

# WHAT'S ON

in

Oakridge Lynch; Far Oakridge; Waterlane;  
Bournes Green & Tunley



August / September 2022

Edition 258

[www.oakridgevillage.org](http://www.oakridgevillage.org)

## USEFUL INFORMATION

- The village website – [www.oakridgevillage.org](http://www.oakridgevillage.org) - for up to date information, including Village Hall availability and Village Events Calendar
-  Oakridge Village Network and Oakridge Village Hall, Oakridge Lynch
- Village Hall bookings – [johnloosley40@gmail.com](mailto:johnloosley40@gmail.com)
- Ollie's Shop – 01285 760239 Mon-Fri 9-5 Sat 9-1 Sun 9-12
- Butchers Arms – 01285 760390
- Oakridge Parochial School – 01285 760269
- Sign up to receive news of events, films and the What's On direct to your email inbox, via the village website – [www.oakridgevillage.org/maillinglist](http://www.oakridgevillage.org/maillinglist)
- If you prefer the online version and no longer want a paper copy of the What's On, please email [editoroakridgewatson@gmail.com](mailto:editoroakridgewatson@gmail.com) with your name and address

### **Cover Illustration by Edie Bailey**

*Edie is currently studying Art at Stroud College, with a special interest in calligraphy – see her Instagram page: Calligraphygirlll*

## **SATURDAY 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022, 5pm - CLOSING DATE** **for the Oct / Nov WHAT'S ON**

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E&OE

## THE CHURCH IN OAKRIDGE



**VICAR**

Rev. S Murray 01452 770897

**DEPUTY CHURCHWARDEN**

Mr. John Mason 01285 760456

Mr. Peter Scott 01452 770382

### **GREETINGS FROM THE CHURCH IN OAKRIDGE**

#### **Meeting at St Bartholomew's**

We are delighted to say that the church is open for communal worship and we would be pleased to welcome you at our services. Please remember COVID restrictions applicable at the time. Additional wonderful news, the church is now open from 9am – 5pm, so please feel free to enter for a moment of private prayer or reflection in this peaceful sanctuary.

Weekly information on up and coming events, news and prayer lists can be request by emailing **pewslipsbisley@hotmail.com** and asking to be added to the mailing list.

We are keen to hear the view of everyone who lives in Oakridge - about the Church, the value it provides and the way villagers may wish to support it in future. So we are preparing a questionnaire and this will be circulated in the coming weeks to all households. Please help us by letting us have your views.

Look out for us at the Village Show in September. We would love to have your thoughts, questions and suggestions.

#### **Services in August**

1 <sup>st</sup> August	9:30 am	Morning Prayer
15 <sup>th</sup> August	9:30 am	Holy Communion
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	10:00 am	St. Bartholomew's Patronal Festival Benefice Service Holy Communion Followed by coffee and cake
29 <sup>th</sup> August	11:00am	BISLEY – Songs of Praise

#### **September Services and Harvest Festival**

Please refer to notices at village shop and church.

## OAKRIDGE RAINWATCH



As measured by my rain gauge, recent rainfall levels were as follows:

May.... 66 mm.....about 2.5 ins.

June.... 47.4 mm.....about 1.8 ins.

July (to 17<sup>th</sup>)..... 3.5 mm.....about 0.1 ins.

*Gill Farrar*

## LOCAL ROAD CLOSURES

Farm Lane in Oakridge Lynch will be closed for drainage works from 1<sup>st</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> August.

Toadsmoor Road is likely to be closed during work hours 9.00am – 4.00pm daily from 27<sup>th</sup> July to September 3<sup>rd</sup> with access controlled by traffic lights outside those times. This is to allow replacement of the traffic lights.

## LUNCH CLUB

Lunch Club is held at the Village Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, at a price of £8 per head. All welcome, arrive from 12 noon, to sit for 12.30. A wonderful chance to catch up with friends, or meet new. If you would like to come but haven't already put your name on the list the previous month, or need to cancel your place, please leave a message for Ali Mills on 01285 760568. This must be done by the Friday before the Lunch Club at the latest, to allow for food ordering and preparation.

Please note, the September lunch will be a week early, on 14<sup>th</sup> September.

## OAKRIDGE VILLAGE HALL



**Gigaclear Broadband Access – open to all users of the Hall – help us to keep the service available by signing up**

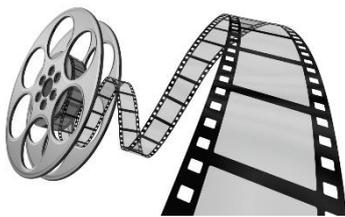
Network: Oakridge Village Hall Gigaclear  
Password: OVHT2021

## VILLAGE PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

What a success the Jubilee Tea and concert was for the Village Hall and the wider community. To all who helped to design posters, advertise the event, attend meetings, set up, bring the day and evening events to life and finally return the hall to its normal state - none of this would have been possible without you. And a final thank you to all who came along, brought food contributions and enjoyed the day, we look forward to more enjoyable village occasions!

*Paul Timms*

## OAKRIDGE FILM NIGHT



The inaugural Oakridge Film Night was a success, with over 30 people meeting to enjoy a glass of wine, a bag of popcorn, and watch "Knives Out", a mystery film loosely in the style of Agatha Christie's Poirot. Look out for the next Film Night, on 31<sup>st</sup> August, and sign up to receive details of the film to be shown.

Using the new 3.5m big screen, state of the art projector and Dolby 5.1 Surround Sound system at Oakridge Village Hall we are now starting a program of film that we hope will have broad appeal. A cash only bar will be available before and after the film.

For licensing reasons we are not able to advertise the name of each film publicly, but the good news is that as a member of the What's On Mailing List you can find out now, and continue to be notified in advance of the film title whenever a film night is planned. Sign up to the mailing list now at [www.oakridgevillage.org/maillinglist.html](http://www.oakridgevillage.org/maillinglist.html) for advance notice of these events and others!

Doors open at 1900 for a 1930 start. Tickets are just £5 (cash only) on the door. To help the team plan for numbers, please visit our box office to reserve a seat but pay on arrival - [www.oakridgevillage.org/boxoffice.html](http://www.oakridgevillage.org/boxoffice.html)

## OAKRIDGE SHOW

We're looking forward to a continuation of the recent good weather to mark the Village Show at the Playing Fields **on Saturday September 3rd from 12.30 – 4.00pm**. The show will be opened by the Oakridge May Queen, and proceeds this year will be donated to the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust. Don't forget to bring your dog along to enter some fun Dog Show classes! There are some great prizes on the Raffle, including the following (tickets £1 each):

- £50 of vouchers for The Green Shop
- 1 year subscription to Cotswold Life
- 2 tickets for Giffords Circus (2022)
- 4 tickets (2 adults, 2 children) for Westonbirt Arboretum (flexible)
- Hamper from Jolly Nice

### Stall Donations

Please leave any donations for the Bottle Tombola in the box at the Shop from 20<sup>th</sup> August, or call Victoria Beard on 07763 124285 to arrange drop off/collection – anything welcome, large or small, alcohol or not, so long as it is in a bottle!

Donations to the Cake Stall will be very welcome, please deliver on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept to Sharon Dawes at Bridleway.

As always, we're looking for villagers willing to commit to helping out with set up and take down, and **in particular helping to run the BBQ** and skittles – we'd love to hear from you.

Your Show Schedule is attached to this edition of What's On so you have plenty of time to plan your produce entries.... *\*\*\*Attention all Trophy holders from 2021 – please arrange to have your trophy engraved and returned to Victoria Beard by 31st August. \*\*\**

Mark Barnett - mbarnett104@gmail.com

Caroline Priestley - 07587 264629

Victoria Beard - 07763 124285

John Loosley - 760460 / johnloosley40@gmail.com

ADULTS  
**£1** entry  
KIDS FREE

**OAKRIDGE LYNCH**

# VILLAGE SHOW

Saturday 3 September  
12.30 - 4.00pm

BAR BBQ MUSIC

CAKES PLANTS BOOKS

ANNUAL PRODUCE SHOW

CLASSIC + VINTAGE CARS DOG SHOW

**A GREAT DAY OUT  
FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

Children's entertainment:

**WESTON ENTERTAINMENTS**

(weather permitting)

## OAKRIDGE HISTORY GROUP



Carol Maxwell's talk in June on The History of Painswick gave a fascinating glimpse into the social history of Painswick, defying the present perception of the town as 'posh'. Riots and ructions were not at all uncommon in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Lack of employment, absentee vicars, and poverty in parts of the town all contributed to unrest and criminal behaviour. The gulf between the rich and the poor was stark, and could be seen in the numerous records of criminal prosecutions and convictions which Carol had collected together.

Carol will be leading a walk round Painswick on **10<sup>th</sup> August** starting at 6.30pm from the Stamages Lane car park.

An exciting new programme of talks and events for 2022/23 is now available. The first talk on **22<sup>nd</sup> September** is by Liz Davenport speaking on "Woodchester Mansion, an unfinished masterpiece".

Further topics include the rise and fall of the Bisley path from Gloucester to Cirencester, the Doringtons of Lypiatt Park, Cotswold Arts and Crafts and Folk Music and there will be lots of opportunities to learn more about the area.

New members are always warmly welcome.

*Kay Rhodes*

## NATURE NOTES FROM WATERLANE



It was a cold morning and I was recently watching two pied wagtails using their agility to dart between some horses hooves hoping they would disturb some insects for a meal. It reminded me of when I used to mow a local bowling green, where two resident pied wagtails used to follow me around for the same outcome.

Few groups of birds have confusing names as the British wagtails. In the winter the pied wagtail would be more aptly named a grey wagtail, while the latter species sports a splash of bright yellow that prompts many to think that it is really a yellow wagtail. The adult has black and white plumage including a merged black cap and bib. The European race which may be seen on migration, has greyish upper parts and no join between cap and bib. The pied wagtail is almost exclusive to the British Isles, its constant wagging of its long tail is a very distinctive feature and no-one knows why they do this.

Few birds have as many country names, they range from Polly washdish and dishwasher to the more familiar Penny wagtail, Willy wagtail and Water wagtail.

The origin of the washer names is a mystery, but it may be because women once washed clothes, as well as pots and pans, by a stream or village pump, the sort of place that pied wagtails also frequent.

They generally nest in close proximity to man, favouring holes in walls, gaps under roof tiles and they particularly like farmyards. They do not like cold weather and in severe winters large numbers will join together and roost communally in towns. Though almost exclusively insectivorous, some show a liking for cake crumbs.

*Alan White*

## OAKRIDGE GARDEN CLUB



I'm not going to grumble about the weather, but simply comment on the fortitude of plants to survive the most challenging temperatures. A great reminder to me of the benefits of mulching and adding organic matter whenever you can to your borders.

We had a fine sunny afternoon in June when 20 members of the Garden Club were treated to an inspiring afternoon on our visit to Wortley House and Gardens near Wotton Under Edge. Jessica and family have renovated the house and gardens over the past 40 years to create avenues, water gardens, and incredible deep herbaceous borders around the house. It is all framed beautifully by the Cotswold escarpment: a real find thanks to Suzanne, who is the Club's visits organiser. Alongside lovely tea and cake we were offered the family picture albums to look at. It reminded me how rewarding it is to photograph the unfolding years in our own gardens, so much changes even on the more modest plots. Looking forward to the next Garden Visit in July to Charlton Down House.

A reminder to all of our talk on Tuesday 2nd August 7 for 7.30pm with speaker Jenny Tidman, a font of knowledge on gardening matters, who's talk for the evening is 'Poisonous Plants'.

Please also put the Village Show date, Saturday 3rd September in your diaries, as the Garden Club will have a stall selling a variety of 600 Spring bulbs and we welcome any plant donations for the stall. Please bring them along to the stall before the show begins.

Looking forward to seeing you at our forthcoming events.

*Cheryl Perrett*

## LADIES NIGHT

Informal Ladies Night every first Wednesday of the month at The Butchers Arms.

We are an amicable bunch of ladies living in and around Oakridge who like the opportunity to pop out to relax and have a drink and catch up with our neighbours! If you or anyone you know would like to join us, then please pop along. You will be made very welcome. We are aware that some may not like walking into a pub on their own, but there is always one of the group there from 7pm!

*Tamzin Hutton*

## OAKRIDGE WI



Our June speaker was “The Cotswold Shepherdess”, Sue Andrews. Her original beginnings were on the South Downs with no family interest in farming. By chance she came to the Cotswolds after a work placement with horses in Austria fell through, and was lucky enough to gain a job with Pat Smythe in Throughham. Miserden is now her home base. A ram named Satan began her interest in sheep. Breeding and selling pedigree Texels has led her to world travel, judging and promoting her flocks; also she has several book publications to her name.

We welcomed Sue Smith and Sue Dodds to our July meeting with “The Wonderful World of Trees”, an appropriate topic in the year of ‘plant a tree for the Jubilee’. Beautiful pictures on our big screen were accompanied by a really fascinating history of our natural species, their uses, myths and legends surrounding them.

August is our meeting-free month when we usually have a visit, so on the 11<sup>th</sup> we are off on our promised visit to the Butterfly Garden at Dundry Nursery. Our WI will have our usual stall at the Village Show full of delicious preserves – hope to see you all there.

**STOP PRESS** our **Annual Open Meeting** will be on 8<sup>th</sup> September, all will be welcome. The topic is “Bomber Down – WW2 in the Golden Valley” with Peter Drover.

13<sup>th</sup> October Alysia Cameron-Price on “The Work of the Sue Ryder Hospice”  
10<sup>th</sup> November our 99<sup>th</sup> AGM “Humorous Poems”

We hope to see some new faces soon.

*Mary Fern*

## OAKRIDGE COMMUNITY CHOIR

'I've never been in a choir and don't read music but love singing around the house. Then I saw the notice about Oakridge Choir and thought - why not give it a try? It's local and I might even enjoy it! So off I went up to the village hall on my own with, I have to admit, some trepidation. No need to have worried at all. I received a warm friendly welcome and no audition required. I can honestly say I really enjoyed myself. A variety of different songs, very friendly people and Bidy is a brilliant teacher who makes it really fun. I thoroughly recommend it. So why not just come along and give it a try. I'm so glad I did!'

*Linda Wakefield*

### OAKRIDGE COMMUNITY CHOIR

**Re-starting MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 11AM-12.30PM in Oakridge Village Hall.**

**Men and women of all ages welcome - first session free including refreshments!**

## OAKRIDGE CRICKET CLUB

Aug 6<sup>th</sup> Home Poulton

Aug 13<sup>th</sup> Away Cirencester

Aug 20<sup>th</sup> Home Chipping Campden

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> Home Barnsley Beeches

Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> Away Bourton Vale

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Home Lechlade

Contact Committee Member Steve Robbins at:

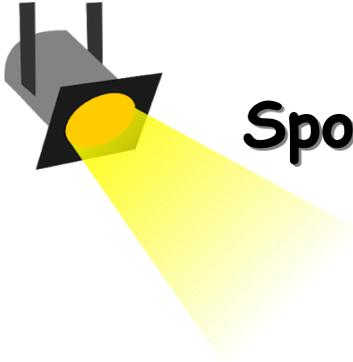
Telephone: 01285 760375 Email: [steverobbins97@hotmail.com](mailto:steverobbins97@hotmail.com)

**Oakridge Cricket Coaching** for girls and boys

aged 5-8 (All Stars) Fridays 5.30pm-6.15pm

aged 8-11 (Dynamos) Fridays 6.30pm-7.30pm

Contact Mark Robbins, email: [mlrobbins@btinternet.com](mailto:mlrobbins@btinternet.com)



**Spotlight on .....**

## **John and Ann Fry**



### **Ann's Story**

Ann was born the youngest of four children in Devonport (Plymouth) in 1933 and was named Lilian Ann Heath. She weighed just over 2 pounds and was not expected to live. Sadly her birth Mum died from a haemorrhage shortly after the birth. Ann was taken home on the train to Tavistock by her Dad's sister Vi, having initially been left in a basket on the copper in an outhouse. Luckily, Violet took pity on the little scrap and decided to take her into her own family although she already had six children of her own. One of them was called Lilian, so Ann was always known by her second name and took her second Mum's surname McCabe. With care and feeding with a milk dropper, Ann flourished and grew up knowing very little about her birth Mum and Dad - in fact for seven years she thought that her aunt and uncle were her real Mum and Dad and that her cousins were her natural siblings. She was never officially adopted by her aunt as it was not required by law back then. Her birth father was often away at sea and she saw little of him, which didn't bother her at all since to her he was just an uncle whom she didn't like very much. She loved her McCabe Mum and Dad even though he was very strict. Ann and her birth sisters Phyllis and Betty were very "close" in later years; sadly her brother Reg died when she was teen-aged. Phyl and her husband Eric often visited Ann and John, Phyl was very fond of John and said she was proud to call him her 'brother'. Ann went to school in Tavistock and on leaving school at 15, had 2 jobs before she went to work for the Gas

Board in the showrooms there. This was to prove life changing as we shall find out when we move on to John's story.

### **John's Story**

John was born in Far Oakridge and went to Oakridge Primary School and then to Marling School. He couldn't wait to leave Marling and became an apprentice with Waller's (steam engine manufacturers) which later became Listers. After 5 years apprenticeship he was a qualified gas and hydraulic engineer. His National Service was deferred because of his studies but he eventually spent two happy years in the Royal Navy on HMS Warrior from 1953-1955, serving in far-flung places such as Ceylon, South Africa, Vietnam and Japan. Working for Waller's took him all over the country to install and repair heavy machinery. One of these places was Tavistock in Devon where he was called in to the Gas Works there. By chance, Ann was temporarily working on the switchboard when she came across John, who had a reputation among the girls for being very handsome and quite a catch. John ended up lodging with Ann's eldest sister Vi and virtually became part of the family. When he was posted to Devonport for National Service, Vi asked Ann if she would be his penpal and write to him when he was abroad. This was 4 or 5 years after they first met. The romance blossomed although they saw each other very little as they lived so far apart and had no transport. They each wrote over 3000 love letters from that time as they communicated daily or even more often.



After a courtship of three years, they married and came to live in the cottage next door to John's parents Edgar and Phyllis in Far Oakridge. The cottage was almost derelict and as John's work meant he was away a lot, travelling as far afield as Huddersfield, the Isle of Wight and of course Tavistock, he renovated their home in his spare time with help from his father and local friends. John says it took about 35 years in total as the whole dwelling was in need of rebuilding. Currently very little of the original cottage remains - just two or three of the windows. John also put in stairs and added a greenhouse and a garage

on the plot. In 1960, son Martin John came along, and in 1965 daughter Valerie Ann was born (now a cartographer in Scotland). In 1995, Martin presented them with their beloved grandson Forrest.

John was captain of the Oakridge Football team in his youth and later coached the Little Oaks football team at the primary school. His last paid job was with CIDIC in Charlton Kings which involved working with parts for nuclear power stations as well as cutting up nuclear power rods in places such as Sellafield - all very hush-hush. Ann has been very involved with the village, being either president or secretary of the WI several times (along with Mary Fern). She remembers enjoying learning calligraphy in a WI class. She was cook-in-charge at the primary school for 5 or 6 years although Valerie and Martin were not pupils there at that time. However, Ann remembers that our editor Victoria and her brother Daniel were there at the time. Ann helped with catering for the Garden Club and harvest suppers as well as organising the yearly outings and writing up articles for the Stroud News and Journal. She was also part of the handbell ringing team in the village, with Jenny and Bob Gardiner.

She acted in or produced shows in the Oakridge WI Drama group. In fact, she was very keen on Shakespeare, taking the part of Puck in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at school when she was 11 years old and reprised the part later in an extract from the play in the vicarage garden for the May revels. Her former head teacher told her that her brother Bernard McCabe also acted in Shakespeare plays and her grandson Forrest is following in the family tradition by taking part in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at school too. Ann also has an impressive portfolio of poems which she has written over time.

As I left John and Ann's cottage in Far Oakridge after a delightful visit, we looked across at the view of the tranquil wooded valley. Having been born next door and spending his whole life there (he was 90 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July) John summed up his love of the area when he said 'why would you want to be anywhere else in the world?'

Sue Wise. 01285 762800. 07766 705357

## COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

I wanted to start this report with information regarding the £600,000 **Community Speed Watch Safety Fund** which was launched by Chris Nelson, Police and Crime Commissioner back in May. Gloucestershire County Council want to make Gloucestershire a safer, greener and healthier place to live and work. The funding and advice will give communities the tools they need to combat speeding in their areas. We need to change drivers' behaviour and mindset however this isn't going to happen overnight and seeking alternative

measures to improve safety is paramount. I met with Chris Nelson back in April looking at local speeding concerns and again on 2<sup>nd</sup> July when we discussed the priorities of creating safer communities within our county. The application is open to Community groups and Parish Councils. This fund aims to make the county's roads safer for the pedestrians, cyclists and motorists that use them, particularly villages such as Oakridge where pedestrians and vehicles have to share the road. Applications can be made for a range of measures, including Road Safety Officer support, speed surveys, 'Twenty is Plenty' wheelie bin stickers, vehicle activated signs to encourage drivers to slow down, and community speedwatch cameras. All bids must be supported by their county councillor and submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> August. I have already received applications from other wards in my division and as speed is such a concern for this area, I look forward to supporting a Bisley application if they apply.

### **Electric Revolution is speeding up in the county**

The county council has recently appointed **Connected Kerb**, one of the UK's leading charging point providers, to install and run a network of chargers. Around one third of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions in Gloucestershire come from transport and private vehicle use accounts for over half of this (55 per cent). However, switching from fossil fuel to electric vehicles has the potential to reduce these figures significantly, so electric vehicles are a key element in the council's strategy for reducing emissions and tackling the climate emergency. With the government due to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2030, the County Council plans to roll out its network well ahead of this date to give residents the practical option of choosing to go electric as early as possible. The programme aims to prioritise access to charging points for the one third of residents who do not have off-street parking and charging, taking Gloucestershire one step closer to decarbonising transport. The council has started working with district and parish councils to identify suitable locations and is bidding for government funding to accelerate this work and benefit smaller communities. Residents are being asked to give their views on where they think charging points should be located, to help map demand and plan for electric vehicle charging. You can share your views by visiting the GCC website .The survey will stay open for the duration of the three-year project. Connected Kerb's chargers are made from recycled materials, use renewable energy and will be accessible to people with disabilities. They have also committed to recruiting local workers and apprentices.

Find out more about how you can reduce your travel emissions on our Think travel website: <https://www.thinktravel.info>

As always, you can keep up to date with the latest climate change news from the council by [subscribing to the Greener Gloucestershire Climate Action newsletter](#).

## **Have your say on the long-term future of cycling in Gloucestershire**

By working with Sustrans, a charity that looks after the national cycling network, the county council wants to identify a potential long-term strategic cycling network across the county. This network would aim to connect people and places across the county with safe and accessible routes for everyone. A better-connected cycling network across the county would enable more people to get on their bikes and switch to an active mode of transport. Improved cycling facilities is a part of the council's commitment to working to help create a Greener Gloucestershire. The council is committed to encouraging cycling by both improving facilities and promoting cycling wherever possible. This includes the recent promotion of the Women's Tour and Tour of Britain, which saw the women's race come to the county earlier this month with the men's race following on 9th September. Investment has also been made into the Gloucester to Cheltenham Cycle Route which is over 50 per cent complete and will be finished in 2023. This forms part of the proposed 26-mile cycle spine stretching from Stroud to Bishop's Cleeve.

Views from residents will help form the long-term ambitions for cycling in the county. In addition to wanting to hear from cyclists about their experiences, the county council is keen to understand any potential barriers to residents getting on their bikes. Visit the GCC website for more information or e mail me @ the email below

### **Get in touch**

Do please contact me if you have any comments / questions or concerns

Cllr Susan Williams

[Susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk) Mobile 07766318854

## **BISLEY-with-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL**

Please see the Parish Council website for Ward information and minutes of Council meetings [www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk](http://www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk)

Next PC meetings: 7.30 pm Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Any issues in the Oakridge Ward of our Parish please contact

Cllr Tony Martin - [tony.martin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk](mailto:tony.martin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk)

Cllr Roger Budgeon - [roger@greenshopgroup.co.uk](mailto:roger@greenshopgroup.co.uk)

Cllr Dennis Robbins - [d.robbins1945@btinternet.com](mailto:d.robbins1945@btinternet.com)

**Parish Clerk:** Arlene Deane

E: [admin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk](mailto:admin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk)

T: 01452 771089

Office Address: The Old Bell House, High Street, Bisley.

**BisCAN**  
**Bisley Climate Action Network**  
**BISLEY, EASTCOMBE & OAKRIDGE**



***BisCAN is a community of groups and individuals in the Parish of Bisley-with-Lypiatt, which aims to mitigate the impact of climate change by reducing our local carbon footprint, and to aid nature recovery in our Parish. We hope to encourage the residents of our communities to lead lives that are healthy and happy while putting nature first. We are open to all residents of the Parish.***

**BisCAN volunteers have been 'Balsam Bashing' – clearing invasive Himalayan Balsam from the upper Toadsmoor Valley – again this Spring.** According to the Wildlife Trusts: '*Himalayan balsam was introduced as a garden plant in 1839, but soon escaped and became widely naturalised along riverbanks and ditches, especially close to towns. It is fast-growing and spreads quickly, invading wet habitat at the expense of other, native flowers. Its explosive seed pods aid its spread by sending the seeds into the river, causing further dispersal downstream.*' And the RHS says, '*The main method of non-chemical control, and usually the most appropriate, is pulling or cutting the plants before they flower and set seed. Conservation authorities regularly organise 'balsam bashing' work parties to clear the weed from marshland and riverbanks.*' So we will be out 'bashing' again. Thanks especially to Sue Wise for organising this in Eastcombe. A Bisley group will be working on the upper stretch of the stream – contact below to join us.

**All Saints Churchyard and Teeds Rise Nature Reserve:** BisCAN has organised regular volunteer groups to do light maintenance work - planting hedgerow, pulling nettles, and the like.

**Moth traps** have recently been deployed by BisCAN volunteer Tony Perry at the nature reserve and on the Chestergate Allotments. Moths identified at the nature reserve included Brimstone, Pale Tussock, Scorched Carpet, Knot Grass, Red Twin-spot Carpet, Buff Ermine, Hebrew Character, Nut-tree Tussock, Brindled Pug, Double-striped Pug, Common Pug and Waved Umber – great names!

**Wildlife Surveys:** BisCAN is planning to survey wildlife in one or more places in the parish – the Toadsmoor, or the allotments, or the nature reserve. Anyone with or without expertise would be most welcome! If you have expertise to share, please contact us.

**We CAN all make a difference:** Every reduction in carbon emissions helps – all the more so if the rest of the world isn't doing enough. For most of us, transport, home heating, and diet are the areas in which we have the most effect. So changes to make include driving and flying less – combine journeys, make short trips by bike or on foot, use public transport when you can; insulating our homes better, and if we can afford it, installing solar panels and heat pumps;

and eating less meat and dairy – which can also be healthier. And for nature recovery, let your garden be a little bit wilder, with flowers for bees and other bugs, and avoid using pesticides.

If you'd like to **join us** balsam-bashing or in the nature reserve, or find out more about the wildlife surveys or anything else we do, please get in touch: [www.biscan.info](http://www.biscan.info), or email [bisleyeastcombeoakridgecan@gmail.com](mailto:bisleyeastcombeoakridgecan@gmail.com) or call Martin 01452 770878 or Lesley 01452 770018

## DISTRICT NEWS

**Summer Holiday Activities for children** in the district will again be coordinated by SDC, working with the County Council, in two schemes – the Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) for children who receive free school meals, and the Holiday Activities Programme (HAP – formerly 'COMF') for all children. Details and booking on the Council website and Facebook page.

The Council is warning council and social housing tenants of **scam phone calls and e-mails about repairs**, from people claiming to be working on behalf of their landlord. If you receive such a communication, contact directly the Council housing and repair service, or your housing association. See the SDC website for contact details.

**Levelling up bid** - The District Council's bid to the Government's Levelling Up Fund will be submitted in July. The bid for c. £16 million, if successful, will fund several projects in the centre of Stroud, including the transformation of the canal side at Wallbridge into a green space for picnics, festivals and events, and for people to walk, cycle and travel through by boat; the transformation of the Sub Rooms forecourt into a true "Town Square" to be used and enjoyed by all; the creation of 12 new small, start up, energy efficient 'incubator' office units in the town centre; improvements to Lansdown Hall, the Sub Rooms and Brunel Goods Shed with ramped access and internal improvements to make these heritage arts venues accessible for all; improved pedestrian and cycle routes around Wallbridge, surrounding streets, the underpass under Dr Newtons Way and up Rowcroft; improvements to the end of the Nailsworth to Stroud cycle route at Bath Road, Rodborough to make it safer and more accessible for cyclists and pedestrians and to link it through to the improvements around Wallbridge; improvements for cyclists and pedestrians at the Sub Rooms/ George Street triangle and around the town centre, London Road, Russell Street and Station Street; and real time passenger information at Stroud Railway Station and Merrywalks Bus Station to 'link' both to provide travel information for onward journeys; and opening up the Brunel Mall car park to add additional station car parking and reduce traffic in the town centre. It is hoped that this work will be

the catalyst for wider master planning of Stroud station – with separate funding to be secured in the future for station improvements. In line with the rules of the Levelling Up Fund, the bid has been supported by the MP for the Stroud parliamentary constituency. We expect to hear in the autumn if the bid has been successful.

**Twenty new energy efficient homes** - EPC rating A - have been built by the Council on the site of a former sheltered housing scheme in Nailsworth. The new homes are a mix of 15 houses and flats for affordable rent, and five houses and bungalows for shared ownership.

The Environment Committee approved Stroud District's inclusion in the Environment Agency's **Flood Risk Management Plan**, making possible future funding of projects in the District, such as the Natural Flood Management Plan (Rural SUDS) already implemented successfully in a number of local valleys. The Committee also approved a new **Litter Bin Strategy**, explaining among other things how decisions of siting, collection, etc. are made, and how to request new bins. Both these documents can be seen on the Council website.

The Community Services and Licensing Committee approved an **increase in taxi fares** effective July 18th. New fares will be on the council website. There is also a consultation on **whether CCTV cameras should be mandatory in taxis and private hire vehicles** licensed by SDC, on the website.

**Current job vacancies** with the Council include electrician, multi-trade plumber, digital developer, and casual trainee swimming teachers. See the website for details.

Stroud Town Council is conducting a **survey of people using Stroud Railway Station** to help shape plans for future improvements, on the **Town Council (not SDC) website**.

I have been appointed as **SDC's nominee to the Board of the Cotswold National Landscape** - formerly known as the AONB. I've attended one Board meeting to date, and will be especially interested in a renewable energy policy being developed.

**Contact Me:** As always, I would be pleased to hear from you about any matter related to the council, or anything with which I may be able to help you:

*Cllr Martin Brown, 01452 770878*

[cldr.martin.brown@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.martin.brown@stroud.gov.uk)

## BISLEY COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME



### Celebrate "**BUGS, BEES and BROCCOLI**"

National Allotments Society 2022 theme to show how growing food and supporting nature can work hand in hand on the Allotments.

*BCCS is a Membership CIC – for information see <https://www.bisleycommunitycompostscheme.org.uk>*

The National Allotment Society Bug-Life survey is available to download from the website <https://www.nsalg.org.uk/news-events-campaigns/national-allotments-week/> and via the Parish Council website <https://bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk>

Allotment holders and community orchard people in Bisley are sending in their sightings of newts, moths, birds, butterflies and orchids. And we hope Oakridge allotment holders and gardeners will join us. Some bugs aren't exactly welcomed – the black bugs on someone's runner beans were beastly aphids, but on closer inspection had already attracted at least one ladybird that was happily munching away – nature starting to restore the balance. Eastcombe resident Tony Perry has kindly been identifying moths on the Bisley allotments. Tony describes himself modestly as a "fairly enthusiastic amateur", but we owe him huge thanks for (so far) finding 172 beautiful species of which one, the Bordered Sallow, is very rare in the County. One allotment holder is putting out mats to find amphibians, so, with allotment gardeners' observations, the orchids, and the biodiversity in the soil improved by BCCS compost on the allotments we plan an exciting **"ANNUAL Get Together" Saturday 13 August 3.30-5pm All Welcome: Bring & Share Tea and Cakes.** This will include table displays of survey results, BCCS "Soil Tower- Life in the Soil", Robert Bryant's photographs of parasitic insects restoring nature's balance, Caroline's short talk on reptiles, Lucy Smith (WWT researcher) to give a short talk on the benefits of allotment ponds & insects, and Tony to present moth surveys and answer questions – plus updates on Wildlife Corridors - fascinating stuff.

Oakridge plotters welcome!!

We can help nature whilst 'growing our own', addressing climate change through the use of peat-free compost, keeping green waste local, enhancing the local 'circular economy', and helping our own health and wellbeing.

*Lesley Greene*

*BCCS and Bisley Allotment Warden*

## LOCAL PLANNING NEWS

Information relating to local planning issues, as outlined on the Stroud District Council website: <https://publicaccess.stroud.gov.uk/online-applications>. See the Parish Council website for local input. Here is a summary of local planning news in the period 24<sup>th</sup> May – 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022:

S.22/0873/FUL New dwelling and home office, Limekiln Lane, Waterlane	Withdrawn
S.22/0794/FUL Demolish stables, reconstruct and relocate swimming pool Hawthorneden, Far Oakridge	Awaiting Decision
S.22/0741/HHOLD Construct garden pergola, Far Oakridge House	Permitted
S.22/0883/HHOLD Erection of single storey extension, Mill House, Oakridge Lynch	Permitted
S.22/1002/LBC Redesign landscaping, Waterlane House	Approved
S.22/0956/FUL Install ground mounted solar PV System S.22/0920/FUL Convert barn to staff accommodation S.22/0857/FUL Extend existing parking arrangements for 2 years Frith House, Tunley	Awaiting Decision
S.22/0933/HHOLD Rear extension and outbuilding, Pigeon House, Oakridge Lynch	Awaiting Decision
S.22/1314/HHOLD 2 storey extension, Hillcrest, Oakridge Lynch	Awaiting Decision

## INTER VILLAGE QUIZ

Teams needed from:  
 Bisley Bussage Chalford Eastcombe  
 France Lynch & Oakridge

To Compete for a Prestigious Trophy



Sunday 28th August 2022  
 6.30pm for a 7pm start  
 at

Bisley Flower Show Marquee,  
 Cheltenham Road, GL6 7AX

To Include a Ploughman's Supper.  
 Licensed Pay Bar Available.

£30 a Table/Team (max 6 in a team)  
 (no limit to number of teams per village)

Tickets available from  
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Bisley-Flower-Show>

and from  
 Fiona Gill [fiona@gillfamily.org.uk](mailto:fiona@gillfamily.org.uk) 0777 151 3382

Funds raised for The Bisley Flower Show and All Saints Church

<b>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</b>
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**AUGUST 2022**

Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	• Garden Club, Village Hall	7.30 pm
Weds 3 <sup>rd</sup>	• Ladies Night, Butchers Arms	7.00 pm
	• Parish Council meeting, Bisley WI Hall	7.30 pm
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	• St Bartholomew's Coffee Corner	10 am – noon
Weds 10 <sup>th</sup>	• History Club, walk around Painswick	6.30 pm
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup>	• Lunch Club	12 noon
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	• Inter Village Quiz, Bisley	6.30 pm
Weds 31 <sup>st</sup>	• Film Night, Village Hall	7.00 pm

**SEPTEMBER 2022**

Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>	• Oakridge Show, Village Hall	12.30–4.00 pm
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup>	• Ladies Night, Butchers Arms	7.00 pm
	• Parish Council meeting, Bisley WI Hall	7.30 pm
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	• WI Annual Open Meeting, Village Hall	7.30 pm
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup>	• Lunch Club	12 noon
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup>	• History Group, Village Hall	7.00 pm
<b>Sat 24<sup>th</sup></b>	• <b>CLOSING DATE FOR NEXT WHAT'S ON 5pm</b>	