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# SIBFORD SCENE

NOVEMBER 1979

NUMBER 30

## BONFIRE SPECIAL

This year everyone will have a chance to enjoy November 5th at a Village Bonfire and Firework Display, organised by the Primary School P.T.A.

The festivities will begin promptly at 6.45 in the field behind the Infants school. There will be a small charge for entry, and hot dogs, coke and the like will be on sale.

The P.T.A. would like this to be a real village occasion where everyone can join in the fun and enjoy watching the fireworks in safety. No age limit, so please come along!

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## ANNUAL VILLAGE HALL QUIZ

The quiz will take place as usual in the Village Hall on Friday 16th November, starting at 7.30 sharp.

If your Society or organisation has not yet notified the Village Hall Committee of the names of your team members, please do so as soon as possible to Jeanette Long on Swalcliffe 498.

Everyone is welcome to come and support their team and we hope for a good turnout. There will be no charge, but a silver collection will be made to cover expenses, and refreshments will also be available.

## POPPY TIME

Poppy sellers will be visiting each house between the 1st and 10th November. The proceeds help those whose lives have been wrecked by war, so please keep up Sibford's record of generous giving.

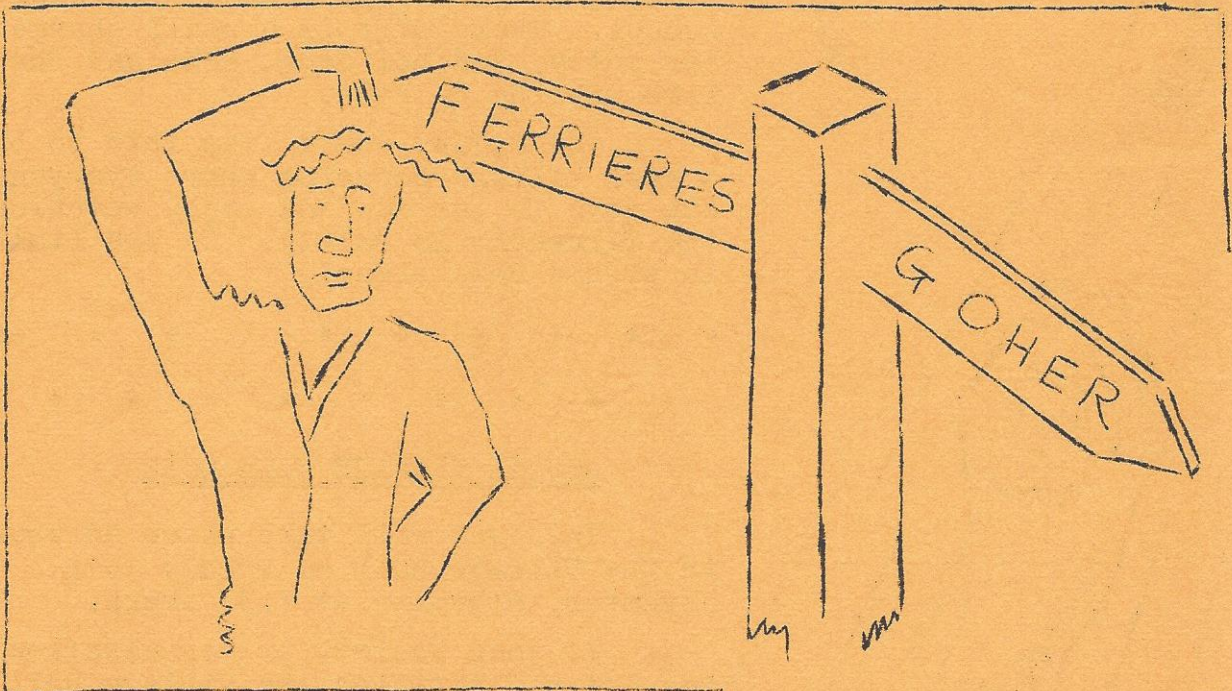


## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

What's in a name? A question often asked and one which can produce some interesting answers, especially where local signposts are concerned.

Where the place name Sibford originated is somewhat of a mystery, but one theory is that it derived from 'sheep ford', there being a ford dividing the Ferris and the Gower. In a document of 1153 the name Sibba's Ford has been detected, and for many years it was spelled 'Zibberd'.

Soon after 1066 King William rewarded gifts of land to many of his loyal knights. One of them was Henry de FERRIERERS who owned 1,000 acres at Sibford and later this became Sibford FERRIS after him. Likewise, Thomas GOHER was given land across the valley which later became known as Sibford GOWER. It is thought that Goher's name was a French interpretation of the German name Guother. It is somewhat ironic that the Sibfords, typical English villages, owe their names to the French and the Germans. Burdrop, it is thought, originated from 'Burh', meaning 'place near the manor'.



Locally Traitors Ford is believed to have been a place where criminals were tried and then hanged on nearby Gallows Hill. However, just as likely it could mean Traders Ford, being situated on the prehistoric highway. Pound Lane takes its name from the village animal pound, while Temple Hill points to lands given by one Agnes de Sibbeford to the religious sect of Knights Templars of Crusade fame. The Wykham Arms is named quite possibly after the age-old Swalcliffe family of Wykeham, and the Bishop Blaise takes its name from St Blaise, the patron saint of wool weavers.

In documents of the year 1200 there is mention of Eoppan Wyllan (Eoppa's Well) which is now quite possibly Epwell. Hook Norton is believed to have been Hocca's Hill, and Swalcliffe, 'Swallow Cliff'.

So perhaps there is more in a name than at first meets the eye.

Michael Doolan

SIBFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday November 4th at 11a.m.  
Overseas Missions Anniversary  
\* \* \* \* \*

Tuesday November 6th at 7.30

A film will be shown of  
Work Overseas

A warm welcome is given to  
everyone. An offering will be  
taken.

\* \* \* \* \*

COMING ATTRACTION

An opportunity to buy your  
Christmas Gifts

Saturday November 10th at 2.30  
in the Village Hall

The Sibford Methodists are  
holding an Autumn Bazaar to be  
opened by Dame Anne Stephens

Everyone welcome Admission free

Come Buy

Stalls Teas Games

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

'Trees' is the subject of the  
November meeting, when the  
speaker will be Mr Breed of the  
Forestry Commission.

Wednesday 14th at 8 p.m. in the  
Village Hall.

NO MEN TO SING

Although there was quite an  
encouraging response from  
ladies to the idea of  
forming a Choral Group, there  
were not enough gentlemen, so  
the group cannot start.  
Perhaps we can try again in  
the future.

Tony Rye.

SIBFORD FRIENDS SCHOOL

The play this year is to be

THE WINSLOW BOY  
by Terence Rattigan

A public performance will be  
given in the School Hall on  
Friday 23rd November at 7 p.m.  
at which all will be welcome.

Admission is free, but there  
will probably be a retiring  
collection.

LEO

The next meeting will be at  
Temple Lodge, Sibford Gower,  
on Tuesday 27th November at  
8 p.m. All ladies in search  
of an evening out are invited.

W.I.

Tuesday November 13th at 2 p.m.  
in the Village Hall,  
W.I. Drama Presents -

MATTIE

A one-act comedy

Everyone invited to this open  
meeting.

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On Tuesday 27th there will be  
an outing to Bernsteins Light  
Clothing Factory at Northampton,  
leaving Sibford at 1 p.m.  
If anyone would like a seat,  
please contact Anne Spicer,  
Swa. 690.

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SENIOR RESIDENTS PARTY

The party for senior residents of  
Sibford will take place on Dec.  
1st in the Village Hall at 4.30.  
The Committee would be glad to  
hear from anyone over 60 who has  
not received an invitation by  
Monday November 12th. Please  
contact Mrs B. Crabtree, The  
Brambles, Sibford Ferris. Swa.635.

SEE FATHER CHRISTMAS

He's going to put in a special early appearance at the Playgroup Bazaar on Saturday, 24th November in the Village Hall.

Other attractions will include Bottles, Cakes, Hand Made Goods, Christmas Paper and Cards, New and Second-hand Toys, Teas and a Creche.

A chance to do some useful Christmas shopping, thrill the children and support a very good cause all at once.

Village Hall, November 24th, 2.30.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 1979

The winners of this year's competition were -

Winners Class	Kencot
Small Village Class	Cuxham
Medium Village Class	Blewbury
Large Village Class	Shrivenham

Sibford Gower was unplaced in the Small Village Class. Some of the Judges' comments are worth noting for future competitions. "The most prominent features of the village are carefully and tastefully maintained and clearly some residents give much effort to this task. However, some inconsistency in the standard of maintenance in other parts was noted."

The Village Hall and pond were commended, and, although the churchyard was seen to be regularly mown with some attractive flower beds, some untidy corners were noticeable. It was also suggested that the area round the War Memorial could be cleared of weeds and perhaps given a border of flowers to improve its appearance.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Tuesday November 6th in the Village Hall  
Mr Wager will show slides and talk on Roman Bath.

Tuesday November 20th at the Friends School  
The Rev. Helden Campbell (Chairman of Age Concern Oxfordshire) and his Cherwell District Helper will talk about the work done by Age Concern in Oxon and elsewhere.

Wednesday 21st November  
Age Concern Council in the Masonic Hall 2-4 p.m.

Tuesday November 27th  
Shopping Outing to Northampton.  
Leave Sibford 9.20 Return approx 2.30

FOUND in the Sibford area - a crash helmet.  
Please apply to Mrs Manning, Holly Close, Sibford Gower.  
Tel 540.

## PLAYGROUP - THE NEXT GENERATION

At the A.G.M. this year came the time for the last three founder members to retire from the Committee, Joan Broady, Ruth Dowley and Chris Leyburn. The fruits of all the early work put in by these and the other founders can now be seen in Sibford's thriving and highly regarded playgroup.

It has expanded to five sessions a week, all fully subscribed, and you have only to see the children's enthusiasm, whether zooming down the slide, turning the climbing frame into a pirate ship, quietly getting on with cooking, woodwork or painting, or listening to a story to see the value of the group. And when the time comes to go to school, instead of entering a playground full of daunting strangers, there is a sea of familiar faces.

Even if your baby is barely out of its cradle, it's a good idea to register early to ensure a place when the child is ready, some time after its third birthday. The new Registration Secretary is Mrs Rae Morris, Foxglove House, The Green, Lower Brailes. Tel. Brailes 273.

The Chairman remains Mrs Jean White, and two former members have new roles. Dame Anne Stephens and Mrs Chris Leyburn return as advisors so that their wisdom and experience can still be tapped.

## CHURCH WHIST DRIVE

WHEN -	FRIDAY 2nd NOVEMBER	
WHERE -	VILLAGE HALL	If you enjoy cards and
TIME -	8 p.m.	pleasant company, why
		not join in?

## THE GARDEN IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

Kind October weather has prolonged the season for all herbaceous and shrubby plants so that there will be plenty of clearing up to do in November. Woody material in flower borders, such as asters, phlox and the like should be cut down now to a height of about 6" and the old stems burned. Weed and lightly fork over the beds. Lift Dahlias after the frost has cut the top growth back; the soft tops can go on the compost heap. Lift the clumps of tubers in a dry spell and place them upside down in a dry place in the shelter of a hedge and when they are thoroughly dry, stand them in shallow trays or boxes and store through the winter in a frost proof shed. If you label the clumps when you lift them you will be glad next year when it comes to starting them into growth again. The last leaves will soon have fallen from the trees. Don't leave them lying on lawns and paths, they are much more valuable raked up and put on the compost heap. Yellowing leaves should be removed from Brussels sprouts and cabbages, the ground between the plants weeded and trodden down firmly.

Christmas flowering bulbs should be taken from the plunge pit on December 1st and kept in a cool room covered with newspapers for several days to get them accustomed to the light before you take them into a warm room in full light.

JARDIN

