

# SIBFORD SCENE

March 2017

No 390



*'Murder Most Foul' - Photo by John Berry (Review - P13)*

SIBFORD FERRIS PC MEETING  
13th March - Sibford School Sports Hall 7.45pm

SIBFORDS SOCIETY AGM  
16th March - Village Hall 7.45pm

SIBFORDS ART FAIR  
18/19th March - Primary School 10.30am

"BRIDGET JONE'S BABY"  
29th March - Film Night, Village Hall 7pm



## ED'S THOUGHTS

The wheels on the bus have come off again - please see the timetable for more slight amendments....

Beware of anyone wanting to 'clear your guttering'. A man has been calling on homes within the Sibfords, demanding large amounts of money for doing this. So - if he comes to your door - contact our local police on 101

Thought for the month:

"Steal a little and they throw you in jail

Steal a lot and they make you king"

*Bob Dylan*

## LETTERS AND NOTICES

### **The Sibfords Website**

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*

**FIELDING LUNCH CLUB** – Do you know anyone who would benefit?

The Fielding Lunch Club meets in the village hall each Wednesday from 12.30 to 2.00pm. As well as a splendid two course lunch cooked in the kitchens of Sibford School, followed by tea or coffee, it provides an excellent opportunity for conversation and socialising. When the school is on holiday we visit local pubs or enjoy the home cooking of Miss T Catering.

If you know someone in the village that you think might benefit from a weekly gathering of like-minded people and an excellent lunch, get them to contact **Keith Hicks** on 01295 780259 who will be only too pleased to provides further information.

# LETTERS AND NOTICES

Put 6<sup>th</sup> May in your diary.

There will be a soup and cheese lunch in Sibford village hall at noon, followed by an illustrated talk on the situation in Israel/Palestine by Maria Huff who has spent 3 months in the South Hebron Hills as an ecumenical accompanier. These are people who act as observers in this troubled area, on behalf of the World Council of Churches. It is a rural area, so may be of special interest to those of us who live in villages and love the countryside. This is a free event, with no charge for the food, and children are welcome. It will end at 2 pm

## **THE REAL THREAT TO SERVICES AT THE HORTON HOSPITAL**

**A meeting will be held at Sibford Village Hall on Tuesday 14 March at 7.30pm** to explain the government's proposed Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) which propose further cuts that will directly affect the acute services offered at the Horton General Hospital.

The 'Keep The Horton General' campaign is chaired by Keith Strangwood and he, along with other members of the KTHG group will be present together with Rosanne Edwards, health journalist for the Banbury Guardian and member of KTHG. They will address the meeting to explain the proposed changes which will so directly affect all members of our community.

- Understand the proposals and what they mean for our community in North Oxfordshire
- Find out what you can do to keep hospital services in Banbury
- Come and show that you care about **OUR** local hospital

## **DOG WASTE BIN FOR MILLENNIUM FIELD**

A dog waste bin has been provided in the Millennium Field by Sibford Gower Parish Council for the use of those walking their dogs. It is sited at the field entrance from Colony Road. The bin will be emptied and cleaned once a week by Cherwell District Council.

# SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

## **Annual Spring Clean – Sibford Gower & Burdrop Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

The Annual Spring Clean will take place on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and volunteers are sought to give an hour or so of their time to help with the work of clearing litter from where it may have gathered in Burdrop and Sibford Gower. We will meet at Sibford Village Hall at 10am when the areas which require attention will be allocated.

Clear recycling sacks (for the same material as kerbside blue box/bin: paper, cardboard, plastic bottles & containers and food & drink cans (inc. aerosols) and black rubbish sacks (for other items) will be provided together with cotton gloves. The District Council supplies on loan only a minimal number of litter pickers and high visibility jackets so if you are able to bring along your own it will be extremely helpful.

Should anyone be willing to help but not be available on 18th March, please phone Peter Hardman (Tel: 780391) and he will discuss with you a particular area that would benefit from your attention on another day.

The Members of Sibford Gower Parish Council hope that the occasion will once again receive the usual enthusiastic support and look forward to seeing you on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March.



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# SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

## **SIBFORD FERRIS SPRING CLEAN – SATURDAY, 11 MARCH, 10.00 AM, LANES END CORNER**

Volunteers to join in with the annual Spring Clean will be warmly welcomed. Gloves, sacks and some litter pickers and hi-viz vests will be available on the day, but please bring your own hi-vi's if you have one. If you would like to take part but cannot make the allotted time/day, please contact Adrian Lamb beforehand on 780380 to arrange an alternative. Thank you.

## **SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

There will be a meeting of the parish council on Monday, 13 March at 7.45pm in the Sports Hall Classroom, Sibford School. The agenda will be put on the notice board and on the parish council page of the village website three working days before the meeting. All welcome.

## LETTERCARVE

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# THE OLD MISSION HALL STUDIOS

The Old Mission Hall Studios is now in its third year and the artists are looking forward to a busy 2017.

We were sad to say goodbye to Lyndsay Madigan, but very happy to welcome new artist, Melissa Sheffield. Melissa is a practicing Fine Art photographer. She is interested in experimental photography and the historical references that are inherent in traditional techniques and how this transfers to digital photography. Her current practice has resulted in residencies with the National Trust, Crop Up Gallery's collaboration with the Quad gallery in Derby and also had work exhibited in the Houses of Parliament during 2016. Melissa is a Graduate of Coventry University.



*Susie and the Yarn Bombing February 2017.*

Sue (Susie) Wightman, the founder member of OMHS, and Melissa met whilst successfully completing their Masters in Fine Art at Birmingham School of Art, (BCU), where Sue was also awarded The Gertrude Aston Bowater Bequest. Leaving their studies behind the two local artists are now looking to further develop their practices and research methodology. The OMHS are striving to bring a new twist to contemporary art within the context of the beautiful rural setting of Sibford Gower.

## **Latest projects:**

Melissa's work at present is exploring the search for the Holocene or the 'recent' a period in the earth's history 11,500 years ago when the glaciers began to retreat. Melissa's research is focused on the relationship we have with our landscape and the transitional effect the environment has on us, her current interest lies in searching for evidence of the Holocene.

# THE OLD MISSION HALL STUDIOS

*Continued.....*

Susie is working on a large-scale knitting project for this year's Oxfordshire Arts Weeks and is looking for volunteers to help create knitted and crocheted tags for Yarn Bombing.

In addition she has been making giant knitting needles from fence posts and knitting with old farm netting as part of a reclaiming 'rural' project.



On the theme of horticulture she is searching for any old wheel barrows or 'bits of' for her next metalwork sculpture. Last year's Deconstructed Piano is being turned into jewellery.

The artists are looking forward to welcoming members of the local community to the studios in 2017. Please do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any enquiries about anything 'arty' that we can help support.

*Susie*

*Mobile: 07891167485*

[susiepugwash@btinternet.com](mailto:susiepugwash@btinternet.com)

*Melissa*

*Mobile: 07818630356*

[m1shrffield@hotmail.com](mailto:m1shrffield@hotmail.com)

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E: [andrew@innovention.co.uk](mailto:andrew@innovention.co.uk)

# NATURE NOTES

We have been asked to take over providing the Nature Notes for the Sibford Scene which we are happy to do but would welcome any contributions from anyone else in the villages. The easiest way of doing this is to e-mail us at [anewbold@fsmail.net](mailto:anewbold@fsmail.net).

While writing this I can see Sparrows, Robins, Dunnocks, Pigeons, Collared Doves and three species of tit (blue, great and coal) on and around our bird table. These can be seen at almost any time through the daylight hours joined occasionally by Long-tailed tits, Green Finches, a Nuthatch and Greater-spotted Woodpeckers. The very occasional visit by a Sparrow Hawk results in an hour or two when the other birds keep away.

On the subject of bird tables the RSPB recommend that you should avoid using peanuts, fat and bread at this time of the year since these can be harmful to adult birds feed them to their nestlings.

Feeding birds can help them through times of food scarcity but some species also rely on a good supply of caterpillars and other invertebrates. It is estimated that Britain is home to 3.5 million pairs of Blue Tits. A typical nest may contain 6 nestlings each of which may consume 100 caterpillars each day. Gardeners can help by reducing pesticide use to an absolute minimum and leaving rotting logs, twig piles, leaf litter, seed heads and hollow stems where invertebrates can survive the winter.

In addition to the birds mentioned above it is good to see Blackbirds joined by an occasional Fieldfare feeding on the last remaining windfall apples from last year's crop.

As the warmer weather approaches it is worth looking out for the first of the Spring butterflies. These are likely to be the species that spend the Winter as hibernating adults. (Brimstone, Small Tortoiseshell, Red Admiral, Peacock and Comma).

*Andy and Gill Newbold.*



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## This Month's News from Katherine House

### **CAN YOU VOLUNTEER FOR KATHARINE HOUSE?**

Our volunteers are a vital part of the work we do for people and families facing life-limiting illnesses in our community. They help us with everything from catering to complementary therapies, and they save us around £400,000 every year. We're always looking for volunteers to help us, and we'd love to hear from you if you have some time to spare.

Volunteer roles include:

Catering Assistants - Kitchen Assistants - Receptionists - Complementary Therapists - Patient Drivers - Shop Volunteers - General Day Hospice - Ward Clerks - Gardeners

For more information please contact Joanna Morris, Volunteer Co-ordinator on 01295 811866 email [volunteering@khh.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@khh.org.uk), or visit [www.khh.org.uk/volunteering](http://www.khh.org.uk/volunteering)

### **SAVE THE DATE: MIDNIGHT WALK 2017**

Our 11<sup>th</sup> Midnight Walk will be taking place on Saturday 24 June 2017. If you'd like to take part or volunteer, please save the date in your diary! You can sign up on our website at [www.khh.org.uk](http://www.khh.org.uk).

### **KNITTING PATTERNS BOOKLET NOW AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD**

If you'd like to knit some knitted novelties for our Easter Knits campaign, you can now download the Easter Knitting Patterns booklet directly from our website - [www.khh.org.uk/easter-knitting](http://www.khh.org.uk/easter-knitting)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Remember you can keep up to date with all our events and everything that's happening at the Hospice, as well as buy tickets to our events and donate to Katharine House by visiting our website: [www.khh.org.uk](http://www.khh.org.uk)

# GREAT TASTE

## GOOD OLD-FASHIONED BORSCHT

Serves 6

### Ingredients:

500g raw beetroot, peeled and grated

500g red cabbage, finely shredded

3 tbsp tomato puree

2 tbsp red wine vinegar

125g butter

1 litre beef stock (I use veg stock)

1 medium onion, grated

1 carrot, grated

S&P

1 tbsp brown sugar

Lob the beetroot and red cabbage into a large saucepan. Stir in the tomato puree, vinegar, half the butter and the stock. Cover, bring to the boil and simmer for 1 hour

Melt the remaining butter and saute the onion and carrots until golden. Add to the beetroot and red cabbage mixture. Cover and simmer gently for a further 15 minutes. Chuck in the S&P and add the brown sugar. Throw some sour cream to garnish.....

*Ed - Sibford Scene*

### ***Bed & Breakfast at the Court House***

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**"MURDER MOST FOUL"**  
performed by the Sibford Players

A 'sold out' sticker across the poster advertising 'Murder Most Foul' was a sure sign of the excitement building even before the curtain went up on Sibford Players' latest production.

The cast didn't disappoint, providing us with two nights of high energy, hilarious entertainment guaranteed to lift the January blues.

This play within a play focused on a group of bumbling amateurs struggling to stage a murder mystery despite a string of blunders with set, lines, props and incompetent stage crew.

Hats off to Director Kat Davison, Assistant Director Zosh Skowronska and Producer Juliette Glazebrook, for guiding the cast through a play more ambitious than it might first appear.

Action built towards a final performance and at times we had no idea whether lines were deliberately bungled, or chaotic action was carefully choreographed, accidental or a mixture of both. It really didn't matter, we laughed just the same.

Set Designer Sandra Clacy and her team made the most of the stage, transforming it into a sitting room with a mock window which was used to great comic effect.

Costumes courtesy of Issi George and Emma Coventry added hugely to the production and props often proved to have a life of their own, special mention to the non-stick moustache and the bottomless safe.

Sibford Players laid on more than just a play. This was a complete evening of seventies themed entertainment and refreshments which included talented musical duo "Honey and Flares"

Sibford Village Hall Committee and volunteers responsible for the new-look village hall should also take a bow, as the refurbishments have created a much improved performance space.

No question Sibford Players pulled out all the stops to give us a really good giggle and judging by the obvious enjoyment of everyone on stage it was fun for them too.

Looking forward to curtain up on the next one.

AMA

# VILLAGE HALL NEWS

## **FILM NIGHTS**

On March 29th the film is "Bridget Jones Baby" a 2016 Romantic comedy featuring Renee Zellweger as our hapless heroine. Bridget discovers she is pregnant but does not know who the father is. Colin Firth, Jim Broadbent and Patrick Dempsey also star. Running time 123 minutes. Entry £2 per adult. £1 for students. Doors open 7pm and film starts at 7-30pm. Drinks available or feel free to bring your own wine .

## **EASTER EGG TRAIL**

On Good Friday ,April 14th. Come and join us for an eggciting wander round the villages looking for clues to lead you to your Chocolate Egg. One trail for smaller children and one more challenging for the more energetic. Entry fee £2-50 per child. Drinks and refreshments available back at the Village Hall . No need to book -just come along! Starting at 2pm until 4pm.

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

We are planning our diary for the year and will have more news soon - maybe a music eveing. If there is something that you would like to see on at the Hall do contact Ginny [as below].

## **HALL REFURBISHMENT**

The large hall is now finished ,but we hope to do some sprucing up of the toilets and foyer, treating the wooden floor, and a garden tidy up when the weather is a bit better. Any volunteers will be welcome.

## **HIRING THE VILLAGE HALL**

If you would like to hire the Hall or require details about doing so ,then contact Ginny on Tel:01295 780373 or via thesibfords website.

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## DID YOU KNOW?

### **A survey of headstones in the churchyard at Holy Trinity Church**

The Quaker Meeting House has a full and accurate record of every burial in the Meeting House Graveyard but this was not the case at the Anglican Church of Holy Trinity.

The church and graveyard receives many visitors during the course of a year, some of whom are seeking to find the final resting place of family members who are thought to have been buried in the village. In 2004 members of the Sibfords' Society carried out a survey to record all the headstones in the graveyard and to produce an index of those buried in the churchyard whose headstones remained. The original 1840 graveyard was extended in 1903, 1939 and again in 2009.

Over a period of several months members examined every headstone recording its shape, overall size, any inscription plus any other unusual features. The area south of the church, included the majority of the oldest graves and those surveying in this area often found themselves on their hands and knees or even fully extended on the ground to decipher parts of headstones which had sunk lower in the ground.

Once recording was complete an alphabetical index was completed and a copy of the final survey was printed and left in the church to be used by visitors. It is updated periodically.

### JENNIFER WEALSBY - ART & DESIGN

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## FIVE MINUTES WITH.....

*Hugo Seely has lived in Sibford Gower for over 20 years, where he runs his small building, carpentry and plumbing business. Married to Caroline, they have two children – India and Toby - both of whom are grown up even though their mother won't let them ...*

### **Why Sibford?**

We moved here to a safe house in 1993 after my career in MI6 ended abruptly.

### **Your business:**

I've lived and worked in the village for 24 years and the village has always been very good to us. It's rare that I work outside of the Sibfords. My business has developed over the years. I trained as a boat builder originally which gave me a wide knowledge of many disciplines, although I've yet to build my boat. Over the years I've progressed to building projects: kitchens, bathrooms, small extensions. Every project and house is different and I enjoy the variety and the creative input. In Sibford houses, there's rarely a straight wall or floor and I like that challenge. I'm proud of the work I've done locally and have worked on some of the village's loveliest properties.



### **Favourite film, book and music**

I read a lot, listen to music, and watch a lot of films. BIG, starring Tom Hanks, is a wonderful film; pure escapism. All the old greats: anything with Cary Grant or Audrey Hepburn. I couldn't name one favourite book – there are so many - but The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway stays with me. I grew up with older brothers and the Rolling Stones were a constant soundtrack, and Bowie, Roxy Music. I currently like Imelda Wray's Black Tears.

### **Favourite place**

Probably the south of France: the Languedoc Roussillon, where we holidayed with our children for many years, and the beautiful Cote d'Azur where we've had some truly great times with good friends. I like anywhere by the sea. We still go to Bigbury in south Devon, where we took our children for bucket and spade holidays when they were little.

## FIVE MINUTES WITH.....

*continued...*

### **Tell us something surprising about yourself**

I'm a qualified acupuncturist. I took a course in acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine at Reading and North Finchley when my children were very young, studying at evenings and weekends for 3 years. The day of my final exams, Eric Payne's house - Cedarholme, by the pond - caught fire and I had to drive through the fields to get out of the village and to my exams on time. I don't practice much these days - mostly family and friends - not through choice, but because people don't seem to want their bathroom fitter sticking pins into them.

### **What would you change about the Sibfords?**

Not much. Like everyone that lives here, I think it's a wonderfully supportive community. I wish people with driveways and garages would stop complaining about the parking though

### **Any regrets?**

I wish I'd worked harder at school. Hemingway said his one regret was that he didn't drink more wine: I'm working to ensure that won't be one of mine.



## SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

### **Forthcoming Walks in March:**

#### **6th and 20th March**

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](mailto: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

On 16<sup>th</sup> February the packed Village Hall took on yet another persona, this time as backdrop to a Holbein painting, at the **Elizabethan Banquet**. It was marvellous that the guests embraced the idea so wholeheartedly, and thank you to all of you who looked so wonderful in your Elizabethan finery. Our visiting musicians had the difficult task of choosing the best costume, and the prize went to Keith Hicks, a courtly gentleman with an ingenious hourglass!

Victoria Taylor and her hard-working team produced three superb courses of festive food; she is rightly regarded as the 'Queen of Catering' in our area. Thank you, Victoria, for all your enthusiasm and expertise.

There followed a lively and brilliant performance by Elizabeth and Richard York, who seemed to have stepped out of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century to entertain us on their large selection of period style instruments, including the bray harp, the hurdy gurdy, and the Hummelchen smallpipes. We liked them so much last year that we asked them to come back, hence the inspiration for the Banquet.



Thanks too, to all the people, committee members and many others, who helped to make the evening so excellent.

Our next meeting is the AGM, to be held at the Village Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> March, when we will be selecting a new committee member and possibly a new Chairman, after which Celia Boyd will talk to us about her novels, based on the English Civil War.

Members will receive the new programme for the coming year, and we hope you will find some exciting topics to look forward to.

Doors open 7.45 p.m. Meeting starts 8.00 p.m.

*Diana Hughes*



## SIBFORD SCHOOL MARKS 175<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

Back in January 1842, nine-year-old Lucy Endall became the first pupil to register at Sibford School.

History tells us she arrived by carrier cart, bringing with her everything a young school girl might need including a straw bonnet, a cloak, two gowns and two pairs of stout shoes!

175 years later, current pupil Sofia Mattinson, also nine, stepped into Lucy's shoes to mark the school's official birthday.

Sibford Head, Toby Spence, said: "It's very exciting to think that we welcomed our first pupils back in 1842. We will be holding events to mark the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout the year and look forward to celebrating with pupils both past and present."

As part of the commemorations, a special Choir Festival will be held on Saturday 1 April at St Mary's Church, Banbury, when Sibford choristers will be joined by pupils from Quaker schools in West Yorkshire, Essex and Northern Ireland.

This exciting musical collaboration will feature a combined performance of Fauré's Requiem. Each choir will also perform a piece of their own choice.

Entry to the Friends Schools Joint Choir Festival is free but there will be a retiring collection in aid of BYHP. All welcome.

*Sofia Mattinson is pictured, along with other current nine-year-old Sibford pupils, cutting a special birthday cake.*



## OPEN EVENTS AT SIBFORD SCHOOL

Sibford School in the Ferris will be opening its doors wide on two occasions this month to give parents the chance to find out more about the school.

On Friday 3 March, starting at 9.45am, Sibford is holding a Whole School Open Morning. This event will include tours of the school and a presentation by Head Toby Spence.

Then, on Saturday 25 March between 10.30am and 12noon, there will be a Junior School Opening Morning focussing on Sibford's provision for children aged 3 to 11.

Edward Rossiter, Head of the Junior School, said: "We hope that by hosting an event on a Saturday morning more families will be able to join us. We will be holding a 'come and play' session for visiting children so it should be good fun as well as informative."

To find out more about both events visit the website

([www.sibfordschool.co.uk](http://www.sibfordschool.co.uk)) or call Elspeth Dyer on 01295 781203.

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**Sibford Gower's Got Talent** was a wonderful, inclusive event at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School. The children were brilliant and showcased a wide range of skills and talents including stand-up comedy and sketches, some amazing singing, guitar, piano, flute, clarinet and saxophone playing, as well as gymnastics and dance. The school hall was filled with families and the atmosphere was incredibly warm and supportive, giving even some of our most reticent children the confidence to stand up and 'give it their all' in front of everyone. This was a really successful evening and made a great end to the half term. To see some pictures of the event please look at the photo gallery on our school website at <http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/>

Although the children rehearsed their acts at home or at play time, some of the musicians have developed their skills through opportunities provided within school time. As well as being able to take part in saxophone, flute and clarinet lessons with our own Keith Allen, from late February our Key Stage Two children are able to sign up for both guitar and singing tuition with our new peripatetic tutors.

Back in the classroom, the children have been having lots of fun. The parents of children in Acorn and Beech Classes were welcomed into school for class assemblies where the children shared all their learning linked to the theme of traditional tales, including a brilliant whole class rendition of Goldilocks & the Three Bears.

Willow Class enjoyed their Victorian Day and everyone entered into the spirit of things, dressing up and working on chalk boards. Thankfully all the children behaved beautifully so there was no need to explore any Victorian school room punishments!



*Miss Grantham as a Victorian school mistress*



## SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Following fairly recent developments in the outdoor spaces across the school site, such as The Orchard Project, we were assessed as a suitable venue for Forest School Leader training. From March, as well as training two of our own teachers, we are hosting teaching staff from schools across the Warriner Partnership who are coming to train in our beautiful school grounds. Let the den building and fire building commence!



*The Orchard Project*



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## SIBFORD HORTI SOCIETY

Our next meeting will be on **8th March**, 7.30 pm when Clive Nichols, the renowned garden photographer will be talking to us.

With this edition of the Scene you should receive a May show schedule. Please take the time to look at the classes to see which ones you can enter. If you have not got one, please contact Gil Soden (780543) or Helen Lamb (780380). Our first meeting of 2017 is on Wednesday 8th March, 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, when Clive Nichols will be talking to us about garden photography. As a world renowned photographer he will have plenty of advice to share and stunning pictures to look at. All welcome. Non members £3.

### *In Your Garden - March*

1. It is time to get the lawn into shape. Rake out the moss, overseed bare patches, trim edges and when it has the first cut, keep the mower blades on high.
2. Clear out any weeds and mulch the borders with well-rotted manure or garden compost.
3. Finish pruning shrub roses by the end of the month, and prune *Hydrangea paniculata* to the lowest pair of strong buds.
4. If you have a heated propagator you can start sowing tomato seeds, and peppers, chillies, cucumbers and aubergines.
5. Shallots and onion sets can be planted out towards the end of March. Plant 4 inches apart, in rows 12 inches apart.
6. In the greenhouse prune and re-pot geraniums.
7. Time to cut back *lonicera* now.(honeysuckle) and prune buddleia back very hard - be brutal - it flowers on new wood.
8. Divide summer flowering perennials now, such as *Astrantias*, *Hostas*
9. Coppice *cornus* and *salix* at the end of the month, to give you coloured stems next winter.
10. On a fine day, clean the glass of the greenhouse, banish spiders nests, look under the pots and the staging for slugs - ugh - and it is O.K to put slug pellets around your vulnerable plants in the greenhouse, but try not to use them in the garden. We all want to get some hedgehogs back into the village.





## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

It is with great sadness I have to write of the death of a Founder Member of the Friendship Club Mrs Beat Tanner aged 106. She will be sadly missed by all our Members. Our thoughts are with Sandra, David and all of the Family at this time.

The trip in March is to Clifford Chambers for a Carvery lunch and the speaker for the March meeting will be Colin from Lockes. Anyone wishing to join us the carvery lunch please call the Sec on 26346

*Eveline Boughton*

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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](http://thesibfords.org.uk)

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**Hook Norton Shop opening hours** - please note that on Sunday, the opening hours are from **9am** to 6pm (contrary to what it states in the ad)

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## LOCAL MARKETS

**Banbury** - Every Thursday & Saturday. Farmers Market - 1st Friday of the month

**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

## 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

*March 1st is the first day of Lent - Ash Wednesday*

*Sunday March 5th the Benefice Eucharist is in Sibford (John) at 10am.*

*March 12th BCP Holy Communion (Ronald) at 8am*

*Morning Praise (Liz) at 9.30am*

*March 19th Holy Communion (Ronald) at 9.30am*

*March 26th Mothering Sunday*

*Family Service (John) at 10am. With posies of flowers.*

If you would like to join a **Lent Group** for some discussion and thought you are warmly welcomed to join the group which will meet in the Rectory on Mondays and Thursdays at 7.30pm. It's the same thing each week on two separate occasions so you could cox and box a bit if your days are busy. No charge. Coffee or maybe strong drink. "The Joy of the Gospel" by Paula Gooder, based on some recent teaching by Pope Francis.

**There are some proposals about making changes to the interior of the church** If this interests or concerns you please do go into church, look at the pictures provided by Nigel Fletcher, which give a flavour of what the proposals might look like, and take away the document giving more details. These are proposals/ ideas/ thoughts and certainly not decisions or firm plans. We welcome comments and feedback and there is paper and a notice board for you to use for this purpose. We shall discuss this further at the Church AGM which will be on Saturday April 29th at 10am - you are ALL invited to come.

# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHATTER

continued...

One reason we'd like to make changes is so that we can provide a **Youth Group**. We had some meetings with young people during the summer months, but the dark venue, the change of schools, and the midweek timing meant this has fizzled out. I believe we can provide table tennis, some other games, tuck shop, chat, maybe craft sometimes, maybe a "godly" discussion sometimes. Perhaps on a Thursday or Friday evening, or a Sunday tea-time, in church, twice a month or every week if we had parental support for a rota. Would this be of interest to anyone? Let me know??

*Ronald Hawkes, The Rectory, Sibford Gower, Banbury, Oxon. OX15 5RW*

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**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

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## March 2017

In February Thames Valley Police with other rural partners launched Country Watch Spring Edition it features information and advice along with interesting items and links for rural residents and businesses visit <http://releasd.com/0904>

Nuisance phone calls are always a problem they can be genuine or scams one way of marketing companies getting your phone number even if you are on the telephone preference service is through applications for insurance on line where your phone number is asked for as part of your details a way round this is to use the following number instead **0333 8888888** this number will state that you don't wish to be contacted by phone but beware you will be emailed instead.

Please follow Police advice at all times and report anything suspicious or anyone who is seen behaving suspiciously.

<p><i>MISS "T" CATERING.</i></p> <p><b>Good Home Cooked Food</b> Catering for events such as: Anniversaries, Weddings, Christenings, Birthday parties, Funerals &amp; private dinner parties.</p>  <p>Also available Cutlery and Crockery Hire. Contact Victoria Taylor on: Mob: 07841 910037 Home: 01295 780206</p>	<p><b>RED HORSE VALE</b> </p> <p>All Types of Fuel, Coal, Smokeless, Gas, Logs Kindling, Barbecue Needs, Central Heating Oil, Oil Tanks &amp; Coal Bunkers Landscape &amp; Building Materials Garden Centre &amp; Garden Supplies, Farm &amp; Country Sundries Equestrian Products, Horse &amp; Pet Feeds Open: Monday - Saturday 8am - 5pm Windmill Farm, Banbury Road (A422) Oxhill, Warwickshire CV35 0RP Tel: 01926 642832 Fax: 01926 642853 <a href="http://www.redhorsevale.co.uk">www.redhorsevale.co.uk</a></p>
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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 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.johnsonskoaches.co.uk/bus-services.html](http://www.johnsonskoaches.co.uk/bus-services.html)

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Sibford Ferris School	1114 1314 1444 1744
Lower Brailes, The Park	1126 1326 1456 1756
Shipston, Pettiphers Garage	1136 1336 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

	NS
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

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MARCH

- 3rd Whole School Open Morning - 9.45am. Sibford School.
- 13th Sibford Ferris PC Meeting - 7.45pm. Sibford School Sports Hall
- 14th Horton Hospital Meeting - 7.30pm. Village Hall
- 16th Sibfords Society AGM - 7.45pm. Village Hall
- 18/19th Sibford Arts Fair. 10.30am. Primary School
- 18th Annual Spring Clean - 10am. Village Hall
- 29th Film Night - 7pm. Village Hall

### MARCH 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 Sibford Ferris: Elm crossroads and Sibford Gower: Wykham Arms car park.

### APRIL (PART)

- 1st Sibford School Choir Festival - St. Mary's Church, Banbury
- 14th Easter Egg Trail - Village Hall

### SIBFORD SCENE

DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE - 18 MARCH 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