

WHAT'S ON

in

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



February / March 2023

Edition 261

www.oakridgevillage.org

THE FUTURE OF WHAT'S ON

For several years, the What's On has been printed 'in-house' on a machine purchased by Alex and Gill Davis with grant funding. Unfortunately this machine is now deemed obsolete, as ink is no longer available. The most likely way forward will be to outsource the printing to a local printing company, but this will of course come at a cost.

The What's On already receives a grant from the Parish Council, but will need to generate additional income to meet the printing costs. It is proposed that initially this should be via voluntary donation from individuals and village groups, which together with the grant will go some way toward ensuring that those who want a paper copy will still receive one. This situation will need to be reviewed if sufficient income is not forthcoming.

I would be interested to receive any comments or suggestions, or can provide banking details for anyone wishing to make a donation – please email me at editoroakridgewatson@gmail.com, or call 01285 760339.

If you'd like a free digital copy direct to your email inbox, please sign up via the link on the village website www.oakridgevillage.org/maillinglist.

Many thanks, Victoria Beard

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
- Village network WhatsApp group
- 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

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

Blessings and best wishes to you all for a Happy and Healthy 2023.

Thank you to the carol singers who braved the winter cold and for those who contributed to the collection. £45 was raised for The Stroud Women's Refuge.

FEBRUARY 2023

5 th Morning Prayer	9.30 am
19 th Holy Communion	9.30 am

MARCH 2023

5 th Morning Prayer	9.30 am
19 th Mothering Sunday event with posies	9.30 am

On Saturday 18th March, we will be making posies for Mothering Sunday. We would be delighted for you to join us at 10.00 am in the village hall annex. Materials, coffee and cake will be provided – any spring flowers or greenery you might have spare in your gardens would be welcome.

Please check the village shop and Church notice board for any updates.

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CAFÉ CHURCH



I would like to say that WE ARE BACK! Café Church Team is now rearing to go and meet up with you all again. We have missed you, but due to the cold and dampness and massive loads of rain it was good idea to close. A big thank you for those who have been supporting us at our Café Church once a month. In December, despite the coldness of the weather, we had another good turn out from the village which was very much appreciated. We held another Christmas raffle for a Christmas

pudding which was donated to us, and the lucky lady who won was Sue Korda. Well done, Sue.

Hopefully, now that we approach Spring the weather will be kind to us and we will see some sunshine. For those who haven't tried us it's a great place to meet up, eat homemade cakes and drink coffee with friends. So come on and give us a try. So, get your diaries out and put in the following reminder into it.

**Next Coffee Morning is being held in the church on
2nd March 2023 @ 10-12**

CHRISTMAS TREE EVENT

Just a little note to say a big thank you to all those who joined us at our Christmas Tree Event on the Church Green on the 16th December 2022. A special thank you for the Women's Institute for manning a stall and selling their homemade chutneys which looked delicious. It was a very chilly night, snow laid all about and the stars shone bright. However, those who did venture forth and braved the elements we had a delightful evening. Eating mince pies and drinking mulled wine, singing carols around the Christmas was hearty and helped us keep warm.

So, thank you everyone.
Lyndsey and Sharon

GILL FARRAR'S OAKRIDGE RAINWATCH



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

November.... 162.9 mm.....about 6.4 ins.

December 110.7 mm.....about 4.3 ins.

January (to 14th).... 112.7 mm.....about 4.4 ins.

LUNCH CLUB

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 VILLAGE HALL



SELF EMPLOYED CLEANER required

We are looking for a flexible individual to clean the Hall on a regular self-employed basis, potentially up to 2 hours per week. Flexible hours to suit, depending on the down-time of Hall usage. c.£15/hr. Please contact Jane Gregg for more details – janegregg@hotmail.com or 07748684156

We have been informed that the AmazonSmile charitable donation programme is being wound up from mid-February, so thank you to anyone who has supported the Hall through donations over the past few months.

PANCAKE LUNCH

**SHROVE TUESDAY 21st FEBRUARY
FROM 12 NOON AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**CHOICE OF SOUP WITH ROLL
PLOUGHMANS SALAD
PANCAKES WITH LEMON**

£7.50 IN AID OF HALL FUNDS

OAKRIDGE FILM NIGHT

The first Film Night of the New Year will take place on Wednesday 1st February - as ever tickets are available on the door. The next showings will be on Wednesday 1st and Wednesday 29th March.

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.

OAKRIDGE HISTORY GROUP



We have had a break over Christmas and New Year and wish everyone a healthy and peaceful 2023.

Following the successful session last November sorting paper and photographic archives, we should now like to turn our attention to improving the website, especially the search system. Martin Wyatt did a fantastic job setting this up and Andrew has done an excellent job in maintaining it since he left. However, the web system has changed and the website now needs a major rearrangement to enable it to be searched more effectively. Andrew does not have time to carry this out in addition to all the other work he does for the village hall and the village website, so we are now desperately appealing for somebody with suitable background web capabilities to learn this system and take on simplifying it. **Can you help? Or do you know anyone who could help?** If so, please contact John or Kay.

The next meeting will be on **February 22nd** when John Loosley will be talking about the Doringtons of Lypiatt Park.

On **22nd March** a member of the Corinium Museum staff will be talking about the highlights of the museum displays.

Kay Rhodes

NATURE NOTES FROM WATERLANE



The snow falling in the cold spell in December gave us a very good opportunity to examine tracks left by animals and birds in our gardens and surrounding countryside. The footprints in the snow are important pointers to their whereabouts, habits and homes and what is going on in the vicinity.

No backboned animal ever has more than five digits in hand or foot. Usually there are fewer with adaptations as varied as the cats four toes with claws to the horse's single toe with hoof. I have listed a few of the common tracks you will find during the winter.

The fox has footprints a little like a dog, they have the same number of pads but their feet are a little narrower and their trail straighter. It normally keeps to cover or low ground, leaving tracks beneath hedgerows or in ditches and hollows. It hunts largely by scent ending in a careful stalk. Its normal gait is a trot, although it also walks and bounds.

In hopping animals such as rabbits and hares, the hind feet are usually longer than the forefeet, with a stronger kick and longer reach. The tracks are usually blurred due to the hair between the pads.

Roe deer have two toe marks which converge at the front while the Muntjac deer has two toes of unequal size.

With regard to local bird tracks, the Pheasant is the most prominent with its three forward pointed toes. Its feet are short and powerful and well adapted for running. When it takes off in snow one often sees the impression of wing feathers and when it lands the long tail feather often leaves a track.

Alan White

OAKRIDGE GARDEN CLUB



What a wet, grey, cold month January has been, with only a few odd days to get out and tidy a very scruffy garden. Snowdrops are out, and hellebores are showing colour. My hazel bush is covered with catkins, so it's all going on and really will not be long before the evenings begin to get lighter. I think it's a good time to change and alter the garden, digging up and splitting large clumps of border plants, and trimming overgrown shrubs.

I was interested to read a 4-page article on Tamsin Westhorpe, who gave us an excellent talk last year. It showed her beautiful garden near Leominster that she owns, with her sister running the barn restaurant. Our committee have booked a trip in Spring with lunch in the barn. Something to look forward to.

The February meeting is always the AGM, but we hope to get through the business side nice and quickly, and enjoy our speaker, Felicity Down, who will tell us how to have colour all year round in the garden.

Gill Wimperis

OAKRIDGE PUB INTEREST GROUP

On Wednesday 14th December around 30 people met at the village hall and shared knowledge about the current situation at The Butchers Arms. The owner, Red Oak Taverns Ltd, have advertised the pub as To Let at a price and business model which, we thought, would not make for a viable / profitable business.

The worry amongst the group was that the property would be sold and repurposed for development. General consensus was that we would like to keep

the pub and should look into ways of making sure this happens. Registering the pub as community asset could support the village's cause.

If registered as a community asset and Red Oak decide to sell the pub, the community will be given a 6 month period in which to put an offer on the pub. There are quite a few villages which own/run pubs with various models explained and discussed. The best model seems to be where the pub is run by a tenant with a low rent paid to the village. A smaller working group of volunteers will stay in touch with Red Oak, register the pub as a community asset and initiate any initiatives deemed necessary if the pub is put up for sale.

If you would like to stay in the know, please sign up by emailing oakridge.pubIG@gmail.com or follow the link [InterestGroup SignUp](#).

OAKRIDGE SHOW

There will be a meeting at **6.30pm on Wednesday 8th February** in the Village Hall Annexe for all those interested and willing to be involved in the organisation of the Oakridge Show, scheduled for Saturday 2nd September.

We look forward to seeing you!

Any comments/suggestions please to Victoria Beard 01285 760339

FRITHWOOD PPG

Volunteer Secretary and Chair Positions

We are looking for two, dedicated and passionate individuals to take on the roles of Chair and Secretary (from April 2023) for The Frithwood Surgery Patients Participation Group. We are a friendly bunch that work to support our GP Practice. As a volunteer-led organisation, we rely on the support of individuals to ensure that the voices of our patients are heard and acted upon. The roles require a time commitment of approximately 4 or 5 hours per month. You'll be fully supported and assisted by the current chair and secretary to help you get up to speed. For further information, please contact frithwoodppg@gmail.com

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.

Tamzin Hutton

OAKRIDGE WI



Happy New Year Greetings Everyone

December was busy for everyone as always, not helped along by the snow and ice. Our Christmas gathering was held at the Old Vicarage thanks to Alison and Vida, and was a very special evening. 16th December was Christmas time on the Village Green. We had a stall selling chutney and pickles, profits from which were very welcome and a donation was given to the Church.

2023

12th January – Robert Bryant ARPS from Eastcome: “A Year-long Walk in Woodchester Park”. His formal introduction was a walk through his CV, which was a standalone entertainment: quite the raconteur. The prestigious ARPS after his name is not easily gained he informed us, so we should not have been surprised by the spectacular quality of the pictures he showed to us; flowers, trees, insects, the lakes, birds and fungi through the seasons at Woodchester Park. A glowing exhibition to lighten the spirits of what had been a pretty wet and grey start to the year. We hope to see him again.

9th February – we are crafting by us

9th March – “Keeping a Breast of It” by Alexander Stanbrook

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Mary Fern

FISH PONDS

A warning to anyone with fish ponds that we have hungry otters in the area. Our fishpond, containing ghost koi, tench and ornamental goldfish was emptied over 3 recent visits. The breach of the security fencing and netting, along with the behavioural signs (decapitated fish and trails of fish scales leading down Crooked Mustard, body shape where the predators prised up wire fencing etc), leave little doubt.

So a little warning to any other fish keepers to up their security.
Terry Curr

Spotlight onis taking a rest this edition, look out
for the next feature in April

Sue Wise. 01285 762800. 07766 705357

JOHN TAYLOR FOUNDATION

The John Taylor's Foundation is a local charity that issues small grants to students going on to Higher Education (excluding A Levels) or those undertaking apprenticeships to assist with the cost of books, tools or equipment.

If you are aged under 25, and live in the Ancient Parish of Bisley (the area includes all of the civil parish of Bisley with Lypiatt, including Eastcombe and Oakridge, most of Bussage and part of Chalford), please apply in writing to The Trustees at jennytaylor1944@outlook.com stating your full name, age, address, university course or employer.

The Trustees of the John Taylor's Foundation meet twice a year in March and September when applications will be considered.

JOHN BAILEY OPEN STUDIO

John would like to thank everybody for supporting his Open Studio at the end of last year, which proved to be another highly successful event. He is pleased to have helped cheer everyone up in the gloomy climate! A contribution of £300 was raised, which will be sent to Cancer Research to bring his total to over £12,000 raised over the past few years.

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 1st February and Wednesday 1st March 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

Affordable Housing: In 2021/22 the council had its best year of **affordable housing completions** – 245, double the annual average in recent years. These are mostly completions with housing association partners and involve different tenures, including social rent, affordable rent and shared ownership. SDC is the only Gloucestershire local authority which owns and manages its own council housing stock, more than 5,000 homes.

Warm Welcome: The council is supporting more than 40 'warm spaces' around the district, including Bisley Village Hall Tuesdays 2-4pm and The Lamb in Eastcombe Tuesday and Thursday 2-5pm: Share warmth, company and refreshments, free of charge. All welcome!

Cost of Living: Information and advice is available on the SDC website: www.stroud.gov.uk/costofliving. It covers money, energy and water, food, family and childcare, mental health support, and warm spaces.

Recycling: To check how to recycle various items – including all that stuff Christmas may have generated – see the **Waste Wizard** on the SDC website. And for tricky items – such as toothpaste tubes and crisp packets – don't forget **Terracycle**: collection points include Bisley's Greenshop.

Council Services: The three levels of local government – County, District and Parish – have different responsibilities, and it's sometimes hard to remember which is responsible for what. So here's a quick guide to the main responsibilities of each:

- **Gloucestershire County Council:** Adult Social Care; Children and Young People's Services; Highways (Roads, Roadworks, Verges, Potholes etc.) and Footpaths (PRoWs); Household Recycling Centres; Libraries; Education; Fire Service and Police
- **Stroud District Council:** Animal Welfare; Anti-social Behaviour (including fly-tipping, dog-fouling, littering, noise, graffiti and abandoned vehicles); Business Rates; Council-owned Social Housing; Council Tax; Elections and Voting; Environmental Health; Food Safety; Homelessness and Housing Advice; Housing Benefit; Licensing; Local Planning; Pest Control; Street Cleaning; Waste & Recycling Collection
- **Parish Council:** Allotments; Playing Fields and Play Areas; Churchyards; Planning (consultee for SDC); Grants to Local Organisations; and other local issues.
- **Contacts:** Websites of all three councils; or by phone – Parish: 01452 771089; District: 01453 766321 (or out of hours 01453 222104).

As always, please contact me if I can help in any way: Martin Brown, Green Party District Councillor, 01452 770878, cllr.martin.brown@stroud.gov.uk

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 November 2022 – 21st January 2023:

S.22/0857/FUL Extend existing parking arrangements for 2 years Frith House, Tunley	Awaiting Decision
S.22/2358/HHOLD Resubmission of S.22/1314/HHOLD to build 2 storey extension, Hillcrest, Oakridge Lynch	Permitted
S.22/2327/VAR Variation to development at The Knowle, Oakridge Lynch	Permitted
S.22/2318/VAR Variation to development at Cherrypiece Cottage, Waterlane	Permitted
S.23/0007/HHOLD Single storey side extension, Glendale, Far Oakridge	Awaiting Decision

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

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



How to Boost your State Pension

Do you know someone on a state pension who struggles to make ends meet? Or perhaps a couple?

What if they could get a boost to their income? Too good to be true? A lot of other state pensioners certainly think so: a third of those who are eligible miss out. That's a million older people scrimping and saving and going cold when they don't need to.

This pension boost is called 'Pension Credit'. It not only provides extra pension income: **it can also cover or reduce a host of other costs – rent, mortgage payments, council tax, energy and utilities, TV licence, dentists and opticians and more.** Overall, the effects really can be transformative to pensioners who are struggling.

How to qualify? State pensioner households may be eligible if income is less than £182.60 per week for single people and £278.80 for couples. Pensioner households with higher income may be eligible in some circumstances – for instance if there is a carer in the household or a disability.

So, have a think: do you know someone who may qualify? If in doubt, search for Pension Credit online, ring the Pension Credit Helpline - **0800 99 1234** (8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday), or get in touch with us at Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswolds, **0808 800 0510** (10am-4pm Monday to Thursday, 10am-1pm Friday) where we can check you are claiming all the benefits you are entitled to. Don't hesitate – Pension Credit can make a big difference.

The gastronomic experience in Oakridge Lynch



What is Steves Supper Club?

Both local foodies Steve Hutton and Steve Lilleyman have come together to produce a fixed tasting menu from our wide range of signature dishes. Our home-cooked menu utilises fantastic local and regional produce, freshly prepared and served communally.

Steves Supper Club runs once a month, serving multiple courses allowing you and your friends to sample everything on the menu.

Bring a bottle (or two) of your favourite tittle and join us for amazing food, fun and an informal dining experience to remember.

For more details, sample menu and booking, visit:

www.stevessupperclub.co.uk

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clairecoachhousetutors@gmail.com



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY 2023

Weds 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council, Bisley • Film Night, Village Hall 	7.30 pm 6.45 pm
Tues 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garden Club, Village Hall 	6.30 pm
Weds 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Show meeting, Village Hall Annexe 	6.30 pm
Thurs 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI, Village Hall 	7.00 pm
Weds 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Club, Village Hall 	Noon – 2.00 pm
Tues 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pancake Lunch, Village Hall 	Noon - 2.00 pm
Weds 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History Group, Village Hall 	7.00 pm

MARCH 2023

Weds 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council, Bisley • Film Night, Village Hall 	7.30 pm 6.45 pm
Thurs 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café Church, St Bartholomew's 	10 am - noon
Thurs 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI, Village Hall 	7.00 pm
Weds 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Club, Village Hall 	Noon – 2.00 pm
Sat 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posy making, Village Hall Annexe 	10.00 am
Sun 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mothering Sunday, St Bartholomew's 	9.30 am
Weds 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History Group, Village Hall 	7.00 pm
Weds 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film Night, Village Hall 	6.45 pm

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

Monday 20th March, 5pm - CLOSING DATE
for the Apr / May WHAT'S ON

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E&OE