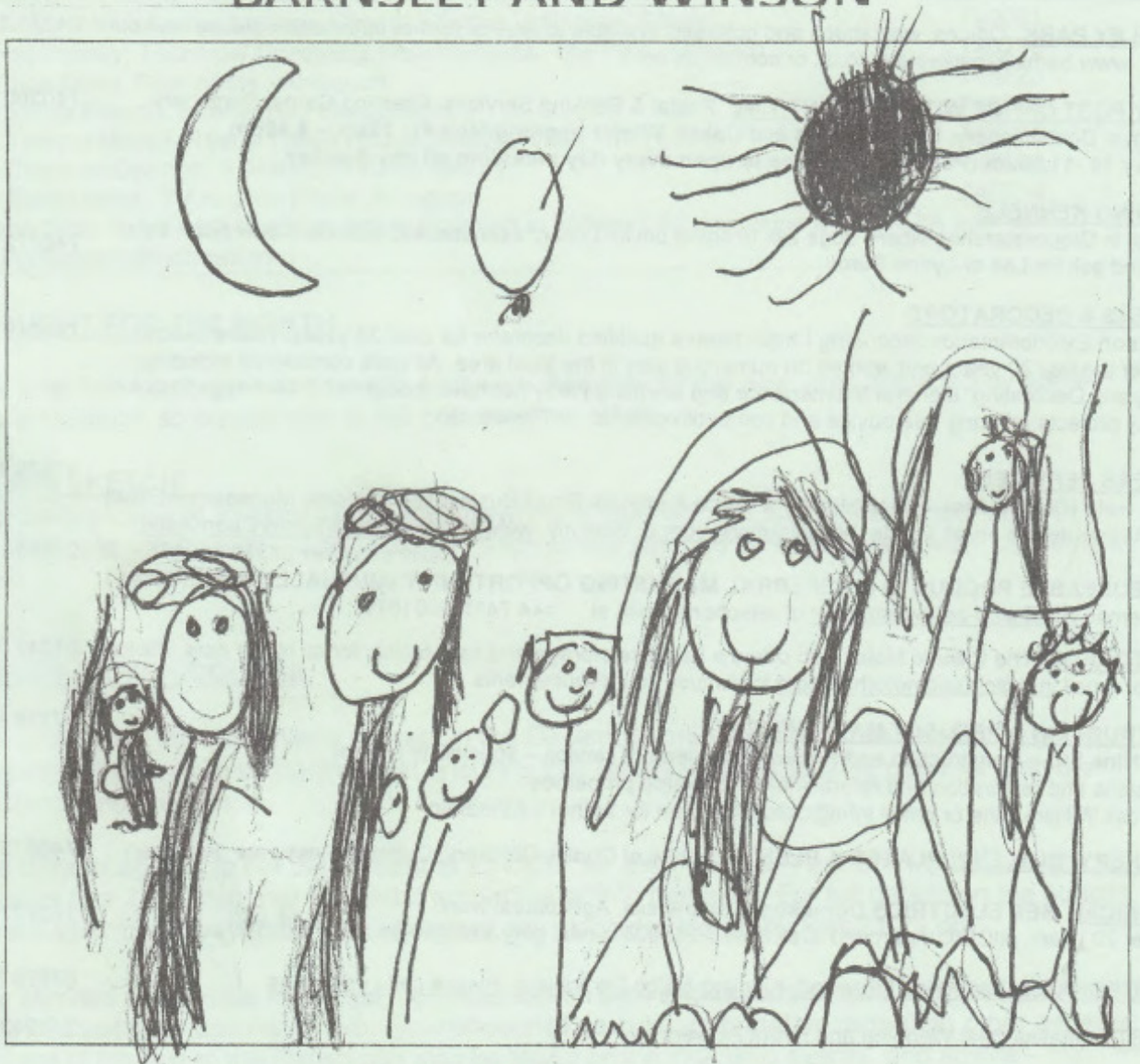


VILLAGE LIFE

OF BIBURY, ARLINGTON, ABLINGTON,
BARNESLEY AND WINSON



JANUARY 2021

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

VILLAGE LIFE

DATES FOR THE DIARY

ISSUE 455

JANUARY 2021

Tuesday 12th Parish Council Meeting via Zoom 7 pm
Thursday 21st Bibury Village Hall AGM – hopefully! 7.30pm

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 9th Bibury Parish council Meeting 7pm.

VILLAGE LIFE PANEL

Treasurer: Mr Roger King, 8 Pike Villas, The Pike, Arlington, Bibury	740510
Secretary: Mrs Wendy Challinor, Chestnut Grove, Arlington, Bibury	740021
Mr Neil Harvey: Technical Director, 2 Meadowlands, The Pike, Arlington	740295
Mr Chris Dunn, Four winds , Ablington	740823
Mrs Sarah French, 11 Arlington Fields, Bibury	740698
Mrs Tabitha Mayall, Ready Token House, Ready Token	740120
Mrs Claire McDermott, 5 Aldsworth Road, Bibury	740190
Mrs Sarah Smith, 7 Arlington Fields, Arlington	740214

Please Note: if you wish to put an article or advert in 'Village Life' magazine it should be sent to biburyvillagelife@hotmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

The vicar has kindly provided us with four wise thoughts for the new year, provided by some eminent people so please look at the bottom of his article.

COVER SKETCH

This lively picture of a happy family was drawn by 4 year old Zoe during the Flower and Art Festival held last August. We thought a happy family seemed an appropriate wish for the new year!

BIBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The council set the budget and precept in the December meeting. Due consideration is given to keeping the overall costs down whilst ensuring that Bibury remains looking good for both the residents and the visitors.

The Council agreed to set the precept at £14,233, for the Financial Year 2021/2022 (which equates to a 2.5% increase to band d properties or 97p per year). For full details on the budget please see <https://www.biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/uploads/draft-budget-21-22.pdf>

The Minutes of previous meetings, agendas, action plan and reports can all be found online at the Councils website <https://www.biburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/> . Information regarding other aspects that are of interest to the Parish can also be found online including events, and advice – for example details for Ash Tree Dieback and Avian Influenza (Bird Flu).

The next meeting, will be held on Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7pm – this meeting will be held remotely using zoom – and full sign in detail can be found on the Agenda which will be published by Thursday 7th January.

BIBURY, BARNLEY AND WINSON CHURCHES Bibury Vicarage, Gloucestershire, GL7 5NT
tim.hastie-smith@hotmail.com 01285 740301

Dear Friends,

As we approach another new year, if we have learnt anything from 2020 it is how little we can anticipate the future. Lockdowns, bubbles of 6 and living in tiers were not, I imagine, being much discussed on New Year's Eve 2019....

So let me remind you once again of the inspiring and comforting words Minnie Louise Haskins. Written in 1908, and privately published in a collection titled *The Desert* in 1912, the poem *The Gate of the Year* was quoted by King George VI in his 1939 Christmas Broadcast to the British Empire, shortly after the outbreak of World War Two.

Such were the importance of these words to King George that they were inscribed in stone and fixed to the gates of the King George VI Memorial Chapel in Windsor Castle:

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown"; and he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than a light, and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night. He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone east.

So heart, be still! What need our human life to know if God hath comprehension? In all the dizzy strife of things, both high and low, God hideth his intention.

God knows. His will is best. The stretch of years which wind ahead, so dim to our imperfect vision, are clear to God. Our fears are premature. In Him all time hath full provision.

Then rest; until God moves to lift the veil from our impatient eyes, when, as the sweeter features of life's stern face we hail, fair beyond all surmise, God's thought around His creatures our minds shall fill.

Minnie Haskins (1875-1957)

And if you require anymore new year wisdom, try these.....

Because things are they way they are, things will not stay the way they are. *Berthold Brecht*

Real generosity to the future lies in giving all to the present. *Albert Camus*

There is more to life than increasing its speed. *Mahatma Ghandi*

The future starts today, not tomorrow . *Pope John Paul II*

With every blessing and fond love

Tim

Service Schedule	January 2021		
	Bibury	Barnsley	Winson
Sunday 3rd Epiphany Isaiah 60:1-6 Matthew 2:1-12	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	10.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>	9:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
Sunday 10th Baptism of Jesus Genesis 1:1-5 Mark 1:4-11	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	10:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>	9:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
Sunday 17th 2nd Sunday of Epiphany 1 Samuel 3:1-20 John 1:43-end	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	10:00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	9:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
Sunday 24th 3rd Sunday of Epiphany Genesis 14:17-20 John 2:1-11	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	10:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>	9:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
Sunday 31st Presentation of Christ Malachi 3:1-5 Luke 2:22-40	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	10:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>	9:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
Sunday 7th Feb 2nd Sunday before Lent Proverbs 8:22-31 Matthew 6:25-end	11.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Modern language Holy Communion</i>	10.00am Common Worship Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>	9:00am BCP Holy Communion <i>Traditional language Holy Communion</i>
Churchwardens Vicar	<i>Jackie Colburn</i> 01451 860212 <i>Revd Tim Hastie-Smith</i> 01285 740301	<i>Elizabeth Gledhill</i> 01285 740836	<i>Lavinia Sidgwick</i> 01285 720682

ARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH <https://www.arlingtonbaptist.org.uk>

The Community Rooms and Kitchen Project has been ongoing for several years and we are now at a point to start serious work.

We have permissions for

- A new car park with disabled spaces and disabled access into the building (we live in a tourist area and there is very little parking available for locals especially elderly and disabled) Cotswold District Council 19/03141/FUL
- A new Catering kitchen inline with health and hygiene regulations
- New disabled friendly bathroom facilities and modernise existing facility

- External wall Insulation and double glazing throughout community rooms to improve green footprint.
- Internal ramps and widening doorways for open access throughout.
- Re-decoration to become a more friendly and welcoming space for users and adding new tables.
- We have accepted tenders on all above and plan to start in the new year

Our vision to alleviate rural social isolation in our community

● To offer a weekly meeting, lunch/wellness, hub/cafe offering groups/classes, support and information, for the local community and to offer a meal delivery service for the elderly and housebound. Facility available for community use.

This is what we already do and will continue to provide in the future from our new facility.....

- Provide a friendly place for meeting, support and advice.
- “POP UP LUNCH CLUB” attendance between 15-40 people of all ages very popular monthly event before Covid19
- SPORTS CLUBS (we helped set up a popular boxing club for Children and Adults by providing free storage and low cost space to operate)
- Murder mystery suppers community fun evening raising money for charity
- Breakfast mornings at weekends
- Dressmaking workshops (Dress a girl in Africa)
- Charity coffee morning and sales.
- Hire our facilities to residents at a low or no rate depending on the circumstances.
- Outside events supporting the community
- All events open to everyone and well advertised, transport is always offered

During this period of Lockdowns and social distancing we have continued to support our elderly residents

“**CHIN WAG AT THE CHAPEL**” a monthly tea, mainly elderly people and carers, a social distanced meeting in the chapel building with transport available.

We also provided help and meals for elderly residents from our home environments and ensuring they had contact with someone even if was just a phone call.

It was obvious during Lockdown that we need a catering facility within the village to use for community takeout meals, although some lovely meals were sent out from private homes to those in need, we were aware of the need for a catering hub.

We have contact with the organisation Cotswold Friends, a well known local charitable befriending service, who are hoping to partner with us referring clients to us in the future and have previously offered training for our volunteers in food hygiene, but they cannot work with us until we upgrade our access, kitchen and bathroom facilities. **HELP US REDUCE SOCIAL ISOLATION HERE IN OUR LOCAL AREA** - We are approaching many funding groups to help us and any donations and suggestions are gratefully received.

We are going to raise £77,000 in total to complete this project if you can help by way of a donation please see our website <https://www.arlingtonbaptist.org.uk/catalogue/donate-to-our-community-kitchen-project> or email us info@arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

Support for Arlington Community Rooms and Kitchen Project fundraising has been fantastic so far, to get to the stage we are at we have raised just over £20,000 Please give generously, this project is to alleviate social isolation here in our community, and surrounding villages.

Year end 2020 the total so far £20000

We have many letters of support for this project. If anyone would like to view these or find out more information please contact us info@Arlingtonbaptist.org.uk

In the last month alone we have received gifts from Waitrose Cirencester Community matters scheme, Donations from the Festive Fridays supported by Bibury Football club , Cotswold Chippy and Cotswold Cafe, The sale of walking leaflets written and kindly donated by Wendy C. and private donations kindly given by many others.

In the past year monies have been raised by Baptist Church funds, sales, various lunches, The W.I., Quizzes and Equine events, to top that up more quickly this year we are focusing on Grant funding as well as continued fundraising locally, when we can in this time of Covid19.

LET'S MAKE THIS WORK TOGETHER TO BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY

BIBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL Sharing a passion for excellence!

We have had such a busy term at school! The teachers and children have been hard at work catching up on learning missed during lockdown. They are making fantastic progress and most children are now where we would expect them to be at this point in the school year - we are so proud of them all.

Whilst we were unable to celebrate Christmas with the usual carol concert and nativity services, we have all enjoyed socially distanced events such as bell ringing , outdoor Christmas party and Christmas carols in the churchyard.

The children in Acorns Class were delighted to star in our very own nativity film. The children enjoyed acting out the scenes within the school grounds and around the church. This year our nativity was introduced by a special guest, the very famous Ben Miller! The final result was very impressive and filled with joy to finish off a very busy term.

Rest assured we are already making plans for creative ways to stay Covid-secure while we make the most of every learning opportunity.

We wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year from everyone at Bibury CofE Primary School.

Suki Pascoe, Head Teacher *"Great Oaks from little acorns grow"* **Bibury C of E Primary School** * Tel: 01285 740268 * E-mail: admin@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk *for more information take a look at our website: www.bibury.gloucs.sch.uk or come and visit us. Bibury PTA can be contacted directly on ptabibury@bibury.gloucs.sch.uk

Community Wellbeing Service in the Cotswolds, Gloucestershire

07738 106384 or email cws.grcc@nhs.net

What is the Community Wellbeing Service?

The Cotswolds Community Wellbeing Service is a free and confidential service running in your local area which offers support to help improve your health and wellbeing in a number of different ways. For example, when you don't know who to turn to for support, we can connect you to groups, activities and other support agencies in your community.

Anyone over the age of 16 living in the Cotswold area, or registered with a Cotswold GP, can access the Community Wellbeing Service (CWS). You can refer yourself into the CWS or ask your GP to make the referral for you. Other health professionals can refer as well as voluntary groups, community members, friends, family and neighbours.

To make a referral, call 07738 106384 or email cws.grcc@nhs.net. Once we receive a referral you will be contacted by telephone by one of our team.

HEAVENS ABOVE

Native Americans call the first full moon of January 'a wolf moon' associating it with their howling noises. In this bleak month, this occurs on January 28th. Uranus is strong during this month especially around the 14th and this brings a lot of unexpected happenings for many. When it links up with Jupiter a few days later, many will be more optimistic and we see things in a different light!

Cold and wet January Day
Sleeting rain and skies of grey
Wish I could fly to a warmer land
Where palm trees sway over sand
A sparkling sea reflects the blue
I'd love to be there wouldn't you?
But I haven't got the money to burn
For tickets there and return
So I'll don myself with broly and mac
And brave the storm to the shop and back
Then I'll settle down with the TV screen
With a coffee & cake with double cream!
And I'll watch people in holiday gear
Enjoying themselves on
'Wish you were here'

The Robin

With all that winter promises
Warm fires, toast and snow flakes
One thing that warms everyone's heart
Is the song the robin makes
Through the coldest winter
He flits from tree to tree
Singing his little song
The sweetest melody

BIBURY VILLAGE HALL

The hall remains closed for events until the spring when hopefully warmer weather and the vaccination scheme makes mixing with other people a safer activity.

We are still hoping to be able to go ahead with our **AGM on Thursday 21st January at 7.30pm.** in the Hall. Numbers are likely to be very restricted due to Covid so if you would like to attend please let either Wendy Challinor on 740021 or Angela Alderton 740241 know so we can monitor numbers. If there are further restrictions we may either postpone until the restrictions ease or conduct the meeting over Zoom **So if you are interested in attending – please let us know!**

It has been an odd year with so many of the organisations which use the hall unable to hold meetings and events, under the restrictions but we, on the Management Committee, are looking forward to welcoming organisations and people back into the hall and would like to take this opportunity of wishing everyone **a very happy and more normal New Year for 2021!**

BIBURY CRICKET CLUB

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year break . As we head into the New Year thoughts begin to turn at Bibury CC to preparations for the upcoming season. Despite the very welcome grant from the ECB, we will still need to raise funds to take us right through the season and ensure we have cash in the bank to prepare for the following season. We lost the Duck Race, hopefully we will be able to run it at Easter, but in lieu of the December race, we have organised a just giving crowdfunding page for donations . We would be enormously grateful if villagers would donate the money they would have spent on duck race tickets to our crowdfunding effort . Please donate . Its very easy to do at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/biburycricketclub>



[Help raise £2500 to Help Bibury Cricket Club with the 2021 running costs of the club having had all potential fundraising events cancelled due to COVID-19](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/biburycricketclub)

We're raising money to Help Bibury Cricket Club with the 2021 running costs of the club having had all potential fundraising events cancelled due to COVID-19. Support this JustGiving Crowdfunding Page.

www.justgiving.com

Leslie Smith
07867 467433

THE OLD MAN OF THE PIKE

Well here we are at the beginning of a New Year after one that we have not seen the likes of before and for me I do not want see another like it again. There is some light at the end of the tunnel with the news that we now have some vaccines coming on stream and we can but hope that the vaccination programme can and will be carried as quickly as possible. That does not mean we have to drop our guard in the meantime. Let us hope that we can revert back to how we were just over a year ago, be able to visit people and places where we want to visit and see, go shopping to any shop without a mask and not worry about the person or persons next to you, see the Doctor in person and not on the telephone, or is this asking too much. Has Corvid 19 changed the way we live and go about daily life for good or can we revert to what we had come accustom too. It is a terrible time for anybody in authority in these times because what ever they do somebody will not like it. Talk about Catch 22 position.

Let us hope that by Easter we can start thinking about Village Actives again (before then I think may be a bit too soon) look forward to Flower Shows, Annual Fetes and all the other events that make living in Britain Great again, Keep hoping.

We are now in the long dark nights time of year, so it is time to think of what we are going to do later in the year. There are those jobs around the house and garden to think about and plan, do we do something completely new or just carry on as we have done before. Do we plan for a holiday in Britain this year as to one abroad after all the problems this last year with travelling. It gives the old grey matter something to ponder over on these long dark nights. The weather has not been too bad, may have been slightly wetter but it has been fairly mild. I know that when it

snows and is frosty it looks nice (and my garden looks as good another) but it does cause disruption to transport, etc. and the older I get the more I feel it. It is far better when it is warm and sunny and we can sit outside and really enjoy it, not forgetting getting our fair share of Vitamin D for good measure.

Can I wish all our readers of "Village Life" Very Happy and Healthy New Year and thank The Panel for all their hard work in trying to get "Village Life" out to you in this very difficult year.

BIBURY GARDENING CLUB

In normal times, we would have ended 2020 by meeting in the Catherine Wheel for pizza and our annual Christmas social and quiz.

Sadly, that was not to be, so to amuse you at the start of 2021, here is my horticultural version of The 12 Days Of Christmas, which I have, ahm, hybridised. The 12 days, of course, run from 25 December until 6 January.

If all goes well, we shall resume our meetings in the village hall next month, on Wednesday 10 February, but stand by for further news.

The Gardener's 12 Days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

A partridge garden ornament and a pear tree

On the second day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Two really annoying collared doves (Coo COO coo, coo COO coo)

On the third day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Three French hens, which spent four weeks on the M20 thanks to post-Brexit hold-ups.

On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Four calling birds, which left "calling cards" on my newly washed car.

On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Five copper slug rings.

On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Six geese a-laying, which made a total mess of my lawn.

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Seven swans a-swimming in the Coln. Awww! (Five cygnets survived this year.)

On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Eight February fair-maids, or milk flowers, also known as snowdrops. I hope they are expensive ones from Colesbourne.

On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Nine Lady's Bedstraw (proper name Galium verum) which is a common wildflower around Bibury.

What a cheapskate!

On the tenth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

10 Lords-and-Ladies (aka Arum maculatum). To be strictly truthful, he sent me one, last year, but it has now spread all over the garden.

On the 11th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

11 Piper nigrum, the plant that produces peppercorns, and which needs a tropical climate. In Bibury? Fat chance!

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

12 drumstick alliums. All I have to do is get out there and plant them. And it's pouring with rain.

Happy New Year, everyone!

Victoria Summerley

VILLAGE HALL HISTORY: THE 1931 OFFICIAL OPENING

The great and the good of Gloucestershire came to Bibury for the official opening of the new Village Hall.

Bibury's village hall was officially opened on Saturday 8th August 1931 by Lt. Col. Sir Russell J. Kerr, chairman of Gloucestershire County Council. There was a lengthy report on the event in the next weekend's Cheltenham Chronicle.

The rebuilding work had almost doubled the length of the main hall since its days as the Reading Room, and the extra space used for a stage. A small extension to the side was also added, housing a changing room, linking to the backstage area. Now the hall was big enough for dances and other entertainments.

One of the two tenements on the left of the hall had been sacrificed to make way for a committee room. The cottage on the right was unchanged. Next time you are in the Village Hall, you can see the architect's 1930 plans for this work, framed and hanging on the wall of the committee room.

The total cost was just over £500. The initial donation that set the ball rolling was of £63 from the defunct Bibury Horse Show. (More about the Bibury Horse Show in a future article). The National Council of Social Services granted a loan of £125. By the time the hall opened, only £50 remained to be raised.

There wasn't actually a ribbon cutting to mark the opening. Instead, the architect Mr. K Mackenzie handed the key to Lt Col Kerr, who used it to unlock the front door.

During the opening ceremony, chairman of the trustees Col. W.E. Longfield explained that the management of the hall would be undertaken by a management committee formed of people who represented all the interests in the village.

The first chairman of the committee was to be His Honour Judge A.R. Kennedy, KC, who lived in Ablington. A Mr. Lister was appointed secretary. Most of the other eight committee members had been nominated by the principal organisations of the village.

Col Longfield emphasized that the hall would be available for every organization of the village. "The village hall should be, and no doubt will be, the focus of all the activities of village life," added Lt. Col. Kerr.

Roger Staton, a trustee of Bibury United Charities (the charity that looks after the Village Hall)

ADVENT FAIR - A THANK YOU

The Advent Fair held in St. Mary's, Bibury on Saturday 5th December was a great success. There was a lovely, warm atmosphere in the Church as many people, both locals and visitors enjoyed the range of crafts on offer. There was intricate hand beaded jewellery and some delightful children's clothes including gorgeous tiny hand - made baby boots in brilliant colours. Victoria and Bev created some dazzling Christmas decorations encompassing Covid 19 baubles which sold out fast, fabric gift wraps, beautifully decorated cushions and other decorative pieces such as the trolls. There was a great stall of Christmas plants from potted bulbs to Christmas trees thanks to George and his brother. Manuka Honey was on offer and we enjoyed the crafts skills in mosaics,

paintings of our lovely wild life, wreathes, knitted toys, hand - made glass jewellery, and beautiful cakes. So much to please the many browsers.

I very much want to thank Tim Hastie Smith and Jackie Colburn for their support and hard work in planning and executing the event under considerable difficulties and the generous donations of some stunning cakes from people around the village,

I must also thank Angela Alderton and the Village Hall committee for allowing us the use of their tables.

Once again many thanks for all your support. I hope the event made a good start to your Christmas.

With all best wishes for a safe and healthy New Year.

Jill Skarda

NEW TO BIBURY!!

SPORTS MASSAGE AND INJURY CLINIC: Anne-Marie Stuart-King, BMP, BTEC & ITEC is a highly qualified Sports Therapist specialising in pain management and massage in a friendly, comfortable and COVID safe environment.

Treatments include: Sports Massage, Acupuncture, Ultrasound and Kinesio Taping. You don't need to be sporty to be treated! If you suffer with a sore back, neck, shoulders, hips, knees, ankles, etc, or just need a sports massage to relieve muscle tension, please call Anne-Marie on 07870 604172 or email: ammsk@me.com Please look at sportstherapy.me for more information.

All COVID 19 guidelines will be in place to ensure your safety. Very much look forward to helping!

FROM THE PANEL

2019 -2020 Accounts Covid 19 has led to a curtailed magazine for 5 months where households and postal copies were not able to be delivered or sent. This has resulted in a somewhat depleted set of final figures for a 15th month period rather than our normal 12 months period. Adverts and postal monies were down as the panel decided not to charge for 2020. New charges for both will start January 2021. A full breakdown, after the final figures have been independently checked, will be published in next issue but at this moment of time it looks as if the total income for the 15 month period was £997 with outgoings at £629.17.

An Apology for missing November issues and contributions. A contribution from the RBL explaining the reasons for the lack of house to house collections & the alternative arrangements made went astray on Wendy's desk and only reappeared after the issue went to press. Winson's November issue seems to have also gone astray for some reason. We sincerely apologise for both omissions.

Advertisers in Trade Directory

Please check your advert as we are intending to create a new Trade Directory for the February issue – complete with local telephone numbers or mobiles and if possible email contacts. The rate remain the same £2 a line for a years worth of 11 issues.

ROUND AND ABOUT

Within the last few days we have heard of the death of two local male residents. Ian Muir from the Bibury died on the 11th December. Ian had suffered over recent years with his health but could be seen for most the last 25 years working in his wonderful garden along the Street. Not long after moving to Bibury from near Ampney, Ian became involved with the Village Hall Committee spearheading the kitchen improvements and starting the Open Gardens and the Harvest Supper as a thank you to the village for all their support. Ian's cheerful disposition and willingness to chat as he gardened will be sorely missed. We send our deepest condolences to Lilian and their family.

Dennis Weaver from Ablington was the second death. Dennis and his wife June were a common sight around Ablington and Dennis had worked as a farm worker for the Masons for many years before enjoying his retirement. Again, we send our deepest condolences to his wife Jean and their family.

On a happier note, the Christmas lights, particularly around Arlington Fields, The Pike and the Christmas Tree in lights in the churchyard, have brightened the dark evenings.

At the time of writing the forecast for Christmas and New year seems to be predominantly cold and wet! Typical winter weather with long hours of darkness to depress the spirits. But by the time this magazine arrives on your doorstep the winter solstice will be past and the days will have begun to lengthen. The shorter days do mean that we are more likely to see some lovely sunrises and sunsets that just lift the spirits. The flocks of field fares that can be seen feeding on the hedgerows and fields, remind us that some prefer to spend some of their winter with us as they migrate southwards.!

It has been such an odd 2020 with the covid restrictions dominating everyone's lives for so much of the year. Let us hope that as we start 2021 things will start to get back to normal so can we wish all our readers – a very Happy New Year with renewed links with family and friends near and far to look forward to!

PAINTING – DECORATING- GENERAL MAINTENANCE CALL J J DECORATORS

I am a qualified decorator with over 35 years' experience. I have worked on numerous properties in the local area and will be happy to provide references.

I am willing to consider any projects, offering free advice and competitive rates.

- Painting and decorating
- General maintenance
- Anything I may not have thought of!

If you have a job you've put off that needs doing or haven't found the right person to help – give me a call.

JOHN JOHNSON 01285 740549



Lee James



Est. 20

years

Barn Dried Firewood

Full loads from £85

Quarter load mini bulk bags available
for those tight spaces

Kindling wood – 3 nets for £10

Locally sourced:
Ash : Oak : Sycamore : Beech

07976 569668

*Local timber,
from a local supplier,
for local people*

FROM FURTHER AFIELD

Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities (Reg. Charity No. 1180059)

Transport: The process for requesting a driver for transport to and from appointments is changing. If you require transport to and from your hospital/doctor/dental appointments please contact Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities direct through the following methods:

Telephone: Between 10.00-13.00hrs Monday-Friday: 07540 798226

If the line is busy you will be able to leave a message and a member of the patient transport team will call you back Email: voluntarycarservicelof@gmail.com

Opening times for charity shop

Opening times continue to be subject to Government regulations

Monday 10.00 am to 1.00 pm for donations by appointment only – ring Nicola on 01367 252189 to make an appointment.

Tuesday through to Friday 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Saturday 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Covid-19 community funding support – remains open for applications

The Community Friends' Covid-19 Support Fund established to provide financial support to local organisations, charities, volunteer groups, families and individuals who have been impacted by Covid-19 remains open for applications. To date from 57 applications grants of approximately £55,424 have been made providing financial support to 39 different charities, organisations, families and individuals within our area of benefit. Please refer to our website for details of how to apply and the criteria we use to assess applications (www.friendsoffairford.org.uk)

If you want to make a donation you can do so online through our website

www.friendsoffairford.org.uk or by sending cheques made out to 'Friends of Fairford' and posting to Ms Andrena Miles, AMM Bookkeeping and Accountancy, 2nd Floor, 11 High Street, Fairford, Gloucestershire GL7 4AD Information on what we do can be found on our website

www.friendsoffairford.org.uk and the names of our existing team of trustees are listed on the Charity Commission's website.

Graham Hewitt, Chairman

Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities (Reg. Charity No. 1180059)