

WHAT'S ON

in

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



December 2022 / January 2023

Edition 260

www.oakridgevillage.org

THE CHURCH IN OAKRIDGE



VICAR	Rev. S Murray	01452 770897
CONTACTS	Brenda Cox	01453 883907
	Peter Scott	01452 770382

Greetings from the Church in Oakridge

Very best wishes to you all for a Merry Christmas. During this season, we will be celebrating Hope, Peace, Love and Joy; may all four of these fill your life this Christmas and beyond into 2023.

We would be delighted to welcome you to any of our services and events.

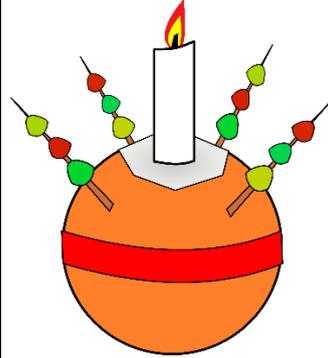
December 2022 Services and Events

Friday 2 nd	2.00pm School Christingle in the Church All welcome
Sunday 4 th	9.30am Village Christingle
Thursday 8 th	10.00 – 12.00 Church Cafe – coffee and cake
Friday 16 th	5.00 pm Carols around the Christmas Tree on School Green Mince Pies and Mulled Wine
Sunday 18 th	9.30am Holy Communion
Monday 19 th	6.00 pm Village Carol Singing Meet at Ollie's Shop
Friday 24 th	4.00pm Family Crib Service Children will be encouraged to participate in this service
Saturday 24 th	7.00pm Village Carol Service This will be the traditional 9 lessons and carols
Sunday 25 th	9.30am Family Christmas Day Holy Communion

January 2023 Services

Sunday 1 st	Please note the New Year's Day Service will be held at 10.00 am in France Lynch Church
Sunday 15 th	9.30am Holy Communion To be confirmed
Sunday 22 nd	9.30 am Morning Prayer To be confirmed

Please also refer to notices at the village shop and church.



An invitation to
Christingle
AT
Oakridge Church

School: Friday 2nd December 2022 at 2.00pm

Church: Sunday 4th December 2022 at 9.30am

Everyone is welcomed

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CAFÉ CHURCH



I would like to thank everyone who comes to our café and supports us, especially those who have donated cakes, biscuits, books, and some bric-a-brac.

For those who haven't been it's a great place to meet up, eat cake and drink coffee with friends.

At our last Café we held a raffle for a homemade Christmas Cake made by Chris Palmer, and we made £52.00 bringing our total to £151.00 for that day. This was donated to the church funds. At our next coffee morning we are hoping to raffle a Christmas pudding so please come along and support us.

**Next Coffee Morning is being held in the church on
 8th December 2022 @ 10 – 12**

Café Church is usually held monthly, however December will be our last one until the Spring as we feel that the church will be too cold to hold the café in the church. We have tried to find another venue, but this has not been possible. Again, thank you for all those who have supported us and hopefully when the weather is warmer, we shall start up again so keep an eye out!

Best Wishes from the Café Church Team

**CHRISTMAS TREE EVENT
DECEMBER 16TH 2022**



**CHRISTMAS
CAROLS**

MINCE PIES



STALLS

MULLED WINE



**5.00 P.M. ON
THE CHURCH GREEN
ALL ARE WELCOME
PLEASE BRING A TORCH!**

BOXING DAY 5K FUN RUN

We will meet at the Playing Fields for a 0900 start. All welcome to walk, jog, run and spectate. No entry, just turn up. No time limit, no prizes. An opportunity to burn off some Christmas calories.

We would benefit from some marshalls – if you can help, please get in touch:
Paul and Sam Timms 07949 785374 / 07946 484878

GILL FARRAR'S OAKRIDGE RAINWATCH



As measured by my rain gauge, recent rainfall levels were as follows:
September.... 80.4 mm.....about 3.2 ins.
October.... 125.7 mm.....about 4.9 ins.
November (to 20th)..... 97.9 mm.....about 3.8 ins.

LUNCH CLUB

The Christmas Lunch will be at 1.00 pm on Wednesday 7th December. Please let Ali Mills know by **Friday 2nd December** if you are on the list and can no longer make it, or if you would like to come along.

Lunch Club is held at the Village Hall on the 3rd 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.

OAKRIDGE PAROCHIAL SCHOOL



Following the challenging few years of the pandemic, Oakridge Parochial School was inspected just before the October half-term holidays. The inspectors were very thorough and looked at the wide range of provision at the school. As a result, we were delighted to receive a

GOOD grading, which the whole community can be proud of.

The inspection took place during the week of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the school. During this time, we held a Victorian Day and a church service, which recalled memorable events and occasions at the school over past years. Parents and the village community also came along to reminisce of their time at the school

The timing of the inspection was not lost and only confirmed the strength of our small, village school, from a distant age to the present time and beyond. We look forward to the next 150 years!

If you would like to read our report you can find this on the school and Ofsted website.

Jonathan Preston

Executive Headteacher





Christmas Carol Singing

All are welcome to join us on
Monday 19th December

Meeting 6pm at Ollie's Shop in Oakridge
Please bring a torch, gloves and warm clothing

If you live in Oakridge and would like Christmas Carollers to call, please
telephone Linda 07794 425915

OAKRIDGE VILLAGE HALL



The AGM was held on 18th October, unfortunately no villagers other than Trustees were in attendance. If anyone would like to see a copy of the minutes, please contact the Secretary, Chris Gregg at chrisgregg173@gmail.com. Do remember, the Hall belongs to the community, we would welcome your feedback and comments.

Further to the application to vary the Premises Licence, as there were representations submitted, a Hearing of the Licensing Committee at Stroud District Council was held on 12th November. After hearing the arguments for and against the application, the Hearing panel decided to grant the requested variation to the Village Hall licence, with specific conditions. The points raised both by neighbours to the Hall and the Licensing Committee have been taken under consideration and have led to a review of our hiring processes. The application was made in order to provide flexibility and enhance use of the Hall by the community, particularly since there has been considerable investment over the years, most recently the audio visual system. The Trustees would like to reassure the community that it is not the intention to hold regular late night events, or on anything other than an ad hoc basis.

In other news, the piano is now fully tuned and moveable - available to enhance your event!

OLLIE'S SHOP

Please note that due to potential shortages, orders for our high welfare Christmas meats need to be in by Friday the 2nd of December, if you leave it late you may miss out! From free range turkeys and capons to honey-roast hams, pigs in blankets or sausage meat, the vast selection from the Stroud Market favourite and long time supplier, is simply too good to miss. A full list of what's on offer and their prices is available at the shop.

And if you are stuck for gifts ideas, our Christmas hampers are always a hit, including our best selling "Taste of Gloucestershire", full of lovely local delicacies that will sure delight the lucky recipient. They can be tailored made with the recipient (and your budget) in mind so you don't have to spend a fortune this Christmas.

Should you need to post them their way, the last posting dates for the UK are Monday the 19th of December for 2nd Class and Monday the 21st for 1st class. For international destinations, the dates vary from the 1st of December for Australia, to the 10th for USA and Canada, the 12th for Germany, Ireland or Spain and the 14th for France.

Don't forget to use your old (non-barcoded) stamps before the 31st of January, after that they won't be valid for postage but they can be swapped out using a form available at the counter. Christmas stamps and pictorial stamps issued to commemorate events will still be valid for postage and do not need to be sent in for swap out.

With a heartfelt thank you for your business this year, we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a 2023 filled with love and happiness.
Laura, Oscar and Ollie

OAKRIDGE HISTORY GROUP



Our talk by Chas Townley on the Bisley Path from Gloucester to Cirencester proved very interesting and particularly appropriate for those in the Village Walking Group who had walked a small portion of the path in

Cirencester Park only the day before! The old 18th century route taken by travellers from Gloucester to Cirencester climbed up onto the high ground at Painswick and wound its way across through Waterlane and Tunley into what is now Cirencester Park. Chas showed a satellite view running the whole length of the route as well as photos at ground level of the path as it now appears and some of the remaining milestones.

At the meeting in November, a dozen members did sterling work sorting and indexing archive material from our store. There was plenty of discussion over photographs, albums, interview records, various documents and family trees. Our industry was rewarded with coffee or tea and mince pies!

Further organising will need to be done at some future date and if you are interested please let John or Kay know. Also remember that there is a website with lots of material on it: oakridgearchives.omeka.net.

We will have a break in December and January. The next meeting will be on **February 22nd** when John Loosley will be talking about the Doringtons of Lypiatt Park.

Kay Rhodes

NATURE NOTES FROM WATERLANE



Providing food and shelter with largely unfrozen ground U.K. gardens are a great place for many birds to last out the winter. They are the crucial wintering sites for millions of continental migrants. Few UK garden birdwatchers are aware of the sheer extent of the autumnal migration, because apart

from some colourful exceptions, most migrants are of familiar species.

The great emigration of continental migrants might be a welcome boost for our gardens but for the resident birds that are already here, it poses a challenge. The local residents will not roll-out a warm welcome and many squabbles may develop over territory and food. My own pyracantha bush has berries which are very often watched over by a local blackbird until ready, can be hard to hang onto when the migrating redwings arrive.

The blackbird is also our classic unseen autumn migrant arriving in enormous numbers from the continent and remaining in our gardens and countryside throughout winter. Our best known new arrivals are redwings and fieldfares, familiar only as winter visitors and originating from Scandinavia and Iceland.

Some birds remain in the same territory their whole lives like tawney owls, dunnocks, house sparrows and nuthatches. Magpies and carrion crows are similarly shy of moving about, blue tits and great tits may wander more, but don't go far.

Slimbridge is a good place to view migration on the wetlands. Bewick and whooper swans arrive from the middle of October, the latter letting out a delighted honking chorus after their long journey from the Arctic.

Alan White

OAKRIDGE GARDEN CLUB



As I write my report on the Garden Club, it is incredibly mild with lovely blue sky and sunshine. There are roses out and mahonia in full bloom. Still dahlias and several different salvias flowering away. We are well into November now, so it will make the winter seem shorter; I know it won't last but it has been a lovely Autumn.

Our meeting in October seems a long time ago. We had a really excellent talk from Tamsin Tidman on life as an editor of the Garden magazine. She was charming, confident and very amusing, but also extremely knowledgeable. I have never given much thought to all the many difficulties that crop up each month. Not only keeping it seasonal but not repeating topics and checking on correct information. She lives in a beautiful home with extensive gardens and a barn café. We have noted it down with a view to a visit next summer maybe.

I hope members will stop the Christmas preparations for one evening and enjoy our social at the later date of December 20th at 6.30pm; we can promise a really good menu. I hope you all enjoy the holiday and we'll meet again in February.

Gill Wimperis

OAKRIDGE FILM NIGHT

The film nights continue to go from strength to strength, with the doors and bar now open from 6.45pm, and the film starting at 7.30pm. Ice creams at an interval have proved popular. Look out for details of the next Film Night early in 2023.

To find out more, sign up to the What's On Mailing List to receive notice of films (and other events) in advance at www.oakridgevillage.org/maillinglist.html. 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. Tickets are just £5 (cash only) on the door. Cash bar available.

LADIES NIGHT

Calling all Lovely Ladies from Oakridge and Beyond.

We are a friendly bunch who like a chance for a chat and a drink with friends and neighbours. If you are new to the village and would like to meet up, then please join us. No pressure, no agenda. More the merrier! As the Butchers Arms is currently closed, we will be hosted by a rota of members on a bring your own basis. Please look out for the emailed location, or contact me on tamzin@tamzinhutton.com.

Look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 14th December. January's meet up is our Christmas meal at the village hall on Saturday 7th at 7.30pm. If you haven't yet confirmed your booking then let me know at my email address.

Tamzin Hutton

OAKRIDGE WI



On 10th October we welcomed Tamsin, a member of the fundraising team at our local Sue Ryder home at Leckhampton Court. Her illustrated talk was short but very interesting, especially the history of the movement and the historical building. Kings Ward and Tudor Ward echo the periods of the building extensions to the original house. It is a 16 bed unit providing palliative, neurological and bereavement support, and people can self-refer. A third of funding comes from the NHS, so Tamsin's job is vital for the shortfall. Fundraising is always needed. It is also a centre for day care and outreach for a wide variety of illnesses.

Our 99th AGM was held on 10th November; business was dealt with quite rapidly, followed by an ordinary meeting. Our party venue and food was sorted out – many thanks in advance to Alison for being our hostess at her home. Don't forget your Secret Santa gift.

We have chosen the Butterfly Garden for our Christmas charity. Also, we will begin again to collect pennies for the Cobalt Unit Appeal now we are using a little more cash.

The Village Green Christmas Tree event on 16th December seems to be growing, and WI are busy providing preserves for a stall.

We meet again in 2023 on Thursday 12th January and Thursday 9th February.

On behalf of all our members, I wish everyone a happy, contented Christmas time and good health and happiness for 2023.

Mary Fern

STROUD FOOD BANK

Many thanks to all who have contributed to Stroud Food Bank this year, and to Ollie's Shop for providing a collection point for the goods.

Every year the Stroud District Foodbank lovingly prepares Christmas Hampers that go to local households. These hampers provide some extra treats to bring cheer over the holidays to those finding it difficult to provide for their families. If you are able, please give generously this Christmas. Non perishable food items, toiletries and an additional little something are very much appreciated.

Spotlight on JOHN LOOSLEY

John is such a well-known villager and is involved in so many aspects of village life that it was a surprise to find that much of his earlier life was spent in various other parts of the UK and indeed the world. I was intrigued to find out what eventually brought him to Oakridge.



Born in Cashes Green, his family later moved to Stonehouse as his father was the Head of Wycliffe College. John attended Wycliffe prep and junior schools which he enjoyed although provision was fairly basic after the war. He continued his secondary education at Kingswood School in Bath which was founded by John Wesley. Although the school was fundamentally a Methodist school with top Methodist preachers coming to give services there, John says that there was a good mix of pupils from various religions.

After gaining his 'O' and 'A' level examinations, he was offered a place at St John's College

Cambridge where his father had also studied. He read mechanical sciences, now engineering, and thoroughly enjoyed his time there. Between school and university he completed a one year apprenticeship with English Electric in Stafford and completed the second apprenticeship year there after his degree. This led to employment with the company, where he worked in the commercial side of engineering, promoting sales in their products nationally and internationally - they made a wide range of goods from planes to domestic appliances.

In 1968 a job came up in export sales at Listers Blackstone Diesels in Dursley but before he could take up the appointment, the office was moved to Mirrlees Blackstone in Stockport, where he learned about the production of huge diesel engines which ran power stations. And it was this knowledge which gave him the chance to visit Indonesia for three months investigating the possibility of sales of these engines in the country - they had recently discovered oil there which had led to a burgeoning economy. John was back and forth to SE Asia during the next five years and worked in Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong and Indonesia. The latter became the top market for diesel power stations and he loved living there.

Eventually, after being called to the Ministry of Power, John was told that the government had run out of money and the major projects came to an end. He came back to the UK in 1976 to work for the next 13 years for an engineering company in Bolton which manufactured equipment for steam power stations, off-shore oil and the chemical industry. He once again travelled abroad with the job, this time mainly to Europe and Australasia. The firm had a holding company in London which then bought companies in France and the USA, so John was once again on his travels. He completed an immersion course in French to help him negotiate in France and spent time in Philadelphia working for the American office. Problems with extending his work permit meant that after 18 months he was to return home. His parents by then were elderly and in failing health and were being supported by his sister and brother-in-law who live in Sheepscombe. John decided to live with his parents in their house in Chalford Hill to help out. After they both sadly died within 3 months of each other, John looked for a house and came across his current home in Oakridge in 1991. He was attracted to Oakridge because it was fairly isolated having virtually no through traffic, with beautiful countryside and because he saw it as a happy community. He was semi-retired for the next 10 years, doing consultancy work for local engineering companies several days a week.

As he worked less, he got into local projects and is now busier than ever with his impressive contribution to village life. It was Alex Davies who first persuaded him to take over the administration of the National Lottery funds which had been allocated to the writing of a book about Oakridge. He then got involved when Pat Carrick and Kay Rhodes wanted to start a History Group about 13 years ago. He was also involved with the Oakridge Society which had a museum sited at the back of the Methodist Chapel. This was started by Wilf Merrett in the 1980s and overseen by David Battison and manned 2 or 3 days a week by volunteers. Local people donated many different artefacts to the museum, most of which have ended up in John's garage after the museum was dismantled when the Chapel was sold. Larger items such as old milking machines went back to Oakridge Farm.

One of the Oakridge Society's main briefs was to deal with planning consent applications but when the Parish Council took over that role, the Oakridge Society was wound up. John chaired the Village Hall committee for 7 or 8 years and is still on the committee in charge of hall bookings.

Other things which keep John busy include

- his interest in history, archaeology and archives (he volunteers once a week with the Gloucestershire Family History Society based in Gloucester)
- Playing golf

- Attending classical, jazz and chamber music concerts
- Being a member of Oakridge walking group

How lucky for the village that he chose to live and contribute to life in Oakridge after all his global travels.

Sue Wise. 01285 762800. 07766 705357

GLOUCESTERSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

The Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (GWT) is delighted with our purchase of Trillis Banks nature reserve. This site is fundamental to our *bigger-better-more-joined* aspirations in the Golden Valley. Nature reserves support a huge amount of wildlife, but populations remain isolated, constrained by the limited resources provided, and vulnerable to future challenges. There is increasing consensus that we are in an ecological emergency and significant change is needed. UK conservation needs to shift its focus to increasing the size of wildlife sites (*bigger*), improving the quality of the habitat they contain (*better*) and work to connect them across landscapes (*more joined* up). This will allow for larger areas of habitat increasing its resilience, and allow wildlife to disperse into the wider countryside, creating larger populations more resistant to future challenges.

At GWT, we have mapped the County and its habitats, and identified 10 Nature Recovery Zones (NRZ's) where we have the opportunity to connect habitat at the landscape scale. One such NRZ is the Golden Valley which stretches from Brimscombe to Sapperton, and north to Caudle Green. It contains 7 GWT nature reserves and is a rich mosaic of species-rich grassland and broadleaved woodland. The River Frome and associated watercourses add to its diversity.

Species-rich grassland can support up to 40 species of vascular plant in a square meter. Invertebrates flourish with many intimate relationships (some species of butterfly lay their eggs on only one type of plant for example). In the 1930's, 40% of the Cotswolds was species-rich grassland – today, less than 1.5% remains. Scattered scrub is an important component of the grassland habitat and adds to its complexity supporting many red-list species of Bird, Mammal and Reptile. Ancient woodland (designated as having been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600AD) supports plants and animals found nowhere else. Only 2.5% remains throughout the UK.

All the above are found at Trillis Banks, and key to its management going forward will be conservation grazing to manage the grassland via natural processes – that is livestock mimicking herds of our lost native herbivores. We are still taking stock of infrastructure, but key will be livestock fencing of our boundaries (as we

commenced with the previous owner through partnership working), and we have already installed two mains-fed water troughs as we are conscious that natural springs may not be guaranteed in future predicted droughts.

The purchase of Trillis Banks goes a long way to aiding nature's recovery in the Golden Valley NRZ, and we have created a super-reserve containing Daneway Banks, Siccaridge Wood, Sapperton Valley and now Trillis Banks. Along with our partnership working with sympathetic landowners, things are looking Golden in the Golden Valley.

Pantomime comes to Oakridge:

The Oakridge Players invite you to join them at Lil's Saloon for a cowboy pantomime.

The action takes place on Christmas Eve in Diamond Tooth Lil's saloon where preparations for the Christmas party is in full swing. 'Baddy' No Nose Muldoon is desperate to get his diamond back now lodged in Lil's tooth. However, Filthy Frank, sheriff Big Brad and the rest of the gang are sure to foil his plans and steer the plot down a hilarious, outrageous and romantic path.



Bad Day at Black Frog Creek

Oakridge Village Hall
26th, 27th and 28th January 2023

7:30pm and Saturday matinee at 2:30

£8 cash payment on the door. Children £5. Cash bar.

Reserve your seat at

- **www.oakridgeplayers.com**
- **The Oakridge Village Shop**



OPEN STUDIO of Paintings & Pottery
By JOHN BAILEY

www.johnbaileyart.co.uk

Winsley Cottage,
Oakridge Lynch, Glos, GL6 7NZ
01285 760659

Saturday 26th Nov –
Sunday 4th Dec 2022
11.00 am – 5.00 pm

IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH

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
Next PC meetings: 7.30 pm Wednesday 7th December 2022 and Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Any issues in the Oakridge Ward of our Parish please contact
Cllr Tony Martin – tony.martin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk
Cllr Roger Budgeon - roger@greenshopgroup.co.uk
Cllr Dennis Robbins - d.robbins1945@btinternet.com
Cllr Helen Jones - libisimo@gmail.com

Parish Clerk: Arlene Deane

E: admin@bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk

T: 01452 771089

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

DISTRICT NEWS

Cost of Living Crisis: Advice on financial concerns, and on home energy-saving, is available on the Council website, www.stroud.gov.uk. This includes council tax support; pension credit; childcare help; carer's allowance; free school meals; energy efficiency; and links to other organisations such as Citizens Advice.

Bonfires: Complaints about bonfires increase at this time of year. Stroud District Council appeals to gardeners not to light bonfires. They often upset neighbours, harm air quality, and can cause health problems, especially to people with respiratory conditions. They also contribute to climate change by releasing carbon. Instead, we are encouraged to compost garden waste, either at home or at Bisley Community Composting Scheme – which sequesters carbon, contributing to the circular local economy, and provides gardeners and allotment holders with high quality, peat-free compost.

Canal Restoration: The Environment Committee has approved a Canals Strategy, which now becomes a Supplementary Planning Document as part of the Stroud Local Plan (currently under examination by the national Inspectorate). The Strategy identifies characteristics of the diverse sections of the three canals in Stroud District – the Gloucester and Sharpness, the Stroudwater from Saul to Stroud, and the Thames and Severn, from Stroud through Chalford to Sapperton – and *'provides placemaking guidance and advice, for use by those preparing plans and proposals along the canal corridors, and officers making decisions on planning applications'*. There was a lot of local concern about the possibility of restoration from Chalford to Sapperton, and the harm this might have done to the rich wildlife habitats of this stretch of the canal. For this section – east of Brimscombe – the Strategy highlights its unique biodiversity, NOT any development potential (as it does for some other sections). The current Local Plan, with the Strategy as approved, thus does not contemplate or endorse any restoration work on this part of the canal.

Constituency Change: The Boundary Commission is proposing changes which would remove Eastcombe, Oakridge and Bisley from Stroud Constituency and put them in a new North Cotswold Constituency. (This will make no difference to Parish or District Councils – we will still be in Stroud District for local services including waste and recycling.) Chalford and Bussage will remain in Stroud Constituency. The Boundary Commission has opened another round of consultation on the proposed changes. I and the Parish Council have resubmitted our objections, on the ground that our area is historically, geographically, culturally and economically closely connected to Stroud, not Stow on the Wold or Chipping Campden. If you want to submit your own view, go to the Boundary Commission website www.bcereviews.org.uk. The deadline is December 5th.

Recycling: Stroud District has one of the best recycling rates in the country, but we can do even better: Plastic bags should not be put in the general recycling bins, as they cause problems at the recycling plants. Non-food recyclables – glass, plastic, metals, paper and cardboard – should be placed loose in the bins. Clear plastic film should be removed from food containers. There is also a problem with kitchen scraps and food waste in the recycling bins. Please separate food waste and put it in the food waste caddy or compost it yourself – or better yet, try to use and not waste as much as possible – save money and help reduce climate chaos. (Some 8% of global carbon emissions are from food waste.) Plastic bags and film, and various other things such as crisp packets and toothpaste tubes, can be recycled at various places including some

supermarkets. Bisley's Greenshop also takes some of these, as does Stroud Valleys Project in Threadneedle Street in Stroud. To find out where to take different items, ask the **Waste Wizard** <https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/waste-wizard/>. **And don't forget the 4 Rs: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!**

Council Job Vacancies: Current openings include Housing Advice Officers, Homelessness Officer, and Apprenticeships. See the Council website: www.stroud.gov.uk

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 cllr.martin.brown@stroud.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

Get in touch

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

Cllr Susan Williams

Susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk Mobile 07766318854

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 24th September – 24th November 2022:

S.22/0794/FUL Change of use from agricultural to equestrian stables, Hawthorneden, Far Oakridge	Permitted
S.22/0956/FUL Install ground mounted solar PV System	Permitted
S.22/0920/FUL Convert barn to staff accommodation	Refused
S.22/0857/FUL Extend existing parking arrangements for 2 years Frith House, Tunley	Awaiting Decision
S.22/1836/FUL Install ground-mounted solar PV system to rear of Waterlane House, Waterlane	Permitted

S.22/2358/HHOLD Resubmission of S.22/1314/HHOLD to build 2 storey extension, Hillcrest, Oakridge Lynch	Awaiting Decision
S.22/2327/VAR Variation to development at The Knowle, Oakridge Lynch	Awaiting Decision
S.22/2318/VAR Variation to development at Cherrypiece Cottage, Waterlane	Awaiting Decision

RECYCLING OR RUBBISH? WHICH PLASTICS CAN YOU RECYCLE?

This article was forwarded by ChalCAN, but is relevant anywhere in the parish...

We all recycle simple things like glass, paper and cans, but more often or not, I stand by the bin with a piece of plastic and think: *'Is this recyclable?'*. To find out more, Pam Perry and I visited the Queen of Recycling, Tricia Watson, councillor for Chalford ward, taking along bags of plastic which we had saved for recycling.

What we found out: Council kerbside recycling takes common household plastic packaging, mostly from the kitchen and bathroom - if it's vaguely 'rigid', like a food tray, it can go into the green bin/bag. However, when it comes to things like flexible plastic wrapping, the council doesn't currently have an end market for it, so they ask you not to put it in your recycling bin. It is, however totally recyclable.

Don't despair! You can recycle in other ways. Some manufacturers will recycle the packaging from their own products - if it is bagged up and sent to them, the company will pay approximately £1 per kilo. Unfortunately, companies do this more to market their product than for the good of the planet, and will often cancel a scheme if they feel it no longer makes good business sense: Walkers ran a crisp packet recycling scheme after Greenpeace shamed them with a campaign, then quietly stopped, while Mars ran a short-lived pet food pouch recycling scheme that is now only available in some larger pet stores. Having said that, while the schemes run, the money raised for charity can amount to hundreds of pounds a month, so it is well worth the effort.

There are several collection points locally where you can drop off SPECIFIC PRODUCTS (*see list below*), including Chalford Parish Centre, Chalford Hill Primary School and The Greenshop at Bisley.

Tricia and other volunteers then send off the specific products to the specific companies and claim money for the local schools/playgroups who help collect it, along with the Stroud Valleys Project. **HOWEVER** (and this is the nightmare part) before items can be sent off, they must be separated out and bagged separately. Each manufacturer will **ONLY** accept

certain things, so writing items must go into one bag and cleaning item packaging into another. Dental items cannot be mixed with Pringle tubes, and so on.

At present, Tricia is able to raise funds by sending off these items ONLY:

Biscuit and snack bar wrappers (any brand)

Plastic bread, rolls, wrap wrappers(!)/bags (any brand)

Crisps and nut packets (any brand)

Coffee bags & pouches (any brand)

Dental items (any brand): toothbrushes (for electric toothbrushes, the heads only), toothpaste tubes etc

Beauty items (any brand): make up casings, tubes etc

Cleaning items: laundry gel pouches, air fresheners etc

Writing items (any brand): pens, felt tips etc

Cheese bags (any brand) - *not cling wrap

NB: Pet food pouches are no longer collected.

Brand specific:

Babybel plastic nets, wax cases & wrappers

Ferrero Rocher boxes, inserts & foil wrappers

Hasbro BROKEN toys/games (a LOT of brands!)

Warburton waxed bread bags

Pringle tubes & lids

SEE POSTER FOR MORE DETAILS:

www.chalcan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Recycling-Poster.pdf

What about the rest? A few items not listed below can still be recycled —blister packs are recycled by Superdrug, while contact lenses and their packets are recycled at Boots (& some other opticians). Soft plastics not specifically recycled by their manufacturer can be bagged together (e.g. vegetable wrapping, plastic bags etc) and taken to Tesco, the Co-op, Sainsbury or Morrisons, who all offer a soft plastic recycling service. Currently, Waitrose & Ocado only recycle 'stretchy plastic' and Aldi, Lidl don't recycle it at all.

Tricia welcomes help in sorting the recycling - and **it would help her if plastics were donated correctly bagged**, saving a time consuming and sometimes messy job. Please make sure that all donated plastics are clean.

For more details or to offer help, please contact Tricia:

Cllr.Tricia.Watson@stroud.gov.uk.

To find out more about recycling schemes, visit www.Terracycle.co.uk.

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.

If you'd like to find out more about what we do, please get in touch: www.biscan.info, or email bisleyeastcombeoakridgecan@gmail.com or call Martin 01452 770878 or Lesley 01452 770018

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LIBRARY SERVICE

One of our roles within the Library service is to help customers find the information that they require, with a particular focus on assisting those who do not have access to the internet or do not wish to use technology. We can look up a telephone number, postal address or find local community information such as social groups and societies in the enquirers local area, and provide them with the answer via their preferred means either phone, email, letter and we also receive referrals through all of our branch libraries.

We are able to locate online forms and print and post them out which is a very valuable service to our customers, particularly when a lot of information can still only be found online. We are also in contact with Adult Education, Gloucestershire Employment and Skills Hub, Gloucestershire Trading Standards, The GEM Project and many others and are able to provide information and signposting regarding these services.

We aim to provide a free, fast, information service, our aim is to respond to an enquiry within three to five working days but frequently we can provide the information a customer needs immediately or same-day. From quick questions to in-depth research, customers can ask any question and we can either answer the enquiry, help them get started with research or refer them to the most relevant agency or person to help with the query.

The Ask Us service is available to anyone who lives works or studies in Gloucestershire or lives in a county adjacent to Gloucestershire.

Our top 10 enquiries include but are not limited to:

1) Consumer advice from Which? Gloucestershire Libraries subscribes to Which? and we can provide consumer information from this

- 2) Phone Numbers & Addresses for any business/authority in the UK and abroad, we also help provide contact details from BT
- 3) Local information including groups, societies, education, local business details, information about Volunteering in Gloucestershire
- 4) Library Services Information including information about library groups and events, Innovation Labs, Opening Times etc.
- 5) Company reports and targeted mailing lists for your marketing needs via our database Fame ideal for start-up businesses wanting to investigate the local market and spread the word about their business
- 6) Government Information & Legislation including contact details for MP's and parliamentary groups, specific Government Acts and policies, forms for Government services
- 7) Business Information: how to start a business, signposting to Gloucestershire Growth Hub and Start and Grow Enterprise
- 8) Local and Family History help with tracing a relative, assistance with family tree searches, local history questions
- 9) Virtual Reference Library including assistance with using the VRL resources
- 10) The Arts including local and national museums and events, artists

Ask Us: Business and Reference Information Service Officers

Libraries and Information
Gloucestershire County Council

Ask Us, Gloucester Library, Brunswick Road, Gloucester, GL1 1HT

Tel: 01452 426 991

Email: ask@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Ask Us Web: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/ask

Libraries Web: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries

Library Catalogue: <https://gloucestershire.spydus.co.uk>

Subscribe to the Library Newsletter here

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USEFUL INFORMATION

- The village website – www.oakridgevillage.org - for up to date information, including Village Hall availability and Village Events Calendar
-  pages – Oakridge Village Network and Oakridge Village Hall, Oakridge Lynch
- WhatsApp group – Village network
- Village Hall bookings – johnloosley40@gmail.com
- Ollie's Shop – 01285 760239 Mon-Fri 9-5 Sat 9-1 Sun 9-12
- 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
- If you prefer the online version and no longer want a paper copy of the What's On, please email editoroakridgewatson@gmail.com with your name and address

Cover Illustration by Edie Bailey

Edie is currently studying for a Level 3 in Early Years and Childcare at Stroud College, whilst developing her creative interest in calligraphy, photography and dance with Ballyhoo – see her Instagram page: Calligraphygirlll

TUESDAY 24th JANUARY, 5pm - CLOSING DATE **for the Feb / Mar WHAT'S ON**

Editor: Victoria Beard

Tel: 01285 760339

Email: editoroakridgewatson@gmail.com

E&OE

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER 2022

Thurs 1 st – Sun 4 th Fri 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Bailey's Open Studio, Winsley Cottage • School Christingle Service, St Bartholomew's 	11.00am- 5.00pm 2.00 pm
Sun 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Christingle Service, St Bartholomew's 	9.30 am
Weds 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Club, Village Hall • Parish Council meeting, Bisley 	1.00 pm 7.30 pm
Thurs 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café Church, St Bartholomew's 	10.00am – noon
Weds 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ladies Night 	7.30 pm
Fri 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carols on the Green 	5.00 pm
Mon 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carol Singers, Ollie's Shop 	6.00 pm
Tues 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garden Club Christmas Social, Village Hall 	6.30 pm
Sat 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Crib Service, St Bartholomew's • Village Carol Service, St Bartholomew's 	4.00 pm 7.00 pm
Mon 26 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boxing Day 5K Fun Run, Playing Field 	9.00 am

JANUARY 2023

Weds 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council, Bisley 	7.30 pm
Sat 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ladies' Night Meal, Village Hall 	7.30 pm
Thurs 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI, Village Hall 	7.30 pm
Weds 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Club, Village Hall 	Noon – 2.00 pm
Thurs 26 th – Sat 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oakridge Players present...Bad Day at Black Frog Creek, Village Hall 	7.30pm Sat matinee 2.30pm

TUES 24TH

CLOSING DATE FOR NEXT WHAT'S ON 5pm