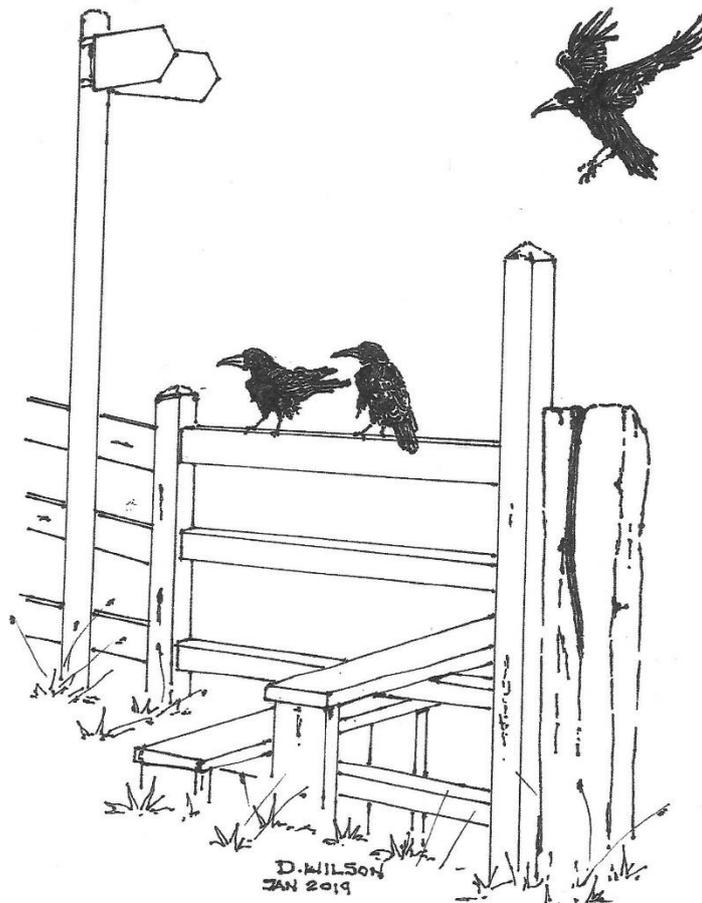


WHAT'S ON

February / March 2019

Edition Number 237



OAKRIDGE LYNCH FAR OAKRIDGE

WATERLANE BOURNES GREEN TUNLEY



THE CHURCH IN OAKRIDGE, meeting at St Bartholomew's

FEBRUARY 2019

3 rd Parish Communion	9.30 a.m.
10 th Parish Communion	9.30 a.m.
17 th Family Communion with Breakfast at Bart's	9.30 a.m.
24 th Morning Worship	9.30 a.m.

MARCH 2019

3 rd Parish Communion	9.30 a.m.
10 th Parish Communion	9.30 a.m.
17 th Family Communion with Breakfast at Bart's	9.30 a.m.
24 th Benefice Service at Eastcombe	10.00 a.m.
31 st Mothering Sunday Service	9.30 a.m.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

VICAR Rev. Sue Murray 01452 770897

CHURCHWARDEN Mrs. Elisabeth White 01285 760729

BIBLE STUDY

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday 3.00 pm at The Coach House - for details please contact Brian 01285 760452

Bible study will not take place during the Lent Course.

NEWS FROM ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Our preparations for Christmas started quietly with Advent on the 2nd December and then, with rather more excitement, Christingle on the 9th. Always a happy service, it was well attended by children and their parents. The pupils at the school collect money in "Candles" during the year and this is given, together with the monies saved in boxes by adults and the collection on the day to The Children's Society. We must thank Liz Hughes for all her work in organising the Christingle oranges and dealing with the collection candles and boxes. There were an awful lot of pennies and two pence pieces.

The church was the venue for the School Carol Service which was a lovely event. The pupils sang and enacted the Christmas story beautifully and it was excellently choreographed. The Crib Service on Christmas Eve afternoon was very much a family occasion, with many grandparents joining parents and their children in a much enjoyed service. Our thanks go to Kim and Laura for organising it. The Oakridge Village Carol Service on Christmas Eve evening can only be described as wonderful. Val Green had created an outstanding programme of glorious music, well – loved readings and carols which were sung with huge enthusiasm by the packed congregation. Many, many thanks to Val, her choir and organist. A visitor remarked "I was expecting just a carol service, but we had a concert!"

On the 13th January we were delighted to welcome the Reverend Keith Burton who for many years was the Minister in our Methodist Church, and who took our Covenant Service. The Service was a reminder of the long Methodist tradition in Oakridge and was much enjoyed and appreciated.

Looking ahead, Shrove Tuesday (pancakes, anyone?) is on the 5th March and Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 6th March. Our Mothering Sunday Service will be on the 31st March. In the gloomy days of mid-January, the thought of posies of spring flowers is a very welcome one.

Bizzie White

OAKRIDGE HISTORY GROUP....Any Questions?

After a two month break, the History Group will reconvene to research some of the surprising facts about Oakridge and surrounding hamlets.

It is 14 years now since the Oakridge History Book was published, and additional questions have been asked and fresh information has been uncovered. New people have come to live in the village and some others have left. Stories and things which were "common knowledge" are unknown or puzzling to new arrivals and to the next generation. What, for example, is the background to the names of some of the village paths? Who made the mosaic in the bus shelter by the school and how long has it been there? Why did the silk mill that once stood in the village cause a problem for the school? Which was the worst winter in current living memory for getting cut off here? Who are the current artists and craftspeople living in the village? Has there ever been a major fire in this village or the hamlets? How did the Foot & Mouth outbreak affect local farmers? When were the allotments set up and what has been their story?

The History Group wants to know what local things you are curious about. The next two meetings, on **27 February and 27 March** will be a chance for questions and informal discussion. If you have wondered about the story behind a local tale or a local feature, we'd love you to come along or get in touch. We can't guarantee to find all the answers, but we'll have a try. Also, we hope that if you have a particular story to tell that others may not know, you will come and share it. Don't forget that history is being made all the time, so something you remember of particular or unusual interest that took place within the last couple of years is as relevant as something that took place 50 or 100 years ago.

We hope to uncover the unexpected, research the puzzling, and follow up the unusual. If you have questions to ask or stories to tell, come and join us or send your queries to John Loosley or Kay Rhodes. We hope that people new to the area will find this a

particularly good way to find out about Oakridge and its surroundings, and maybe those who have lived here for some time will also realise that some things they take for granted are actually unusual or even unique.

Kay Rhodes

OAKRIDGE W I

December 13th was our Christmas Party, when we welcomed guests from fellow Institutes within the Bisley Group. The refreshments were superb, as always, and everyone has since said what a super evening it was. Sue Robinson produced an excellent brain teaser quiz; each table was given a sheet of questions to work on, and it was a great deal of fun. Everyone was able to choose a present from Santa's Basket. The Overall Winner of the year's monthly competition was our new President, Mary Fern.

January 13th 2019: the evening began with the sad news of Anne Carter's death; we stood for a minute silence to remember Anne, a much respected member.

The business of the evening was gone through and the Treasurer was busy collecting Subscriptions for the year. The Christmas Charity Box had yielded £100 for the Cobalt Unit in Cheltenham. Mary welcomed our Speaker, Ged Cassell, the subject being A Kenya Safari, with the most fabulous photography, and an extremely interesting talk.

We look forward to a busy year, as hostesses, and an interesting programme. The first date for your diary is:-

February 14th - the speaker will be Alyson Rogers, whose subject is Historic England Archives.

March 14th - Yvonne Everest will give her talk entitled 'Chocolate Genie'.

New members and visitors are always most warmly welcomed; there will be much to look forward to this year, please come along and see what we have to offer.

Ann Fry



OAKRIDGE GARDEN CLUB

As always, our Christmas Social on the 4th December was a great start to the village Christmas festivities. Rosamund has retired as our curry cook and the Society's thanks to her for her years of being our Curry Queen were warm and very sincere. Instead, we arranged for the curry to be brought in by The Pavilion and it proved to be very good: almost, but not quite, as good as Rosamund's.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be our AGM on the 5th February. Four years ago Gill Wimperis threw down the gauntlet: can the Chairmen of AGMs get through them in less than her 17 minutes? I failed but Martin is determined to do so this year, so come along and find out whether he does.

Another excellent reason for coming to this meeting is that we've persuaded Jenny Tidman to come to us again, this time to talk to us on pruning. How was she persuaded to come? The promise of Sue Brain's chocolate brownies. Temptation enough for everyone to come!

Bizzie White



NATURE NOTES FROM WATERLANE

I have recently had a lot of sightings of birds in my garden caching the sunflower seeds from the feeding station.

First of all it was two Nuthatches going back and forward repeatedly to the feeder caching the seeds into the cracks of the bark of nearby trees. Then a Great Spotted Woodpecker

decided he was going to have a go. He went to the feeder and then on to his favourite telegraph pole, hammering the seeds into the surface of the pole all the way up.

Then in a discreet part of the garden I noticed a Coal Tit repeatedly going to the same spot on a drystone wall. He was stuffing the seeds into a small hole in the wall and this went on for some time. Unfortunately for the Coal Tit I had seen a mouse poking its head out of the same spot earlier in the week, it must have enjoyed its Christmas present.

Alan White

BISLEY-WITH-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL

All readers are invited to visit the Parish Council website (www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk) and become familiar with what it has to offer. This entry is a general summary of the main items of interest throughout the parish from the past few meetings.

Although Oakridge has fewer concerns than other wards, the Parish Council is working with Stroud District Council to review parish speed limits and enforcement.

The application for an equine incinerator at Four Ways Farm, which was unanimously opposed by the Parish Council, has been approved by GCC Planning. The last edition of What's On was too early for this news. Some of the many objectors have been startled by the comment "no objections" alongside this planning item on the Stroud DC page of that edition. That comment reflected only the position which was taken by Stroud District Council.

The Parish Council is generally supporting planning applications which are appropriate to the future housing needs of the Parish and which address (for example) fuel poverty and climate change.

The Council has been actively participating in the review and update of the Stroud District Local Plan, attempting to make it reflect local concerns and needs. Preliminary meetings are determining the way ahead for our own parish Neighbourhood Development Plan. Advice has now been taken from GRCC.

Parishioners will be interested in learning of the intended Beer Festival in Bisley (Pavilion) in June this year.

The Parish Council has welcomed Jenny Exley as a councillor in Eastcombe Ward.

For health reasons Rod Simcox will hand over to a replacement if and when one is found, but if possible he will continue until that time.

Rod Simcox

NEWS FROM OLLIE'S SHOP

Christmas is long gone but we are still getting compliments for our local butcher about how delicious the turkeys, pheasants, lamb, sirloin, and other festive meats ordered really were. It's always rewarding to know we are delivering the very best to your table. No wonder our free range chicken literally flies off the shelves and is a huge village hit for Sunday roast.

Our top notch butcher also offers a wide range of cuts from topside beef to rib on the bone to pork tenderloin or the ever so simple yet delicious chicken breast fillets and everything in between: mouth-watering pork and apple burgers, not to mention their popular "my own sausages" and home-cured bacon (are you hungry yet?!) and, as if that wasn't enough, they make the best ready meals which can be cooked from frozen from lasagna to different curries and casseroles! Starting at just £3.10 we can't think of a better reason to forget about cooking any night of the week.

And last but not least, their pies oh, their pies! They are to die for especially the summer fruits pie.

We are also very lucky to stock the very best lamb from a local farmer whose lamb chops and lamb burgers are simply amazing. All who've tried can attest to that!

Access to high quality, fresh and flavourful products is what we, at Ollie's Shop strive for and will continue to do our best to bring it to your table.

Laura & Oscar

CANCER RESEARCH

This year John Bailey's Open Studio raised £307.50 for Cancer Research. Many thanks to everyone for their interest and support.

OAKRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

The work on refurbishing the village hall floor has been completed and the result is a much brighter and welcoming appearance. Everyone seems to be delighted with the result. We would request users of the hall to take extra care of the floor. All chairs have plastic caps on the feet to prevent damaging the floor and if you find any which haven't please advise us. We are holding two fund raising events in March, the Pancake Lunch and Charlie Wise's Quiz. Details are given elsewhere in this edition of What's On. We have various ideas of improving the facilities in the hall but if anyone has suggestions on improvements which would lead to more use of the hall please let me know. Remember it is YOUR hall.

John Loosley

Charlie's Fun Quiz is back

Enjoy an evening of fun and entertainment rather than the ultimate intellectual challenge

Friday 29th March at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Tickets £5, to include nibbles, from Ollie's Shop.

Do arrange to come individually or in a readymade team of four

Bar and Raffle

All profits towards the Village Hall funds

RAINWATCH



The rainfall in November and December, as measured by my rain gauge, was as follows:-

November..... 98.9 mm.....about 3.9 ins.

December..... 112.6 mm.....about 4.4 ins.

So far the rainfall in January is 8 mm.....about 0.3 ins.

Gill Farrar

WINE CLUB

Oakridge Wine Club enjoyed a lively evening for their Christmas event held at the Village Hall in December. To celebrate the festive season we chose some special wines from different regions which were paired with canapés prepared by members of the committee. All of the wines went down well and the committee members were complimented on their skills in the

kitchen. Tony prepared a wine quiz and extra bottles of the wines tasted were raffled in a free Christmas raffle.

As in previous years wine club followed "Dry January".

Our February meeting will be at the Village Hall on 20th February; our theme will be "Wines from Islands".

We normally meet on the third Wednesday of each month and taste around six different wines. If you are interested in joining please contact Julie Hughes on 01285 760177 or mail@jmhughes.plus.com, who will be pleased to answer any questions. We suggest that you come along as a guest the first time to see if you like it; the club can lend you some glasses for the evening. Then if you do enjoy it, you can pay your joining fee, buy some glasses and get tasting!

Julie Hughes

OAKRIDGE SHOW

This year's Show will be on Saturday 7th September from 1pm to 4pm in aid of the school, church and village hall. So this year will really be for the Village come on Oakridge, please support your show for your village!

We would be extremely grateful if anyone who helped us last year would be prepared to do so again, but of course we need new people on board as there are never enough helpers!

If anyone is prepared to help again, or can assist the committee in the organisation of the show, then please email Mark at mbarnett104@gmail.com.

Mark Barnett

CHALFORD SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

For more information on the February and March programme, check out their website chalford-ssc.co.uk.



Our family day on Saturday 12th January was a great success. Parent volunteers joined forces to help lay the foundations for the new school allotment. They were supported by friends, local residents, children and even a few dogs! It was a triumphant day of digging, playing and great community spirit. Six new raised beds were built, along with a wildflower area, pond and hibernacula. The greenhouse and compost areas were also erected.

The children are already starting to enjoy this wonderful new learning resource. Our first gardening club took place on Wednesday 16th January. At the moment the children are building bird hides out of old Christmas trees as they prepare for the RSBP Big School Bird Watch, which takes place in February. A big thank you to all those who have kindly donated their trees to this innovative project.

There is lots planned for the coming months. The children will be chitting seed potatoes and planting broad beans. Local MP, David Drew, is due to visit and we also have some other special guests lined up doing workshops for the children about worms, soil and seed saving. It's a really exciting time.

The school was recently awarded a £500 nature grant from Learning Through Landscapes. In addition to an insect observatory, wildlife camera, ground cover kit, books and gardening equipment, the teachers will also be receiving two hours of free outdoor training. This is taking place on Monday 4th February. If you are interested in outdoor learning and would like to come along, please contact Gill Skeffington using the details below to book your place.

There are regular meet ups planned for the first Saturday of every month, the first one being on the 2nd February. Tasks will include groundworks for the newly donated shed, preparing the soil for the wildflowers, weeding and general maintenance. It will also provide an opportunity to chat and gather with friends. Please come along if you are free. There will be a fire pit, hot drinks and sizzling sausages!

The children are hoping to make a plastic bottle greenhouse. If anyone is able to start collecting 2 litre bottles could you please drop them into the school office. Tool donations are always gratefully received, and our fundraising platform is live until the end of January - <https://rocket.fund/p/oakridgeallotment/>.

Everyone is always welcome at the allotment to meet the children and see all the good things they are doing. If you would like to come and help at a gardening club or have a subject you are passionate about and would like to share with the children, please get in touch using the details at the end of this newsletter.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who has supported this new venture so far. Of particular note, the Oakridge Gardening Club, Alan White, Tom Dennis and Helen Bailey.

Best wishes,
OAT (Oakridge Allotment Team)
07983 465414 info@mouseabouttown.co.uk

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

Please also see the Parish Council website for more Ward information www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk.

Stroud has won '**Most Improved**' in the UK for recycling rates. This makes it 4th in the country and 1st in the South West in the rankings. Stroud is also 1st in the country for the LEAST amount of waste going to Landfill.

Waste bin bags and Wheelie Bins

These are going to be distributed throughout the district between Dec – Feb. If you are sick of putting your bins out at 5:30AM - 7:00 AM for fear of animals ripping them open during the night and have space for a wheelie bin, let SDC know and they have said they will send one out.

Other items recently discussed include:

Stroud Concordat (a mixture of County, District and Town councils joined by local traders, who meet to discuss and review matters relating to the town and trade).

2030 - Climate change budgeting

Supporting our Local Market towns

Ebley Mill Hydro

The Tourist information Centre - The Tourist Information Centre is due to close in the Sub Rooms at the end of March 2019. There are several options being considered by SDC prompted by the fact that a central system isn't working. It's noted that, with the increasing availability of local tourist information online, customers can self-serve and do their own research and bookings. The TIC provides a lot of business to local B+B's as well as local attractions. Some thoughts have been to take this resource online in a central repository, but it's understood that this does not cater to all. If you have any thoughts, I am happy to put these into our debate.

The council committees and officer meetings will resume mid-January, and I should have more news to share in the next addition.

Councillor Tim Williams

TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The Bisley-with-Lypiatt Twinning Association holds a Twelfth Night party every year, with the laudable aim of eating up a few Christmas leftovers, singing a few carols, and entertaining one another with seasonal carols and readings. We listened this

year to an extract from Cider with Rosie, in which Laurie Lee describes with gusto Slad's Twelfth Night revels of yesteryear – the frenzied elbowing to reach the food and drink, the contempt with which the vicar's jokes were treated, the paralysing stage fright when required to do 'a turn', the gleeful ridiculing of the twee composition offered by a lady of culture from Sheepscombe, the furtive return early next morning to scoff the food scraps down to the last crumb.

We cannot claim to have exhibited similar energy, enthusiasm, and talent on 5 January in Eastcombe Village Hall, but we always enjoy meeting together, so please JOIN THE TWINNING!

The Twinning Association, covering all this area, will hold its AGM in Bisley WI Hall from 7pm on 5 March 2019 - all welcome. The 25-year link with Plessala in Brittany continues to give lots of pleasure, and a visit there is planned for the August Bank Holiday weekend. NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME! (Contact Muriel or Bob Brooks on 01452 770346, Sue Hunt on 01285 760429.)

Bob Brooks

<http://www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk/twinning>



OAKRIDGE HISTORY WEBSITE MOVES HOME!

The Oakridge History website has moved to a new home: oakridgearchives.omeka.net.

Martin Wyatt, the Curator on behalf of Oakridge History Group, explains:

While the original website was still working well it was becoming difficult to maintain so when the originators of the software it uses, OMEKA, offered to host and maintain the website software alongside many of the world's leading Libraries and Museums, including for example the world's largest, The Smithsonian, I jumped at the opportunity!

The new website looks great and has several improvements over the original, including being able to use the most up to date satellite maps showing incredible detail of the homes and terrain around Oakridge.

We are still looking to capture as much of Oakridge's history as we can for posterity. If you have any documents, photographs, recordings or stories that we don't currently have on the website, or originals of photographs that are better than those we are showing it would be great if you could contact me on 01285 760772 or at wyattm695@gmail.com.

Martin Wyatt

ARTIST'S HOLIDAY HOME, BRITTANY

Available Spring & Summer
2019

Sleeps 6
£500 per week

Contact John Bailey – 01285 760659



Beautiful traditional family holiday home, 200m from the sea, available Spring & Summer 2019. 1.5 hours from Roscoff, near Douarnenez and Quimper. Swimming, surfing, sand yachting, cliff walks etc.

CAROL SINGING

Thank you to the kindness and generosity of Oakridge folk when we came around carol singing for the Beresford Women's Refuge. The much appreciated actual amount raised by the carol singing was £75.39, rounded up to £100.

Sue Korda

**Join us at the Village Hall on SHROVE TUESDAY for
a Pancake Lunch!**

TUESDAY 5TH MARCH 2019

All Welcome!

**Homemade Soups – Cheese Ploughman
Pancakes – Pancakes – Pancakes**



Serving starts 12 noon until 2pm

Please help us to maintain your Village Hall

WHAT'S ON FINANCES

	£	£
Opening balance 1 st January 2018		507.84
Donations		175.00
Interest (net)		0.25
Paper purchase	(89.94)	
Treasurers Account		693.15
Cash in Hand		17.96
<u>Closing balance 31st December 2018</u>		<u>711.11</u>

PLANNING NEWS

Information relating to local planning issues, as outlined on the Stroud District Council website. Here is a summary of local planning news in the period 14th November – 23rd January:

S.18/2095/CM Equine Incinerator at Fourways Farm, Waterlane <i>Editor's Note: apologies for the misleading 'no objections' listed against this entry last time; I am very aware that there was a strong local object to the project, and had merely reflected SDC official observations rather than intending this as a comment on local feeling</i>	Approved
S.18/1636/FUL Dog exercise area, Bakers Paddock, Oakridge Lynch	Permitted
S.18/1634/LBC Work to stables, Kings Farm, Tunley	Awaiting decision
S.18/2322/FUL Proposed new dwelling, Lyday Close, Oakridge Lynch	Awaiting decision
S.18/2273/LBC and S.18/2272/HHOLD New car-port canopy, single storey extension, works to provide disabled access, Iles Green House, Far Oakridge	Permitted
S.18/2196/LBC and S.18/2195/HHOLD Single storey extension and garage conversion, Stokyes Close, Oakridge Lynch	Permitted
S.18/2487/FUL Extension and other minor alterations, Rookery Cottage, Bournes Green	Awaiting Decision

Further details can be found on the Stroud Council website <https://publicaccess.stroud.gov.uk/online-applications>. For Parish Council planning input, check the website www.bisley-with-lypiatt.gov.uk.

HERBERT PROTOCOL

Are you looking after someone with dementia, and have concerns about what will happen if they go missing?

Symptoms of dementia can include confusion and disorientation which make it difficult for the individual to know where they are going and why, and for search teams to locate them.

You can help by signing up to the Herbert Protocol on their behalf, filling in significant details on a simple form which is handed to police when the person is reported missing.

It includes things like previous addresses and special locations, such as a family grave, which may be a draw to them; hobbies and regular routines; photos and up to date description - sometimes hard to recall in the panic of finding that your loved one has gone missing.

Gloucestershire Constabulary is working with the Alzheimer's Society to promote this scheme, named after war veteran George Herbert who died whilst missing and trying to return to his childhood home.

For more details visit our website: <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/staying-safe/the-herbert-protocol/> and fill in this form: <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/media/6223/herbert-protocol-form.pdf>

You could save a life!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February 2019

5 th	Garden Club AGM, Village Hall	7.30 pm
13 th	Lunch Club, Village Hall	11.00 am - 2.00 pm
14 th	WI, Village Hall	7.30 pm
17 th	Family Communion with Breakfast at Bart's	9.30 am
20 th	Wine Club, Village Hall	7.30 pm
27 th	Lunch Club, Village Hall	11.00 am - 2.00 pm
27 th	History Group, Village Hall	7.30 pm

March 2019

5 th	Pancake Lunch, Village Hall	12-2.00 pm
5 th	Twinning Association AGM, Bisley WI Hall	7.00 pm
13 th	Lunch Club, Village Hall	11.00 am - 2.00 pm
14 th	WI, Village Hall	7.30 pm
17 th	Family Communion with Breakfast at Bart's	9.30 am
27 th	Lunch Club, Village Hall	11.00 am - 2.00 pm
27 th	History Group. Village Hall	7.30 pm
29 th	Quiz Night, Village Hall	7.30 pm
31 st	Mothering Sunday Service	9.30 am

23rd MARCH 2019 CLOSING DATE for the next WHAT'S ON

Editors:

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E&OE

COVER ILLUSTRATION BY DANNY WILSON