

JULY/AUGUST 2024

'VILLAGE LIFE'

DATES FOR THE DIARY

ISSUE NO.493

JULY

Wednesday 3 rd Saturday 6 th	Craft Club, Craft Fair in Bibury Village Hall	2-4pm 9:30 to 4pm
Saturday 6 th Tuesday 9 th	Talk 'Fall of Mrs thatcher ' in Bibury Church 6pm drink Bibury Parish Council meeting	(\$ 6.30pm talk 7.00pm
Wednesday 10 th	Garden Club visit to Long cottage, Arlington	6.30pm
Wednesday, 10 th	Entry forms and fees to the Village Hall between 6	•
Friday 12 th	Pop up teas in churchyard	
Saturday 13 th	Bibury & District Village Show in Bibury Village H	all
Wednesday 17 th	Community Lunch in Baptist Schoolroom	12:30pm
Friday to Sat 19 th to	o 21 ^t 'Art from The Kitchen Table' Art Exhibition, Village	
Enider Ooth	•	pm Sat/Sun
Friday 26 th	Pop up teas in churchyard	
AUGUST		
Friday 9 th	Pop up teas in churchyard	
Wednesday 21 st	Community Lunch in Baptist Schoolroom	12:30pm
Tuesday 20th d Friday 23 rd	<i>leadline for September's issue of 'Village Life'</i> Pop up teas in churchyard	12 noon
SEPTEMBER Wednesday 4 th . Friday 6 th	Craft club resumes in Bibury Village Hall Inaugural Sir Crispin Tickel Memorial Lecture in Bibur	2 – 4pm y Church
Saturday 14 th	Bibury Cricket Club Fun Day	
Saturday 14 ["] Wednesday 18 th		12:30pm

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: <u>https://www.biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/village</u> life

BIBURY WITH WINSON AND BARNSLEY CHURCES

Bibury Vicarage, Gloucestershire, GL7 5NT Tim.hastie-smith@hotmail.com July 2024 Dear Friends,

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I write this on the eve of our 37th Wedding Anniversary. Looking back at the photographs, and passing over one or two regrettable hair styles, I can not help noticing how hopelessly young we look. What were we doing making lifelong commitments at such a young age?

On 11th August we will be inviting couples to Bibury to reaffirm their wedding vows, Since Bibury, Winson and Barnsley are popular churches to marry in, (in 2022 we hosted the second largest number of weddings in the diocese of Gloucester) this seems appropriate. I'm very conscious that in any celebration there is a risk of excluding those to whom it may be felt the event does not directly apply (The single, the divorced the bereaved to name a few) but I do hope that this celebration will genuinely be for all. Because, rightly understood, the celebration of marriage is an inclusive not an exclusive event because, as the preface to the Christian marriage service puts it, it enriches society and blesses community. This is why, in most cultures a wedding is a huge village/community event, to which all are invited. If one celebrates, we all celebrate, because we are all members of a single human family. In my travels with Scripture Union, I often found myself invited to the weddings of people I didn't know, and the hosts were pleased to welcome any who were happy to join the celebration. Sometimes lasting days.....Marriage is about giving not taking, yet in our increasingly individualistic, inward looking culture, marriage, like so much else has been privatised, and turned into an exclusive personal possession. A friend was at a civil ceremony recently that began with the words: To love is nothing, to be loved is something. To be loved by the one we love is everything. Apart from being just plain wrong, I find that sentiment a little sad. Tragically limiting and unimaginative. I sometimes use the story of the young man who married his childhood sweetheart after years of pursuing her. But a few weeks after the wedding he wrote a blog with the shocking title. Marriage: Its not for me. The title was, of course, intended to provoke, as he went on to write that what he had realised in marrying was that having thought about all the things that marriage might bring to him, he came to realise that marriage was, actually all about giving. Marriage, he went on, is not for me, its for her. Enter marriage selfishly, and you begin in a desperately disappointing place. Richard Baxter, Vicar of Kidderminster, and a favourite preacher of Oliver Cromwell and the New Model Army, observed that marriage can be our chief means of sanctification, by which he meant that learning to live at close quarters with another human, to whom you have made a lifelong commitment requires enormous determination, give and take, conflict resolution, kindness, patience, willingness to forgive, and, well, all the things listed in 1 Corinthians 13, where St Paul describes love. Learning to behave like this is good for us, good for our partner, and a blessing to everyone else.

Marriage teaches us to love. It makes us a better person. And if our husband/wife is a bit difficult to love at times, the willingness to keep on loving is even more transformative to both the lover and the loved. When Joanne agreed to take me on, she clearly felt that she would require significant sanctification....

The act of marriage is something for all to rejoice in, a statement of hope in the future and a sign of a well-functioning community (Who can forget the utter 'wrongness' of a marriageless season during COVID19 lockdown) Marriage is about a healthy society that both shares in what lies ahead, just as it shares in the loss when someone dies, for as John Donne writes Each man's death diminishes me, for I am involved in mankind. Therefore, send not to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee. In the same way, the joyful ringing out of the bells for a wedding is for all to share in.

So, do please join us for this special service which really is for everyone. Regardless of marital status.

with every blessing, Tim

Village Prayer Meeting takes place on Tuesday 16th July and Wednesday 21st August at 6:00pm at The Vicarage.

Pop up tea: Friday 12th and 26th July, 9th and 23rd August.

Saturday 6th July: Lord (Charles) Moore, former Editor of The Times, who, with Kate Ehrman, reflects on The Fall of Mrs Thatcher. Moore wrote the authorised three volume biography of the Iron Lady. Tickets are £10 and can be booked on the Bibury Festivals website or bought at the door. Again, 6:00pm drinks followed by a 6:30pm talk.

Sunday 11th August: A service of thanksgiving where all who are married are invited to reaffirm their wedding vows.

Friday 6th September Inaugural Sir Crispin Tickell Memorial Lecture Dame Fiona Reynolds formerly Director General of the National Trust, and Master of Emmanuel College Cambridge, and currently Chair of the Royal Agricultural University, as well as Chair of the national Audit Office, joins us to give the Inaugural Sir Crispin Tickell Memorial Lecture. Dame Fiona is our first distinguished guest, and all are welcome to drinks at 6:00pm, followed by a lecture. Entry FREE

Saturday 28th September at 6:00pm Election special with broadcaster, author and political commentator, Iain Dale. Entry FREE

BARNSLEY WOLD S.S.S.I.

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

COVER SKETCH – a reminder of the Bibury Show on 13th July Don't forget to find your Show schedule and enter the Bibury show

Church Services July 2024	Bibury	Barnsley	Winson
Sunday 7 th July Trinity 6 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th July Trinity 7 Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion	
Sunday 21 st July Trinity 8 Ephesians 2:11-end Mark 6:30-34, 53-end	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion		9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 28th July Trinity 9 Ephesians 3:14-end Psalm 14 John 6:1-21	11.00am Morning Prayer and Holy Baptism Albie Saunders	9:30am Morning Prayer	
Sunday 4 th August Trinity 10 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a John 6:24-35	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion	9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 11 th August Trinity 11 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 John 6:35,41-51	11.00am Reaffirmation of Wedding Vows With prosecco and cake	9:30am BCP Holy Communion	
Sunday 18 th August Trinity 12 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion		9:30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 25th August Trinity 13 Ephesians 6:10-20 Psalm 84 John 6:56-69	11.00am Morning Prayer	9:30am Morning Prayer	
Churchwardens	Revd Tim Hastie-Smith	Dominic Spacie	Lavinia Sidgwick 01285 720682
Vicar Curate	Revol 11m Hastle-Smith 01285 740301 Jackie Colburn 01451 860212		

ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

The mixed media Art Journaling day recently held in the Old Schoolrooms was a chance to brush up on old skills and learn new, for the group drawn to art for the day,most of whom were a bit sketchy, it was certainly a stroke of genius, a recipe for a

colourful life..... enough of the puns.

The fantastic thing about the day, led by Jenna Burne from Stroud, was that no artistic ability was needed, it was more a therapy, exploring a new way to let go of our worries and use a different part of our brain at a slower relaxing pace.

It was an amazing day, joyous in fact, and everyone left with big a smile and a sense of well being.

We were led through processes step by step making several pieces of mixed media artwork, each in our own workbook (everything was supplied).

Jenna led us praying for God to speak to us through our work, praying for letting go of our control, embracing spontaneity, letting go of perfection and embracing beauty in imperfection, letting go of expectations and embracing process, letting go of what others think and embracing creating for oneself and God, not focusing on an end product but enjoying the journey and lastly letting go of striving/trying and embracing trust, all these processes translate to our faith.

If we pray, telling God our problems, speak to Jesus he will listen and answer, trusting in HIS way, he will look after us. The Lords prayer says "May your will be done on earth as in heaven" Gods answers may not be quite what we would like at times, but he has a plan for each of us to give us hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29 v11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Community lunch every month is open to all locals from our rural area and villages, we enjoy a freshly made two course meal at a long table where friendship and chatter abound. If you would like more information call Debbie 740366 or Sharon 07974785437

Lunch dates July 17th August 21st and September 18th 12.30pm

Services

There will be no Service at Arlington Chapel on June 30th and July 7th @10.30am

Arlington Baptist Church is its people, not the building, and we often find it easier to have Church services in homes rather than gather in the Chapel building, especially if members of the congregation are unable to travel for one reason or another. Over the next few months if you are looking to join us on a Sunday please email info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk to confirm our location as we will still be gathering to worship and you will be most welcome Sundays 10.30am

BIBURY OPEN GARDENS FESTIVAL – the results are in!

So there were the Bells (courtesy of Pete Bartlett's bellringing team), the Band (The Macaroons, playing a mix of jazz and blues), the Bouquets (arranged by florist Beth Bruce-Gardner), and rural England's ultimate Barrier method – the hedgelaying demonstrated by champion hedgelayer Phil Hart.

And of course the Backyards. Seven of them altogether, big and small, all looking stunning, thanks to their hard-working owners: Carole and Perry Farmar; Edward and Anne Marie Mallinckrodt; Heather and Craig Chapman; Angela Alderton; Barry and Janet Brandon, Karen Gray and Marcus Child; and Victoria Summerley.

There was a BBQ in the churchyard, and inside the church, six of Bibury's local artists had their work on show, organised by Lynn Edward.

Then there were Bibury's Bakers, organised by village hall committee secretary Maggie Catling and treasurer Sue Arnold, who produced a seemingly endless stream of delectable homemade sponges, fruitcakes and traybakes, and served them with a smile on the day.

There were the Backroom Boys (and Girls), especially Mike Pini, who got the website up and running for advance bookings and worked out where to put all the signage, aided by cone king Craig Chapman.

There was the generous agreement by Bibury Court owners Marc and Charlotte Newson and their estate manager, Sophie Russell Marsh to let us use their field for visitor parking.

The Barnsley Open Gardens organisers - particularly Mike Daly, who was a great source of advice – also deserve a mention for their support and encouragement, and finally the Bibury Village Hall committee, without whom the Open Gardens Festival simply would not happen.

What you will all want to know, however, is the Bottom Line. Well, we raised more than $\pounds 2,000$, which is a record, and makes all the hard work worthwhile.

Particular thanks should go to village hall committee member Victoria Summerley, who masterminded the event, and to chairwoman Angela Staton, members Roger King, Bev Morgan Davies, Jenny Lawrenson and Angela Alderton. 'Village Life' produced the booklet listing the events and the map of the gardens.

Our team of volunteers included Steve and Caroline Moreton, Fiona Davis, Chris Blackwell, Ann Haigh, Tim Arnold and John Phillips.

Apologies if anyone has been left out but everyone involved should feel proud of producing a truly wonderful day and a fantastic financial result.

The Bibury Village Hall Committee

<u>THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH</u> – given the likehood of holiday trips and road closures A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

BIBURY GARDENING CLUB

Our June visit to Charlton Farm, near Minety, took place on an unseasonably cold evening, but that failed to wither our enthusiasm for Sarah Rivett-Carnac's beautiful garden.

Sarah has lived at Charlton Farm – which hosts the local Rare Plant Fairs in spring and autumn – for 14 years and she explained how when she moved in, the garden was a blank slate. It had been a battery chicken farm, but that didn't seem to have yielded much in the way of improvement for the soil.

You often find this with former agricultural sites: the soil becomes compacted by heavy vehicles passing over it, particularly in yards around farm buildings or near entrances. Working in organic material helps a lot but it is hard work.

Looking at Sarah's garden today, however, you would never know there had been problems. Formal areas with colourful perennials and luxuriant roses surround the house, blurring into wildflower meadows, orchards and ponds a little way beyond.

Hornbeam hedges provide not only shelter belts but also a green backdrop for the floriferous borders, and paths are mown through the meadows to allow easy access.

Among the most impressive sights was the enormous angelica in the shade garden and the towering clumps of thalictrum in the herbaceous borders.

We are staying closer to home in July, when we will be meeting at Heather and Craig Chapman's garden at Long Cottage, Bibury on Wednesday 10 July at 6.30pm. The Chapmans opened Long Cottage for the very first time for Open Gardens this year, so if you missed it that weekend, here's a chance to have a look.

Victoria Summerley

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from a Meeting held on Tuesday 11th June 2024

There were 10 members of the public present, one who raised the concern that the landowner of the 'Allotment Gardens' which are subject to a "Green Space" application has been using weed killer. Concern was expressed about possible damage to the ecology. The Clerk confirmed that the application for it to be included in the Local Plan as "Green Space" has been acknowledged by CDC. **Note** – ahead of this meeting an Extraordinary Meeting was held on Monday 3rd June when it was agreed to apply for Tree Preservation Orders on the land either side of Cemetery Lane.

The Trout Farm, who had a presence at the meeting, confirmed that they are looking at a path for pedestrians along the side of the road or through / via Shoecroft from the overload carpark and confirmed that they were happy to discuss future plans with the Parish Council at a date to be decided. There was some discussion about use of the field near Shoecroft for overflow parking which will require planning consent but are keen to help with traffic where they can. There are now additional signs with a replacement for the brown signs to direct traffic to parking. There has been a visit by a Rural Police Officer to follow-up on concerns regarding damage to the ecology and its impact on wildlife, with follow-up evidence provided.

The following points were raised:

-The ANPR camera is set to log speeds over 40mph with over 5,700 vehicles out of 31,000 logged (ie 19%) above that in one month. The next stage is to erect speed camera signs and start sending police letters / enforcement.

-The initial Action Plan from the Bibury Parking Working Group has been received by the Parish Council but too close to this meeting to discuss recommendations. Do look at the report which is on the Parish Council website and make comment.

-From 24th July the TRO markings will be put in place with signage the week after.

- The road through Ablington needs a sign restricting coach width.

-Concern about the state of the path down the Arlington Row bank particularly for use of someone in a wheelchair.

-There is damage to The Swan Bridge and Highways have investigated whilst indications are that some of the stones have moved and some of the masonry is missing so that repairs are needed. The PC is progressing implications / next steps due to the critical nature of the bridge and overweight use that has already been recorded by the ANPR survey and is ongoing.

-Broken walls need Highways repairs: approach to Arlington Green & by The Twig.

PLANNING:

Cobblers, Church Road and Rosemary Cottage, Awkward Hill - no objections to plans but on Awkward Hill repairs are needed to verge damage and there must be no road closure possible.

Potlickers Lane, Ablington – request to charge classification; the Members provided evidence of their knowledge of the use dating back over 40 years.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 9th July 2024

PLEASE NOTE – before the next meeting there will be a presentation on the results of the Parish Plan survey and comment on progression.

NB: There is now a bookable bus service, **The Robin**. This can be booked online or by telephone (0345 263 8139). The price is capped at £2 until 31st December 2024.

END OF SCHOOL

School times nearly over School times almost done We've done a lot of learning We've had a lot of fun We'll say goodbye to teachers We'll put our books away School time is over now It's our time to play

HEAVENS ABOVE

The new moon starts a new month on July 5th. Then the full moon is on July 21st and called the buck moon – a time for the male deersto shed their antlers ready for new ones and the rutting season. It is also known as the Hay moon for the onset of having an early harvest.

Mars Jupiter and Saturn will be dominating the skies early morning for most of the month this is when they are at the their brightest.

BIBURY CRAFT CLUB

At our June meeting Bibury crafters had a fun afternoon creating padded coat hangers. A big thank you goes to Gillian Day for leading the session, providing the pattern, and showing us all what do with some great hints and tips along the way and for providing delicious homemade scones and shortbread. I'd also like to thank Victoria for bringing her sewing machine and working hard sewing up all our pieces.

We all went home with a beautiful finished coat hanger which was much nicer than anything you could buy in the shops. Thank you all for coming.

We are going to take a break now until September, but I hope everyone will be entering some craft items into the Village Show competition on 13 July.

In the meantime, have a great summer.

The next craft club meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 September when we will be making bunting for the Baptist Church.

Bev Morgan Davies

The 2024 Bibury and District Show, Saturday 13th July in the Village Hall

We know Bibury and District's got talent. Last month's Open Gardens Festival showcased some impressive gardening skills. And if you stopped by the village hall you might have tasted one of the delicious home-made cakes made by villagers.

The Bibury & District Show on Saturday 13th July gives everyone the chance to show off their own skills in baking, preserve-making, crafting, garden produce, flower arranging, photography and art.

There are no age limits! Whether you are 4 or 94, there is a category for everyone. And if you have grandchildren staying that weekend, they can enter.

It's a fun day. All the entries are on display through the afternoon. It helps raise funds for the Village Hall. And there's a raffle with prizes kindly donated by local businesses and individuals.

Every house that gets Village Life should by now have received a copy of the 2024 Bibury and District Show schedule. This lists all the categories and the rules. If you haven't received one or need another copy, contact Angela Staton on 740078 or Maggie Catling on 740728.

Important dates:

 \cdot Wednesday, 10th July, entry forms and fees to the Village Hall between 6pm and 8pm.

• Saturday, 13th July, exhibits to the Village Hall between 8.30am and 10.15am

 \cdot Saturday, 13th July, 2pm- 4pm, show open, raffle tickets on sale, refreshments on offer

Good luck everyone! And even if you don't enter anything, come along between 2 and 4pm and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a slice of homemade cake, and see what's on show.

BIBURY CRICKET CLUB

Bibury CC have made a good start to the new cricket season. After seven matches in CDCA Div 1, we are in fourth place with four wins, two defeats and one no result achieving 95 points. Swindon United Churches head the standings with six wins, just one defeat and 115 points.

We have had wins against Longborough (B 213 L 196, Sachin Bandara with five wickets for Bibury) Barnsley Beeches (B 210 for 6, BB 170) Chipping Camden (B 231 for 6 CC 145) and Fairford (B 197 F 112) Ali Carman scored a century against Barnsley and that earned him a place on the Gloucestesrhire County honours board for that weekend.

Our two defeats were against league leaders Swindon UC and Great Rissington.

The mid week T20 team are currently unbeaten with two wins and one no result from three fixtures. We had a seven wicket win v Malmesbury and a ten run win v Cirencester. Tetbury currently top the league with 56 points but from five matches. We are in fifth place with 38 points.

The Sunday warriors have enjoyed some classic matches. We lost a last ball thriller at home against Ascott under Wychwood and had a wonderful game in front of the glorious Blenheim Palace which went to the last over before the late Duke of Marlborough and Sir Winston Churchill cast a spell in favour of their local team Young Freddie Phillips excelled against Ascott, taking 4 for 10

We then had a comfortable home win over Bayshill. New players of any age, ability or gender are most welcome. DIARY DATE: BIBURY CC FUN DAY - SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER Leslie Smith

0777538781

Bibury Church of England Primary School



An exceptional village school & Preschool, serving Bibury and the surrounding villages

Acorns Class: This month Acorn Class have been busy planting and sowing. We have learnt about what conditions seeds and plants need in order to grow and we were surprised that seeds will grow in the dark! We have investigated which materials are needed to make a cloche and we have measured how tall our runner beans have grown. We have planted beans, snap dragons, cress and sunflowers.

Earlier this week, we had a fantastic trip to Cut the Mustard Club near Tetbury. We joined our friends from North Cerney School and helped weed, plant and water the nursery gardens. We made seed balls and planted cabbage and lettuce. We also had a very enjoyable time in their woodland garden where we could play in their extensive mud kitchen.

Oaks: Throughout this term, Oaks have looked at a variety of sources of evidence to investigate the period of the Bronze and Iron, including archaeological evidence with a focus on the Amesbury Archer, the Lindow Man, Roman written accounts of the Celts and reconstruction drawings of both periods. To end this unit, Oaks will be expected to reach an overall opinion of which period was more impressive. They will work in groups to present their argument, using evidence such as key developments to support their opinions.

Towards the end of this term, Oaks have explored two stories which have linked to our focus: What kind of world did Jesus want? We first looked at the Calling of the first disciples and the story of the Good Samaritan, and discussed what these stories might mean to Christians. To further explore this key question, Oaks will finish by researching different Christian leaders who go above and beyond in their everyday life and finish by thinking and designing their own ideal world.

Mighty Oaks: In English, we completed our writing based on Ross McKenzie's wonderful book, 'The Nowhere Emporium' and children took inspiration from this to write their own fantasy story. Year 5 have been working on developing cohesion in their writing and finished the term with a formal letter of complaint.

In maths, year 5 have begun their work on decimals , cementing their understanding of place value and the relationship between different fractions, then going on to calculate.

Suki Pascoe, Head Teacher Bibury C of E Primary School * Tel: 01285 740268 * E-mail: <u>admin@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk</u> 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 <u>ptabibury@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk</u>

COUNTRY SIGHTINGS

Having seen some large thistles in a field this week, reminded me of when I started on the farm over 60 years ago. Farmers used to say about thistles

Cut them in May -waste of a day Cut them in June- much too soon Cut them in July – sure to die.

ROUND AND ABOUT

We welcome newcomers to Ablington - Sophie and Mark to No.2 Grove View and Holly and her two dogs to Old Farm Cottage. If there are any others, please make yourselves known to us so that we can welcome you too!

In spite of the warmer weather there still seems to be several coughs and colds going around. Several people have had spells in hospital but are now at home recovering. We send our good wishes for a speedy return to full health to all those affected. It is amazing how quickly the river levels have changed. Up until almost the end of May the river levels were high after a prolonged rainy spell and yet the level now after only a relatively short dry spell. Many may have noticed that the footbridge to the Trout farm was close to being submerged a few weeks ago and yet, the present low level (as of 211st June) where the stones on the river bed are barely covered. We are lucky to have the outflow from the Bibury spring to maintain the level in the River itself and it is good that the water flowing through the mill is kept at a level to sustain water life in the mill leet along water lane.

The fine weather of late did result in a very successful Bibury Garden Festival. The new style open gardens event was well supported and proved to be a lovely relaxed event with a record result. Like all of these village events the success depends upon the hardworking team from the organisers. So do go and support the local eents by not only attending but also if possible helping.

By the time this magazine arrives on your doorstep the new parking scheme will be in force. At the time of writing the traffic cones are already out to enable the new road markings to be put in place. It will be interesting to see if the tourists respect the new scheme and it will take the locals some time to get used to it as well The reported damage to the structure of the road bridge may help the village to ban the huge coaches which so impede the flow of traffic through the village. It is rare for there to be less that 3 coaches during the day vying for space to load and unload their passengers. Enforcement of the weight restriction on the bridge and of the new parking scheme will be key. We will Have to wait and see how effective the changes are.

FROM THE PANEL

This month's issue was compiled and produced by just two members of of the Panel. Holidays and illness preventing the rest of the panel from being able to help as they would have done normally. It does however emphasise that we do need more people to join the Panel or at least more people for us to call on to help type, print or collate the issues

If you would like to get involved – even if only once or twice a year please contact any of the Panel to discuss how you could help.

And finally - please be aware that the 'Village Life' email account is not normally checked apart from around our deadline of the 20th until the electronic issues are sent out for the 1st of each month so if you want a urgent reply to a query – please contact the panel by phone our contact details are published most months.

For many people the word ART is a 'no go area', either 'I don't understand it' or 'I can't afford it'; but around the world millions of people sit at their kitchen tables producing the most amazing art work that never sees the light of day,

- hence the title of our exhibition.

20 local artists have been invited to take part in an exhibition that showcases their work. We hope you will support them in this venture.

