

CALENDAR FOR EARLY PART OF DECEMBER

Regular weekly events: (Sundays)
Methodist Church - Morning Service 11 a.m.
Society of Friends - Sunday meeting 11 a.m.
Parish Church - 1st Sun. 8.30 Holy
Communion, 2nd & 3rd. 10.30 Holy
Communion.
Sunday School - 11.30 every Sunday in Church.
Youth Club - Mondays, 7.30 Village Hall.

- 3rd. Senior Residents' Party. Village Hall
4.30 p.m.
- 5th. Christian Meditation Group. 8 p.m. atll,
Barley Close.
- 6th. Friendship Club. Entertainment for the
Club at the invitation of the Friends'
School.
- 8th. Parochial Church Council meets 8 p.m. at
Barn Close.
- 13th. Women's Institute. 2 p.m. Village Hall.
Members' meeting.
- 14th. Last Date for 'Scene' copy.
Horticultural Society. 8 p.m. Village
Hall. 'Christmas Decorations.'
- 19th. Christian Meditation - as 5th.
Playgroup Christmas Party - during the
morning at the Village Hall.
- 20th. Friendship Club. Christmas Tea in the
Village Hall.
- 21st. Carol Singing Party. Barley Close 6.30 p.m.

SIBFORD PLAYGROUP

The Committee is trying to discover if there is a need for a Mother & Toddler Group in the Village. If you are interested in the idea, please let a member know: Joan Broady, Gill Gaunt, Judy Abbott, Yvonne Headley, Chris Hall, Sue Lembert, Chris Leyburn, Ruth Dowley, Erica Winbush, Glynnis Morbey, Judy Mason and Jean White.

SIBFORD SCENE

DECEMBER 1977

NUMBER 9.

Received
25/11/77

WOMEN ARE THE TOPS!

I can hear you full blooded men saying: "I know that without them telling me." - but I'm not talking about that! It's just true. The women of Sibford, in the shape of the Women's Institute, carried off the trophy in the recent Village Quiz. In front of a well-filled Village Hall they managed, just, to triumph over the other seven teams. Well done, ladies!

And well done, too, to Miss Le Mare for her questions (which are only hard if you don't know the answers). Thanks too to Keith Hicks, the master of electronic wizardry, for the audio-visual assistance.

MISS NELDER DID BETTER THAN THAT!

Last month's feature told us that Miss Nelder, in her midwife days delivered over 100 babies: in fact, over 500 is nearer the mark. Sorry about that Miss Nelder.

TIME TO STOP AND THINK

No-one has time to do this any more, we're told: but isn't it perhaps true that we haven't got the inclination. Christian Meditation gives us the chance to do just that.

1st & 3rd Monday evenings at 8 p.m. at 11 Barley Close: that's your opportunity. Why not take it with both hands - anyone is welcome, from any church or from no church in particular.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWS

The newly elected committee is at present working out the programme for 1978. We aim to offer as varied a programme as possible. Any suggestions will be welcomed.

It only costs 50p. to join the Society, and Mrs. Butler, 1 The Crossroads, Sibford Gower, will be happy to accept subscriptions: as will any other committee member.

December's meeting will be in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 14th December at 8 p.m. Mrs. R. Horlock will be speaking on 'Christmas Decorations.' There will be the chance for members to try their own skill in this direction, and our efforts will be judged by Mrs. Horlock.

Mrs. Andrews has kindly offered to run a Sales Table at each meeting, so if you have any spare plants, produce, or garden requirements, please bring them along: you may find that someone has just what you are seeking.

The 1977/78 committee comprises: Mr. Kinnish, (President); Mr. J. Sabin (Chairman); Mrs. Butler (Treasurer); Mrs. Turner (Secretary), Mrs. Law, Mrs. F. Padbury and Mr. R. Lambert.

John Sabin.

WE REMEMBER IN DECEMBER

Concluding our series about intriguing Saints' Days in the Autumn, Geoffrey Law Writes:

6th. St. Nicholas. He died about 324AD and is honoured as the guardian of children, patron of scholars, and of travellers by sea and land. Some of the customs originally

associated with Nicholas have been transferred to the modern Christmas, and the saint has become Santa Claus.

20/21st. St. Thomas' Eve/Day. The winter solstice. The doubting Thomas of the New Testament Story, he is the patron saint of architects and masons. In early times this was a 'begging' day for the poor, who went 'a Thomasing' or 'a Gooding' :-

"St. Thomas gray, St. Thomas gray,
Longest night, shortest day."

26th. St. Stephen. Historically the first Christian Martyr, he was stoned to death in 33 AD in Jerusalem. The feast of Stephen is known to one and all through 'Good King Wenceslas.' The old customs of bird shooting and venison hunting on St. Stephen's Day have been perpetuated in the present day farmers' schools and hunt meets on Boxing Day.

Geoffrey Law.

Sibford's 'A Gooding.'

Having just read Geoffrey's piece, we have decided to do our own form of 'a Gooding,' this year. It will take the form of Carol Singing on 21st, and we shall set out from Barley Close as near 6.30 as possible. Why don't you join us: a singing voice isn't really essential. Money collected will go to the PTA funds, and Mrs. Barlow has kindly offered Hot Punch and Mince Pies at the end. Please take this as an invitation to join us, if you haven't been asked already.

CHRISTMAS ISSUE OF SCENE

We intend to produce a Christmas/January issue by 21st December. Please let either the Rector or Mrs. Austing have your copy by Wednesday, 14th. It will include full details of Christmas Church Services. This issue:-
Editor: Timothy Winbush; Production: Jean Evans, Keith Hicks and Timothy Winbush.