

SIBFORD SCENE



JUNE/JULY 2016

No. 383

SIBFORD FUN DOG SHOW

Saturday 4 June, Village Hall field, 2.30 pm

EU REFERENDUM PUBLIC MEETING

Monday 6 June, Village Hall, 7.00 – 9.00 pm

THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Saturday & Sunday 11 & 12 June - see inside for full details

THE SIBFORDS' PUBLIC MEETING

Monday 20 June, Village Hall, 7 pm

RAIN OR SHINE THEATRE CO:

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Wednesday 22 June, Holly House Garden, Sibford Ferris, 6.30 pm

JUNE FILM NIGHT: JOY

Thursday 30 June, Village Hall, from 7.00 pm

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 4 July, Sibford School, 7.45 pm

JULY FILM NIGHT: BROOKLYN

Thursday 28 July, Village Hall, from 7.00 pm

LETTERS & NOTICES

Join the EU referendum debate at a Public Meeting on Monday 6 June from 7.00 – 9.00 pm at Sibford Village Hall. Key speakers: for 'Brexit', international businessman Andrew Sutcliffe, for 'Remain', former MEP John Stevens. All welcome and free entry, doors open at 6.30 pm. For further information and contact details, please see page 14.

You are all most warmly invited to a **garden party** in aid of Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 26 June from 3 pm to 4.30 pm at Sue Tompkins' home, Parsons Barn Farm bungalow, on the Sibford - Shutford road. There will be simple games and hopefully a new born foal to admire.

Bus service changes - following subsidy cuts, the 50A return bus service, operating between Banbury and Stratford upon Avon and serving the Sibfords, will operate a reduced service provided by Johnsons Coach & Bus Travel. Please see page 27 for the information currently available. Not all services originate or end in Stratford now, so please call the bus company if you are in any doubt. T: 01564 797070

Coffee morning in aid of Holy Trinity Church on Saturday 9 July from 10 am onwards at 2 Barley Close, Sibford Gower. All welcome.

The recent **Lifeboats house-to-house collection** in the Sibfords and Burdrop raised a total of £424.92, while the whole area raised £4024.00. Many thanks for the generous contributions. *Sue Colquhoun*

The fields around the Sibfords are private businesses, not parks. Please don't use them to throw balls for or train your dogs. Please stick to the footpaths, keep your dogs under close control and on leads through livestock - and please remember to close gates.

The next issue of the Sibford Scene is the August issue, deadline for which is 18 July. Contributions by email to: sibford.scene@btinternet.com

Very sadly, the **Sibford Scene is looking for a new editor**. See page 6 for further information.

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FIVE MINUTES WITH ...

THIS MONTH: Our great Vicar, Ronald Hawkes

Obvious question, but what brought you to the Sibfords?

We actually found the post advertised on the Oxford Diocesan web page, but it was a prompting from God that set us looking. A very clear message to me that my time in the previous place was coming to a close; and a word to Liz that "we would be blessed" in wherever we went next. So, we pushed at some doors, as the Archdeacon advised us to do: some remained firmly closed, but the Sibford/Wykeham Benefice door swung wide open!



Where were you and Liz prior to the Sibfords?

For 9 years before coming here I was Vicar of St Mary, Reculver, St Bartholomew, Herne Bay, and Holy Cross, Hoath. One parish but three churches on the north Kent coast, 8 miles from Canterbury, sandwiched between Whitstable and Margate. There were about 20,000 people there – lots of bungalows by the sea with retirees from London, as well as modern housing estates with upwardly mobile young families. We had a 500-pupil primary school, a small hospital, LOTS of rest and nursing homes. All very different from this part of north Oxfordshire: not a castle or a Lord in sight!

Why the Church?

Well, I never *wanted* to be a Vicar - my chosen career was to be a primary school teacher - but, as I was an organist, I ended up playing in various churches in the Warwick and Leamington Spa area where I taught for nine years, and I developed a sense of being called – a vocation – to 'do more for God'. I trained for the priesthood in Lincoln where I met Liz, also training to be a Deacon, and then served in Coventry, Bexhill on Sea, Oundle, Canterbury and Herne Bay, before arriving here.

Tell us something surprising about yourself ...

I have been paragliding twice in France! Leaping off the side of a mountain attached only to a parachute and (thankfully) someone who knows how to fly it. I watched the village of Morzine in the French Alps beneath my feet. It was truly exhilarating. But having signed up and paid, and with two young teenage sons going before me and a crowd of tourists watching the take-off, there was no chance to back out even though I was scared witless.

continues/...

FIVE MINUTES WITH ... (CONTINUED)

What's your favourite cake?

Must it be cake? Like all vicars I like all cake, but my real favourite sweet tea time treat = MINCE PIES!

Finally, what do you like most about the Sibfords?

Well, I love the stunning views; I love the picturesque houses and little streets; I love the clean air and the dark skies; most of all I love the fact that whether or not people come to church they know that I am their vicar, that I am there for them. They have welcomed me very warmly and made both of us feel valued and part of the community – so, Thank You Sibfords! (and Burdrop too).

THE BOVINE OBSERVER

by Poet Lookabout

Hello! Dogs on the prowl, lookout for the foul
Mess on the grass we cows have to eat.
It's not very nice, having that sort of spice
When we're hoping for a treat.

When grass is consumed, it should be assumed
Diseases can often be present.
Neospora is one that's not much fun,
Causes abortion which is very unpleasant.

If my friend has aborted for reasons reported,
She's no good for breeding it's plain.
The boss has to pack her off to the knacker,
She'll never be seen again.

So, how can we master this potential disaster?
The answer's in the hand of dog walkers.
So please keep clean our pastures green,
To help prevent my friends being slaughtered.

It's still sad, but not quite as bad
If the field in rotation is arable,
It's not such a sin if the mess is ploughed in.
Here ends us grazers' parable.



*Neospora caninum is a disease of dogs, cattle, sheep and many other animals. Neospora causes abortions in cattle and up to 33% of pregnancies can be affected on ONE dairy farm in a single year. Neospora doesn't spread cattle to cattle; it needs dogs to complete the cycle. **Please** pick up after your dog when you are in the fields.*

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Sibford Ferris Annual Parish Meeting held on 18 April

The meeting was attended by parish councillors Tim Huckvale (Chair), Maureen Hicks, Ginny Bennett and Adrian Lamb, the Parish Clerk, Cllr George Reynolds, Sibford School headteacher Michael Goodwin, Keith Hicks for Sibford Village Hall, Cllrs Oswyn Murray and Gil Soden for Sibford Gower Parish Council and six members of the public.

Tim Huckvale, welcomed all and gave his parish council report for the year to 31 March, mentioning the affordable housing scheme on Hook Norton Road, (to date unsuccessful); attempts to retain the Bishop Blaize as a public house for the benefit of the community; monitoring of progress in the provision of faster broadband; and the fate of the 50A bus service following the county council's decision to remove all subsidies. The report also touched on plans to put up a phone mast alongside the B4035; the community first responder group; repairs to the wooden equipment at Cotswold Close play area; and arrangements to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Other matters that arose in the year were: the possibility of registering the village shop as an Asset of Community Value; frequent fly-tipping at the bottle bank layby; annual litter pick; county council "Oxfordshire Together" scheme; new Transparency Code for councils meaning more information is available via the village website (now owned by the PC, with costs shared with Sibford Gower PC); a Freedom of Information request; Rural Community Energy Fund scheme, taken up by the two schools, church, Friends' Meeting House and Village Hall and would result in a report on energy production opportunities; and ongoing discussions with HMRC on monies deemed to be owing following the failure and non-compliance of the previous payroll provider. Cllr Huckvale thanked the Clerk and Councillors for their work; Adrian Lamb for his repairs to play area and fitness equipment; litter pickers; the two co-option candidates following the resignation of Joanne Connor; Lynn and John Woodvine for their weekly check of the Cotswold Close play area; the internal auditor, Sue Rowley; George Reynolds for his regular attendance and advice; and Sibford School for the use of the room for meetings and support. Cllr Huckvale ended his report by reflecting how fortunate residents were to live in a beautiful place, judged highly by *The Times* newspaper recently.

The Financial Report to 31 March followed, based on draft accounts. Receipts totalled £8156, including precepted amount of £6858. Payments totalled £6112. The balance carried forward was £10379, an increase of £2044 on previous year, with monies placed in reserve for contingencies, election costs (2018) and play area refurbishment.

The Wheathills report informed the meeting that the roadside hedge had mostly been laid, to be completed next year. The non-agricultural waste issue had been addressed with the tenant. The purchase of the farm had been completed and it was intended to be used for livery and access to the Wheathills field to reduce rutting along the current access. *continued/...*

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Keith Hicks gave the Village Hall report. Muriel Chandler's retirement had led to the employment of a new manager; hall users were asked to support him in his new role. Grants were being sought to fund the re-lining and insulation of the main hall, a pre-requisite for future grant applications, including renovation of toilets, car park resurfacing and replacing roof shingles on the main hall with concrete tiles.

Michael Goodwin, retiring this year, gave his last Sibford School report. He was happy to be leaving the school in good heart and in a better place than when he started, with GCSE results close to 85% A* to C, an Independent Schools Inspectorate that judged the school 'excellent', stabilised finances and refurbished premises. Mr Goodwin hoped that the village recognised efforts put in to opening the school's doors to the wider community, including shared MUGA, concerts, Café Scientifique, schools partnerships, Fielding Day Centre lunches, amongst others. Finally, he informed the meeting that his successor will be Mr Toby Spence, a fellow historian.

Cllr Bennett reported on the meeting she attended on 15 March of the Thames Valley Police Banbury Rural Neighbourhood Team, organised for parish councils instead of officers attending parish meetings. Speeding, parking and anti-social behaviour had been identified as common complaints within our villages.

Cllr Reynolds summarised big county council issues of the year which were the push to get parish councils to take on some county responsibilities, such as grass cutting and minor road repairs, and the debate over re-organising the county's administration.

No other matters were raised. The Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 8.35 pm. Full draft minutes available at: www.thesibfords.org.uk/sfpc

The **Sibford Ferris Annual Parish Council Meeting** on 16 May was held too late to report in this edition of the 'Scene, but the minutes are available at thesibfords.org.uk/sfpc-meeting-archive. The next Sibford Ferris Parish Council meeting takes place on Monday 4 July at 7.45 pm in the Sports Hall Classroom at Sibford School.

EDITOR WANTED

Because of increased work commitments, the Sibford Scene is looking for a new editor to take the publication forward from the August issue this year. If you would like to have a chat about what the job entails, please call Caroline Seely on T: 01295 780355.

Don't be put off by technology! Yes, you'll need a computer, but the rest is very straightforward. If you can use email, you can put together the Sibford Scene. Please think about helping out; it would be a huge shame if the 'Scene has to cease publication.

SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 16 May 2016 – Oswyn Murray and Peter Abbott were re-elected chairman and vice-chairman respectively. The chairman reported that future meetings would follow the proper legal procedure: there would be no interventions from the public unless authorised by the full Council, and all major items for discussion would be published on the agenda beforehand; after the meeting there would be opportunity for the public to express their views. **Public transport** – A reduced bus service will be provided from 6 June by Johnsons (*timetable on page 27*). **Miriam Tebbs land** – Clearance had been completed and planting of apple trees is imminent. **Highways** – A draft letter on the poor state of the roads prepared by a local expert would be sent to OCC. The PC is meeting with OCC about the danger to children of the dropped curb at the crossroads in the village centre, and will attempt to reconcile this with the needs of wheelchair users.

Bishop Blaize – An objection to the ACV has been dismissed by Cherwell, and it was agreed to write to Cherwell enquiring about possible breaches of Planning Law. The procedure for the public meeting (Monday 20 June, Village Hall, 7 pm) was discussed. This meeting will seek to ascertain the wishes of the villages, and explore ways forward. A successful community purchase may use the Bishop Blaize not necessarily or wholly as a pub, as long as it is “*a non-ancillary use of the Asset which will further (whether or not in the same way) the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community*”. The main questions to be addressed are: Do you wish to see the public house reopen, and in what form? What alternative or additional uses do you suggest? Should it be regarded as a Village Hub or Centre as much as a pub? The following uses have already been suggested: coffee shop, clubhouse, parcel collection service, facility for the elderly, centre for youth work, art centre, micro-brewery, bakery, hub for holiday activities such as biking, pony trekking, holiday lets. How do you wish the existing interests of village institutions (Village Hall, Fielding Centre, village shop, Wykham Arms) to be protected? Would you be willing to join a planning group to produce a Business Plan? How can such a scheme be financed, both for capital purchase and for running costs?

Millennium Field – Following the generous offer of Margaret Hobson, the Town Estate Charity has agreed to acquire the Millennium Field for the use of the community. The PC agreed to organise and pay half the cost of the maintenance of the field paths and hedgerow. **Village Green** – The PC unanimously agreed the following statement of fact: The residents of the Old Vicarage were granted a licence to plant by Oxfordshire County Council in 1994 and have had the legal right to do so ever since. Oxfordshire Highways have twice inspected the area and have found no cause to revoke the licence. The Parish Council supports their decision and will not be discussing the matter again.

The public raised a number of questions to be considered by the PC. The **next meeting** is on Monday 5 September at 8 pm in the Primary School.

NATURE NOTES

May 7 - When I woke this morning I could see a dot on the curtain which was not part of the pattern. It was actually a snail that had come in through the window during the night and settled itself halfway up the curtain. If it thought that the pattern of roses was real it must have been disappointed.

May 9 - A song thrush seemed to be singing for most of the day yesterday until 9.30 pm last night and was singing again at 4.20 this morning: more blackbirds than usual seem to be singing.

May 11 - Swifts are back. I saw two flying high over Sibford Ferris today. I have not heard a cuckoo yet but they are rare now in this area. Last year was the only summer when I did not hear one at all.

May 15 - There seem to be more butterflies around this spring. I have as yet only seen one holly blue, but good numbers of orange tips and recently speckled woods, as well as the over-wintered tortoiseshell, peacocks and brimstone.

May 16 - There is less meadow saxifrage blooming than there used to be, but it still hangs on in both graveyards in Sibford Gower, in the field on the west of Mannings Hill and probably other spots where I have not been recently.

May 16 - As it got dark I watched from the window to see how many bats were flying. There were not many to start with but then I had a quarter of an hour when there was almost one a second crossing the space I could see through the window, after which they suddenly stopped.

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Excellent references

SIBFORD FOLK

Holly Jones moved to Holywell House in Burdrop in 2007. She has four children and five grandchildren and lived previously in Deddington. An experienced and intrepid sailor – known affectionately as 'Hurricane Holly' to her friends - she tells us a little about her passion for the high seas...

When not to be found at home, I am usually on a boat sailing somewhere around the world ...

Home is the house that my husband Simon and I built for our retirement in Sibford Gower, next to the church, about 10 years ago. We were so fortunate to find such a place to build amongst all the wonderful friends and neighbours we found here. Sadly, my husband didn't live to see the house finished, but I finished it for him and as his original concept it has become a special place for me. I was determined to carry on sailing and, soon after Simon's death, I qualified as a Yachtmaster and have continued to sail as much as ever.

I was taught to sail by my father when I was very young in the waters around the islands of Malaysia and the South China Sea, and have continued all my life, taking our four children from babyhood. We sailed in wonderful places on the eastern seaboard of the USA from Bar Harbor on the Canadian border down to New York, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, the Galápagos islands.

I have done an Atlantic crossing, starting from Rome, through the straits of Gibraltar, past the Azores and on to Barbados. We encountered Hurricane Thomas on the way, which was a bit exciting, when towering waves threw hundreds of flying fish onto the deck. Contrary to romantic stories of eating them for breakfast, they are quite small and very bony; not a gourmet's delight!

continues/...



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Thursday 7.00 - 8.00 pm

Friday 9.00 - 10.00 am

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E: Juliette53@btinternet.com

SIBFORD FOLK (CONTINUED)

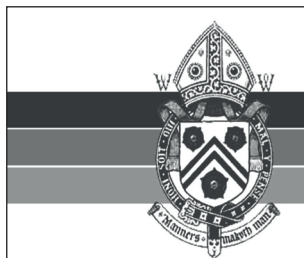
I have also crossed the Pacific Ocean, starting with a return visit to the Galapagos, on to the Marquesas islands, the coral atolls of the Tuamotus famous for black pearls, and on again to Tahiti. This time the fish was worth eating. We caught three big tuna - it doesn't come fresher than that - and it was very welcome to supplement a diet which had become rather boring, with little fresh food.

Those ocean passages in the sun were lovely, but the challenges I most enjoy are to the north, into the cold ocean above the Arctic Circle to the far north of Norway, to the Lofoten archipelago where the sun shines at midnight and there are pods of killer whales and pilot whales. You can sail to the foot of glaciers, and bare snow-topped mountains soar straight out of the sea to jagged peaks.

Last year we circumnavigated the Baltic, visiting six capitals in 6 weeks, starting in Kiel in Germany, sailing to Tallinn, Riga, then to St Petersburg. It was amazing sailing up the river Volga into the centre of the city. We stayed there for 4 days, visiting the palaces and museums, and then went on to Helsinki, Stockholm and Copenhagen. The Baltic is a very shallow sea and from having three miles of ocean beneath our keel in mid-Pacific, there was an average of 14 metres in the Baltic, which was quite scary!

This summer it's off to Shetland and later to Iceland, and perhaps in January next year when it is summer in the southern hemisphere, Patagonia and Cape Horn: I'm working on it! But always back to lovely Sibford where the house is waiting, the garden has gone mad, and there are lovely friends to catch up with.

Holly Jones



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SIBFORD HORTI SOCIETY

At our meeting on 11 May Duncan Coombs talked about climbers and wall shrubs, illustrating his talk beautifully with interesting slides and plant material. He also gave us all good ideas of how to use climbers, not only to screen but in unexpected situations such as scrambling horizontally through low growing shrubs to provide great colour combinations.

Forthcoming meetings:

Wednesday 8 June - An afternoon visit to the Coach House, Ampney Crucis. Coach leaves the Village Hall at 1.45 pm, returning around 6 pm
Cost £8 per person. If you aren't on the list, ring Judith on T: 780348.
Wednesday 12 October - Kathy Swift on "Making the garden at Morville".
Wednesday 16 November - Timothy Walker on "Two for the price of one".

With the Spring Show behind us plans are already afoot for this year's Flower Show, taking place on Saturday 27 August. Make a note in your diary now, get growing, and keep an eye out for updates and the Show schedule in the next issue of the Sibford Scene.

IN YOUR GARDEN - JUNE & JULY

What to do in your garden in June ...

Pinch out growing tips of dahlias and stake them • Spray roses at the first sign of blackspot or greenfly • Take cuttings from non-flowering shoots of pinks • Cover fruit: gooseberries, strawberries, currants etc with netting • First new potatoes are ready when they start to flower. Enjoy them with lots of butter and sea salt • Mow the lawn and trim edges regularly • In hot weather, increase ventilation in the greenhouse, and damp down the floor to help cool it • Stake tall border plants before they flop over • Keep newly planted trees and shrubs well watered in hot weather • Sow perennial seeds outdoors for next year's flowering, e.g. lupins, delphiniums, anchusa.

And July ...

Clip hedges and topiary of box and privet • Pick and enjoy your fruit, raspberries, strawberries, plums etc • Summer prune plum trees after fruit is picked and clear up any dropped, decaying fruit • Feed and water container plants, and leave them in a tray of water if you are away on holiday • Dead head roses all the time • Cut back hardy geraniums after flowering: they will come again • Watch out for red lily beetles – squash 'em! • Sow carrots, winter spinach and leeks for winter eating • Plant winter flowering crocus and colchicums • Sit down, put your sunhat on, have a mug of tea, and enjoy your garden. You deserve it.

SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

Forthcoming Walks

6 June, 20 June, 4 July, 18 July, 8 August,
22 August, 5 September

Leaving the village hall on foot or by car at 10.00 am sharp to do a circuit of approximately 2 hours' duration. Dogs welcome provided they are put on leads when requested. Walking boots and poles recommended but not compulsory. (Some routes include stiles). All welcome. Enquiries to Sue Bannister T: 780365 or E: sebannister@gmail.com

Please notify Sue, village footpaths warden, if you discover things that need repairing or cutting back on the footpaths within the Sibfords' parishes.

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GUY WOOLFENDEN

Guy Woolfenden OBE, MA (Cantab), FBSM, Hon LCM, LGSM

Composer and conductor, Guy Woolfenden OBE, has died aged 78. A resident of Sibford Ferris for more than 40 years, Guy Woolfenden was Head of Music at the Royal Shakespeare Company for 37 years, composing more than 150 scores for the company. Adrian Noble, one of the many directors with whom he worked at Stratford, said: *"Guy believed that music should be at the heart of a classical company, as it was for Shakespeare."*



Guy was born in Ipswich, the son of Kathleen and Harold ("Woofy"), who founded the Cambridge Music Shop in the early 1960s. Educated at Westminster Abbey Choir School, he sang at the wedding of HRH Princess Elizabeth to the Duke of Edinburgh in 1947. From Whitgift School, Croydon, he went on to study music at Christ's College, Cambridge and Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London.

In 1961, he joined Peter Hall's newly founded RSC and soon became Head of Music and Resident Composer, writing the scores for Peter Hall's ground-breaking productions of *The Wars of the Roses* in 1963. His musical version of *The Comedy of Errors*, written with Trevor Nunn, won the Ivor Novello and Society of West End Theatre Awards for the best British musical in 1976. Other notable productions for which he wrote the music include *Hamlet* with Kenneth Branagh, and Bill Alexander's productions of *Richard III* and *The Merchant of Venice*, with Antony Sher.

Guy had a wide-ranging career as composer, conductor and festival director outside the RSC, composing and arranging scores for several ballets and conducting many British symphony orchestras. His success with composing wind music led to commissions from all over the world. Among his many original works were *Gallimaufry*, reworked from the music he wrote for Trevor Nunn's production of the Henry IV plays for the Barbican's opening in 1982, *French Impressions*, inspired by the paintings of Seurat, *Bohemian Dances*, *Illyrian Dances* and *Divertimento for Band*, given its first performance in Killarney in 2007 by Birmingham Symphonic Winds, of whom he was Patron for 20 years. He was conductor of Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra, Liverpool Mozart Players and Birmingham Conservatoire Wind Orchestra, Chair of National Concert Band Festival and the Denne Gilkes Memorial Fund, the first Artistic Director of the Cambridge Festival and a frequent broadcaster on BBC Radio 3.

Guy composed the music and songs for the Sibford Millennium Pageant in 2000, which were recorded by Birmingham Symphonic Winds.

Jayne Allen

IN OR OUT?

Whatever your politics, come along and join in the EU Referendum debate or simply understand what it means for you. Robin Grimston and Martin Harris have kindly organised a public meeting on Monday 6 June from 7.00 – 9.00 pm at Sibford Village Hall to educate and inform those of us who still don't really understand the implications. Keynote speakers:

FOR 'Brexit', international businessman Andrew Sutcliffe
FOR 'Remain', former MEP John Stevens

All welcome, the doors open at 6.30 pm and there is no entry charge. Further details are available from either: Robin Grimston T: 01295 780125 E: robingrimston@uwclub.net or Martin Harris T: 01295 788427 E: gay.mart@virgin.net

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YOGA FOR EVERYONE

Yoga is not just for bendy people! A brand new weekly 'chair yoga' class has just started at Sibford Village Hall aimed at helping those of us who, for whatever reason, may not be quite as able-bodied as our friends.

This gentle session is delivered by yoga teacher Juliette Glazebrook, who lives in Burdrop with her antique dealer husband, Charles, twins Thomas and Cicely, and Molly the cockerpoo. Here, Juliette tells us a little about her love of yoga and her training...



I attended my first yoga class over thirty years ago in London and fell in love instantly, but it wasn't until 2001 that I began to train as a yoga teacher. I have studied with various Masters in India, Greece, Austria, London and America. I taught yoga in London for many years and then at a Breast Cancer Centre in Herefordshire before coming to the Sibfords, where I now teach four times a week at Sibford's Village Hall.

Yoga is a truly beautiful and profound practice that can benefit people of all ages. Because of our busy and sometimes stressful lifestyles, more and more people are discovering yoga as a means of relieving stress and improving overall well being. The practice of yoga poses, meditation and breathing techniques are all clinically proven methods of relieving stress. But yoga has many other positive physical and mental benefits too. Through the postures it can increase your strength, flexibility and circulation, as well as improve mental function such as memory and concentration. Breathing exercises help you learn to breathe more efficiently; meditation and relaxation exercises help release anxiety, tension and depression - and the list goes on!

I teach Hatha yoga, which comprises a series of postures to open the body so we can breathe more deeply. In turn, this helps to boost our energy, calm the mind and reduce stress. 'Chair yoga' involves safe and gentle movements that effectively tone and strengthen muscles, increase flexibility and restore vitality. The class begins with warm-ups in the chair, with a series of flowing movements to increase circulation and stretch out the body. Then there are a few gentle movements standing up using the chair for support. And finally a few more seated postures ending with a relaxation and breathing section.

Juliette's regular Hatha yoga sessions take place in the Village Hall on Tuesday and Friday mornings and Thursday evenings (see ad on page 9). The new chair yoga class is every Tuesday from 10.15 - 11 am. For further information, contact Juliette by email E: juliette53@btinternet.com

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY



The programme for 'Sibfords Celebrate' on 11 & 12 June is enclosed with this copy of the Sibford Scene. (If yours is missing, please contact your nearest member of the steering group, below).

HAVE YOU:

- Got your tickets for the Choral concert on 11 June?
- Bought your Tea ticket for the Street Party on 12 June ?
(for catering purposes we would like Tea ticket sales finalised by 1 June)
- Found something red, white and blue to wear on the Sunday afternoon?

If you are coming to the Church celebration at 2 o'clock please bring your seat with you unless it is raining and then we will be in Church.

Please leave your cars at home – **disabled car parking only** will be available in the Primary School playground next to the 'old' school in Acre Ditch. Minibus transport will be available from 1 pm from Lanes Head in the Ferris and from High Meadow in Pound Lane in Sibford Gower on Sunday 12 June. The road will be closed from the Primary School to Burdrop corner from 1 pm to 6 pm.

Concert tickets available from Rev Ronald Hawkes and members of the Steering Group. Tea tickets available from the Steering Group.

SEE YOU THERE!

Steering Group: Marianne Allen (780151), Joan Broady (780410),
Maureen & Keith Hicks (780259), Gilian Soden (780543),
Diana Thompson (780487), Clive Warner (780475).

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Sibford Fun Dog Show is on Saturday 4 June, starting at 2.30 pm (entries open from 1.30 pm). Classes include Best Young Handler, Best Puppy (3 months - 1 year), Prettiest Bitch, Most Handsome Dog, Best Veteran Dog or Bitch (over 7 years), Best Crossbreed, Best Pedigree, Most Appealing Eyes, Best Behaved, Best Condition, Best Trick and 'Musical Sit'. The schedule is on thesibfords.org.uk website. Refreshments and bar available.

Queen for the Queen - All welcome to have a go! Following the Queen's 90th birthday street party on Sunday 12 June, we are hosting a musical evening with songs from the rock band, Queen. There is planned music, but you are all encouraged to take your turn. No age restrictions - sing a solo, or with friends, unaccompanied or with your own instruments. PA system and microphones provided. To take part, please contact E: david_alleyn@outlook.com, or just come along and enjoy the atmosphere. The licensed bar will be open! Starts about 5.30 pm.

Film Nights - On Thursday 30 June we will be showing 'Joy', a semi-fictional comedy drama starring Jennifer Lawrence as Joy Mangano, a divorced mother of 3, who overcomes personal and professional challenges to become the head of a successful business empire and a self-made millionaire. On Thursday 28 July, we will show 'Brooklyn', the story of a young Irish woman's immigration to Brooklyn in the 1950s, where she quickly falls into a romance. Starring Saoirse Ronan, Jim Broadbent, and Julie Walters. Doors open 7 pm and the film starts at 7.30 pm. Drinks are available and you are welcome to bring your own wine.

Summer Rewind - Following last year's great evening we are planning a similar mix of music/BBQ and bar. Starting late afternoon on Saturday 3 September (time to be advised), join us to celebrate the summer.

Sibford Fayre takes place on 17 September. All ideas for the Fayre welcome. Please contact Ginny T: 01295 780373

Quiz Night is back - we hope to hold another exciting, fiendishly difficult quiz night in November. Watch this space.

Village Hall Bookings - Please contact Ginny Bennett on T: 01295 780373 or via [thesibfords](http://thesibfords.org.uk) website.

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/

Sibford School Open Day & Country Fair - Sibford School is expanding its annual Open Day for 2016 to include a traditional Country Fair. Visitors to the event, which takes place on Saturday 18 June, will enjoy a variety of craft and trade stalls selling items such as hand-carved kitchenware, pottery, local honeys, preserves and oils, and luxury picnic blankets. There will also be refreshment stalls, a climbing wall and bungee run.

The 2016 event will be the last Open Day for Sibford Head, Michael Goodwin, who is retiring in July after 12 years at the school.

"Open Day is always a fantastic family occasion which enables us to showcase the many talents of our wonderful pupils," said Michael. "However, this year, thanks to our parent committee, it promises to be an even bigger event. I am also delighted that my successor, Toby Spence, and his family will be joining us for the day."

Sibford Open Day and Country Fair is open to parents of prospective pupils together with parents of current pupils, friends of the school, former staff, old scholars and the community at large.



The 2016 theme is 'Explore!' and the day starts at 9.30 am with a special celebratory performance from music and drama students. Exhibitions, demonstrations and displays run from 10.30 am and there will be a talk for parents of prospective pupils and their families at 11 am. The Country Fair will run from 10.00 am to 2 pm. Further details: www.sibfordschool.co.uk.

Above: Toby Spence, who takes over as Sibford School Head in September, pictured (left) with retiring Head Michael Goodwin.

The Rain or Shine Theatre Company returns to Sibford School on Wednesday 22 June with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The outdoor production will take place in the school's Holly House Garden. Gates open at 6.30 pm for picnics. Performance starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets £13 adults, £11 concessions, £6 children and are available from T: 01295 781216.

Fun in the Country - Sibford's Fun in the Country holiday club takes place from 25 July - 19 August (weekdays only). Open to all children, activities include swimming, team games, cookery, arts and crafts, sport, outdoor play, and much more. £28 per day, to book call Elspeth Dyer on T: 01295 781203.

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SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Now that Spring has arrived, the children from Sibford Gower Primary School have been doing all sorts of exciting outdoor learning – building shelters and cooking on camp fires, studying the physics of cobwebs and making their own, planting and growing all manner of flowers and vegetables. Mr Cameron and his class have begun to build a real iron age round house with help from parents and governors. Once this is complete, we will upload the class photo journal of this engineering and building project onto the school website. You can view our website at www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk



The Governing Body of Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School welcomes interest from potential new governors committed to raising educational outcomes of children at our busy village school. Potential new governors should have a willingness to:

- Work positively with others as part of a team to provide strategic leadership and challenge to the head teacher
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of their role and of the key issues and priorities facing primary schools by attending training, reading papers, attending evening meetings (6 per year) visiting the school during teaching hours

To help us improve the effectiveness of the governing body we are looking for individuals who have experience of some of the following:

- Professional leadership or experience of Chairing Governing Bodies or committees
- Financial planning/management
- Procurement/premises management

To find out more about our Governing Body, please contact Catherine Musgrove, Clerk to the Governors, E: c.musgrove@warriner.oxon.sch.uk

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Meeting, May 10 2016 - The main business of this meeting was to discuss, debate and vote on the two 2016 Resolutions to go forward to the NFWI AGM at Brighton on 11 June. They are:

1. Appropriate care in hospitals for people with dementia
2. Avoid food waste and address food poverty

The first was voted on unanimously, but there was some uncertainty with the second, so it was decided to leave the voting at Brighton to the Sibford Group Delegate from Bloxham WI.

Val Powell, assisted by Valerie Taylor, served tea and delicious home-baked ginger and coffee sponges. After a raffle, members then judged the competition for 'Best Flowering Stem from Own Garden'. Glennis Hardman came first, with Jan Warner second and Barbara Crabtree third.

We meet again on Tuesday 14 June when Harriette Thomas will bring along her pet owl to give a talk on 'Healing and The Owl'. Visitors most welcome. 2 pm in the Village Hall.

Glennis Hardman

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Police T: 101 Emergencies T: 999
Crimestoppers T: 0800 555111
Trading Standards T: 0845 0510845

Watch out! Burglars have been targeting sheds and vehicles around the Banbury area. Don't make it easy for them: make sure your sheds and garages are locked and tools are not left in vehicles.

As always during warmer weather and half-term holidays, with visitors coming and going and many people away, follow police advice: do not buy or sell at the door, beware of bogus callers, look after your neighbours by making sure papers and post are pushed through the letter box and do not leave packages on the doorstep. Always be aware and observant at all times and don't be afraid to report anything suspicious to the Police.

Have Your Say Days - Your chance to have your say on local policing priorities in your neighbourhood, and discuss your concerns about issues in your community directly with the local police force. PCSO Claire Brennan will be at Hook Norton Primary School on Tuesday 7 June from 3.00 - 3.30 pm, and at also Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on Friday 1 July from 3.00 - 3.30 pm.



SIBFORDS SOCIETY

On 21 April, the Sibfords Society was treated to an excellent talk by Stephen Barker, a Heritage Advisor working with the Oxfordshire Museum Services and in particular Woodstock's Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Britain's newest military museum, which displays artefacts from the Ox and Bucks Light Infantry and the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars.

During 1914 -1918 the Ox and Bucks Light Infantry recruited across the two counties, and other parts of the country. There were 17 battalions in all, 12 serving abroad in France, Belgium, Salonika, Italy, India and Iraq.

Stephen gave us many facts about the Battle of the Somme bringing history alive with his anecdotes about real people, young soldiers from our part of the country.

There was Jack Coupland, who won the military medal fighting at Guillemont in 1916, was demobbed and then had to fight a further battle to receive £35 to compensate for his shattered arm. There were the five Lieberman brothers of Oxford, whose grandfather had come to England to escape Napoleon, who served as stretcher-bearers. All survived the war and celebrated a reunion as late as 1956. At Hébuter a bell was removed from the church to be used as a gas bell, and there are brass rubbings taken from it by a soldier from Aylesbury, Peter Kent.

We heard about the cow which provided the 5th Gloucesters with enough milk for their tea, and was subjected to sneaky extra milking sessions by the Bucks Battalion.

The regiment won 59 battle honours, losing 5,878 men in total. We are most grateful to Stephen for making us aware of the lives and deaths of some of these fated young men.

Look out for information on our summer outings: on **23 June** for a daytime guided walk with Mark Davies along Oxford's waterways, and an evening visit to Hook Norton Brewery on **21 July**. You can also 'phone Diana on T: 780506 or Bryan on T: 780248 for further information.

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DID YOU KNOW? ...

Formed in 1876, Sibford Cricket Club games were played in a large field opposite Holy Trinity Church in the heart of Sibford Gower, where the Village Hall and fields are now. Sibford players included many familiar family names: Inns, Lamb, Poulton, Canning, Woolgrove, Haynes and Webb. Games were played against local villages until the government introduced conscription in 1916 and cricket games lapsed until 1919 when a Married versus Singles match was introduced.

LOCAL NEWS

Shutford Festival is on Saturday 18 June from 1 pm to 10.30 pm. Live music, BBQ, beer tent, fairground rides, contests and more. See www.shutfordvillage.com

Vintage transport weekend 18 - 19 June (Father's Day) - Celebrate Father's Day weekend at Upton House with a fascinating display of pre-war vehicles and music on the terrace. Normal admission prices apply.

Katharine House Hospice (KHH) - sign up for the 10th Midnight Walk on Saturday 25 June and celebrate Katharine House Hospice's 25th Anniversary. Minimum of £25 sponsorship from each walker (£50 per family). www.khh.org.uk or T: 01295 816 484.

KHH Festival of Open Gardens - May 29 to September 11. Over 30 gardens open throughout the summer. For the full list of gardens: www.khh.org.uk/event/festival-of-open-gardens

Win £1,000 every week with the Katharine House Hospice Lottery
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GREAT TASTE

Another recipe from local cookery writer, Katriona MacGregor ...
Chicken with ricotta, lemon and basil

A vibrant summery dish, delicious served with new/salad potatoes.
(You can substitute other soft cheeses such as mascarpone or goats's cheese).

(Serves 4)

100g/3½oz ricotta cheese

2 lemons

1 onion, sliced

170ml/5½fl oz white wine

2 bay leaves

sea salt & freshly ground black pepper

4 chicken breasts (skin on)

rapeseed oil, for cooking

1 garlic clove, crushed

125ml/4fl oz chicken stock

1 tbsp double cream

small bunch of basil

Preheat the oven to 200°C/400°F/gas 6. Finely slice half of the basil leaves, leaving the rest on their stems for later. In a small bowl mix the ricotta cheese with the basil, zest of 1 lemon and a little salt & pepper.

Using a sharp knife, cut a horizontal pocket in each chicken breast, being careful not to cut all the way through. Stuff a little of the ricotta mixture into the pockets, being careful not to overfill. Heat a little oil in a large frying pan and fry the chicken breasts, skin-side down for 2–3 minutes until the skin is golden and crisp. Turn over and cook for a further minute to lightly seal and then remove to a plate.

Return the pan to the heat, add the onion and garlic and cook for about 5 minutes until softened. Pour in the white wine and stock, add the bay leaves and bring to the boil. Simmer for a few minutes to reduce the liquid to a syrupy consistency. Add the double cream, stir well and season with salt and pepper. Pour the contents of the pan into a casserole dish with the chicken on top, pushing them down into the sauce, skin-side up. Cut the remaining lemon into wedges and nestle them around the chicken along with the remaining basil. Place on the middle shelf of the oven and cook for 15–20 minutes until the chicken is cooked through and the skins are nicely brown and crisp. Test if cooked by cutting into one of the breasts to make sure the juices run clear. *NOTE: If you are avoiding cow's milk then use soft goat's or sheep's cheese for the stuffing and omit the cream from the recipe.*

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CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends	Sibford Gower, Sunday, 10.30 am
Roman Catholic Mass	Wroxton, Sunday, 9.00 am and Brailes, Sunday, 11.30 am
Baptist	Hook Norton, Sunday, 10.30 am

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHATTER

Calling all Roman Catholics - Swalcliffe Church will be hosting an RC Mass at 6 pm on **Sunday 19 June** with Fr Brian Doolan presiding. There have been joint services from time to time, but we wonder whether there has been Mass said in that church since the Reformation? You are all warmly invited to attend.

On **Sunday 26 June** from 3 pm onwards Sue Tompkins will be hosting a Garden Party at her home on the Shutford Road with funds being raised for Holy Trinity Church. And on **Saturday 9 July**, Petra and John Berry are holding a coffee morning at 2 Barley Close, Sibford Gower from 10 am onwards, all welcome.

Summer Soccer School for all primary school children - the 3rd year of this event - at Bishop Carpenter School in North Newington will be on **Wednesday 27 to Saturday 30 July**. Full details and bookings from Margaret Taylor T: 01295 730315.

Church services & events

JUNE

June 5	Open Farm Sunday - 10 am Benefice Service at Broughton Grounds Farm, North Newington	<i>John Tattersall</i>
June 11	Worcester College Chapel Choir, 6.30 pm	
June 12	Trinity 3 - 8 am BCP Communion	<i>Ronald Hawkes</i>
	2 pm Celebration Service for HM Queen	<i>Ronald Hawkes</i>
June 19	Fathers' Day - 9.30 am Family Service	<i>Liz Hawkes</i>
June 26	Trinity 5 - 9.30 am BCP Communion	<i>John Tattersall</i>

JULY

July 3	St Thomas - 10 am Benefice Service, Tadmarton	<i>Ronald Hawkes</i>
July 2	Oxford Male Voice Choir, 7.30 pm Broughton Church	
July 10	Trinity 7 - 9.30 am Holy communion	<i>John Tattersall</i>
July 10	Barnsford Singers sing BCP Choral Evensong, 6 pm Swalcliffe Church. Tea at 5.30 pm for all	
July 17	Trinity 8 - 9.30 am Holy Communion	<i>John Tattersall</i>
July 24	Trinity 9 - 9.30 am BCP Communion	<i>Ronald Hawkes</i>
July 27	Kiev Classic Accordion Duo, Broughton Church (raising money for victims of Chernobyl)	
July 31	Trinity 10. 9.30 am. Holy Communion	<i>Liz Hawkes</i>

SIBFORD BUS SERVICES

Johnsons Bus Timetable - 50A

Mondays to Saturdays

(No services on Sundays or public holidays)

From 6 June 2016, Johnsons Coach & Bus Travel will operate a reduced bus service between Banbury and Stratford upon Avon from Mondays to Saturdays. New bus journey times are shown below. **Please note that not all journeys start or end in Stratford.** If in doubt, call Johnsons on T: 01564 797070 or check website: www.johnsonskoaches.co.uk/bus-services.html

Bus 50A Banbury to Stratford-upon-Avon

BANBURY BUS STATION	1035	1240	1440	1715
Banbury Calthorpe Street	1037	1242	1442	1717
Broughton	1043	1248	1448	1723
Lower Tadmorton	1047	1252	1452	1727
Upper Tadmorton	1050	1255	1455	1730
Swalcliffe Church	1053	1258	1458	1733
Sibford Ferris School	1057	1302	1502	1737
Sibford Gower Primary School	1103	1308	1508	1743
Lower Brailes The Park	1107	1312	1512	1747
Upper Brailes The Gate	1110	1315	1515	1750
Shipston, Pettifers Garage	1119	1324	1524	1759
Tredington White Lion	1126	1331	1531	1806
Halford Inn	1130	1335	....	....
Newbold on Stour Church	....	SF	1534	1809
Aldminster Church	....	....	1537	1812
STRATFORD BRIDGE STREET	....	....	1550	1825

Bus 50A Stratford-upon-Avon to Banbury

	NS		S	
STRATFORD BRIDGE STREET	0615	0910	....	1555
Stratford Wood Street	0617	0912	....	1557
Aldminster Church	0627	0922	....	1607
Newbold on Stour Church	0630	0925	....	SF 1610
Halford Inn	....	0930	1135	1335
Tredington White Lion	0634	0934	1139	1339
Shipston, Pettifers Garage	0643	0943	1148	1348
Upper Brailes The Gate	0652	0952	1157	1357
Lower Brailes The Park	0655	0955	1200	1400
Sibford Gower Primary School	0702	1002	1207	1407
Sibford Ferris School	0705	1005	1210	1410
Swalcliffe Church	0709	1009	1214	1414
Upper Tadmorton	0712	1012	1217	1417
Lower Tadmorton	0715	1015	1220	1420
Broughton	0719	1019	1224	1424
Banbury Cross	0723	1023	1228	1428
BANBURY BUS STATION	0727	1027	1232	1432

NS - Not Saturdays. S - Saturdays. SF - Continues to or starts from Stratford as service 23

Banbury & District Dial-A-Ride

A minibus with tail-lift to take the elderly or disabled and escort to Banbury (£5 return) door-to-door service. Book at least one day in advance. Operates Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm. T: 01295 263777 for details.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

Wed	1	Village Hall Annual General Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 pm
Sat	4	Dog Show, Village Hall field, 2.30 pm
Mon	6	EU Referendum Public Meeting, Village Hall, 7 pm - 9 pm
Sat	11	Worcester College Choir, Holy Trinity Church, 6.30 pm
Sun	12	Queen's birthday celebrations & street party
Sun	12	<i>Queen for the Queen</i> , Village Hall, from 5.30 pm
Mon	20	Sibfords Gower & Ferris Public Meeting, Village Hall, 7 pm
Wed	22	Rain or Shine Theatre Company's <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , Holly House Garden, Sibford Ferris, 6.30 pm
Sat	26	Afternoon Tea in aid of Church, Parsons Farm Bungalow, 3 pm
Thur	30	Film Night: <i>Joy</i> , Village Hall, from 7 pm

JUNE & JULY BIN COLLECTIONS

Green	Wednesday 1, 15 & 29 June
Blue/Brown	Wednesday 8 & 22 June
Green	Wednesday 13 & 27 July
Blue/Brown	Wednesday 6 & 20 July

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.

JULY

Mon	4	Sibford Ferris Parish Council meeting, Sibford School, 7.45 pm
Sat	9	Coffee morning in aid of Church, 2 Barley Close, 10 am
Thur	28	Film Night: <i>Brooklyn</i> , Village Hall, from 7 pm

SIBFORD SCENE

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST ISSUE - 18 JULY 2016

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Front cover pic: *A view across Wheathills*, by Helen Skinner.