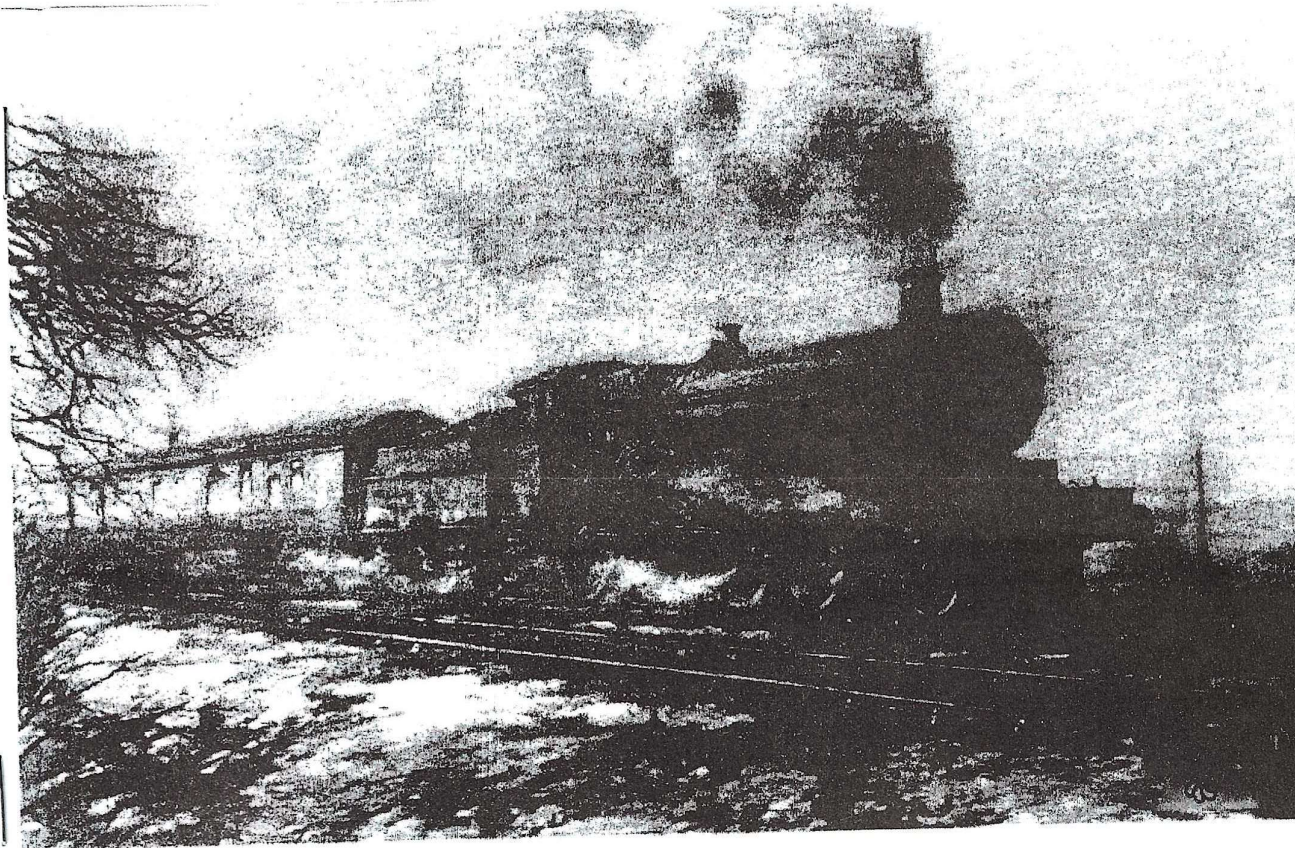


# VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,  
BARNESLEY AND WINSON



JANUARY 2023

A Happy New Year to you all

## 'VILLAGE LIFE'

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

ISSUE No: 4

#### **January 2023**

|           |                  |   |          |
|-----------|------------------|---|----------|
| Thursday  | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Craft Club in Bibury Village Hall                                     | 2 – 4 pm |
| Tuesday   | 10 <sup>th</sup> | Bibury Parish Council meeting in Bibury Village Hall                  | 7.00 pm  |
| Thursday  | 12 <sup>th</sup> | Rural cinema, Fisherman Friend 's One and all 7.00pm for 7:30pm start |          |
| Thursday  | 19 <sup>th</sup> | Bibury Village Hall AGM in Bibury Village Hall                        | 2:00 pm  |
| Wednesday | 18 <sup>th</sup> | Community Lunch, Arlington Baptist                                    | 12.30 pm |

#### **February**

|           |                 |  |          |
|-----------|-----------------|--|----------|
| Thursday  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Craft Club in Bibury Village Hall              | 2 – 4 pm |
| Wednesday | 8 <sup>th</sup> | Bibury Gardening Club Speaker: Harriet Rycroft | 7:15 pm  |

#### **March**

|          |                 |                                   |         |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Thursday | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Craft Club in Bibury Village Hall | 2 – 4pm |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------|

#### **VILLAGE LIFE PANEL**

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Treasurer: Mr Roger King, 8 Pike Villas, The Pike, Arlington, Bibury | 740510 |
| Secretary: Mrs Wendy Challinor, Chestnut Grove, Arlington, Bibury    | 740021 |
| Mr Chris Dunn, Four winds , Ablington                                | 740823 |
| Mrs Sarah French, 11 Arlington Fields, Bibury                        | 740698 |
| Mr Brian Skarda, 4 Arlington Row, Bibury                             | 740496 |
| Mrs Sarah Smith, 7 Arlington Fields, Arlington                       | 740214 |

Please Note: if you wish to put an article or advert in 'Village Life' magazine it should be sent to [biburyvillagelife@hotmail.com](mailto:biburyvillagelife@hotmail.com)

#### **PLANNING FOR THE CORONATION**

The Coronation of King Charles III and the Queen Consort is set to take place on Saturday May 6, at Westminster Abbey. The last time we had such an event to celebrate was almost 71 years ago, when Queen Elizabeth II was crowned. That was on June 2, 1953.

So, what should we do this time around to bring the village together to celebrate this historic occasion – for many of you the first Coronation in your lifetime ?

Bibury Village Hall Management Committee is taking the lead in bringing together organisations, churches, businesses, clubs and societies to see how we can collaborate in planning a celebratory weekend that will be fun for all, as well as saluting our new King and Queen Consort.

Watch out for next month's Village Life (and subsequent issues) to see how the plans are taking shape, and how you and your neighbours, friends and family can join in.

#### **A BIG THANK YOU**

This must go to the two independent sponsors and the Cricket Club for their most generous donation to the Christmas Pop-in. Over 25 people came and had a wonderful time celebrating together.

Dear Friends,

I always like to use my first letter of the year to point you to a few favourite or inspiring quotations or to recommend a book or two that I have found particularly stimulating.

This year it is a book by Nassim Nicholas Taleb, described by Wikipedia (So it must be true) as a Lebanese American essayist, mathematical statistician, former option trader, risk analyst, and aphorist, whose work concerns problems of randomness, probability, and uncertainty.

His *The Black Swan* is a must read, but it is the lesser known *The Bed of Procrustes*, a collection of philosophical and practical aphorisms, that I want to share with you as the new year dawns. An aphorism is a pithy observation which contains a general truth, and Taleb is brilliant at them. The title of the book refers to a genial character from Greek mythology whose idea of hospitality was to offer travellers a fine meal after which he would insist that they stay the night and that they fit his bed to perfection. If they failed to do so, the short were stretched, and the tall had their legs chopped off with a hatchet. (Procrustes came to a bad end when he tries this trick on Theseus, who had just had a successful encounter with a minotaur) The reason for the title is that Taleb believes that 'We humans, facing limits of knowledge, and things we do not observe, the unseen and the unknown, resolve the tension by squeezing life and the world into crisp commoditised ideas, reductive categories, specific vocabularies, and pre-packaged narratives' This is an absurd deceit. An example? 'Few people realise that we are changing the brains of school children through medication in order to make them adjust to the curriculum, rather than the reverse.' (Ritalin in his sights there)

So, a few examples of his aphorisms to whet your appetite:

- The tragedy of virtue is that the more obvious, boring, unoriginal and sermonising the proverb, the harder it is to implement
- Your duty is to scream those truths that one should shout but are merely whispered
- You may outlive your strength, never your wisdom
- Just as eating cow meat doesn't turn you into a cow, studying philosophy doesn't make you wise
- You will never know for sure if someone is an asshole until he becomes rich
- 'Wealthy' is meaningless and has no robust absolute measure; use instead the subtractive measure 'unwealth', that is, the difference, at any point in time, between what you have, and what you would like to have
- Older people are most beautiful when they have what is lacking in the young: poise, erudition, wisdom, phronesis, and this post-heroic absence of agitation
- For the robust, an error is information; for the fragile, an error is an error
- The problem with the idea of 'learning from one's mistakes' is that most of what people call mistakes aren't mistakes
- The only valid political system is one that can handle an imbecile in power without suffering from it
- Risk takers never complain. They do
- How superb to become wise without being boring; how sad to be boring without being wise
- Failure resistant is achievable; failure free is not

May you have a wonderful new year, and with every blessing for 2023

Tim

| <b>Church Services<br/>January 2023</b>   | <b>Bibury</b>   | <b>Barnsley</b>  | <b>Winson</b>  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January</b><br><b>The Naming of Jesus</b><br><i>Numbers 6:22-end</i><br><i>Luke 2: 15-21</i>                                       | <b>11:00am</b><br><b>Coffee, Cake, and Carols</b><br><b>A relaxed New Year's Day</b><br><b>Morning</b>              |  |  |
| <b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b><br><b>Epiphany</b><br><i>Isaiah 60:1-6</i><br><i>Matthew 2:1-12</i>  | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Common Worship</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Modern language Holy</i><br><i>Communion</i> | <b>9:30am</b><br><b>BCP Holy</b><br><b>Communion</b><br><i>Traditional language</i><br><i>Holy Communion</i>       |  |
| <b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b><br><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b><br><i>Isaiah 49:1-7</i><br><i>John 1:29-42</i>                            | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Common Worship</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Modern language Holy</i><br><i>Communion</i> |  | <b>9:30am</b><br><b>BCP Holy</b><br><b>Communion</b><br><i>Traditional language</i><br><i>Holy Communion</i> |
| <b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</b><br><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b><br><i>Psalms 27:1-11</i><br><i>Isaiah 9:1-4</i><br><i>Matthew 4:12-23</i> | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Morning Prayer</b>   | <b>9:30am</b><br><b>Morning Prayer</b>   |  |
| <b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>   | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>All age service</b><br><i>(Breakfast from 10:30)</i>   |  |  |
| <b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b><br><i>1 Corinthians 2:1-12</i><br><i>Matthew 5:13-20</i>                  | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Common Worship</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Modern language Holy</i><br><i>Communion</i> | <b>9:30am</b><br><b>Common Worship</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Modern language Holy</i><br><i>Communion</i> | <b>9:30am</b><br><b>BCP Holy</b><br><b>Communion</b><br><i>Traditional language</i><br><i>Holy Communion</i> |
| <b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b><br><i>Genesis 1:1-2:3</i><br><i>Matthew 6:25-end</i>                     | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Common Worship</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Modern language Holy</i><br><i>Communion</i> | <b>9:45am</b><br><b>BCP Holy</b><br><b>Communion</b><br><i>Traditional language</i><br><i>Holy Communion</i>       |  |
| <b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>Sunday next before Lent</b><br><i>Exodus 24:12-end</i><br><i>Matthew 17:1-9</i>                                | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Common Worship</b><br><b>Holy Communion</b><br><i>Modern language Holy</i><br><i>Communion</i> |  | <b>9:30am</b><br><b>BCP Holy</b><br><b>Communion</b><br><i>Traditional language</i><br><i>Holy Communion</i> |
| <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>Lent 1</b><br><i>Psalms 32</i><br><i>Romans 5:12-19</i><br><i>Matthew 4:1-11</i>                               | <b>11.00am</b><br><b>Morning Prayer</b><br><i>Followed by Lent Lunch at the</i><br><i>Vicarage</i>                  | <b>9:30am</b><br><b>Morning Prayer</b>   |  |
| <b>Churchwardens</b><br><br><b>Vicar</b>  | <i>Jackie Colburn</i><br><i>01451 860212</i><br><i>Revd Tim Hastie-Smith</i><br><i>01285 740301</i>                 | <i>Dominic Spacie</i>  | <i>Lavinia Sidgwick</i><br><i>01285 720682</i>   |

## **ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

Alcoholics Anonymous had its beginnings in 1935 as the outcome of a meeting between two noted surgeons. Both had been hopeless alcoholics but realised that alcoholism was an illness of the mind, emotions and body and that to overcome this illness would need the help of a greater power than we possess as humans.

Many of us suffer from anxiety, stress, addictions or simply parts of our personality that we struggle with perhaps we have new years resolutions to diet, save money, deal with anger issues, get fit etc

We may have tried these resolutions before, often they don't last, as humans we are weak, its normal we are made to be reliant on a greater power.

As Christians we believe in the never ending love of God. God loves each of us individually and wants the best for each of us, we are precious to him and if we reach out and ask God for help he will listen and help, he is powerful and with our obedience can change us from the inside out.

The AA use a 12 step programme to recovery, here the word alcohol is omitted

What could we put into the first three steps instead?

1. We admit we are powerless over .....
2. We come to be aware of a Power greater than ourselves and only it can restore us to sanity.
3. We make a decision to turn our will and lives over to the care of God as we understand him.

Three simple life changing steps that can be applied to lots of our weaknesses.

We wish you a Happy and prosperous 2023, most of all we wish that you would consider asking for and accepting the power of Father God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit and be transformed from the inside out. Bless you all this year.

**Contemporary Services every Sunday at 10.30am All Welcome**

**Community lunch January 18th 12.30pm**

**Churches together Alpha in the Schoolrooms**

Monday 9th and Monday 16th January arrive at 6.45pm

**Friendship Community Relationship**  
**Bibury, Gloucestershire and Arlington Heights, Virginia, USA**

Bibury Parish Council has agreed to enter into a Friendship Community Relationship with the Arlington Heights Civic Association of Virginia, USA. Whilst this is not, at this time a formal twinning, this link provides an opportunity to build a relationship between our two communities, to explore our historical links, share ideas and promote further exchange.

This relationship derives from an over 370-year association, interwoven with a fascinating history. In the 17th century, Henry Custis and his wife Johanna migrated from the Bibury Parish village of Arlington to the Netherlands, and it was from there that their son, John Custis, (known as the second), John's uncle, and his sister moved to the Eastern Shore of Virginia around 1649.

John Custis II was the founder of the Virginia branch of the Custis family.

In 1656, as a result marriage, John Custis obtained a large tract of land in Northampton County which became one of the largest plantations in the area. Custis became wealthy through land speculation, tobacco planting, and facilitating trade between Virginia and the Netherlands. Around 1670, he built a large mansion on the estate and named it Arlington, for his father's birthplace.

Arlington house was home to the Custis family until John Custis IV moved to Williamsburg, Virginia around 1714. The property passed to John's son, Daniel Parke Custis after his death in 1749. By this time, Daniel had married a young heiress, Martha Dandridge, and became one of the wealthiest men in Virginia, with over 17,500 acres of land and estates throughout the colony. Tragically, Daniel died seven years after marrying Martha, leaving her a very wealthy widow, with two young children. The property was to be held in trust until their son, John Parke Custis, became of age. An eligible catch, but also now free to marry for love, Martha caught the eye of a young military man, fell in love and was soon remarried...to the now very famous George Washington. George Washington adopted her children, and raised them as his own.

In 1778, John Parke Custis, now an adult and much to George Washington's chagrin, purchased a northern Virginia property overlooking the Potomac River for the exorbitant sum of 11,000 pounds. In 1802, the new property, as well as Arlington, was inherited by John's son George Washington Parke Custis who moved to the northern Virginia property and ultimately built the iconic house, which he called Arlington House in honour of the family's original estate that currently overlooks Washington, DC.

Arlington House subsequently became the home of Confederate Civil War General Robert E. Lee and his wife Mary Custis Lee. Following the Confederate defeat in the American Civil War the estate became the Arlington National Cemetery. It is on these heights, approximately 1.4 miles west-south-west of where the mansion is located, that the Arlington Heights Historic District is situated.

Please contact: *Craig Chapman, Chairman of Bibury Parish Council (07710 98 68 38 or [craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:craigchapman@biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk))*

### **THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

A panel member came across this whilst watching a TV program and thought it applicable for the start of new year when we look forward ( and back!) and think about New Year Resolutions!

*What you do for yourself – dies with you  
What you do for others – lives on for ever*

*Sir Ken Richardson*

**BIBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL: A very special village school, serving Bibury and the surrounding villages.**

**Acorn Class** have been busy writing diary entries using our work on The Great Fire of London as their stimulus. The children have been working hard on refining their vocabulary choices in order to describe the chaos of the fire. The children in Reception (EYFS) have impressed us with their use of phonics this month with all our children writing sentences for their English lessons already! In Maths, the children have been working on 2D and 3D shapes whilst EYFS have been looking at the language of time. In Science they have been investigating materials, working out what objects are made from and why the certain materials have been chosen

Our History topic on the Gunpowder Plot and the Great Fire of London has proven very successful with the children taking a keen interest in how we find out about what happened in the past. They have enjoyed finding out about and sequencing the events which took place in 1605 and 1666.

Over the last few weeks, **Oaks Class** have been busy writing sentences for an explanation text using 'The Street Beneath my Feet' for inspiration. They are now writing their very own explanation text by answering the question 'What is beneath my feet?'. Oaks children have also been busy thinking about the Holy Trinity in RE. They have discussed what they think God is like and how Christians show their beliefs to God. They have also recently designed a Christmas card which reflects and uses Christian gospels and discussed how Christians learn about Jesus from these gospels.

**Mighty Oaks Class** have been learning how to use writing to persuade people to change their point of view or support a venture. They have been working hard learning how to calculate with fractions in Mathematics. In Science, they have been learning about how the structure of the solar system and movement of the Earth leads to days and nights and different seasons. In this last week, we will also study the moon, exploring why it appears to change shape and how its orbit affects the tides.

All of the children in KS2 have been learning to hold simple conversations in French, asking and answering questions such as 'How are you? How old are you? What is your name? Where do you live?'. In music we have explored the pentatonic scale used in Chinese music and have composed some tunes of our own using only five notes.

We've nearly reached the end of another busy term, sprinkled with Christmas excitement and even some snow! Our Christmas events have included no less than two live shows: the first was the entertaining version of 'The True Adventures of Marian and Robin Hood' at the Barn Theatre, where we really enjoyed the way that the cast picked up and played instruments to accompany their own songs; the second was 'The Last Satellite before Christmas', a production by Forefront Theatre at the Baptist Church in Cirencester, which, as well as being very funny and interactive, reminded the children of the true meaning of Christmas.

On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, they took part in a carol service at the church, which included games and a visit from Father Christmas! Tuesday evening brought our Christmas concert – a wonderful evening of festive song alongside children from North Cerney Primary Academy. Many thanks to the members of the church community for providing refreshments for both of these events. Our final flourish was our Christmas lunch and party held on Wednesday, which the children all thoroughly enjoyed

***Could you spare a little time during the school day to listen to children read?*** Our children love to read and talk about their books. Spending time with children reading supports their fluency and understanding, while building their conversation skills and confidence with a range of adults. Please get in touch with the school office if you think you can help.

To assist parents in helping their young children make the transition from nursery to school, we have started "Little Acorns" Starting School sessions, which run every Monday afternoon, beginning again in the new year. Children will join our Early Years pupils in play-based learning, to develop the skills needed for a successful start to school. If there is anyone that is interested in having their children join these fun and constructive sessions, please contact the school office for more information.

SukiPascoe, Head Teacher Bibury C of E Primary School \* Tel: 01285 740268 \* E-mail: [admin@bibury.gloucs.sch](mailto:admin@bibury.gloucs.sch).  
For more information take a look at our website: [www.bibury.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.bibury.gloucs.sch.uk) or come and visit usBibury PTA can be contacted directly on [ptabibury@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ptabibury@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk)

### **BIBURY SCHOOL PTA**

The PTA have been very busy this term with fundraisers. Our tombola stall at the village Christmas event raised £123, our wreath workshop was well attended and raised over £500 and our Ragbag bin (at the Football club) is regularly being emptied which generates around £50 each time. This has enabled us to provide coaches for trips, a contribution to the iSingPop concert, a Christmas gift for every child, party food and prizes for the children's Christmas party and academic success prizes.

A big thank you for your support this year.

Helen Godwin, on behalf of the PTA.

### **From the Governors:**

As we come to the end of another busy term it is with sadness that we must say goodbye to Ms. Lincoln and Mrs. Feltham. We wish to express thanks to Ms. Lincoln for all her hardwork over the course of the year and wish her every success in her new role. After 14 years we say goodbye to Mrs. Feltham and wish her well as she ventures onto pastures new and thank her for her amazing kindness, compassion and enthusiasm. Both will be very much missed by everyone but we know they will keep in touch.

Anthony Godwin, Chair of Governors    Bibury C of E Primary School

### **BIBURY VILLAGE HALL.**

We hold our AGM in the Village Hall at 2pm on Thursday 2023. January 19<sup>th</sup>

This is your Village Hall, her to serve the whole community. The Management Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the hall made up of representative of local organisation which use the hall.- so we need not only your support for our fund raising events but also your ideas as to how we can improve our service to you.

Come along to the AGM and give us your views.

### **HEAVENS ABOVE**

Well as another year starts the planets are in turmoil. There is no clear indication until Mars ends its retrograde at he end of the month. We do have 4 eclipse dates for this year; the first n 29<sup>th</sup> April, then May5<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> October and 28<sup>th</sup> October and we will end up with Jupiter having been in retrograde for 4 months and that should bring abundance for 2024.

### **JANUARY**

Every time a new year starts  
A fairy flutters her wings  
To fill each day  
With sparkle and magical things.  
A bright Winters morning  
The sun all aglow  
The Crunch of your steps  
In the fresh fallen snow



## **RURAL CINEMA, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January, Bibury Village Hall**

### **And the film is ... *Fisherman's Friends: One and All***

A gentle, feel-good movie to kick off our 2023 season. This is a follow-up to the 2019 original *Fisherman's Friends* which told the true story of a Cornish sea shanty group who are signed by Universal Records. Like the first film, it's based on real events.

Following the unexpected success of the band's debut album "No Hoppers, Jokers and Rogues", the group struggle to navigate the pressures, pitfalls and temptations of their newfound fame. Then there's that 'difficult second album' syndrome to overcome. A funny and poignant return to the big screen of the world's oldest 'buoy band'.

#### **What the critics made of it:**

- *Mail Online* said "The first film featured the journey of the Fisherman's Friends from their home village of Port Isaac to top-ten international fame. This second instalment is less about 'hoo-ray and up she rises' and more about 'what shall we do with the drunken sailor?'"
- *The Guardian* said the singing is "robustly and winningly performed, and the whole thing is heartfelt."

#### **A great evening out**

Tickets are £3.50 on the door, glass of wine £2, soft drink 50p. If you let us know in advance that you'll be there on the night, it helps us plan the seating. Just email [biburycinema@btinternet.com](mailto:biburycinema@btinternet.com) or call Angela Staton on 740078.

## **BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL    December Meeting**

There were 5 members of the public present with apologies received from our Ward & County Councillors. The matters raised from the floor were:

May 6th 2023 will be Coronation Day and it is hoped that all the village organisations can get together to create a memorable and collective event. In January there will be a meeting of those people interested in being involved..

The intrusion of excessively bright security lights.

Sadly Cllr Clegg has proffered his resignation as he is moving house, our best wishes and thanks go with him and it was agreed that we would run with a vacancy until the May Elections.

Our Flood Warden, Philip & Wendy Challinor (we get two for the price of one!), presented a valuable report. Additional volunteers are welcomed. One of the greatest risks to create flooding is fallen trees in the river and Lady Hill Covert is one area at risk. Bibury Mill has an ever-increasing build up of silt behind the weir and in the approach channels. Surface water has been an issue in 7 reported areas.

We considered the Parish Council response to the Statutory Consultation regarding the TRO. There was gratitude expressed that many of our concerns have been acknowledged and some minor changes have been requested including the addition of yellow lines on both sides of the road protecting access/ingress from Kingsbury House & Arlington Fields. The TRO will return for public comment in its final stages.

Precept was set for 2023, an increase of 9.75% which is 38p per month for a band D property. In last month's issue I wrongly suggested the Clerk's increase of salary at 2%, this should have been that it was increased "by the National Association of Local Clerks Salary Agreement £1,9250 per salary scale"..

A new notice board has been ordered to replace the one which failed on Arlington Green. The plans which were supported by the Parish Council were:

Bibury Trout Farm: Overload Car Park (revised plans)

Bibury Trout Farm: Erection of agricultural building to include fishing room & store.

Garth Cottage, Arlington Green: Demolition of & rebuilding of stone front wall & addition of double 5-bar gate to widen vehicular access.

1 Cotteswold Gardens: Erection of replacement rear conservatory.

## **BARNESLEY NEWS**

Catherine Hitchen and her mother Mary have recently given three framed pencil drawings of Barnesley to the village. They depict the church, the pub and the old village hall. The drawings are very fine and are obviously the work of a talented artist. They were given to Mary by a neighbour called Maud when she lived in Worcester. The artist was Maud's husband, Tom. Catherine would very much like to know more about Tom and Maud, and their connection to Barnesley. Can anyone help? The drawings are to be hung in the new village hall.

A few days after the drawings arrived in Barnesley, another gift was found in the church porch. It is a framed photograph of the interior of the church taken in Victorian times. It is fascinating to see how the church has changed over the years – what fittings remain and what have gone. No note was attached. It would be good to be able to thank the donor. The photograph is likely to be hung in the village hall.

If anyone has any information about the drawings and the photo please let Michael Gledhill know (01285 740836).

## **BIBURY GARDENING CLUB**

The last meeting of 2022 was our traditional Christmas party in the village hall, featuring party games and a free prize draw. Members Elise Rowley and Ros Hawkins can always be counted on to come up with new and creative ways of entertaining a crowd, and this year's winners were Virginia Stourton, Karen Browne and Halina Tipper.

Paul Talbot won the Christmas quiz, Mary Ludbrook made the mince pies (three dozen of them) and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Huge thanks to everyone who contributed food and/or helped clear up afterwards.

We don't have a meeting in January, but we will be back in the village hall on 8 February 2023 at 7.15pm to hear Harriet Rycroft talking about her new book on growing plants in pots.

Many of the photographs are taken in Harriet's own garden and – appropriately for someone who used to be head gardener at Whichford Pottery – she takes container gardening to the next level.

I occasionally think (and people often tell me) that I might have one too many pots, but my collection looks sparse beside Harriet's. I particularly enjoyed the caption beneath a picture of a vast late-summer display which reads: "I relish the fact that by the time autumn arrives quite a lot of our house has disappeared."

Best of all from our point of view, Harriet lives in Gloucestershire and now works just up the road at the Cotswold Wildlife Park, so she is very familiar with the challenges that Cotswold gardeners face. Come along and be amazed.

The February meeting is also when we take the annual subscriptions, so if you would like to join the Bibury Gardening Club, do email me at v.summerley@hotmail.com.

You don't have to live in the village to be a member, and you don't have to know lots of Latin names or be an expert on pruning. All you need is a passion for gardening.

In the meantime, I'd like to wish all our members a very happy Christmas and a floriferous New Year.

Victoria Summerley

### **ABLINGTON PLANNING 21/04298: Land west of Stonebank, Ablington**

On 16<sup>th</sup> December we finally (after 13 months) had confirmation of a 'Refused' decision from CDC Planners for the proposed development between Stonebank and Hinton Cottage, Ablington. I would like to thank everyone who objected to this planning application for all your support, for the contributions to the professional planning and highways consultants' reports, and for helping us to protect our beautiful village. The applicants have 6 months in which to lodge an appeal against this decision, but we will keep our fingers crossed! Thank you.

Jenny and Rod A'Bear

### **THE 'PALMY' DAYS OF BIBURY RACECOURSE. AND THEN THE DECLINE.**

There is some uncertainty about when racing on the downs east of Aldsworth switched from the old Burford course to Lord Sherborne's new figure-of-eight Bibury course. The first officially-recorded races organised by the Bibury Club for its members on the new course were in 1801, from the 16th to the 20th June.

The Welter Stakes on the first day's racing was captured for posterity (with a certain amount of artistic licence) in a painting by the animal painter Henry Barnard Chalon (1770– 1849). The image became widely available when it was reproduced as a large mezzotint (etching) dedicated by Chalon to 'HRH the Prince of Wales and the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the Bibury Club'.

For the next 24 years the names of the members-only Bibury Club and the Bibury Racecourse were inextricably linked, and synonymous with exclusivity and privilege.

There's also a painting of the Bibury Club's 'Gentlemen's Welter Race' in 1811, by Samuel Alken Junior (1784-1825). This work sold at Christies for just under £12,000 in June 2017.

Bibury Racecourse featured prominently in the 1874 semi-fictional story 'The life of a sportsman' by 'Nimrod' (a pseudonym). The author wrote: '... King George IV, when Prince of Wales, was a constant attendant of Bibury Racecourse, being domiciled for the week at the Earl of Sherborne's, whose mansion and park are about four miles distant from the course - a beautiful grass drive leading from one to the other.' That grassy drive is still there, running as straight as an arrow between the main gates of Sherborne House on the A40 and Aldsworth. A similar drive links Barrington Park to the racecourse.

In 'A Cotswold Village' J. Arthur Gibbs recounted how during race week the shopkeepers of Bibury would rent out their bedrooms to racegoers, while they themselves would sleep under their shop counters. The parties at the Swan Inn in Bibury became the stuff of legends.

Then, shock horror, in 1825 the Bibury Club was given notice by the 2nd Lord Sherborne (1779-1862) to stop using the Bibury course for its annual meets. Contemporary reports suggest that by 1815 the races had in any case lost some of their celebrity status. The 1st Lord Sherborne, the driving force behind the Bibury Racecourse and the Bibury Club, had died in 1820. The Morning Advertiser of 25th June 1825 reported: 'These races, which were once without exception the most fashionable of all country meetings in the kingdom, have for several years been on the decline.' The heyday of the Bibury racecourse was over. The link between Bibury Racecourse and the Bibury Club had been broken. But it wasn't the end of the Bibury Club, although in 1825 rumours were rife about where the club would go, or whether it would fold altogether. In the event, the club moved its annual meets to Cheltenham Racecourse, where racing had started in 1815. Then in 1831 it moved again, this time to Stockbridge Racecourse, which in the 1800s was the Ascot of its day. The Bibury Club grandstand there survives to this day

When Stockbridge racecourse closed in 1898, the club relocated to Salisbury Racecourse, where it continues to the present time. The Bibury Enclosure at Salisbury has two stands, the largest of which has seating for 300 people.

So, what happened to the Bibury racecourse? Racing continued there through the 1930s and 1940s, although the events no longer attracted aristocrats and gentlemen. The last race was around 1848. Jessica Stawell wrote that it was the vicar of Aldsworth who brought racing to an end there on account of what he regarded as the unruly behaviour of some racegoers.

After that, the course itself slowly faded away. By the 1920s very little evidence remained that horseracing had ever taken pace there. The swanky circular grandstand designed by Lechlade architect Richard Pace had gone. The jockeys' weighing and robing room was just a pile of stones. The remains of the rubbing room walls could just about be seen among the trees where the paddock had once been.

When photographer J H Thomas visited the site in June 1929 the only remaining bit of racing history still standing was the bell post (minus the bell). He took a photo of it, and also of the low mound of stones believed to be the remains of the weighing room. Through a strange twist of fate, the now private land on which first the Burford and then the Bibury races were run is today designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Not because of its long horseracing history, but because of an even more historic Celtic field system that lies underneath the racecourse(s).

Thanks to Gloucestershire Archives, Jessica Stawell (for her books 'The Burford and Bibury racecourses' and 'Aldsworth 1000 to 2000'), and Andrew Johnston.

© Roger Staton December 2022

## **CRAFT CLUB**

We had a delightful meetin in December with Bev finishing off her demonstration of her Cricut machine. The bags she designed for the club found new homes in the members home.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January in Bibury Village Hall from 2 – 4 pm.as members felt that winter days are the perfect time to get creative! So come along and join us and show us what projects you are making this winter

Or just come along and drop in for a chat, we do not mind if you are not a craft person – we just love people to join thos small but friendly group. Cost £3 to include refreshments.

## **FRONT COVER SKETCH**

A loco with a local connection! Thanks to Roger Staton and others – see article below.

## **COMMEMORATING THE LOCO WITH A LOCAL CONNECTION**

Bibury never had a railway. But it did have a locomotive. Well, sort of.

Starting in the years before the First World War, GWR introduced into service a fleet of innovative and powerful locomotives known as the Saint class (4-6-0 for anyone who used to be a trainspotter). Within the Saint Class, 25 were given the names of courts (mansions) in the GWR region. Engine number 2933, was assigned the name Bibury Court. It entered service in 1911, and could sometimes be seen pulling the Paddington-to-Fishguard Boat Express, covering the 260 miles at average speeds of over 60mph.

The locomotive had a second link to the Cotswolds. Like all the Court series engines, it was built at the GWR Swindon works. In 1911 it cost just under £500.

The reason for flagging up this historic information is that this month, January 2023, marks the 70th anniversary of Bibury Court's withdrawal from service. To be precise, Bibury Court reached the end of the line (sorry) on 30th January 1953. Some say it had a million miles on the clock when it was retired, but this hasn't yet been confirmed.

The Saint class locos were 'arguably one of the most important locomotive developments of the twentieth century' according to GWR expert and author Laurence Waters. It was rumoured that one of the locomotives in the class had achieved a speed of 120mph during production trials.

This image is from a splendid painting of Bibury Court by Roderick Lovesey, done in the 1980s. It depicts the 72-tonne loco (112 tonnes including tender) at speed in the Cotswolds.

The image is reproduced here in Village Life courtesy of Andrew Johnston. PS: One of the other Court locos in the series was Arlington Court. But don't get too excited about the possibility of a lost mansion here in Bibury/Arlington - it was named after a 19th century country house in a different Arlington, near Barnstaple in Devon.

## **ROUND AND ABOUT**

Rarely in December have we had such a prolonged cold spell before Christmas bringing memories of the winters of 1982 and 1963 for those of us old enough to remember the extreme cold and the snow drifts. The cold spell made many of us consider what hardship it must be like for the people of the Ukraine who suffer colder temperatures without water, power courtesy of Putin and the Russian bombardment. Thankfully by the time we go to press the weather should be warmer – for a while at least.

As we move into 2023 – a time for new starts and changes.- a new family have moved into Aldsworth Road comprising Dan & Ash, and their mother. We give them all a very warm welcome to the village. Let us hope that they will be very happy in their new home. In Barnsley 'The Village Pub' has changes its name to 'The Boot' . And a new venture at Bibury Football Club will providing a monthly take away curry service – just remember to prebook it by email. Let us hope the both will prove successful..

So many of us have suffered recent coughs and cold, even if we have been lucky enough to avoid catching Covid or flu thanks to the vaccination programme. But many of us are also aware the way our health service and ambulance service is stretched and the staff, like many others in the present cost of living crisis feeling overworked and underpaid! A smile and word of thanks and appreciation – cost nothing and can make all the difference to the recipient!

**And finally We wish you all a very Happy New Year and lets us hope for a great 2023**

### **FROM THE PUBLICATION PANEL**

#### **Postal copies**

Like everything else the cost of sending our paper postal copies has risen markedly over the last year. So we shall have to increase the cost to £14 a year for the next year. We send out 18 postal copies each month but we can send you an email copy free of charge instead if you have send us your email address and you can join our email list of recipients.

#### **Advertisers in the Trade Directory.**

January sees your adverts up for renewal for another year. Sadly having kept the cost per line unchanged for over 40 years, we have reluctantly decided to increase then to a more realistic level of £5 a line for a whole year( 11 issues) Trade directory adverts are restricted to business who have an address within our distribution are – i.e the Parishes of Bibury and Barnsley and Winson.

Adverts within the magazine remain unchanged at £20 a full page, £10 half a page and £5 a quarter page or 50p a line for small ads.



## **RURAL CINEMA**

**Bibury Village Hall – Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> January**

***Fisherman's Friends: One and All***

**Comedy Drama Cert: 12A - Run time 1hr 55min**

***Starring: James Purefoy, Dave Johns, David Hayman, Sam Swainsbury, Maggie Steed and Imelda May***

***Directed by: Nick Moorcroft and Meg Leonard***

**Doors open 7.00pm Film starts 7.30pm Tickets  
£3.50**

***Come early and enjoy a drink and a chat before the film  
begins.***

# TOM'S TANDOORI

INDIAN TAKEAWAY

## MENU

CHICKEN TIKKA ...10  
LAMB ROGAN JOSH ...10

PILAU RICE ...3.5  
TARKA DAHL ...5

2 CHAPATIS ...3  
2 POPPADUMS ...1  
MANGO CHUTNEY ...0.5  
MINT SAUCE ...0.5  
ONION SALAD ...0.5

\*PRICES IN POUNDS

LAUNCHING  
SATURDAY 28th JAN  
& EVERY LAST  
SATURDAY OF THE  
MONTH  
5PM - 9PM

EAT IN  
OR  
COLLECTION  
(TAKEAWAY)

BIBURY  
FOOTBALL  
CLUB

PREORDER?  
TOMSTANDOORI@GMAIL.COM  
OR

 @TOMSTANDOORI

## ***Attention, attention!***

### **Time to start thinking about our July 2023 Village Show January's suggestions and tips**

Attention all residents of Ablington, Arlington, Bibury, Barnsley and Winson. We are planning some exciting changes to the schedule for this summer's Village Show.

They include:

- Inviting sponsors for the various sections.
- Bigger cash prizes.
- A less 'bespoke' Craft section.
- Revamped Produce and Flower sections. (George Blackwell and Victoria Summerley have come up with some cracking ideas)

In the meantime, whilst we finalise the date and the programme, here are some items to get started on now.

#### **Cookery – Preserves**

Chutneys are super easy and can be made from a wide variety of fruits, vegetables and spices. But they do need to mature. So start yours now.

And, with Seville oranges available soon in the shops, now is also the time to make your marmalade. Single or three fruit version, thick cut or thin, spiced up with ginger or alcohol - the choice is yours.

#### **Crafts – A chance to showcase your crafting skills**

Following feedback from last year's show, this year's classes will be completely general eg a knitted item, a piece of embroidery etc etc. So, whether painting, embroidery, knitting, crocheting, quilting or woodworking is your thing, we want to showcase your skills. It could be something you are currently working on or planning to make, or something you have already finished but never shown before.

#### **Photography – Capture the moment**

This year's classes include Sporting, Farm Animals and Food. So remember to take your camera with you when you are out and about. To ensure a level playing field photoshopping is not allowed but we do encourage you to use your imagination when framing the shot.

***Remember - Bibury Show is open to all recipients of Village Life. We also welcome entries from visiting grandchildren and pupils at Bibury School.***