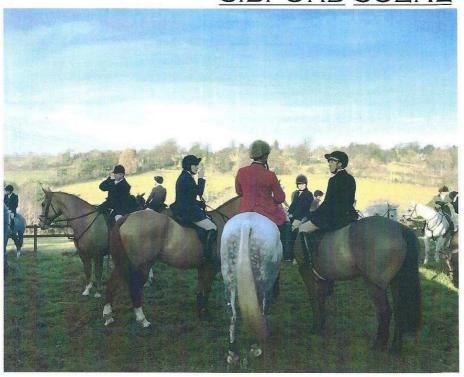
SIBFORD SCENE



FEBRUARY 2017

No 389

MILLENNIUM FIELD DRINKS AND NIBBLES PARTY

5TH FEBRUARY. 12 NOON, VILLAGE HALL

SIBFORDS SOCIETY 'ELIZABETHAN FEAST' 16TH FEBRUARY. 730PM, VILLAGE HALL

"THE BICYCLE THIEVES"

FILM NIGHT - 22ND FEBRUARY. 730PM. VILLAGE HALL

CURRY AND QUIZ NIGHT

25ND FEBRUARY. 7PM. VILLAGE HALL



ED'S THOUGHTS

Another Bumper Issue!

Due to more adverts and lots more news, we have added another 4 pages. Does this mean that the Scene is growing?

Feedback always welcome at Jasmine - so if you have any, please email the Ed at the usual address.....

Thought for the month:

24

"Don't look back, you can never look back...."

Don Henley

LETTERS AND NOTICES

Millennium Field closure

In order to retain "permissive path" status on the paths around the Millennium Field it will be closed for 24 hours only on **Friday 10 February.** The closure will not affect the use of the public path.

Peter Morgan, Secretary, Town Estate Charity

HOME LIBRARY SERVICE

Are you unable to get to a library? Then you can apply for the Home Library Service.

The service is offered to people of any age that are housebound and can't get to the library due to disability, illness or full time caring responsibilities. This includes people who might need the service on a short term basis following debilitating illness or hospitalisation.

Through the help of volunteers we bring our library service to you at home. To register for this service or for further information, call the Home Library Service on 01865 810240.

Petra Berry

A Drinks and Nibbles Bring & Share Party will be held in The Sibford Village Hall on Sunday 5th February 2017 at 12.00 noon to say "Goodbye and Thank you" to Margaret Hobson who with Paul, has been so generous to the village over many years allowing everyone to enjoy the facilities of the Millennium Field which they made so beautiful and which they have allowed future ownership to Town Estate Charity for the use of all in the villages for ever.

All are invited and please bring drinks and small nibbles, enough for yourselves and at least one other

Norman and Mary Nash

LETTERS AND NOTICES

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES - SIBFORD FERRIS SPRING CLEAN - 11 MARCH

All volunteers for the Ferris Spring Clean on Saturday, 11 March will be warmly welcomed. This opportunity to litter pick around the village really does make a difference. Please look out for further details in the March edition of the Scene.

NOTICE RE ONE-DAY CLOSURE OF COTSWOLD CLOSE PLAY AREA FOR MAINTENANCE IN FEBRUARY

Please note that the play area in Cotswold Close will be closed for one day during February in order to clean the woodwork. Advance notice of the closure will be posted on the gate of the play area. For any queries, please contact the parish clerk on 788557. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Sibfords Website

1

To keep in touch with village happenings between editions of the Scene, visit the village website at http://thesibfords.org.uk . To be sure not to miss anything, such as local planning applications that may affect you, sign up for the website email alerts at http://thesibfords.org.uk/nf; you will then be informed by daily email of anything new on the website. *Tim Huckvale*

CURRY AND QUIZ NIGHT

Hello, my name is Charlie Skinner, I am 14 and I have been living in Sibford since I was 2. This summer, I will be going to Borneo for a month for what should be a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

On a trip organised through The Warriner School with Camps International, I will be staying in local communities on the north of the island, helping with small-scale projects, such as building village halls or water storage facilities, as well as helping village children to learn English. We will also be helping re-plant the rainforest and looking after orphaned orangutans. The last part of the stay is a 4-day trek through the jungle.

In order to help me raise money for the trip, I will be holding a Curry and Quiz night from 7pm till 10pm on Saturday 25 February (Lydia stole my idea!). The entry fee will be £8 with a pay bar. Please get in touch with me for a ticket on charliejsborneo473@gmail.com or 780495. Teams of up to 8, families are welcome, if you are in a small team, why not join with another small team (more chance of winning!)?

Thank you for your support

Charlie Skinner

SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 5th December 2016

The Meeting took place in Sibford Gower Primary School with six local residents in attendance. **Chairman's Report**: <u>Winter Grit</u> - Grit for use in refilling the parish grit bins is currently situated on Wheathills land next to the stables This is to be moved to that part of Wheathills at the top end adjacent to Acre Ditch. <u>BT telephone kiosk</u>: - The removal of the public telephone in Main Street has been advertised on the Sibfords website, and no objections have been received by the Parish Council. The Council therefore agreed to consent to the removal. **Financial Matters:** The Annual Financial Return for the year ended 31st March 2016 had been submitted to the External Auditor BDO LLP and the audit had been completed.

Planning Matters: Since the previous Meeting, thirteen planning applications had been considered and ten descisions received from Cherwell District Council. Details are shown on the Parish Council website. Highways: The matter of the Kerb at the corner of Main Street/Pound Lane remains ongoing and further information with regard to the cost is awaited from Oxfordshire Highways. The Clerk was instructed to contact them in this regard. Footpaths: Cllr Bannister gave a report with regard to local footpaths including the information that the verge at Burdrop corner is to be cut back. Miriam Tebbs' Land: From a grant received from the Charity TOE2, the undergrowth has been cut back and the hedges laid; and seven heritage apple trees have been planted. The Clerk was instructed to write a letter of thanks to TOE2. The electricity board has been requested to cut down a tree so that further work may be carried out.

Town Estate Charity – Nomination of Trustees: It was agreed to advertise a vacancy among the Trustees nominated by the Parish Council; the exact terms of the notice would be decided between the Chairman of the PC and the Secretary of the Trust, and it will be posted in an issue of the Sibford Scene and on the Sibfords website. Millennium Field: Following purchase by The Town Estate Charity, grass and hedge cutting, financed by the Parish Council, has been arranged and a dog bin is to be installed. Thanks were expressed to The Town Estate Charity for its acquisition of the land which will be much valued by local residents. Parking: Kerbside car parking in the Primary School area, at the entrance to Bonds End Lane and Main Street, and on the blind corner just past the church is causing particular problems. It was agreed to place a notice in the Sibford Scene and website asking residents to park considerately.

SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Continued

Public Participation following the formal closure of the Parish Coumcil Meeting

Only one subject was raised and it was, as in previous Public Participations, that the land in front of The Old Rectory should be made available for the parking of cars. As previously, the Chairman repeated that this would involve the County Council withdrawing the Right to Plant granted to a resident, which it is not prepared to do.

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place in the Staff Room of the Primary School on 20th February 2017 starting at 8pm.

Parking in Sibford Gower

The Parish Council asks all residents to park considerately, and ensure their workmen and guests do so too. There are three particular problem areas:

On Main Street at the corner to Bonds End Lane Outside the primary school on the Keep Clear signs At the blind corner just past the church.

Please ensure that there is room for ambulances, buses, milk lorries and tractors at all times.



Children's Day Nursery Epwell

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- Full and part time places available
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- Ofsted rating: Outstanding
- Competitive rates
- Early years grant registered

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

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Extraordinary Meeting of 5 January 2017 to discuss responses to the CDC Local Plan Part 1 Partial Review to address Oxford's unmet housing need.

Present at the meeting were: Tim Huckvale (Chair), Maureen Hicks (Vice Chair), Adrian Lamb, Ginny Bennett, Anita Spencer (Clerk), George Reynolds (District Councillor) and 19 members of the public.

The extraordinary meeting was called because two sites in Sibford Ferris had been submitted for inclusion in the Partial Review, with a consultation closing date of 9 January. It was pointed out before discussions commenced that, for the purposes of the Review, the Cherwell district had been divided into nine area categories, which had been graded according to their suitability to take housing for Oxford; the rural areas category, in which Sibford Ferris fell, was considered the least suitable. However, it was agreed that it was important to put in a response to the two sites submitted and the meeting was unanimous that objections should be made to both. Only sites capable of taking at least 100 houses had been accepted for submission into the Review. The main objection was that the infrastructure of the village, itself currently only of around 140 dwellings, would not sustain more than a small number of additional homes. It was also noted that the two agents representing the landowner had both made erroneous statements in their submissions and it was agreed that corrections would be made to these in the parish council representation. The parish council was asked to publish the timetables for the Partial Review and also for the consultation on the Local Plan Part 2 which was also likely to contain sites in Sibford Ferris, and that for the Partial Review is reproduced below and on the village website (thesibfords.org.uk/spfc). The Local Plan Part 2 consultation will be published towards the end of January and the timetable for that will be put on the notice board, in the Scene (if possible) and on the website, as soon as it is available. Two applications for works to trees were also discussed at the meeting with no objections recorded. The full minutes of this meeting, together with the objections submitted to Cherwell District Council following the meeting, are available from the Clerk (788557) or by visiting the village website (thesibfords.org.uk/sfpc).

<u>Cherwell District Council Local Plan Part 1 Partial Review to address Oxford's unmet Housing Needs – Consultation timetable for the remainder of the consultation period</u>

Stage	Date
Consultation on Proposed Submission	May - June 2017
Document (Regulation 19)	
Submission (Regulation 22)	July 2017
Examination (Regulation 24)	July 2017 - March 2019
Adoption (Regulation 26 - Estimated)	April 2018

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting of 16 January 2017

Present were: Tim Huckvale (Chair), Maureen Hicks (Vice-Chair), Adrian Lamb, Peter Robinson, Ginny Bennett, Anita Spencer (Clerk) and two members of the public.

Topics updated in the meeting under Matters Arising were: maintenance on the fitness equipment; the ordering of a new bench for the Cotswold Close Play Area, tree maintenance and wood cleaning; highways matters still to be attended to, including line repainting and the cutting back of vegetation; the agreement to look into the use of social media in order to improve communication with residents on parish matters and also the better publicising of email updates from the village website when new information was posted. Reported under Correspondence were: MP Victoria Prentis's social media campaign to provide evidence of travel times from the district to the John Radcliffe Hospital (#Banbury2JR); the agreement for TH to attend an OALC training event on social media in May; the agreement to hold the Sibford Ferris Spring Clean on 11 March. Under Finance, the annual donations were paid and the 2017/18 Budget was agreed at £6858: no increase in the total from 2016/17 but with an increase in the Clerk's paid hours from five to six hours to reflect the extra meetings required following the creation of the Planning Committee. Under Planning the Terms of Reference of the Planning Committee were reviewed, agreed and adopted; to improve communication on planning, the Clerk was asked to display a list of current planning applications on the notice board; the consultation response to the Partial Review Options Paper had been sent to the district council and the consultation on Local Plan Part 2 was expected soon – it was agreed that a joint public meeting with Sibford Gower may be required. Under Any Other Business MH proposed a notice in the Scene to promote the fitness equipment - agreed; a member of the public asked that the parish council remain steadfast in supporting the use of the land on Hook Norton Road for a small Rural Exception Site development only, although it was pointed out that the scheme was not currently live; some enquiries were made about works south of the parish boundary.

The full draft minutes of the meeting are available on the village website (thesibfords.org.uk/sfpc) or from the Clerk (788557).

The date of the next meeting is **Monday**, **13 March**, 7.45 pm in the Sports Hall Classroom, Sibford School.

The Sibford Ferris Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 8 May at 7.30pm as above – an opportunity for residents to make comments and ask questions about matters relating to the parish.



NATURE NOTES

Nov 23rd. On this grey November morning it was cheering to have a song thrush singing for at least an hour. It is not unusual for them to start singing in November but after that one died when it crashed into the window recently I was not sure that we still had one in this area. The robin also is still singing its rather sad little autumn song. I don't think the bubbling of the nuthatches can be called a song, it is more of a chatter to help them stay together.

Nov 24th. There was a tap on the window this morning. I went out to see whether it was a twig blown from the tree or a bird and found a semi conscious bird. It took me a minute or so to realise that it was a female blackcap. I thought a drink might help it back to full consciousness so offered it some milk on a teaspoon but it did not take any so I put it up on to the window ledge where it would be less likely to be taken by a passing cat and left the milk by it. Watching it through the window I could see that it was regaining full consciousness and within an hour it had gone, hopefully flown away. I would not give it better than a 50/50 chance of survival but at least it has that chance now.

Nov 30th. Another song thrush died when it crashed into a window this morning. I wish I knew why thrushes die this way more often than other birds. **Dec 4th.** There are only a few odd berries left on our holly tree which carried a huge crop until about a fortnight ago. The berries on that tree must be exceptionally palatable as they are usually finished by about this date. I have not seen any redwings or fieldfares taking them this year. Only blackbirds and woodpigeons.

Dec 11th. My son-in-law was looking round for the buzzard that he could hear before he realised that it was a starling imitating one.

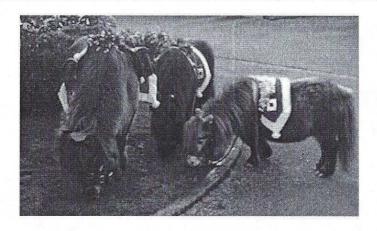
Jan 1st. In the first half of 2016 I measured a well above average 18.38 inches of rain. (467mm) In spite of the much drier second half of the year the total was an above average 27.95 inches. (710mm) June with 4.08 (70mm) inches and November with 4.07 inches (70mm) were the wettest months and July 0.39 inches (10mm) followed by October 0.73 inches (19mm) the driest. Fortunately we missed the very heavy falls that caused so much flooding in Scotland and northern England in the first half of the year.

Jan 10th After a period when we only heard a few notes from a thrush occasionally one is now singing quite confidently. I think it likely that this is a bird that is establishing itself in what could have been a vacant area after the last thrush hit the window.

Jan 12th. I got a brief but clear view of a red kite as it dived low over our lawn chased by two or three rooks. Seeing one so close makes me realise just how big they are.

Adrian Lamb

THE PONIES' TALE.....

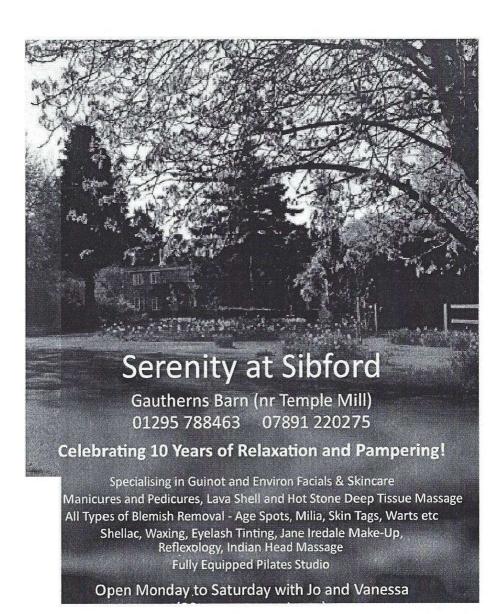


2.

It has now been almost ten years since Barney arrived at Wheathills from the Blue Cross. Barney came as a new companion for Harrods after the death of his friend, Sherman. Harrods and Sherman were much-loved village mascots, looked after by Tony and Eileen Haynes; but when Sherman passed away at the incredible age of forty three, Harrods was very lonely and needed a friend.

A year later the tiny and very nervous Blue Cross pony Troy joined the herd. Harrods lived for a couple more years, but he never really got over the loss of Sherman, his companion of nineteen years. Shortly after he sadly passed away fate seemed to intervene again, when, just before Christmas, another Shetland was looking for a good home. This was the gorgeous Smudge who, for almost two years was left in a field with his companion, Star, without any care. The rescued ponies were quite ill and Star sadly died in Hook Norton veterinary hospital. Smudge spent a year in good care but because of changed circumstances he needed a new home. There was nothing for it but, with the help of Mike and Sue Etherington-Smith, to hitch up the trailer and bring him to Wheathills. Smudge is a wise and forgiving mediator - Troy's best friend and the only pony with whom Barney would ever share his hay. They love living in the paddock that for many years was home to Harrods and Sherman and, at Christmas, they get dressed up for a festive walk to wish the villagers a happy holiday.

Ann and Piotr Murasik



SIBFORD GOWER & BURDROP TOWN ESTATE CHARITY

Vacancy for a Trustee

The Charity was established 400 years ago to provide a schoolteacher & poor relief for the parish. It currently owns a couple of farns and property around the Gower. It's income is available to be divided equally between the Sibford Gower Primary School, poor relief and general purposes - dit meets 3 times a year. 5 Trustees are appointed by the Parish Council (currently Joanna Gilkes, Fred Inns, Mike Lewis, Oswyn Murray and Jean Scouse), and 4 are nominated by the existing Trustees (John Berry, Paul Clayson, David Spackman and Graham Wealsby). Joanna Gilkes has indicated her desire to resign. The Parish Council thanks her for her long service and hereby announces a vacancy.

Anyone interested in serving should discuss this with one of the existing Trustees, who will act as a sponsor. They should be able to offer some of the following:

- Relevantskills/experience in eg. trust management, farm experience, building, estate agency, accountancy, legal services
- Willingness to engage actively with the day-to-day working of the estates
- Knowledge of the needs of members of the local community
- Experience from having served on other village committees

Statements of interest by March 1st - members of the Parish Council will announce their decision as doon as possible thereafter.

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

FILM NIGHTS

i.

On 22nd February the film is "THE BICYCLE THIEVES", a heartrending story of a poor family man in Rome, who has his only means of transport stolen, so. he and his son try to find the stolen bicycle. Times were hard and poverty and desparation are all around. The film, made in 1948 won a lot of accolades at the time and was re-released to mark its` 50 year anniversary. Doors open 7p. Film starts at 7-30pm. Hot and cold drinks available. Feel free to bring your own wine [glasses provided]. Entry £2 per adult, £1 for students/children.

PLEASE NOTE that this year the film nights are on the last WEDNESDAY of the month, so hope that will suit more people.

EASTER EGG TRAIL

We will hold the Annual Egg Trail on Good Friday ,April 14th 2017 ,with two routes , one for little ones and one a bit more challenging. More details next month.

BOOKING THE HALL

If you want to make a booking for the Village Hall or need information then contact Ginny on 01295 780373 or via thesibfords.org website. The Village Hall Committee are very pleased with the "New Look" large hall and hope to have the blinds and curtains up soon.

Ginny Bennett



All aspects of properly maintenance and refurbishment undertaken from replacement light bulbs and tap washers to new cellings and floors.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Belgian Refugees in Sibford during the First World War

Following the invasion of Belgium by German troops in October 1941 news of the devastation that was being imposed on the people of Antwerp must have reached the people of Sibford because on 28 October 1914 a Public Meeting was held in the Village School Room. At that meeting it was 'unanimously agreed to take a cottage with a view to entertaining a Belgian Family of Refugees for as long as seems necessary.'

The Meeting appointed a committee, to be known as the Sibford Belgian Refugee Committee (SBRC). They set up regular collections and Sibford villagers responded positively with donations of between one and three pence every week. Some work was undertaken to prepare a cottage for a Belgian family and £2 was spent on furniture. On Wednesday 16 December 1914, eight refugees arrived in Sibford.

The names of the refugees who resided at Burdrop in the cottage by the Bishop Blaze (now demolished) were Monsieur and Madame de Vries and their two sons and Monsieur and Madame Poppe and their two young sons. M. De Vries and M. Poppe were cousins and both were diamond cutters and polishers and M. de Vries also had a large cafe in Antwerp.

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VILLAGE PEOPLE

This month, we get to hear about Ann and Piotr Masarik

We moved to the Ferris thirteen years ago. The view of the Wheathills paddocks (looking from the beer garden of the Bishop Blaize), with the Shetlands, Harrods and Sherman, grazing peacefully in the valley, was for us an irresistible invitation to this magical place.

Some villagers know us because of our three lovely ponies who we often take for walks round the Sibfords. When we started with our first Blue Cross pony, Barney, we hardly knew how to look after him, but gradually we earned his trust and respect and these days he only rarely does things to embarrass us in public (like pulling Piotr through a bed of nettles). We even trained him to pull a little trap, so occasionally you can see us driving along the village lanes.

Looking after the ponies has become for us a life-changing experience. Piotr, an IT professional for over 30 years, discovered helping animals to be his true life passion. In 2012 he became a fully qualified equine bodyworker and sports massage therapist and since then he has treated happy hackers, working Shires and racehorses in training.

We both completed an equine MFR (Myofascial Release) certification course. Ann, already an experienced MFR human bodyworker, did this course on the advice of John Barnes (the "father" of MFR) with whom she trained in Arizona. John's view was that horses' honest responses to the treatments could enhance human therapists' work.

But our most significant and dramatic experience happened when our little pony Troy developed a non-healing corneal ulcer. After a number of different attempts to save Troy's eye, we found ourselves preparing for his eye removal surgery, but we kept searching for an alternative solution. This is how we discovered photonic red light therapy which we now use to complement our human and equine bodywork.

It was like a miracle when after three months of treatments, Troy's eye began to look normal again and the ulcer had healed. It was tough at times, but the bond with all of our three boys deepened and as therapists we felt more attuned with nature's healing energy.

Last December the Blue Cross recognised the years of good care we have provided for the boys by transferring full ownership to us. This was the best Christmas present we have ever received.



SIBFORD CRICKET CLUB (BAT ON!)

""A Shout Out from the Square..."

An early call to arms for all budding cricketers by Sibford Cricket Club - however big/small, tall/short, old/young, fit/(less)fit. Indoor nets will begin in the spring and we'd love to see as many people along as possible.

We play both league figures (Saturdays) and village friendlies (Sundays) throughout the season, with home games played up at the Sibford School. Last year we had 22 fixtures with more than 40 different players representing the club aged from 10 to (almost) 60. More details to follow in March's edition of the Scene"

Matt Wood

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Excellent references



SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

Forthcoming Walks in February: 6th February 20th February

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

World Dance group in Swalcliffe Second Wednesday each month

Swalcliffe Village Hall 7.30-9pm

Learn folk dances from around the world to beautiful music in friendly company.

No partner needed or experience necessary, as each dance is patiently taught before the music starts.

There is no need to book, just turn up with £5 in your pocket and have some fun.

Contact Tracy 780710 or tracylean@gmail.com.

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

Any enquiries to Juliette - 07703 836856

Juliette53@btinternet.com.

Drop in £8.00

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Wednesdays 9.30 - 11.30 am Churchill Village Hall

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



SIBFORDS SOCIETY

On 20th October we welcomed Jane Rowe, a guide at Sudeley Castle, who traced its history right from the beginnings up to the present day. Past owners of Sudeley include an impressive number of monarchs: Ethelred the Unready, Richard III, Henry VII and Henry VIII, Lady Jane Grey, Elizabeth I and Charles I. Katherine Parr, the sixth wife of Henry VIII, who outlived him and seemed destined for a happy life at Sudeley with her new husband, Thomas Seymour, died in childbirth in 1548 at the age of 36, and is buried there in St Mary's Church.

Sudeley is by no means a dilapidated old ruin although Cromwell's men did their best to destroy much of it, and it is still occupied by its present owner, Lady Ashcombe and her family; a beautiful place, set in wonderful Cotswold countryside. Elizabeth I favoured it so much that she visited it three times.

Jane, with her relaxed and interactive style, together with an amazing knowledge of dates and facts, gave us a very informative and enjoyable hour, and was happy to talk to members of the audience afterwards. There was an opportunity to buy merchandise from the castle gift shop, and a raffle which included entrance tickets, generously provided by the castle administrators.

Sudeley is now closed for the winter, but the Sibfords Society will be going there on our summer trip in July 2017, when hopefully Jane will be there to show us around.

Looking ahead: The Sibfords Historical Society cordially invites everyone, members and visitors, to an evening of traditional Elizabethan food and music on 16th February 2017 in the Village Hall.

There will be a three-course meal provided by Miss T Catering , and the music will be performed by Elizabeth and Richard York, who entertained us so brilliantly at the last Social on a variety of authentic instruments.

Tickets, on sale in early January, are £16 per person, and include a welcoming drink. Please bring your own wine or ale for the meal. Costumes optional!

For further information please contact Bryan Mills on 780248 or Diana Hughes on 780506.

<u>Important!</u> Please buy your tickets before **6**th **February**, as we need to know numbers for catering purposes.



SIBFORD SCHOOL NEWS

Michael Mears presents 'This Evil Thing'

A century after the First World War, aspects of the history of the period are emerging which have been long swept under the carpet.

Among these is the anti-conscription movement, and the pacifists who, for reasons of conscience, refused to take on any duties – even non-combative ones – which could be seen as supporting the war effort.

On Friday 3 February, there will be a chance to share in the story of the men who said 'no' to war when Sibford School welcomes writer and performer Michael Mears with his one-man show THIS EVIL THING.

This compelling, shocking an inspiring story involves a dizzying journey from a chapel in Yorkshire to the House of Commons; from an English country garden to a quarry in Aberdeen; from a cell in Richmond Castle to a firing squad in France.

The play was performed to critical acclaim at the 2016 Edinburgh Fringe where it was described as 'truly, truly brilliant'.

The performance will take place from $3.05 pm \sim 4.15 pm$, and Sibford is extending the audience to include a limited number of free seats that are being made available to the general public.

Anyone wishing to attend should contact the school's community development officer, Ali Bromhall, on 01295 781216 (email abromhall@sibfordschoo.co.uk).

Michael Mears has had a rich and varied career in theatre, television and film including seasons with the National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Peter Hall Company. He has also performed in London's West End on a number of occasions, most notably, as Arthur Kipps in the long-running hit The Woman in Black. Television roles include Rifleman Cooper in the first six Sharpe films. On film, he will be remembered as the hotel barman who brings Hugh Grant and Andie McDowell together in Four Weddings and a Funeral

Ali Bromhall

Petina's Waxing

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SIBFORD SCHOOL NEWS

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT CRASH LANDS AT SIBFORD SCHOOL

A strange flying saucer-like craft has landed in the grounds of Sibford School near Banbury. Children returned after the Christmas break to discover that an unidentified flying object had crashed into their Forest School area. By the time the children arrived, the scene of the crash had been cordoned off with police tape and investigations are on-going as to how and why the space ship came to land at Sibford.



Junior School Head, Edward Rossiter said: "To say the children were surprised would be an understatement! We had received reports of strange sounds and flashes being seen in the sky overnight but the scene at the crash site and the size of the craft was incredible and really left the children in awe."

Traditionally, Sibford Junior School marks the first half of the Spring Term with a creative curriculum where by all lessons are centred around a central theme. In the past, topics have included Beneath the Waves and The Rainforest and, as luck would have it, the theme for 2017 is Out of this World!

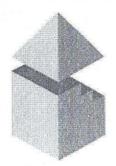
Said Edward Rossiter: "I suspect it will take the children a good five weeks to really get to the bottom of what happened here!"

Bed & Breakfast at the Court House

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SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

The Autumn Term ended on an up-beat at our lovely school. As well as all the Christmassy things, pupils had a chance to develop their financial flair as they prepared for two fantastic end of term events. Our youngest children held a Nordic Winter Fair in the newly re-roofed Early Years conservatory. Children from Acorn and Beech classes made the items for sale, including hand printed wrapping paper, gingerbread and Christmas decorations, and the market looked beautiful with a very Scandinavian feel. Over in KS2, the older children ran an International Street Food Fair as the culmination of their topic work. They prepared traditional foods such as pulled beef and cooked beans and plantain from Venezuela, as well as tortillas from Mexico and noodles from Hong Kong. There was Mexican dancing from Oak pupils while the whole of Maple Class performed the salsa. It was very busy, very loud and great fun. All classes were in profit after they had covered their costs!

Wonderful work has already started this term with a KS2 focus on the Victorians: some of the children are developing their own Crystal Palace Exhibition and all of the children will be dressing up for our Victorian Day. Over the road, a huge giant has appeared in the KS1 library as the children explore a variety of traditional tales in their learning.

More excitement is in store as the children once again have the opportunity to take part in our Sibford Gower's Got Talent competition. This promises to be as successful as last year, with many of our children showcasing their extraordinary range of skills and abilities. Please look on our school website at http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk to keep up with all the things that happen at our wonderful village school.





SIBFORD HORTI SOCIETY

There is no meeting in February, the next one is on **8th March**, 7.30 pm when Clive Nichols, the renowned garden photographer will be talking to us.

A reminder of the handicraft classes for the show on 20th May.

A piece of pottery.

Something new from something old - include photo of original piece.

A hand knitted article.

An item of cross stitch.

A piece of metal or woodwork.

A greetings card.

A bookmark.

A handicraft exhibit.

Photography class.

Street or market.

Tree(s)

Doorways and entrances.

Texture.

Seascapes.

Animal antics.

Garden flower(s)

4 related views.

An enlargement - max. A4

A black and white photo.

A painting or drawing.

A painting or drawing for 16 yrs and under.

For the first time there is a class for cider in the cookery section so keep some of your stored apples and have a go!

Colour Analysis by Annie Broe

I will show you which colours are best for you.

Wearing the right colours is an easy and effective way to
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You will instantly look more radiant, younger and healthier.

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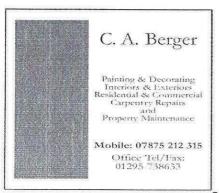
Vouchers available - the perfect present

For a personal colour analysis or for more details, please call me on T: 01295 780637 or 07930 398151. E: annie4colourandstyle@gmail.com



IN YOUR GARDEN - FEBRUARY

- 1. You can now sow early sweet peas, if you have a greenhouse or a warm windowsill. They like a deep root run, so planting in cardboard loo- rolls stuffed with damp compost is recommended.
- 2. Perennial seeds of delphiniums, oriental poppies, aquilegias etc can also be sown in a seed tray, on a warm windowsill.
- 3. If it is not frosty, new roses can be sown. Prune stems back to a dormant outward facing bud. Dig a large hole, so that roots can be spread out evenly. Do not plant where there have been roses previously, and feed and nourish with plenty of compost and manure.
- 5., 4. Shrub roses can be pruned towards the end of February,
 - 5 .In mild, dry weather lawn edges can be cut back with a half-moon cutter.
 - 6. Apples can be pruned now, but do not remove more than 20% of the crown. The more you prune, the more foliage you will get, and fewer apples.
 - 7. Overgrown hedges should be pruned before the birds start nesting.
 - 8. Seed potatoes can now be started off, in a light and frost-free place. I find egg boxes are just right for this.
 - 9. Have your lawn mower serviced now before the rush starts.
 - 10 If your garden is looking dismal in winter, think about planting some new shrubs to cheer things up. Mahonia, and hamamellis mollis are both lighting up the shady border in my garden, and soon there will be viburnums, sarcoccaca, chimnanthus praecox and daphne odorata, to waft their scent around the snowdrops.



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FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Welcome to 2017 and if it's not too late - A Happy New Year to all!

The Friendship Club will meet on Feb 7th in the Small Hall at 2pm.

The trip out on Feb 21st is to The Rococo Gardens at Painwick to see the snowdrops. We shall leave Banbury 9-40 Sibford at 10-00. More info at the meeting on the 7th.

if any one from outside the Club wishes join us please call Trip Sec on 26460

The Gardens are well known for the very large number of different sorts of snowdrops.

Eveline Boughton

"LYDIA KITCHEN - PROJECT TRUST"

When you read this I will be teaching one of my first classes in the Krishna Sai School, Ongole, India in 30C! I just wanted to say thank you to everyone who came to the 'Quiz and Curry Night' and who has supported my volunteering to India!

Lydia

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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

Learn to paint!

Small classes or one to one tuition in oil or watercolour Paintings for sale from £99 cotswoldsketchbook.blogspot.co.uk

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LOCAL NEWS

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LOCAL MARKETS

Banbury - Every Thursday & Saturday

Chipping Norton - Every Wednesday

Chipping Norton Farmers - 3rd Saturday of the month

Deddington Farmers - 4th Saturday of the month

Great Rollright - 1st Saturday of the month



The Ferris and Gower teams from the Christmas match! Gower avenged last years defeat with a 3/0 win!

David Spackman

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

Thanks to everyone who made Christmas such a special time - the Carol Singers who raised over £200 for Singing for Syria; the Tree donors and decorators; the flower arrangers; the providers of delicious wine and refreshments; and the many many people who came to church.

February Services

5th 10am Benefice Service in Shutford (Ronald)

12th 8am

8am BCP Holy Communion (Ronald)

9.30am Morning Praise (Ronald) 9.30am Holy Communion (John)

19th 26th

9.30am BCP Holy Communion (Liz)

Lent starts on March 1st Ash Wednesday

8.45am Morning Prayer, Sibford

9.30 Holy Communion + Imposition of Ashes. Epwell (Ronald)

7pm Holy Communion + Imposition of Ashes. Tadmarton (Ronald)

Grand Day Out

We're going to the Houses of Parliament on Monday Feb 27th. There may be a few seats available and you are very welcome to join us. Leave at about 7.30am, return at about 8pm. Full details from Ronald. £12.50

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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

February 2017

Mr. Tim Huckvale has now kindly included Neighbourhood Watch on the Sibfords Website for which we would like to say thank you for arranging it and for your thought and the time it has taken. Please take a look, http://thesibfords.org.uk/nw will take you straight there.

Please remember to take great care fraudsters continually change their methods to target their victims. It is easy to be taken in either by the wording of a letter, on the computer or because one is busy when one is unexpectedly contacted by phone or at the door.

We have had warnings of fake letters from the bank, on the computer, by telephone or bogus callers. A number of recent telephone calls, a short recorded message no name or company name started "urgent message", suggesting people on benefits can have new free oil boilers not gas or LPG, it ended "press 2". There were two completely different telephone numbers. BBC Radio 4 "You and Yours" a man reported the same experience. So do be careful, if something seems too good to be true, it probably is. Please follow Police advice at all times and report anything suspicious or anyone who is seen behaving suspiciously. We wish you all a very good 2017. *Molly Mulley*

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IMPROVE YOUR FITNESS FOR FREE IN THE FERRIS

The outdoor gym equipment in Sibford Ferris is available for use by all those over 12 years of age. Installed adjacent to the Multi-Use Games Area in the grounds of Sibford School it can be accessed on foot or by bicycle along the Bridleway which runs from Back Lane to Small House Lane (Wade Lane) parallel to the Main Street.

The five pieces of equipment provide different forms of exercise and each piece has instructions for its use and the benefits gained. They are used entirely at your own risk but, provided by the Parish Council for community use, offer an opportunity to exercise at no cost.

If improved fitness is part of your personal plan for 2017 please make use of this excellent facility in its lovely setting.

Maureen Hicks

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SIBFORD BUS 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 whch OMIT the last bus (17.22) from Banury Bus Station to Stratford
- 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. Bridge Street is quoted in Stratford to avoid possible confusion although most journeys go to Stratford Park & Ride (short delay at Bridge Street) via Wood Street and in reverse travel from Stratford Park & Ride via Wood Street
- 9. Buses to Stratford show Shipston on Stour on the blind and indicate connections to Stratford. Don't be put off you can stay on thr bus which goes through and through-fares apply
- 10. Any problems you encounter with the new timetable should be directed to Johnsons themselves on 01564 797070

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 via the Sibfords, from Mondays to Saturdays. Bus
journey times are shown below. If in doubt, call Johnsons on T: 01564 797070 or
check the website: www.johnsonscoaches.co.uk/bus-services.html

Bus 3 Banbury & Shipston to Stratford

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	1218 1418 1558 1830

Bus 3 Stratford to Banbury & Shipston

	INS	
STRATFORD BRIDGE STREET	0615 0824 1030 1	230 1530
Clifford Chambers, New Inn	0832 1038 1	238 1538
Meon Vale	0843 1049 1	249 1549
Lower Quinton, The Orchard	0847 1053 1	253 1553
Ilmington, Red Lion	0857 1103 1	303 1603
Shipston, Pettiphers Garage	0640 0913 1113 1	313 1613
Lower Brailes, The Park	0650 0923 1123 1	323
Sibford Ferris School	0702 0935 1135 1	.335 1635
Lower Tadmarton	0712 0945 1145 1	.345 1645
BANBURY BUS STATION	0725 1000 1200 1	400 1700
	NS - Not Saturdays	

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



3.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

3rd	"This Evil Thing" - 3.05pm - Sibford School
5th	Drinks & Nibbles Party for Margaret Hobson - 12 noon, Village Hall
6th	Sibford Walkers - 10am, Village Hall Car Park
7th	Men's Breakfast Club - 915am, Gate Hands High
16th	Sibfords Society - "Elizabethan Feast" - 730pm, Village Hall
20th	Sibford Walkers - 10am, Village Hall Car Park
20th	Sibford Gower Parish Council meeting - 8pm, Primary School
22nd	Film Night - "The Bicycle Thieves" - 730pm, Village Hall
25th	Curry & Quiz Night - 7pm, Village Hall

FEBRUARY BIN COLLECTIONS

Green Wednesday: 8th; 22nd Blue/Brown Wednesday: 1st; 15th

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

MARCH (PART)

8th	Sibford Horti Society meeting. 730pm
13th	Sibford Ferris PC Meeting. 7.45 pm -Sports Hall Classroom, Sibford

School.

18/19th Art Fair - Sibford Primary School

SIBFORD SCENE DEADLINE FOR MARCH ISSUE - 18 FEBRUARY 2017

Editor: Tony Skowronski, Jasmine Cottage, Burdrop, OX15 5RN T: 01295 780490 E: sibfordscene@gmail.com

Ad Manager & Treasurer: Ivor Hopkyns, Elmridge Farmhouse, Sibford Gower, OX15 5RT

> T: 01295 788367 E: sallyandivorhopkyns@hotmail.com

Front cover: The Warwickshire Hunt Meet at West Town House