435 883043
University of the 3rd Age	01892 852128

**Hobbies:**

Burwash Horticultural Society	01435 882243
Burwash Flower Club	01435 882043
Burwash Monday Painters	01435 883247
Burwash Pottery	07786 422870
Burwash Quilters	01580 200280
Heathfield and District History Society	01435 865260
Heathfield and District Philatelic Society	01292 852659
Jane Coleman School of Dancing	01580 200961

**Please note:**

*We hope all the facts - and particularly the email addresses and phone numbers - in this Welcome Pack are right: we'll update the pack annually and when we are notified of a change.*

*If you spot a mistake or would like to change or add some new information - please get in touch with our Administrator on 01435 884 385 or [adminofficer@burwashpc.org.uk](mailto:adminofficer@burwashpc.org.uk).*