

# SIBFORD SCENE

Received  
Thursday  
1/10/81

## 50 - SO FAR

We have reached our half-century, at least in the number of issues. Looking back to the first Scene in March 1977, the years seem to have slipped past. What can you remember of the Jubilee, The Terrible Winter or The Great Flying Saucer Mystery? There is a quiz on page 7 to test your memory (or your hoarding of old magazines).

I should like to thank all those who have contributed in any way over the years for their support, not forgetting the loyal band of deliverers who rarely get a mention.

Are we all set for the next 50?

J.A.

## ATTENTION TODDLERS

If you were not born when Scene began, this is for you. A Toddler Group is starting in the Village Hall on Mondays from 1.45 to 3.15. There will be toys and fun for the children and refreshments and company for all. You don't have to be a child to come along - all ages are welcome, but children must bring their own adult!

The cost - 30p per adult. Further information from Pauline Crawford (Swalcliffe 606).

please come and bring your friends.

# 50TH ISSUE

OCTOBER  
1981



### SIBFORD FETE 1981

My first Fete since becoming Chairman of the Hall Committee is now over, and I feel I know a lot more about the job that I have taken on than I did a month ago.

I suppose that the main consideration of any successful Fete has to be the weather. In this we were very fortunate. It was as though we had booked a time for the rain to start so as to cause us the minimum of inconvenience.

Of equal importance is the goodwill, co-operation and help of the many people who work so hard to make the occasion a success. In previous years I gather that the Chairman has written to stallholders to thank them for the part they played. This year I am departing from that. It seems to me that there are so many people to thank; stallholders, sideshow attendants, the ladies who provided and served the teas, the owners of tents and caravans, the provider of straw bales and their delivery and collection, those who fetched and carried before and after the event - the list of people without whose help in so many different ways would make the occasion the poorer is a very long one. I have then asked for space in the Scene so that I can thank everyone who played a part in making this year's Fete a success.

We do not know yet the final figure, but it seems that we may just have exceeded last years, a very pleasing outcome when one remembers that there were other attractions in the area on that afternoon.

So, to all members of the Committee, to all those who gave their help and, of course, to all who came and spent their money, I say, 'Thank you very much, and here's to the next one'.

Tony Rye  
Chairman

### SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL REPAIR AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

There has been a very gratifying response to the appeal for this Fund launched about a month ago, and there is every indication that we will reach our target in the next few months. I know that many of you think that this is a lot of money to spend on a roof that looks 'alright' but we have had expert advice that this work must be done if we are to avoid a disaster. We are therefore anxious to instruct builders as soon as possible before prices escalate further. We have in any case plans for developing further space and facilities.

Please treat this matter urgently and if you have not returned your pro-forma, or worse, not received one, please take the necessary action as soon as possible.

Sydney Agnew

### VINTAGE '66

Mrs Freda Payne has dug out a Village Hall Newsletter from 1966. In that year, the Fete made a profit of £142 7s 3d and the hall could be hired for 6/- per hour, or £2 for a dance until midnight. Bingo sessions, which had been a roaring success in 1964, had suddenly begun to lose money and had to be abandoned, to the great disappointment of the players.

Mrs Payne also recalled the dances that her mother-in-law helped to organise in the days when the money was being raised to build the hall. I wonder how many of those young dancers are still in the village.



FIRE!    FIRE!    FIRE!

HELP!

The County Council are to reconsider a proposal to scrap the Hook Norton Volunteer Fire Brigade and transfer the fire cover to the Brigade at Banbury: a proposal they refused only last June.

This has come as a shattering shock to those of us who were led to believe we had helped save the Brigade at that time.

The proposition claims it will save £19,000 by disbanding the Volunteers at Hook Norton, who have reached a high standard of ability, and covered a wide area of villages, lanes, farms and outlying properties, difficult to locate on winter nights and in bad road conditions.

It also claims that the area, including the Sibfords, Rollright Swerford, Epwell, Swalcliffe etc., will in future be satisfactorily covered by the Banbury Brigade, who, it is claimed, would only take 10 MINUTES LONGER to reach an outbreak than Hook Norton! Ten minutes could mean the difference between LIFE AND DEATH or a burnt out row of thatched cottages.

Those of us who have lived here all our lives recall with gratitude the many occasions, some that were very serious indeed, when the promptness and expertise of this local Brigade of Volunteers have turned what could well have been a lost cause into a more minor loss. (What would have happened to the Wykham Arms without their quick turn-out, sad as it was for Olive and Joe?)

I ask all who feel, even in these hard times, it wrong to withdraw this kind of service, provided by Volunteers, to save only £19,000 (which is peanuts in relation to the millions spent by the County Council, and could be 'lost' if spread over all their less vital responsibilities, on Budget Day) to write to The County Council, County Hall, Oxford, in protest. Or send letters of support to Harold Clifton, our County Councillor, who is fighting hard to prevent this happening. He lives at Senendone House, Shenington.

THE HOOK NORTON BRIGADE HAVE COME TO OUR AID MANY TIMES

LET US GO TO THEIRS NOW

TIME IS SHORT                      PLEASE ACT NOW!

Lewis Poulton

THE BUNNY MARKET

Good as New clothes  
(size 0 - 16).  
The Barn, Sibford Ferris.  
Tel. Swalcliffe 343  
Open Thurs. Fri. and Sat.  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

THE BARN, SIBFORD FERRIS

Furniture, pictures, gifts etc.  
Browse around at your leisure-  
No obligation to buy.  
Open Thurs. Fri. & Sat.  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Tel. 343)

WANTED

WOODSTOCK. Is anyone interested in going to Woodstock on Friday mornings, regularly or occasionally, and sharing petrol costs? There are Art and Literature classes, W.E.A. or just shopping or sightseeing. Please contact Jeanie Jones Swa. 631



### RED CROSS

The first of the Banbury area Red Cross Bring and Buy Coffee Mornings will be held at Mrs Law's house on Wednesday 28th October at 10.30. There will be a fine selection of goods for sale, and we hope for your generous Bring & Buy support for the Red Cross

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### METHODIST CHURCH

There will be a Sale of Home-made Cakes and Produce at The Leys, Backside Lane, on Saturday 17th October from 10.30 to 12. Proceeds to the Methodist Church.  
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.

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### POPPY COLLECTION

This year you can expect your usual Poppy Collector to call any day between Thurs. 29th October and Saturday 7th November.  
If every household would be kind enough to put in 5p extra, it would make the total over £10 more than last year.

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### PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup's A.G.M. will be held on Tuesday 6th October at 8 p.m. in the Friends Hall. In addition to the usual business, there will be a short talk, "Playgroup is Fun - Now" given by Dorothy Hargreaves, President of the Chipping Norton branch of P.P.A. All past, present and future Playgroup parents are invited and anyone else with an interest in young children.

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### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Wednesday 14th October sees the A.G.M. and Wine and Cheese evening in the Village Hall.

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### FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Thanks to the wonderful contributions in cash from our own members, the Friendship Club stall took £103.60 at the Fete.

Tuesday 6th Village Hall  
Mr Gibson, catering Manager at the Friends School, has kindly offered to show us his slides of Hong Kong where he recently had a holiday.

Tuesday 20th Village Hall  
Mrs Marsha Gaffery is bringing her O.A.P. Dancing Group to give us a display of International Dances, hoping that members will join in. The dances are mostly in circles and reasonably slow and graceful. No punk rock!

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### W.I.

At the September meeting, the President thanked Mrs Dyer for her valuable contribution to the W.I. during her years in the village, and wished her well in her forthcoming move.

The speaker at the meeting was Miss Bean who spoke on "Work for the Deaf in Oxfordshire". She brought with her some useful and novel gadgets which make life easier for the severely handicapped Deaf, and her talk gave us new insight into their problems in this Year of the Disabled.

Mrs Abbott proposed a vote of thanks and Miss Bean then judged the pots of jam in the competition, awarding 1st prize to Mrs Conway. Teas were provided by Mrs Baggaley and Mrs Stewart.

Tuesday 13th  
A demonstration of Patchwork by Miss Phillips.  
Competition - The Last Rose of Summer.

### RED ARROWS

A reminder of the Film Show on November 19th at 8 p.m. in the Friends School. Admission £1, O.A.P.s and children 60p. Refreshments and Stalls. Watch for posters.



## YOUNG COUNTY CRICKETERS

Two Warriner boys have completed an extremely successful season playing for the Oxfordshire Schools Cricket Association at Under-14 level. Jeffrey Hutchinson and Andrew Sabin (of Shutford) headed the final bowling and batting averages respectively, their performances helping the County to remain unbeaten.

Jeffrey, with his accuracy and ability to swing the ball, proved very difficult to score from, and his final figure of 3 runs per wicket was a notable achievement. His best performance was a remarkable 5 for 6 in 15 overs against Northamptonshire, and at Leicester he took 3 for 7 from 18 overs.

Andrew batted consistently well in all matches, finishing with an overall average of 30, his best score being 40 against Leicester. Perhaps his most valuable contribution, however, was at Oxford when he played a major part in staving off defeat against a strong Essex side.

The boys are the only representatives to be selected from the northern part of the county, and both also turn out regularly for the Upton House Club.

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## HARVEST THANKSGIVING

This year we've decided to hold our Harvest service in the evening of Saturday 3rd October. This is so that we can extend our fellowship together by sharing the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall straight after the service. The service begins at 6 p.m. in Church, and the supper follows in the Hall at 6.45.

If you are used to decorating the Church for Harvest, please note that this will be done on the Friday. We hope that those who come to the service will bring some suitable gifts of their own, as a symbolic act of giving back to God the firstfruits of the land.

The Rev. Leslie Hann has agreed to come and preach and sup with us, so I hope that Christians from all denominations will be able to be welcomed.

Tickets for the Supper are £1.75 adult and 75p children, to include liquid refreshment.

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## CHURCHYARD CLEARING

The Churchyard, which belongs to the whole village, of course, has been a constant source of discussion over years past. All sorts of ideas have been proffered as to how best to keep it tidy. But we have come to the decision that there is no substitute for hard work.

Having decided that, the Church Council at its recent meeting decided to set Saturday 17th October as grand clean-up day. The day will start at 10 a.m. and we hope that all sorts of people with all sorts of weapons will descend during the day and make the churchyard respectable for the winter months. And then, perhaps, we shan't let it get so bad again in 1982.

Rumour hath it that liquid lunch will be provided of a distinctly local nature: which should help us through the task—there's nothing like hot soup and coffee to keep one working in cool Autumn days.

While on the subject of the Churchyard, there have been observed plastic flowers on some graves. This matter has been mentioned before: the Church Council feels them to be inappropriate.

Timothy Wimbush



### GREEN SHIELD STAMPS

If you have any Green Shield or other stamps, BBONT can use them. By special arrangement, The Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Naturalists Trust is able to redeem for cash old stamps and cigarette coupons. It does not matter if they are stuck together or in tatty condition - we can use them. Already over £600 has been raised by this method and BBONT needs cash to continue its vital work in saving the natural wildlife of our beautiful countryside.

If you have any of these and are prepared to part with them in a good cause, please contact Harry Williams at Willow Cottage, Upper Tadmarton (Swa 680) or the Trust's central office at 122 Church Way, Iffley, Oxford, or Frank Rollett, Grassholm, Sibford Gower (Swa. 309).

### CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS

By the beginning of November you will probably be starting to think about Christmas. Save the Children Fund have a very good selection of Christmas cards and gifts. These will be on sale at a Coffee Morning at Park Farm House, Burdrop, on Friday November 6th at 10.30. Why not come to the Coffee Morning and kill two birds with one stone? Buy some Christmas gifts and help some children. There will be a cake stall and the usual raffle as well.

If you can't manage the Friday, the Save the Children Fund are running a stall on the Market on the following Saturday (7th) so look out for that.

Sue Lambert

### FOLK DANCING

The Folk Dance Club will be holding its Harvest Supper and Folk Dance on Saturday October 17th. Dancing to John Chapman with the Bidford Band. Ticket only.

### LEO CLUB

The Club will meet on Tuesday 27th October at 8 p.m. at Barbara Dunning's house, Denmar, Epwell. If anyone would like transport, please get in touch with Ann Spicer, 7 High Meadow, (Swa. 690) Please do come along

RALPH C. HOGGINS

TYSOE

for regular supplies of

SOLID FUELS

Ring Tysoe 281

Economical self-drive hire. Maxi at Mini rates. Dormobile Motor Caravan from £49 per week. No mileage charge. No V.A.T. Comprehensive insurance included. Swalcliffe 522.

WANTED Stretch covers to fit winged 2-seater settee and 2 arm chairs. Swa. 8177 after 6 p.m.

### SWALCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

#### GRAND AUTUMN SALE DAY

Sat. Oct. 3rd 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Hall will be open to receive all Sale items on Friday 2nd from 6 - 8 p.m. Larger items can be collected (Swa. 295). Proceeds to new Village Hall Kitchen.

#### BRING AND BUY YOUR FAVOURITE RECIPES TO A CHEESE AND WINE EVENING

Late October in Swalcliffe Village Hall (details later). Proceeds to 1982 Summer Fair expenses. Fill your freezer or take away for a tasty meal tomorrow.



## THE GARDEN IN OCTOBER

This month sees growth subsiding and marks the beginning of the 'moving season'. The ground is warm and moist, ideal for planting and transplanting shrubs, particularly evergreens. They should be lifted carefully with a good ball of soil round the roots. Dig a hole of adequate size and fork in some peat, but take care not to plant too deep. The soil should come up to the mark on the trunk where the shrub had been in its previous bed. Water in, and when it has settled down in a few days, tread the ground firmly. On exposed sites, it is a good idea to stake it.

While the ground is still warm at the beginning of the month, there is time to sow lettuce, onions and spinach. Choose a 'short day' lettuce such as 'Density', Premier, Windermere; Dandie and Kloek are the earliest to mature, particularly if the seedlings can be covered by frames or cloches. Onion Suttons Solidity for harvesting next summer can just be sown in the first week of October, as can White Lisbon, preferably the Winter Hardy variety. Spinach Greenmarket is hardy and should go away quickly from a sowing now.

Now is the time to start Cyclamen into growth. You can repot them if you think it is necessary or just top dress them by removing the top 1-1½ inches of soil and replacing it with some fresh potting compost. With any luck the herbaceous plants will go on for a few weeks yet, but keep a watchful eye on dahlias and prepare to cut them down once they are touched by frost.

JARDIN

## A SIBFORD LIFE QUIZ

All the answers are to be found in back numbers of the Scene.

- 1 Who had to choose between sharks and crocodiles?
- 2 Who were they and when were they last seen?
- 3 What part of the Sibford scene was missing in May 1977?
- 4 Who won the competition for the Village Hall colour scheme?
- 5 Who found his passport to America in Sibford?
- 6 Who went 'a'gooding' in December?
- 7 Where would Reubin Sabin take you in the 1880's ?
- 8 Whom did the villagers take to court for more money?
- 9 What ferrous object was resurrected in the Ferris?
- 10 When did the Scene change shape?
- 11 On what occasion was this said: "However widely people travel, Sibford is the place they like to come home to" ?
- 12 What is The Loggins?
- 13 Who indulged in a charitable bean-feast?
- 14 Who resolved, "Must dress up more often" ?
- 15 The Gower Post Office closed on June 30th, but which year?

1 Dr Agnew 2 The title of a book by Joshua Lamb about the Meeting  
House graveyard. It was last seen in 1966. 3 The ducks  
4 Mr Sabin 5 The Rector 6 The poor and the P.T.A. 7 He was  
the carrier who would take you to The Fox in Banbury.  
8 The Town Charity Trustees 9 A seat 10 November 1978  
11 At the 21st Anniversary Village Hall Quiz (Nov. '78) 15 1979  
12 A Sibford charity 13 Rob Evans at the Bishop Blaise  
14 David Soden when given discount while wearing his Palace suit

ANSWERS



