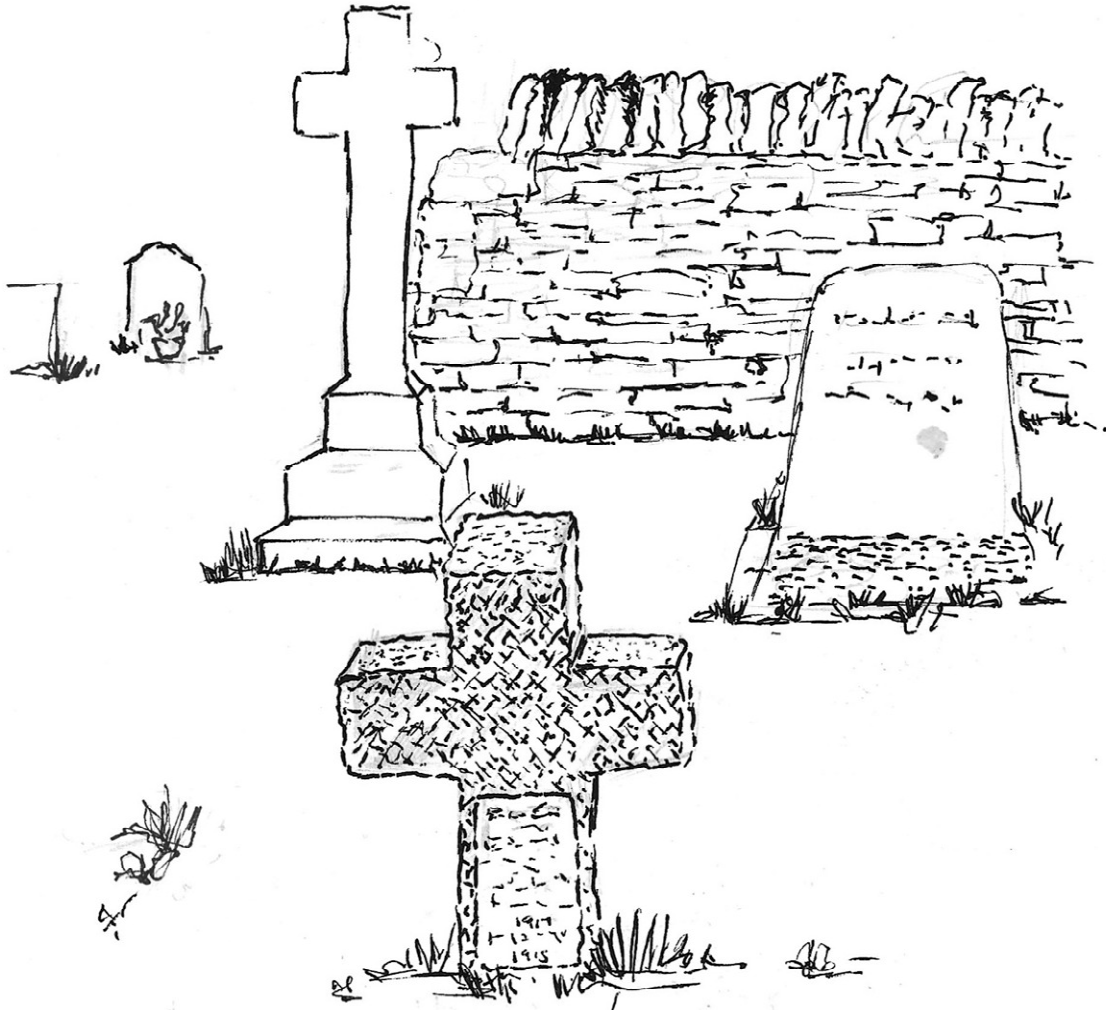


VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,
BARNESLEY AND WINSON



'A casualty of war'

NOVEMBER 2023

VILLAGE LIFE

DATES FOR THE DIARY

ISSUE 485

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 8 th	Gardening Club, Bibury Village Hall	7.15pm
Thursday 9 th	Rural Cinema - Where the Crawdads Sing Doors Open	7.00pm for 7.30pm
Saturday 11 th	Bibury Village Hall Christmas Fayre, Bibury Village Hall	12.00noon-3.00pm
Wednesday 15 th	Community Lunch at Baptist Schoolroom	12.30pm
Wednesday 22 nd	Craft Club in Bibury Village Hall - Bookmarks	2.00pm-4.00pm

DECEMBER

Saturday 1 st	Advent Table Top Sale Barnsley Village Hall	10.30am-12.30pm
Wednesday 13 th	Community Lunch at Baptist Schoolroom - Booking Essential	12.30pm
Friday 15 th	Early Deadline Bibury Village Life	12.00noon
Saturday 23 rd	The Bibury Big Christmas Sing St. Marys Church	15.00pm-17.00pm

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday 18th May 2024 - Barnsley Festival

VILLAGE LIFE PANEL

Treasurer: Mr Roger King, 8 Pike Villas, The Pike, Arlington Bibury 01285 740510

Secretary: Mrs Wendy Challinor, Chestnut Grove, Arlington Bibury 01285 740021

Mrs Sarah French 01285 740698

Mr Brian Skarda 07980 426801

Please note: If you wish to put an article or advert in "Village Life" magazine it should be sent to: biburyvillage@hotmail.com or handed to a any member of the panel by 12noon on our deadline date, normally the 20th of month for the following months issue.

Email copies of ' Village Life' can be found on the Parish council website by using this link below
<https://www.biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/village-life>

FROM THE PANEL

We must apologise for not printing the September report of the Parish council – it arrived in on our inbox after we had printed the magazine so this month we will have two Parish council reports

COVER SKETCH

The drawing of the 'small rugged cross' in Bibury churchyard marking 'a casualty of war' was drawn by a member of the panel in response to the article below.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

With the weather as it is...

Keep Calm and unruffled on the surface. But paddle like the devil underneath..

COUNTRY WATCH

It is the time of year for deer to mate and just recently on 2 occasions a large stag one with a few does walked up the Road by Tallands in front of me and Thursday night a large stag walked up Ready Token Hill, as calm as you like before going through a gate. RK

BIBURY WITH WINSON AND BARNESLEY CHURCHES

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

November 2023

Dear Friends,

I read Edwin H Friedman's classic leadership manual, *A Failure of Nerve*, with, probably, expectations that were too high. He had been quoted approvingly by my hero, Rev Samuel Wells of St Martins in the Fields, and I was looking for more. The high point came early on where he names the three characteristics of a gridlocked system, be they families, organisations or even the Church of England:

- An unending treadmill of trying harder.
- Looking for answers rather than reframing questions
- Either/or thinking that creates false dichotomies. Now, Friedman was a rabbi and practicing family therapist, who worked with businesses, the military, and politicians, using the same principles that he applied to family therapy. He died in 1996, leaving *A Failure of Nerve* unfinished, and it was left to family members to complete the work, based on his notes.

The main contention of the book is that leaders need to rise above a culture of quick fixes, and the anxiety of the masses, reject touchy feely empathy (a concept that he is particularly disdainful of) and, (and here is the challenging riff) be selfish, in terms of knowing who you are and what needs to be done. There is much to chew on here, although I am dubious about his highly selective use of history, particularly the rise of the Renaissance and the impact of the 'discovery' of the 'New World'. And he does come across at times (which may be the fault of his editors) as a graceless anti-woke warrior before the word had entered most people's lexicon. Hence my slight disappointment. I didn't really warm to him. Yet he does speak a great deal of sense.

Leaders certainly need to listen to those they are leading. But they don't need to agree. How often have you heard the complaint: *You're not listening*, when the honest response is, *yes, I am, but I don't agree with you*. Perhaps, more importantly, he has a strong aversion to hiding behind the need for more information before making a decision. *Imagination is more important than information* said Albert Einstein and Friedman's spin in this is: *It cannot be that whoever or whatever organised this universe set it up in such a way that this much information would be necessary in order to function effectively*.

His point being that the request for more information can become a delaying tactic. *Let's do more research* (A fancy word for listening) that runs the risk of doing nothing more than confirming our fears. Namely, that if we act, someone will get upset. To lead is to serve. To serve is to act.

As long as leaders base their confidence on how much data they have acquired, they are doomed to feeling inadequate..... It is almost as though the more knowledgeable one tries to be, the more anxious one must necessarily become..... Whatever 'drives people to drink' also drives people to data..... Information does not consist of energy, and leadership is all about energy He concludes: *What united those who went first was desire, the capacity to be decisive, and just plain 'nerve' rather than knowledge or data or technique*.

Of course, information matters (Time spent in reconnaissance is never wasted) but it is the ability to decide. To act. To recognise that you have enough data to act, and to trust in that judgement that is leadership.

How does that apply to political leaders today? How does that apply to the many flawed yet effective leaders who we will reflect on this Remembrance Sunday? And is this Christian leadership? And indeed, can, or should, Christian leadership be different?

With every blessing Tim

*Bible Study Wednesday 25th October and 15th November on ZOOM 6:30-7:30
Village Prayer Meeting: Monday 20th November at The Vicarage: 6:30 Cake & Coffee. 7:00 Prayer*

Church Services November 2023	Bibury	Barnsley	Winson
Sunday 5th Nov <i>4th Sunday before Advent</i> <i>Micah 3:5-end Matthew 24:1-14</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 12th Nov <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	10:50am <i>United Act of Remembrance</i>	9:30am <i>Act of Remembrance</i>	10:15 <i>Act of Remembrance Ablington</i>
Sunday 19th Nov <i>2nd Sunday before Advent</i> <i>Zephaniah 1:7, 12-end Matthew 25:14-30</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion and Holy Baptism: Clara Nutu		9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 26th Nov <i>Christ the King</i> <i>Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7 Matthew 25:31-end</i>	11.00am Morning Prayer	9:30am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 3rd Dec <i>Advent Sunday</i> <i>Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13: 24-end</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 10th Dec <i>Advent 2</i> <i>Isaiah 40:1-11 Mark 1:1-8</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion	
Sunday 17th Dec <i>Advent 3</i> <i>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-end John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>	9:30am Said Holy Communion	11:00am Carol Service Followed by seasonal Refreshments	6:00pm Carols by Candlelight
Sunday 24th Dec <i>Christmas Eve</i>	4:00pm Crib Service and Lighting of the Christmas Tree 11:30pm Midnight Mass	5:30pm Christmas Evening Communion	
Monday 25th Dec <i>Christmas Day</i>	11:00am Christmas Family Communion		9:30am Christmas Holy Communion
Sunday 31st Dec <i>Christmas 1</i> <i>Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Luke 2:15-21</i>	11.00am Benefice Service		
Churchwardens Vicar	<i>Jackie Colburn 01451 860212 Revd Tim Hastie-Smith 01285 740301</i>	<i>Dominic Spacie</i>	<i>Lavinia Sidgwick 01285 720682</i>

How can we respond when things don't go as we hope in our lives?

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says Rejoice always pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is Gods will for you in Jesus Christ.

Natural disasters, wars, people being cruel to one another, bad diagnosis, illnesses, money problems, what can we find to rejoice about in these?

We live in a fallen world but God loves each of us although perfection will never be attainable here on earth as Paul the apostle says "Our citizenship **is** in heaven" until then we will have troubles.

If we thank God even in our troubles it pleases God, it is easy to thank God when things are going well, but if we can thank him in times of trouble it makes us stronger for one thing, it replaces grumbling and complaining, being thankful reminds us of blessings big and small and giving thanks reminds us of the source of our gratitude Father God.

We have a lot to be thankful for even in our suffering, maybe we can each give thanks for a few of the following; the changing of the seasons, the television, the food we eat, our eyesight, touch, hearing, smell and taste, transport, friends and family, water and hot water! These are a few but I am sure you can find many more, keep looking for the good in things.

Services and Events

Every Sunday 10.30am Contemporary worship All very welcome followed by refreshments

Remembrance day Saturday 11th November 11am Short traditional service at the war memorial inside the Baptist church to lay the RBL wreath and give thanks for the lives of those who died for our freedom.

Community lunches All welcome 12.30pm 2 course with choices followed by tea/coffee
Dates for November 15th and December 13th (Traditional Christmas lunch) for more info. Debbie 740366 or Sharon 07974785437

We wish our wonderful volunteer Val a speedy recovery from her recently broken wrist and take this opportunity to thank her for all her support and help especially in the kitchen at community lunches.

Thankyou to everyone who donated recently to the harvest appeal for the Cirencester foodbank and a reminder that we have a large black box for donations outside the Church doors for continual donations also anyone in need of a confidential referral for food please do not be afraid to ask and we will help immediately.

Christmas Shoebox appeal www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child
deadline for gifts 11th November. We are collecting gifts to go into shoebox presents for children around the world who in most cases have never received a Christmas present this brings great Joy and a message that someone somewhere cares, this is also sent with a message that God loves them which in many cases brings enormous comfort. If you are able to gift money we will buy the presents and fill the boxes please contact info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

Parish Prayer at the Vicarage in the evening November 20th All welcome
Further afield Cirencester Baptist church have a concert and event with the contemporary Christian singer songwriter Lou Fellingham on both Friday 24th and Sat.25th November for tickets www.loufellingham.com/blogs/events/lou-fellingham-live-in-cirencster

A casualty of war. Aged just seven months.

As we think about the lives that were lost and blighted by the Great War, on the Western and Eastern fronts, at sea and in the air, it's easy to overlook that wars create ripples that spread far and wide, across the generations, affecting distant families in unforeseen ways.

One such family was the Comely family of Arlington Farm. Brothers Christopher and Dick served on the Western Front from the autumn of 1914 on. They are both included in the Parish Church list of Bibury men who fought in the Great War.

On the 17th February 1915 Chris got married. His bride was Helen Hunt (known as 'Nell'). The two of them had known each other for years, since Nell was employed as a governess to Chris's young cousins in Eastington. By the time of their marriage, she was also engaged in war work, caring for injured soldiers at Tidworth Military Hospital in Hampshire.

Chris was a 2nd Lieutenant by now (in the 2nd Monmouthshire Regiment) and wore his uniform for the wedding. Nell, however, was refused permission to marry in uniform because her matron wrongly assumed it was just another 'hasty' wartime marriage.

Two days later Chris was heading back to the Front. Over the next two years he returned to Arlington now and again on home leave. At the beginning of August 1917 their first child was born. A daughter whom they named Elizabeth, but who was immediately known as Betty. The christening was in Bibury Church, as the family farm diary entry records: 'Fri 17 Aug 1917: We christened Elizabeth aged 11 days. A sweet little service. The dearest 'wee un' you could possibly want. Such a memorable day.'

Photographs show Betty as a bouncing, blonde-haired, happy baby, dandled proudly by her grandparents Basil and 'Kitty' Comely at Arlington Farm. Their first grandchild.

There was no inkling that the family were about to experience the most awful sequence of events.

Three days after the christening, Chris was back in France. Then came the battle of Cambrai, the first where massed tanks were used. A telegram arrived at Arlington Farm to say that Chris had been badly wounded and was in a field hospital.

This was true, but not the full story. As the *Gloucester Echo* of 11 Dec 1917 reported, gunshot wounds had not only broken Chris's left thigh, but also one of the fingers on his left hand. What's more, while he was lying wounded, he was taken prisoner by the Germans. They apparently treated him well, dressed his wounds and left him in a safe place under shelter, where he was soon spotted by British troops and rescued.

Back in British care, the surgeons wanted to amputate his injured leg, but Chris refused. In this situation, the risk of gangrene was high, so field medics always preferred amputation. Equipment in the field hospital must have been primitive, as Chris's grandson Basil still has the two big carpentry nails the doctors had used to hold his left thigh bones together.

Chris's condition deteriorated, and news of just how ill he was reached Bibury on the eve of Mon 3 Dec 1917.

What a terrible Christmas that must have been for the family. Chris hung on through Christmas and New Year, heartened perhaps by news of his Military Cross awarded at the beginning of January 1918. But by early February he was going downhill.

Another telegram arrived at Arlington farm. This time an offer from the War Office to transport Nell to her husband's bedside just a mile or so back from the Front. In World War 1, when wounds were considered to be life-threatening, officers' wives sometimes received such an offer.

Despite the risk from German U-boats that were active in the Channel, Nell accepted the offer. She left Betty in the care of neighbours and took the first train to London on 20th Feb, crossing the Channel in a cruiser. Many years later she recalled that they were protected by 'a destroyer in front of us, one either side and two at the back.'

Two weeks after leaving English shores, on Friday 8th March Nell was back. Chris was alive and as soon as could be done without risk, he'd be transported home to Birmingham Military hospital. But in Arlington, another problem was rapidly unfolding.

Nell could see that her little daughter was unwell. It seems that what had started as a treatable but unrecognised throat infection led to other problems that such a young child couldn't fight off. She deteriorated quickly, and died on 14th March. She was buried four days later in Bibury cemetery (the section along Cemetery Lane). It was raining. Her gravestone is still there, near the gap in the stone wall that divides the two halves of the cemetery.

From this point on, some normality returned to Comely family life. Chris and Nell went on to have three more daughters, and in 1931 a son – Basil (named after his grandfather). This Basil, in turn, had a son whom he also called Basil, born in 1958. It is this Basil who recounted Betty's story for *Village Life*. Betty was the aunt he never had.

The events of 1917 and 1918 must have haunted Nell for the rest of her long life. Basil said: 'I think that my grandmother always believed that in the panic of the moment, she'd made a mistake by leaving her child.'

But what an impossible dilemma: to have to choose between staying with your new-born baby, and travelling overseas to see your injured husband for what may be the very last time ?

'She kept the few photographs of Betty, and a lock of her blonde hair close by until her dying day.'

Betty's grave in Bibury cemetery is marked by a small cross. Her mother Nell lived until the age of 102. Nell's ashes are interred with Betty. Nearby is the grave of Betty's grandparents, Basil and Kitty Comely of Arlington Farm.

On March 14th 2018, 100 years to the day of her death, flowers were placed on Betty's grave on behalf of Nell. The attached note read: 'A casualty of war.'

Thanks to Basil Comely for sharing this family story with us.

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL Report from Meeting of Tuesday 12th September

There were 5 members of the public present, County & 2 District Councillors.

There was a vigorous presentation from the floor on the subject of **coaches & parking** following which it was agreed to set up a Working Group to research the issues and propose solutions to the Parish Council to progress.

The Flood Warden, Phil Challinor gave a brief report and expressed his concerns about **blocked drains** in The Street / car park in front of the Trout Farm. Perhaps someone, with permission from the Highways Department, could use a pressure washer through them on a regular basis as it would only take about 2 hours a month. If permission is granted would anyone be prepared to undertake this with their own pressure washer? The flooding at the foot of Quarry Hill was also raised as that really needs to be dug out every so often.

A Councillor raised the need for **Water Lane** to be cleared and he will approach the National Trust about it.

Highways Department feel they have found a solution to the **water going down Awkward Hill** and will put drawings together. There was concern expressed regarding the need to remedy the **wall outside Rosemary cottage** on Awkward Hill and it was also agreed to progress a **sign to the Trout Farm overload carpark**

Post Office, it is indicated that work will start shortly and that the Post Office will re-open in April / May 2024.

Parish Plan – it was agreed to request Parishioners put themselves forward to join a Working Group via Village Life

Planning:

- **Garth Cottage:** No objections but request for a closer look at the design be done to reflect the style of the surrounding listed buildings.
- **Cotteswold House:** No objections.
- **Swallow's Nest:** It was noted that a Parish Councillor & the Chairman would make presentations of support at the CDC Planning Committee Meeting.
- **The Twig:** No objections.

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL Notes From the Meeting of 10th October 2023

There were 3 members of the public present to hear discussions on the following matters:

- **Water Lane:** appreciation was shown for the work Kent Jackson did to clear his side of the stream and the National Trust have cleared their side of the stream.
- **Car Park opposite Trout Farm:** The Chairman will pursue Highways Dept to repair bollards & repaint the parking lines..
- **Rosemary Cottage Wall:** the work to replace the wall will take about 4 months as it is 80' in length. Concerns were expressed regarding people hanging about in Arlington Row at night.
- **Swan Hotel Car Park:** With a new Manager in place it would be good to see progress on this.
- **Bibury Parking Working Group:** This is up and running and we look forward to its progress with reports back to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would set up a page on the Bibury Parish Council website so that progress can be put up for everyone to see.
- **Trout Farm Overspill Parking Signage:** Highways cannot put signs up to these as they are private but the Trout Farm are free to make arrangements for signage.
- **Councillor David Fowles:** Our District Councillor reported that, it was wrongly reported by Laura Kuensberg in a recent programme, that CDC is on the verge of bankruptcy. There is money available for Village Halls via Rural England Prosperity Fund. Also, on the CDC website there are details of some funds being available for solar panels via the "Make My Home Green" initiative. There is an "Agile Working" initiative which hopes to make communal working places available for businesses who are downsizing.
- **Public Toilet Review by CDC:** There is no statutory right for CDC to provide public toilets and between November – December 2023 there will be a Review Group meeting every 3 weeks with Final Review in early January 2024.
- **Parish Plan:** This sub-group is now forming and is nearly ready to get to work.
- **PLANNING:**
 - **The Old Manse:** Replace single-glazed casements with double-glazed. No objection.
 - **Lavendar Cottage, Arlington:** Replace defective windows. No objections.
 - **Crossways, Ready Token:** Single storey side extension. No objections.
 - **Land & Buildings known as Garnes Barn, Ablington:** Conversion of existing barns to form 1 No. dwelling house. We have asked for an extension of time to respond.
 - **Ash Place Plantation Grove Barn, Salt Way:** Extension of base station. No objection.

NOVEMBER

Now it is November, Trees are nearly bare,
Red, Gold and Brown Leaves, scattered everywhere,
Dark now are the mornings, Cold and Frosty too,
Damp & Misty Evenings, Chill you through and through,
Busy are all creatures, Winter Food to hide,
Nests to make them cosy, Warm & Safe inside.

BIBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

As always, it has been a busy month for all our classes and teachers.

Acorn Class have been busy in Science learning about our skeleton and our sense of smell and sight. The children were very excited to bring home some smelly pots - some of them smelt lovely and some not so nice! We have been learning about weather - so far we have made meteorological measurements with a rain gauge and thermometer. We have also made wind vanes to measure the wind direction. We had fun using them on a very windy and stormy day! Also, we enjoyed a trip to Westonbirt Arboretum. In RE, we have been looking at the creation story as well as preparing some lovely art work for the Harvest Festival Service.

Oaks and Mighty Oaks have started to use a variety of materials to create sculptures inspired by a range of artists. They have been challenged to use more complex techniques to shape and join materials, such as carving soap bars and modelling wire.

They have been looking at the Amazon region of South America and have explored what the Amazon is, and where it is located; understand the Amazon's climate, and how the native animals are adapted to it; understand what life is like in the Amazon, and how it is changing. The Classes enjoyed a trip to The Living Rainforest near Newbury.

In RSHE, they have begun looking at relationships. We have begun to explore the problems that can sometimes arise in friendships and how these could be resolved.

Nature Club - children spent time snipping away at our Lavender bush in our garden. They had a wonderful time shedding all the flowers off their stems, then lay them out to dry for the week. School has never smelt so nice!

Craft Club - children worked hard to thread their needles and sew in a straight line to create a little Lavender pouch to keep under their pillow or in their rooms. We've had a fun time in Forest School, tidying up and collecting large sticks ready to build shelters in the future.

With school allocation applications approaching for the September 2024 intake and with spaces in all year groups, please help to spread the word about our wonderful school and direct interested parties to the school office to arrange a visit.

Suki Pascoe, Head Teacher

Bibury C of E Primary School Tel: 01285 740268 E-mail: admin@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk For more information take a look at our website:

www.bibury.gloucs.sch.uk or come and visit us.

Bibury PTA can be contacted directly on ptabibury@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk

From the PTA

We will be at the Village Hall Christmas Fair on November 11th with a festive tombola stall and selling sweets. Please do support this event and pop in to see all the wonderful items on offer. All our fundraising efforts in term 2 will help fund the Christmas party for the children, a gift for each child and Christmas crackers for their Christmas lunch in addition to the usual termly prizes that recognise improvements in reading and mathematical skills.

Thank you for your support,
Bibury PTA

BIBURY VILLAGE HALL

The Harvest Supper on Friday, 29th September was a great success. A harvest-themed backdrop and flowers and tealights on every table set the scene for an enjoyable evening, Claire Booth, of Chedworth-based Claire Booth Cooks Events Ltd, did us proud with a delicious 2-course meal for just £15 a head. Her cherry trifle was sublime according to someone who doesn't normally like trifle! Cirencester-based Alex Robertson, a member of the Magic Circle, dazzled with his amazing close-up table magic. And the Famous Faces photo quiz and How Well Do You Know Your Cotswolds quiz brought out the competitive team spirit. A huge thank you to all those who helped both before and, on the night, and to those who donated raffle prizes. .

Our next event is the Christmas Fair on Saturday, 11th November from 12pm-3pm. With several craftspeople booked to take part this is a great chance to bag some early Christmas presents. Enjoy a cup of mulled wine whilst browsing the stalls. Try your luck in the raffle, and at the tombola and bottle stalls. And, when you need a rest, sample the refreshments on offer in the Committee Room.

We need your donations.

The Christmas Fair is one of our main fundraising events, so we need your help in making it a success. Can you make a cake for the cake stall, contribute a bottle of something for the bottle stall, or a gift for the gift stall? Donations can be brought to the hall from 10.00-10.30am on the morning of the Fair or given in advance to a member of the Village Hall Committee. For more information contact: Angela on 740078 or Victoria on 740289.

CRAFT CLUB

The November meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd November in Bibury village Hall 2 – 4pm. It will be a practical workshop with Bev and Victoria showing us how to make Bookmarks. Bookmarks make excellent 'stocking fillers', so if you want some ideas before Christmas– come along and have a go. Bring any you have made or received that could give us all new ideas. There will be no meeting in December but in the January meeting on Wednesday 24th, Jenny Lawrenson will be displaying and talking about her miniatures she makes as part the Cheltenham miniature group. Those that came to the Bibury show may have seen her exquisite tiny marquetry table for dolls house that she made and entered into the show.

HEAVENS ABOVE

The New Moon on the 14th is in Scorpio which is late this year for its phase. But it's the Full Moon on the 28th that causes excitement its called a Beaver Moon also called the mourning moon as it's the last full moon before the Winter Solstice when it was believed it was time to let go of the past and embrace the Winter, as it would soon be a New Year. Perhaps we should try.

ADVENT TABLE-TOP SALE

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER 2023 – 10.30AM – 12.30PM

BARNSELEY VILLAGE HALL

Please put the date in your diary and come along with your family and friends to buy all your Christmas Presents. There will be about 12 tables, selling a whole range of items – clothing, pottery, bric-a-brac, jams, presents, jewellery, books and antiques.

If you would like a table – the cost is £10 a table, which will go to Village Hall funds.

Michael Gledhill

01285 740836

Rural Cinema: Thursday, 9th November, Bibury Village Hall

And the film is ... **Where the Crawdads Sing**

Where the Crawdads Sing, the 2022 film adaptation of Delia Owens' 2018 best-selling novel, is an old-school southern-style melodrama. Set in the 1950s in the coastal marshlands of North Carolina, it is a feral coming-of-age story of a young girl abandoned by her family. Complete with a murder and courtroom drama, it offers an engaging two-hour escape from reality. Beautifully shot by Brit cinematographer Polly Morgan, the film stars Daisy Edgar-Jones (Normal People) as the lead character Kya Clark.

What the critics said

Where the Crawdads Sing doesn't quite sing but is still a worthwhile watch and proof that Daisy Edgar-Jones is Hollywood's new star. *The Sun*

The film has its clichés, but a captivating lead performance and a powerful ending ultimately keep this movie watchable enough for any fans of Owens' novel. *Mail Online*

It's Southern-fried "The Blue Lagoon" meets "Murder, She Wrote" — and topped off with a sprinkling of "To Kill a Mockingbird." *Washington Post*

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, 9th November

Where the Crawdads Sing

Drama: Cert 15 Run time: 2hrs 5 min

Director: *Olivia Newman*

**Starring: *Daisy Edgar-Jones, Taylor John Smith,
Harrison Dickinson, David Strathairn and Michael Hyatt***

Doors open 7.00pm Film starts 7.30pm Tickets £3.50

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

LAU'S PAWS DOG WALKING AND DROP INS

All walks are fully insured and with myself Laura a first aid trained dog walker. Walks are on a one to one basis and designed to meet your dogs personal requirements. Please email Laura at lauspawswalks@yahoo.com or telephone 07500 774268 for more information or to arrange a no obligation meet up. Follow me on Instagram Laus_Paws_Walks or find me on Facebook Lau's Paw's

HELP WANTED - ORGANIST NEEDED FOR Northleach Evergreens:

On December 8th, Northleach Evergreens will be holding their Christmas Service, when hopefully children from Northleach School will join us again. Everything is in place except for someone to play the keyboard! Our usual organist isn't able to help us this time due to another commitment, so is there some kind volunteer who would be able to do this for us please? It would be from 2-3pm at the Westwoods Centre, Northleach.

Please contact me as below if you are able to help. Thank you.

Jenny A'Bear

E: jennyabear@outlook.com or leave a message on 01285 740412.

BIBURY GARDENING CLUB

October's talk focused on wildlife, with a wonderful presentation by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust volunteer Fergus Dignan. I'm sure all our members are interested in wildlife, but I don't think I was the only person to be amazed and inspired by GWT's work throughout the Cotswolds and the rest of Gloucestershire.

Using a combination of PowerPoint and videos, Fergus showed us not only what the Trust was doing but also what we could do as individuals. OK, you may not be able, for example, to help reintroduce pine martens to the Forest of Dean, but even if you haven't got a garden, you can be a citizen scientist, observing and reporting on wildlife in your neighbourhood.

There are many beautiful sites that the Trust is helping to maintain, but the key takeaway from the talk for me was how the Trust is trying to link these up via river and canal networks, and other green spaces such as farms, gardens and estates so that wildlife can move freely around. This helps to improve the gene pool and provide more habitats.

Wild creatures don't see your garden as an individual area, they see it as part of a patchwork of opportunity. If you want to find out more, including the Trust's Wilder Glos initiative go to: www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/WilderGlos

This month, we are delighted to welcome Giles Reynolds, head gardener at Bibury Court, who is going to talk about shade gardening. It is a subject close to my heart, not least because in my garden, shade means you are under trees, which means you are out of the rain and wind. And while it is lovely to see a garden in full flower in summer, there is something very special about finding woodland plants such as dog's tooth lilies (erythronium) or epimedium flowering their socks off while everything else is dormant.

This is on Wednesday 8 November at 7.15pm in the village hall.

I'd like to thank our treasurer Jenny Lawrenson and member Val Smith for all their help in providing tea and cake at the meetings (and washing up afterwards). Val will be bringing some of her amazing parkin – a traditional November treat – to the next meeting.

Talking of baking, Bibury Christmas Fair is the following Saturday, 11 November, from 12pm to 3pm. If any of the garden club's wonderful bakers would like to contribute to the cake stall, please let me know. The garden club will also have a table selling cacti and succulents planted up in bowls, which make fantastic Christmas presents for people of any age. We have sizes to suit all windowsills!

If anyone would like to join the garden club, please email v.summerley@hotmail.com We are a very friendly group, and you don't have to be an expert gardener either to join or to enjoy the meetings. If you have recently moved to the village and you want advice on how to tackle your new plot, suggestions about what to grow, or just a chance to meet your new neighbours, please do get in touch.

Victoria Summerley



Christmas Fair

**Bibury Village Hall,
Saturday 11th November 12pm-3pm**

Come along and bag some early Christmas presents

- **Craft and gift stalls**
- **Plants**
- **Cakes and preserves**
- **Bottle stall, tombola and raffle**
- **Mulled wine, mince pies and other refreshments available**

Please bring your donations for the cake, gift and bottle stalls to the Village Hall from 10-10.30am on the morning of the Fair or give them in advance to a member of the Committee.

For more information contact Angela on 740078 or Victoria on 740289

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS
AT THE CATHERINE WHEEL

Looking for a venue to host your

family / friends' / works' Christmas gathering?

We are pleased to confirm we are taking bookings for Christmas parties

Email manager@catherinewheel-bibury.co.uk or call 01285 740250 to
arrange your Christmas party with us.

TALES FROM THE RIVERBANK – NOVEMBER 2023

The main pre-occupation of Residents on Arlington Row is the lack of access for any vehicles, since Awkward Hill was closed at the end of September, whilst the wall outside Rosemary Cottage is re-built. As Winter approaches there is considerable concern on behalf of Residents who have to travel early in the morning, or arrive home late at night in the dark, as they have to park on The Street, where there is virtually no lighting – and during the day it's almost impossible to park because of congestion. It appears this may last until beyond Christmas! **If anyone on the Street is able to permit an Arlington Row Resident's vehicle to be parked on their drive during this period, please do let me know! (Tel; 740496).**

Meanwhile, the Tourists continue to flock into Bibury, and walk past the Row, asking questions on a wide variety of subjects, such as 'do you really live in there'? or, 'we thought this was a Museum' or when seeing me collecting water for my small Pond in a bucket from the Stream 'you poor things, really, no running water?' (I reply that we do have pedal generators in our cottages for Electricity, but we find it very hard!) – Some take the hint, but some seem to believe it!. Whilst writing this, the Row has endured a series of Power cuts, caused by an apparently faulty cable from the sub-station - so my joke about pedal power earlier, may not seem so ludicrous!

It has been noticeable how low the River has remained this Summer – and, despite this, how the wildlife has managed to keep active. There seem to be at least two signets and a large number of ducklings this year. A pair of Egrets circle over Rack Isle from time to time, but we have yet to see any Water Voles or Kingfishers return. Sadly, recently, we had to report the activity of poachers on the River at dusk, near the small Pedestrian Bridge. I have reported this to the Rural Crime Unit – who visited the day after I made the Report & the Officer said they will try to keep an eye out when passing through Bibury...

It was good to see that the stream in Water Lane was cleared out by both the Land Owner & the National Trust. Thanks to both, we hope the stream will continue to flow steadily during the Winter (but not flood!).
Brian Skarda

ROUND AND ABOUT

Belated congratulations to Steve and Sheila Kiggins of Arlington, who not only celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in September but also the birth of their first grandchild, Dorothy Grace.

Thank you to those property owners who have taken the time to cut back their hedges which overhang the pavements. We have had requests that they also should clear away the cuttings and debris to help our village to look cared for.

As mentioned elsewhere, it is the season of the rutting of the deer and sadly there have been some fatalities of deer along the roads. Their most common crossing points are signposted but unfortunately the deer, cannot read the signs – so take care driving at this time of year.

Sadly we have to report on a couple of deaths of former village residents. Firstly the death of Gordon Lockey, son of Alan Lockey, a former panel member. Gordon grew up at the Pike and worked for the Trout Farm and Michael Pritchett during his time in the village. We send our condolences to his Wife, Son Martin and surviving sisters Doreen, Sylvia and Jean and his brother Geoff and their families. The second death is that of Pete Lees who grew up in Arlington and was a longtime player, supporter and former chairman of Bibury Football Club. We send his family our deepest sympathy.

FROM FURTHER AFIELD

In Fairford

Saturday 2nd December - Marysia Gorska-Saj will conduct her final concert with Fairford & District Choral Society. The concert will be accompanied on the organ by **Ian Crabbe** (Marlborough College Organist) at St. Mays Church Fairford. **Tickets will be available from 1st November from choir members or Fairford Opticians, 11 High Street, Fairford 01285 713313 or call 01285 713681 - Tickets also on sale at the door (Cash Ony, please) £15.00 under 18 £5.00**

Home Start - Volunteers Urgently Needed!

There is more information on our website, along with an application form. (And if you can, please come to our information morning on Wed 8th November 2023, from 10.30am-12noon, at Cirencester Baptist Church, Chesterton Lane, GL7 1YE.)

www.home-start-cotswolds.org.uk/volunteer or call 01285 885391

SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

with Haze Lea Floral Design's

Gather your friends and kick off your Christmas with a festive evening creating a luxurious wreath for your door.

Local florist, Katherine of Haze Lea Floral Designs, will demonstrate and guide you through the techniques to craft your own beautiful masterpiece from a gorgeous selection of sustainable produce and decorative items.

WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER at The Catherine Wheel Bibury 7pm

Alternatively, we also have a second night being held at our sister pub

The Railway Inn Fairford on WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER at 7pm

£60 per person includes all materials and equipment, glass of festive fizz or mulled wine and mince pie.

TO BOOK email hello@hazelea.co.uk

CAN YOU HELP THE PUBLICATION PANEL?

The Panel is down to just 4 members – when the magazine started it was much more but was generally around 6 – 7 members. Representing all of the distribution area. At the moment all 4 are living the Arlington side of the river. We would welcome volunteers from anywhere in our distribution area but especially from Ablington or Aldworth Road, Bibury or Barnsley. Panel members meet once a month to coordinate the contributions to the magazine and all help to either type or duplicate the magazine.

We do have a small team of extra people who take it in turns to collate the printed sheets and then take them around to our much larger team of distributors. If you would like to help the Panel by joining the panel, or by typing or collating once or twice a year we would love to hear from you.

We always welcome items of news from any part of our distribution area. We can only print the information we receive or know about and we sometimes miss significant birthdays or event – so let us know – either by emailing us on biburyvillagelife@hotmail.com or by giving a contribution on Panel for us to retype and include.

Our next issue will be December's Christmas issue and it would be lovely to have a suitable Christmas Sketch. (a line drawing in black ink – we cannot reproduce colour or photographs) to fill the space on the Front cover between the headings and the month !

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 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 by the end of 30th October.**