

# SIBFORD SCENE

MAY 1980

NUMBER 36

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## LUNCHEON CLUB OPENS

Mrs Jean Poulton would like to thank the people who have shown interest in the Luncheon Club. It will be starting weekly from April 29th, and each Tuesday at 12.30 in the Friends' Mission Room. The cooks will need to know numbers in advance, and meals can be booked either at the previous week's lunch or by contacting Mrs Poulton (361) or Mrs Woolgrove.

The cost will be 25p. yearly membership and 60p a meal, with a suitable reduction for children. Everyone, whatever their age, is warmly invited - a real chance for all the generations to mix. For some it will be a weekly event, but those who would like to drop in just occasionally will be equally welcome.

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## CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY SCHEME

The W.R.V.S. is appealing for hostesses to take a child into their homes for a week's holiday during the summer. These are children who would not otherwise, in most cases, have a holiday at all.

A small allowance is paid to help cover living costs. To find out more about the scheme, without any commitment, please contact your local W.R.V.S. representative, Mrs M.B. Flinn, Orchard Cottage, Sibford Gower. (Tel 209). Please make your offers by May 22nd. The children are aged between 5 and 11 years approximately, and hostesses are asked which age and sex would fit best into their family.

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## THE END OF THE TWENTIES

Unfortunately, the Roaring Twenties Evening, in aid of Village Hall funds, has had to be cancelled for lack of support. Commiserations to those who had worked so hard in preparation.

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## INSIDE THIS MONTH

The Demise of the Cricket Club; the loss of 210 pounds, a 90th birthday and an ornithological puzzle.

## CHURCH NOTES

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

As you will see from the calendar for the month on the back page, we have decided to alter the time of Sunday School to fit in better with the changes to the times of the Church services. From Sunday 11th, the Sunday School will meet at 10aam. in the Village Hall. On the Sundays when the service is in Church at the same time the children will be shepherded across the road to join with the adult Church for the latter part of the Communion Service. The reason for the change is simple: it is an important part of the child's Christian upbringing to see that he is part of the whole Church - and not that children and adults do their worshipping separately. At the service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month, we hope that parents of Sunday School children will be in Church, so that upon their return from their classes, the young Christians will sit with their families together in the Church. I do hope that in this way the life of the Church in Sibford will gain added inspiration and strength. The ages for children to come to Sunday School remain from 3 years until the teens.

### CONFIRMATION

About every two years in this parish, there is the opportunity to make a full, adult commitment to the life of the Church through Confirmation. The service this year will be in Swalcliffe on Sunday 13th July at 10 a.m. The reason I mention it so early is that there is the need for instruction before this commitment can be made. I already have some potential members for these classes, but there may be others of whom I am not aware. Please let me know as soon as possible so that we can plan these classes at times suitable to the majority. The age for Confirmation? From 12 years old, with no upper limit of course!

### ASCENSION DAY

On this day - when we commemorate the return of Jesus to his Father in heaven - the Church has always kept high festival. In Sibford, the chance to share in Worship is offered at the evening Communion service in Church at 7.30 p.m.; there will be hymns and a short address. The date - Thursday 15th May.

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12th - 17th May

Each year in this particular week we are given the chance to be generous to those parts of the world where the need is greater by far than in our own land. The needs of refugees in various parts of the world continue to assail our ears through the media: no-one can claim not to have heard some harrowing story or other within the last few weeks. Conditions seem to be deteriorating almost everywhere.

This year, in Sibford, we are concentrating on one day, Wednesday 14th May. There will be a Coffee Morning with bring-and-buy at the Rectory between 10.30 and 12 noon; and this will be followed by an austerity lunch until 2 p.m. I do hope that many of you will be able to attend for all or part of that day. For those who are unable to come for some reason, we shall be pleased to receive donations at any time in an envelope suitably marked. Please come if you possibly can, and be more generous even than in previous years.

Timothy Wimbush

### THE DEMISE OF A VILLAGE CRICKET CLUB

For 104 years Sibford has had a cricket pitch in the field behind the Village Hall. Alas, no more. We have not been favoured with permission to use the pitch for future seasons.

Many of the old Sibfordians in the village can tell of games won, lost, argued over. Captains have been criticised, praised, condemned according to results at the end season. Wives, girlfriends, and mothers have all played their part by preparing teas, scoring and seeing their men turned out in brilliant whites. They have enjoyed the opportunity to meet friends from nearby villages.

Friday night and Saturday morning have often left the household without its menfolk while they labour to prepare a good wicket for the day's match. Sibford was well known in the district for its good wicket, hospitality and surrounding views.

The original wicket was laid and drained by my great-grandfather and others in 1876 when it was farmed by a Mr Ainge. Three generations of Poultons followed in the farm and actively participated in the use of the field for sporting activities, and cricket in particular. When the farm was last sold, Mr Shaw bought the field, built himself a bungalow, but allowed the use of the field as before.

I am proud of the fact that we as a family have been associated with the cricket club since that time. With four sons of my own, all keenly interested in cricket, I am naturally disappointed that we shall no longer have a cricket pitch for their enjoyment. Several other families have long association with the cricket club and have worked hard in lean times to keep it going. It is sad to see these activities go after such a long time: we have already lost the Bowling Green, now the cricket pitch. Perhaps they will want to fill in the village pond next to be used as a car park.

F.J. Inns (Hon. Treasurer)

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### 90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

At the Gower Friends Meeting House on Sunday March 30th, after the normal service, there took place a celebratory luncheon party, presided over by and in honour of Margaret Baker, to mark her imminent 90th birthday.

Of the party she was totally unaware until, after the end of Meeting, Kenneth Francis rose and recounted some of the events of 1890. Previously, as an Elder, Margaret had 'opened' the service in characteristically clear and authoritative manner with remarkable recollections of the improved living conditions she had witnessed in the civilised world. Perhaps her most striking personal memory was being taken as a three-year-old by her parents to the U.S.A. there to reside for three years under the wing of a black Nanny whom she came to love dearly. That Nanny had been born into slavery!

Some of you may remember the four-column illustrated tribute to Margaret and Mary, her younger sister by eight years, in the Sunday Telegraph of August 5th last. Mary, who equally enjoyed the celebration luncheon, is still an outstanding artist and book illustrator, many of whose paintings are known to Sibfordians. That Telegraph article was sparked off by the fact that recently a publishing house has reissued one of their 37 already marketed books and at least one other house was 'courting' them.

Frank Rollett

### SIBFORD FOLK DANCE CLUB

This month's Saturday Dance will be led by Marshall Martin with the Quarry Turners (May 17th 8-11.30 in the Village Hall.

Regular meetings are on Tuesdays: Juniors 7.00-8.00

Seniors 8.00-10.00

New members always welcome.

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### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On Wednesday May 14th, Mr Heats will speak on 'Seed Production and the best varieties for this area'.

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### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Tuesday May 6th (Friends School)  
A Members' Meeting with contributions to the afternoon's entertainment from as many as possible. The 'Bring and Buy Parcel Game' may bring a few surprises, but isn't a raffle. Everyone gets something.

Tuesday May 20th (Friends School)  
Jean Sawyer comes to tell us of her great-grandfather's shop, started in 1856, in the village of Bynsham, later owned by her grandfather and father, and only recently closed. Jean's memories go back to the days when children could buy a farthingsworth of sweets. Visitors welcome.

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### GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Friday May 9th at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

And a reminder that the first round of judging for the Best Kept Village Competition takes place this month. The Roadmen have done a lot of clearing up this year, but banks and verges could often benefit from a little care.

### PARISH OF SIBFORD FERRIS

The Annual Meeting of the local government electors of the Parish of Sibford Ferris will be held on Wednesday 14th May at the Friends' School at 8.p.m.

Do try to keep this date free.

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### W.I.

The W.I. is holding a Coffee Morning at The Mount, Sibford Gower, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs T. Hutchinson on Wednesday May 21st, 10.15-11.45 Admission, including coffee, is 15p for adults and 5p. for children. There will be the following stalls:- Produce, jewellery, knick-knacks, cakes, cosmetics both new and good-as-new.

May sees the Annual Meeting, to be held on May 13th in the Village Hall at 2 p.m.

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### NATIONAL RED CROSS WEEK

Refugees from Afghanistan, hostages in Tehran, crowds trying to leave Cuba - scarcely a day passes that the Red Cross is not called upon to cope with another mass of suffering people.

Your chance to help comes on Thursday May 8th when Sibford Youth Club will make the house-to-house collection for the National Red Cross Week. Please give a warm welcome to the collectors and a generous donation to the Red Cross.

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### THE SIBFORD ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Tubby Woodhouse wishes to thank everyone who by their generosity and help made her Coffee Morning a happy and successful one. The sum raised was £50.07. Thank you all again.

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All creatures are imperfect animals. Man alone is the perfect beast.  
(from Tom Woodhouse's collection)

## THE GARDEN IN MAY

The drying weather in April has enabled us all to catch up with soil preparation and prepare really good beds, so we should be off to a flying start this season. There is always the risk of a frost in May, but it is worthwhile getting the runner beans sown, although a few sown in a box under glass is a good insurance to fill up any gaps later. Sprouting bróccoli, cabbage and summer and autumn cauliflower should be sown this month, while successional crops of carrots, lettuce and turnips will keep supplies going through the summer. Marrows and courgettes are best started off in pots and planted out later in the month. It is a good idea to sow two seeds in each 3" pot and remove one of the plants in the early stages of growth.

In the flower garden, annuals should all have been sown by now, but it is not too late to fill up the odd corners with colour. May is the month to plant out the summer flowering bulbs, corms and tubers, and, if you started off gladioli corms in boxes last month, now is the time to get them into the open. Plant 3"-4" d deep and put a handful of sand in the bottom of the hole. Prepare the ground for the dahlias to go out at the end of the month; they are greedy plants and will be glad to find compost awaiting them in their summer quarters. No doubt you have got the tubers set up in boxes and soon producing healthy shoots. They are very tender, so don't plant them out until all risk of frost has passed.

A reminder about daffodil, hyacinth and tulip bulbs. Those that have flowered in pots deserve to go back into the plunge pit and be kept moist until the leaves die down, then they can go into the garden at any time before the autumn. Outdoor flowering bulbs should be left to die down naturally. Don't cut their leaves off until then, for their job is the making of food for next year's flowers.

## JARDIN

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### ORNITHOLOGICAL PUZZLE CORNER

Time back, I was given an old British Bird recognition book by my good neighbour, Merton Copley.

Printed around the turn of the century, somewhat crudely illustrated, it has one unique feature which I propose to use as a basis for a puzzle corner. This feature is a list of some 1200 'local and popular' bird names, many of which are very intriguing and funny. Having sifted out over 500, I shall hope to publish a selection each month.

The names are drawn from Shetlands to Cornwall and you are invited to attach their normal ones, all of which are well enough known by, ahem!, a good bird watcher. Cheats might use a dictionary so no prizes are on offer but, just for fun, have a go, and then the next month's Scene will reveal all.

No particular pattern is to be followed, ie. woodland, sea, river, hedgerow, pasture or building habitues, migrant or resident, will be mixed up. Incidentally many of our better known species have, included, more than one local name.; in fact, one now nesting in the village has 22...he will be in a later issue.

So can you identify these? 1 Frank, 2 Jack, 3 Mavis, 4 Merle, 5 Popinjay, 6 Dishwasher, 7 Mother Carey's Chicken, 8 Tangle Picker, 9 Gaunt, 10 Market Jew Crow, 11 Loon, 12 Moorcock, 13 Ailsa Parrot, 14 Cackereen, 15 Pye Finch, 16 Meadowlark, 17 Green Plover, 18 Grey Crow, 19 Fish Hawk, 20 Spug, 21 Screech Owl, 22 Screech Hawk, 23 Meadow Drake, 24 Windhover, 25 Green Cormorant, 26 Snorter, 27 Hay Tit, 28 Blackstart, 29 Cat Gull, 30 Elk. Frank Rollett

LOST!

210 lbs in Sibford and surrounding villages. The losers would be grateful if the finders were keepers. Many thanks to all who sponsored the P.T.A. slimmers. If anyone is interested in joining a continuing slimming club, please contact Joan Broady (410) or Jean Poulton (361).

LEO CLUB

May 20th. Skittles at the Sun Inn, Hook Norton. Leave Temple Lodge 7.30 p.m. Refreshments included in cost of £1. Details from Jayne Foster or Ann Spicer.

W.I. STOP PRESS

May 19th. Outing to Whitefriars Glass, Harrow. Leave Village Hall 11.45, back by 6.30. Cost £3. Further details from Ann Spicer (690).

CALENDAR FOR MAY

CHURCH SERVICES

FRIENDS Meeting for Worship Sunday 11 a.m.  
METHODISTS Morning Service Sunday 11 a.m.  
HOLY TRINITY 4th 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion  
11th & 25th 10 a.m. Family Communion Service  
18th 6 p.m. Evensong and Holy Communion  
Sunday School 4th May 11.30, thereafter at 10 a.m.  
(in the Village Hall)

~~Saturday 3rd GRAND ROARING TWENTIES EVENING Village Hall~~

Tuesday 6th FRIENDSHIP CLUB Members Meeting Friends School  
Thursday 8th RED CROSS House-to-house collection  
Friday 9th Annual Meeting of Gower Parish Council 7.30

Tuesday 13th W.I. A.G.M. Village Hall 2 p.m.  
Wednesday 14th CHRISTIAN AID Coffee Morning and Austerity Lunch  
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY 8 p.m. Village Hall  
SIBFORD FERRIS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 8p.m. Fr. School  
Thursday 15th ASCENSION DAY Holy Communion with hymns & address  
7.30 p.m.

Saturday 17th FOLK DANCE 8-11.30 Village Hall

Monday 19th W.I. Outing to Whitefriars Glass 11.45 - 6.30  
Tuesday 20th FRIENDSHIP CLUB Jean Sawyer Friends School.  
LEO CLUB Skittles 7.30  
Wednesday 21st W.I. Coffee Morning, The Mount, Sibford Gower 10.15

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