

SIBFORD SCENE

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2017

No 388

SIBFORD SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE
2nd December - Sibford School, 2pm - 530pm

SIBFORD GOWER PC MEETING
5th December - Sibford Primary School - 8pm

CAROL CONCERT
15th December - Sibford School - 630pm
CAROL SERVICE
16th December - Holy Trinity Church - 7pm
CAROL SINGING
21st December - 6pm - Barley Close/Holmby House

"MURDER MOST FOUL"
Sibford Players - Village Hall - 27th/28th January - 730pm



ED'S THOUGHTS

Well! Lots and lots of things going on.... From Carol Services to Pantos, 'Murder Most Foul' to the new Bus Service - Village life is never dull!!

A very Merry Christmas and a spendidly Happy New Year to you all!

A final thought for the year:

When life seems jolly rotten, there's something you've forgotten

And that's to laugh and smile and dance and sing!

Wise words from the Monty Python Team...



LETTERS AND NOTICES

Poppy Appeal

The total amount raised for the Poppy Appeal across both parishes, including the collection from the Holy Trinity Church Remembrance service was £1,581.05. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously and to those who so willingly gave of their time for the door to door collection.

Peter Robinson

Photographs and Pictures needed for the front cover of the Sibford Scene! If you have anything suitable, and would like them published for all to see, then please email to the Ed.

LOCAL MARKETS

Banbury - Every Thursday & Saturday

Banbury Christmas Market: 17th
December

Deddington Farmers - 17th December

Chipping Norton - Every Wednesday



FIVE MINUTES WITH.....

This month, it's double the fun with twins Cicely and Thomas Glazebrook...

What are your favourite subjects at school?

Cicely – I love drawing, especially self-portraits. I also like sport and PE

Thomas – I like PE and Football

What are your hobbies?

Cicely – Football, cricket, tennis, hockey, ice-skating, tap dancing and playing the piano (pew!)

Thomas – Football, cricket, tennis, ice-skating and water-bottle flipping! (Record so far is 12!)



What do you like about living in Sibford?

Cicely – There are lots of friendly people here and it is a very pretty village

Thomas – Having the football nets at the Village Hall, right next to our house!

What do you want to be when you're grown-up?

Cicely – I want to work on a farm

Thomas – I want to be a footballer!

What do you like about being a twin?

Cicely – We're never lonely

Thomas – I've always got someone to play with

And finally, what do you want Santa to bring?

Cicely – A cold-shoulder t-shirt and a puppy

Thomas – A pair of headphones

For Practical Garden Assistance

Please contact Nick Taylor

T: 07425 136992

E: johnnicktaylor31@gmail.com

All types of garden work undertaken



GREAT TASTE 1

Sally's Mum's Boiled Fruit Cake

This very simple recipe makes a fab Christmas cake. There's still time to make it and don't forget to feed it regularly up until Christmas! Thanks to Sally Wass for this reliable recipe passed down from her mother.

Heat oven to 140 degrees C. 8½" cake tin, greased and lined

225 g butter	85 g brown sugar (you can use any brown sugar for this recipe. Dark muscovado gives it a delicious flavour)
85 g white sugar	375 g mixed fruit
375 g sultanas & raisins	Half pot of glace cherries
¾ pint milk	1½ teaspoons bicarbonate of soda
2 large beaten eggs	350 g self-raising flour
2 teaspoons mixed spice	2 teaspoons almond essence

Slosh of brandy or sherry. Melt the butter in a large saucepan. Add the sugar, all the fruit, bicarb and ¾ pint of milk and bring to the boil. Boil slowly for 3 minutes, then remove from heat and allow to cool for a few minutes. Add the beaten eggs, flour, mixed spice and almond essence and stir all ingredients together well. Add a splash of sherry or brandy. (If the mixture seems dry, add a little more milk). Pour mixture into your prepared tin and cook for up to 4 hours, testing with a skewer after 3 hours. (Some fan ovens run hotter, so check the top doesn't start to brown. If it does, cover with a disc of baking/greaseproof paper).

Allow the cake to cool in the tin, then turn it out and wrap it tightly in greaseproof paper and foil.

Feed the cake with brandy or sherry once a week if you like.

Sally Wass

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

NOTES OF SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 14 NOVEMBER 2016
Present at the meeting were Councillors Tim Huckvale (*Chair*), Maureen Hicks (*Vice-Chair*), Ginny Bennett, Adrian Lamb and Peter Robinson, County and District Councillor George Reynolds, the Clerk and seven members of the public.

Topics covered in the meeting under **Matters Arising** were: superfast broadband; the affordable housing project; Cotswold Close play area and fitness equipment maintenance; Assets of Community Value; an update on a meeting with the Highways Steward at which were discussed: moving the 30mph sign on the Hook Norton Road, addressing the problem of overhanging trees, the need for white line re-painting and the damaged road surfaces in the village; the continuing problems caused by verge and kerbside parking; BT's intention to remove the phone box; and the Cherwell District Council consultation on the Partial Review of Local Plan Part 1 (see below). It was noted that **Correspondence** had been received from "Hands off the Horton" on national threats to NHS services. Under **Finance**, the first draft of the 2017/18 budget was agreed, with the precept remaining as for the previous year (£6858). Under **Planning**, applications for the removal of a cherry tree, the construction of an agricultural barn and the creation of letting units were discussed and comments agreed. In **Any Other Business**, it was reported that a complaint had been made about a muddy bridleway gateway and Cllr Reynolds advised that a planning application had been received for a phone mast on the north side of the B4035.

The date of the next parish council meeting is **Monday, 16 January 2017**, 7.45pm in the Sports Hall Classroom Sibford School.

Sibford Ferris Sites identified in Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review – Oxford's Unmet Housing Need

A public Options Consultation (ending 9 January 2017) is being held on proposals to meet the provision of a 5-year supply of sites to relieve housing pressure on Oxford. The consultation asks 24 questions on the strategy and the basis for the proposals, including a proposed minimum site size and the relevance of the areas selected. Two sites have been identified in Sibford Ferris: Land West of Hook Norton Road, 9.05 ha, and Land at Folly Farm, 22 ha. Cherwell District Council is also consulting on its Community Infrastructure Charging Levy (CIL) Draft Charging Schedule and Draft Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). Sibford Ferris councillors will be attending a workshop on this consultation on 12 December and will meet to finalise responses to the consultations after that date.



NATURE NOTES

Nov 5th. I am now wishing that I had looked more carefully at the unusual numbers of, what I took to be honey bees, feeding on the flowering ivy that covered a barn wall last month. I read in the newspaper that the ivy bee, which arrived on the south coast from the continent 15 years ago, has now spread to many parts of the country including places in the Cotswolds and I am wondering whether all or some of those feeding on that ivy covered barn wall could have been ivy bees. Although they look very like honey bees they are a separate species that nest in holes in earth banks and fly in September and October. They are thought to be bees that will fit in well here and not be a threat to our other insects.

Nov 8th. I am told that there are some sizable flocks of fieldfares around although I have not seen any nor have I seen any of the redwings that usually make their presence known by quarrelling with the blackbirds over our yew berries.

Nov 10th. My grand daughter saw a very big hornet today. I understand that there is an extra large type of hornet in the country but I think it is more likely to have been a queen looking for a place to hibernate. A song thrush died when it hit one of our windows today. The bang it made on hitting the window sounded like a much bigger bird and although I did not see anything I think it could well have been chased by a sparrow hawk that also hit the window but was not killed.



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Ring Julia on: 01295 780580 or
Email: Julia@arknursery.net





GREAT TASTE 2

Creamed Brussel Sprouts

This is a really indulgent recipe, perfect for Christmas Day and warming suppers on cold wintry days. It's also a really great dish for entertaining because you can prepare it completely in advance, simply popping it in the oven to finish when your guests arrive. If you like you can use leftover cooked sprouts, simply adding them to the pan once your bacon is crisp and continuing as below.

Serves 4 as a side dish

2 rashers streaky bacon

30g butter

220g Brussel Sprouts, washed and finely shredded

1 clove garlic, finely chopped

1 tbsp chopped parsley

80ml double cream

A squeeze of lemon juice

A handful of grated parmesan

Preheat the oven to 220 C.

Slice the bacon into thin strips and fry in a small pan until crisp and golden. Tip out onto kitchen paper and keep to one side.

Melt the butter in a frying pan or small saucepan and once foaming, tip in the shredded Brussel Sprouts. Cook over a moderate heat for 2 minutes, stirring frequently, before adding the garlic, parsley and some salt and pepper. Turn the heat down slightly and continue to cook for 8-10 minutes until the sprouts have wilted and softened.

Pour in the double cream and turn the heat up until the cream starts bubbling. Cook for 2-3 minutes until the cream has reduced and thickened. Stir the crispy bacon through the mixture, add a little lemon juice to taste and then tip into a small gratin dish.

Top with the grated parmesan and bake at the top of the oven for 10 minutes or until the top of the gratin is golden.

Katriona MacGregor



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

QUIZ NIGHT

Many of you will have just enjoyed the Annual Quiz, devised by Adam and Simon. Fiendishly difficult again this, the winners were the team called "The Far Corner". Well done to them and many thanks to our Quizmasters. The Village Hall raised £700, so thanks to everyone who attended, and all the committee and friends who helped on the night.

FAMILY FILM AFTERNOON

On December 17th at 4-30pm we are going to show "FINDING DORY". This 2016 Pixar animation follows Dory, an amnesiac fish who journeys to be reunited with her parents. On the way she is captured and taken to a Californian public aquarium, from where her friends Nemo and Marlin attempt to rescue her. Doors open at 4pm. Hot and cold drinks available, popcorn and mince pies. £2 for adults, £1 for schoolchildren.

HALL BOOKINGS

If you want information about booking the hall please contact Ginny on 01295 780373 or via the sibfords.org web site. I am sure that the many of you that have seen the newly refurbished large hall will agree that it looks great. We are currently choosing blinds to go on the windows. May we remind all hall users not to park on the yellow hatched part of the car park as that is for emergency vehicular access, and to check well on leaving the hall that all doors/windows are locked properly. Thank you.

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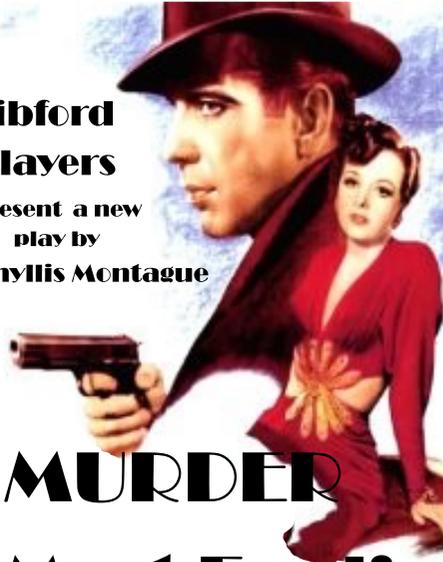


VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Sibford Players

**Present a new
play by**

Phyllis Montague



MURDER Most Foul!

January 27th and 28th 7.30pm

Sibford Village Hall

Starring:

Maggie Hall as *Lady Margaret*

Tony Skowronski as *Lord Dudley*

Caroline Harley as *Diana Lassiter*

Dave Rowley as *Stephen Sellers*

Chris Cullen as *Doctor Rex Forbes*

Paige Godman as *Doris the Maid*

Jo Connor as *Gerry Dunbar, The Director*

Rachael Herd as *Aggie Manville, Stage Manager*

Anne Spackman as *Louise Peary, Props and Sound Technician*

Ginnie Bennet as *Phyllis Montague, The Playwright*

Jo Gilkes as *Gill Mackenzie, Props and Set*

Director – Kat Davison

Assistant Director – Zosh Skowronska

Producer – Juliette Glazebrook

Set Designer – Sandra Clacey

Lighting – Keith Hicks

After the roaring success of their previous sell-out show '*Deckchairs*' the Sibford Players are back in the Village Hall with murder mystery comedy '*Murder Most Foul*'.

The all-star cast are currently in the midst of weekly rehearsals, working hard to create this hilarious take on a murder mystery. The play centres around a group of community actors and theatre makers who are rehearsing for their next big show '*Murder Most Foul*'. With a hilarious mix of comedy, thrills and romance featuring ambitious choreography by Director Kat Davison, the Sibford Players' latest production looks set to impress.

The performances will take place on **Friday 27th and Saturday 28th January at 7.30pm in Sibford Village Hall.**

Tickets are available to purchase from Juliette on 01295 788650 at £5 each. Please note the performance is not suitable for children under 12 years.

Get the date in your diary and book early to avoid disappointment!



PANTO TIME!



Recent Theatre and Performance graduate Zosh Skowronska, has wasted no time in getting involved with the local drama scene. She's splitting her time between roles as Assistant Director for the Sibford Players production of '*Murder most Foul*', working at the RSC and as Stage Manager for Cherwell Theatre Company's '*Treasure Island*' being performed in January at Banbury Town Hall. The new style panto puts the audience at the heart of the action by making the festive show immersive. This is a family friendly show with a twist - Tickets available from CTC's website.

Prices: Adults - £10. Concessions - £8. Family Ticket (2 adults, 2 child) - £32

Performances are on 6th-15th January at Banbury Town Hall



A BIG "THANKYOU"

Just over two months ago I had a car accident resulting in two broken vertebrae and a broken heel (absolutely no walking on it) and I resigned myself to a long boring recovery. Well it's certainly a long recovery but has never been boring as I was completely overwhelmed by the kindness and consideration shown to me by so very many of you. Apart from the good wishes, emails and cards, there were the many visits I had from you, bowed low under the weight of books, home made cakes, biscuits and grapes. Our beloved editor even took time off to make a wonderfully refreshing cordial - it was very hot when I was first in there, so it was a life saver. I finally came home and the kindness and generosity went on with visits and flowers and even dinner parties - fabulous! I didn't have to cook or wash up.

All of this has made me realise that there are very wonderful, kind and generous people in the world and that I am very fortunate to know you all. Thanks seem totally inadequate but I do thank each and everyone of you from the bottom of my heart. I only hope I can be as fabulous should I ever need to be.

Penny Perris

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VILLAGE PEOPLE

This month, it's the turn of Joanne Connor.....

What do you do and how did you get into it? - By day (and too often by night) I am a solicitor specialising in family law. I am a partner in a specialist family law practice in Warwick. As you can imagine the work is often stressful, fraught and I see a lot of tears. It is also very interesting work as people are fascinating and family law gives you a real insight into other people's lives. Alternatively maybe I enjoy it because I am very noseey!



I was more interested in being a photographer or Blue Peter presenter. Thanks to probably the only advice I have received from my brother, I chose subjects for A level which I really enjoyed and discovered a love of learning. It still came as a surprise to pass my A levels and as a result I had to find a place at University.

I thought I had been accepted at Cardiff University to study sociology, however, on my first day I discovered I was on the Law and sociology course. I was told if I didn't like the law I could drop it after the first year. As it happens I loved the law and have not looked back since. My existence and presence in Sibford is therefore a result of an admin error!

I have been very fortunate in my work as a solicitor. I was trained by a lawyer who himself had been trained by the solicitor who dealt with the abdication of Edward VIII. He was a fascinating man who gave me wonderful advice (and stories). I have also had a case go all the way to the House of Lords (as it was then).

These days I am not just a solicitor; I am also an "Enemy of the People" – sorry I mean a Judge. I spend one or two days a week sitting in a judicial capacity (dealing with medical and disability issues, immigration and deprivation of liberty). I love this work but it can be very stressful and busy. I think it is doing such serious work in the day that makes me always look for the brighter side of life and have fun!

How long have you lived in Sibford? -We (that's Steve and me) moved to Sibford from Reading in 2002; some 14 years ago. We loved the village with its pubs and shop. Steve also made very good use of the bus route in the earlier years as he was still learning to drive. Since being in Sibford, we have had our son William who is now at Sibford School. I have also done a stint on the Ferris Parich Council, including Chair for a couple of years.

I believe we now qualify as full members of the village as we now have a black Labrador!



VILLAGE PEOPLE (CONT'D)

Hobbies - It is hard to find time to fit in hobbies. I do love being part of the drama group in the village. We are Reading football club fans and sometimes make the trip to the stadium of dreams in Reading. I am though most likely to be found on the side of a sports field with William at the weekends.

Surprising things about yourself - I enjoy dancing. I was a tap dancer in my youth and even passed exams to be a dance teacher. I have recently tried jive dancing which was amazing.

I am also pretty good at making birthday cakes which have included Lego cakes, disco ball and star wars!

I am also obsessed with Disney and if I had my way I would holiday and Disneyworld every year.

What really gets you going? - I do not like injustice and unfairness! I can easily get on my soapbox when I want, or need, to.

What I do like is having fun. My working life is mostly full of misery and tears. It reminds me every day how fortunate I am and how wonderful my life is. It makes me want to make the most of life and above all to laugh (a lot).

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Excellent references



SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

Forthcoming Walks

5 December

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

THINKING AHEAD...

For a unique and hand-crafted gift, why not give a personalised chopping board, cheese board or serving platter this Christmas? Log on and have a look at the gallery for ideas, then e-mail me.

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Wednesdays 1 - 3 pm

Spelsbury Memorial Hall

Fridays 9.30 - 11.30 am

Holly Tree, Deddington

To register your interest or find out more, please contact

T: 01608 730401 or E: jgw4art@gmail.com



Local artist's Success in Major National Art Exhibition

Work by Nigel Fletcher has again been selected from over 1,700 entries to appear alongside paintings by some of Britain's leading figurative artists in this year's Annual Exhibition of the Royal Institute of Oil Painters (ROI).

The ROI is the only national art society devoted exclusively to oil painting. Their annual exhibition gives visitors the opportunity to see the many and varied ways in which artists use oil paint today, from a traditional approach to this highly technical media through to more innovative uses of material, style and content.

The Institute's Annual Exhibition will be on display at Mall Galleries, London from 30 November to 11 December 2016

Founded in 1882, the Royal Institute of Oil Painters chooses the very best submissions in oil-based media from national and international submissions. Offering valuable prizes such as The Phyllis Roberts Award and The Winsor & Newton Young Artist Awards, the ROI continues to lay the foundations for future generations to enjoy and achieve artistic expression with this most adaptable and durable medium.

For more information and images contact:
Liberty Rowley, Marketing & Press Officer
020 7930 6844
press@mallgalleries.com



CHRISTMAS

Art Studio Sale

PAINTINGS, PRINTS, CARDS

2 - 12 Dec. 10 to 5pm

Swalcliffe Village Hall

www.nigelfletcher.co.uk

On 17th November Oxford historian, Julie Ann Godson, came to Sibford to tell us the true story of a fairy-tale romance between an aristocrat and a fisher girl. The story begins at Northmoor, an Oxfordshire village, Julie's home since 2010. Lord William Ashbrook, a member of the Anglo-Irish Flower family, studying (not very hard) at Oxford University encountered Betty Ridge whilst on a Thames fishing expedition. William was captivated at first sight by the 17-year-old, who was working at her father's licensed premises. This led to their marriage in 1766, tragically cut short by William's death at the age of 36. The book traces the untold story of Betty's struggle as a young widow to protect her children's interests in the troubled climate of 18th Century Ireland. Betty's granddaughter became Duchess of Marlborough and Chatelaine of Blenheim Palace. Julie, sceptical at first about the story, completed 3 years of research before writing her masterful book. It is an entrancing tale and one which would have remained a myth had Julie not pursued her investigations with a passion which is still obvious when she talks about it.

Petina's Waxing

Treatments at my home in
Sibford Gower
- 10% off first treatment -
For more details, contact Petina
T: 07801 689997

YOGA

Sibford Village Hall

Starting Tuesday September 6th

Tuesday 9.00 - 10.00am

Friday 9.00 - 10.00am

Chair Yoga Tuesdays 10.15 - 11.00am

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Juliette53@btinternet.com.

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CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Buy your tickets for our annual Christmas Raffle from one of our shops or pick them up from the Hospice. Prizes include a state of the art Xbox games console (perfect for that young member of the family this Christmas), a giant 4.5l bottle of Bell's Whisky (perfect for the older members of the family this Christmas!), a beautiful handcrafted applique quilt, and many more fantastic prizes! £1 per ticket. Draw takes place 19 December.

CALLING ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES: CAN YOU DONATE SOME FERRERO ROCHER?

Are you a local business looking to help a local charity this Christmas? Every year our supporters knit Christmas novelties which contain a Ferrero Rocher chocolate and are sold all over the community. It's a great way of raising funds for us; every novelty sold could pay for a cup of tea and some biscuits for a day hospice patient at Katharine House. If you can help us by donating some Ferrero Rocher to fill our Christmas novelties this year, please call our Fundraising Team on 01295 816 484. Thank you!

DO YOU KNOW SEO?

Do you have experience optimising website content for search engines? Can you help us fine tune our content to make it easier for people in our community to find what they're looking for? If you can spare a few hours to help us provide a better online service to people facing life-limiting illnesses, please get in touch with Chris on 01295 816 484, or email chris.higgins@khh.org.uk

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

Can you spare a morning each week to collect and deliver our collecting tins and posters in the local area? Terry, our current volunteer has been helping us for a number of years and has retired at the end of November. We'd love to hear from you if you can help us, please call Wendy in the Fundraising Office on 01295 816 484.

RADIOHEAD DRUMMER HANDS OVER CHARITY CHEQUE

The day after it was announced that Radiohead would headline the 2017 Glastonbury Festival, the band's drummer, Phil Selway, visited Sibford School hand over a cheque for £8,632 to the charity SeeSaw, which provides grief support for children and young people in Oxfordshire.

The money was raised at a special auction held by the school's parent association as part of their annual summer ball. One of the top fund-raising lots was a unique autographed copy of a special deluxe vinyl edition of Radiohead's latest album, A Moon Shaped Pool, and Phil took time out to personally deliver the album and present the cheque to SeeSaw on the school's behalf.

Dr Helen Mackinnon, Director of SeeSaw, said: "We are absolutely thrilled to receive such generous support from Sibford School. As a charity we rely almost entirely on donations and a large amount like this will enable us to fund many things including memory boxes, family days out and training for our volunteers. It will also support our 'preparing for Christmas day' ... where we help families face-up to their first Christmas without a loved one."

Pictured: Phil Selway and Dr Helen Mackinnon.

Carol Concert

Sibford's annual Carol Concert will take place in the main school hall at on Thursday 15 December. Join us at 6.30pm for Christmas Punch (non-alcoholic) and mince pies. The concert will start at 7pm. All welcome.

Arts Hub

If you're looking to take up a new hobby in 2017 then Sibford's Art Hub could be just the thing for you. The school runs adult evening classes in painting, sketching and life drawing (Mondays), pottery (Tuesdays) and Textiles (Thursdays). To register for January 2017 or find out more visit the school website (www.sibfordschool.co.uk/community/classes-clubs) or call Ali on 01295 781216.

FOR SALE

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Sibford School Christmas Fayre Friday 2 December 2016

Celebrate the start of the Christmas season in style by visiting Sibford School's annual festive fayre.

Organised by parents of pupils at the school, the fayre will feature a host of art, craft, and food stalls offering goodies including hand-finished cushions, ceramics, kitchen gadgets, chopping boards, lunch boxes, cards, decorations, hair slides, jewellery and clothing. For the younger visitors there will be pocket money toys, games and, of course, the chance to visit Santa. You will also be able to place orders for real Christmas trees.

The Sibford School Christmas Fayre takes place at Sibford School, Sibford Ferris, Banbury OX15 5QL between 2pm and 5.30pm on Friday 2 December. Entrance is £2 including a free hot drink and a mince pie. All welcome.



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see www.hillcrestsibford.co.uk for details

This half term started at its usual pace at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School.

Our Year 5 & 6 pupils spent an amazing week at Conover Hall in Shropshire taking part in all sorts of activities from abseiling to archery and zip wire to zorbing! (see the photo).

Back at school, we spent a lovely time with children from all the classes coming together to take part in activities linked to the theme of 'Colours'. The week proved to be very creative, with children from Years 3 & 4 working collaboratively to make giant crayon models and a beautiful colour-mix mobile for the KS2 library. Our youngest children created splendid multi-coloured Elmer collages on canvas and our Year 1 & 2 children explored primary, secondary and tertiary colours, creating colour wheels and their own art works in the style of Mondrian and Rothko.

The classes joined forces to create some amazing outdoor artworks using things they found in the natural environment which showed all the colours of Autumn. It was a chilly way to spend the day, but great fun and the jugs of hot chocolate helped to keep everybody warm.

All this, against the backdrop of an amazing Firework Display organised by our formidable PTA, has made the Autumn a very exciting time at Sibford Gower.

With winter fast approaching, we have many more things to look forward to, including carols at Tadmarton Church, the KS1 nativity play, the PTA Christmas Fair at the Village Hall and Christmas parties in school, as well as lots more exciting learning in lessons .



The Governing Body of Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School would welcome interest from any potential new governors committed to raising educational outcomes of all 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**

If you would like to find out more about our Governing Body please contact Catherine Musgrove, the Clerk to the Governors, c.musgrove@warriner.oxon.sch.uk

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SIBFORD HORTI SOCIETY

For our last meeting of the year, the perennial favourite, Tim Walker, came to talk about plants that he considered gave value to the garden by having more than one attribute. Whether it was flowers followed by fruits or stunning autumn colour or just scent and form. There were pictures to illustrate everything and as ever, he was entertaining and informative. A most enjoyable evening followed by mulled wine and nibbles.

Many thanks to the committee in providing the treats.

The next meeting will be in March when Clive Nichols, the renowned garden photographer, will be coming to talk to us.

Sibford Horticultural Society May Show 2017.

If you are looking for something to do over the Winter months, how about trying one or more of the handicraft and photography sections.

Section C – Handicraft

1. A piece of pottery
2. " Something new from something old" (include photo of the original item)
3. A hand knitted article.
4. An item of cross stitch.
5. A piece of metal or woodwork.
6. A greetings card – made from any medium excluding computer generated.
7. A bookmark – any medium.
8. A handicraft exhibit.
9. A handicraft exhibit – age 16 and under.

Section D – Photography

1. Street or market.
2. Tree(s).
3. Doorway(s) and entrance(s).
4. Texture.
5. Seascape.
6. Animal antics.
7. Garden flower(s).
8. Autumn colour.
9. 4 related views – mounted on one sheet and named.
10. A black and white photo – any size.
11. An enlargement – any subject (max. size A4, black and white or colour).
12. A painting or drawing.
13. A painting or drawing, age 16 or under.



IN YOUR GARDEN - DECEMBER

1. December is the quietish time for a gardener, so make the most of it. Sit down by the fire and read the seed catalogues, and dream of a perfect garden next year. And when you've done that...
2. Check the ties on standard roses, or newly planted trees.
3. You can start to prune apples, pears and vines.
4. Reduce watering house plants.
5. Outdoor taps and hoses need wrapping up. They leak or break if severe frosts get 'em.
6. Still time to lift and divide herbaceous plants - but not when its frosty.
7. Borderline tender plants that may not withstand a heavy frost will survive better if you cover them with a thick mulch of leafmould and compost.
8. Tidy up weeds and fallen leaves from flowerbeds, as they harbour slugs and snails.
9. Plant bare-root roses.
10. Feed the birds every day, seeds, bread crusts, fat balls, etc., and thaw out frozen bird baths - they need food and water every day, and most of the berries have been eaten already.

Hints for your partner - we gardeners love to have new gloves, new snips, interesting fragrant plants in pots (gardenias, jasmine, hyacinths etc all gratefully received.) Crunchie bars to hide in our apron pockets. Hip flasks. Hand cream, I could go on.....



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FRIENDSHIP CLUB

During Dec. the Friendship Club consider it "PARTY TIME" So Dec. 6th we are off to Wychwood Golf Club for Christmas Lunch and we Thank them having us again.

On Dec 20th we have our Christmas Tea in the Village Hall from 2-4- The Club does not meet in Jan so our 1st meeting in 2017 is on Tuesday Feb. 7th in the Village Hall.

The Committee wish all Members A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

All Club Members wish the readers of the Scene the Compliments of the Season..

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CHRISTMAS AT UPTON HOUSE

With Christmas fast approaching here at Upton we are busy preparing for another (and final) Christmas on the Home Front!

From the end of November the house will be decorated with beautiful foliage from our own gardens, real vintage Christmas decorations and Christmas decorations made for us by our wonderful volunteers and visitors, in make do and mend fashion.

Visitors over the Christmas season will find out about how people created delicious Christmas food whilst rationing was continuing: mock goose anyone? And watch your teeth on the "chocolate" Yule Log! (may contain actual splinters).

How about coming to join us for one of our fantastic events this season?

Blackout Tours, 9 & 10 December, 16 & 17 December 5pm & 6pm.

Experience the atmosphere of an exclusive evening tour after dark, includes mulled wine and fruitcake. £12 adult £6 child, pre-booking essential.

Victory Christmas Fayre, 3 & 4 December 11-4pm – Normal admission prices apply.

Family Feast for Christmas Cooking Demonstration, 8 December 10-2 - £20 per person, pre-booking essential.

1940s Christmas Curiosity Trail, 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 & 19 December 12-3pm – Bring the family along for some vintage festive fun, solve our clues and claim your prize! £3.50 per trail, and normal property admission prices apply.

General Labouring (help with
painting, decorating, garden
maintenance etc.)

Reasonable hourly/daily rates.

Contact Barry Edwards

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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

December 2016

We have very recently had door to door salesmen around. Please follow Police advice and help make the Sibfords and Burdrop unattractive to unwanted callers. At Neighbourhood Watch conferences we have been advised to ask you not to buy or sell at the door. The goods are frequently overpriced and poor quality. The sellers are normally run by gang-masters who house them, pay them very little and bus them around the villages. Some gather information about the residents to pass on to others, sometimes other criminal gangs follow and crime frequently follows. They should have a peddlers licence, beware sometimes the apparent licence is false.

I understand a number of people have recently experienced computer scams. This for different reasons can happen to anyone and can prove very expensive and distressing. Please remain very aware and report the crime to the Police. Computer scams are on the increase.

As many residents are now computer literate, I have approached Mr. Tim Huckvale about the Sibfords website and he has kindly agreed to organise this for us but please give him time. <http://thesibfords.org.uk/nw> should take you straight there.

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SIBFORD BUS SERVICE

Since I have taken over the reins, there has been confusion over the bus service. With the help of Mike H-Tarr, I am now giving you all a guide to the service.

1. The new bus route is the Number 3 (Ignore number 3W)
2. All buses cover the whole journey from Banbury to Stratford Town Centre
3. There is no route variation between Shipston and Banbury, but some reduction in timing points. Eg: Broughton and Sibford Gower - If Sibford Gower people allow a couple of minutes on/off the Ferris times, you won't be far wrong
4. Visiting Stratford for shopping, etc. is now possible again. Indeed, a round trip from our villages to Stratford using Johnson's other Banbury-Stratford services is possible
5. WARNING NOTICE - Regretfully, a load of timetable leaflets have been handed out which OMIT the last bus from SOA (17.22) to Banbury Bus Station
6. Oddly, the single fares have increased, but return fares have been reduced!
7. If you are in Banbury or Stratford, only the number 3 buses go via the Sibfords
8. Any problems you encounter with the new timetable should be directed to Johnsons themselves on 01564 797070

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SIBFORD BUS SERVICE?

Johnsons Bus Timetable - 3

Mondays to Saturdays (No services on Sundays or public holidays)

Johnsons Coach & Bus Travel now operate a reduced bus service between Banbury and Stratford upon Avon from Mondays to Saturdays. 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 the website: www.johnsonskoaches.co.uk/bus-services.html

Bus 3 Banbury & Shipston to Stratford Park & Ride

	S
BANBURY BUS STATION	1052 1252 1422 1722
Lower Tadmarton	1104 1304 1434 1734
Sibford Ferris School	1114 1314 1444 1744
Whichford Bus Shelter	1107
Lower Brailes, The Park	1126 1356 1456 1756
Shipston, Pettiphers Garage	1136 1337 1506 1806
Ilmington, Red Lion	1147 1347 1527 ...
Lower Quinton, The Orchard	1157 1357 1537 ...
Meon Vale	1202 1402 1542 ...
Clifford Chambers, New Inn	1210 1410 1550 ...
STRATFORD BRIDGE STREET	1221 1421 1558 1830

Bus 3 Stratford Park & Ride to Banbury & Shipston

STRATFORD BRIDGE STREET	0615 0824 1030 1230 1530
Clifford Chambers, New Inn	... 0832 1038 1238 1538
Meon Vale	... 0843 1049 1249 1549
Lower Quinton, The Orchard	... 0847 1053 1253 1553
Ilmington, Red Lion	... 0857 1103 1303 1603
Shipston, Pettiphers Garage	0640 0913 1113 1313 1613
Lower Brailes, The Park	0650 0923 1123 1323 ...
Sibford Ferris School	0702 0935 1135 1335 1635
Lower Tadmarton	0712 0945 1145 1345 1645
BANBURY BUS STATION	0725 1000 1200 1400 1700

S - Saturdays

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Operates Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm. T: 01295 263777 for details.

Also takes bookings for group outings. T: 01295 257715.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 2nd Sibford School Christmas Fayre. 2pm ~ 5.30pm. Entrance £2 including a free hot drink and a mince pie
- 5th Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting - Staff Room, Primary School. 8pm
- 15th Carol Concert - Sibford School - 6.30pm
- 16th Carol Service - Holy Trinity Church - 7pm
- 17th Family Film Night - Village Hall - 2pm
- 21st Carol Singing - Barley Close and Holmby House - 6pm

JANUARY

27/28th "Murder Most Foul" - The Sibford Players ; Village Hall - 5pm

DECEMBER BIN COLLECTIONS

Green Wednesday: 14th; 28th.
Blue/Brown Wednesday: 7th; 21st.

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 **DECEMBER/JANUARY** ISSUE - 18 NOVEMBER 2016

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