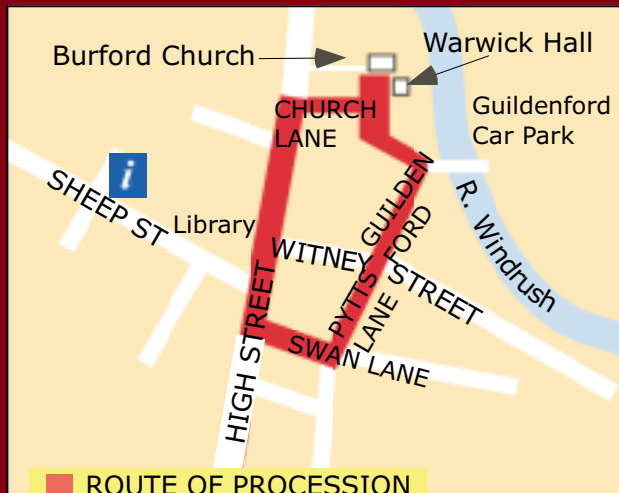


THE STORY BEHIND LEVELLERS DAY

On 17 May 1649, three soldiers were executed on Oliver Cromwell's orders in Burford churchyard, Oxfordshire. They belonged to a movement popularly known as the Levellers, with beliefs in civil rights and religious tolerance. During the Civil War, they fought on Parliament's side, had at first seen Cromwell as a liberator, but now saw him as a dictator. They were prepared to fight against him for their ideals and he was determined to crush them. Over 300 of them were captured by Cromwell's troops and locked up in Burford church. Three were led out into the churchyard to be shot as ringleaders.

In 1975, members of the WEA Oxford Industrial Branch went to Burford to reclaim a piece of history that seemed to be missing from the school books. They held a meeting in remembrance of the Leveller soldiers. The following year, Tony Benn came and read in the church. And in each succeeding year, people have come to Burford on the Saturday nearest to 17 May, debated, held a procession, listened to music and remembered the Levellers and the importance of holding on to ideals of justice and democracy.

To the Memory of Three Levellers
Cinet THOMPSON
Corporal PERKINS
Private CHURCH
Executed and buried in this Churchyard
17th May 1649



Buses to Burford:

Swanbrook 01452 712386

Stagecoach Oxford 01865 772250

Free parking in Guildenford car park, but you need to get there early on a Saturday.

TICKETS:

Whole day £12/£8 concessions

After 1.p.m £7.50/£5 concessions

Under 14 free

tickets available online from

www.wegotickets.com or at the door

-check our website www.levellers.org.uk for more details or email 1649@levellers.org.uk

Sorry, no dogs on premises except assistance dogs, no smoking in the marquee, and leafleting in forecourt only. The organisers reserve the right to refuse entry.

Levellers Day is a non-profit making event organised by the Levellers' Day Committee, affiliated to the WEA (Workers' Educational Association) reg. charity no. 1112775



www.levellers.org.uk

34th annual

Levellers Day 2008

Saturday 17 May 9.30 to 5pm

Warwick Hall Garden BURFORD OXFORDSHIRE

TIME FOR A WRITTEN CONSTITUTION?

Speakers:

TONY BENN

MARY SOUTHCOTT

ANTHONY BARNETT

chair:

GILES FRASER

Entertainment:

ROBB JOHNSON

& THE IRREGULARS

ATILA THE

STOCKBROKER

AMV

NICK TOCZEK

SPEECHES

DEBATE

PROCESSION

CEREMONY

MUSIC & SONG

WORKSHOPS

STALLS

REFRESHMENTS



www.levellers.org.uk

LEVELLERS DAY 2008 debate

Taking part:



TONY BENN
elder statesman,
veteran campaigner.
"The future's made by
people, not by
leaders".



MARY SOUTHCOTT
Labour Campaign for
Electoral Reform,
works with Make Votes
Count and the Electoral
Reform Society



ANTHONY BARNETT
co-founder of Charter 88,
founder of openDemocracy
and edits its blog
OurKingdom



Chair: **GILES FRASER**
vicar of St Mary's
Putney, Guardian writer,
philosophy lecturer at
Wadham, Oxford

We are very grateful to Oxford CND, Ruskin College Oxford, T & G 5/625 branch BMW Oxford and Unite the Union GPMS for their support.

LEVELLERS DAY 2008 programme

9.30 Doors open

10.00 Welcome and intro by Giles Fraser:
TIME FOR A WRITTEN CONSTITUTION?
Speeches, questions, panel discussion:
Tony Benn
Mary Southcott
Anthony Barnett
and the audience
12.00 Summing up, announcements

12.10 Assemble for procession,
Church Green

12.20 Procession departs, with Cry Havoc
Morris, Dhol drummers, Woodcraft Folk,
speakers, banners, pikemen, everybody
(see map of route on back)

12.45 Commemoration ceremony outside
the churchyard gates, dedication by Rev
Giles Fraser. Singing of Internationale led
by Sea Green Singers.

1.00 Dhol drummers from
St Christopher's School Oxford:
demonstration and workshop in Front Hall

2.00 Afternoon entertainment begins in
Warwick Hall garden
Welcome from compere: Nick Toczek
2.15 Attila the Stockbroker
3.15 AMV
4.00 Robb Johnson and the Irregulars
5.00 ends

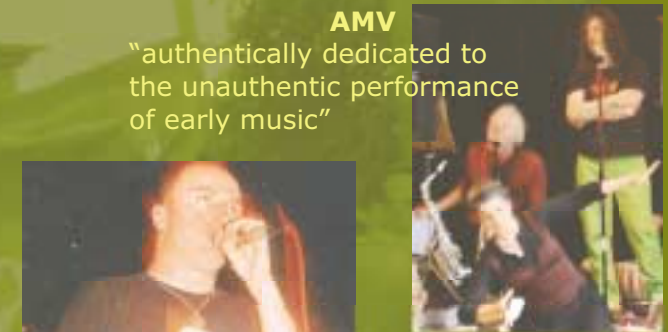
Stalls for good causes in the forecourt.

Delicious vegetarian refreshments
available in Warwick Hall throughout
the day. Lots of good pubs in Burford.

LEVELLERS DAY 2008 music



**ROBB JOHNSON AND
THE IRREGULARS**
folk, punk, folk rock



AMV
"authentically dedicated to
the unauthentic performance
of early music"



**ATTILA THE
STOCKBROKER**
singer, songwriter
punk folk musician



NICK TOCZEK
compere
and poet

