

# VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,  
BARNSELY AND WINSON



DECEMBER 2023

*A peaceful and happy Christmas to all our  
readers*

# VILLAGE LIFE

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**ISSUE No. 486**

### **DECEMBER 2023**

Saturday 2nd	Barnsley Village Festive Fair	10-12.30pm
	Deck The Halls, Christmas Concert, St Mary's Church	7.30pm
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Fish and Chips at the Football Club	5.30-7.30pm
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Community lunch at Baptist Schoolroom – booking essential.	12.30pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Early deadline Bibury Village Life	12 noon
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Bingo at the Football Club	7.30pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fish and Chips at the Football Club	5.30-7.30pm
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	The Bibury Big Christmas Sing, St Mary's Church	15-00 to 17.00
	Bibury Carols	From 5.30pm
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Bibury Duck Race	11am

### **JANUARY 2024**

Thursday, 11th	Rural Cinema - The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry	7.00 for 7.30pm
Thursday, 18th	Village Hall Management Committee AGM	2.30pm
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Craft Club, Village Hall	2pm

**SAVE THE DATE** - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Barnsley Festival

#### **BIBURY 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

**biburyvillagelife@hotmail.com** or handed to any member of the panel by 12 noon on our deadline date

(normally 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for the following month's issue.

Online copies of Village Life can be found on the Parish Council website by using the link below:

[https://www.biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/village life](https://www.biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/village%20life)

**TRADE DIRECTORY ADVERTISEMENTS** A reminder that adverts are due for renewal in January and all amendments must be received by noon on **15<sup>th</sup> December please**. If possible please include an email address. Thank you.

#### **COVER SKETCH**

Many thanks to Lydia Thurlow from the Swan Hotel for this month's lovely dove of peace which seemed appropriate for Christmas in light of the going conflicts around the world..

#### **HEAVENS ABOVE**

The full moon of December is commonly known as the Cold Moon, and that will be on 26<sup>th</sup> December. It's the first full moon of the 2023/24 Winter season, indicating that the cold weather will soon start. It's also called the Long Night Moon and is in Cancer, and that can enlighten hope for many in the New Year.

**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH** (this is especially relevant for this time of the year):

*"It's not what we have in life, but who we have in our life that matters"*

## **BIBURY WITH WINSON AND BARNESLEY CHURCHES**

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

Dear Friends,

Hands up, who has read *Five Minutes Peace* by Jill Murphy. Can you believe that it was first published in 1986? That's 37 years ago. Go the other way, and it's 1949 and Clement Attlee is busy sorting out post-war Britain and empire. We watched an Inspector Morse last night, a Sunday evening treat as a young curate couple in Oxford. That came out in 1988. It seemed ancient. All those perms, and pubs with closing times. But I digress.

*Five Minutes Peace*. It was a favourite with parents, more than children, I suspect, as Mrs Large searches for a brief break from the rumbustious energy of her lovely children. Jill Murphy clearly had a thing about peace, since her first book, *Peace at Last*, was about Mr Bear escaping his wife's snoring. And *All in one Piece* (a neat homophone) is about Mrs Large trying to escape from the chaos of home, for a night out with her husband.

Since Jill Murphy moved to Cornwall, where she died two years ago aged 72, I think that it is likely that she sought peace.

Most of do. Some in small doses, some in large. But most of us crave a degree of peace. But we really don't help ourselves. iPads and iPhones really do not help, so why do so many people take them to bed with them?

Headmaster, journalist, political historian and university vice chancellor Sir Anthony Seldon's *The Path of Peace* tells the story of his own personal search for peace following the death of his wife. A period when his utterly full-on existence (he required two personal assistants such was his relentless drive and work ethic) finds him homeless and jobless. He walks 'No Man's Land' from Switzerland to the English Channel, reflecting on the peace that the *Great War* was meant to achieve, and the yearning for peace amongst the combatants, notably Douglas Gillespie who proposed the creation of a via Sacra, memorial road, along no man's land.

Where is peace to be found at this busy. Exhausting time of year?

One of Jesus's Christmas titles is Prince of Peace, appropriated from the messianic prophecy of Isaiah: *He will be called wonderful counsellor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace*.

So, if Jesus brings peace this Christmas how come peace remains so elusive?

Peace, shalom, is more than the absence of war. It is the ability to live at peace with the world, with people, with nature, with God. But how am I to be 'at peace' if others do not seek peace? Or their idea of peace is not the same as mine? How is peace to be found in Israel and Ukraine?

Part of the answer is contained in the heart of Christmas because Jesus brings peace, enabling us to be at peace with God.

But being at peace with ourselves and with others can be much harder, and whilst it is rarely found in escape, it does require a determination on our part to set aside time to enter into it.

Soldier, explorer. Geographer, priest and hermit, Charles de Foucauld, murdered in 1916 in Algeria, wrote these words: *I do not want a monastery that is too secure. I want to live the contemplative life along the streets. If you cannot go to the desert you must make the desert in your life. Live the intimacy of God in the noise of the city.*

Recently canonised, de Foucauld didn't have Mrs Large's four boisterous children, but I think that he was on to something. Peace can be found in the heart of war (and family life) and amazingly we can be the bringers of peace.

May you know the peace of Christ this Christmas,

**With every blessing     Tim**

## CHURCH SERVICES

Church Services December 2023	Bibury	Barnsley	Winson
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b> <b>Advent Sunday</b> <i>Isaiah 64:1-9</i> <i>Mark 13: 24-end</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	6:00pm Advent Carol Service	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <b>Advent 2</b> <i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i> <i>Mark 1:1-8</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion	
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <b>Advent 3</b> <i>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-end</i> <i>John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>	9:30am Said Holy Communion	11:00am Carol Service And seasonal Refreshments	6:00pm Carols by Candlelight
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b>	4:00pm Crib Service and Lighting of the Christmas Tree  11:30pm Midnight Mass	5:30pm Christmas Evening Communion	
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <b>Christmas Day</b>	11:00am Christmas Family Communion		9:30am Christmas Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Dec</b> <b>Christmas 1</b> <i>Isaiah 61:10-62:3</i> <i>Luke2:15-21</i>	11.00am Coffee, Cake, Resolutions and Carols for NYE		
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Epiphany</b> <i>Isaiah 60:1-6</i> <i>Matthew 2:1-12</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Epiphany 2</b> <i>1 Samuel 3:1-10</i> <i>John 1:43-end</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion	
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b> <b>Epiphany 3</b> <i>Genesis 14:17-20</i> <i>John 2:1-11</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion		9:30am BCP Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Epiphany 5</b> <i>Deuteronomy 18:15-20</i> <i>Psalms 111</i> <i>Mark 1:21-28</i>	11.00am Morning Prayer	9:30am Morning Prayer	
<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>

# ***Christmas in Bibury, Barnsley, Ablington, Winson and Arlington 2023***

## **Sunday 17th December**

9:30am Said Holy Communion Bibury

11:00am Carol Service Barnsley

6:00pm Carol Service Winson

## **Friday 22nd December**

2:30pm Carols, Christmas Tea, and Festive Fun

With Hunters Home, Bibury School and Father Christmas

## **Saturday 23rd December**

Village Carol Singing

## **Sunday 24th December**

4:00pm: Crib Service and Lighting of the Christmas  
Tree at Bibury

5:30pm: Christmas Eve Communion at Barnsley

11:30pm: Midnight Mass Bibury

## **Monday 25th December**

9:30am Christmas Communion at Winson

11:00am Christmas Family Communion at Bibury

## **Sunday 31st December**

11:00am Coffee, Cake, Resolutions and Carols  
for New Year's Eve



**ARLINGTON**

The Legend of the Christmas Spider is an Eastern European folktale which explains one possible origin of tinsel on Christmas trees. It is most prevalent in Western Ukraine, where small ornaments in the shape of a spider are traditionally

a part of the Christmas decorations. The story goes as follows;

The children of a widowed woman take a tree into their home. However, there is no money to buy decorations for the tree. So sadly, the children went to bed. Spiders, however, had seen the sadness of the family, and during the night, they decorated the whole Christmas tree with their webs.

The following day all the family was happy, and they realized that even when they were poor, God would take care of them.

'Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents,' is the opening line of the novel, *Little Women*, a well-loved classic. The greatest gift we can receive this Christmas is the Gift of Jesus, he is the greatest gift of Christmas. As a Christian, I believe that Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. The bible tells us that Jesus was the son of God, who came down from heaven to give us the greatest gift any person can ever receive - the gift of eternal life if we give our life to him through baptism.

Through his teachings, miracles, and ultimate sacrifice on the cross, Jesus showed us the way to live a life of love, compassion, and forgiveness. He is the reason for the season, and his message of hope and salvation continues to inspire millions of people around the world in a world that needs hope more than ever before.

I pray that you would unwrap this gift this season.

### Services and Events

Sunday Worship every week @ 10.30am Everyone welcome

December 24<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Carol service

Community Christmas Lunch with Carols and festive fun Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 12.30pm this is a free lunch sponsored by locals but we need names and numbers before 6<sup>th</sup> Dec please. So far we have 35 but we have room for more please call Debbie 740366 or Sharon 07974785437 or [info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk](mailto:info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk)

My favourite seasonal pun from the pulpit for this Christmas, hopefully, will make you smile: Why does Santa Claus go down the chimney on Christmas eve? Because it soots him.

We wish you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas and new year

### **THE STALL**

Born 2000 years ago  
In a weathered stall

Lay the baby Christ child,  
God's Christian gift to all.

Throughout the world in every nation  
Join with us in celebration  
Listen to the carollers sing  
Praise and honour to the King.

Born 2000 years ago  
In a weathered stall  
Alive today and loving you,  
A joyous time for all.

### **COUNTRY WATCH**

Our regular visitors, the Field Fares, have been spotted locally – are these the first signs of winter?

It has been sadly reported that RSPCA Oak and Furrows in Cricklade have experienced such a large increase in animals being admitted that it has had to make the difficult decision not to take any more for the time being. They currently have over 90 hedgehogs in their care!

If you find wildlife in need, visit [www.helpwildlife.co.uk](http://www.helpwildlife.co.uk) to find alternative wildlife rescues, or contact your nearest vet for Wildlife First Aid. Piles of leaves are ideal for sleeping hedgehogs, so leave a few piles around, to help them.

### **BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

Notes from the meeting held on 14th November 2023. There were no members of the public present to hear the following discussed: District Councillor David Fowles told us that telephone access to CDC will be reduced to access before 2.00pm in the hope of savings of £100,000 a year. There is opposition to this and the implications are being investigated. The 'missing link' is now on target although 2,000 adders have been found on site and they are a protected species. The proposed truck stop has been turned down by planning department and there are discussions about it being put by the old cattle market. Plans for a new surgery at Tetbury have gone through although it is more development on a green field site. There was discussion about possible grantors for Village purposes, ie Rural Prosperity Fund and Build Back Better fund, and double glazing windows in the Village Hall was raised as a possible ambition.

<http://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk> This is the new online reporting portal for advising of any highways issues, blocked drains, damaged pavements etc: [economic.development@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:economic.development@cotswold.gov.uk) if you have any queries about the local Growth Hub for support of businesses in the district.

Highways Report: The group investigating parking issues had met with members of the police, Highways, County & District Councillors, County Council Parking Services and had a very helpful meeting with action plans made to progress better controls. In parish discussions on this the problem of emissions relating to all the traffic in The Street & around the bridge were discussed; it will certainly be confronted in our biodiversity considerations. £750 was given to the Parish Council from the filming group who will spend 5 hours in Arlington Row on Tuesday 21st November and then in Ablington.

The village sign at The Pike which blocks the view when turning onto the B4425 has been re-sited but needs further refining. The Arlington Row scheme for reducing run-off in rainy conditions raised the question of gulley clearing which would be required at regular intervals and Highways Dept will only accept

someone whose business is fully insured; there is the possibility that there is someone locally who meets the criteria. Planning Applications: All the plans before us were supported by the Parish Council: Garnes Barn, Ablington; Cotteswold House, Arlington, Grove Barn, Salt Way and tree works at Bridge House, Ablington. There was discussion regarding 11 Arlington Row where activities are taking place without planning permission on a listed building. Public Toilets: CDC are considering closing 2 of the 4 toilets during the winter months; councillors did not agree that the footfall in Bibury reduced sufficiently in those months to warrant closure and the payment of 50p for their use should offset maintenance costs.

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

We are excited to tell you that every Monday afternoon 2.30pm-3pm, we are holding a free story time session for children that are under school age.

0-4 year old children are welcome to attend with an accompanying carer. Children may borrow story sacks or picture books each week and the session will be led by teaching staff in our EYFS room. If you would like to come along, please telephone the school office to book a place.

Acorns Class have had a busy month. In Geography we have been learning about the changing seasons and how the different seasons bring different weather, we have been learning about weather forecasts as well as how weather differs across the United Kingdom.

This month Acorn Class have spent some time with Wren Class at North Cerney. We have had joint English and Maths lessons working together on letters, poems and lots of Maths problems. It is wonderful to watch both sets of children enjoying each other's company every week and helping each other to learn.

Oaks Class have been busy building sentences to our narrative story 'Bike Boy'. They have used a range of writing techniques to engage the reader, for example, they have used pathetic fallacy, metaphors, similes, kennings and personification to really extend their stories. In the next few days, Oaks will begin to independently plan their own story of a young child growing up and heading into the big, wide world.

Mighty Oaks Class: In science, we have continued our work on forces. We considered which type of string would provide the quickest route for messages carried by balloon and found that kite string had the least friction, with the balloon travelling along this the most quickly. We have also investigated water resistance by changing the shapes of plasticine and found out how levers can be used to reduce the amount of effort needed to lift a load.

Bikeability Years 5 & 6 have enjoyed earning their Bikeability Badges. You may have seen the children out in the village on their bicycles learning about how to be safe on the roads. We are pleased to say that all children passed the course. We have 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.

<p>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</p>
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## **BIBURY VILLAGE HALL**

Christmas Fair. The Village Hall Christmas Fair on 11th November was a great success raising over £1,000 for Village Hall funds. The sun shone, the hall was magnificently dressed, the mulled wine flowed, and there were delicious refreshments on offer in the Committee Room. A huge thankyou to all those who helped and to those who generously donated cakes, bottles, gifts and raffle prizes.

In addition to the Village Hall run stalls, local artisan crafters took part. There were Christmas themed decorations and gifts by Bev Morgan-Davies and Victoria Summerley; jewellery and paintings by Jill and Julia Skarda, and intriguing cacti on George Blackwell's stall. Mila Lightfoot's fun duck soaps proved popular as stocking fillers, as did her daughter's children's bracelets. And the chocolate tasting on the 'edible by Aggy' stall went down a treat. Based in Cricklade Street, Cirencester, Aggy Dadan and her team specialise in edible art – from bars of chocolate to chocolate sculpture and celebration cakes.

Annual General Meeting. The Village Hall Management Committee will be holding its AGM at 2.30pm on Thursday 18th January in the Village Hall. Come along to hear what we achieved last year and what plans are in place for 2024.

Rural Cinema. A reminder that there is no Rural Cinema this month, but we will be back on Thursday 11th January with the screening of The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry. Starring Jim Broadbent and Penelope Wilton, the film is based on the book of the same name by Cotswold author Rachel Joyce.

## **Advertisements**

(1) Dry storage space for some furniture and house hold belongings in the area near to Coln St Aldwyn. If you have anything available, please get in touch on 07879 607248

(2) Small Home Office Space required for one person mainly but enough space for two twice a week, in or near Coln St Aldwyn. Would require good internet, light, heat and power. If you can help, please call 07879 607248

(3) Bibury based reliable house sitter (as well as London). Also more than happy to look after household pets. 07831 642020. [clyoungusband@gmail.com](mailto:clyoungusband@gmail.com)

## **ROUND AND ABOUT**

We were saddened to hear of the death of Willy Brown, a stalwart of the Bibury Football Club for many years and a well-known local accountant. We will miss him and his banter, and we send our sincere condolences to his family and friends. (See the Football Club's submission following for details of his funeral).

It was interesting to see the recent local 'photo shoot around Bibury and Ablington, and we understand that they gave a generous donation to the village, as well as to the National Trust.

Some residents have expressed their concern about the numerous fireworks parties which seemed to go on for days, and with the Christmas and New Year celebrations coming up, we ask you to be considerate to your neighbours and all the local pets.

We wish a very Happy Christmas to all our readers, contributors, typists, our panel, and everyone else who helps us to produce Village Life each month, including those who print, collate and distribute the magazines. We couldn't do it without you!

**BIBURY FOOTBALL CLUB** We begin our report with the very sad news of the passing of Willy Brown who was in truth Mr Bibury Football Club secretary for over 50 years, treasurer for almost as long, as well as being an ex player. Willy's funeral will take place on Friday December 1st at 11-30am at Bibury Church.

On the pitch the team are performing very well in Div 1 and sit comfortably mid table.

We have had home victories against English Bicknor 3-1 and Smith's Barometric 7-2 with both Harrison Archer and Jay Griffiths getting hat tricks.

Also a home draw 1-1 with last season's champions Chalford, Archer again with the goal. On our travels we have not been so successful - a 4-3 defeat at league leaders Tredworth was followed by a narrow 2-1 defeat at Sharpness in the County Cup who are a league higher than Bibury

December fixtures are

2/12 away to Bredon 2pm

9/12 away to Tewkesbury Town 2pm

16/12 home v Lydney Town 2 pm

*Xmas bingo will be held on Monday 18th from 7-30pm, Fish and chips van will be at the club on Friday 8th and 22<sup>nd</sup> 5-30 to 7-30pm*

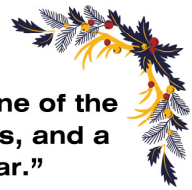
**CRAFT CLUB** Do you want to learn new skills, or see a demonstration, or just sit down with some sewing or knitting for a couple of hours in friendly company?

So far this year, we have had demonstrations of Cricut, a visit to the craft fair at the NEC in Birmingham, a film about Kaffe Fassett and a session making bookmarks from pressed flowers.

Craft club will take a break in December for Christmas but the first meeting of 2024 will take place in Wednesday 31 January at 2pm in the village hall.

Come along and find out what we're planning – and let us know what you would like to see featured on the programme.

If you'd like to be included on the mailing list, please drop me an email at [biburycraftclub@gmail.com](mailto:biburycraftclub@gmail.com). Beverley Morgan-Davies



Join us at the...

# BIBURY DUCK RACE

25 DECEMBER, 2023



"The annual Bibury Duck Race is one of the Cotswolds' more unusual traditions, and a key date in the village calendar."

At 11am on Boxing Day almost 3,000 bright yellow ducks will be released onto the River Coln. Sponsor your duck now and be in with a chance of winning a superb prize.

Or join us on the 26th for one of the highlights of the village year! With mulled wine, the special charity race and more chances to win...



£10 for ten tickets.  
**Scan here**  
to buy online.

## Come To The Bibury Carols On 23rd December

Bring your friends to hear traditional Christmas carols sung around Bibury - Join us at one location or follow the merry band of wassailers all the way to the Catherine Wheel Pub.

**17:30 - BIBURY SQUARE**

**17:50 - ARLINGTON GREEN**

**18:10 - TUMP HILL (Arlington Farm Lane)**

**18:30 - THE CATHERINE WHEEL**

**Want To Sing?** We're building a choir from scratch for this event, so Bibury resident Tori Longdon will be running a **Carol Singing Workshop from 15:00 - 17:00 on 23rd December in Bibury Village Hall** to prepare for the evening's wassailing.

All are warmly welcome with no experience necessary, and singers will be able to choose to sing the tune or harmony lines. All music will be provided, although experienced singers are encouraged to bring a copy of Carols For Choirs 1 if they have one to hand. The rehearsal will be followed by a restorative spread of light refreshments and mulled wine, before we set off to our first carol singing location.

**Date:** Saturday 23rd December 15:00 - 17:00

**Location:** Bibury Village Hall (please note change from St. Mary's Church)

**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, CALM and Cirencester Signpost

**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.

## News in brief: from the archives

1882: In the late 1800s James Arkell, a pillar of the local community, ran the grocery store in Bibury. It was on The Street, just before the road turns left away from the river to climb the hill towards Aldsworth.

In November 1882 he applied for a licence to sell petroleum. This was big news for Bibury, and was reported in the Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard (18 November 1882). In those days petrol was sold in cans.

Supt. Wood reported that he had examined the premises and found them suitable for the purpose. The application was granted, and the Chairman concluded by advising Mr Arkell to 'be careful with the stuff'.

1923: At Fairford Petty Sessions in July 1923 a motor lorry driver called William Bradley, of Bermondsey, was fined the maximum penalty of £5 for driving a heavy lorry with trailer attached at a speed exceeding eight miles per hour on the Aldsworth to Bibury road. A shocked Police Sergeant Hastings stated that the defendant had actually driven over a measured mile 'at the rate of 13 miles per hour'.

From the report in the Gloucester Journal of 14th July 1923 there was evidently much tut-tutting about the nuisance caused by heavy lorries exceeding the speed limit. Supt. J A Price stated that considering the class of lorry the defendant was driving, the relevant speed limit was actually 5mph.

I must say I would have liked a few more details in the press report. What make of lorry? Were the lorry and trailer loaded? If so, with what? What was the driver's destination? What was the purpose of his trip? Exactly how had the police measured his speed?

1941: On 14th June the Cheltenham Chronicle reported that a pig club had been started in Bibury for the parishes of Bibury, Barnsley and Winson. Mr C J Taylor was honorary secretary, and Mr E C Bartlett assistant honorary secretary. The club was affiliated to the Gloucestershire Pig and Potato Production Committee.

These local pig clubs were widespread during the 1939 war, encouraged (and controlled) by the Government at a time when commercially farmed pigs were in short supply because of imported grain shortages.

Each pig club could have up to 25 members, who would acquire and look after a piglet, sharing the duties of looking after it and feeding it on kitchen scraps. In due course, the resulting meat would be shared among the members.

According to a piece in The Oldie (March 2019) There was even a national co-ordinating body – the Small Pig Keeper's Council.

© Roger Staton November 2023

Barnsley  
Village  
**Festive**



SATURDAY  
2 DECEMBER  
2023

10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Barnsley Village Hall

Free Entry

JEWELLERY, POTTERY, CHRISTMAS CARDS, CLOTHES  
BRIC-A-BRAC and ANTIQUES, BOOKS and Much More

*Deck the Halls*

A Christmas Concert



**A Splash of Red Ladies Choir**

**The Cirencester Male Voice Choir**

**The Windrush Ukulele Group**

**Saturday 2nd December** 7.30pm

**St Mary's Church, Bibury**

£10 tickets on the door (cash only please)

Drinks available

All proceeds to  
British Red Cross Israel and Occupied Palestinian Appeal  
and Crisis at Christmas



## **GARDEN CLUB**

Our guest speaker in November – and, indeed, one of our star performers of the year – was Giles Reynolds, head gardener at Bibury Court. Giles's lecture on gardening for shade was entitled The Bombproof and the Beautiful, and he showed us more than 100 slides featuring plants that ranged from shad-tolerant toughies like hellebores and hostas through to exotic characters such as the gorgeous blue Himalayan poppy and cobra lilies (*Arisaema*) which look as if they would only grow in a conservatory but are hardy in the UK.

If I had to show slides of my own shade-gardening, it would probably be called The Cautious and the Cowardly, since I tend to stick to tried and tested plants rather than being a bit more adventurous. My takeaway from Giles's lecture was to make a New Year's resolution to be more adventurous in the garden and grow something I haven't grown before. It's something we should all do – pushing yourself out of your comfort zone is good for the brain and the soul.

Next month's meeting, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, is at 3.30pm in the Old Schoolrooms at the Baptist Church. It's our Christmas party, so there will be seasonal games, a quiz, and a raffle with a wildlife theme, inspired by our talk from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust speaker Fergus Dignan.

I can't believe it has been five years since I started writing the garden club column for Village Life. Here we are at December again, planning a new season of talks and visits. There is no meeting in January, but we will be back in the village hall on Wednesday 14 February at 7.15pm. This is the meeting at which we take the subscriptions for the year and announce the programme, so if you are thinking of joining the gardening club, please do come along.

Victoria Summerley

## **FROM FURTHER AFIELD**

***Chedworth Produce Market - One year*** - A very big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has supported Chedworth Produce Market since our launch in December 2022 - our fantastic producers, everyone who has visited us over the year and the fabulous Chedworth Pop Up Café team. We are very proud to be **CELEBRATING OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY** at the ***December Market which will be held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023 - from 9am to 1pm at Chedworth Village Hall.***

Our fantastic producers sell their products every 3rd Saturday of the month from the village hall, plus a pop-up café and raffle which has raised over £1700 this year for local charities. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook - @chedworthproducemarket . For any further information please contact [chedworthproducemarket@gmail.com](mailto:chedworthproducemarket@gmail.com) .

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### **Old Gore Christmas Fair & Street Food Market**

We are delighted to announce the return of the Old Gore Christmas Fair & Street Food Market.

Wednesday 6th & Thursday 7th December, 3pm - 10pm

Old Gore Barn, Calmsden, GL54 4BZ

**In aid of The Carlie Tufnell Charitable Trust**

We have a really exciting line-up of stalls this year which will be announced in the coming weeks, so keep your eyes peeled on [@yardspaceoldgore](https://www.instagram.com/yardspaceoldgore) (Instagram)

or just come along, we guarantee there will be something for everyone.

The chefs will be cooking up a delicious wood fired menu throughout the afternoon and evenings & the bar will be fully stocked. So you can just come along to eat, drink and be merry! We hope to see you all there.

Xxx