

CALENDAR FOR MARCH

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:-

SUNDAY SERVICES:-

Methodists - Morning Service 11 a.m.
Friends - Meeting at 11 a.m.
Parish Church - 1st Sunday, 8.30 a.m.
Holy Communion; 2nd & 3rd Sundays,
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion; 4th Sunday
9.45 a.m. Holy Communion.
6.00 p.m. Evensong & Holy Communion.
Sunday School - 11.30 a.m.

BROWNIES - Tuesday, 6 p.m. Friends' Hall.

UPHOLSTERY CLASS - Wednesday evenings,
Village Hall.

1st CRICKET CLUB A.G.M. Friends' Hall 7.30 p.m.

3rd WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Parish Church
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion 7.30 p.m.
P.T.A. Folk Evening 8.30 p.m.

6th LEO CLUB. Guy Woolfenden, Friends Hall
7.30 p.m.

7th FRIENDSHIP CLUB 'From Malta to the Middle
East' Village Hall.

BROWNIES move to Sibford 6 p.m.
8th C.M.S. Coffee Morning, Barn Close 10.30a.m.
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY 'Garden Glory.'

10th HOLY COMMUNION 7.30 p.m.

11th FRIENDSHIP CLUB Jumble Sale, Village Hall
2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

14th W.I. The Home Farm Trust, Cherington.
LEO CLUB Mrs. Joy Spiers J.P., Friends'
Hall 7.30 p.m.

17th HOLY COMMUNION 7.30 p.m.

21st PLAYGROUP SPRING BAZAAR 10.30 a.m.
FRIENDSHIP CLUB Members Meeting. Friends'
School.

23rd MAUNDY THURSDAY. Holy Communion 7.30 p.m.

24th GOOD FRIDAY Service at Swalcliffe 1.30 p.m.

SIBFORD SCENE

NUMBER 12

MARCH 1978

SIBFORD SCENE is one year old this month. We should like to thank everyone who has helped in any way; by typing, delivering, getting copy in on time or baling us out of our various emergencies.

Please continue with your support by letting us know whenever there is something of interest going on and by contributing personal thoughts and ideas. We are always glad to receive practical suggestions for improvement too.

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After last month's article on Sibford in the 1880's, John Sabin tells us: It was interesting to read of my great-grandfather, Reubin Sabin's carrier business in the Scene. Reubin's son, George Alec Sabin, died on 18th December in Pewamo, Michigan. He was born in Sibford on 23rd April 1885, and was in the village just ten years ago and was introduced to many people. Apparently he was always homesick for Sibford, but family commitments couldn't allow him to return.

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All those who sponsored Anthony Baker in his walk for 'Help the Aged' will be pleased to hear that he collected the greatest sum in the area and has been presented with a shield to mark his success. Anthony's walk raised £77.40. Some feat for an eight-year-old!

HELP FOR INDIA

Following the devastation caused by the recent cyclone in India, the Friends have been raising money for the Relief Fund.

The austerity lunch that they held in January, together with a stall, raised £34.19., and the total collected for the project is £54.21.

..... AND KENYA

Many thanks to all who supported the C.M.S. evening at Epwell. They were rewarded by an excellent and thought provoking entertainment given by the University C.M.S. Action Group. Although held for interest rather than fund raising, there was an overall profit, via donations and a raffle, of £13. 15.

During March we hope to make some more money to support the Watsons' work in Kenya; there will be a Coffee Morning with Bring and Buy at Barn Close, Burdrop, by kind invitation of Mrs. Frith, on Wednesday, 8th March, from 10.30 a.m. till noon.

Anne Stephens

..... AND CHILDREN

SAVE THE CHILDREN week is April 23rd to 29th. The Sibfords are hoping to contribute to the Fund this year by house to house collections and a Coffee Morning. The Coffee Morning will be held at Park Farm House on Friday, 28th April. More details next month.

HOOK NORTON EVENING CENTRE

There will be a special 4-week course of cookery demonstrations at Hook Norton Evening Centre, beginning at 7 p.m. on Monday, 27th February. Fee £1.60.

THE LENGTHENING DAYS

"As the days lengthen so the cold will strengthen," so my Suffolk grandmother affirmed in certain tones some 60 years ago. It didn't concern me much at the time but over the years I have realised the truth of the saying. This year is an outstanding example of a warm October followed by a cold February. In recent years we have become accustomed to relatively mild winters following wet autumns but for most of my recollection real winter weather hasn't started until after the turn of the year. Do you recall the winter 1946-47? Up to the end of December the weather had been relatively mild but in mid-January the country was swept by seemingly endless snowstorms. That snow cover lasted until mid-March; roads were blocked, power cut, factories closed, livestock lost. When the thaw came, so did gales with heavy rain and floods.

Fortunately, the later the snow comes, the shorter its life will be. From the beginning of January the sun rises each day a little nearer due East and sets a little nearer due West, with the result that in February we gain $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours and in March a further 2 hours day-light. At the same time the sun is moving higher in the sky, increasing its power fractionally each day. Glasshouse owners may find to their cost that a cloudless March day can scorch their plants as effectively as August.

It is ironic that the lengthening days often coincide with the lowest temperatures of the winter. Plant life is influenced as much by light as by warmth and moisture. At the time when increasing light stimulates activity, soil temperatures can be very low indeed. Both farmers and gardeners face the

annual dilemma of whether to sow by the calendar or be governed by conditions. They will be guided by the accumulated experience of generations who have cultivated the soil before them. In just four years in Sibford I have learned that I can waste a lot of energy and seeds if I sow by the book instead of using my judgement. A scientist friend who is principal of a large seed raising company is quite clear that for successful crops we must sow when the ground is right, that means good, friable soil and ground temperature not less than 42° F. day and night. Many seeds, of course, need higher temperatures than this and can be helped along by sowing in pans or trays in greenhouse, cold frame or even on windowsills. In this way we can make the best of increasing light.

New moon is on March 9th. Good sowing and growing.

Geoffrey Law.

NEVER ABSENT - NEVER LATE

Exactly 100 years ago, on March 1st 1878, the first entry was made in the log book of Sibford Primary School, although, of course, the school was several centuries old even then.

The Headmaster, Mr. Peter Mansfield, has been gathering together material from the school's past, documents from the Trustees, photographs, and other mementoes, and these will be the basis of a project on the history of their own school that the children will be doing in March.

Sibford is full of ex-pupils and Mr. Mansfield would like to hear from anyone with recollections of former days, pictures, papers, prizes, or anything else that would illustrate the school's past. He already has a watch

and medal from 1903 with the inscription "Never absent never late." Can anyone remember how long they had to keep such a perfect record to receive these prizes?

It is hoped to mount a small exhibition towards the end of the month, open to all the village. A rare chance to see the school as it was - and as it is. If you can lend or give anything, or have a tale to tell, please contact Mr. Mansfield at the school as soon as possible.

THE BROWNIES ARE COMIN.

Until now, Sibford Brownies have had to travel to Epwell for their meetings, but from March 7th they move to a new home - the Friends' Hall, Sibford. Meetings will be from 6 to 7 p.m. If there are any more girls of seven or over who wish to join the pack, their parents should contact the Brown Owl, Miss P. M. Goulstone at Banbury 55732.

P.T.A.

We're sorry about the misleading note in last month's Scene: gremlins at work in our editorial department! The Folk Evening will be on Friday, 3rd March in the School, from 8.30 p.m. till midnight. The tickers are very reasonably priced at £1, to include wine and cheese; so we do hope for a splendid response to this.

PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup will be holding a Spring Bazaar in the Village Hall on March 21st at 10.30 a.m. There will be bargains to interest people of all ages, so come along and support the smallest Sibfordians.

CHURCH NOTES

Easter falls this year very early, just at the end of this month. Up till then Lent continues. In addition to the usual services there will be Holy Communion in Church at 7.30 p.m. on Fridays 3rd, 10th and 17th, and on Maundy Thursday. Good Friday will be marked by a service in Swalcliffe church from 1.30 - 3 p.m. and on Easter Day there will be Holy Communion at Sibford at 9.45 a.m., and Evensong and Holy Communion at 6 p.m.

MAGICAL 86

The Friendship Club will be having a Members' Meeting and Sing-song at the Friends' School on March 21st and they hope to be entertained to a quarter of an hour of magic by a visitor, Mr. Alan Lea. Mr. Lea is 86.

Other events this month are a talk by Wing-Commander R. Smith (Banbury's Mayor-elect) on a holiday from Malta to the Middle East (March 7th), and a Jumble Sale in the Village Hall on Saturday, March 11th from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

THE LEO CLUB

+++Monday, 27th February+++ Please note a change in the programme. Owing to Mr. Woolfenden's busy schedule, this meeting will now be the A.G.M., to be held at 3 Barley Close. Mr. Woolfenden's talk about his work for the Royal Shakespeare Company will now be on March 6th. On Tuesday, 14th March, Mrs. Joy Spiers will speak on her work as a Justice of the Peace.

It is hoped to hold the annual dinner at the White Bear, Shipston, in the middle part of April. More details at meetings.

GARDEN GLORY

The speaker at the Horticultural Society's meeting on March 8th will be Mr. Ted Humphries who has been connected with Aynho Park Gardens and has appeared on the T.V. Gardening Club with Percy Thrower.

CRICKET

The Cricket Club A.G.M. will be held at 7.30 on Wednesday, 1st March, in the Friends' Hall. Please come if you are interested in playing this season.

SMALL ADS. CIRCULATE SIBFORD FOR A PENNY A WORD
MAXIHIRE. Self-drive Austin Maxi hire at mini rates. Swalcliffe 522.

HOW SCENE STANDS

This time last year we appealed to all village organisations for funds. The results were as follows:-

From organisations	30.00
Individual donations	8.60
Small ads	1.48
	<u>£ 40.08.</u>

Our expenses for the first year have been £26.20., so we shall be solvent for a few months yet. Thank you all for your contributions. We hope our next appeal will be as successful.

SIBFORD SCENE

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Material for April Issue by Monday, 20th March, please.