

Received - Wednesday 27/2/85.

# SIBFORD SCENE

MARCH 1985

NUMBER 84

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

FRIDAY MARCH 15th 8.00pm

Come out of your winter torpor and support the KATHERINE HOUSE HOSPICE by enjoying an

### IRISH EVENING

in Sibford Village Hall.

A programme including songs by Caroline McCausland, sketches, readings, Irish Dances and contributions by local musicians will be presented for your informative entertainment by Dr. Sidney Agnew.

Tickets, price £2.50 (including refreshments of an Irish flavour) can be purchased from the Bishop Blaize, Sibford Stores, The Surgery and The Wykham Arms.

## EDITOR FOR A MONTH

It must be someone's lifelong ambition! I may not be able to put together April's "Scene". Offers of help gratefully received on 358. The only qualification is a typewriter.

J.A.

## THE DESIGNATION OF A CONSERVATION AREA

Two years ago, the Ferris Parish Council, to provide a topic for the Annual Parish Meeting, asked Mr Burke from the Planning and Development Office of the District Council, and Mr Barnes, the District Countryside Officer, to talk on the pros and cons of designating the village as a conservation area.

Mr Burke said the District Council had the right to preserve and enhance areas of special natural, architectural and historic interest by placing a conservation order on the area, and, to his mind, the Sibfords, Burdrop and the valley between formed such an area.

There was a lively discussion at the time, but the Council did not feel that there was sufficient public support for the project to be put forward. Several areas in the county had been so designated in the last decade, but in many cases conservation area studies had been abandoned at a preliminary stage when it became apparent that there was not a sufficient degree of public support; so, for this reason, the District Council would wish to be assured by the Parish Council that the majority of people in the village actively supported the principle of conservation area status before statutory procedures are started.

From time to time in Council meetings under A.O.B., "what is the Council doing about conservation?" comes up, but before taking further action, the Parish Council would need to be sure that this is a widely held view. There are undoubtedly a few in the Ferris very much in favour, and others who are very much opposed, but for the majority, we really do not know.

The matter will be raised again at the Annual Meeting of the Sibford Ferris Parish on Wednesday 24th April, so if you have any views of any consequence, please let the councillors know about them, and do come along and support them and express them yourself.

John Gilchrist

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## GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

At a recent meeting it was reported that Epwell Woods were being used as a dumping ground for refuse and stable litter. Would those concerned please stop this unsightly spoiling of the woods.

District Councils in Oxfordshire are promoting a "Clean-up" weekend on March 23/24 for all the parishes in the county. The Parish Council would like to support this effort and hope that residents and Youth groups in the village will help.

ACTION DAY IN THE GOWER SATURDAY 23rd MARCH

MEET AT THE CHURCH 10.15 am

SACKS WILL BE PROVIDED.

M.H.

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The Memorial Meeting for the late Jonas Fielding, sometime Headmaster of the Friends' School will be at 12.15pm in the Main Hall of the School. All friends are warmly invited.

### AUSTERITY LUNCH

The Austerity Lunch on Wednesday March 6th will be held in the Friends Hall (Mission Room) not in the Meeting House. Contributions for Save the Children.

### M.E.B.

Dennis Wilsen of Brent, Pond Lane, Sibford Gower (Swa. 435) has been appointed to the local committee of the Midlands Electricity Consumers' Council for the next 18 months.

If you have any problem (other than paying the bill!) he may be able to help you, but you must first have tried to resolve the matter with the local M.E.B. management.

### DECOR SERVICE

Contact BRUCE HORN  
your local  
PAINTER AND DECORATOR  
SWALCLIFFE 658

### YOUTH CLUB

J U M B L E S A L E  
Saturday 16th March  
2pm Village Hall

D O N ' T M I S S I T

### SPINNERS, WEAVERS AND DYERS

The North Oxfordshire Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers is based in Hook Norton and has a very interesting programme of monthly meetings.

On March 12th at the Hook Norton Study Centre, Ann Norman explains the process from wool to weave in "Spinning and Dyeing for Simple Weaving". In coming months there are talks on textile design and Filkins Woollen Mill, and a demonstration of fleece sorting.

The Guild aims to be of interest to those pursuing textile crafts. It is for everyone from beginner to professional and holds evening meetings, dayschools and an exhibition of work. Membership £6 per year. Visitors welcome. Information from the secretary, Jean Williamson 0608 737555.

Angie Hipkin

### CUBS COFFEE MORNING

Enjoy a friendly cup of coffee with the 1st The Sibfords Cubs in the Village Hall on Saturday March 30th from 10.30.

Stalls to interest all ages - and a Simnel Cake to be won.

A morning not to be missed.

### SILHOUETTE SLIMMING CLUB

We have regular weekly meetings at The Hut, West Bar, Banbury.

Tuesdays 7.45 pm.  
Proven slimming method,  
No forbidden foods  
Friendly and informative meetings.

Telephone the Adviser  
Swalcliffe 347

Women's World Day of Prayer: The service, as noted in the February Scene is at the Methodist Chapel at 2.15pm. The theme is 'Peace through Prayer and Action': please come and support it if you can.

E.J.W.

## SIBFORD HISTORY

As a result of the interest shown in the piece which appeared in the "Scene" two or three months ago, a "Sibford History Group" has been formed.

We aim to capture and record something of the flavour of life in our villages in the early part of this century. We plan to talk to ("interview" is too forbidding a word) older members of the community who may have reminiscences of their own or of their relations who lived here, and to locate and make records of any documents, photographs or artefacts which may help to illustrate or confirm what has been discovered from other sources. It is a fairly daunting task, though we hope that it will also prove enjoyable. Our intention is eventually to produce some readable summary of our achievements and to record them in such a way that they will readily be available when anybody wishes to refer to them or to use them as part of some exhibition of Sibford History.

Some of you may feel that, the villages having been even more different in bygone years than they are today, we should be talking of "Sibfords History". O.K. you're right, but "Sibford History" is easier to say! We have set ourselves no time limit for completion of the project - we may well find ourselves arguing later whether it can ever be quite complete.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!

First we need to have all the help we can get in locating people who might be able to contribute from their own store of knowledge, and we need offers (or suggestions of where we might solicit offers) of documents etc. which we might be allowed to borrow to photograph (or photograph in situ) to add to our records.

If you have any ideas or suggestions PLEASE let us know.

Second, we need more members. We are not necessarily looking for special knowledge or skills, but for enthusiasm for what we see as a worthwhile project.

We are pretty informal and unstructured, with no officials as yet, so if you have any ideas or think you might like to join the Group, or just want to know more, please contact Colin Frith, Barn Close, Burdrop. It would be helpful if you could do this by a brief written note, but if you would really rather telephone, try Swalcliffe 512; you might get a rather inefficient answering machine, in which case be warned that it will only record messages which last for no more than half a minute, so give your name and telephone number before anything else!

We look forward to hearing from you. If you decide to join us you may like to know that our next meeting will be on Monday 11th March, probably at Barn Close, Burdrop.

Colin Frith

MOTHERING SUNDAY

On Sunday 17th March, there will be a special Family and Parade Service for Mothering Sunday. 10am at Holy Trinity Church

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday falls on March 31st and there will be a United Benefice Eucharist at 10am at Swalcliffe.

J.F.H. GIDDINGS  
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WELCOME TO SIBFORD!

'Welcome to Sibford' leaflets will be distributed to the guests at the Welcome to Sibford party on March 2nd. The leaflets give information about services, schools, churches, clubs and societies, and the idea is that anyone moving into the village should be given one to help them feel at home as soon as possible. So if you know someone is moving into a house, please let me know so they can receive one. If anyone besides new arrivals would like a copy, ring 660. I should also be glad of constructive criticism, ideas for other possible entries etc. I plan to update the leaflet annually.

Sue Colquhoun

CAROLINE McCausland

We are very pleased that Caroline McCausland has kindly agreed to sing for us in Sibford and so help the Katherine House Hospice Appeal.

Living locally, Miss McCausland is known nationally through television and major music festivals, not for her fine soprano voice, but also for her guitar accompaniments which she arranges and plays herself.

Do come and hear her on March 15th. Hers will be the star attraction and major contribution.

RALPH C. HOGGINS  
TYSOE

for mobile gas heaters  
and SIGAS bottled gas  
(FREE DELIVERY)  
Ring Tysoe 281

From the printer: Halfway through the first side, peculiar noises emanated from inside the machine: being reasonably unmechanical, I soon discovered the fault: production was halted: I've just paid the engineer over £50 to replace just £14 worth of 'bits' - and VAT was nearly as much as half the replacement parts!

T.W.

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

WHAT'S ON....

Tuesday March 5th  
Village Hall 2pm

Mrs Mary Poulton will talk  
about her Oberammergau trip.

Monday March 11th

Outing to Foxhills Wombourne  
See below

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The Club were sorry to  
hear of the death of Mr Jonas  
Fielding, former Headmaster  
of the Friends School, who  
did a lot to help in its  
earlier years.

We were glad to hear that  
on Saturday March 2nd there  
will be a Memorial Service  
in the Main Hall, Friends  
School at 12.15.

The Club wish to thank the  
people who send wool for  
knitting blankets.

\*

At the Annual Meeting held  
on Tuesday 5th February, the  
following were elected:-

Chairman Mr F. Haynes  
Vice Chairmen Mrs V. Rollett  
Mrs T. Law  
Secretary & Treasurer  
Major L.J. Long  
Transport & Outings Mr T. Webb  
Refreshments Mrs M. Baker  
Publicity Miss A.L. Bennett  
Members Miss E. Nelder,  
Mrs D. Huckings  
Mr & Mrs Walker

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### OUTING

An outing has been arranged for Monday March 11th to  
visit Mrs S.C. Philips at Wombourne, near Wolverhampton, to  
see an exhibition of embroidery, and afterwards to look over  
the Wombourne Wodehouse, the home of Mrs Carolyn Philips.  
This house was used as the setting in the last T.V. presentation  
of Loraine Chaise.

Fare: members £2.50 non-members £3.50

There is also a trip to the Clarks Shoe Factory at  
Shepton Mallet in April.

All enquiries to Mr T. Webb Tel. 8211.

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W.I.

Tuesday March 12th at 2pm  
in the Friends Hall

Speaker: Miss N. Perry  
"Laughter and Tears in W.I."

Competition - A Poem

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### TAPESTRY

The Tapestry Group for  
making hassocks for Holy  
Trinity Church has begun.  
Would anyone wishing to  
join us please phone on  
460.

T. Law

RALPH C. HOGGINS

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# SCHOOL NEWS!

For this term's topic some of the children have been learning all about entertainment. They have visited various places and had some exciting experiences. The following extracts are taken from some of their work.

--o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o--

On the 4th February we started off on the coach to Stratford. We were going to see the musical production of "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" at the Shakespeare Theatre. Last year we performed "Joseph..." as a musical and it would be interesting to compare them.

The musical was absolutely fabulous, sensational and amazing. As the curtain of the theatre went up the excitement began. The cheers rose and the sparkling show of fun started. From the top of the fly tower elaborate and dazzling lights spelling out Joseph graced the stage. Enchanting loud music sounded from the small group of musicians in front of the stage. The costumes of the performers were excellently made and were quite modern looking.

The finale of the show was the best of all. The actors in the finale sang nearly the whole of the musical again. In the finale Joseph brought onto stage what was called his chariot of gold which turned out to be a shining motor bike! In the finale the Elvis Presley impression sang his excellent song again. Joseph kept going off stage and coming back on again in the end of the finale. My thoughts of the show when it had finally finished were -

Good  
magnificent  
lovely wondrous  
enchanting  
brilliant

--o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o--

## The Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

On the 22nd January we went on a trip with the school to Stratford-upon-Avon. We went behind the stage where all the props are kept. That night they were going to perform Hamlet and everything was stored ready for the night's performance.

We walked on the stage and at the side was a screen where you could see yourself. If you stand in the middle of the stage everybody in the theatre can see you. We saw a winding staircase which led up to the top of the stage, where the lights are, and where actors sometimes drop in on performances. There was also a little changing room where somebody can change quickly in a rush. We then looked again at some more props. After we had seen all the props we walked up some stairs to a place where they kept all the old clothes. They also had some paintings of old actors and famous plays. The costumes were lovely and there was a lovely lace dress. After we had seen the costumes we went down stairs and tried on some wigs.

Later we walked round to another place where it told you about the new theatre they are building, called the Swan Theatre, we spent ten minutes in there. After that we went for a walk to the River Avon. We had a great day.

--o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o--

### Woodworm's Studio

On Friday, 8th February twelve of us who play instruments and also sing, went to Woodworm's Studio to look around and record a song that we had been practising back at school. The studio is in Barford St. Michael.

In 1837 a small Baptist Chapel was built on the grounds. In 1981 Dave Pegg and some of his colleagues converted the Chapel into a recording studio.

The studio has three rooms downstairs and one room upstairs where all the recording equipment is kept. The switchboard is a 16 track recorder. There were 16 columns of knobs and controls and a back-up switchboard of 8 columns. The switchboard was an old telephone exchange board and Dave Pegg converted it into a sound system board.

There are 2 tape decks to record the final cassette tapes. The first recording goes onto a thick 16 track tape.

First the guitars and singers recorded. After the second came the violins. The glockenspiel and xylophone came next followed by the recorders. We wore headphones most of the time and between each recording we went up to listen to our work.

When we had finished compiling this cassette we recorded it onto normal tapes. At the end of the tape we put on a train with the synthesiser.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

As part of this topic work the children are also preparing their own entertainment and will be hiring the whole of Chipping Norton Theatre on March 13th to rehearse and give an evening performance for parents. They will experience the full use of the theatre from the box office, through lighting, effects, ice-creams and refreshment - all except the bar! - which parents will be pleased to hear will be open on the evening!

Forthcoming Events - Educational Evening - 5th March.  
School Entertainment at Chipping Norton Theatre -  
13th March  
Juniors visit Yenworthy Lodge, Devon -  
16th - 22nd March  
Inter-school Cross Country - 28th March  
End of term - 29th March  
Summer term commences - 16th April.



Telephone Swalcliffe 8101

GOWER PRODUCTS

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SIBFORD GOWER

SIBFORD FERRIS

The next meeting of the  
Parish Council will be on  
Monday 25th March at 8pm.

### THE GARDEN IN MARCH

We are come once again to the beginning of another gardening season and, let us hope, we have planned what we are going to sow this year and, maybe, have already bought our seeds. The bad weather in February may have delayed soil preparation but those people who were fortunate enough to have finished their digging last autumn will have the benefit of the winter snow on the ground, so it now remains to break down the rough dug soil into a fine tilth to receive the seeds.

If you're looking for colour in your garden, an early sowing of calendulas (marigolds) is a good start: they are available in a splendid range of orange and yellow colours. Other easy and colourful annuals to sow are candytuft, clarkia, cornflower, eschscholzia, godetia, larkspur, nigella (love-in-a-mist), poppy (shirley or Iceland).

In the vegetable garden, a good start can be made as soon as the ground has warmed up. Carrots, beet, lettuce, onion, peas, summer spinach come first to mind. Among the brassicas there is a good selection of spring cabbage to sow now. Golden Acre and Greyhound are old favourites. Chinese cabbage is worth trying: it matures in about three months from a sowing at the end of this month, and is very useful in salads,

The first planting of new potatoes is traditionally on Good Friday, April 5th, so by now they should be "chitting", standing up in boxes in a cool, frost-free place.

After the recent frost and snow the lawns are going to need some attention, raking to remove moss, and feeding when they start to grow.

Don't forget to prune the roses about the middle of the month.

Jardin

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 1985

CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends	Sundays at 11am
Methodists	Sundays at 11am
Holy Trinity	3rd 8am Holy Communion
	10th 10am Holy Communion
	17th 10am Mothering Sunday
	Family Parade Service
	24th 10am Holy Communion
	31st 10am Palm Sunday service
	at Swalcliffe

Weekdays in Lent

Tuesdays & Wednesdays	7.30am Holy Communion
Thursdays	7.30pm Holy Communion 8pm House Group
Fridays	9.45am Holy Communion

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WEEKLY EVENTS

Youth Club	Monday from 7pm in the Village Hall
Keep Fit	Tuesday at 10am in the Village Hall
Luncheon Club	Tuesday at 12.30 in the Friends Hall
Folk Dancing	Tuesday at 8pm in the Village Hall
Badminton	Wednesday at 8pm in the Village Hall
Brownies	Thursday at 5pm in the Village Hall
Guides	Thursday at 7pm in the Village Hall
Cub Scouts	Friday at 6.30 in the Village Hall
Playgroup	Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 in the Village Hall.

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Saturday 2nd	Welcome to Sibford Party
Tuesday 5th	Friendship Club Mrs M. Poulton
Wednesday 6th	Austerity Lunch Mission Room

Monday 11th	Friendship Club outing
	History Group meets
Tuesday 12th	W.I. Laughter and Tears
	Spinners, Weavers and Dyers at Hook Norton
Friday 15th	IRISH EVENING in the Village Hall
Saturday 16th	Youth Club Jumble Sale 2pm

Sunday 17th	Mothering Sunday Service 10am
Saturday 23rd	Clean-up Action Day 10.15 by the Church

Monday 25th	Sibford Ferris Parish Council meeting
Saturday 30th	Cubs Coffee Morning 10.30 Village Hall
Sunday 31st	Palm Sunday service at Swalcliffe 10am

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Edited by Jennifer Austing, 6, Barley Close, Sibford Gower.  
 Tel. 358.  
 Copy for April issue by Wednesday 20th March please.