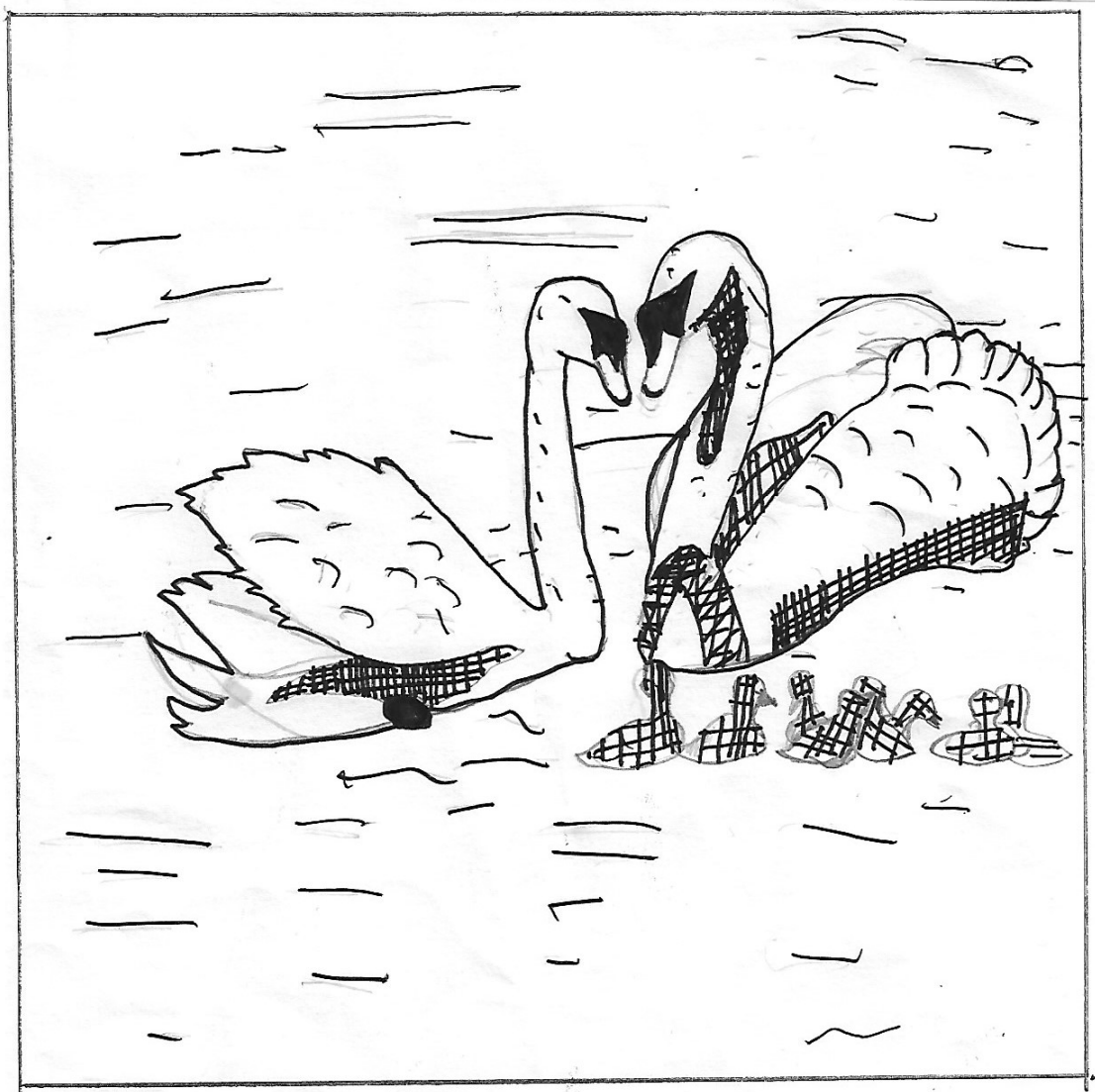

VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,
BARNESLEY AND WINSON



FEBRUARY 2024

VILLAGE LIFE

DATES FOR THE DIARY

ISSUE NO. 488

FEBRUARY 2024

Thursday 8 th	Rural Cinema – The Great Escaper.	7pm for 7.30pm
Tuesday 13 th	Bibury Parish Council, Village Hall	7pm
Wednesday 14 th	Gardening club Hardening in Americ	7.15pm
Friday 16 th	Cotswold Chippy at Bibury Football Club	5.30pm-7.30pm
Wednesday 21 st	Community lunch in the Old Schoolrooms, Arlington	12.30pm
Wednesday 28 th	Craft Club, Bibury Village hall - Decorating Easter Eggs	2pm

MARCH

Friday 8 th	Murder Mystery Supper, Village Hall (see details)	7pm
Wednesday 13 th	Gardening Club ‘Crayfish on the Lawn’	
Saturday 16 th	Growing Organic Vegetables, Northleach Church	7pm
Wednesday 27 th	Craft Club Creating Easter Trees	2pm

APRIL

19th/22nd BibLit 24, Bibury Church

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, 11 Arlington Fields, Arlington, Bibury	01285 740698
Mr Brian Skarda. 4 Arlington Row, Arlington, Bibury	07980 426801
Mr Tom Page, Greyhound Farmhouse, Barnsley	07841 038276
Mrs Jenny A’Bear (Ablington correspondent) Stonebank, Ablington	01285 740412

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 20th 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)

COVER SKETCH This month’s lovely front cover sketch shows the Bibury swans and signets, who will hopefully soon be making their nest on the riverbank again, drawn by Scarlett Betts, aged 10, who won 3rd prize at the Bibury Show last year.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A little progress each day adds up to BIG results (some encouragement for those who are de-cluttering this winter!)

BIBURY WITH WINSON AND BARNESLEY CHURCHES

Dear Friends,

How would you like history to remember you? This is one of the ideas that plays out in Julian Barnes's beautiful book, *The Man in the Red Coat*. The launch pad for Barnes's book is John Singer Sargent's full length portrait of 1881 Dr Pozzi at Home, which, along with a visit Pozzi made to England four years later in the company of Prince Edmond de Polignac and Count Robert de Montesquiou-Fezensac, provides a means of exploring the period, the people, the tastes and the attitudes of a bygone age whilst trying to discover who Pozzi really was.

The part that I love is Barnes's warning to all would be biographers: We cannot know. If used sparingly this is one of the strongest phrases in the biographer's language. It reminds us that the suave study-of-a-life we are reading, for all its detail, length and footnotes, for all its factual certainties and confident hypotheses, can only be a public version of a public life, and a partial version of a private life. Biography is a collection of holes tied together with string.

With BibLit24 scheduled for April, with a number of eminent biographers joining us, this will give pause for thought!

Because so much is unknown, and worse still, things that seemed good at the time, either choices made or things admired, may not endure. And our tastes in music art and fashion which seem exquisite to us, are summarily dismissed. Any attempt to design my own legacy is fraught with danger.

Dated: how the past must sometimes hate the present, and the present the future – that unknowable, careless, cruel, slighting, dismissive, unappreciative future – a future not worthy of being the future to the present.

It's a lovely read and Barnes warms to his themes about judging and understanding the past. But as I have also read a number of recent works on AI, it occurred to me that help is at hand. Very soon.

AI enables technology to not only record our every waking and sleeping thought, but to anticipate our desires, choices, tastes and purchases as data collection, and the development of intelligent digital assistants takes us to a place where we can abdicate our every choice to technology that knows us better than we know ourselves, and can, frankly, make better, more reasoned choices than us, as it writes emails, and books and composes music in our name, that we never quite had the time for. AI has the potential to be an amazing tool and servant. Unfortunately, it will be so much better than us at everything that it will quickly render us superfluous.

The challenges facing mankind in the next 20 years are enormous, but interestingly these challenges are ethical/theological rather than technological.

Because as AI becomes integrated into every part of our life, and starts to do everything better than us, the question will be. What makes us human. The title of Philip Dick's 1968 book that became the film *Bladerunner*, says it all: *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* In other words.

Will AI be able to dream, or have fun? Can it become human? What makes us uniquely human, as AI picks up every trick of the human trade.

And then back to Dr Pozzi. Will there no longer be a need for historians because everything, yes everything, about everyone will be recorded and known, AI knowing us better than we know ourselves. Knowing why we do what we do better than we do. No more secrets.

These are theological challenges, because the Christian understanding of humanity is that we are made in the image of God and are known fully by God. These are no negotiables. And these are issues that need facing now, because the AI tsunami has already begun, and, in line with Moore's law, which shows no sign of slowing, we will be engulfed.

Significant change is coming, but some things look unlikely to change that much.

Human nature and human stupidity remain pretty prevalent, and it will be intriguing to see how that plays out with AI. Given how high the stakes are, this is a cause for real worry.

But as Barnes describes, for all of the corruption and destruction in this world, humans are capable of extraordinary creativity, kindness and beauty. That isn't likely to change either. And best of all. We are known and loved. God doesn't change. And that is the best news of all.

With every blessing, Tim

BibLit 24 is coming and tickets will be available on the website by the end of February

BibLit takes place at the church on the w'end of 19/22nd April with some additional events on other dates.

Those hoping to join us include:

- * Peter Frankopan (13th April)
- * Sir Nicholas Coleridge
- * Nicholas Shakespeare
- * Andrew Gimson
- * Ysenda Maxtone Graham
- * Victoria Summerley and Abigail Willis
- * Caroline Montague with her daughter in law Theo Clark MP
- * James Read
- * Sally Page interviewed by Victoria Summerley
- * Charles Moore
- * Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill
- * Anne de Courcy
- * Jane Ridley
- * Clover Stroud
- * Arthur Reynolds
- * Baroness Julia Neuberger (Sunday 28th April)
- * Lord Soames (Friday 7th June)
- * Sir Anthony Seldom (Date to be confirmed)
- * Rev Richard Coles (Date to be confirmed)

If you would like to help in anyway do contact Jackie Colburn

jackiecolburn@icloud.com

Church Services February 2024	Bibury	Barnsley	Winson
Sunday 4th February <i>2nd before Lent</i> <i>Proverbs 8:1,22-31</i> <i>John 1:1-14</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 11th February <i>Sunday next before Lent</i> <i>2 Kings 2:1-12</i> <i>Mark 9:2-9</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion	
Sunday 18th February <i>Lent 1</i> <i>Genesis 9:8-17</i> <i>Mark 1:9-15</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion		9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 25th February <i>Lent 2</i> <i>Romans 4:13-end</i> <i>Psalms 22:23-end</i> <i>Mark 8:31-end</i>	11.00am Morning Prayer	9:30am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 3rd March <i>Lent 3</i> <i>Exodus 20:1-17</i> <i>John 2:13-22</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 10th March <i>Lent 4</i> <i>Numbers 21:4-9</i> <i>John 3:14-21</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion	
Sunday 17th March <i>Lent 5</i> <i>Jeremiah 31:31-34</i> <i>John 12:20-33</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion		9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 24th March <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Liturgy of the Passion</i> <i>Mark's Gospel</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion with a donkey....		
Thursday 28th March <i>Maundy Thursday</i> <i>1 Corinthians 11:23-26</i> <i>John 13:1-17,31b-35</i>	6:00pm Holy Communion		
Friday 29th March <i>Good Friday</i>		2:00pm The Final Hour at the Foot of the Cross	
Sunday 31st March <i>Easter Sunday</i> <i>Romans 6:3-11</i> <i>Mark 16:1-8</i>	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	10:10am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:15am BCP Holy Communion
Churchwardens Vicar	<i>Jackie Colburn</i> 01451 860212 <i>Revd Tim Hastie-Smith</i> 01285 740301	<i>Dominic Spacie</i>	<i>Lavinia Sidgwick</i> 01285 720682

ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH CIO 1192458
www.arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

There is a story about a woman sat next to a minister on an aeroplane during a storm. She said, "Can't you do something about this awful storm?" He replied "Ma'am, I'm in sales, not management."

We all remember great storms of the past, snow of 1963 and 1982 or the Hurricane of 1987, the weather man Michael Fish famously denied was going to be so fierce. These days in the UK storms are **named when it has the potential to cause disruption or damage, the last one to date as I write was Henk!** He was a wet and windy one.

Did you know that an eagle knows when the storm is approaching long before it breaks? The eagle will fly to some high spot and wait for the winds to come. When the storm hits, it sets its wings so that the wind will pick it up and lift it high above the storm. While the storm below rages below, the eagle is soaring high above it, gliding around with ease.

The eagle does not escape the storm, it just uses the storm to lift it higher. When the storms of life come upon us, and all of us will experience them, we can rise above them by setting our minds and belief toward God!

The storms do not have to overcome us. We can allow God to lift us above them. If we turn to God in prayer and ask him to help us, to give us his peace which surpasses all understanding, and he promises if we trust in him through faith in Jesus, God will guard our hearts and our minds.

In the bible Acts 27 we can read the account of faith in storms both natural world storms and storms caused by humankind, and the calm faith that apostle Paul shows as written down by his fellow disciple Dr Luke. In the midst of the storms Paul simply says "I have faith in God", and they are delivered from the storms of life.

Only God enables us to ride the winds of the storm that brings sickness, pain, tragedy, failure and disappointments in our lives, and make something good come from it. We can soar above the storm. Remember it's not the burdens of life which weigh us down, but how we handle them that counts.

Services every Sunday @10.30am Contemporary worship info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

Community lunch 12.30pm all ages welcome

February 21st and March 20th in the Old Schoolrooms. If possible, book a place but if unable just come along, you will be made very welcome, Debbie 740366 Sharon 07974785437

Events:

Murder Mystery Supper Tickets are going like hotcakes for this fun community evening out in the village hall. For tickets contact info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk or phone Sharon 07974785437

Parish prayer, Churches together praying at the vicarage for our world and community on evenings of February 14th and March 19th all welcome.

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Meeting of Tuesday 9th January 2024: Although it was not planned to have a meeting in January, the arrival of two planning applications of significance meant that we were called to a meeting of the Parish Council. There were 10 members of public present and one person from Ablington spoke for them in raising issues arising from planning for the Land and Buildings West of Stonebank, Ablington 23/03772/FUL. This is the third iteration of plans for the site and some of the inconsistencies in the submission were raised. In later discussions by the Parish Council, it was unanimously agreed that the Objection previously lodged should be reinstated on several grounds but the main one was access which cannot be overcome safely for this site.

There was an application for work to a building at Carter's Close to which there was no objection along with notification of tree works at Arlington Lodge and Bank House, Ablington.

There was also an enormously significant application 23/03850/LBC from Ablington Manor, an application which had only just arrived and it was deemed of such importance that more time was required to properly assess it. It was suggested that, if granted permission, plans should be put in place for contractors' vehicles whilst work went ahead as the roads are narrow and the works substantial. In view of the limited time available the Council agreed to 'no comment' but may send in a report after a presentation from the Land Agent which is scheduled for the next Parish Council meeting and they would like an opportunity for a site visit.

Bibury Parish Plan: The first meeting of this group took place on 8th January and it was agreed that probably next month would see a questionnaire circulated along with Village Life. The Chairman of that group will lay out the main areas of interest in a later article in this Village Life. We would welcome a representative from Ablington to sit on that group and if there is someone interested, please contact Mehdi Mahjour at bibury.parish.plan@gmail.com.

Next Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 13th February, Bibury Village Hall.

From 15 January 2024 for two weeks there will be an ANPR camera overseeing traffic crossing the bridge by the Swan Hotel. This is to gather data on the volume and type of vehicles that are using the bridge. We can use this data to establish how to better manage traffic through Bibury as part of on-going initiatives by the Parish Council and Bibury Parking Working Group.

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

Our third term is in full swing, and children and teachers are very busy with the daily activities that form our intensive curriculum. Swimming lessons for the whole school began again with the children going to Cirencester Leisure Centre each week to improve their swimming skills.

Acorns Class: In Science, we have been looking at the topic of light and dark. Over the past two weeks we have looked at nocturnal animals, animals which hibernate, as well as making shadow puppets. This week we have also planted a variety of bulbs in our new planter - thank you to the PTA for supplying the bulbs and mulch.

In English, we have been busy writing some reports about a pet dragon. The children had great fun creating their own dragon and produced some excellent writing. EYFS have enjoyed sharing books with lots of different forms of writing to explore. We are looking forward to a trip to the STEAM museum in Swindon soon.

Oaks Class: DT -This term, Mighty Oaks and Oaks class have created their very own gift package. Over the last few weeks, they have explored the different types of nets, become familiar with the various designs and thought about the purposes of different packages. To end this unit, they have all thought about their final design and have created their own package. Once completed, Mighty Oaks and Oaks have then evaluated and modified their finished product to meet their success criteria.

English - Oaks have been building sentences for our explanation text which explains how to look after a robotic pet. As a class, we have been looking at key writing techniques such as using subheadings to organise ideas, cause and effect language and the use of onomatopoeia, alliteration and similes for effect. Oaks have now planned, drafted and written their very own explanation text on a robotic pet of their choice.

French -This term, Oaks will have been learning about the nouns and determiners for several family members in French and have moved from using the determiner 'a' with a family member noun to using a possessive adjective 'my'. We have also been asking questions in our French lessons, for example, 'do you have any brothers or sisters?'

Mighty Oaks Class: In maths, we have concluded our work on fractions and year 6 have followed this with a short unit on units of measure. Year 5 have begun a longer unit looking at formal strategies for multiplying and dividing with larger numbers.

We have continued to carry out practical activities in science, separating materials using sieving, filtering and evaporation. The children also developed their own questions and investigations into the science of bouncy balls. We will continue our topic about materials and are looking at irreversible changes.

We were treated to a magical workshop by Ben and Nick, two musicians (a tuba-player and a saxophonist) from the Cheltenham festival who played some melodies and led the children in a range of musical activities. The vibrations caused by playing the tuba on the floor (following a question from one of the children) was an unexpected highlight!

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

HEAVENS ABOVE: The New Moon comes early on 9th and is in Aquarius, and this time, a time of high emotions for some Aquarians, is a moon sign which is why, but by the time we come to the full moon on 24th, fear and anxiety will be calmer as this moon is in Virgo and life settles down somewhat.

February: This month is the border between winter and spring. If January is the month for change, February is the month of lasting change. January is for dreamers, February is for doers.

Terrific Person:

Hey you! You're often on my mind,
You're a terrific person, One of a kind,
I'm sending this poem Because I want to say
I'm thinking of you, This Valentine's Day.

B.A.D.S. Presents
MURDER MYSTERY
SUPPER
FRIDAY 8TH MARCH AT 7PM
BIBURY VILLAGE HALL

Raffle Draw

£17
per person including a 3 course meal (bring your own drinks)

Book early to avoid disappointment, especially if you wish to reserve a table for a group booking

Please inform us of any dietary requirements upon booking at info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

WARNING: TICKETS SELLING FAST! The return of the Murder mystery brought to you by B.A.D.S. (Bibury Am.Dram.Soc.) Our last sell out performance was in 2018! Now with some new local faces we present "Murder on the Circuit" loosely based on some wild historic characters from formula one. Come along and see "Who dunnit" and if you recognise any local faces on stage!

The evening will kick off with a Starter course then act one, followed by Main course into act two, then a yummy Pudding, at this point we ask for ideas from the audience of who did it and how? Also we will take the raffle draw and coffee will be available before the final act to find out "Who Dunnit!"

Any funds raised will go towards repayment of the loan used to renovate and refurbish the Old Schoolrooms and kitchen, a community space in Arlington and home of the Community lunch.

As normal with Bibury village hall events we ask that you bring your own Cutlery, Crockery and glassware. Sharon 07974785437 or info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

BIBURY VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting of the Bibury Village Hall Management Committee took place in the Village Hall on 18th January.

Adrian Wright, who had taken over as interim Chairman in March, reported on an extremely busy year with the Coronation celebrations and the refurbishment of the interior of the hall on top of all the regular activities.

Resignations: Following his report, Adrian announced that he would be stepping down as Chairman but is continuing as a Trustee of Bibury United Charities, the body which owns the Village Hall and Cottage.

Wendy Challinor, who has been on the Committee for almost 40 years, some 30 or so as Secretary, has also stepped down. The Committee and the whole village owe an immense debt of gratitude to Wendy who has worked tirelessly to organise countless community events over the years. Keen gardener Wendy was presented with a Dobbie's voucher.

The meeting ended with a slide presentation and lively Q&A session led by Geoffrey Bowman, a local architect who is familiar with the building. He is advising us on energy efficiency and general repairs and maintenance issues.

Committee members for 2024

The 11-strong Bibury Village Hall Management Committee for this year is as follows:

Angela Staton (Chairman) Maggie Catling (Secretary) Sue Arnold (Treasurer) Angela Alderton, Barry Brandon, Roger King, Jenny Lawrenson, Beverley Morgan-Davies, Suki Pascoe, Mike Pini and Victoria Summerley.

RURAL CINEMA Thursday, 8th February, Bibury Village Hall

And the film is ... The Great Escaper

This month's film promises to be a runaway hit. Starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson, The Great Escaper is a 2023 biographical drama directed by Oliver Parker and written by William (Made in Dagenham) Ivory. It is based on the true story of 89-year-old British World War II Royal Navy veteran Bernard Jordan who 'broke out' of his nursing home to attend the 70th anniversary D-Day commemorations in France in June 2014.

Caine and Jackson are in top form in this true-life heart warmer. The film, which had its world premiere in London at the BFI Southbank on 20 September 2023, marked the final screen performances for both lead actors. Jackson died in June 2023 nine months after filming finished, and Caine announced his retirement from acting in October 2023.

What the critics said:

· Michael Caine is gruffly heartbreaking in this veteran adventure. The Observer

- Glenda Jackson is utterly transfixing in her final film. The Telegraph
- The Great Escaper never lurches into clunky sentimentality, and whenever it looks as if it might, Caine and Jackson pull it back. The Independent
- An unassuming tale about autumnal dignity and the quiet compensations of lifelong companionship. The Times



RURAL CINEMA

Bibury Village Hall – Thursday, 8th February

The Great Escaper

Drama, Cert:12A, Run time 1hr 36min.

Starring: Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson. Screenplay: William Ivory Directed by: Oliver Parker

Doors open 7.00pm - Film starts 7.30pm. Tickets on the door.

Come early to catch up with friends and enjoy a drink before the film begins.

BIBURY CRICKET CLUB

The 35th annual Duck Race on Boxing Day proved to be the most successful ever. Great work by Jack Merrylees allowed us to broadcast the race live to a global audience via social media. We got attention across the globe from the USA to Australia and many other places in between. This allowed us to sell around £800 worth of tickets online before Boxing Day. On a lovely winter's day the race attracted a large crowd. Ticket sales on the day were also strong so net proceeds from the yellow duck race were a record £2800. The charity duck race proceeds were a bit disappointing at £1100 and we really missed any contribution from the Swan Hotel who have historically bought charity ducks for each occupied room. The charity duck race winner was Jack Whitehead. Unfortunately, we could not find him on the day or since. If everyone knows Jack, please ask him to call me on 07775387813 to arrange presentation. A big thank you to all club members and villagers that participated on the day.

Meanwhile, preparation for the new season has begun. We are back in Division 1 of the CDCA league this season following promotion last year. We open the league season on May 4th with an away match at Poulton.

The Sunday warriors step out Lady Hill on the 19th May against Ascott under Wychwood. Winter nets at Rendcomb College commence on Monday 12th February, two lanes, 8pm to 9pm, until 8th April, £ 5 per net session. Everyone is welcome to attend these sessions and we always welcome new players irrespective of gender, age or ability. Contact me or any other member.

Leslie Smith
Chairman 07775387813

Contribute to a birdwatching opportunity

I have been looking back at my bird diary which I have now kept for 50 years. I am drawing on one of my favourite recent sightings as I write this. I was out walking the dog along the track to the cricket field in Bibury, when my attention was drawn to a large bird flying towards me that seemed unusual. It looked white from underneath, perhaps a greater black backed gull, but also seemed to be labouring in its flight.

Fortunately, I had my binoculars with me and as the bird passed overhead, I had a spectacular view of a large fish being carried in the birds' talons, facing directly forwards. It looked like a trout which would make sense with the river Coln and trout farm nearby. The fish was also very large in relation to the body length of the bird which I estimated could have weighed at least 2 pounds. There was only one bird that fitted this description. This was an Osprey, a majestic bird that had been exterminated in Britain by the early 20th century and was still rare, although making a bit of a comeback, with some pairs now nesting in Britain.

Specially protected in the UK, many ospreys winter in tropical Africa arriving in March - which was when my sighting took place in 2022, and then after breeding and raising their young reach their winter quarters in late September.

Birds are a good indicator of the broader state of wildlife and the natural world, and this is the important point. I have seen huge changes over the last 50 years with reduction in both species and bird numbers reflecting the environmental problems our world is facing through the climate crisis and decline in biodiversity which is all of our making. Recent bird studies in the UK indicating many common species suffering more than a 50% decline with an increasing number being placed on the endangered list.

I would encourage everyone to take part in the annual RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. As well as helping to raise our own awareness and understanding, this also provides an enjoyable opportunity to support conservation measures some of which have helped the return of birds like the osprey. You will also contribute to a birdwatching opportunity.

Peter Wiggin, Arlington Green

BIBURY FOOTBALL CLUB

The Football is going very well, the team are currently on a six match unbeaten run including big wins over Lydney Town 5-1 and Longlevens, the league leaders, 4-1 also a home draw with second placed Dursley Town. Bibury are currently 7th in the league but have games in hand over the teams above us.

Off the field last year was awful, after losing both Peter Lees and Willy Brown we were very saddened to hear of the passing of Micky Tucker who was another man who did so much for the Football club.

On the social club side of things, there is now a serious chance that we may have to close the social club at the end of this football season. Unfortunately, we are down to three volunteers who all have full time jobs and cannot continue to put in the time required to run this facility.

For the club to be able to continue we desperately need more help and volunteers who can help with various jobs around the club including the occasional bar shift. We welcome everyone, especially with new ideas which are much needed! If anyone is interested or would like more information, please contact biburyafcsec@gmail.com or pop up to the club. It would be such a shame to lose a village facility that a lot of people have worked very hard to build up.

Leslie Smith – biburyafcsec@gmail.com

CRAFT CLUB (Bibury Crafters)

As spring approaches and crocus and daffodils start to appear, I have been thinking about spring crafts to entice you to craft club. Easter is early this year –you’ve probably already seen Easter crafts on sale at Hobbycraft – so I thought it might be nice to have a go at an Easter tree.

I did one of these at a class a few years ago and think they look great.

This will be a two-part project. At our February meet we will have a go at decorating eggs for our tree. I’ll show you a number of different ways to decorate the eggs: some you might know, but perhaps there will be one or two you haven’t tried before.

I will also let you have a list of items you will need to bring along to assemble your trees during the March meeting.

For the first part of this project, please bring along some eggs to decorate, either real, polystyrene, wood, whatever you prefer. You may also have some ideas or techniques to share with us all – do bring these! I will supply what we need to decorate the eggs but again, should you want a specific design/colour, please bring supplies with you.

Dates for your diary

February craft club: Wednesday 28th

March craft club: Wednesday 27th (Not the last/4th wed in month) - Is this the correct date?

All our meetings take place in Bibury Village Hall at 2pm. There is a £3 fee to cover the cost of the hall and tea and biscuits.

Did you know there is now a Bibury Craft club Facebook page? For those of you on Facebook who would like to join, please search Bibury Craft club to find us.

We also have a new email address which is Biburycraftclub@gmail.com. Please email us with any questions, suggestions etc.

I know there are a huge amount of talented crafters out there and I would love you to come and join and share your knowledge.

Please email me if you want to be included, I have lots of exciting ideas for 2024. In the meantime, have a great couple of weeks and I look forward to seeing you on 28th Feb.

Beverley Morgan-Davies

BIBURY GARDENING CLUB

One of the benefits (if you can call it that) of hard frosts in January is that there is not much you can do in the garden.

The soil is frozen solid, and it's a good idea to keep off the lawn as much as possible. In normal weather the grass bends under your feet and bounces back, but when the blades of grass freeze completely, they become brittle and rupture, which means you are left with brown footprint-sized marks on the lawn. Stay indoors and read seed catalogues, and dream of summer colour, that's my advice.

I'll be talking at our February meeting about American gardens, and the differences between the way we garden here in the UK, and the way our US cousins work.

The February meeting is when we take annual subscriptions, so if you want to join the club, this is a good time to do it. Our annual subscription for 2024 remains at £25.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 14 February: Victoria Summerley on gardening in America

Wednesday 13 March: Gardener Joff Elphick on "Crayfish on the Lawn", a multimedia presentation on plants, people and natural history

If you are interested in joining, drop me an email at v.summerley@hotmail.com.

Victoria Summerley

NEWS FROM BARNESLEY

The historic Coronation Oak: The villagers of Barnsley wanted to make a fitting tribute to the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth II, by planting an Oak tree as part of the village Coronation celebrations in 1953. After the approval of the Village Meeting, an oak tree was purchased and planted on a small plot of land offered by the Wykeham-Musgrave family. The site they own is between Oak Tree House (No. 42) and No. 41 Barnsley, and in addition, they fenced the area to ensure security and sufficient space for the tree to mature.

Since then, the trees and the area around has been tended by the villagers. Principally by Paul Reason, who lived opposite the Coronation Oak at No. 10 Barnsley for 88 years until recently, and formerly the Whiteheads who lived across the lane at No. 42, subsequently named Oak Tree House. Over the years, they and Paul planted Cyclamen and Snow Drops, which are now well established and give a wonderful display each year that everyone appreciates.

Barnsley House and The Boot: Both establishments will be closed from the 5th of February 2024 until July 2024 due to being sold – the new owners are The Pig Group. The Hotel will be renamed The Pig, and the pub will be renamed The Village Pub.

General News: Very sad to say Paul R has left Barnsley after living in the same house for 88 years. He knows more about the village and its residents than anyone else. He has moved into Hunters Care Home in Cirencester and is very happy to receive visitors. His house is currently

on the market. Welcoming Michael and Sally Stubberfield. They moved into Barnsley last year, renovated their house, and transformed the garden beautifully. David Oakman moved into the adjoining house shortly afterwards. He and his partner have done a huge amount to both the house and a newly delightful garden. David Forsbrey moved into Jane Wykeham-Musgraves' former house in the autumn.

The Advent Table Sale took place on the 2nd of December. There were 10 stall holders, and the event was most enjoyable, though many residents could not attend. Tom Page

ROUND AND ABOUT

All the Sadly we begin with notification of previous resident deaths. We were saddened to learn of the death on Christmas Day of Robin Percival who lived at Old Walls, Ablington (see note from Robin's sister under LETTERS below). We were also saddened at the death of Elaine Saunders, who had lived in Bibury all her life from the age six months and was very well known in the village. Older residents will remember fondly, her late father-in-law Bert and his wife running the village butcher's shop (now The Twig) for many years. And finally, the death of Mikey Tucker, formerly of Aldsworth Road, keen Bibury Football Club supporter and player and also a former Panel member. We offer our sincere condolences to all their families and friends.

Richard and Di Barough, Ablington, have both been 'in the wars' lately and we wish them well.

The massive planning application for Ablington Manor is mentioned elsewhere as well as the **third** attempt to develop the field between Stonebank and Hinton Cottage, Ablington,, Local residents are understandably very concerned about the impact these large-scale building works will have, if all the proposals go ahead.

The re-decoration of the Village Hall in a very attractive colour scheme, which complements the photographs on the walls, has been much admired – well done and thank you to all concerned.

A big 'thank you' also to Edward Mallinkrodt for removing (in extremely wet and cold conditions) part of the large fallen tree from the river opposite Riverside Cottage, to alleviate any potential flooding problems.

Walking round the villages today we note that spring is just around the corner, with the appearance of the first snowdrops and aconites – a very welcome sight.

LETTERS

Robin Percival: My brother, Robin Percival, from "Old Walls" passed away unexpectedly on Christmas Day, at home. He was a well-known character around the area. He had been in the building trade most of his life, then caring for my late mother Ethel. He was then seen repairing many a Cotswold stone wall and other building jobs for the local farmers. It is the end of an era for the Percivals and Baldwins at Old Walls. My grandparents George and Rhoda Baldwin moved up there well over 90 years ago and my parents Ethel and Les Percival moved into the house next door when they married and Robin and myself were born in the house. I would like to thank people for their kind comments.

Yours Sincerely, Heather Manners

THANK YOU: All the Residents, visitors and staff at the Hyperion House Fairford, would like to thank Mr John Phillips very much, for coming and playing the piano at our Xmas party it was lovely to hear John play, we had lots of lovely compliments re the Xmas music in the back ground, and we would like to wish John and Judy a very Happy New Year.

FROM THE PANEL

Firstly, apologies if last month's issue was a bit crumpled – The wet windy weather before New Year meant that some issues got wet – even if they had been placed in the appropriate box!

On a happier note - we are delighted to welcome Tom Page from Barnsley to The Publication Panel. Jenny A'Bear, a former Panel member. has volunteered not only to type some issues but will become the Ablington Representative for the Panel. Jenny would appreciate any entries/news from Ablington residents (email: jennyabear@outlook.com).

And finally – Advertisers in the Trade directory – annual payment of £5 per line for a year's worth of issues – is now due. Please let us know if you wish your entry to be altered.

Did you know that to produce 'Village Life' each month we rely entirely on volunteers ?.

- We now have 5 Panel members and an Ablington Representative.
- Over a dozen regular contributors each month
- 5 typists who take it in turn to download and create the magazine.
- 1 regular and 1 deputy 'printers' of magazine.
- 5 volunteers who take it in turns to collate and deliver to the
- 24 different distributors who deliver locally anything from 2 to 78 copies
- Over 40 regular advertisers in our Trade Directory
- We deliver to over 500 households in the villages of Bibury, Barnsley, Ablington and Winson.
- Send about 15 postal copies and @ 35 email copies each month
- Each issue normally uses between 7 -10 sheets of A4 paper.
- The magazine cost us about £100 an issue to produce
- We produce a FREE magazine to your door, but we are completely depended on donations and revenue from adverts to cover our costs.
- We are very grateful to the Trout farm for allowing us to store our duplicator there.

So Thank you to each and everyone who helps in any way.

If you would like to get more involved either by joining the typist, collators, contributors or distributors then please contact any member of the Panel.

FROM FURTHER AFIELD

Saturday March 16th, Val Bourne talks about "Growing Organic Vegetables - successful strategies in the Cotswolds" in Northleach Church at 7pm. Tickets £12 and £15 at northleachevents.co.uk or at Northleach Post Office. Many thanks, Jane Quelch.