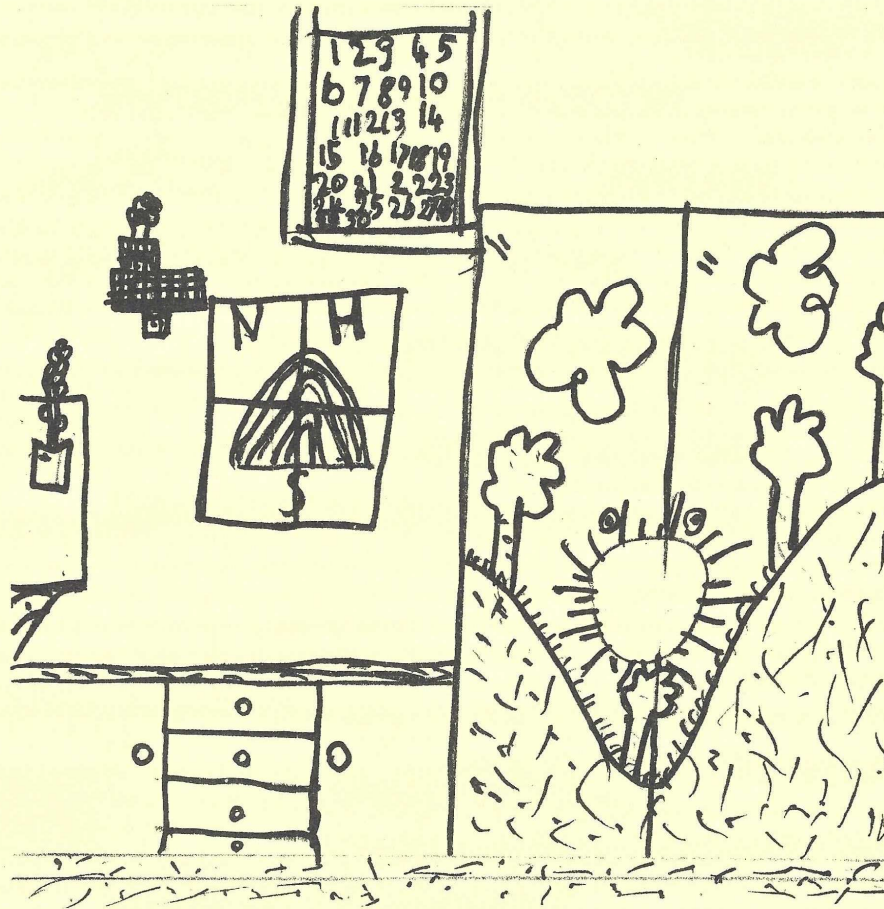


VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,
BARNESLEY AND WINSON



SEPTEMBER 2024

'VILLAGE LIFE'

DATES FOR THE DIARY

ISSUE NO.494

SEPTEMBER

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Wednesday | 4 th | Bibury Craft Club: Making Christmas Bunting | 2-4pm |
| Saturday | 7 th | Final Cricket Match against Bourton, Cricket Club | 1.30pm |
| Tuesday | 10 th | Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall | 7pm |
| Wednesday | 11 th | Gardening Club, Village Hall | 7.15pm |
| Thursday | 12 th | Rural Cinema 'The Fall Guy', Village Hall | 7 for 7.30pm |
| Saturday | 14th | Bibury Cricket Club FUNDAY, Cricket Pitch. Morning Match & BBQ. Mini Funday and children's events | From 3pm |
| Tuesday | 17 th | Village Prayer Meeting, Vicarage | 6pm |
| Wednesday | 18 th | Community Lunch, Arlington Baptist Schoolroom | 12.30pm |
| Friday 20th | | Deadline for October Village Life 12 noon. | |
| Monday | 30 th | Bibury Football Club Bingo night All welcome | 7.30pm |

OCTOBER

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|--|--------------|
| Wednesday | 2 nd | Bibury Craft Club. Basketry talk Bibury Village Hall | 2 pm |
| Friday | 4 th | Harvest Festival Supper , Village Hall | 7 for 7.30pm |
| Tuesday | 8 th | Bibury Parish Council meeting in Village Hall | 7 pm |
| Wednesday | 16 th | Community Lunch, Arlington Baptist Schoolroom | 12.30pm |
| Sunday | 20th | Deadline for October Village Life 12 noon. | |

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 life3](https://www.biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/village%20life3)

THOUGHT FOR THR MONTH; this thought seemed appropriate given the on-goingcoghs andsummer colds and minor illnesses going around at the moment.

I wish you good health
For you cannot deny
That health is a treasure
Which money cannot buy.

BIBURY WITH BARNLSLEY & WINSON

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

Summer goodbye, Summer goodbye, roses sweet petals shed, apples are turning red, Summer goodbye, summer goodbye. Do you remember that slightly melancholy primary school earworm? I remember singing

it to the apple trees in another life. Autumn officially begins on 22nd September (the equinox – equal night; - Day and night are equal lengths. Although they aren't, of course) But it feels and smells as if autumn has begun already. We live in a place where we are blessed to be taught so much, by the changing of the seasons. The inevitability of change. Gratitude for what has been. The need for change (even when we don't much like it) The Dance of the Music of Time. Watch the trees, the clouds, the moon and the sun. Marvel and learn. The start of August brought Lammas, the celebration of first fruits, but also the time of Lammas growth, when certain plants and trees (like oaks) having experienced heavy cropping at the hands (mouths) of dependant animals like deer, put on a spurt of growth to build up reserves of strength for the winter. All around us we will learn as we look. We have just received our first jar of Blackberry jam, signalling that the blackberry season has six weeks to run. It ends on the feast of St Michael and All Angels, (29th September) when we mark Satan's fall from heaven at the hands of St Michael and the heavenly host. Tradition has it that Satan landed, uncomfortably, in a blackberry bush and in high dudgeon urinated on the offending bush marking the end of the season.

We, however, will mark St Michael and All Angels this year with our first harvest festival of the year at St Michael's Winson. Being the fifth Sunday of the month, and a patronal festival, the service will take place at 11:00am, it will be a benefice service, and will be followed by appropriate refreshments.

Harvest is a time for both gratitude and generosity, and to be reminded of the joy of giving. Generosity is the value we are focussing on at Bibury School this term, and where the school leads, it is worth us following because it is a self-evident truth that generosity is good for us. We 'feel' better, and others are blessed, and 'stuff' loses its hold on us. Generosity is an attitude not an action, although it works itself out in behaviour. It is how we view people. It is how we view God. Do we believe in a God of abundance and generosity or a God of niggledly scarcity? The other day a couple of folk noticed a visitor in the church loading themselves down with goods from the church stall and then leaving a tiny donation. They were a bit unimpressed, although aware that this might have been watching the widow's mite being acted out. (Although the visitor's car rather argued against this) But the pity of the action was that it was rooted in a 'what can I get away with/scarcity' view of the world. If our expectation is that the world is withholding its bounty, you can be sure that that is what we will experience. Yet, if we open our eyes we cannot fail to be 'ravished' (in the immortal words of the slightly unusual 17TH century poet Thomas Traherne.) by the glory of creation. For Traherne: You never enjoy the world aright till the sea itself floweth in your veins, till you are clothed with the heavens and crowned with the stars; and perceive yourself to be sole heir of the whole world, and more than so, because men are in it who are, everyone, sole heirs as well as you. Isn't that a wonderful abundant image? One with God's creation, a privileged stewardship shared and enjoyed together.

September begins with the inaugural Sir Crispin Tickell Memorial lecture. Crispin was one of our most distinguished residents. And his widow, Penelope has kindly agreed that the Church may host an annual lecture in Crispin's name focussing on environmental issues. So, on Friday 6th September Dame Fiona Reynolds will be our guest speaker. Fiona is currently Chair of Trustees of the Royal Agricultural University, and was, formerly Director General of the National Trust, and we are delighted that she has agreed to give this first lecture. Entrance is free, there will be drinks served from 6:00pm, and Fiona will speak at 6:30pm.

with every blessing,

Tim

Village Prayer Meeting takes place Tuesday 17th September at 6:00pm at The Vicarage

BARNESLEY WOLD S.S.S.I.

Barnesley 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

| Church Services September 2024 | Bibury | Barnsley | Winson |
|---|--|---|--|
| Sunday 1st September <i>Trinity 14</i> <i>James 1:17-end</i> <i>Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23</i> | 11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion | 9:30am Common Worship Holy Communion | 9:30am BCP Holy Communion |
| Sunday 8th September <i>Trinity 15</i> <i>James 2:1-17</i> <i>Mark 7:24-end</i> | 11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion | 9:30am BCP Holy Communion | |
| Sunday 15th September <i>Trinity 16</i> <i>James 3:1-12</i> <i>Mark 8: 27-end</i> | 11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion | | 9:30am BCP Holy Communion |
| Sunday 22nd September <i>Trinity 17</i> <i>Proverbs 31:10-end</i> <i>Psalm 1</i> <i>Mark 9:30-37</i> | 11.00am Morning Prayer | 9:30am Morning Prayer | |
| Sunday 29th September <i>St Michael and All Angels</i> | | | 11:00am BCP Holy Communion and Harvest Festival |
| Sunday 6th October <i>Trinity 19</i> <i>Job 1:1, 2:1-10</i> <i>Mark 10:2-16</i> | 11.00am Harvest Festival with Bibury School | 6:00pm Harvest Praise Followed by Harvest Supper | 9:30am BCP Holy Communion |
| Sunday 13th October <i>Trinity 20</i> <i>Job 23:1-9, 16-end</i> <i>Mark 10:17-31</i> | 11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion | 9:30am BCP Holy Communion | |
| Sunday 20th October <i>Trinity 21</i> <i>Job 38:1-7, 34-end</i> <i>Mark 10:35-45</i> | 11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion | | 9:30am BCP Holy Communion |
| Sunday 27th October <i>Last after Trinity</i> <i>Hebrews 7:23-end</i> <i>Psalm 34:1-8, 19-end</i> <i>Mark 10:46-end</i> | 11.00am Morning Prayer | 9:30am Morning Prayer | |
| Churchwardens <i>Vicar</i> <i>Curate</i> | <i>Revd Tim Hastie-Smith</i> <i>01285 740301</i> <i>Revd Jackie Colburn</i> <i>01451 860212</i> | <i>Dominic Spacie</i> | <i>Lavinia Sidgwick</i> <i>01285 720682</i> |

ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

Can you remember an occasion when someone showed you a random act of kindness? Maybe it was being given a free parking ticket by a stranger, a cake dropped on your doorstep or more drastically receiving a blood transfusion from anonymous donors. Perhaps someone put your dustbin out when you felt under the weather or maybe simply a friendly smile when you hadn't seen one all day.

This kindness often sticks in your mind, however small the gesture. When you receive something random and kind it fills one with warm gratitude and often joy, from these very human emotions you learn and want to share the joy, returning a similar gesture to another person.

This Harvest time and the lead up to Christmas we invite our community to act in kindness by supporting two charities who dish out love in abundance, if you feel like sharing some of what you have, maybe not randomly but intentionally please support this community giving as we pool resources for The Trussel Trust Cirencester Foodbank and Operation Christmas Child.

<https://cirencester.foodbank.org.uk/> The Trussell Trust is an anti-poverty charity and community of food banks and together they provide practical support to people who can't afford the things we all need in life. We are collecting donations of food to send in, also money to help with living essentials. Donations of tinned food, tea, coffee or packet dry food, in date, are welcome PLEASE DROP INTO THE BLACK COLLECTION BOX, In front of Arlington Baptist Church.

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child> Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse. It is a hands-on way for us to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, personal care items, school supplies, and fun gifts. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. If you would like to fill a shoebox with toys for a child who would otherwise not receive a gift, please drop off to us we will deliver to the main depot, see their website for items allowed. If you have items to include in Children's shoeboxes, PLEASE DROP IN BLACK COLLECTION BOX, in front of Arlington Baptist Church.

IF YOU ARE ABLE DONATE MONEY TO THIS COMMUNITY HARVEST APPEAL FOR THESE TWO CHARITIES, send donations to Arlington Baptist church and use the reference HARVEST, Arlington Baptist Church, Sort code 30 95 96 Account 30612768 Thankyou

Grant us, Lord God, a vision of your world as your love would have it: a world where all are protected, and none go hungry or poor; a world where the riches of creation are shared, and everyone can enjoy them; a world where different communities and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect; a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love. Give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Services

Every Sunday we gather for worship at 10.30am (please email for information)

Community lunch Every third Wednesday of the month, everyone welcome 12.30pm 2 course meal with coffee, suggested but not compulsory donation £7. Meal delivery and/or free transport to lunch service available, please call Debbie 740366 or Sharon 07974785437 Future dates 18th September and 16th October Food bank referral please contact minister@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk No one should go hungry or be without essentials please contact us for confidential help.

From a Private Donor;

I am looking to give away my late husband's Yamaha grand to a passionate instrument lover, Organization, music department, individual, Church Or local schools in needs. Please kindly let me know if you will take it or have someone who will care for it, Margaret.

Please contact info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk if you are interested and we will put you in touch with Margaret, this is a very nice Yamaha Grand in extremely good condition, it is not for re-sale, you will be expected to prove your interest. Margaret's late husband played frequently, she would like to find someone who will also enjoy playing and keeping it.

BIBURY CRICKET CLUB

With just two matches left in the CDCA Division 1 season, Bibury CC are on top of the league standings. Bibury have 12 wins from 16 matches and 254 points, Longborough in second with 10 wins and 245 points and the only other team in contention are Swindon United Churches, in third with 11 wins and 236 points.

The last two matches have been crucial in the race for the championship. Bibury defeated Swindon United on the 17th of August at Lady Hill. Bibury 188 all out, Swindon 139 all out. The week before at Longborough in a low scoring game, the home team were dismissed for just 105, Bibury winning by four wickets with 106 for 6.

Adeko Collymore is having a fine season for Bibury with bat and ball. He made a fine 104 against Bourton Vale in the Saturday League and achieved five wicket hauls against Barnsley and Chipping Campden. Shout outs too for skipper JR with an 86 at Chipping Campden, backed up by Ed Robinsons 78 in a very important win.

Our final game is home to Bourton on Saturday 7th September with a 1.30 pm start. We will probably need to win to clinch the championship so all supporters welcome.

In the mid- week T20 CDCA Lighthouse League , Bibury finished fifth in the league with four wins from nine matches. We just missed out on qualification for the semi finals after an agonising last over defeat to Tarbarrow. Bourton Vale finished top with Poulton in second place.

Adeko starred here too, topping the league batting averages with a total of 280 runs including an amazing 100 away at Barnsley. Ali Carman was third in the list with 156 runs. Jamie Cowell was second in the bowling table with 9 wickets at an economic average of 12.2 .

The Sunday Warriors have also been in action with some tight games touring team Father and Sons, and Beehive CC.

Finally, with many villagers away from Bibury over the weekend of Saturday 14th September, the FUN DAY will consist of a cricket festival in the morning / early afternoon (with bar and BBQ so please come up) with a mini Funday with childrens events etc from 3.00pm, bar, bbq, music etc . Hope to see you there.

Leslie Smith
07775387813

COVER SKETCH

Matthew Biddle, won first prize for this drawing in the 'Village Life; 8- 11 age group at the Bibury show this year. It seemed appropriate for September and the end of summer heralding the return to being inside looking out.

BIBURY VILLAGE HALL

This summer's Village Show on Saturday 13th July was a great success. The children's animal paintings, get well cards, painted stones and friendship bracelets made for an eye-catching display down the centre of the hall. And, despite the wet spring and summer, there was a good display of produce and flowers. Well done all you gardeners. There were some superb skills on show in the Crafts, Photography and Cookery sections but we still need to persuade more crafters, bakers and photographers to enter.

Remember you might not think your work is good enough, but it is all about taking part and having fun.

The raffle and teas proved very popular on the day. Many thanks to the team of bakers and helpers. And to the Trout Farm, The Swan, The New Inn in Coln, The Organic Farm Shop, Tina's Mobile Foot Care, Arlington Baptist Church and individuals for their generous raffle prizes And, last but not least, particular thanks to local organisations - Bibury Cricket Club, Bibury Gardening Club, Bibury Parish Church, Bibury Parish Council, Bibury United Charities and Village Life. Their

sponsorship helps cover printing costs, prize monies, trophy engraving, rosettes, stickers, signs and posters.

2024 trophy winners

This year's overall winners were as follows:

Cookery: *Village Trophy Victoria Summerley*

Produce: *Football Club Cup Terry Day*

Floral Art: *Bibury Cup Wendy Challinor*

Gardening Club: *Best Overall Exhibit Victoria Summerley*

Flowers: *Cricket Club Cup Karen Gray*

Photography: *The Margaret Shield Oscar Norman*

Crafts: *John Body Trophy Victoria Summerley*

Village Life: *Village Life Trophy Wendy Challinor*

Children's rosettes *The 1 st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners in each class in the 4-7 and 8-11 age groups received rosettes, which were presented at the school assembly.*

Events coming up in September The Rural Cinema returns on Thursday 12th September with The Fall Guy, an actionpacked comedy drama starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt.

Then on Friday 4th October the Village Hall Committee will be hosting the annual Harvest Festival Supper. Tickets are £20 per person which includes a welcome drink, two-course sit down meal, coffee and chocolates.

Details of both events are covered elsewhere in the newsletter.

BIBURY FOOTBALL CLUB

Preseason is done and dusted and competitive football has begun our first team have beaten Brockworth Albion and Frampton Reserves in the Reg Davies cup before losing on penalties to Longlevens Reserves in the quarter.

So far in the league we have been well beaten by Tewkesbury Town and had a home win over FC Lakeside.

For the first time in 10 years we have a reserve side who will be playing in the Cheltenham League Division 2

Home games in September;

7th Reserves home v Welland Reserves 2pm kick off

21st First team home v Hardwicke County Cup 2-30 pm kick off

28th Reserves home v St John's FC 2pm Kick off

Training for both teams is on Wednesday night from 6-30pm all welcome

The bar is open for all home matches from 2pm for hot and cold drinks

The Cotswold Chippy will be at the Football club on Friday the 13th and 27th serving from 5-30 to 7-30pm

The Motor bikes nights will be held on Tuesday 10th and 24th and the monthly bingo will recommence on Monday 30th from 7-30pm all welcome

Leslie Smith

BIBURY GARDENING CLUB

So there we were on the day of the garden club party, checking the rainfall radar map on the BBC Weather site, and the animated Jetstream forecast, and the thing on your phone that tells you what the weather is doing that minute in your area (as if you couldn't tell by looking out the window).

And all day long it rained. Come on, British weather, we said to ourselves, let's have a bit of climate change here. A change from a wet climate to a dry climate would be nice, and perhaps a little warm glow from some evening sunshine. After all, one might expect – if one was very optimistic – to spend at least one evening out of doors in the month of August.

Luckily, the optimists were rewarded, and our summer garden party, hosted by George Blackwell at Bibury Stud, was delightful.

There was even a warm glow of evening sunshine, and there was also the warm glow engendered by a glass or two of wine, and the chance of a good gossip with fellow members. We had a great turn-out and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 11 September at 7.15pm in the village hall when I shall be giving an illustrated talk entitled Three Gardens, Two Painters and a Politician. In other words, I will be discussing the Impressionist painter Claude Monet, his fellow artist Gustave Caillebotte, and Georges Clemenceau, journalist, politician and one of Monet's greatest supporters.

These three friends shared a love of gardening, and like all gardeners, swapped seeds and bulbs and recommended plants to each other. It is partly because of their correspondence that we have an insight into Monet the gardener, how he felt about his garden at Giverny, and what he grew there.

Victoria Summerley

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from a meeting held on 9th July 2024

There were 32 people present to hear the submissions on behalf of both the **Bibury Plan Group** and **The Bibury Parking Working Group** who gave their reports and recommendations to the Parish Council. The work of these two groups under their respective Chairmanship of Medhi Mahjour and Mark Honeyball is invaluable and has extended the abilities of the Parish Council to initiate actions wanted by our residents. Thank you to everyone who gave time for this and to those who attended the meeting. Full reports from both groups can be found on the Bibury Parish Council website (biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk).

Given the timing when it was mentioned at the meeting only one person signed the Volunteer Form and gave their e-mail address, if you would like to be part of moving the Bibury Plan forward please register your name and e-mail at "bibury.parish.plan@gmail.com". Any help you can give will ensure aims resulting from the survey are met.

Re: Ablington Manor: A member of the public raised concern about the agricultural vehicle with a 16-wheel trailer carrying 14 tree trunks going across Swan Bridge; with over 100 trees being removed there was a worry about the volume and weight across the bridge as it was felt they must weigh about 25 tonnes, well in excess of the bridge's 17T weight limit.

Village Hall Support: It was agreed that £150 would be given to the Village Hall towards the cost of the Harvest Supper on 4th October.

24/01683/FUL Old Walls: Change of use from agricultural to commercial with conversion of existing barn to form self-catering accommodation and communal reception area: **No objection.**

24/1814/TCONR Cobblers, Church Road: Tree work: **No objection.**

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Rural Police Officer: Richard Parker whose contact number is **07811 227898**. Richard is a contact regarding issues such as illegal fishing, poaching and harm to protected species.

Bookable Bus (The Robin): 0345 261 8139.

NEXT MEETING: 10th September 2024, 7.00pm in The Bibury Village Hall.

If you would like to volunteer to join the group to move Bibury Plan issues forward, please send your name and e-mail address to:

bibury.parish.plan@gmail.com

BIBURY CRAFT CLUB

Bibury Craft Club starts up again on Wednesday 4 September at 2.15pm in the village hall when we will be making Christmas bunting for the Baptist Church. Last year, the Baptist Church were able to borrow the village hall bunting for the Bibury school Christmas party, but we felt they deserved their own. If you have the following, please bring:

Christmas fabric, preferably colourful (bright red, bright green, stuff with gold bits and so on). Otherwise, tartan brushed cotton will do nicely, or anything else you might think looks suitable. Hobbycraft often have fat quarter packs where you get four fabrics in a pack.

Pinking shears, if you have them.

We will provide everything else. We will be cutting out triangles and sewing them together before stitching the finished triangles onto the bunting string.

Our October meeting takes place on 2 October, same place, same time, when Sasha Keir, chair of the Trade Committee and Court Assistant to the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers, will be talking to us about basket-making in the UK.

Basketry is believed to be the oldest craft in the world, but many heritage basketry crafts – such as Sussex trug making - are now on the endangered list. Sasha will tell us the sort of problems that today's craftsmen and women face in what is, ironically, a very sustainable craft, and how we can help support basketmakers.

Bev Morgan Davies

HEAVENS ABOVE

We start the Month in Virgo, a very excitable Planetary start, with everyone's energy levels on the up, but will some pay for it when we enter Libra? - the Sign that strives for peace and harmony.

During this time, on September 17th, the Full Moon, called the Harvest Moon is also another Super Moon, which bodes well with the Autumn Equinox.

Harvest Festival Supper

Bibury Village Hall, Friday 4th October

7pm gather for 7.30pm start

Reserve your place for Bibury's traditional harvest supper, when our community sits down to a meal together to celebrate the year's harvest.

Welcome drink. This year, Bibury Parish Council is very generously sponsoring a welcome drink. So, before taking your seats for a delicious two-course meal followed by coffee and chocolates, grab a glass of something sparkling (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) and mingle.

Menu choices. Chicken breast with fennel and tarragon cream served with wild rice or Venison bourguignon served with mash and vegetable. And for dessert, Treacle tart or Berry cheesecake.

A vegetarian option will also be available. You bring your own drinks to have with the meal.

Sharpen your pencils. Bibury-based quiz master extraordinaire Alan Calverley will be on hand to test your table's knowledge throughout the evening.

Try your luck in the raffle. We are lining up some exciting raffle prizes.

Tickets for the evening are £20 per person. There are only 75 places available, and we expect this to be a popular event.

To reserve your place email harvestsupper@btinternet.com or call Angela on 740078.

- *Please advise of any food allergies or special requirements when booking.*
- *999Please remember to bring your own cutlery, crockery and glasses, plus whatever you want to drink with the meal.*

The mystery of the Bibury side in the 1907 Cirencester Polo Tournament

In August 1907, the Cirencester Polo Club was holding its annual week-long tournament in Lord Bathurst's park. Thanks to a report in the Gloucestershire Echo of 13th August, we know that the

333
According to the press report, it was 'a very one-sided affair', with Bibury losing two goals to twelve. 'Siddington were by far the best side, and completely outplayed their opponents' reported the paper.

Now we get to the mysterious part of the story. This seems to be the one and only occasion that Bibury fielded a polo team in a major event. Or indeed, in any event. For the moment, my searches through newspaper archives have not turned up a single reference to a Bibury polo team, before or after this 1907 game. What is the explanation ?

Helpfully, the newspaper report included the names of all the players. For Bibury they were Lt Col C. Martyr, M. Barton, P. Woolcott and G. Withers. Looking into the life of Lt Col Martyr provided some clues as to the most likely explanation for Bibury's one and only foray into polo.

Lt Col Cyril Godfrey Martyr, DSO, (1860-1936) lived in Ablington Manor, and was known to maintain a stud of polo ponies. So it was most likely he who decided to enter a side in the Cirencester tournament, and bill it as a 'Bibury' side rather than an Ablington side.

At the time he would have been in his late forties. Less than two years later, in March 1909 he decided to give up polo, and put his four ponies up for sale via Tattersall in London. The upcoming sale was advertised in the 27th March issue of The Field (the self-styled 'country gentleman's newspaper').

The advertisement contained the information that the ponies had been 'regularly played by the owner last season in matches and tournaments at Hurlingham, Roehampton and Cirencester. They can be tried up to April 1 by appointment with owner, who will arrange to meet intending purchasers at Cirencester station'.

So it looks as if the 1907 Cirencester polo tournament marked the beginning and end of Bibury 's association with polo. Unless you know different, in which case I'd love to hear from you.

Martyr was a highly decorated soldier who had seen action in various theatres of war in the late 1800s. In the first years of the Great War in Europe he served on the general staff. There is masses of information about him available online.

He and his wife Emma had a son and a daughter. He passed away on 1st July 1936 at the age of 76. The 4th July issue of the Cheltenham Chronicle carried a lengthy tribute that included a summary of his military career. His grave is in Winson churchyard.

© Roger Staton

From further afield

Northleach Friday September 6th Mad `Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies - an illustrated talk by Ross King. Northleach Church at 6.30pm. Tickets £12/£15 (incl a free drink) at northleachevents.co.uk and Northleach Post Office.

Friday September 27th, Jazz Dynamos in Concert - arrangements of 70s and 80s hits by Dolly Parton, Bowie, Madonna, U2, The Police etc - five piece band fronted by world class vocalist Lucy Randell. Northleach Church at 7.00pm. Tickets £15/£20 at northleachevents.co.uk and Northleach Post Office.

SEPTEMBER DAYS

Today it still is Summer
Tomorrow will be Fall,
I see the purple Astors
I hear the Autumn call,
I feel the warm Sun shining
And a soft South wind blows,
I still see flowers blooming
And see the grass still grows,
Nine Months I've waited
And now the time is here
Oh, September has arrived
So Christmas is very near!⁹

TALES FROM THE RIVERBANK

It has been a manic Summer at Arlington Row. Without doubt the Visitor numbers are far in excess of any seen before this year – and the patterns are changing. On Sunday, 10th August I carried out a brief, rather unscientific, survey from my doorstep, and recorded the following: 600 people passed within one hour, of which I perceived; 104 Chinese/Japanese, 99 Indian, 82 European, 94 British, the remainder American and/or Canadian, and Australian /New Zealand. This was by no means peak visiting time, so I think more like 1000 per hour – which equates to, say, 10,000 per day – and there were no Coaches in Town in this period! No wonder we have parking problems!

Visiting times are extending too, with the Village seeing more Visitors in early morning, and into the evening, and in larger groups. When speaking to them, there seem to be two different perceptions of what it is like to live in the Row. One is 'it must be awful to have all these people walking past your door' – to which I say 'we can shut ourselves in!' or, 'you are so lucky to live here, I wish I did' – to which I say 'we haven't got room' ! The change in patterns I referred to are that Visitors are becoming more intrusive & apparently oblivious that people live in the Row. When one emerges from the front door, they express surprise that anyone should live in these little old houses, and should we try and drive our cars past, exiting the Car Park, they seem horrified that anyone should deign to get in their way.

The usual conversations have persisted during the Summer; How old are these buildings? (about 800 years) – and 'have you always lived here?,' or, 'we thought this was a Museum', to which I reply 'you must have seen our Furniture'! Such Visitor numbers have definitely affected Wildlife along Water Lane, Rack Isle & the Row. We no longer see voles, egrets or kingfishers, sadly. From the numbers I quoted earlier, one wonders when this extraordinary interest in our Village will decline? Somehow, we have to manage these numbers, and still continue to move around, and enjoy the surroundings which we are so fortunate to have inherited.

Brian Skarda

ROUND & ABOUT

During our summer break from publication, we have learned of the death of Lilian Muir. Lilian and her husband Ian lived along the Street for many years and enjoyed the lovely garden Ian developed over those years. Lilian suffered from ill health for many years and eventually moved in a nursing home in Cirencester after Ian's death. We send our condolences to her family and friends.

At the time of writing we seem to have finished with summer and things have a definite autumnal feel. The on-going work of felling diseased ash trees continue to disrupt our local road journeys. The strong winds of late have also caused some fallen branches and trees around the countryside. It will be good when the colder weather caused the dying of the undergrowth – especially of nettles and brambles that seem to grown larger than normal this year and have made many a footpath and bridleway way difficult to navigate.

Harvest seems to be a bit stop and start due to the weather and hay making has also been prolonged. There seems to be relatively few swallows and house martins around this year but at the Pike recently a swarm of flies or insects attracted a swirling flight of them which swopped round and round the grass fields only to land for a brief breather on the electric wires..

We are still lucky enough to see buzzards and red kites quartering the local fields for young rabbits or leverets. During twilight hours, perhaps 3 different species of bats, are very active flying around the gardens and fields.

NEWS FROM BARNESLEY

Village BBQ This year's village BBQ was a huge success with over sixty locals in attendance. Firstly, a massive thankyou going to the hosts Geoff and Sue Reid. Their garden was beautifully laid out with gazebos and wildflowers surrounding there wonderful, landscaped garden. A huge effort and thankyou once again as we know you worked tirelessly. A special thanks must be given to The Village Pub for supplying several bottles of wine for us all to enjoy and lastly to the chefs Howard, John and Tom for cooking all evening, wearing their pink shirts with a smile.

Village Hall The Village Hall committee team have purchased twenty new trestle ables to replace the very old and tired doors we have as tabletops!

Tania Dance fitness classes are every Thursday from 6 pm to 7 pm. She can be contacted by email at tania.dance.fitness@gmail.com Booking is £5 a session. Pay as you go. Plenty of spaces and good for all ages.

Harvest Supper Our church is holding a Harvest church service at 6pm on the 6th October 2024 followed by a ploughman's supper in the Village Hall. £5 a head to include drinks.

Children are free. Everyone is most welcome.

Roundabout 31st July saw the tragic death of a woman in her 40s after she lost control of her motorcycle coming round the bend on the B4425 (North end of the village) She suffered serious injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene. Her next of kin were informed and are being supported by specially trained staff.

Quote of the Month

“Wine is the divine juice of September.” - Voltaire