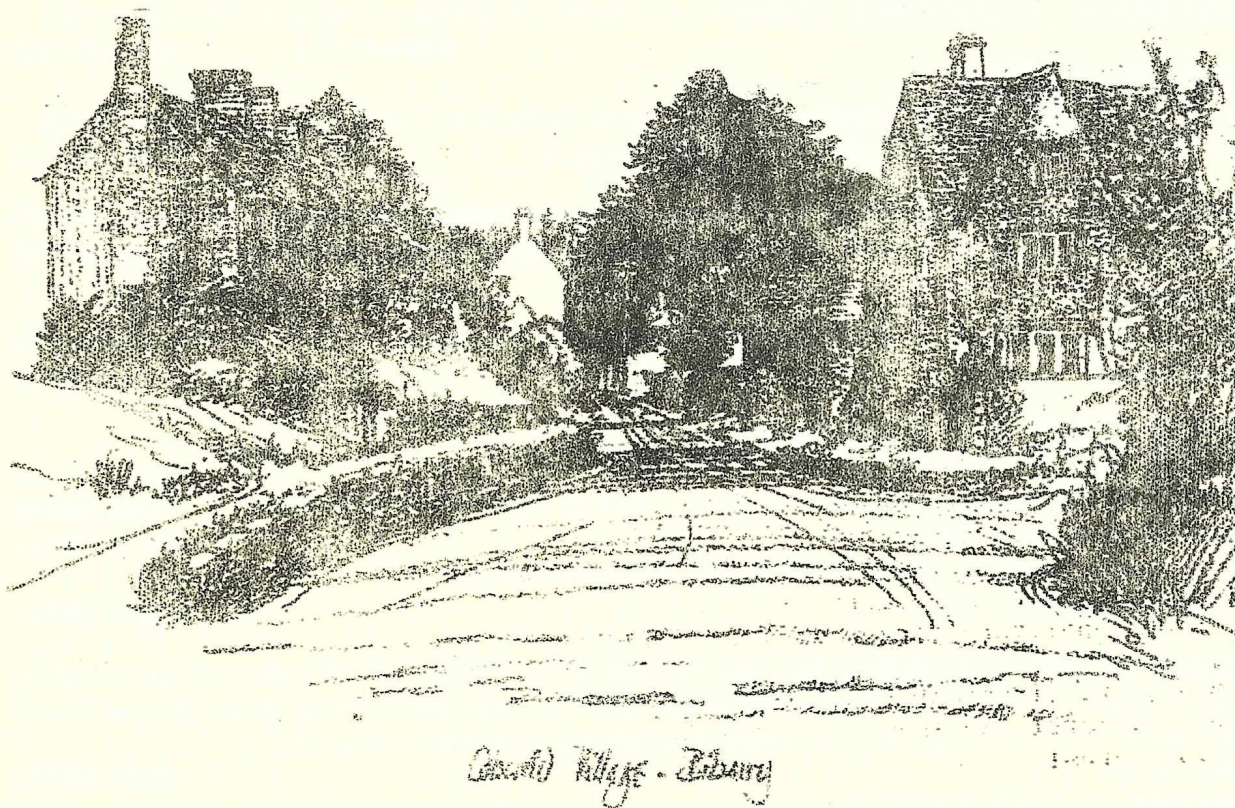


# VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,  
BARNESLEY AND WINSON

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FEBRUARY 2023

## VILLAGE LIFE

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**ISSUE NO: 477**

#### February 2023

Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Craft Club in Bibury Village Hall	2.00pm-4.00pm
Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cotswold Chippy - Bibury Football Club	5.30pm-7.30pm
Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Six Nations Rugby showing at Bibury Football Club	2:00pm
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Bibury Gardening Club Speaker – Harriet Rycroft	7.15pm
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee and Chat Arlington Baptist Church	10.30am-12.00noon
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Rural cinema - Bibury Village Hall - Film: Operation Mince meat	7.00pm for 7.30pm
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Bibury Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Community Lunch - Arlington Baptist Church	12,30pm
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Cotswold Chippy - Bibury Football Club	5.30pm-7.30pm
Monday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Bingo - Bibury Football Club	7.30pm

#### March 2023

Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Craft Club in Bibury Village Hall	2.00pm-4.00pm
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Bibury Parish Council Meeting	7pm

#### April 2023

Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Graffiti Classics in Bibury Village Hall	7pm for 7.30pm start
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#### 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	

#### BIBURY, BARNSELY AND WINSON CHURCHES

Bibury Vicarage, Gloucestershire, GL7 5NT [tim.hastie-smith@hotmail.com](mailto:tim.hastie-smith@hotmail.com) 01285 740301

Dear Friends,

At the risk of being labelled a Nassim Nicholas Taleb junkie (a label I can live with) I want to introduce you to the word *Anti-Fragile*. It is the opposite of fragile. But is not the same as resilience. The idea that the word seeks to convey is this: Fragility and brittleness mean that things (and people) are prone to break, when faced with the unexpected and unplanned, and resilience, (wrongly seen as the opposite of fragile) is the capacity to cope with the rough and challenging: Anti-fragile is to grow, flourish, develop and improve in the face of challenge. Taleb's contention is that we live in a world of uncertainty where risks abound. Trying to anticipate those risks is a mugs game as so much is necessarily unknown (Donald Rumsfeld's famous unknown unknowns.) yet there are those who predict with utter confidence what is to come. There is money to be made from confidently predicting the future. Magicians and Fortune Tellers now wear Saville Row suits and work in Wall Street or Canary Wharf or Whitehall.

To face the future with any confidence it is pointless seeking to identify unknown risks: To trust ourselves to those with the loudest voices, weightiest set of statistics and the command the biggest fees. Instead, we need to embrace anti-fragility, the ability to grow from the knocks and changes. A kind of 'that which does not kill us, makes us stronger' (Fredrich Nietzsche) approach.

Why do I feel the need to introduce you to this word? Three reasons really

The first is that we live in a world of increasing uncertainty and as Taleb puts it pithily: *I want to live happily in a world that I do not understand*. Embracing antifragility is a way to do this.

The second is that, as a historian (of sorts) I am constantly struck by the inevitability and normality of dramatic, and often cataclysmic, change. The fall of Rome. The complete disintegration of the Byzantine Empire, once the beating heart of the Christian faith (Thank you, Dana, for pointing me to William Dalrymple's *From the Holy Mountain*). And having finally completed the third volume of the Chips Channon Diaries, I am struck anew by the value of honest contemporary records which demonstrate a remarkable ability to focus on things and people that history has consigned to irrelevance, and to miss the really important stuff. Because I do the same thing. All the time. The playwright, JB Priestly loved to play around with the idea of time in his plays, and in *Time and the Conways*, a play about the family of a wealthy northern industrialist, he cleverly helps us explore how little we understand about the times in which we live, and the changes that lie ahead of us.

So face the facts. We do not, and never have known the future, and our attempts to prepare for it are usually futile and embarrassing.

And my third reason is because antifragility is a theme picked up by Jonathan Haidt and Greg Lukianoff in the seminal *The Coddling of the American Mind* (Subtitle: How good intentions and bad ideas are setting up a generation for failure) where they demonstrate that a desire to protect the young from hurtful and hateful ideas and concepts, for fear of their mental health, is doing more harm than good. Because people are fundamentally antifragile and grow and mature in response to challenge and change. That's why humans are survivors. To encourage the idea that humans are fragile is to doom us to being broken.

So, where does this bring us. Three thoughts

1. Whilst antifragility is not the answer to everything, as a concept it is worth taking seriously, because the future is unknown and uncertain. And always has been
2. Living organisms are far better adapted to antifragility than systems, structures, institutions and inanimate stuff.
3. We may not know the future and the shape or nature of coming uncertainty. But we can know the one who does. Christian hope has always rested on the abiding confidence, that there is no point worrying about tomorrow, because God is already there, and always has been. The uncertain of yesterday is the inevitable and obvious of tomorrow. So live in the gift of the present, with your hand in the hand of Almighty God.

With every blessing *Tim*

**We have a supply of delicious homemade frozen meals in the Vicarage deep freeze. If you know anyone who would like some, give Joanne a call, and come round to help yourself, 01285 740301**

**Lent begins on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

**I have three Lent books for you to choose from:**

***Godforsaken: The Cross – the greatest hope of all* by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell**

***Failure* by Bishop Emma Ineson**

***Phoebe* by Rev Dr Paula Gooder**

**Let me know which you would like**

<b>Church Services February 2023</b>	<b>Bibury</b>	<b>Barnsley</b>	<b>Winson</b>
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b> <i>1 Corinthians 2:1-12</i> <i>Matthew 5:13-20</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Common Worship Holy Communion</b> <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b> <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b> <i>Genesis 1:1-2:3</i> <i>Matthew 6:25-end</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	<b>9:45am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b> <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>	
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Sunday next before Lent</b> <i>Exodus 24:12-end</i> <i>Matthew 17:1-9</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>		<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b> <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b> <b>Lent 1</b> <i>Psalms 32</i> <i>Romans 5:12-19</i> <i>Matthew 4:1-11</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> <i>Followed by Lent Lunch at the Vicarage</i>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b>	
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Lent 2</b> <i>Genesis 12:1-4</i> <i>John 3:1-17</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Common Worship Holy Communion</b> <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b> <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Lent 3</b> <i>Exodus 17:1-7</i> <i>John 4:5-42</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	<b>9:45am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b> <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>	
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Mothering Sunday</b> <i>Exodus 2:1-12</i> <i>Luke 2:33-35</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Mothering Sunday Thanksgiving and Reflection with Bibury School</b> <b>Followed by cake and coffee</b>		<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b> <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Lent 5</b> <i>Psalms 130</i> <i>Romans 8:6-11</i> <i>John 11:1-45</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b>	
<b>Churchwardens</b>  <b>Vicar</b>	<i>Jackie Colburn</i> <i>01451 860212</i> <i>Revd Tim Hastie-Smith</i> <i>01285 740301</i>	<i>Dominic Spacie</i>	<i>Lavinia Sidgwick</i> <i>01285 720682</i>

### **COVER SKETCH**

We originally printed this snowy scene of the junction of the main road with Hawkers Hill. On our front cover in 1989. Sadly we did not know who had drawn this lovely sketch.

### **THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

Happiness is a state of mind not a result of circumstances

## **ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

info@arlingtonbaptist.org

St. Valentine (loosely) quiz

Who originally sang these popular songs ?

Answers at the end

What's love got to do with it?

Do you know what love is?

What is love?

What is love anyway?

And which song is the odd one out?

Words change as culture trends, the word "Friend" for example means one thing to some folks and something else to others through the influence of social media.

In the same way Love has several different meanings mostly thanks to the ancient Greeks.

**Eros** is passion, the passion felt in love affairs, **Storge** is affection a mature warm love, **Philia** is the love experienced in unconditional friendship and the Love God shows us is know as **Agape**, but what does that mean?

In the Bible it says in the book of 1 John, "God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him"

I saw a sticker for sale recently that read *JESUS LOVES YOU BUT IM HIS FAVOURITE!*

**God has the capacity to love everyone as his favourite! A little like a parent loves all their children unconditionally God has the capacity to love each of us as his favourite. But God asks through teachings in the Bible that we should try and love as he loves, most people have heard this next passage as it is a popular choice at weddings from the book of 1 Corinthians Chapter 13**

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

I encourage you to reconsider this verse as a gift to yourself this St. Valentines day and try to put its directions into practise as you go about daily life. One minister I knew advised it was especially difficult with those we find irritating and annoying and you all know one of those and if you don't maybe, just maybe you are that person! Love is Patient and kind and perseveres. Happy Valentine day.

### **Services**

Every Sunday 10.30am Contemporary worship and prayer

### **Events**

**Coffee and Chat** (Warm space) Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> 10.30-12am Back by popular demand ! Enjoy Delicious Rave coffee and Various Teas and usually a cake or two! Open to all residents, friends and all ages just come along to the Schoolrooms for a warm welcome.

**Community Lunch** Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> 12.30pm 2 course hot lunch with coffee Open to all residents and friends

(Lunch delivery available for bookings call and leave a message 740366 or 740679)

Quiz answers Whats love got to do with it? Tina Turner 1984 Do you know what love is? Foreigner 1984 What is love? Haddaway 1993 (odd one out, date released) What is love anyway? Howard Jones 1984

## **BIBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This month we have been busy in school with lots of exciting learning. In Acorn Class we have been busy learning about plants and the parts of the plant which we eat. We have set up our own kitchen garden in the classroom and our pre-school children joined us for some sessions planting seeds. Our Monday pre-school children have settled in beautifully and are enjoying finding out more about school, exploring early phonics, science, story and maths as well as making new friends. It is lovely to see their confidence blossom.

In another exciting development we have now established a new Forest School with the kind permission of a local resident. The site is a 10 minute walk from school across the river and affords us a huge, wooded environment in which to work. Acorn Class visited this week and enjoyed exploring , building log piles and gathering winter treasures. We are looking forward to attending every week with EYFS and Year 1 whilst also planning provision for the rest of the school later in the year.

As part of our continuing programme of building works, we are preparing the school for the next phase which will involve works to create a dedicated Early Years room off the Acorns classroom. This will afford us with extra space, modern facilities and will enhance our provision for the very youngest children in the school. This work will start at the beginning of February.

Swimming has continued this term and the children are making fantastic progress with their whole school weekly sessions in the pool.

## **BIBURY CRICKET CLUB**

The Christmas Duck Race occurred on Boxing Day in fine weather. One of the largest crowds ever gathered on the banks of the River Coln to watch the race. Proceeds were excellent. The Charity Duck race raised £ 1280 and the winner has been contacted and asked to nominate her chosen charity . An epic race of the yellow ducks plus the sale of mince pies and mulled wine raised £ 2335 for club funds.

I would like to say a big thank you to all club members who worked very hard to ensure the day was safe and successful. An even bigger thank you to all who came down to watch the race and bought tickets.

The new season begins on May 6th and new players irrespective of ability, age and gender would be most welcome at Lady Hill . Contact me or any club member if you are interested.

## **BIBURY FOOTBALL CLUB**

The new year has started well for Bibury two games played 2 wins sees Bibury move up to second place in the League.

The first of those wins game and home against Broadwell Amateurs 3-2 Archie Day Jack Milner and an own goal gave us the win we then followed with an excellent win at Staunton and Corse who had previously only lost one game the clinical Max Lutchsky win the Bibury Goal his 22nd of the season

### **February fixtures are**

Saturday 4th Away v Broadwell Amateurs 3pm

Saturday 11th Home v Harrow Hill. 3pm

Saturday 18th Away v Leonard Stanley. 3pm

Saturday 25th Home v Chesterton 3pm

The Cotswold Chippy will be serving at the club on Friday 3rd and Friday 17th

Bingo will be held on Monday 20th of February start time 7-30pm

We will also showing 6 Nations Rugby fixtures starting on Saturday 4th February

## **BIBURY VILLAGE HALL**

We were lucky enough to have two members of the public attend our AGM in mid January. The new committee was announced and we were delighted to welcome Mrs Suki Pascoe from the Bibury School to join our Committee for 2023. After the AGM, the new Committee met for their first meeting and to start making plans for events this year.

The first event apart from the regular monthly Rural Cinema will be an event being sponsored by Air in G.

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April** will see **Graffiti Classics** coming to perform in  
**Bibury Village Hall** **7 for 7:30pm start.**

Graffiti Classics re a very talented musical quartet that' burst the elitist boundaries of traditional string quartets with its hilarious all singing, all dancing, musical comedy show. – something for everyone ! **Tickets cost £12 .**

The event is under the Air in G scheme which helps provide Village Halls with high quality live performances. Tickets will cost £12 and more details will be available next month. Those of you that have been to Air in G events before will know the quality of these performances.

May will see event in and around the Village Hall for the coronation of King Charles 11. The Bibury Show will take place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July. The format is likely to be slightly different thanks to some good ideas from the Garden Club – so again look out for more details later.

## **BIBURY GARDENING CLUB**

The club's new season will begin again at 7.15pm on Wednesday 8 February in the village hall when Harriet Rycroft will be talking to us about her new book on container gardening.

The full title is "Pots: Fill Your Containers With Plants, Tend To Their Needs, Watch Them Flourish", so I think that gives you a fair idea of what it's all about. Not so much does what it says on the tin as plant what it says in the book.

Harriet is known in horticultural circles as the Queen of Containers. She's a former head gardener at Whichford Pottery and is also the author of "The Cotswold Wildlife Park: a Celebration of the Gardens". She still works part-time at the wildlife park in between teaching, writing and gardening for private clients.

We have a great programme of events lined up for this year, with visits to members' gardens, guest speakers and of course the annual barbecue and Christmas party. The annual membership fee remains unchanged at £25, so do please bring a cheque or cash for our treasurer, Jenny Lawrenson, and you will receive your membership card with details of the year's events.

If you would like to join the gardening club, please contact me at:

[v.summerley@hotmail.com](mailto:v.summerley@hotmail.com).

In the meantime, George Blackwell has compiled a list of tips and advice for members about growing plants for the village show.

George, Jenny and I feel very strongly that we should support the show, which is not only a great event for gardeners and cooks, but also one of the ways in which the village can come together and celebrate country life.

During the past few years, thanks mainly to Covid, the number of entries has declined, and we would be heartbroken if it disappeared from the calendar altogether.

Finally, George still has bowls of hyacinths for sale, at. £12 for a bowl of six. They come with twigs to help support the flowering stems and make a lovely centrepiece, gift or windowsill display.  
Victoria Summerley

### **CRAFT CLUB.**

We are hoping to attend the **Creative Craft Show on Thursday 16th March 2023 at the Birmingham NEC**

We are hoping to have enough people interested to be able to fill a couple of cars – or more! to enable members to attend this event .. Tickets should cost £14 (we may be able reduce the price as a group and if we book early). We are suggesting that we also pre-book parking and share the cost of petrol money to reduce the travel costs

So if you are interested in going to the NEC to see the Creative Craft Show, or Sewing for Pleasure or the Fashion and Embroidery Shows (All on at the same time for a single entrance fee). You can attend some of the workshops or just wander around to collect ideas from a huge number of stalls, please let us know by the time of our next meeting Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February so we can book early to get the best deals . Total cost will probably be in the region of £20 per person – hopefully cheaper!. Go to the Show website for more details.

Contact either email Victoria on [v.summerley@hotmail.com](mailto:v.summerley@hotmail.com) or telephone Wendy C on 740021. For further information.

### **CORONATION CELEBRATIONS START TO TAKE SHAPE**

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the brainstorming session on 16<sup>th</sup> January. We were able to draw on the ideas and experience of local clubs, organisations and businesses including the Parish Church, Arlington Baptist Chapel, the Parish Council, Bibury Primary School, the Village Hall Management Committee, Bibury United Charities, the Cricket, Gardening and Craft Clubs, and the Trout Farm. As well as from individuals who simply want to be part of this historic event.

Our objective was simply to get a conversation going about the Coronation of our new King and Queen Consort, and how we might celebrate it in Arlington/Bibury, with activities to appeal to residents of all ages. It was a very productive meeting that resulted in an outline plan covering not only the Coronation day itself, but the whole weekend.

The plan has to be considered provisional at this stage - more of a framework into which specific activities and attractions can be added over the coming weeks and months. When this article went to press, the Palace had not stated exactly when on 6<sup>th</sup> May the Coronation ceremony will take place. For the moment we are assuming it will be late morning.

**American guests:** Do you remember the recent announcement of a Friendship Community Relationship with Arlington Heights, in Virginia USA ? Well, it looks possible that the first visit to Bibury/Arlington by our new American friends will be over the Coronation period, bringing an international flavour to the celebrations.

**The bells:** This year, 2023, also happens to be the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the installation of new bells in St Mary's Church, so we hope the bells will ring out during the weekend, not only in celebration of the Coronation, but also the tri-centenary of the bells themselves.



### **Outline plan (subject to change)**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May: Coronation day.** We propose screening the whole event live in the Village Hall. Depending on demand, we could re-screen it later in the day. We envisage a real party atmosphere in the Hall.

The main event of the day will be a Street Party in the village centre, so that many villagers will be able to walk there.

At the moment there is nothing planned for the Saturday evening. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. Suggestions already received include screening a family-friendly film, or staging a quiz night with a Royal theme.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May:** More music events, today with a classical flavour, and a celebratory service in St Mary's Church. The Cricket Club is looking into the possibility of a special match that should have wide appeal.

**Village businesses:** We regard our local hospitality and retail businesses as an integral part of our community, and we want them to become part of the Coronation celebrations. The Trout Farm is planning Coronation-themed activities through the weekend. As other local businesses develop their own ideas, we will let you know.

**Sponsorship opportunities:** As far as possible, the events and activities being planned for the Coronation weekend will be self-financing, and staffed by volunteers. But some (including entertainers, printing the programme, and providing a special Coronation cake etc) will incur expenditure. So we are open to sponsorship proposals from local traders and businesses. This could take the form of financial contributions in return for publicity in the programme etc. And/or contributions in kind.

We would also welcome offers from individuals who are prepared to underwrite some of the likely costs. Individual offers of financial support can be completely anonymous, or not - as you wish.

**Other societies, clubs and organisations:** If your local club, society or organisation has not so far been contacted, and wants to join in the collective preparations for Coronation Day, please do get in touch.

The villages' Coronation celebrations are being co-ordinated by Bibury Village Hall Management Committee. For questions or suggestions, please contact Angela on 740078 or Victoria on 740289.

### **Rural Cinema, Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February, Bibury Village Hall**

#### **And the film is ... *Operation Mincemeat***

This is the real-life story of a feat of wartime subterfuge. How a dead man and a bizarre plan cooked up by British Intelligence in 1943 foiled the Nazis and helped assure an Allied victory.

Some may remember the 1956 film, *The Man Who Never Was*, which first told this compelling story. This 2022 remake takes its cue from Ben McIntyre's book *Operation Mincemeat* which, thanks to

the freedom of information act, contains an extraordinary amount of new material that wasn't available 66 years ago.

The film follows the efforts of two MI5 operatives, Ewen Montagu (Colin Firth) and Charles Cholmondeley (Matthew Macfadyen), in their bid to deceive Hitler. Look out for Johnny Flynn as Lt Cdr Ian Fleming (the future creator of James Bond) and Simon Russell Beale as Churchill.

**What the critics made of it:**

*The Guardian* - Stiff upper lips abound in this stranger-than-fiction tale of second world war espionage

*The Times* - In the context of WW2 narratives, the story of Operation Mincemeat is unique, a bizarre and seductive cinematic blend of high-level espionage and ingenious fiction, where the stakes could hardly be higher.

*The Spectator* – A classic tale of British second world war derring-do.

*The i* – A well-crafted, “handsomely mounted” film, which painstakingly recreates the look and feel of wartime London.

**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



**RURAL CINEMA**

**Bibury Village Hall – Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February**

***Operation Mincemeat***

**Drama Cert: 12A - Run time 2hr 8min**

***Starring: Colin Firth, Kelly Macdonald, Matthew Macfadyen,  
Penelope Wilton, Johnny Flynn, Simon Russell Beale***

**Doors open 7.00pm Film starts 7.30pm Tickets £3.50  
*Come early and enjoy a drink and a chat before the film begins.***

**TALES FROM THE RIVERBANK – FEBRUARY 2023**

Despite the recent Wintry Weather, we continue to see large numbers of Visitors walking past The Row. Well wrapped up, and often carrying a variety of colourful umbrellas, they are undaunted by the Weather. – This continued through the ‘frozen week’ which we experienced just before Christmas, when, despite snow & ice covering the road & pedestrian bridge visitors continued to slither & slip past the Row. One local resident slipped and broke her wrist on the bridge, and most Residents in the Row were unable to get their cars up Awkward Hill. The Grit Bin on Hawkers Hill

had been almost emptied, and there was insufficient left to scatter down Awkward Hill. A 'top up' has been requested from Highways for future use!

Apart from previously mentioned questions from Visitors to those of us who live here is 'you must get fed up with all these people walking past your door'. My standard reply is 'well some of them are quite pleasant', which sometimes seems to shock them!. The fact that we live in an 'Iconic' row of cottages is something we have to bear. We can shut the door, and behind our two feet thick walls, the inside is the quietest place I have ever lived!

Access to the Rack Isle is supposed to be banned. The National Trust have placed signs about the protection of the Isle for Wildlife around the area, but still some venture across the stream to get over there, in order to 'take a picture of the Row from the front'. Now that the stream is filling up again, hopefully, less will be attracted to do that, but we do try to tell them to get off if we see visitors over there, particularly as we have recently seen Egrets, Voles & Kingfishers around the Isle.

Having experienced extremely low River levels last Summer, we in Arlington Row get concerned when the level rises above 40cms, and a report was made at the November Parish Council Meeting about 'Flood Alleviation' which was very thorough and objective. Subject to action being taken by the Landowners, we in the Row may feel more comfortable. Currently the River has returned to its normal level (40 cms), and it was sufficient for the Annual Boxing Day Duck Race to proceed. This was well supported on a (rare) sunny day for December!

Visitors still ask about Peter Maddox Yellow Car – after all this time. This part of Bibury is remembered for the pictures of the yellow car that was firstly the subject of public outrage, on-line, pictured outside the Row, and was then followed by the Yellow Car Parade that took place soon afterwards (1<sup>st</sup> April 2017), when Peter witnessed around a 100 Yellow Cars passing along the Street, in his honour.. (Peter's Yellow Car was later vandalised and taken away). This resulted in a new Model being named 'The Maddox'!.!

As we look forward to Spring, we await the refurbishment of No 1, Arlington Row, by the National Trust – and, possibly, a quieter time till the Summer!

**Brian Skarda**

### **BIBURY TROUT FARM**

Gift shop renovations:

Over the next few weeks we will be undergoing some renovations to our gift shop. During this period the shop will be closed however our fish counter will still be open selling newspapers and groceries. The café will remain open as usual – 9am – 4pm (weather dependent)

**Office Space Required:** I run a private counselling/therapy practice from my home in Bibury (established in 2012). I am looking for a new office space in Bibury or the local area and wonder if anyone knows of a suitable space they could rent to me. Any suggestions welcome. Please contact me (Carol Welch) on Tel: 07901552778 or email: [carol010welch@gmail.com](mailto:carol010welch@gmail.com)

### **February**

Is someone to love

And a moment together

Making a memory

You'll keep forever.

Sharing love & memories

Is a gentle fairy's duty

For her sweet & caring goodness  
Soon will fill the world with beauty.

### **Forgotten Bibury history: the Ladies Cricket Club** © Roger Staton February 2023

Bibury Cricket Club has been part of our village life since the 1860s. Less well known is the fact that there was once a thriving Ladies Cricket Club as well. Its heyday was in the 1920s and 1930s – a period when many other towns and villages in the area could also field a ladies cricket team.

Initially Bibury Ladies Cricket Club was part of the Men's club. Then in 1922 it struck out as a separate club with its own organisation, finances, and equipment. At the 1922 meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April Mrs Andrews was in the chair. Miss M. Cooper was elected Captain, and Miss C. Plumbe Vice Captain. One of the team members was Mrs Spurrier, the vicar's wife.

The minutes record that the club would be allowed by the men's club to use their pitch on Lady Hill on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Use of the pitch was limited to matches only, not for practice. The captain was authorised to buy bats, ball bags etc from Tovey's (the Cirencester ironmongers with premises in Marketplace). The equipment was to be kept in the pavilion at the ground, and two keys were to be purchased: one to be kept at the 'Wheel' and one to be held by a team member.

The 22 members of the Ladies' Club paid 2/6 a year subscription, and in 1922 there was also £5.14.0 income from a Whist Drive, and a £5 private donation.

The minutes book ends abruptly with the financial records for the 1937 season. Subscriptions were still 2/6d, but by now there were only 14 paying members. What happened after 1937 is not known. Can you help fill in the gap ?

One other document that has survived is an analysis of bowling averages for 1933. This reveals that Mrs Webley was the top bowler, taking 56 wickets in 13 matches.

The earliest match mention in the press (*Cheltenham Chronicle*) is from September 1919 when the team played Withington Ladies on the Bibury pitch. Withington won by six runs.

The final mention I have been able to find is from July 1937 when the team played Bourton-on-the-Water Ladies at Bibury. Bourton won. The *Chronicle* reported that 'a fair crowd of spectators enjoyed a real feast of neat and bright cricket'.

One of the most entertaining press reports concerns a match between Bibury Ladies and Williamstrip Ladies (a team drawn from the villages of Coln St Aldwyn, Hatherop and Quenington).

Evidently the match didn't start until early afternoon, and 'the sun had slipped past the skyline' long before Bibury went in to bat. What follows is in the journalist's own words:

"Bibury took up the attack, but they laughed at the gathering gloom, and flitted about like ghostly figures in the moonlight. The spectators were soon right out of the picture, the accidental clashing of ball against bat being the only evidence that the women were continuing the game.

"At last, four motor cars were drawn up, and their headlights flashed across the crease. So the phantom game went on. The bowlers bowled at an unseen wicket, and the batswomen struck out blindly at an unseen ball, while all around the fielders waited, wondered and hoped for the best.

"The ball was often lost, and on one occasion spectators and spotlights joined in the search around the field. They were unsuccessful, as the ball had been caught in the clothes of the wicket-keeper. Quite unaware of this fact, she had been hunting for the ball along with the rest."

Bibury Ladies were all out for 104 runs, putting them 37 behind Williamstrip.

If you or anyone in your family has any information (anecdotes, documents or photographs) about the Ladies Cricket Club, I would love to hear from you.

Thanks to Christopher A' Bear, who first got me interested in Bibury's cricketing history, and Terry Day who still has some of the old minute books and other material from the 1920s and 1930s.

### **THE BARNLSLEY ARTIST**

In the December edition of Village Life I asked whether anyone could throw light on the 3 small pencil sketches of Barnsley recently given to the village. I am happy to report that Mr Paul Reason knew both the artist and his wife well and remembers them both fondly.

Tom and Maud Halifax came to Barnsley from Suffolk, on their retirement in 1975. They lived at 15 Barnsley for 7 years until 1982. Tom had worked for the railways, in administration, and Maud was a nurse. They were both had artistic and practical abilities and were very proud of having restored their home in Suffolk using only traditional methods and materials. Tom was often seen around the village with his sketch book and pencil.

The couple played an important part in the community. Apparently, when the idea of Village Life was first conceived, the idea was to cover the Parish of Bibury with Winson. Even though the 2 parishes of Bibury and Barnsley had been joined decades earlier, in those days, Barnsley was thought to be more connected to Ampney Crucis. It was largely thanks to the Halifaxes that it was agreed that Village Life would include Barnsley. In the early days, Tom, who was a keen amateur historian, wrote many articles about the history of the village.

It was largely through the enthusiasm and imagination of Tom and Maud that a very successful Barnsley Open Day took place over 40 years ago. This idea subsequently developed and became what is now the Barnsley Garden Festival.

After leaving Barnsley, the Halifaxes lived in Cirencester for about a year before moving to Clifton in Bristol. When Tom died in 1992, Maud re-located to Worcester. Sadly, having decided to move to Weston-super-Mare, Maud died on the very day she should have moved.

**Michael Gledhill**

### **HEAVEN'S ABOVE**

We start the month with a full snow Moon on the 5<sup>th</sup> and end the month with a super new moon on the 20<sup>th</sup>. With a bit of action from the planets in between. Venus, Mercury, Mars and Saturn all get in the mix but when Sagittarius enters on the 14<sup>th</sup> – things really do heat up!

### **ROUND AND ABOUT**

Sadly we beginning with two deaths. A former Bibury resident, Fiona Bruce, widow of a former vicar of Bibury Rev Francis Bruce died in January. Fiona and her husband moved to Cirencester after Francis retired as our vicar. Our condolences to Fiona's family and friends. Her funeral is taking place in Cirencester Parish Church on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 2:30pm.

The second death is that of Arthur Williams of Arlington. Arthur was a forceful member of the village and served as Chairman of the Parish Council. for several years. We send our condolences to his sons Richard and Gareth and daughter Rachel and their families.

The recent frosty weather has resulted in a couple of falls of locals including Jean Stringer of Aldsworth Road and Christine Blackwell. Others have suffered from the usual round of colds and flu, that this year seem to be taking longer to get over. We send our good wishes for a speedy return to full health for all those who have been suffering over the winter period for whatever reason.. Roll on to the warmer weather of spring!

The Parish Council Meeting was cancelled in January because of the weather, so we have nothing to publish.

On a happier note belated congratulations to Rhiana and Bobby Easterbrook on the birth of their daughter, Eliza who was born the week before Christmas ..

So far 2023 has been at various times cold and wet but already the spring flowers are pushing through the grass – Snowdrops and Aconite already in Flower and daffodil to follow. The Hazel trees are already bedecked with catkins – hopefully it will not be long before the hedgerows and woods are full of fresh spring growth !

**And finally a couple of reminders.** Firstly that the road from Barnsley to Cirencester will be closed from 30<sup>th</sup> January for 5 days from 9:30pm to 3:30pm..

And secondly to counteract the cold weather Toms Tandoori will be at the Football Club the fourth Saturday of the month. - 25<sup>th</sup> February ! .

#### **FROM THE PANEL**

Our financial year ended on the 31<sup>st</sup> December and our accounts been checked and are summarised below..

<b>PAYMENTS</b>		<b>INCOME</b>	
Paper	£396.62	Donations	£560.00
Ink/master rolls servicing etc	£396.96	Adverts	£283.00
Stamps, envelops etc	£192.00	Postal	£145.00
New Stapler	£47.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1032.58</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£988.00</b>
Balance at Lloyds Bank 1/1/2023	£3642.42	Balance at Lloyds Bank 1/1/2022	£3687.00
Total Figures	£4675.00	Total figures	£4675.00

At the moment our finances are healthy but all our consumables have increased in price several times over the last year, and after this issue is printed we will need to replenish our stock of paper. We try to keep enough in the bank for us to be able to pay for a copy to be printed commercially if our duplicating machine breaks down.

We are lucky that we have many volunteers to help us produce this **magazine free of charge** to residents each month. We are grateful to all those individuals and organisations who have donated funds to 'Village Life' during the last year.

We must apologise to the residents on Arlington Green for their late arrival of last month's issue. The bundle was inadvertently delivered to the wrong address for the new distributor. Hopefully it will not happen again!

And finally – Can we remind readers that you can contact us or send any contribution by email to [biburyvillagelife@hotmail.com](mailto:biburyvillagelife@hotmail.com) but please do not expect a speedy reply as the box is normally only looked at around our deadline and Panel Meeting ie. around the 20<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> of each month. If you want to speak to us urgently, please contact any of the panel by phone. Our details are in the magazine most months

### **Further Afield**

**NORTHLEACH Friday March 10th, - John Mustoe talks about a WWII childhood and the recent history of Northleach buildings.** Northleach Church, 6.30pm. Tickets £10, including a free drink, available at [northleachevents.co.uk/tickets](http://northleachevents.co.uk/tickets) and at Northleach outlets,

**Saturday March 18th - Cantores Chamber Choir: As the Year Turns** - a programme of music and readings exploring nature and the seasons, with works by Britten, Finzi, Othmauer, Brahms, Moeran and Hindemith. Northleach Church, 7.30pm. Tickets £15 at [northleachevents.co.uk/tickets](http://northleachevents.co.uk/tickets) and at Northleach outlets

### **FRIENDS OF FAIRFORD & LECHLADE COMMUNITIES**

Serving Fairford, Lechlade and the surrounding villages. (Formerly League of Friends of Fairford Hospital)

#### **IT'S NOT TOO LATE to**

**A) purchase our cheeky Charity 2023 Calendar**

**B) Volunteer as a driver.**

**C) Pick up a bargain our Lechlade Charity Shop**

**D) BEREAVEMENT CAFE** Café on the first Friday of every month between 10:00 and 12:00 at The Barker Room, Fairford Community Centre.

**E) GET UPDATES FROM US** by sending your email address to [admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk). Information on what we do can be found on our website [www.friendsoffairford.org.uk](http://www.friendsoffairford.org.uk) and the names of our existing team of trustees are listed on the Charity Commission's website.

**Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities (Reg. Charity No. 1180059)**

## **Our Village Show this July: February's hints & tips**

### **Produce section – Potatoes, Cherry Tomatoes, Cucumbers**

*Although the ground might be too cold and too wet to dig, there are some tasks you can be getting on with this month.*

*Start seed potatoes off indoors by setting them to sprout in a warm well-lit place before planting out in March/April. Whatever variety you choose, the judges will be looking for six potatoes matching in size.*

*And whether you are planning to grow cherry tomatoes and cucumbers from seed or buy seedlings from a garden centre, now is the time to clean up the greenhouse and make sure your pots are sterilised and ready for use.*

### **Craft section – A painting in any medium**

*Calling all artists and budding artists whatever your age. Showcase your talents.*

*Whatever the medium - water colour, pastels, poster paints or oils – and whatever the subject – portrait, landscape or still life - the choice is yours. Just remember that it should be no bigger than 18in(45cm) along the longest edge.*

### **Photography section – Food category**

*Everyone, including children, can join in and have fun being creative.*

- **Size.** No bigger than A5, No Photoshopping please. It's all about the subject matter, the camera angle, the lighting and framing the picture you want in the viewfinder before you snap it.
- **Decide on a look.** Messy: work in progress food preparation-type shot. Staged: a cheeseburger with a bite out of it or a half-eaten plate of food pasta with the utensils askew looks more interesting than a straight shot. Polished aesthetic: glistening ingredients and dramatic shadows, like you see in cookbooks. Or maybe a beautiful still life, reminiscent of an oil painting.
- **Pick a colour palette:** muted or clashing, either works well.
- **Choose your angle:** Looking down at an angle of 45 degrees generally works well, but items with layers, such as burgers and cakes are best shot from the side, and a 'top shot' is best for pizzas and salad bowls
- **Perfect or imperfect:** fruit and vegetables don't need to be perfect. A knobbly bump or misshapen leaf will enhance rather than detract from the scene.
- **Props:** the possibilities are endless but avoid cluttering the shot, only use what contributes to your food story.

**Remember - Bibury Show is open to all recipients of Village Life including any visiting grandchildren. We also welcome entries from all Garden Club members, and the pupils of Bibury School and their families.**