

# VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,  
BARNSELY AND WINSON



St Mary's Church, Barnsley

*(Based on a pencil drawing by former Barnsley Resident Tom Halifax)*

## OCTOBER 2023

## VILLAGE LIFE

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

ISSUE NO: 484

#### OCTOBER

Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Bibury and District British Legion AGM at Greenfield, Chedworth	7:30pm
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Rural cinema: Empire of the Light. Doors open	7.00pm for 7.30pm
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Community Lunch at Baptist Schoolroom	12.30pm
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bingo at Bibury Football Club starts at	7:30pm
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Club in Bibury Village Hall	2.00pm to 4.00pm
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	Race Night at Bibury Football Club from	7.00pm

#### NOVEMBER

Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup>	November Christmas Fair, Bibury Village Hall,	12pm to 3pm
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Community Lunch at Baptist Schoolroom	12.30pm

#### DECEMBER

Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Community Lunch at Baptist Schoolroom	12.30pm
Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	The Bibury Big Christmas Sing, St Mary's Church Bibury	1500 to 1700

#### VILLAGE LIFE PANEL

Treasurer: Mr Roger King, 8 Pike Villas, The Pike, Arlington, Bibury 740510

Secretary: Mrs Wendy Challinor, Chestnut Grove, Arlington, Bibury 740021

Mrs Sarah French, 11 Arlington Fields, Bibury 740698

Mr Brian Skarda, 4 Arlington Row, Bibury 740496

**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) or placed in the 'Village Life' Folder at the Trout Farm by 12 noon on our deadline( normally the 20<sup>th</sup> of month for the following months issue.

#### BIBURY WITH WINSON AND BARNESLEY CHURCHES

Bibury Vicarage, Gloucestershire, GL7 5NT Tim.hastie-smith@hotmail.com October 2023

Dear Friends,

From the mundane of Otto English to the sublime writing of Andrey Kurkov, one of Ukraine's greatest writers whose works include Grey Bees and Death and the Penguin. Kurkov is a Ukrainian Russian who writes in Russian and is married to an English wife. Kurkov was in his home in Kyiv when the war began and his series of reflections written for both home and international consumption (Including Radio 4's Letters from Ukraine, are laced with black humour, post-Soviet reality and surrealism.

I turn to him from Otto English because a month after the first missiles rained down on Kyiv he wrote these words:

The independence of its history is one guarantee of the independence of a state.

*I want what is written of the history of Ukraine in Ukrainian school textbooks to be the truth. Lies are beneficial only to Russia. Myths are more problematic, however. A myth becomes part of history when a country feels the need to raise morale, when a country is in crisis. It is then that myths become more important to a good part of the population than true history. This war has*

*already added many myths to Ukraine's unwritten history. Some of these myths will definitely turn out to be true, some not. I just do not know which is which as yet. Although, at present, it does not matter much to me what is myth and what is true.*

These are extraordinary words. Coming as they do from an articulate and intelligent commentator on current affairs. His simple contention is that myth can articulate truth in a way that touches both heart as well as mind, and is often both simpler to understand, and certainly easier to remember. This, of course, is the argument of Christian apologist and Oxford Medieval English Professor, CS Lewis.

Yet at the same time, he wrestles with Russia's dark history of mass deportations, including those of Ukrainians, Crimean Tatars and Lithuanians, state sanctioned murder and the crimes of the Gulag, and, above all, the Holodomor (Death by hunger) which left more than three and half million Ukrainians dead, as a result of a human created famine (If you deem Stalin to be a member of the human race)

Reflecting on this dark history Kurkov seeks to steer a path between allowing trauma to define us (*An identity policy based on sacrificial semantics turns out to be part of the problem rather than its solution* – in the words of historical trauma specialist Aleida Assman) and 'conscious oblivion', the Soviet approach to enabling former victims and former criminals to coexist peacefully. This strategy involves obvious semantic games such as replacing terms like deportation with internment.

For Kurkov, *Survivors of tragedy need to speak out in order to prevent the tragedy they have experienced from continuing to guide their actions and thoughts. Speaking out is not a way to forget, but a way to remember constructively, to make the consequences of tragedy a legacy of its own history and culture.*

Kurkov's reflections written in the heat and the heart of war are a timely challenge to those who would dismiss the importance and power of both historical truth and myth. There can be no healing, no reconciliation, and no forgiveness if there is no attempt made to understand the views of others, even if we hold those views to be misguided or confused.

I find Kurkov's writings deeply moving and painfully insightful, as I pray for a country which I have visited so often in the course of a previous job. There I worked with Russians, Ukrainians, Belarusians, Uzbeks, Tajiks, and Armenians. Sisters and brothers in Christ. All of them impacted, their relationships tested by this current conflict. Yet healing and reconciliation will come. Eventually. But not without justice, and not by perpetuating the denial of the past.

Forgiveness, justice, mercy, love and truth, all belong together. We long for them. We know their importance even, or perhaps, above all, when we don't experience them. And they find their fulfilment and apogee in the living God.

with every blessing Tim

**PS Please look out for** an invitation from Tori Longdon to join our carol singers this Christmas

And for an article from Basil Comley that will shape this year's service of Remembrance

And please get in touch if you would like a specific loved one remembered at this year's All Souls Service on 29th October.

Next Village Prayer Meeting: Monday 7th October Arlington Baptist Church

Next Bible Study: Wednesdays 1st November 6:30-7:30 on ZOOM

#### **Baptisms**

Sat 7th Oct: 3:00pm Ralph (Austen and Eloise Russell) Barnsley

Sun 8th Oct: 12:30am Ava Joy (Emma & Daniel Atkins) Bibury

Fri 27th Oct: 4:00 pm Lando (George Le Ruez & Lativa Mcleod) Bibury

Sun 29th Oct 12:30pm Archibald Grafton Maybury (Edward & Josephine Hastie-Smith) Barnsley

**Weddings**

Fri 6th Oct 3:30pm Tom Faber/ Ra D'Arcy Clark Winson

Sat 21st Oct 2.00pm James Spence/Rachel Allan Bibury

Sat 28th Oct 1.00pm George le Ruez/ Lativa McLeod Bibury

<b>Church Services October 2023</b>	<b>Bibury</b>	<b>Barnsley</b>	<b>Winson</b>
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Oct</b> <i>Trinity 17</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <i>Harvest Festival and Holy Communion with Bibury CofE School</i>	<b>6:00pm</b> <i>Harvest Praise followed by Harvest Supper</i>	<b>9:30am</b> <i>BCP Holy Communion &amp; Harvest Thanksgiving</i>
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> <i>Trinity 18</i> <i>Philippians 3:4b-14</i> <i>Matthew 21:33-end</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> <b>12:30pm Holy Baptism</b> <b>Ava Joy Atkins</b>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b>	
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> <i>Trinity 19</i> <i>Exodus 32:1-14</i> <i>Matthew 22:1-14</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>		<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct</b> <i>Trinity 20</i> <i>Exodus 33:12-end</i> <i>Psalms 99</i> <i>Matthew 22:15-22</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b>	
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> <i>All Souls</i>	<b>11:00am</b> <i>Service of Commemoration of the Faithful Departed</i>	<b>12:30</b> <b>Holy Baptism:</b> <b>Archie Hastie-Smith</b>	
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Advent</i> <i>Micah 3:5-end</i> <i>Matthew 24:1-14</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	<b>10:50am</b> <i>United Act of Remembrance</i>	<b>9:30am</b> <i>Act of Remembrance</i>	<b>10:15</b> <i>Act of Remembrance</i> <i>Ablington</i>
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent</i> <i>Zephaniah 1:7, 12-end</i> <i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>	<b>11.00am</b> <b>Common Worship</b> <b>Holy Communion and Holy Baptism: Clara Nutu</b>		<b>9:30am</b> <b>BCP Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>Christ the King</i> <i>Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24</i> <i>Psalms 95:1-7</i> <i>Matthew 25:31-end</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>

**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

*I always read the last page of a book first so if I die before I finish it, I know how it turned out.*

Nora Ephron

## **ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk**

Puns from the pulpit -

*Some dream of cake, some bake it happen.*

*Why do French bakers only use one egg to make a cake? Because one egg is un oeuf.*

Tea and Cake were enjoyed twice over the last few weeks in the Old Schoolrooms, on the first occasion it was a celebration tea for the life of Gwen Greenaway a much loved friend of many locals and Arlington Baptist Church, and a wonderful mother to Laura, Richard and James. Many local friends came along and fond memories shared with lots of laughter, Gwen herself would have thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. We thank the family for their kind donation towards our work here. The second tea was for a group from U3A Carterton who came to a talk of Arlington and its history walking and guided by Wendy Challinor and helped by Roger Staton, the group were most complimentary of both the historic information and the cakes and Wendy very kindly asked them to donate to the Baptist Church towards our community work, they were very generous and appreciative.

Food for thought -It is said that the best fruit ripens gradually

Jesus said, "Truly truly unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone, but if it dies, it bears much fruit"

When Jesus says Truly truly he means take note, understand ! Listen! This is very important! The point he is making is, just like a grain of wheat has to die to produce fruit, so we must also die to ourselves to produce spiritual growth. And dying to our own self-absorption takes a while.

Our nature is to periodically dig up the seed to check its progress instead of trusting God to perform his work in our lives. Christ will produce fruit in our lives if we stay in contact with him through prayer. God is happy with us when we ask him into our lives. He loves you and wants what is best for you, just trust him with your life and see the fruit of your faith in him. God bless you all.

### **Services and Events**

**Parish prayer meeting Monday 9th October** from 7pm Coffee and cake at Arlington Baptist Church then Monday 20th November at The Vicarage

**Harvest festival October 1st 10.30am** collection of tins and storecupboard staples for Cirencester Foodbank

**Shoobox Sunday October 8th 10.30am** for Christmas gifts for children who will not have a gift at Christmas this year all gifts and boxes in by 5th November can be placed in black box outside the Baptist Church main doors.

### **Contemporary worship Services every Sunday 10.30am everyone welcome**

Community lunches are popular with a traditional monthly menu, lots of chatter and fun. The raffle where everyone`s a winner often causes hilarity, we already have plans for the festive lunch so watch this space for more details and we encourage anyone in our local community whether in Bibury, Ablington, Arlington, Winson, Barnsley and surrounding villages or out in the sticks to come and join us you will be most welcome. Held on the third Wednesday in the month in The Old Schoolrooms call Debbie 740366 or Sharon 07974785437 for more details.

**Community lunches 12.30pm Wednesday`s 18th October, 15th November and 13th December festive lunch.**

### **THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

The Annual General Meeting of the Bibury & District Branch of the Royal British Legion will be held on Thursday, 5th October, 7.30 pm, at Greenfield, Field Road, Chedworth GL54 4NQ. All members are eligible to attend. Any enquiries, please contact Oriel Mayne: 01285 740571

# THE BIBURY BIG CHRISTMAS SING!

Saturday 23rd December 2023 15:00 - 17:00 St. Mary's Church

Fresh from coaching the choirs for the King's Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle, Bibury resident Tori Longdon is running a come-and-sing carol workshop to get the village singing!

Whether you're an experienced singer, or have only ever sung in the shower, if you love Christmas and you love carols, this afternoon is for you. Tori will be workshopping a heavenly host of well-known carols, boosting your confidence and teaching both tunes and harmony lines to create our very own choir ready for an evening of carolling around the village.

**Who Is This For:** Anyone is welcome, Bibury residents and visitors alike!

**Cost:** Taking part is **FREE** but we will be collecting for this year's charities

**To Register:** Email [info@torilongdon.com](mailto:info@torilongdon.com) to register your interest

**Deadline:** There is no registration deadline, you can still join / bring friends on the day, but rough numbers will help us plan.

## Can You And Your Neighbours Sponsor A Carolling Slot?

We can make up to five stops around Bibury and Arlington in return for a suggested donation of £100 to our chosen charities: Calm and Cirencester Signpost. **So if you would like a merry band of wassailers to carol on your doorstep, then get in touch with [info@torilongdon.com](mailto:info@torilongdon.com) by the end of 30th October.**

## **Advance warning**

'As the result of an Emergency Road Closed Notice, issued by Gloucestershire Highways, Awkward Hill will be closed for whilst work is underway to demolish & re-build the wall which has been declared unsafe, outside Rosemary Cottage, The Residents of Arlington Row will be kept informed of closures, in order to re-locate their vehicles if necessary. The work is expected to take 2 - 3 months

## **BIBURY PARISH PLAN – EXCITING THINGS ARE ABOUT TO HAPPEN!**

- The Bibury Parish Council has agreed in June 2023 to develop a joint Parish Plan for Bibury, Ablington and Arlington
- The Parish Plan will seek to define an ambitious and sustainable vision for the community and its villages with a clear execution roadmap to deliver on it
- Mehdi Mahjour (who in May stood to be a Parish Councillor) has been co-opted by the Bibury Parish Council to chair a working group, meeting separately to the Parish Council, to generate that plan
- This working group will work alongside / on behalf of the Parish Council and make recommendations for implementation to the Parish Council to vote on
- Membership of the working group, so far, comprises:
  - Mehdi Mahjour - Chairman
  - Ann Haigh - representing Bibury Parish Council
  - Michelle Holt – representing Bibury Parish Council

- The core working group is looking for additional members to represent the community so if you are interested in helping shape your community and being part of its future, please come forward
- We're looking for local retail businesses representatives, residents in all three villages as well as from other organisations
- Expected time commitment would be up to 30-40 hours over a 6-month period, with meetings to be held virtually as well as in-person

**If you are up for the challenge**, please contact Mehdi Mahjour by Sunday 8 October should you wish to join the Working Group via the following email address: [bibury.parish.plan@gmail.com](mailto:bibury.parish.plan@gmail.com)

In your email, please include the following:

- Who you are
- The village you live in
- How long you lived there
- Your occupation
- Few words on why you would like to join the working group

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BIBURY UNITED CHARITIES !**

October 2023 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Bibury United Charities. Some of you will be aware of the charity, but not necessarily what it does. So the Trustees thought it was about time to throw some light on our work.

Since the 1970s the main role of Bibury United Charities (BUC for short) has been looking after Bibury Village Hall. But over the 125 years since it was formed, the roles and responsibilities of BUC have taken some interesting turns.

The charity came into being on 7th October 1898 when several separate, small charities in Bibury were brought together under a single umbrella organisation. This was at the urging of the Charity Commission (founded in 1853) which was keen to reduce the number of separate charities it had to supervise. The same thing happened in many towns and villages across the country.

At its foundation, there were eight separate local charities within BUC. One, set up in the 1500s, owned and ran an almshouse for four elderly men. One provided firewood for 32 homes each Christmas. Another provided linen for needy elderly women at Easter. Two benefitted the parish church and its clock.

Over the years, some of them got to the end of their endowed funds, so were closed. The almshouse was sold off in 1901 because of lack of demand, and it became a private residence. Management of the two church-related charities was transferred to the Parish Church in the 1920s.

Then in 1943, out of the blue a completely new charity joined BUC. The Alfred Kennedy Trust commemorates Judge Alfred Kennedy, a keen supporter of village halls in general, and Bibury's in particular. He left a cottage in Ablington to the BUC, that was sold off by the Trustees in the 1970s and the money invested for the charity's benefit.



That's all part of our history. Nowadays, there are just three individual trusts left within BUC. Two of them, the Alfred Kennedy Trust and Church House Charity, are devoted to the care of the village hall, and account for around 95% of our responsibilities. The third, the Sackville & Cresswell Charity, is a small welfare charity that can be traced back to 1760.

So, you could sum up the main role of the BUC nowadays as the organisation that keeps Bibury Village Hall in good repair. BUC usually has nine volunteer Trustees. Four are nominated by Bibury Parish Council, the Vicar is always an ex-officio Trustee, and the remaining four are co-opted from the local community. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission, and our details are always available on the Charity Commission website (search for either the charity name or our registered number - 224307).

Alongside BUC is another volunteer body you may be more familiar with. This is the Bibury Village Hall Management Committee (BVHMC), in many ways the public face of the village hall. This is the hard-working team that stages popular events such as the monthly Rural Cinema screenings, the Bibury Open Garden days, and the annual Bibury & District Show, and rents out the hall as a meeting place for local community groups and as a venue for events ranging from antiques and craft fairs to Pilates classes and private family gatherings.

Between them, the BUC and the BVHMC work to keep Bibury Village Hall at the heart of village life as an attractive, and well-equipped central venue for all sorts of events and meetings. Bookings for the hall have bounced back after the Covid closures, and are currently running at the rate of around 200 a year.

With its state-of-the-art wi-fi system already delivering high-speed Internet access for users of the hall, a programme of internal and external redecoration about to start, and a year-by-year maintenance plan, the village hall is set to continue its role as a popular venue for community events and activities in Bibury and district.

*Simon Brownless, Trustee and current Chairman of Bibury United Charities.*

### **THE BARNESLEY ARTIST**

In the December edition of Village Life I asked whether anyone could throw light on the 3 small pencil sketches of Barnesley 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 Barnesley from Suffolk, on their retirement in 1975. They lived at 15 Barnesley 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 Barnesley had been joined decades earlier, in those days, Barnesley 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 Barnesley. 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

**COVER SKETCH** – this month's cover sketch is based on one of the delightful pencil sketches by Tom Halifax now in Barnsley Village Hall. The 3 sketches are very small, beautifully detailed and well worth looking for the next time you are in Barnsley Village Hall.

#### **BARNSELY WOLD S.S.S.I.**

Barnsley Wold Site of Special Scientific Interest is now open for Public Access. The access route is way marked and the public are asked to adhere to this route and to follow the Country Code. People visiting the site do so at their own risk and dogs are not permitted on the site to avoid disturbance to wildlife. Any queries should be referred to CWB Baillie-Hamilton. on 07976 287744 or email: [cbh@shiptondowns.co.uk](mailto:cbh@shiptondowns.co.uk)

#### **BIBURY A.F.C.**

We finished August with a long away trip to a strong Lydney Town outfit who narrowly beat us 3-2 Bibury goal scorers were Ollie Hopegood and James Piatek. September started with an away match at Longlevens again a defeat by the odd goal 2-1 central defender Greg Carter with the Bibury goal next up was another away trip to Gloucester this time to play Brockworth in the Reg Davies cup semi final Bibury took the game to Brockworth and raced into a 3-0 lead with Jay Griffiths Alex Harding and an own goal Brockworth pulled a goal back just before half time. The second half saw the hosts score again before James Piatek scored for Bibury to put Bibury 4-2 in front with 20 minutes left Brockworth pilled on the pressure and scored two quick goals to make it 4-4 then were awarded a dubious penalty which Bibury Goalkeeper Jake Stevens saved well. Brockworth then scored the winner in the final minute to take the match 5-4 this has been a great cup run for us the farthest Bibury have ever gone in this cup.

Next up was a home match with Stonehouse Reserves where Bibury got the first league win off the season with a 3-1 win Jay Griffiths Alfie Cook and Harrison Archer with the goals and Miles Arnold with the man of the match award

October fixtures

7/10 home v English Bicknor 3pm

14/10 away v Tredworth Tigers 3pm

21/10 possible County Cup tie TBD 2-30pm

28/10 home v Smith's Barometric 3pm

October bingo is on Monday 23rd from 7-30pm

We have a race night on Saturday 28th from 7pm

Cotswold chippy will be at the football club on Friday 13th and 27th serving delicious fish and chips 5-30 to 7-30pm

On a final we would like to congratulate Bibury Cricket Club on winning the league well done

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

The teachers and pupils have had a very busy start to the academic school year, with the new term being packed with learning activities and fun. In July, we bid farewell to our Year 6 leavers and we wish them every success in their new secondary schools. We would like to extend a warm Bibury welcome to all our new children and families. Welcome also to Miss Dyer in the school office and to Miss Deighton who is part of a teacher training programme through Oxford Brookes.

We are all looking forward to an exciting term with visits to Westonbirt for our KS1 children and The Living Rain Forest planned for children in KS2. We offer a range of after school activities including Sports, Craft Club, Tennis Club and Nature Club.

Our learning themes this term include 'Weather and the Seasons' and 'The Body' for the children in KS1, and 'What is life like in the Amazon?' and 'Forces' including gravity and air resistance for the KS2 children.

Everyone is very excited to be swimming again this term. As a small school we take every child swimming, ensuring everyone has an opportunity to learn this essential life skill! At Bibury C of E Primary we are proud of the range of learning activities and opportunities we are able to offer our pupils!

Suki Pascoe, Head Teacher Bibury C of E Primary School Tel: 01285 740268 E-mail: [admin@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk)  
For more information take a look at our website:

[www.bibury.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.bibury.gloucs.sch.uk) or come and visit us. Bibury PTA can be contacted directly on [ptabibury@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:ptabibury@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk)

**LETTER TO THE PANEL** Mr Paul Reason of 10 Barnsley writes:

The 'Letter to the Panel' reporting the death of Robert Taylor reminded me of a couple of instances relating to his father, the well-liked local policeman.

Firstly, at the age of 8 I had a wheelie truck and came down the middle lane in Barnsley too fast. On reaching the main road at the bottom, unable to stop, I ended up on the pavement. PC Taylor was talking to a villager. He came and put his foot on my truck, took out his notebook, wrote down my name and address and told me he did not want to see those wheels on the road again. So ended the truck for me!

Secondly, Church Farm was the first in the district to have a Combine and Dryer in 1944. I was then 14 and the farm manager asked PC Taylor if it would be all right for me to bring the corn by tractor and trailer to the Dryer. The minimum driving licence age was then 17. He replied: "I cannot give him permission to drive, but I won't see him". I did this for the next 2 seasons "without being seen".

### **The other Bibury. Hiding in plain sight for nearly 350 years.**

On the fringes of Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania, USA, there's a neighbourhood called Byberry. Could there possibly be a historical connection with our Bibury ?

It turns out that there definitely is. And this is the story.

It begins in the 1670s with a Quaker family called Walton living here in Bibury, Gloucestershire. There were four sons - Nathaniel, Thomas, Daniel and William. Tired of the religious persecution suffered by Quakers in England, they decided to head for the new world. So around 1674 they sailed for America.

It was a brave decision. Not only because of the risks of the transatlantic journey and the uncertainties of the new world, but also because the area where they settled was 'puritan dominated'. What were the Waltons thinking ? They were heading for a place where Quakers had actually been executed in the 1650s and 1660s. (Information from [gwyneddmeeting.org](http://gwyneddmeeting.org)).

The brothers paid £5 each for the voyage, which typically took between 6 and 12 weeks. They arrived in a place called Newcastle, Delaware. Over the next year or two they explored the valley of the Delaware River, and on the north shore about 50 miles

inland found just the place for their new life. The rich farmland with the Poquessing Creek running through it reminded them of home.

According to one source, this area already had a name – Smithville. Be that as it may, the new arrivals decided to give it a new name. Suggestions were drawn from a hat. The first name drawn was ‘Byberry’, presumably put in by one (or all) of the Waltons.

The spelling of Byberry is a bit misleading, but not significant. Gloucestershire-born Boswell Belcher, who around 1900 was our village’s unofficial historian, wrote that he had found this same spelling of the village name in church documents from the 1600s here in Bibury. So as far as the brothers were concerned, they had given their new settlement in America the same name as the English village where they grew up. Never mind the different spelling.

Although they didn’t know it, the Walton brothers were in the vanguard of what would become a steady flow of Quakers (and other nonconformists) migrating from Britain. Especially after Pennsylvania declared itself a sanctuary for religious freedom and tolerance.

There’s much more about the Walton brothers and their descendants in the 1867 book ‘*A history of the townships of Byberry and Moreland, in Philadelphia, PA*’. This drew on detailed family records, and was one of my sources for this article. You can find the full text online.

The village of Byberry continued to be mainly a farming township until the mid-1800s, and then gradually became a neighbourhood of Philadelphia. But the tree-lined creek that attracted the Walton brothers in the first place is still there, still unspoilt, and ... yes ... from photos it does look rather like some stretches of the River Coln.

© Roger Staton, September 2023. This is an expanded version of a talk given at the Baptist Church Charity Dinner during Coronation weekend in May this year.

## **Halloween**

The moon is like a giant pumpkin  
Set in an eerie sky  
Witches on broomsticks, clouds  
Fly slowly by

Leaping black cats with arched back  
Frantically waving their tails  
Stalk through whispering shadows  
eerie meowing wails

Candles in pumpkins slowly flicker,  
With a pale uncertain light  
And if you’re not too old for pretending  
You’ll have a wonderful night.

## **Heavens Above**

October sees the Hunters moon which is the first to follow the Harvest moon. This will happen on the 27<sup>th</sup> of the month. We start the month with the last quarter on 1<sup>st</sup> October then a new moon on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the first quarter on the 21<sup>st</sup> bringing the full Hunters moon around the 28<sup>th</sup>.

## Rural Cinema: Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> October, Bibury Village Hall

### And the film is ... Empire of Light

**Empire of Light** is a 2022 British drama written and directed by Sam Mendes and starring Olivia Colman, Micheal Ward, Colin Firth, Toby Jones, Tom Brooke, and Hannah Onslow. The film is set in 1981 in Margate and follows the story of Hilary (Olivia Colman), a depressed cinema manager at the Art-Deco style Empire cinema. It is a powerful and poignant story about human connection and the magic of cinema in Thatcher-era recession hit Britain.

#### What the critics said

- Colman's versatile range of emotion is on full display and Ward is an irresistibly charming screen presence. Try not to fall in love with them. The technical elements of this film are outstanding. *Evening Standard*
- *Empire of Light* is a sweet, heartfelt, humane movie, which doesn't shy away from the brutality and the racism that was happening in the streets outside the cinema. *Guardian*
- With the help of master cinematographer Roger Deakins, Mendes ably brings a bygone age to life, using packets of Toffos (remember them?) and films such as *Gregory's Girl* to whisk us back in time. *Daily Mail*
- Mendes's latest is part valentine to a bygone age of film projection but playing out amid the vile heyday of the National Front. *Telegraph*

Doors open 7pm, film starts 7.30pm

Tickets are £3.50 on the door, glass of wine £2, soft drink 50p



### RURAL CINEMA

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

#### *Empire of Light*

Drama: Cert PG15    Run time: 1hr 55min

Writer/Director: Sam Mendes

***Starring:* Olivia Colman, Micheal Ward, Colin Firth, Toby Jones,  
Tom Brooke, and Hannah Onslow.**

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

DOG WALKING and PET DROP INS  
Email - [WoodNwalks@outlook.com](mailto:WoodNwalks@outlook.com) for info.  
Contact - Sophie Inglis 07733222996

### **BIBURY CC - CDCA DIVISION 2 CHAMPIONS 2023.**

The season went down to the wire for the Saturday team and a final game victory over Great Rissington delivered the championship by the slim margin of two points - Bibury 176 Great Rissington 174.

So we return to the promised land of Division 1 following our unfortunate demise around three years ago. Thanks and congratulations to all players and supporters for their contribution to this great achievement. Big shout out to Charlie and Ed Robinson for their hard work on preparing the ground.

The Sunday warriors closed the season with a narrow defeat to Slaughters in a tight match. Slaughters winning by three wickets with less than two overs to spare.

The Fun Day was another great success. The extremely hot weather precluded both the dog agility and the children's games but the old favourites of the egg game and tug of war went ahead when participants had become suitably refreshed !

The cake competition was won by Bill, Cindy and their daughter. Thanks to all who entered cakes. Big thanks also to all who donated raffle prizes particularly George and Polly Phillips, Jack Merylees and Alistair Taylor. Huge thanks to Jenny Hedgeland for once again organising the raffle prizes and selling the tickets. It's always our largest revenue stream on the day . Last but not least thanks to Ricardo and the fun day team for pulling it all together.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Duck Race on Boxing Day.

Leslie Smith

### **ROUND AND ABOUT.**

What a change in the weather recently it has become autumnal – complete with heavy rain and thunderstorms that caused interruptions to the electricity supply. The electrical surge damaged some peoples telephones and routers! Our local post lady said she had 15 routers to be delivered locally! It was quite a storm.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Angela Bowman of the Stud. Angela was often seen walking around the village and at the rural cinema and was one of the cattle checkers last year. We send our condolences to Geoffrey and family.

On a brighter note, congratulations are due to Roger and Sylvia King from The Pike who have become great grandparents for the first time. Great grandson Teddy James was born their grandchildren Hannah and Craig Jones,

It was sad to see the Belted Galloways leave the Rack Isle after a summer with us to return to the Conservation Herd of the National Trust/. The 3 BG's were very popular with he visitors and locals alike. Three local ladies took turns to check of them each day and it was often a joy to go round the Isle early in the morning and after the visitors left. We look forward to the return of the BGs next year!

The closure of Awkward hill for pedestrians and traffic will inconvenience the Row residents and others but will probably do little to deter the visitors who seem to come in every increasing numbers.

Congratulations to both the Cricket Club for their successful season – champions of Division 2 in the local CDCA league and for organising the Fun Day at the Cricket pitch. Any event takes a lot of organising and all local events re worth supporting.

And finally, may we ask that owners cut back the overhanging branches and foliage that overhang the footpaths as they become increasing dangerous to pedestrians as the winter evenings darken.

**FROM THE PANEL** Next issue might be a little late as our main panel member who normally does the duplicating of the magazine is due to be on holiday .and his replacement is not so proficient!.

Needless to say, if we had more Paenel members then we could train a replacement to shatre the load. If you think you would like to help please contact any f the Panel.

### **FROM FURTHER AFIELD**

#### **In Northleach**

October 19th, 7,00pm - Orchestra Pro Anima play Lark Ascending & Classical Lite at Northleach Church. Tickets at [northleachevents.co.uk/tickets](http://northleachevents.co.uk/tickets)

October 28th, 7,00pm - Tricia Stewart, the original WI Calendar girl, as played by Helen Mirren in the iconic film, tells her story - heart-warming, funny and inspirational. Northleach Church. Tickets at [northleachevents.co.uk/tickets](http://northleachevents.co.uk/tickets)

**Cotswold Festival of Music** is back on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023 with a **Bavarian Baroque** Evening in Northleach church. Doors open 1800 and Concert starts at 1830. Tickets and information from [www.cotswoldfestivalofmusic.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldfestivalofmusic.co.uk)

### **Friends of Fairford and District Communities - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Saturday 7th October 19:00 for a Fundraising Restaurant Night** at the Trout Inn, Lechlade. £26 for a main and desert, drinks not included. To book or for the menu choices, call 07540 798 226 (Transport line) or 01367 252706 (Ruth), or email [transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk)

**Quiz and Chilli Night will be on Friday 20th October at Fairford Community Centre** (doors 7pm, quiz starts 7:30pm), £10 per head, includes meal. Tables of 6 – 8. Please book by email to [admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk).

**Wine Tasting Evening and the annual raffle draw on Saturday 25th November, 7:30pm** at Fairford Community Centre. More details TBC and will be confirmed on our website or contact [admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk).

**STAFF VACANCY: ADMINISTRATOR** For more information, please see the details on our website or get in touch with Kerry on [admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk).

**VOLUNTEER VACANCIES: TRUSTEES** For more information or to discuss, please contact Shelley on [chair@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:chair@friendsoffairford.org.uk)

**CHARITY RECIPE BOOK** We're creating a Community Recipe Book! Please send submissions to Kerry at [admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk)

**EDNA DAWES LUNCH CLUB- Wednesday** We would appreciate more volunteers

**PATIENT TRANSPORT SERVICE** please call Val on [transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk) / 07540 798226 if you can volunteer or need a driver.

**BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ – 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month at Fairford Community centre 10-12am**

**HOW TO CONTACT US** Chair: Shelley [chair@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:chair@friendsoffairford.org.uk)

**General Manager:** Kelly [gm@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:gm@friendsoffairford.org.uk) Administrator:

**Kerry** [admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk) 01285 707300

**Patient Transport:** Val [transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:transport@friendsoffairford.org.uk) 07540 798226

**Nursing Team :** Emma and Jan [nursing@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:nursing@friendsoffairford.org.uk) 07938 244335

**Charity Shop:** Linda [shop@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:shop@friendsoffairford.org.uk) 01367 252189

**Edna Dawes Lunch Club:** Katie [edlc@friendsoffairford.org.uk](mailto:edlc@friendsoffairford.org.uk) 07713 607106 Website

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