

SIBFORD SCENE

December/January 2020

No 418



'Footprints in the Snow' by Nicola Durrant

CHRISTMAS MARKET

29th Nov - 8th Dec. Wykham Park Farm Shop

SIBFORD GOWER OPEN MEETING

10th December - Sibford Primary School - 7.30pm

CAROL SERVICE

20th December - Holy Trinity Church - 7pm

CHRISTINGLE & CRIB SERVICE

22nd December - Holy Trinity Church - 4pm

FILM NIGHTS

21st Dec: 'Toy Story 4' - Village Hall - 4pm

29th Jan: 'Fishermans Friends' - Village Hall - 7.30pm

Sibford Player's present

GARLIC AND LAVENDER

7 Feb @ 7:30pm

8 Feb @ 2:30pm and 7:30pm

Tickets £7.50

On sale from 13 Jan 20

juliette53@btinternet.com Ph: 01295788650



ED'S THOUGHTS

New column this month!: 'Green Scene' on page 11. This follows on from a meeting I had with Pam Ascott on single-use plastic. I've kicked off with a questionnaire for you all to complete. Please tell me what you think....

Good old Ronald & Liz Hawkes are leaving us in January and I'm sure that you will all join me in wishing them all the very best and I for one will miss them both.....

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!!!!

See you in February.....

Thought for the month:

"Give me love, Give me Peace on Earth"

George Harrison



LETTERS AND NOTICES

SIBFORD PLAYERS

Save the date for the Sibford Players' new production!

'Garlic and Lavender'

Tickets will be on sale from Monday January 13th.

There will be two evening performances on Friday February 7th and Saturday February 8th.

There will also be a matinee performance on Saturday the 8th at 2.30pm

To purchase tickets please contact Juliette from January 13th at

juliette53@btinternet.com or phone [01295 788650](tel:01295788650)

T` AI CHI CHIH

Some of you will already be enjoying these sessions run by Lesley Nell on Wednesdays at 9.15 to 10.15am at the Village Hall

Lesley would like to carry on after the initial block of 6 sessions. Come for a free` Taster session`

Contact Lesley on 07813947181 to book a place. See :

www.t`aichichih.org/healthbenefits for further information.



LETTERS AND NOTICES

continued...

Sibfords Historical Society Social Evening

This will be held at the Village Hall on 20th February, 2020, and the theme is based on the Rev. Stevens' diaries, which can be seen daily on the Sibfords' website, thanks to Tim Huckvale. Miss T Catering will provide a hot dinner in keeping with that time, the 1880's, and it would be fun if you were to come in a costume to identify with one of the characters in the diaries. Entertainment TBA.

Diana Hughes



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

ANNUAL QUIZ

This will be held on February 1st 2020, starting at 7pm prompt. Doors open 6-30pm. Teams of up to 6 are welcome to enter.

Entry is £8 per head ,to include a hot supper. Licensed bar available.

Team representatives can E-mail

your team name and number of people to ginnybennett@googlemail.com

Please order any Vegetarian /Vegan /Gluten free requirements in advance. Any queries do contact Ginny via same E-mail address.

BOOK EXCHANGE CAFE

We would like to start up a monthly opportunity to swap books and socialise with a coffee, in the new year.

We are growing a collection of books for children, teens and adults. If you would like to help in the future please contact Ginny via E-mail address [above]

DAMAGE TO FENCE

Sadly SOMEONE has backed their car into the gate and fence around the play area!

If you would like your broken tail light cap back, please ask one of the Committee!



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

continued.....

CONTACT AND INFORMATION

The Village Hall is a fantastic venue for parties, lunches, meetings, talks, receptions clubs etc. Audio Visual equipment and large screen available. Local rates apply for families with children at Sibford Primary School.

Contact Ginny via E-mail above or thesibfords.org website.



FILM NIGHT

On Saturday December 21st it is the turn for the children to have their film.

The film is Toy Story 4.

When Bonnie takes the toys on her family's road trip, Woody ends up on an unexpected detour that includes a reunion with his long-lost friend Bo Peep, whose adventurous spirit and life on the road belie her delicate porcelain exterior. Woody and Bo are worlds apart when it comes to life as a toy, and they soon realise that that's the least worries.

Film starts at 4.30. Doors open at 4.

Refreshments available. Tickets £2.

The January 2020 film is on Wednesday January 29th.

The film is Fisherman's Friends (12A)

A London music executive heads to a Cornish village on a stag weekend when he is pranked by his boss into trying to sign a group of shanty singing fishermen. He becomes the ultimate 'fish out of water' as he struggles to gain the respect or enthusiasm of the unlikely boy band and their families.

Film starts at 7.30. Doors open at 7.

Refreshments available. Tickets £2.

Petra Berry



YOGA

Sibford Village Hall

New Beginners class Thursdays 9 – 10am

Traditional Yoga Fridays 9 – 10am

Chair Yoga Fridays 10.15 – 11am

Any enquiries to juliette53@btinternet.com

VIOLIN/PIANO LESSONS

Rachel Bunn LRAM
Royal Academy of Music, London

Freelance violinist and experienced teacher
based in Swalcliffe

Any age, from complete beginners to late starters!
(adult learners welcome - It's never too late!)

Additional help with aural, theory of music, score reading for singers etc.

Lessons during term time and school holidays
daytime and evenings

Enquiries: 07766 685 341

rachelbunnviolin@gmail.com



NATURE NOTES

Lexie Hopper sent us a photo of a moth found in their garage in Burdrop. It was a Herald moth, a species that emerges in the Autumn and then overwinters in caves, tunnels, outbuildings and similar places. They are incredibly attractive moths with a dusting of shiny orange/red scales as well as delicate white markings on their brown scalloped wings.

Sue Sabin has reported seeing flocks of up to 20 Skylarks in the fields around the Sibfords. This is a species that has recently declined dramatically (75% between 1972 and 1996) This is probably mostly as a result of modern farming practices including the switch from Spring to Autumn sown cereals. The RSPB have demonstrated that leaving small skylark plots in arable fields can be highly beneficial to the birds.

With the fairly mild and wet weather this Autumn has been excellent for fungi although surprisingly I have seen very few of the ordinary Field Mushrooms. I am no expert but a few of the more obvious and easily identified ones that I have seen around the villages have included the red and white Fly Agaric mushroom normally associated with Birch trees. This species has been used as a hallucinogen but is also highly poisonous causing severe liver damage if consumed in large amounts. Another species to be wary of is the Yellow Stainer. There were large numbers growing in the grass outside the village hall this year. The base of the stipe turns bright yellow when cut. Apparently, some people can eat this species with no ill effects whereas others can suffer from severe vomiting, diarrhoea and even coma! Not worth trying! On the other-hand we have gathered large quantities of Horse mushrooms, Parasol mushrooms and the violet coloured Wood Blewits all of which are edible and excellent.

Please send any contributions for the next Nature Notes to ajnewbold88@gmail.com

Stay in style in the Sibfords

Sumptuous self-catering
and B&B

Newly refurbished self-catering accommodation set in stunning private gardens with heated swimming pool, tennis court and croquet lawn. 4 beds, 5 bathrooms. Sleeps 8.

Also available, luxurious B&B facilities

Contact Sally Wass

T: 01295 780104

E: sally.wass@btinternet.com

www.holmbyhouse.com

Holmby
House 

PILATES IN SIBFORD

Madeleine Wilson M.Sc

Mat & Studio Master Teacher offers
bespoke one to one and
duet sessions training on
Specialised Pilates equipment
Reformers, chairs, barrels & Cadillac
plus small group mat classes

For all levels

From beginners to advanced

T: 01295 780279

Mobile: 07905 953300

Email: madeleine@pilatesinsibford.co.uk

www.pilatesinsibford.co.uk

SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Sibford Gower Parish Council A personal message from the Chairman

To all of you in the Gower reading this, I do hope you will think to come to the upcoming Open Meeting of the Gower Council. It's on **Tuesday, 10th December** – 2 days before the Election!

We will have all the usual items on the agenda, including the implications for us of the recently heard Hook Norton Road Development Appeal, but I hope you will join us as readily just as a village forum in which you can meet up with fellow villagers to review current developments, needs and issues. The agenda will be on the *Sibfords* website and the noticeboard by the Village Hall on **Thursday 5th December**, not long after this edition of the Scene reaches you.

The evening will include a conversation picking up on the high level of interest that was shown earlier in the year in the newly experimental annual summer Parish meeting – and whether you would like to see this sustained next May when the date comes round again. If you remember it was run last time under the banner of 2 Parishes 1 Community, and had more of a celebratory feel to it. But this meeting unusually is an one-off example of direct democracy in the year, rather than the more usual representative democracy, by which the two Councils run. Those of us elected to represent you on the Gower Council will be taking our direction from you on the 10th on how best it might be run this time around.

We do hope the reputation of direct democracy has not been too tarnished for you by events post the 2016 Referendum and the proximity of the General Election proves no disincentive to your coming to ours! You will all be very welcome!

Hugh Pidgeon



SIBFORD DRIVERS

The Sibford Drivers wish their customers and potential customers a very Happy Christmas and New Year. This is the first festive period with which we will be contending and we hope there will be enough drivers around who have not gone to stay with their families or are otherwise incapacitated from giving lifts. Please do not hesitate to try your luck but at least a day's notice is required so that we can accommodate your needs. In the New Year when we all settle back to more normality, please do let us help you get around. The first months of our endeavours have not been overactive and we remain extremely keen to get you out of your houses and make the most of life in the lovely place where we all live.

Norman and Mary Nash

Sibford Drivers		2019/2020		
If you require a lift				
In the first instance please ring Margaret Gardiner 780979				
<i>If no reply, please try:</i>				
<i>from Sunday</i>	<i>to Saturday</i>			
1st December	7th December	Jeremy Dougall	780908	07831647072
8th December	14th December	Martin Garnham	788160	07944349120
15th December	21st December	Norman Nash	780980	07802565290
22nd December	28th December	David Gill	788171	07730431118
29th December	4th January	Jane Woolfenden	780679	07501814875

LETTERCARVE

Hand-carved, hardwood signs for the home and workplace.
Personalised boards and platters, stable plates and memorials.

#MadeInSibford Browse the website:
e: lettercarve@gmail.com www.lettercarve.com



GREEN SCENE

HELP THE PLANET - REDUCE PLASTIC!

Can you take one, more or all of these pledges to cut down on your use of plastic, or even go plastic-free?

I already do/will do my best to....	X
Carry a re-usable coffee cup when I'm out and travelling	
Take my own carrier bags (bags for life/reusable fabric bags) to the supermarket	
Leave all the packaging at the check-out at the supermarket	
Buy fruit & vegetables loose rather than packaged, wherever possible	
Buy local fruit & vegetables rather than superstores	
Make my own packed lunches when possible rather than bring packaged sandwiches or wraps	
Make use of ice-cream cartons, yoghurt pots, etc for storage at home	
Cook from ingredients more often rather than buy packaged ready meals	
Carry a bottler of water. Use the REFILL app to find out where I can fill my bottle free of charge (there are 21 places in Banbury!)	
Choose bars of soap & shampoo rather than plastic dispensers. Next time I need a toothbrush, buy a bamboo one	
Support Zero Waste shops and stalls such as local pop-ups. Websites: Scoops and Nothing but Footprints	
Say no to plastic straws and plastic cutlery	
Reduce. Re-Use. Recycle !!!	

SIBFORDS AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

1ST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

MINI VALET

FREE TEA/COFFEE & CAKE

**BOOK NOW TO
AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**



**JUST £25
4X4 £30**



CERAMIC COATING, PAINT CORRECTION AND MORE

Heritage Detailing Centre



BOOK NOW

TEL: 01295 670009

ENQUIRIES@CLASSICCARDetailing.CO.UK

GLEBE FARM BUSINESS PARK

HORLEY

OX15 6BN

POPS

CHRISTMAS MARKET

WYKHAM PARK FARM SHOP



WYKHAM LANE | BODICOTE | BANBURY | OX16 9UP

An interesting & exciting showcase of artwork & handmade goods by 17 quality artists & craftsmen

29th NOVEMBER | 2019
.....
UNTIL 8th DECEMBER

Opening Times • FRI 29th 5.30 - 8.30PM
MON to SAT 9AM - 4PM • SUN 10AM - 1PM

SUPPORTING

The **BRAIN**
TUMOUR
CHARITY



As the weather gets colder, there has been a distinctly chilly theme woven through the learning of our oldest children at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School, as Oak Class explore their topic entitled 'Frozen Kingdom'. Exploration of this topic began with the arrival of a surprise parcel, accompanied by a letter claiming to be from a Professor Matland of the Royal Geographical Society.

We opened the parcel to discover a 'sample' of ice taken from the Ross Ice Shelf in Antarctica. The children had an opportunity to explore this very closely, applying and developing their learning approach as scientists. Everyone's 'learning muscles' were stretched as the children noticed, questioned, and made links with their wider knowledge to explain their thinking. They made some detailed observations which generated a wide variety of scientific questions, predictions and hypotheses and we explored a range of scientific vocabulary.

Even more extraordinary than the arrival of the scientific sample, was the small object that emerged from deep inside as the ice melted away. Our learning approach moved from that of the scientist to that of the historian as we used the information provided by this clearly man-made artefact to support further research.



The object turned out to be a tiny but ornate diary page marker, produced in East London and possibly from as early as the 1890s, which we can only assume was dropped by someone on an expedition within Antarctica. Who could it possibly have belonged too?



Our younger children began their half-term topic on the theme of 'Muck, Mess & Mixtures' in an equally 'hands on' (or hands and arms in!) way with a special launch morning. They came to school in old clothes and spent the morning immersed in a carousel of scientific exploration and vocabulary development as they explored the qualities and changes in a range of substances as we acted on them. What does shaving foam feel like? What happens when we mix cornflour with water – how does it feel and what does it do? What happens to jelly cubes if we add warm water? What if we then cool the liquid? What do different breakfast cereals feel like? What happens if we put

water on them? What happens if we mix different colours? How do I make bubbles and how do they behave? The amount of new scientific vocabulary the children used during these activities that they will further explore as they move through the topic was impressive, **and** they had great fun!

To find out more about our wonderful village school, including our wraparound care offer, please visit our website at <http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/>



Upcoming open events

Junior School Open Morning

Friday 31 January 2020. 09.45 – 12.00pm.

Come and learn more about Sibford Junior School and take a tour around the facilities on offer. This is a great opportunity to meet with staff and find out more about what is on offer from nursery to Year 6 and learn more about the admissions process.

Whole School Open Morning

Friday 13 March 2020. 09.45am – 12.00pm.

Come and discover more about what Sibford School can offer children aged from 3 to 18. Our Open Days offer an ideal opportunity to see Sibford School in action; meet staff and students and take a look at our wide range of facilities.

If you would like to attend an event and are able to let us know in advance, please contact Elspeth Dyer, admissions officer via email: admissions@sibfordschool.co.uk or via phone: 01295 781 203.

Fun in the Country Holiday Club

Sibford School will be running Fun in the Country, a holiday club for children aged 5 – 11 throughout the February 2020 half term.

This popular club see's children take part in a variety of activities from arts & crafts, music & drama, sports, team games to cookery and swimming.

The club will be running on weekdays from Monday 17th until Friday 21st February. Timings are from 9.15am – 4.30pm, however early drop off can be arranged from 8.30am and pick up as late as 5.30pm.

The cost per day is £30 and early booking is recommended as this popular holiday club has limited numbers per day.

To book a place call Elspeth on 0195 781 203.

OPUS
Property Services Ltd

01295 780652
 07816592124

All aspects of property maintenance and refurbishment undertaken from replacement light bulbs and tap washers to new ceilings and floors.

Plumbing, tiling, wood flooring, floor renovation, under floor heating, plastering, electrics, decorating, damp proofing, carpentry, locks, drains, kitchens, bathrooms etc

Call us or visit our website for more information:
www.opusps.co.uk

CJL

C.J.LAMB
 PEST AND VERMIN CONTROL
 07939074956

kitlamb@hotmail.co.uk

✓ Rats	✓ Business
✓ Mice	✓ Home
✓ Moles	✓ Garden
✓ Squirrels	✓ Estate
✓ And more...	✓ And more...

ANN WOOLGROVE
 fabrics • curtains • soft furnishings

BESPOKE DESIGN SERVICE FOR
 CUSTOM MADE FURNISHINGS

**Pattern book room for you
 to browse fabric designs**

Curtains, blinds & cushions

Loose covers & lampshade making

Headboards & bedspreads

Curtain poles & tracks

New sofas & chairs & reupholstery

01295 788145
ann@annwoolgrove.com | www.yarnhill.co.uk
www.annwoolgrove.com

C. A. Berger

Painting & Decorating
 Interiors & Exteriors
 Residential & Commercial
 Carpentry Repairs
 and
 Property Maintenance

Mobile: 07875 212 315
 Office Tel/Fax:
 01295 738633



SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

Forthcoming Walks:

November 25, December 9 with lunch at Carter's Yard after for walkers on that day, January 6, January 20, February 3, February 17.

Leaving the village hall on foot or by car at 10.00 am sharp to do a circuit of approximately 2 hours' duration. It is therefore recommended that you get there for 9.55am. Dogs welcome provided they are put on leads when requested. Walking boots and poles recommended but not compulsory. (Some routes include stiles).

Walkers should either park on the road or on the grass field at the village hall and not on the tarmac area which is reserved for the painting class.

All welcome. Enquiries to Sue Bannister
T: 780365 or E: sebannister@gmail.com

Ian Sharp, ian@iansharp.net, Lamb's Croft, Back Lane, Sibford Ferris, OX15 5RE. Tel. 01295 780790, is now the footpaths warden and anyone who has a problem or complaint should contact him.

Fitness classes/PT
Massage Therapy



DOVECOTE

FITNESS • MASSAGE • WELLNESS

Swalcliffe Lea oxon
www.dovecotefitness.com
07802537100

RED HORSE VALE 

All Types of Fuel, Coal, Smokeless, Gas,
Logs Kindling, Barbecue Needs, Central
Heating Oil, Oil Tanks & Coal Bunkers
Landscape & Building Materials
Garden Centre & Garden Supplies,
Farm & Country Sundries
Equestrian Products, Horse & Pet Feeds
Open: Monday - Saturday 8am - 5pm
Windmill Farm, Banbury Road (A422)
Oxhill, Warwickshire CV35 ORP
Tel: 01926 642832 Fax: 01926 642853
www.redhorsevale.co.uk

Holiday Cottage in Cornwall

On the beautiful north coast in Poldark country, character cottage set in a large south-facing enclosed garden, is available for holiday lets. It is situated on the outskirts of the vibrant and friendly village of St Agnes.

Scrumbles Hollow sleeps six in three double bedrooms, one with ensuite shower room, plus a family bathroom. Full central heating.

The spacious cottage has an open fire place in a cosy sitting room, while the dining room boasts a log burner. New, fully equipped kitchen and separate utility room for sorting out sportswear after a day on the beach or walking the breathtaking countryside.

Lots of good local pubs and restaurants, shops and galleries. Excellent public transport connections, including Newquay airport (half an hour by car).

For more information, please contact Linda on 01295 780 242 or 07973 226 032 or linda.lane@btconnect.com



Children's Day Nursery Epwell

- Care for children aged 2 to 5 years
- Full and part time places available
- Open Monday to Friday 9.00 am - 4.00pm
- Ofsted rating: Outstanding
- Competitive rates
- Early years grant registered

The nursery provides excellent opportunities for children to explore and learn through play under the guidance of highly trained, experienced and caring staff.

**Ring Julia on: 01295 780580 or
Email: Julia@arknursery.net**





HORTI SOCIETY

Timothy Walker was as entertaining and instructive as ever on the subject of how to be a 21st century gardener, when he came to talk to the horticultural society on 13th November for their last meeting of the year. Mulled wine and mince pies were also much enjoyed by a large meeting of people! We meet again on March 11th for our first talk of the year.

Please note the items for the Handicrafts and Photography categories of the Horti spring show 2020. Start snapping and manufacturing now!

Section C Handicrafts

- 1 piece of pottery
- 2 an apron
- 3a hand knitted article
- 4 an item of cross stitch
- 5 a piece of metal or woodwork
- 6 a greeting card, including greeting!
- 7 a piece of dough craft. Please state size
- 8 a handicraft exhibit
- 9 a handicraft exhibit - age 16 and under

Section D Photography

- 1 landscape/country scene
- 2.A season
- 3.Doorways and entrances
- 4.Macro
- 5 Water
6. On the farm
7. The beauty of plants
8. A night photo
9. My best selfie - print from a mobile phone
- 10 4 related views
- 11.A black and white photo
- 12 An enlargement - any subject (Max size A4, black and white or colour)
- 13 A painting or drawing
- 14 A painting or drawing - age 16 or under.



In Your Garden - December/January

In December.

1. Check any new trees or shrubs for stakes and ties, in case of gales, and don't forget to brush heavy snow off shrub branches before they break.
2. Now that veggies have finished, give the soil a good dig over and leave the frost to break it up.
3. Shorten stems on roses to prevent wind rock, and now is a good time to prune currants and gooseberries.
4. A rooted Xmas tree can be planted out to use next year, but if you want you can consider shredding the leaves off and using them as a mulch for ericaceous shrubs, e.g. camellias.
5. The greenhouse needs to be kept as clean as possible, to prevent fungal growth, home for slugs etc., and it is a good idea to check your garden gloves before you put them on. I unfortunately found a sleeping Queen wasp was hibernating in mine last year. Ouch! I love pottering in my greenhouse when all outside is cold and wet. I have an old radio in there and sing along to carols, (or Wagner) with a mug of coffee and a biscuit or two....

In January

1. Cut some of the leaves away from hellebores to show off the delicate blooms.
2. Apple and pear trees are dormant now, so good time to prune them, and it is time to put a bucket over the rhubarb to force it.
3. Rake the leaves off the lawn and carefully lift them off the snowdrops, when you see them poking through.
4. If you have a greenhouse with some heat, or a frostproof cold frame, there are some early seeds you can plant. Lettuce, spinach and cabbage, sweet peas, and bedding plants e.g. lobelia, snapdragons.
5. Look at your garden and see if it needs some more winter colour. Pansies and violas do well in pots, with tulips hidden deep down under them for later, and mahonias are just starting to flower now, brightening up shady places.
6. If you have room for more shrubs, ponder on buying some cornus alba sibirica - lovely red stems that gleam in the sun - or witch hazel (hamamelis pallida), winter jasmine, or daphnes.
7. Don't forget how berries can light up the darkest garden - holly, pyracanthus and cotoneaster are all looking brilliant now. Little winter aconites grow well under trees, with cyclamen.
8. Winter in the garden need never be a dreary place; the first little snowdrop that opens will make your heart sing, so get out in the sun (hopefully) and enjoy the crisp, frosty morning (but don't walk on the lawn if it is frosty), feed the birds, and I hope you have a very happy peaceful Christmas.

Jupe Hitchings



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

Chipping Norton Country Market - 1st, 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 9-11, lower town hall, Chipping Norton.

Deddington Farmers - 4th Saturday of the month

Great Rollright - 1st Saturday of the month

North Cotswold Farmers - 1st Thursday of the month @ Stourton (6-8pm)



DID YOU KNOW??

EVACUEES IN THE SIBFORDS (part 2)

Evacuees coming to the rural areas found great changes. Sibford had no sewage system installed during the war years so most evacuees had to adapt to earth closets with their outdoor location and associated smells. At Grounds Farm there was only one outside bucket lavatory which must have required frequent emptying. Few houses had electricity so candles and oil lamps were used. The majority of houses had no running water and, with little heating, many city evacuees considered that they had been moved to the slums! Even if they had been able to stay at home in the cities, life there would also have changed. All street lighting was discontinued with a strict black out being imposed to avoid towns and cities being identified by bombing raiders.

In addition to families being evacuated to rural villages the government organised the relocation of schoolchildren along with their teaching staff. In general school groups were kept together wherever possible. Special trains were organised and groups of schools were brought to the rural villages. The children and staff were billeted in ones, twos or threes depending on the available space in any partially occupied homes. The children were taken to Gowers Close in the Gower and distributed to village homes from there. The home occupier was then responsible for the care and catering for their evacuees. These children suddenly increased the number of pupils in small village schools and in Sibford they could not be accommodated in the classrooms available. The Mission Room in the Gower had been put in reasonable repair by the Friends War Victims Relief Committee workers with some local help. It was used as accommodation for some of the evacuees. The Friends Meeting House was used as an annex to Sibford Gower School. Divided into three classrooms each area catered for pupils in 3-year groups to cover the nine years of schooling to 14 years of age as required at that time. The graveyard allowed for some playground activity – but nothing boisterous! School meals were provided in the Old Village Hall situated at the back of the Wykham Arms. The evacuee children joined in all the village activities including Cubs and Scouts which were run by Eric and Mabel Payne during the war years. Sibford Gower Manor was also used as a packing factory for explosives and evacuee children joined in the workforce helping to pack the boxes there. During the six to seven months period known as the 'Phoney War', a few evacuees returned to their city homes but, due to the requirement to continue education, most children remained with their village families. Long lasting friendships between evacuees and their host families were made, some are still in touch and some even made their permanent homes in their new rural villages enjoying life in the countryside. I would love to hear from anyone who could add their own evacuee stories

Maureen Hicks

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



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Committee and Members wish all Scene readers a Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year..

Reminding Members the Club does not meet until FEBRUARY

Eveline Boughton

QUALITY FISH DIRECT
FROM GRIMSBY MARKET

Proprietor: Robert Hill

07578 195979

www.qualityfishgrimsby.co.uk

Freshest fish and shellfish direct from
Grimsby to Sibford Village Hall EVERY
THURSDAY from 430pm 'til 530pm



MISS "T" CATERING.

Good Home Cooked Food
Catering for events such as:
Anniversaries, Weddings,
Christenings, Birthday parties,
Funerals & private dinner parties.



Also available
Cutlery and Crockery Hire.
Contact Victoria Taylor on:
Mob: 07841 910037
Home: 01295 780206

- Bespoke bathrooms, kitchens and carpentry
- Fitted furniture
- Plumbing and electrical works
- Home improvements and renovations

Hugo Seely

Trading in the Siltfords since 1992

From concept to completion
*Exceptional value,
 exceptional service*

T: 01295 780355
 or 07773 319239
 E: hugo.seely@gmail.com

Excellent references



**MITSUBISHI
 MOTORS**

Drive your Ambition

The Firs Garage

www.firs-garage.com

Family business established 1960

Tel: 01608 737349 / 737641

Hook Norton, OX15 5DD

ECLIPSE CROSS



**New Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross
 petrol SUV, designed to inspire**

Extensive range of new
 and used economical cars,
 hybrids & 4x4's

Part exchange welcome

Service

MOT Parts

Bodyshop

Fuel Shop



Sibfords Historical Society

On 17th October the Village Hall was packed, not only with Sibfords Society members but also with a considerable number of railway enthusiasts and fans of the Barn Well Hill Railway. Colin Hill gave us a fascinating and lively presentation on his Swalcliffe project – the ever-growing minimum gauge railway, stretching out behind his cottage, which never ceases to attract attention and is the source of the many questions he answered for us. To the frequently asked question, “Why are you doing this?” he replies, “Why not?”

Colin has always been mad about trains, from the beginning in 1953 when his grandfather gave him a model railway for Christmas, throughout his career as Radar Technician and Systems Engineer at Marconi, then at Jaguar Landrover as Engineer and Technology Specialist. In his spare time he was constantly working on restoring locomotives and has always been interested in quirky, unusual engines.

When Cathy and Colin moved to Swalcliffe the plan had not been to build a track in the garden; it just evolved gradually, and Cathy has been completely involved in the whole development, even to the point of drilling sleepers and shifting ballast. Neighbours and friends have enjoyed helping out in working parties.

The presentation took us through his whole life up to now, with great photos of the young Colin standing on top of a huge steam engine right up to the present where he is seen driving his third loco, “Glyder”, which arrived in 2018 and is soon to be renamed “Agnes” after Cathy’s mum.

Colin is now designing his fourth loco, this time wholly electric and carbon-free and equipped with rack and pinion propulsion for use on the steep inclines.

He invited us to drop by and have a look at the progress of the project, or simply to have a little ride in the train. I think he and Cathy are going to be inundated with visitors!

The railway has its own Facebook group page for those interested.

Diana Hughes



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHATTER

Just in case you get this issue of the Scene early - don't forget the **Christmas Coffee Morning** from 10am until 12noon at the home of Brian and Eleanor Joynes, Silver Birches, Backside Lane - always a really delightful event and one to which you are ALL invited.

Sibford's traditional **Carol Service** will be on Friday December 20th commencing at 7pm. There will be LOTS of carols for everyone to sing, some familiar readings, the Benefice Choir will sing four lovely carols, and there will be "seasonal refreshments" afterwards as well as the draw for the Christmas Hampers. Do come!

Children and Families are specially invited to the **Christingle and Crib Service** (Otherwise known as Chaos on Wheels) at 4pm on Sunday December 22nd. Once again, LOTS of carols for everyone to sing, and we make the crib scene, and light our Christingles.

From 11am on Christmas Eve the "Hawkes Chorale" (my sons and daughters in law) will sing carols before the start of Midnight Mass. In the past some of you have been unwise enough to say you really liked their singing - so I've booked them for 30 minutes this year!

As you know, Liz and I are retiring at the end of January 2020, and our final service will be in Swalcliffe (It's big enough and has a loo and a kitchen!) at 11am on Sunday January 19th followed by LUNCH. I do hope many of you will be able to be there to celebrate our departure!!

SERVICES for December and January

Dec 1st. Advent Sunday. Bishop Colin will lead the Benefice Service in Sibford at 10am

Dec 8th 8am BCP HC. (Ronald)

9.30am Morning Praise (Liz)

Dec 15th 9.30am Holy Communion (John)

Dec 20th 7pm Carols and Readings for Christmas

Dec 29th 10am Benefice Communion in Broughton (John)

Jan 5th 10am Benefice Communion for The Epiphany in Epwell. (Liz)

Jan 12th 8am BCP HC (Ronald)

11am Methodist Service

Jan 19th 11am Benefice Service in Swalcliffe (Ronald and Liz)

Jan 26th 9.30am Holy Communion (John)

Ronald Hawkes

CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends	Sibford Gower, Sunday, 10.30 am
Roman Catholic	Brailles, Saturday, 5pm; Shipston, Sunday 9am Kington, Sunday 11am
Baptist	Hook Norton, Sunday, 10.30 am

Sibford Stores & Post Office, Sibford Ferris, OX15 5RG

Telephone 01295 788317 / 788348

YOUR LOCAL CONVENIENCE STORE AND NEWSAGENT

We deliver newspapers and magazines 7 days a week to all the surrounding area. Place your regular order today, whether for 1 day a week or 7. Always a wide selection of magazines, specialist titles available to order.

Chilled & Frozen foods, groceries, cigarettes, beers, wines and spirits, fresh fruit and vegetables, pet foods, household goods, toiletries, medical requisites and lots, lots more ...

Health Lottery, photocopying, fax service, dry cleaning

We will also undertake your mailings for you, just ask.

Always an excellent selection of Hook Norton bottled beers in stock

Telephone your grocery order for free local delivery.

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday 7.30 am to 7.30 pm

Sunday 7.30 am to 4.00 pm

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE, THERE ARE LOTS OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

RICHARD WALLINGTON BUILDER

Block paver drives a speciality

Also extensions, patios
fencing etc.

High Quality Work - Free Estimates

T 01295 780705

Mobile 07743 932545

(Sibford Gower)

THE VILLAGE SHOP HOOK NORTON

National Lottery

Grocery - Green grocery - Bakery - Wines

Spirits - Confectionery - Newspapers

Magazines - Cards - Bottled Gas

Open Monday to Friday

8 am to 8 pm

Saturday 8 am to 8 pm

Sunday 8 am to 6 pm

Telephone: 01608 737245



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Police Phone No. 101. Emergencies 999 Crimestoppers No. 0800 555111.
Trading Standards No. 0845 0510845.

December 2019 Peter Hine 01295 788830

Dangers of becoming a Money Mule.

Thames Valley Police are urging parents and guardians to warn children about the dangers of becoming a money mule (someone who transfers stolen money through their own bank account on behalf of someone else, and is paid for doing so).

Criminals use money mules to launder the profits of their crimes.

Young people are often unaware that acting as a money mule is illegal. They are approached online or in person, including through social media, at school, college or sports clubs.

Spot the signs and follow these tips on how to stay safe:

- * Ensure your child doesn't give their bank details to anyone.
- * Advise them to be cautious of unsolicited offers of easy money - if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- * Look out for your child suddenly having extra cash, buying expensive new clothes or electronic kit, with very little explanation as to how they got the money.
- * A young person involved in money mulling may become more secretive, withdrawn or appear stressed.

Parents/guardians are advised not to attempt to contact any individual they may suspect of organising money mulling, and should instead contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Message from Emma Tarry, Police Communications Officer, Thames Valley Police.

Badmington

8 to 9.30 Tuesday evenings at Sibford Friend's school sports hall. We are a friendly informal group just playing for fun.

for more info:

Colin 01295 266584

For Practical Garden Assistance

Please contact Nick Taylor

T: 07425 136992

01608 684388

07434 579499

All types of garden work undertaken

Colour Analysis by Annie Broe

I will show you which colours are best for you.

Wearing the right colours is an easy and effective way to enhance your appearance.

You will instantly look more radiant, younger and healthier.

You will feel more confident.

Colours are very powerful – use this power to your advantage and look fantastic!

Vouchers available – the perfect present

For a personal colour analysis or for more details, please call me on

T: 01295 780637 or 07930 398151. E: annie4colourandstyle@gmail.com

Come along to the friendly

SIBFORD LUNCH CLUB

Meet like minded people every week

Sibford Village Hall

Great Chat, convivial atmosphere.

Two Course Lunch with tea or coffee

Friendly and welcoming

12.45pm for 1.00pm - £4.00

Telephone or contact Keith Hicks 780259 keith@hicks-sibford.co.uk

SIBFORD BUS SERVICE

BUS NUMBER: 3A	NS				SSH
SOA Wood Street	6.15	9.00			16.05
SOA Bridge Street	6.17	9.02			16.07
Ilmington, Red Lion		9.20	11.40		16.25
Shipston, Tilemans Lane	6.37	9.37	11.47	13.26	16.32
Shipston, Pettiphers Garage	6.40	9.40	11.50	13.29	16.35
Lower Brailes, The Park	6.50	9.50	12.00	13.50	16.45
Sibford Ferris School	7.02	10.02	12.12	14.02	16.57
Lower Tadmarton	7.12	10.12	12.22	14.12	17.07
Banbury Bus Station	7.25	10.25	12.35	14.25	17.20

			B		
Banbury Bus Station	10.30	12.40	14.30	17.30	
Lower Tadmarton	10.43	12.53	14.43	17.43	
Sibford Ferris School	10.53	13.03	14.53	17.53	
Lower Brailes, The Park	11.06	13.16	15.06	18.06	
Shipston, Pettiphers Garage	11.16	13.29	15.16	18.16	
Shipston, Tilemans Lane	11.19		15.19	18.19	
Ilmington, Red Lion	11.36		15.31		
SOA, Bridge Street			16.00	18.41	
SOA, Wood Street			16.03	18.48	

Notes:

NS - Not Saturdays

SSH - Saturdays, Monday to Fridays during School Holidays

B - Bus also serves Lower Quinton, Meon Vale, Clifford Chambers and on school days operates via Shipston High School

Note - ALL buses loop through Sibford Ferris, Burdrop & Sibford Gower



Serenity at Sibford

Gautherns Barn (nr Temple Mill)
01295 788463

Jo is looking forward to seeing you in her little haven of peace and tranquility for this, her 12th year in Sibford!

Specialist in Environ and Guinot facials and skincare,
OPI gel manicures and pedicures, LVL lash lift, advanced electrolysis blemish removal such as skin tags, age spots, milia, seborrheic keratosis.

Hot stone deep tissue massage, waxing, tinting, Jane Iredale mineral make-up and ANP skincare supplements

Open Monday to Saturday

Free Private Parking

email: jo@serenityatsibford.co.uk

Please visit my website and use my online booking system

www.serenityatsibford.co.uk



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

29th Nov - 8th Dec - Christmas Market - Wykham Park Farm Shop

7th - Christmas Fayre - Tadmarton Village Hall - 2-4pm

8th - Christmas Fayre - Shutford Village Hall - 1-4pm

10th - SGPC Open Meeting

20th - Carol Service - Church - 7pm

21st - Film Night: "Toy Story 4" - Village Hall - 4.30pm

22nd - Christingle & Crib Service - Church - 4pm

JANUARY

19th - Reverend Ronald and Liz's final service! - Swalcliffe Church - 11am

29th - Film Night: "Fisherman's Friends" - Village Hall - 7.30pm

DECEMBER BIN COLLECTIONS

Green Tuesday: 10th; See the Sibfords Website for more dates

Blue/Brown Tuesday: 3rd; See the Sibfords Websie for more dates

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.

SIBFORD SCENE

DEADLINE FOR **FEBRUARY** ISSUE -

12 NOON - 18th JANUARY 2020

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