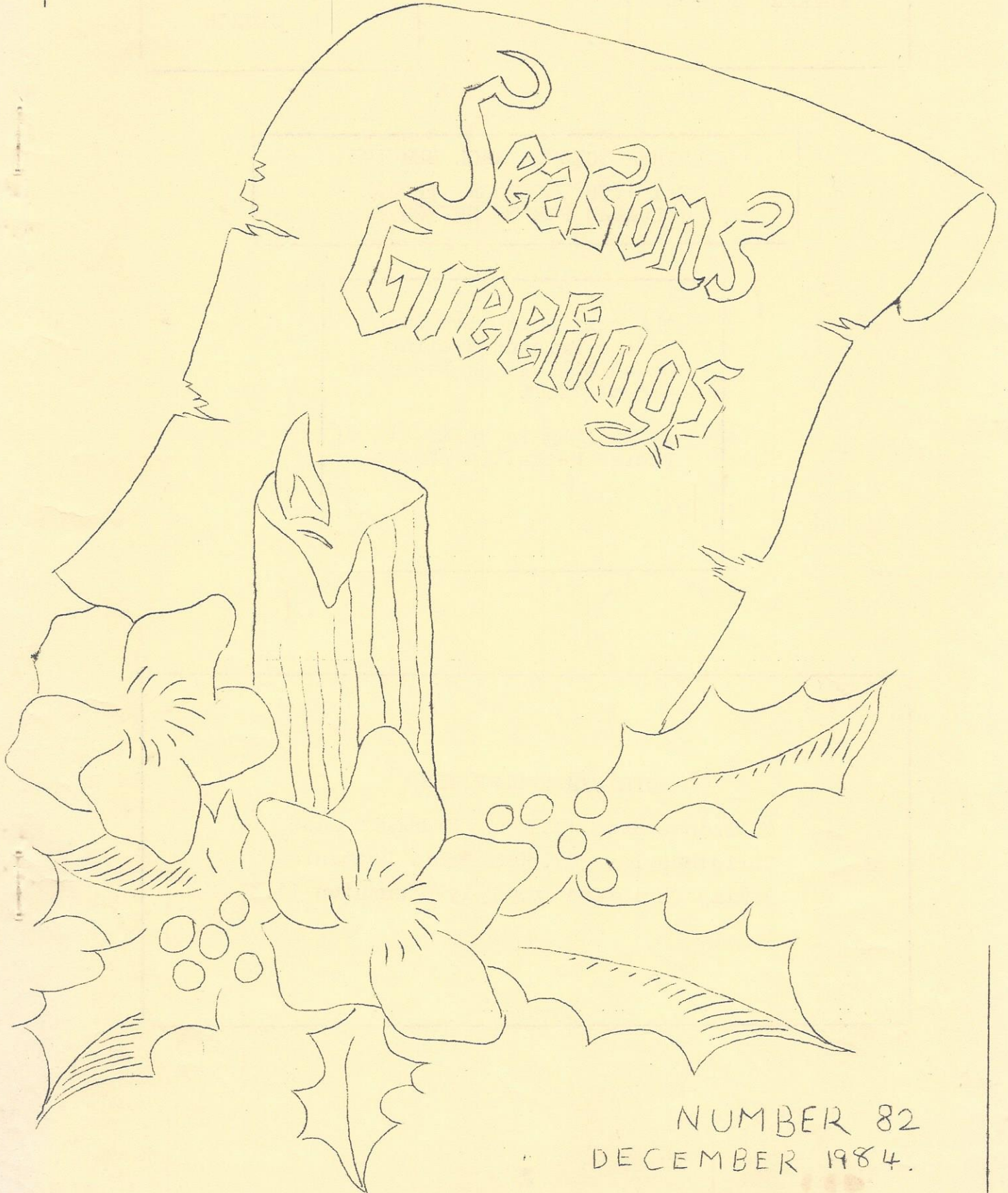


SIBFORD SCENE



NUMBER 82
DECEMBER 1984.

CAROLS FOR
CHRISTMAS

Wednesday 12th 2.30
Thursday 13th 7pm

SIBFORD
PRIMARY SCHOOL

CAROLS FOR

BROWNIES

CUBS

GUIDES

AND EVERYONE

Friday 14th 7pm

IN CHURCH

WARRINER SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER 7.30PM
BLOXHAM PARISH CHURCH

The next Austerity Lunch
at the Friends Meeting
House will be on December
5th at 12.15.

It will again be in aid of
Famine Relief in Africa.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 7.30am Holy Communion
Family Christmas Day Holy Communion 11.30

W.I. NEWS

An open meeting was held at The Friends School on October 26th by kind permission of the Headmaster. About 150 members and friends from Sibford and surrounding villages enjoyed an amusing illustrated talk by Mollie Harris (Martha Woodford of "The Archers") on "An Oxfordshire Childhood". Craft stalls and a W.I. market stall aroused much interest and refreshments were served.

The draw for the Community Quilt was made by Mrs Harris and the winner was Mrs Law. She kindly offered it for further fundraising. £150 was raised from the raffle and The Cheshire Home and N.S.P.C.C. will benefit from this. Many thanks to all who supported the evening or bought tickets.

The November meeting welcomed Mrs Judd who gave a timely demonstration of Cake Icing, in anticipation of Christmas. This was much enjoyed.

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday December 11th in the Mission Room at 2pm - Members Meeting and Tea.

Tuesday January 8th in the Mission Room at 2pm - Mrs Bristow with travel slides.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

TUESDAY 4th DECEMBER 2pm Village Hall
CLUB CHRISTMAS TEA.

TUESDAY 18th DECEMBER 4.30 Wykham Arms
CHRISTMAS DINNER

TUESDAY 1st JANUARY NO MEETING

TUESDAY 15th JANUARY 2pm Village Hall
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please continue collecting waste paper. The last load taken fetched £46 for the club.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

This year's house-to-house collection raised £186.52, up on last year by £27.04. This, combined with the generous donation of Remembrance Day Service collection by the P.C.C. of Holy Trinity (with some more to follow) enables me to send off £258.88 to this so worthy cause. Thank you all for your generosity, on behalf of the Legion. We shall, of course, be calling again next year and look forward to your support.

John Mulley (Hon. Collector, Sibfords)

ETHIOPIA - 1

The lunch and Bring & Buy Sale on November 2nd raised £91 which I have sent to the Red Cross Ethiopia Appeal in Oxford. Many thanks to all who came and spent their money.

Carole Moir

ETHIOPIA - 2

Mrs Judy Abbott has passed on a letter from Action Aid; following her childrens' Sale in September. Donations will be used "both to alleviate the present awful conditions and to help the people of the country construct a better future."

SIBFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

"Colour In The Garden" will be the subject of our next meeting in the Village Hall on December 12th, when the speaker will be Mrs Grundy.

We do hope that members will do their Christmas decorations early this year and enter them in the classes arranged:-

- 1) A Christmas Dinner Table Arrangement
- 2) A Christmas Arrangement in a Candlestick

Mr and Mrs Jarvis will welcome gifts for the Sales Table: plants, cakes, bring and buy - and they have confirmed that they will again be bringing candles for sale.

We welcome new members wishing to join the Society. The subscription is £1.50 per year.

It was agreed at the Annual General Meeting that we do not hold our monthly meetings in January and February, owing to travelling hazards during the winter months.

The committee and myself wish all members a very Happy Christmas.

John Sabin

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CHIROPODY

The Mobile Clinic will be in
the Village Hall Car Park on
Wednesday 19th December
and
Wednesday 16th January

GUIDES' BAZAAR

THURSDAY 6th DECEMBER 7.15
VILLAGE HALL

PLAYGROUP BAZAAR

SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER 2.30
VILLAGE HALL

CHURCH NOTES

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This annual week is marked in our village by the holding of a special united service. This year we shall all meet at the Methodist Church at 3pm on Sunday 20th January. We hope for a goodly number from our different traditions, so that, together, we may witness to our common belief in Jesus Christ. After the service there will be a chance for a chat over some simple refreshments.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

We would like to thank all those who contributed in any way to the recent successful Christmas Bazaar. We are pleased to report takings of just over £200. Thanks very much to all, not least to our organiser, whose blushes I will spare.

Timothy Wimbush

PRIMARY SCHOOL DATES

P.T.A. DANCE

Friday 7th December

CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Wednesday 12th December 2.30
Thursday 13th December 7 pm

CHILDREN SINGING FOR CHILDREN

St. Mary's Church Banbury

Saturday 15th December
(School Choir participating)

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Friday 14th December

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday 18th December

TERM ENDS

Wednesday 19th December

SPRING TERM BEGINS

Tuesday 8th January

CONCERT AND SUPPER ON NOVEMBER 10TH

We were sorry to have to cancel this, but, by Saturday 3rd, we had sold no more than 18 tickets. As the catering side of the evening had to be planned well in advance, I felt that we could not leave things any longer, and concluded that, despite the advance notices, posters and reply slips, there was not enough interest to make the event possible.

Tony Rye

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

CAROL SERVICE

St. Mary's Church, Banbury
Sunday 9th December
Please be seated by 2.45
All members welcome.

CHRISTMAS WHIST DRIVE

Wednesday 5th December
Swalcliffe Village Hall
8pm 50p

CRASH OF WELLINGTON BOMBER

On Sunday December 7th 1941 at 18.30 hrs, during a freak snow storm, two R.A.F. Officers, Pilot Officer W.T.G. Gabriel and Pilot Officer J.A. Bright of R.A.F. Edgehill (Shenington Aerodrome), were walking on the main Banbury - Shipston road near Pitch Hill. They saw an aircraft fly over them, heading in a southerly direction, at very low altitude, only ten or twelve feet above the ground, with its landing lights on.

After passing over these two officers, the aircraft hit the top of a telegraph pole situated at the top of Pitch Hill. It then gained a little height before the starboard wing dropped, the plane spun in and crashed in a field about 500 yards away, owned by Mr James Scruby of Sibford Ferris (now owned by Major Asser). This field lies approximately half way between the Sibford Elm and what is now Dr Agnew's Surgery. On impact, the aircraft burst into flames and broke in half, facing in a north-easterly direction, the rear half of the fuselage at right angles to the front.

P.O. Gabriel and P.O. Bright ran to the scene of the crash and saw a crew member trying to move in the front half of the fuselage, near the wireless operator's position. As they drew nearer, the starboard petrol tanks exploded, setting the surrounding grass on fire.

After several unsuccessful attempts, P.O.s Gabriel and Bright managed to drag the badly injured and burning crew member clear of the fuselage, just as the port petrol tanks blew up, spraying the whole area with burning fuel.

The two R.A.F. Officers were then joined by the local Police Constable, P.C. Leslie Simons of Sibford Police House. Together they extinguished the burning clothing on the airman and carried him to awaiting men who put him upon a hurdle and carried him to Dr H. Taylor's house in Burdrop.

Whilst this was taking place, the ammunition, oxygen bottles etc. were exploding with the intense heat, the plane and surrounding area blazing fiercely, the sky was lit up and the glow could be seen for many miles around.

At about this time, another crew member was found wandering in the field, concussed and in a state of shock, not knowing what had happened. He too was taken to Dr Taylor.

As the telephone lines had been broken by the crashing aircraft, a passing motorist was asked to go to Banbury for the ambulance and to inform the Police Station of the incident. At 19.40 hrs Hook Norton Fire Brigade arrived and eventually extinguished the burning aircraft.

Later in the evening, P.C. Simons, assisted by three other Police Officers and the Medical Officer from R.A.F. Edgehill, Flying Officer Barr, recovered four bodies from the wreckage, badly burned and unrecognisable. They were then taken to Mr James Scruby's barn at Sibford Ferris, awaiting the visit of the Coroner, Mr Fortescue, the following afternoon.

An R.A.F. Guard from Edgehill arrived at the scene at 20.45 hrs and remained on duty throughout the night.

On Monday December 8th 1941 official enquiries revealed that the crashed aircraft was a Vickers Wellington B1 twin-engined bomber, No. Z1089, a month old, only flown for 75 hours, and carrying a crew of six. The aircraft and crew were all attached to 21 O.T.U. R.A.F. Moreton-in-Marsh, and had taken off at 18.00 hrs on December 7th on a cross-country operational training flight. It entered low cloud and, owing to the very bad weather conditions at the time, iced up, went out of control and crashed.

The crew members who died in the crash were:

P.O. Kenneth Wilfred Watson	Age 28	Pilot
Sgt. James Hubbard	Age 20	Pilot
Sgt. Edwin F.T. Medder	Age 26	W/OP Air Gunner
Sgt. Christopher George Tierney	Age 21	" "

The injured crew members were:

Sgt. John Martin	Age 23	Air Observer
Sgt. Robert John Newton	Age 23	Rear Gunner

It was noted at the time that the actions of P.O. Gabriel, P.O. Bright and P.C. Leslie Simons were instrumental in saving the life of Sgt. John Martin in the face of extreme difficulty and danger caused by the exploding aircraft.

The dead crew members were remembered at our Remembrance Day Service on November 11th this year in Holy Trinity Church, Sibford Gower.

Bruce Horn

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KEEP FIT

The last session of the year will be on 11th December. After the Christmas exercises, those for the body might be required again, so sessions will begin at 10 am on Tuesday 15th January at the Village Hall. Charges (60p) are unchanged. Ladies of all ages welcome.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends Sunday 11am
 Methodists Sunday 11am
 Holy Trinity 2nd Dec., 6th Jan. 8am Holy Communion
 9th Dec., 13th & 27th Jan. 10am Holy Communion
 16th Dec., 20th Jan. 10am Holy Communion
 (Jan. Children's)
 23rd Dec. Pre-Christmas Family Service
 30th Dec. United Benefice Eucharist at Sibford

Thursdays 7.30am Holy Communion
 Sundays 9th Dec. & 20th Jan. Adults' Own. 8pm

* * * * * CHRISTMAS SERVICES * * * * *

December 24th 11.30pm Midnight Mass
 December 25th 7.30am Holy Communion
 11.30am Family Communion Service
 December 28th and January 1st 10am Holy Communion

* * * * *

DECEMBER

Tuesday 4th Friendship Club Christmas Tea 2pm
 Wednesday 5th Austerity Lunch Friends Meeting House
 Swalcliffe Whist Drive 8pm
 Friday 7th P.T.A. Dance Village Hall 8.30

Sunday 9th British Legion Carol Service in Banbury
 Tuesday 11th W.I. Members' meeting
 Wednesday 12th Primary School Carols 2.30
 Horticultural Society 8pm
 Thursday 13th Primary School Carols 7pm
 Friday 14th Brownies', Guides' and Cubs' Carols 7pm
 Saturday 15th Children Singing for Children in Banbury

Monday 17th Warriner School Carol Service 7.30 Bloxham Church
 Tuesday 18th Friendship Club Christmas Dinner 4.30
 Wednesday 19th Chiropody Clinic 9.30 Village Hall
 School Term Ends

* * * * *

JANUARY 1985

Tuesday 8th School Term Begins
 W.I. Travel slides.

Tuesday 15th Keep Fit begins 10am Village Hall
 Friendship Club A.G.M. 2pm Village Hall
 Wednesday 16th Chiropody Clinic 9.30

Sunday 20th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service 3pm

BROWNIES NOW MEET AT 5pm ON THURSDAYS IN THE VILLAGE HALL

EDITOR Jennifer Austing, 6, Barley Close. Tel.Swalcliffe 358