

SIBFORD SCENE

April 2019

No 411



Welcome to the world, Rolo! Photo by Sue Sabin

Pop-up Cafe

6th - "Oaklands" - 12 noon - 2pm

"The Battle of Edge Hill"

18th - Sibfords Society Talk - Village Hall - 8pm

Easter Egg Trail

19th - Village Hall - 2pm

Film Night - 'Bohemian Rhapsody'

24th - Village Hall - 7:30pm

Ladies Lunch in aid of the Alzheimer's Research

26th - Village Hall - Noon

Two Parishes, One Community



The Annual Community Meeting of the Parishes of Sibford Ferris & Sibford Gower

Have you ever wondered what the Karate group gets up to of a Saturday morning, or how the films get chosen for Film Nights – or what you'd do if you found your favourite footpath had been fenced off? Are there ventures you'd like to set up if you could only find others of like mind? Or clubs and or societies you see advertised on the village website but wonder whether they're for you?

You might be one of those who wonders why the Horticultural Society puts on two shows each year rather than one, what the Town Estates Charity has to do with the village primary school, or why the Ferris has street lights and the Gower does not. You might run a small business in the villages and wonder sometimes how many others there are here, or how to get one of your local councillors on the case if you ended up in some kind of dispute with the District Council.

This is an extra-ordinary community – open-hearted, welcoming, and supporting dozens of activities, but some of them are still known only to their adherents and followers.

For the first time in their separate histories, the councils of the two Sibford parishes, Ferris and Gower have come together this springtime to host an annual community meeting: 6.00 to 8.00 pm on Thursday 9th May that brings together representation from all the villages' many clubs, societies, organisations and institutions to celebrate the community that has grown up around them.

If you were one of those who regret it to this day they missed the wonderful exhibition laid on by the Sibfords Society to commemorate the ending of the 1st World War 100 years ago, this is the evening for you. And certainly this will be the evening for you if you'd been meaning to join the PTA as the parent of a child at one of our two schools but had never got around to it!

Concerned whether the Sibford Surgery is threatened by all the pressures there are on the NHS? Or whether the proposed housing development on Hook Norton Road might go ahead? This is the place to be! There'll be live music, a surprise or two and an opportunity to get to find out all in one place what everyone else gets up to that you never even knew went on!

Two parishes, one community – and dozens of conversations!

Updates will be on the Sibfords Website: <https://thesibfords.org.uk> An institution in its own right!



ED'S THOUGHTS

Brown Envelope Campaign

Many thanks to all the 45 individuals to date that have donated a total of £448 either directly into the bank or through the brown envelopes. There are a team of volunteers who handle the editing, advertising and distribution and our only expense is printing which totals £2000 a year (£200 per issue) Advertising revenue and other donations add up to between £1200-£1400 a year. Therefore we still need the help of those yet to donate. the Bank is Natwest 60 01 35, account number 52612236.

Thank you....Tony and Ivor

Thought for the month:

" Hanging on in quiet desperation is the English way"

Roger Waters



LETTERS AND NOTICES

The Village Website

If you want to keep up with the latest news in the Sibfords in between Scenes, then don't forget to visit our excellent village website edited by Tim Huckvale. It is regularly updated with village news and important information on the Sibfords



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NATURE NOTES

Many thanks to Sue Sabin for putting together last month's Nature Notes while we were on holiday.

At the end of January we noticed a Barn Owl roosting in the hedgerow in the middle of the day by the side of the road between Chipping Norton and Hook Norton. We hope that it had just chosen an odd place to sit and had not been hit by a car.

We also caught a glimpse of what may have been a couple of Siskins on the bird feeder in the garden. Unfortunately we did not get a good enough look to be certain and have not seen them since. We have had them in the garden before but not for a few years.

In the glorious sunny weather in the last week of February it really felt as if Spring had arrived. Honey and Bumble bees were foraging for pollen and nectar on the crocuses that were in full bloom. Apparently they are active when the temperature is above 10 degrees C.

On 22nd and 23rd February Joanne and Megan Gilkes saw the first butterflies of the year – Brimstones, Peacocks and Commas. These are all species that hibernate as adults. From now on it is worth looking out for Orange-tips. The males are easily identified with the bright orange tips to their wings. The females without the orange markings are easily confused with the other white butterflies.

Joanne and Megan also reported that their pond was full of croaking, mating frogs and frogspawn on 1st March where there had been no sign of any activity the day before.

Red Kites certainly seem to be appearing more often and in greater numbers in and around the Sibfords. A group of 7 were seen in the Woodway to Temple Mill area in mid-February.

Any contributions to next month's Nature Notes would be most welcome.

ajnewbold88@gmail.com

Andy and Gill Newbold

Pop Up Cafe' is coming to the Sibfords!



What could be better after a Saturday morning stroll, than to have a great cup of coffee or tea and some lovely cake, locally. Well now you can!

From this April - November, a number of local residents will be throwing open their doors and hosting a monthly Saturday 'Pop up Cafe'; in aid of local charities

For just £2 you can have a cuppa of your choice (refillable) along with cake and biscuits (there will be gluten free options). Home-made jams and other produce will also be on sale - along with the odd plant or two. And if you are lucky enough, you could win a bottle of wine in the raffle (you won't get that at Costa!)

Bring your friends, bring your family - don't be shy! Come along and enjoy some time out in new surroundings.

The first 'Pop Up Cafe' will be held at Oaklands, Sibford Gower, on Saturday April 6th , 12noon - 2pm.

Contact Marianne Allen for further details: 01295 780151

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Sibford Ferris Annual Litter Pick - 2019

This years Sibford Ferris Litter Pick took place on Saturday the 2nd of March. A beautiful sunny morning and the perfect time before the verges start growing and hide much of the litter thrown from passing vehicles. Due to the year round efforts of our residents picking up litter whenever they are out, the amount collected was significant less than usual. On the day we filled 10 refuse sacks of litter, which comprised mainly food wrappers, disposable cups, cans and bottles.

A big thank you to the dozen people who turned out on the 2nd and to those residents that regularly help keep the Parish litter free.



The result of the Litter Pick

A plea from your local councillors

PLEASE do not dump any rubbish by the BOTTLE BANKS near the Elm crossroads. This is fly tipping! And such an offence can land you with a hefty fine. Please be considerate to your fellow villagers and Cherwell Council who have to come and clear it all up. If the facility is abused then we may lose the Bottle Banks altogether.

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

EASTER EGG TRAIL

April 19th ,Good Friday starting at 2pm until 4pm, from the Village Hall. £2-50 per child, with a chocolate egg for all entrants. We will have two new trails this year. One shorter distance for little children and one more challenging for the older kids. Teas available in the small hall. No need to book -just turn up.

LIGHTS,CAMERA,ACTION !

There will be a fantastic outdoor concert featuring the award winning 45 piece BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONIC WINDS on Saturday 13th JULY. Music from STAGE and SCREEN.

The venue is the beautiful grounds of Leasowe House, Sibford Gower.OX15 5RT. Bar, Refreshments and Grand Raffle.

Advance Tickets: Adult £13, Child £6, Family £32, from Keith Hicks 01295 780259.

CONTACT and BOOKING INFORMATION

If you would like to book the hall please contact Ginny [Booking Secretary] on 01295 780373 or via thesibfords.org website. You can check availability of the hall on the Village Hall webpage.

Why not check out what is going on in the Village? Join a group? Start a new one?

We have great facilities, with a large, well equipped kitchen, state of the art Audio Visual system and huge screen, which can be used by any hirers.

Just ask!

Ginny Bennett

FILM NIGHT

The film for April 24 is Bohemian Rhapsody.

Bohemian Rhapsody is a 2018 biographical film about the British rock band Queen. It follows Freddie Mercury's life from when he joins the band in 1970 to their 1985 Live Aid performance at the former Wembley Stadium in London.

Doors open at 7. Film starts at 7.30



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Any enquiries to juliette53@btinternet.com

Swalcliffe Park Equestrian Calendar of Events

Calendar of Events - 2019

Sun 7th April	Warwickshire Hunt Pony Club Hunter Trials
Sun 14th April	Festival of the Horse Area 5 Qualifier
Sat 27th & Sun 28th April	Horse-Events One-Day Event
Mon 6th May	BRC Horse Trials Area 18 Qualifier (TBC)
Fri 2nd - Sun 4th August	BRC National Horse Trials Championships
Sat 14th & Sun 15th Sept.	Horse-Events One-Day Event (TBC)
Sun 27th October	CROWN Riding Club Hunter Trial (TBC)

SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

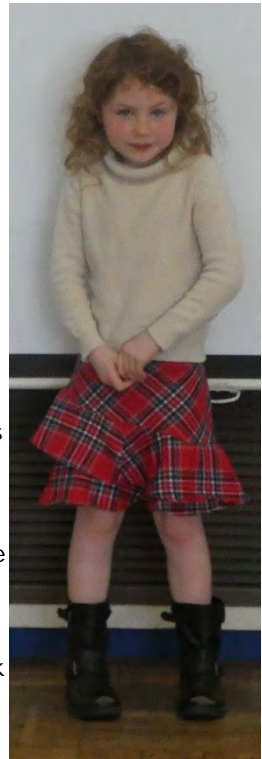
In addition to all our other exciting learning at school, we have been having a particular focus on reading in school during the last few weeks. The children joined in World Book Day with great enthusiasm and particularly enjoyed having the opportunity to spend some time reading and sharing favourite books, just for pleasure, with children from different year groups and different classes.

In the week following World Book Day, we held a 'Reading Week' in school, during which parents and carers were invited into classrooms for the first half hour of each school day to share books with their children. This is always very enjoyable; we had a good turn-out and it was lovely to be joined by a number of grandparents too.

Continuing the book theme, the topic for the children in Beech Class this half-term has been linked to the wonderful Katie Morag books, written by Mairi Hedderwick. The class role-play area has been transformed into the island Post Office on the Scottish island of Struay, complete with rocky beach and seascape. This has provided a great practical environment for all sorts of planned opportunities for the children to develop their language and maths skills through 'play' activities. These enjoyable books have also provided the stimulus for diary writing, poetry and some beautiful art work.

One of the children was even inspired to dress as Katie Morag, as a favourite book character, on World Book Day.

To see some more of the pictures from our World Book Day and to find out more about our wonderful village school, including our wraparound care offer, please visit our website at



<http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/>

Sibford School students step out for Cystic Fibrosis

Two Sibford students are walking 102 miles across three counties to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

Seventeen-year-olds Dominic Mills and Henry Burton will be setting out on Saturday 6 April to walk the Cotswold Way from Bath to Chipping Campden.

They will be walking virtually non-stop, including through the night, and hope to complete the journey in around 32 hours.

Dominic said: "The aim is to raise money for CF and also general awareness of the condition. Cystic Fibrosis affects more than 10,400 people in the UK. You are born with CF, you cannot catch it later in life, but one in 25 of us carries the faulty gene that causes it. The Cystic Fibrosis Trust is working towards a brighter future for everyone with CF by funding cutting-edge research.'

Open Events:

On Friday 29th March, toddlers and their parents are invited to come along to enjoy a Stay & Play session with the Early Years department. Come and help us plant a variety of produce in our school garden.

On Friday 3rd May, Sibford School is hosting a Whole School Open Morning. Come and discover more about what Sibford School can offer children aged from 3 to 18. For further details on any of the above call Elspeth on 01295



Henry & Dominic

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SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

Forthcoming Walks:

1 Apr; 15 Apr; 29 Apr. May 13, 27. June 10, 24. July 8, 22. August 5, 19

Leaving the village hall on foot or by car at 10.00 am sharp to do a circuit of approximately 2 hours' duration. It is therefore recommended that you get there for 9.55am. Dogs welcome provided they are put on leads when requested. Walking boots and poles recommended but not compulsory. (Some routes include stiles).

Walkers should either park on the road or on the grass field at the village hall and not on the tarmac area which is reserved for the painting class.

All welcome. Enquiries to Sue Bannister
T: 780365 or E: sebannister@gmail.com

Ian Sharp, ian@iansharp.net, Lamb's Croft, Back Lane, Sibford Ferris, OX15 5RE. Tel. 01295 780790, is now the footpaths warden and anyone who has a problem or complaint should contact him.



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SIBFORDS SOCIETY

Thank you to all who came to the 'Social' on Thursday, 21st February, and for celebrating the 'Roaring Twenties in such style. You all looked great in your wonderful outfits, and dancing to the superb 'New York Jazz Quartet' was fun. Thanks to Anne-Marie Tuckwell for her delicious buffet supper and to everyone who worked so hard to ensure that the evening was such a success.

On Thursday 18th April, military historian Stephen Barker will be giving a high quality presentation on 'The Battle of Edgehill, 1642'. The talk explains the political and military context, yet includes a significant number of personal stories, anecdotes and legacies relating.

Stephen has visited us on a couple of occasions and we can expect an excellent evening.

Our programme for 2019

18th April : Stephen Barker – 'The Battle of Edgehill'.

16th May: Gillian White – 'Queen Victoria- a Life in Portraits.'

20th June: 'A day out on the Toddington Railway'

30th July: A visit to Highclere Castle .

July : A Swift walk round the Sibfords with Chris Mason, date TBA.

19th September: Martin Sirot-Smith – 'Sulgrave Manor and the Washington Family.'

17th October: Colin Hill: 'The Barn Well Hill Railway'.

21st November: 'The Broughton Hoard'.

Hope you can join us!

Diana Hughes

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FRIENDSHIP CLUB

At the Meeting on April 2nd, we have Troy, who is well known to us all, to put us through our paces at skittles, a very competitive afternoon it will be, with a lot of laughter and barracking among the teams,
The outing on the 16th will be discussed at the earlier Meeting.

Looking forward to May 7th. It is the Clubs A.G.M.when the subs will be due.

Eveline Boughton

WELCOME TO SIBFORD

If you are new to the Sibfords and would like a 'Welcome to Sibford' booklet, providing details of village services and activities, please call Ivor Hopkyns on T: 788367 (Gower & Burdrop) or Nic Durrant T: 788865 (Ferris). And don't forget that we are lucky enough to have a really great village website too at: thesibfords.org.uk

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LOCAL NEWS

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Banbury - Every Thursday & Saturday. Farmers Market - 1st Friday of the month

Chipping Norton - Every Wednesday

Chipping Norton Farmers - 3rd Saturday of the month

Chipping Norton Country Market - 1st, 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 9-11, lower town hall, Chipping Norton.

Deddington Farmers - 4th Saturday of the month

Great Rollright - 1st Saturday of the month

North Cotswold Farmers - 1st Thursday of the month @ Stourton (6-8pm)

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HORTI SOCIETY

“Plant Selection – successes and failures” A talk with Tom Duncan

Tom warned us from the outset that he would not adhere strictly to the title of the talk and indeed he wasn't wrong. He has created the most beautiful garden from a smallish plot not far from here in Aynho so for most of us with 'normal' sized plots it was an inspiration to see how he built in structure and then colour but most importantly what he chose to take out to create the space he needed. His inspiration came from many sources but particularly from renowned gardener Helen Dillon. and her influence was clear to see.

We were treated to slides of stunningly beautiful gardens, planting combinations, what worked and what didn't and why. Tom has a unique way of seeing and using colour. He showed how to use the colour wheel to complement and harmonise planting schemes and explained things which were not obvious at all.

One of Tom's favourite plant combinations is the beautiful apricot climbing rose, Lady Hillingdon intertwined by the equally lovely clematis Perle d'Azur. Talking of apricots, did you know that Aynho is known locally as the, 'apricot' village? In times past the head gardener at Aynho House had no room in his walled garden for apricot trees. He found the perfect solution; he planted them in front of village houses with south facing walls; Tom has several and he and the villagers are treated to a bumper harvest most years.

There is no doubt that Tom is a most accomplished and serious gardener so I was delighted to hear that with all of his expertise, he sometimes does something completely mad. For example he recounted that he is sometimes totally seduced by a plant's name. One such plant was the 'must have' 'Topsy Imperial Concubine'. It turns out to be a rather lovely fragrant, repeat flowering pink tea rose. Perhaps it wasn't so mad after all...

Tom's tip for slugs and snails: When the temperature reaches above 8C put out shallow bowls of cheap beer scattered among the beds at night and in the morning collect up to 50 slugs and snails for each container.

Look out for our next speaker, Andrew Tindsley who will be delivering a talk entitled, "Almost Horticulture" at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10th April.

Andrew is a renowned landscape architect who has worked on some huge commissions. It was he who was responsible for the landscaping of Christchurch NZ post earthquake.

Véronique Tyrrell

In Your Garden - April

The world is rather a depressing place at the moment. Best thing to do is to get out into the garden. The plants (and the weeds) think it is a marvellous place to be, the birds are singing their heads off, and there is an awful lot needs doing out there. It will make you feel happier - promise.

1. The soil is warmer now, and it makes it easier to pull weeds out by hand. You can hoe annual weeds on hot days and let them, wither and die on the surface, so persevere, and never let them seed. Dandelions must always be dug right out with a trowel.
2. Keep deadheading pansies and violas to keep them vibrantly in flower.
3. Cut the lawn on a high setting, and trim the edges. Tidy up generally, and sweep and weed the paths if needed.
4. In the borders finish cutting down last years' growth right down to where the new shoots are coming through.
5. Prune forsythia and chaenomeles (that's the other sort of quince) when they have finished flowering.
6. Sage and thyme can all be trimmed back now, and so can leggy bits of mint. Lavender should only be cut back 1 inch below the base of old flowering stalks.
7. Plant out your chitted new potatoes, finish planting trees and shrubs this month, and keep them well watered.
8. Any minute now greenfly may start appearing on the new growth of roses. Squidge them out with your fingers, or spray if there are too many. And talking of squidging, I emptied out my pots of echeveria to see why they looked so grumpy, and found them full of vine weevil. So more squidging necessary. I got rid of the soil, and washed out the roots that looked O.K., then replanted in fresh soil and grit.
9. As the ground warms up you can plant beetroot, carrots, lettuce, peas and perpetual spinach. Leave runner beans, French beans, courgettes and squash until the end of April.
- 10 You can start planting summer flowering bulbs now: - lilies, gladioli, freesias, and if you brought your dahlia tubers into the greenhouse for the winter, it is time to check them in case any are rotting, and start them off again in boxes of dry-ish compost. And start planning your picking border now, for planting a bit later.

Jupe Hitching

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CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends	Sibford Gower, Sunday, 10.30 am
Roman Catholic	Brailes, Saurday, 5pm; Shipston, Sunday 9am Kineton, Sunday 11am
Baptist	Hook Norton, Sunday, 10.30 am



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHATTER

Do go into church and admire the village's Millennium Panels which Mollie Mulley and others worked so hard to create. They are now displayed on the walls of the church and loo wonderful. thanks to Sue Tompkins who masterminded this scheme and to Alan Berks and David Allen for making it happen.

On April 3rd we shall welcome Sibford Gower endowed Primary School into church for their Easter service. We are blessed to have such a lively school using the church so regularly.

Holy Trinity's APCM (the annual General Meeting) is on Saturday April 6th at 10.30am. We shall elect churchwardens, PCC members, appoint sidesmen and hear the financial and general report. You are ALL welcome to attend.

Holy Week occurs in the middle of the month. Palm Sunday Procession in Epwell at 9.45. Stations of the Cross on Monday at 7pm in Epwell. the last Lent Talk on Wednesday at 7pm. Maundy Thursday service in Sibford at 7pm. Good Friday Messy Church in the Small Hall from 10am until 12 noon. A quiet and reflective Last Hour + service in Tadmarton at 1.30pm. The Benefice Choir will lead a thoughtful service in Broughton at 6pm.

Services for April

7th	9.30am Holy Communion (Ven Keith Smalldon)
14th	9.45 Palm Sunday Procession followed by Reading the Passion and Holy Communion in Epwell (Ronald) 6pm Choral Evensong in Sibford
18th	Maundy Thursday. 7pm Holy Communion. (Liz)
19th	Good Friday. 10am -12 noon Messy Church in the Small Hall
21st	Easter Day 9.30am Family Communion. (Liz)

Ronald Hawkes

The Rectory



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Police Phone No. 101. Emergencies 999 Crimestoppers No. 0800 555111.
Trading Standards No. 0845 0510845.

April 2019 Peter Hine 01295 788830

Beware landline fraudsters.

HMRC has issued a warning about scammers targeting homes by ringing those of us (probably oldies) with landline telephones. Reports of suspicious calls from fraudsters posing as HMRC have risen fourfold over the past six months.

Criminals, posing as HMRC officials, tell victims

they are either owed a rebate or must pay an urgent bill. Of course, these low lifes are after the usual stuff - your personal and bank details.

If you receive a suspicious call to your landline purporting to be from HMRC ,just hang-up, and if you can face it, report it to the real HMRC.

Info courtesy The Daily Telegraph - March 2019.

The Swalcliffe Concerts present
Purcell's Polyphonic Party
in concert

Sat 6th April
Swalcliffe Church

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

- 6th - Pop - Up Cafe - "Oaklands" - 12 noon - 2pm
10th - Horti meeting talk - Village Hall - 7.30pm
18th - Sibfords Society talk: "The Battle of Edgehill" - Village Hall -8pm
19th - Easter Egg Trail - Village Hall - 2pm
24th - Film Night - Village Hall - 730pm
26th - Ladies Lunch - Village Hall - Noon

Stop Press!

Yes - you'll have noticed that the bus timetable is not in this edition due to lack of space, but don't worry - it will be back in May!!

APRIL BIN COLLECTIONS

Green Tuesday: 2nd; 16th; 30th
Blue/Brown Tuesday: 9th; 23rd

Unwanted clothing and shoes may be recycled anytime at the Textiles/ Recycling Bank at Sibford School Swimming Pool. Bottle banks at Sibford Ferris: Elm crossroads and Sibford Gower: Wykham Arms car park.

SIBFORD SCENE
DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE - 18th APRIL 2019

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