

# The Bugle



*Resounding for a better Burton*

Issue 3: July/Aug/Sept, 2014



LOOKING NEATER: A cut-back verge on The Street, where the road signs can now clearly be seen; and grubby signs, as pictured below, have been cleaned, too

## On road to tidier village

FOR the first Burton village Tidy Up, it really was a case of what a difference a day makes.

Unkempt roadside verges were cut back, overgrown hedges and saplings trimmed so road signs could be seen, brambles hacked away to reveal the beauty of a dry-stone wall, the stepped alleyway stripped of debris and moss, weeds removed, road signs cleaned, pavements and roads swept, and drains cleaned.

All this was achieved by 25 villagers throughout Saturday, August 16, in an initiative organised by the recently-formed Burton Community Association.

“The impact of the Tidy Up day is so noticeable. It really has made a difference to the look of the village. It is starting to look smarter, but this is just a beginning. While a huge amount was achieved, there is still a lot that needs to be done,” said one of the organisers, Trystan Hitchens.

“It shows that people in Burton are bothered about the village, including how it looks. I’ve had people coming up to me, saying how much better the village looks. I can’t thank enough the people who turned up on the day to help because it really was very hard work.”

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## On road to a tidier village... *continued from Page 1*

Al Caie, secretary of the community association and a parish councillor, said: “The Tidy Up proved to be a very productive day which quickly delivered significant improvements throughout the village. This is now an event we plan to repeat at suitable points going forward. Any help from those who were not able to support the event just gone would be much appreciated in the future. Also, residents can always chip in individually at a time which suits them.”

Locations that got the Tidy Up day treatment included parts of Nettleton Road, Church Hill, The Street, Toll Down Way, the road into Burton from Chippenham, the road out towards Edge Corner Lane, and the alleyway between Nettleton Road and The Street.

The Tidy Up got off to a good start earlier in the week when a villager asked two workmen from Wiltshire Council, who were strimming the Triangle, if they could also tidy the Nettleton Road-Street alley . They came back two days later to make a good start on the task so villagers could really spruce it up.

Focussing on that effort from the village, Trystan added: “We also need to say thank you to everyone who used their own gardening equipment and those that provided equipment, including florescent jackets and traffic cones, to help make all this possible.”

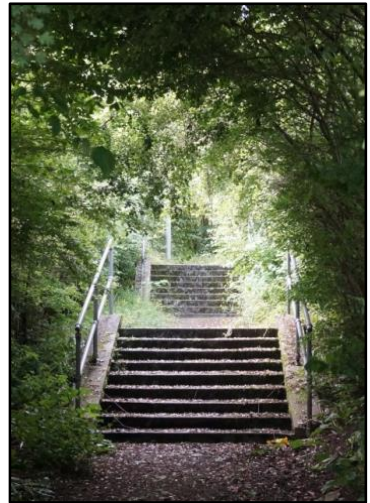
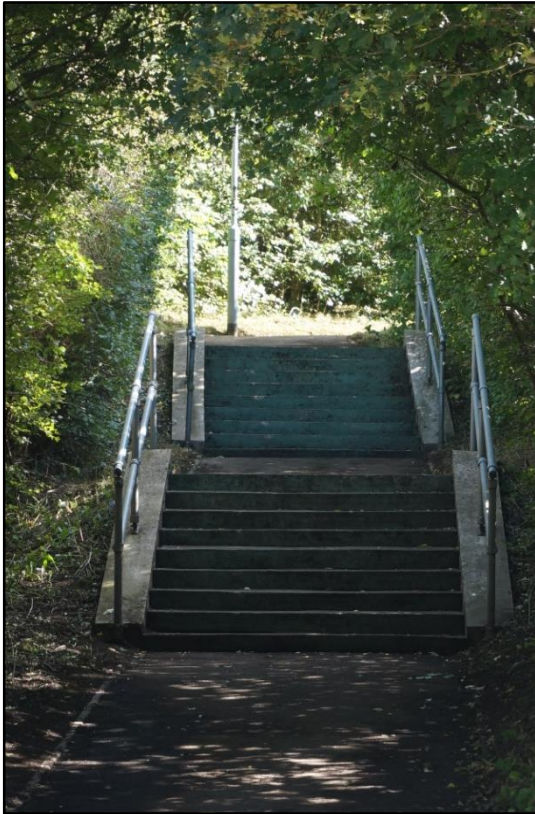
And there’s a very special thank you to Judith Bird and her amazing cakes that kept everybody going.

Pictures help tell the rest of the story...

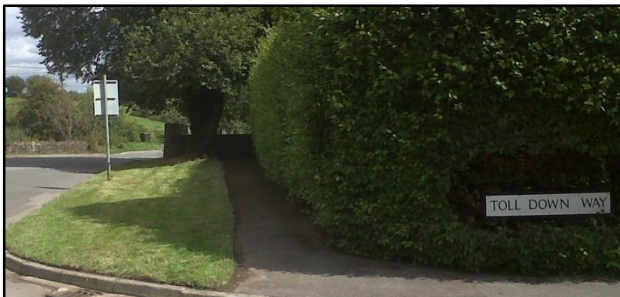


LOOKING TRIM: Top, the road into Burton from Chippenham after a Tidy Up team got to work; left, the overgrown verge at the start of the day; and, right, just some of the litter cleared from the verge

# More Tidy Up snapshots...



WHAT A CHANGE: Left, the stepped alleyway between The Street and Nettleton Road has been cleared of overhanging tree and hedge branches which made it difficult to walk through (right), the verges have been tidied up and the walkway and steps are now free of moss, mud and leaves. Also, a villager rebuilt a tumbled down stone wall at an entrance to the alleyway a few weeks earlier



GOOD JOB: Left, the spruced up corner of The Street and Toll Down Way; and how it was, right

# A salute to founder Sallie

**A tribute to Sallie Belcher, a founder member of Burton Community Association. Sallie passed away in July aged 71.**

SALLIE was 'a brilliant mother and grandmother'.

Her family of two sons, one daughter and five grandchildren will also remember her as caring, considerate and compassionate. She liked a small glass of sherry every now and then, and was even known to enjoy a little bit of gossip.

Sallie's was not the easiest of lives, having been left with three children to bring up on her own. Her family say that if it were not for her single bloody-mindedness, and her sense of purpose wrapped up in her beaming smile, she would have struggled to cope far more than she actually did.

Then, she met and married Pete Belcher. They are pictured together, right, at a charity Ride and Stride event.

They met when working at Westinghouse Brake and Signal Company at Chippenham. She was in charge of what was called the punch card group; he was in computing. Together they moved to Burton, where they were happy.

But, Sallie was unlucky to have a fall at home which broke her back. However, she was determined not to let that stop her from getting about. She got a mobility scooter and could often be seen going to Nettleton village shop.

In 2013, at the age of 70, she even managed to participate in Wiltshire's annual Ride and Stride challenge, where walkers and cyclists are sponsored to raise money for the maintenance of the county's churches.

Earlier, in 2009, when asked to join the group which produced the Nettleton Parish Plan, she grasped the opportunity. As a long-time member of the parish (she lived in West Kington as a child), she was a valuable source of information for the plan.

Also, her local knowledge and understanding of the local community, along with her enthusiasm and cheerfulness, were of great help to St Mary's Church's Events Committee.

And when the call for a Burton Community Association went out, Sallie answered.

She and Burton villagers Millie Riddle and Al Caie were the founding trio who started the ground work to help the association get to where it is today.

She will be very much missed, not just by her family and friends, but by all of Burton and many others in the Nettleton parish, too.

