

# WHAT'S ON

in

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



February / March 2022

Edition 255

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

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy New Year to all, although it seems such an incredibly long time ago already! With Covid restrictions being relaxed, it will be good to see the continued return to the varied groups and societies in the village, although I'm sure that many will continue their Covid-safe practices. I would like to take this chance to thank once again, the delivery team, without whom the What's On would not be circulated round the villages, and of course, the many contributors.

Below is the annual summary of the What's On finances – many thanks to those who have very kindly made donations to the running costs. If anyone wishes to make a donation, please do get in touch.

	£	£
Treasurers Account:		
Opening balance 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021	429.00	
Donations	85.00	
Parish Council Donation	150.00	
Interest (net)	0.22	
<i>Less printer relocation</i>	<u>-180.00</u>	484.22
Cash in Hand:		<u>27.97</u>
<b><u>Closing balance 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021</u></b>		<b><u>£512.19</u></b>

**FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022, 5pm - CLOSING DATE**  
**for the next WHAT'S ON**

***Cover Illustration by Edie Bailey***

*Edie is 17 yrs old and currently studying Art at Stroud College, with a special interest in calligraphy – see her Instagram page: Calligraphygirlll*

**Editor:**

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Email editoroakridgewhatson@gmail.com

E&OE

## THE CHURCH IN OAKRIDGE



**meeting at St Bartholomew's**

**VICAR** Rev. S Murray 01452 770897

**CHURCHWARDEN** Mr. Martin Green 01452 770322

**DEPUTY CHURCHWARDEN** Mr. John Mason 01285 760456

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

### **FEBRUARY 2022**

6 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Prayer	9.30 am
20 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Communion	9.30 am
27 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Prayer	9.30 am

### **MARCH 2022**

6 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Prayer	9.30 am
20 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Communion	9.30 am
27 <sup>th</sup>	Mothering Sunday event with posies	9.30 am

### **Greetings from the Church In Oakridge**

Blessings and best wishes to you all for a Happy and Healthy 2022.

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **THE OAKRIDGE CHURCH SURVEY RESULTS**

You may remember the questionnaire that we asked members of the village to complete around the time of the village fete in September. Thank you to all those who completed the survey and those who added extra comments.

The aim of the questionnaire was to understand how the Oakridge Church could engage better with our local community and become more of a community resource.

It is all too common that at times the Church of England can appear irrelevant and a village church unapproachable. The questionnaire results indicated that in the main Oakridge folk consider that it is important to have a place to find God near to where they live and to have a place of fellowship, a place to reflect and a focus for our community at important times.

On the basis of the questionnaire results, as a start we are going to focus on the important festivals in our village calendar, Christmas, Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest and Remembrance Sunday. These are times when families come together and they have special meaning to many people.

We aim to ensure every house in the village receives an invitation to these events so they are aware of them and feel welcome. In addition, all the Church services and events will be in the Village Newsletter ("What's On"), they will be displayed on the Church notice board and outside the village shop.

We are very pleased that our Bible Story dramatic readings ("Open the Book") have re-started in co-operation with the village school, which both the children and the adults seem to enjoy. We hope to expand our team and develop these further.

Finally, the questionnaire results indicated a need for more cake! Specifically, more informal social events. Church members have already started a 'tea group' for older folk on their own to meet, talk and enjoy tea and cake.

We hope to hold a harvest supper as in previous years.

The Church is also planning to hold a coffee morning, in the Church, initially once a month for anyone to drop in and enjoy good quality coffee and homemade cakes. We are particularly aware of the new army of home workers who may like a break mid-morning from their screens, a little exercise and at the end coffee, cake and good conversation with their fellow villagers!

We continue to value your comments and hope to see you at our Church events.

## **OAKRIDGE CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE EVENT**

The people from Oakridge Church would like to say a big thank you for your generous support at our first Christmas Tree Event. We are hoping to make this a yearly event. It would be wonderful to see more of the village come together and join in and celebrate Christmas at this special time of year.

We also would like to thank those who came out and met us on the village green on a dark, damp night, and drank mulled wine with us which was excellent, and sang carols around the Christmas Tree which was lovely.

We would also like to thank the school for allowing us to use some of their electricity to heat up the mulled wine.

The Christmas Tree Event raised £202 which will be given to the church/school.

Oakridge Church wish everyone a happy New Year and a healthy one.  
*Lyndsey Barnett & Sharon Dawes*

## **CAROL SINGING - STROUD WOMEN'S REFUGE**

The Christmas carollers enjoyed two cold and fortunately dry evenings singing at houses around Oakridge. It was lovely to see newcomers joining in with us. Thank you to all who supported us, the collection for Stroud Women's Refuge amounted to £115.30. Unfortunately, in view of the rising cases of Covid we were unable to accept your kind invitations for refreshments.

Stroud Women's Refuge, a local independent charity, are very grateful for our donation. They are Gloucestershire's only women's refuge, providing accommodation, advice and support to families affected by domestic abuse.

## **DOG FOULING**

Once again, I have been asked to include a plea to the dog owners of the village regarding picking up after your pet..... Please, please pick up your dog muck whether on road, path, field or grass verge. People walk on paths, on verges to avoid the cars, animals graze in the fields. It is antisocial and unpleasant. Please take responsibility for your pet.

## **SOME THOUGHTS ON TREE PLANTING... an alternative perspective**

Trees are important, they give us oxygen, store carbon, stabilise the soil and provide homes and food to our wildlife. They are beautiful. Every so often there is an initiative or event that encourages planting trees. There are several Jubilee tree projects being planned for our parish. People also like to plant a tree to remember an event or loved one.

Much of Great Britain was once covered in trees and it is important to plant more. However I feel we need to consider carefully where trees are planted. We should take into account the effect on the landscape character, biodiversity and ecological value of the existing area as well as the long term care of new trees. We need to ensure that these tree planting initiatives are delivered as a network of complementary projects in order to prevent the countryside being filled with unhealthy trees and commemorative Jubilee plaques.

The Cotswolds landscape is of a steep scarp crowned by a high, open wold. This open landscape allows opportunities for wonderful views and outlooks. Driving into Oakridge, Far Oakridge and Waterlane the views are incredible. On a clear day one can see for miles and, for many who live here, it is a daily joy. These uplifting moments will be taken away by the presence of trees. One example is along the Gifford Circus site: driving to Stroud there was an incredible view towards the Severn and Wales, up to Painswick Beacon the other way, soon it will be a dark corridor of trees. At The Camp, the view was towards Miserden and Syde this is also going to be lost.

The open grassland of the area also provides habitat for a rich diversity of wildlife; in summer the verges are full of grasses, wildflowers, moths, butterflies and insects. A shady tree not only makes roads dark and gloomy but this diverse habitat will disappear.

Maybe we need to consider if tree planting is appropriate in our parish landscape at all. Perhaps we could look at nurturing areas of wildflowers and grassland, more appropriate for local area and wildlife. Like trees, grassland also fixes carbon dioxide and stores it, more safely, in the soil.

The Woodlands Trust reported that much of woodland in the U.K. is in poor condition. Certainly many trees around our parish are ailing and uncared for. Perhaps one answer is for people to adopt an existing tree, plant a tree where an ash has been cut due to die back or choose a section of woodland to look after.

I am not suggesting we do not plant trees but I feel thought is needed to consider where they are planted, the effect they are going to have on existing landscape, wildlife and on people, and how they are going to be cared for in the future.

*Caroline Priestley*

## OAKRIDGE VILLAGE HALL



The Village Hall continues to be regularly used by the Ballyhoo Dance School, and by many fitness groups and the Choir, among others. Don't forget that the Bookings Calendar is available online - [www.oakridgevillage.org/village-hall.html](http://www.oakridgevillage.org/village-hall.html)

A year or so of supporters using Amazon Smile has shown it can generate useful funding for the Hall - please think about signing up to give a 0.5% donation to OVHT at no extra cost. It is very simple - when using Amazon just switch to [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) and search for Oakridge Village Hall Trust as your desired charity. You only have to do that once but can switch to another charity when you wish.

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

Network: Oakridge Village Hall Gigaclear

Password: OVHT2021

## OAKRIDGE RAINWATCH



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

November.... 25 mm.....about 0.9 ins.

December.... 97.6 mm.....about 3.8 ins.

January (to 18<sup>th</sup>)..... 33.4 mm.....about 1.3 ins.

*Gill Farrar*

## OAKRIDGE HISTORY GROUP



We begin 2022 with two contrasting talks:

On 23 February we will be sharing local history, discussing a selection of Oakridge houses and families.

Over the years many people have contributed information based on documents, maps, photographs, newspaper reports and reminiscences. New information has been added as time has gone on and this will be an opportunity to learn more about the history on our doorstep.

On 23 March Kirsty Hartsiotis will be talking on the wider topic of "The Arts and Crafts Movement First World War memorials in Gloucestershire". The Oakridge war memorial is an unusual one and it will be interesting to compare it with other individual memorials in the county.

Talks are held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm and visitors are welcome as well as members.

*Kay Rhodes*

## NATURE NOTES FROM WATERLANE



At this time of the year we are looking for the first signs of spring and one of these is the snowdrop pushing its way through the snow and soil. One of the more vivid local names for the snowdrop is the "Snow Piercer", for this exactly describes how the early spring flower pushes its

head above the soil to brighten our February woodlands. They are a familiar indicator of the shifting seasons, and a sure sign that warmer weather is on the way.

Standing 7-15 cm tall, snowdrops have white bell-shaped flowers at the end of an erect flowering stem with 2-3 leaves. They are found across the U.K. favouring damp soil and are often found in broadleaved woodland and along riverbanks, but can also be seen in parks, gardens, meadow and scrub. The snowdrops native range is mainland Europe, but at home it is thought they may have been grown as an ornamental plant as early as the 16th century, but were not recorded in the wild until the late 18th century.

As they flower so early, snowdrops do not rely on pollinators to reproduce, instead they spread by bulb division. However they may be visited by bees and other insects on a warm day. The flower has long been viewed as a symbol of hope for better times ahead and has a long association with the Christian festival of Candlemas and was often used to decorate churches during the celebration. This earned it the alternative name of 'Candlemas Bells'. For those who can remember the 2nd world war, British

citizens nicknamed some American soldiers 'Snowdrops' due to their green uniforms with a white helmet or cap.

The best places to see them for large displays are the 'Rococo Gardens' at Painswick and Colesbourne Park, or for smaller displays at Cherington Ponds or the dip below Bournes Green.

*Alan White*

## OAKRIDGE GARDEN CLUB



I write this on a cold, damp, grey day in mid-January. What a long time ago Christmas seems, and ever longer away our Christmas Social we all enjoyed. Five of us got the room ready, laying up the tables, lighting up the tree and candles and putting up the quiz around the room. In the kitchen, Helen Bailey was in charge, ably helped by Susan and Cheryl as lovely smells wafted out. We were not as many as usual of course, but everyone seemed so pleased to get out and meet up with friends. Much head scratching over whatever wildflower could be described as an "untidy little bird", but most people got "bees make it, babies do it"! The meal was so good with plenty of second helpings and a few, who shall be nameless, came up for thirds! Sue Brain excelled herself by making chocolate roulade with berries and cream. Nick Walker won the prize for guessing 17 of the 20 clues, and there was a good raffle to end the evening. A big thank you to all the helpers.

At the moment all future meetings seem rather undecided, we will have to wait and see but if allowed we will hold our AGM in February, with a planned talk on Chelsea Flower Show. So we hope that will go ahead.

None of us will be doing anything outside if this miserable weather continues, so we can all cosy in with seed catalogues and plan for the Spring. I have been given a large collection of vintage vegetable seeds, so it will be fun to see what comes up.

Keep well, keep warm and dream of sunny days to come.

*Gill Wimperis*

 **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022**   
**FRIDAY 4 MARCH**  
A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE

2 pm Saint Bartholomews Church

Oakridge Lynch

All are welcome to join us for this service

followed by tea and cake

**I know the plans I have for you**

365 days a year · Informed Prayer · Prayerful Action · 24-7 · Prayer  
Movement · Ecumenical · Global · Women-led · 365 days a year · Informed  
Prayer · 24-7 · Prayerful Action · Prayer Movement · Ecumenical · Global  
Women-led · Women-led · 365 days a year · Women-led · Prayerful Action  
[www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk) · Movement · Ecumenical · Global · Informed Prayer · 365  
Registered Charity Number 233242

## OAKRIDGE WI



We met on January 13<sup>th</sup> and attendance numbers were depleted by the winter nights, coughs and colds, along with a variety of demands on our member time. However, we are still Oakridge WI and doing our bit for community, kith and kin.

Thursday's talk by Ella from the Women's Refuge stunned us into silence. Gloucester County has ONE refuge in 2 houses, and takes in women and their children up to 16 years of age from England, Scotland and Wales. There is a police call every 30 seconds, 1.6 million women experience domestic abuse in the home, and 2 women per week are killed. 20% of children live in a home with it, and 65% are harmed mentally and physically. All these needs are addressed under the Refuge umbrella. This charity here in our county, needs £300,000 per annum to run, all on voluntary contributions. If and when safe housing can be found, council funding can be called upon. Sadly many women return to their abusers. This is a local charity – maybe we could all give it some thought.

### WI business – Dates for our diaries:

10 <sup>th</sup> February	A talk about the Severn Bore by Chris Witts – I have lived here over 50 years and never witnessed this spectacle
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Jewellery making
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	County Annual Meeting
31 <sup>st</sup> March	1 <sup>st</sup> round of the County Quiz
11 <sup>th</sup> June	National Annual Meeting, Liverpool

Hope to see everyone soon

*Mary Fern*

## OAKRIDGE 5K BOXING DAY RUN

Well done to the thirty plus runners, walkers and supporters who turned out on a misty Boxing Day morning. A special thank you to John and Julie Hughes for supplying Vin Chaud and mince pies adjacent to the Village Hall. For the 2022 run we'll ask for some volunteer marshals for the turning points to aid our friends and family through Oakridge, Waterlane and Far Oakridge. Looking forward to an even bigger turn out on the 26th December. That's plenty of time to start a couch to 5K program.

*Paul Timms*



## OAKRIDGE PLAYERS PRESENTS....

# FAWLTY TOWERS

That best loved TV show is coming to the Oakridge Village Hall with four performances! 31st March to 2nd April at 7.30pm with a matinee performance on Saturday 2nd at 2.30pm

Come and join us for a roaring performance as Basil Fawlty battles his way through life detesting just about everybody while Cybil calms the waves destruction he creates. A double bill of Communications Problems and Gourmet Night that includes that famous scene with Basil punishing his car with a tree branch!

Tickets available from members of Oakridge Players and Ollie's Shop.

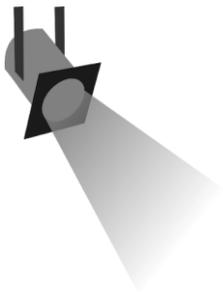
## LADIES NIGHT

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

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

Here's to a better year ahead.

*Tamzin Hutton*



## Spotlight on ....

Will return next time. If you would like to be featured, please contact Sue Wise on 01285 762800

## BISLEY-with-LYPIATT PARISH COUNCIL

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

Next PC meetings: 7.30 pm Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

Any issues in the Oakridge Ward of our Parish please contact

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

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

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

## DISTRICT NEWS

**Stroud District Council has set a goal of making the District – not just the Council – carbon neutral by 2030.** But the Council's own responsibilities – from waste collection and council housing to leisure centres – only account for 1-2% of the district's emissions. So we all have to do our bit too. Simple steps include insulating our houses; lowering the thermostat a degree or two; driving and flying less; eating less meat and dairy; buying locally grown food; wasting less (including food). This doesn't mean self-denial – rather, it means saving money and being healthier, while building a better local environment and future for all.

***But can we make any difference?*** Of course, actions such as those are minuscule in the global picture, and big changes have to be made by governments and businesses – but if we all make small changes, they will add up to make a real difference.

***I have to drive:*** It's impossible for most of us to live here and not use a car – but most of us can drive a bit less. Make one trip to the shops instead of two or three; shop locally; share a ride with a neighbour; take the bus sometimes.

***What about the farmers?*** You don't have to go vegan, just *reduce* meat consumption. And if you buy less but better quality, local meat, you can help local farmers too.

***Heat pumps cost too much:*** But better insulation is the first thing to do – reduce heat loss, lower the bills, and then a heat pump, if you can afford it, would be effective. Even simple, DIY draught-blocking can make a difference.

Enjoy our beautiful area, and have a safe, happy and greener New Year!

Martin

**SDC website: [www.stroud.gov.uk](http://www.stroud.gov.uk)**

Cllr Martin Brown, 01452 770878

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



## Don't forget to claim your State Pension!

In years past you would have received your State Retirement Pension automatically. You may not be aware but this is no longer the case, so you will have to claim it to receive it! At Citizens Advice we have been contacted by an increasing number of people who did not realise this.

You should get a letter from **the Pension Service** no later than 2 months before your 66<sup>th</sup> birthday (which is the current State Pension Age) telling you what to do to claim your pension. If you do not receive this letter you can still make a claim in the 4 months up to reaching your state pension age.

It is important to claim your State Pension as soon as you can, as there may be delays in payment if you leave claiming it too close to your 66th birthday, which could lead to financial difficulties for some people.

**How to claim** - The quickest way to get your State Pension is to apply online at [www.gov.uk/get-state-pension](http://www.gov.uk/get-state-pension) but if you don't have access to the internet you can request a form by calling **the Pension Service on 0800 731 7898**.

You can check your State Pension age online at [www.gov.uk/state-pension-age](http://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age)

Get a forecast of how much money you might get at [www.gov.uk/check-state-pension](http://www.gov.uk/check-state-pension)

Further information on the State Pension is at [www.gov.uk/new-state-pension](http://www.gov.uk/new-state-pension) or see our website – [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk).

Some of our clients have experienced delays after claiming which has caused them financial hardship. If you need any help to claim your State Pension or experience problems with claiming, contact one of our friendly advisers at **Stroud and Cotswold Citizens Advice**.

**Please call 0808 800 0510 or 0808 800 0511 Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm (calls are free from landlines and most mobiles).** or use **our online email page** at [www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/stroud-cab-email-advice.php](http://www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/stroud-cab-email-advice.php)

**If you know anyone who might need help on this or any other issue, particularly those who do not have access to the internet, please pass on our contact details above.**

**We recognise there is a need for face to face advice, for people whose problem cannot be dealt with on the phone or by email. We intend to resume this part of our service which we have not been able to offer due to Covid, in the coming months. We also plan to gradually re-open our outreach sessions this year.**

## COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

Firstly, May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very happy 2022. May the year ahead be kind to us all.

This edition I wanted to highlight the work County Council are involved with regarding climate change.

### **County Council's farms are helping to tackle climate change and nature recovery**

Gloucestershire County Council is promoting sustainable farming methods on its' rural estate to help tackle climate change.

Its' rural estate is spread throughout the county and extends to 63 holdings across 7,000 acres. It consists mainly of smaller family farms, with the majority being between 80 to 140 acres. More than half of the county council-run farms have already signed up to the Countryside Stewardship scheme, which is a government initiative offering financial incentives to farmers to look after and improve the environment. It encourages farmers to undertake measures to help sustainability and biodiversity, including:

- Using land that is unsuitable for crops, such as field corners, to plant trees or wildflowers
- Providing winter bird food plots to maintain and increase the bird population
- Creating permanent grassland to encourage flora and fauna to develop
- Delaying cutting natural grass to allow wildlife and bugs to flourish
- Planting new hedgerows and gapping-up old hedgerows

Spot checks are carried out on the farms to ensure they are complying with these environmentally friendly practices. In farming terms, soil health is key to tackling climate change through carbon storage, as the plants that are grown help to absorb carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A number of the county council's tenant farmers are experimenting with ways to improve their soil health through better use of farmyard manures, reducing the area of land that they plough and using techniques which cause less disruption to the soil structure.

I, along with other Councillors from all groups represented on the council were recently given a tour of Gamage Hall Farm in Dymock, where tenant farmer Paul Westaway demonstrated how some of these sustainability measures are being put into practice. It was a most informative afternoon, particularly the stats on carbon capture.

Paul Westaway said: "Farmers are working incredibly hard to help achieve ambitious net zero targets, however sustainable, regenerative agriculture and food production must also be profitable. We believe the UK has the highest welfare standards in the world and I urge everyone to buy British, buy seasonal

and support your local farmers.” Promoting sustainability on farms will help us work towards a Greener Gloucestershire.

To view photos from the tour of Gamage Hall Farm in Dymock see <https://www.flickr.com/photos/gloscc/albums/72177720295394914>

### **Cabinet to approve actions to tackle climate change**

In 2019, Cabinet approved the county council’s current Climate Change Strategy and Action plan and committed to reporting annually on progress. This latest report highlights the progress that has been made in the past year, what has gone well, what has been more difficult, and how the council intends to take climate action forwards .

The key targets for Gloucestershire County Council are to reduce carbon emissions by 80% by 2030 and become Net Zero by 2030 through carbon offsetting. The council is currently on target in respect of its own operations and has achieved a 77% gross (83% net) reduction with 8 years to go.

The target for Gloucestershire as a whole is to be Net Zero by 2045, with a reduction in carbon emissions by 80% by 2030. The council is fully committed to achieving this target but this cannot be achieved by any single organisation and will require extensive partnership working not just with districts, businesses and other organisations but also everyone who lives, works and visits the county.

Despite the effects of the pandemic, progress has been made to tackle climate change in Gloucestershire, including:

- Tree planting - more funding has been secured and the county are on target to meet commitments under the Woodland Trust and Forestry Commission grants to plant over 41,000 trees this season. Also, the Council’s Highways team has exceeded its target for replacing ash dieback on a 2 for 1 basis, planting over 10,000 trees this year and with a further 20,000 trees being planted this season.
- School buildings – the council is investing £1 million to make new school buildings carbon neutral, such as the High School, Leckhampton in Cheltenham.
- Staff recruitment – the council have appointed officers that will work specifically on climate change and air quality, sustainability and engagement and waste management and are currently recruiting a dedicated Tree Project Officer. These newly recruited officers are crucial to the development and management of the strategy as well as supporting and tracking the progress being made and the effect it has on minimising our contribution to climate change and improving our resilience to its impacts.

Tackling climate change is a key theme and a priority in the council's strategy. The report outlines the next steps and proposed actions for the council for the next five years. These include:

- Putting Climate Change at the heart of decision making
- Incorporating appropriate carbon reduction and renewable energy generation measures into new and existing building developments
- Improving carbon reduction in terms of transport such as rolling out electric vehicle charging points, switching the council's fleet to ultralow emission alternatives and creating high quality public transport and cycle networks
- Helping everyone convert to green power by exploring scope for decarbonising heating including district heating opportunities
- Reducing waste by encouraging the public to recycle and reuse
- Influencing others and getting everyone to do their bit by developing the Greener Gloucestershire campaign
- Using land more effectively by putting strategic housing allocations in sustainable locations, creating space for the million trees challenge, developing the carbon offsetting scheme and delivering flood risk management schemes

You can keep up to date with the greener Gloucestershire campaign by going [Greener Gloucestershire - Gloucestershire County Council](#).

Please follow the hashtag #GreenerGloucestershire on social media.

You can also sign up to receive updates via our [Greener Gloucestershire newsletter](#).

Do please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sue Williams  
County Councillor  
[Susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.williams@gloucestershire.gov.uk)  
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 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022:

S.21/2517/FUL Conversion of barn to staff accommodation Frith House, Tunley (resubmission S.21/1212/FUL)	Awaiting Decision
S.21/2642/HHOLD Erection single garage and changes to entrance Foxfield, Oakridge Lynch	Permitted
S.21/2386/CPE Equestrian business/grazing	Refused
S.21/2244/FUL Erection of replacement dwelling The Knowle, The Broadway, Oakridge Lynch	Permitted
S.22/0073/LBC and S.22/0072/HHOLD Repairs and renovation Little Cottage, The Broadway, Oakridge Lynch	Awaiting Decision
S.21/3053/HHOLD Alterations to existing barn Tunley Barn House, Tunley	Awaiting Decision
S.21/2840/HHOLD Install hopper for biomass boiler Hillview, Waterlane	Permitted
S.22/0128/HHOLD Extension and replacement garage Whitespring, Oakridge Lynch	Awaiting Decision

## OPEN STUDIO

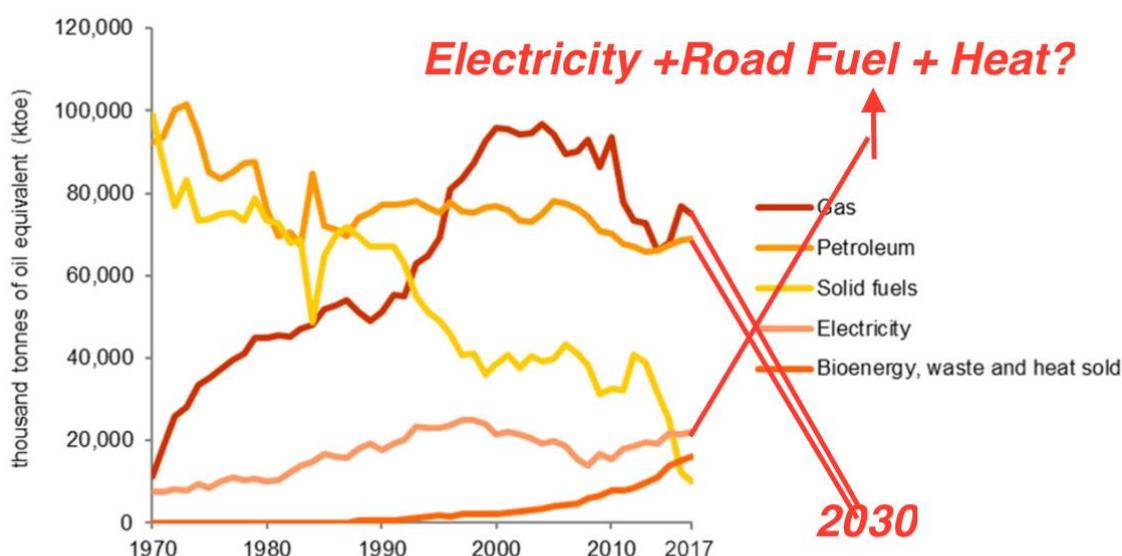
John Bailey's Open Studio in December raised £369 for Cancer Research from donations and sales. John would like to thank everyone for their support.

Finally, some food for thought, as outlined to the NDP and BISCAN groups....

## **LOCAL and Energy**

Let's look at energy, electric cars are the future – or are they? On the graph from the Government BEIS department it is shown that petroleum fuels are currently 3.6 times that of generated electricity, this means that to maintain travelling at present levels we need to increase electricity generation by at least 3 times what we currently have. A simple calculation from 1 gallon of petrol having around 33kWhr of energy, or about 60 miles, illustrates that we need a lot more electricity than is likely to be available in the near future. A practical figure from a staff Nissan Leaf he gets about 3.8 miles/kwhr. Add to this the Governments proposals to stop all fossil fuel house heating by 2030 we obviously need to generate at least 7 times more electricity. This patently unrealistic! Unless the building insulation improves and renewables sector increases very fast there is not going to be enough energy.

So where does that leave us? The obvious first impact is we are going to be more locally focused, for food, work and everyday life.



Source; BEIS ECUK Table 1.10

If fossil fuel for transport and farming has to reduce to zero plus fossil heating, gas and oil, that leaves a BIG ask for electricity to fill the gap.

**Perhaps a return to the horse and cart is the future?**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **FEBRUARY 2022**

Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladies Night, Butchers Arms</li> <li>• Parish Council meeting, Bisley</li> </ul>	7.00pm 7.30pm
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WI meeting, Village Hall</li> </ul>	7.30pm
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Communion, St Bartholomew's</li> </ul>	9.30am
Weds 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History Group, Village Hall</li> </ul>	7.30pm

### **MARCH 2022**

Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladies Night, Butchers Arms</li> <li>• Parish Council meeting, Bisley</li> </ul>	7.00pm 7.30pm
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World Day of Prayer, St Bartholomew's</li> </ul>	2.00pm
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WI meeting, Village Hall</li> </ul>	7.30pm
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Communion, St Bartholomew's</li> </ul>	9.30am
Weds 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History Group, Village Hall</li> </ul>	7.30pm
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mothers' Day Posie making, Village Hall</li> </ul>	10.00am
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mothers' Day service, St Bartholomew's</li> </ul>	9.30am
<b>Fri 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CLOSING DATE APR/MAY WHAT'S ON, 5pm</b></li> </ul>	
Thurs 31 <sup>st</sup> – Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fawlty Towers, Village Hall</li> </ul>	7.30pm

If you would like to save paper, why not sign up to receive the What's On direct to your email inbox, via the village website – [www.oakridgevillage.org](http://www.oakridgevillage.org).

### USEFUL INFORMATION

- The village website – [www.oakridgevillage.org](http://www.oakridgevillage.org) - for up to date information, including Village Hall availability and Village Events Calendar
- Various Facebook pages – Oakridge Village Network and Oakridge Village Hall, Oakridge Lynch
- Gigaclear Broadband availability at the Village Hall