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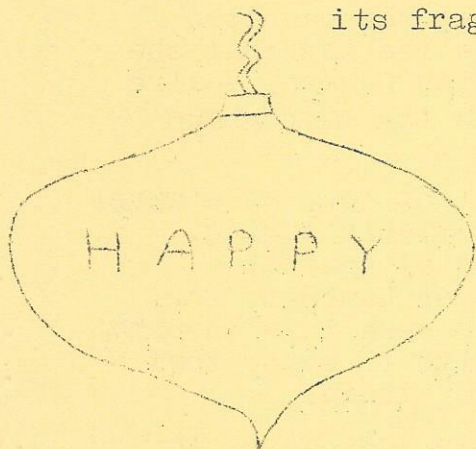
SIBFORD SCENE

DECEMBER '82 / JANUARY '83

NUMBER 62

FIRST FROST

The first frost lies on the receiving grass
with a shimmer of silk
Palest green beneath, strengthens to meet
the misty light of the yet unrisen sun.
Rain, gales and bitter cold
may follow,
Snow and slush, with all its attendant hazards
may develop,
but I saw
The first frost of winter on the grass,
and I will not forget
its fragile beauty.



CHRISTMAS AT THE PARISH CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE Midnight Mass at 11.30

CHRISTMAS DAY Communion 8 am
Informal Family Service
with Communion 11.15 am

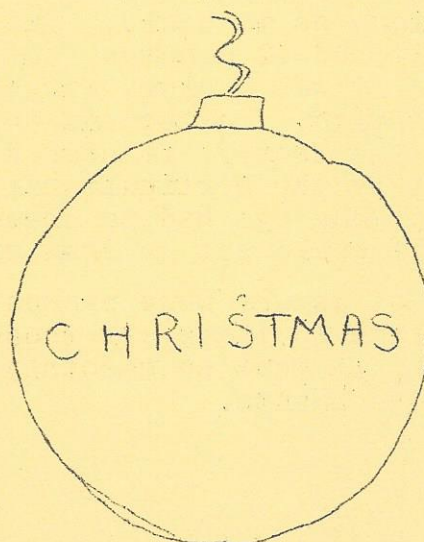
SIBFORD P.T.A. CHRISTMAS DANCE

17th December 8.30 - late

DISCO, BAR & REFRESHMENTS

Tickets £2.75

from P.T.A. committee members
or ring Swalcliffe 529.



A LADY MISLAID

It was good to see live acting back on the stage at Sibford after a gap of 6 - 7 years. Welcome to The Sibberts, who, in the play entitled "A Lady Mislaidd" by Kenneth Horne, drew a full house on both Friday and Saturday nights. The audience assembled in hopeful expectation and was not disappointed.

The play was a light comedy, which, nonetheless, had its moments of tension, and the mystery was finally revealed in an amusing way. It was efficiently produced by David Foulds. Erica Wolfenden and Cheryl James played two strongly contrasted sisters. Cheryl especially deserves praise for her characterisation of a budding writer of artistic temperament.

All the players maintained their parts consistently. Elaine Hobday drew many laughs as the Daily Help, and Karen Reynolds in her first appearance on any stage was quite charming, and we look forward to seeing her again.

The whole production promises well for the future and congratulations go to Erica Wolfenden who started the ball rolling.

Well done - The Sibberts! Keep Going!

E.G.

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THE ANNUAL VILLAGE QUIZ

There was an atmosphere of tense excitement and eager anticipation, with just a little trepidation amongst some of the teams, in a packed Village Hall on the evening of the Tournament.

Mr Tony Rye opened the proceedings by introducing the question person, Miss Margaret LeMare, who commented with some feeling that she was question master. Mr Rye's immediate riposte, "Miss LeMare, you're not switched on!" turned out later to be a comment on the microphone arrangements.

Unflustered, Miss LeMare went on to do an excellent job, as always, providing questions that were both interesting and suitably taxing. The competitors brought to their task an amazing fund of general knowledge and a witty commonsense that enabled Mr Roger Lambert, for example, to answer that the reason why the Queen had been into hospital recently was to visit Princess Diana, and Mr John Smith to state that the venue of the S.D.P. conference had been a railway train.

There was a slight change to the proceedings this year with, in addition to individual questions, 60 seconds for each team to answer as many questions as it could. The Folk Dance team visibly brightened when told that it had 60 minutes, but to their chagrin, this was quickly corrected. It was a close fought battle with every team doing credit to its organisation. In the end the Parish Church team could not quite hold on to the trophy: it scored an excellent 45 points, but was pipped at the post by the Horticultural Society with a superb 52. So a somewhat embarrassed Tony Rye had to present the cup to his own team, with the hope that it would not go down with blackspot or mildew.

Those of us who were present had a thoroughly enjoyable evening and would like to thank all those who took part, the officials who ensured that it went so smoothly and the Youth Club for providing most welcome refreshments.

R.A.

HISTORY WHILE YOU COOK

On sale in local bookshops now is Cogges Farmhouse Kitchen by Christine Bloxham, illustrated by Mollie Picken (alias Mulley in Sibford).

It is a fascinating recreation of the household routine of the Mawle family at Manor Farm, Cogges, at the turn of the century. The family, incidentally, moved to Cogges from Sibford where their former farm still bears their name. The book describes the farm kitchen and its equipment together with recipes for each day of the week and season of the year. You can learn, or be reminded, how to re-use soap scraps, bake Wiggs, dry herbs, make cheese, seed cake, elderflower champagne, nettle beer, sugar mice and gingerbread men. Well over 200 recipes in all.

It is a beautifully produced book with colour illustrations of immense charm and detail on every page. It would make an excellent Christmas gift, whether the recipient's interest was in history, cooking or a re-living of childhood memories.

Cogges Farmhouse Kitchen £2.50 from local bookshops, The Banbury Museum, Horsefair, or any Oxfordshire museum. The museums also sell many unusual gifts and cards including designs by Mollie Picken.

J.A.

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CHURCH NOTES

The Church is delighted to play host this year to two separate Carol Services:

Thursday 16th December, at 7 pm for Brownies, Cub Scouts
and Guides
Monday 20th December at 7.30 for the Youth Club

At both these services anyone else will be welcomed, and after each suitable Christmas-style refreshments will be served in the Village Hall.

Looking into January, it is the turn of the Church to play host for the United Service which we have become used to hold during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. While it may not be the most earth-shattering way of celebrating the churches' growing together, it is a simple and most sincere way of gently reminding each other of our unity in Christ. I hope, therefore, that all Churches will be represented at that service. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

Timothy Wimbush

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BABY CLINIC

A Baby Clinic will be held at Sibford Gower Surgery on the 2nd Wednesday afternoon of each month from 1.30 till 3. Mothers with children under 5 registered with Dr Agnew's practice are invited to attend. I look forward to meeting you.

E.M. Fisher
Health Visitor

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

May I thank, on behalf of the Royal British Legion, all those who sorted, put together, collected - and gave - for our appeal this year. The value is not yet known as it is still being counted, but the 'tins' weighed well when I carried them to the bank. Thank you again.

John Mulley
Collector, Sibfords

LEO CLUB

No meeting in December.
For details of the January 25th meeting, contact Ann Spicer (690) nearer the time.

W.I.

Tuesday 14th December in the Friends Mission Room, a Surprise meeting organised by the members.

Tuesday 11th January, a talk by Mr Freeman on the National Childrens' Home. Competition - a bowl of Hyacinths. Tea hostesses, Mrs Soden and Mrs Hutchinson.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Our visit on November 13th to the Friends School was an afternoon we shall always remember. The entertainment by some of the younger pupils was excellent and the tea, made by the Domestic Science class and handed round by the pupils, made everyone forget to be 'on a diet'. What a lot we owe to this school and also to the Village School where we hope to visit in March.

December 7th

This is the club's Christmas tea and Carols and this year we are hoping to welcome Miss Anne Muir from the Friends School to give away the tokens presented annually to our Helpers who do so much to make the Club a success: arranging and clearing the hall, providing transport, serving tea and biscuits not to mention all that washing up! We shall welcome also Mr Tony Rye to play for our carols, and several of our honorary members who have helped us in many ways.

January 4th

As this date is near the New Year weekend, we are inviting members to come as usual for an afternoon of cards, games and dominoes.

January 18th

Annual Meeting. This is an important occasion as we must elect a new Chairman and there are quite a few other decisions to be made. We hope as many members as possible will be present.

M.B.Flinn

SATURDAY DEC. 11th

VILLAGE HALL

CHILDREN'S DISCO 5-7 pm
50p including drink & sweet

MIDWAY CLUB DANCE (over 18)
£1.50 Tickets at door 8 pm

SAVE THE CHILDREN

I was so grateful to all those who came to my Coffee Morning on November 12th.

The S.C.F. gifts took a record £300. 50% of the Christmas cards and 30% of the gifts is profit, so we should have made over £100 for the Fund. In addition, the cake stall, bring & buy, raffle and donations made over £65.

Very many thanks to all who made it such an enjoyable and successful morning.

Charlotte Leyburn has also done her bit for the Save the Children Fund. She ran a stall in her back garden in the summer and made £2.44½ which she is giving to the Fund. Very many thanks.

S. Lambert

RALPH C. HOGGINS

TYSOE

for regular supplies of

SOLID FUELS

Ring Tysoe 281

WILJA Potatoes for sale.
£2 per half-cwt (25 kg). Will deliver.
C. Upton. Swalcliffe 737

DIMMERS

The Village Hall Committee would like to dispose of the obsolete dimming lighting equipment in the projection room. If anybody has any claim to it or would like to have it for any purpose, please contact me before Jan. 1st.

Tony Rye (763)

NOW AVAILABLE

Tickets for Stratford Operatic Society's production of

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre
Tuesday February 22nd 7.30 pm
Tickets £2.50 Fare £1 approx
Swalcliffe 510

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

DECEMBER MEETING

Our meeting in December, on 8th at 8 pm in the Village Hall as usual, will have a distinctly Christmas flavour; Mrs Randall will show us how to make Christmas Garlands and will judge two competitions:-

- i) a Christmas table arrangement
- ii) a Christmas frontal arrangement

Small prizes will be given to the winners; coffee and mince pies will be provided by the committee. New members will be very welcome to join us at that meeting! we look forward to a pleasant evening.

JANUARY MEETING

At the first meeting in the New Year, on January 12th at 8 pm, we shall have two colourful films: Nature's Bounty on Japanese gardens, and Tulip Fiesta. Sales table and coffee as usual.

Copies of our programme of meetings for the year will, by now, have been distributed to all members; anyone who hasn't received one, or would like one, please let us know:-

Sibford Gower

Crossroads south, including Barley Close, Sycamore Close - Mrs T. Law
Crossroads north, including Backside Lane & High Meadow - Mr R. Spicer
Crossroads west, including Bonds End Lane - Mrs G. Soden
Crossroads east to Village Hall - Mr J. Sabin
Burdop - Mr R. Lambert
Sibford Ferris - Mr J. Sabin

R. Lambert

NETBALL

We had an enjoyable game in the sunshine. The players were of very mixed ability and age, and all agreed they would like to play again. The next two mornings will be Saturday Jan. 29th and Saturday Feb. 26th at 10 am (weather permitting). There is a small charge of 10p. Beginners and 'retired' players welcome. Ring Sue Lambert (544) or Erica Wolfenden (432) during the week beforehand to confirm. We don't intend to play in blizzards!

S.L.

MONEY BOXES

Many thanks to you all who have contributed to the cost of Sibford Scene. As a result of the boxes in the Post Offices and various individual donations, we shall be solvent for the coming year - a very comforting thought! Thanks particularly to Mrs Dyer and Mr Keyte for looking after the boxes, and the Friendship Club and Horticultural Society for their recent contributions. The Ferris box contained £16.50½ and that in the Gower £14.31 plus a late 50p.

J.A.

PLAYGROUP BAZAAR

Father Christmas made his first splendid appearance of the season, there were many bargains, and takings were £294, and it didn't snow.

