

SIBFORD SCENE

March 2020

No 420



The Sibford Players are at it again..... "Garlic & Lavender"

SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

11th March - Open meeting - 7.30 pm ITC Suite, Sibford Primary School

SIBFORDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

19th March - Talk (Cathy Stoertz) - Village Hall - 8pm

LENT LUNCH

24th - Wyatt's Close - 12.30pm

FILM NIGHT

25th - "Judy" - Village Hall - 7.30pm



GREEN SCENE

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ED'S THOUGHTS

Ok - lots to see this month. Green Scene on page 2, Garlic & Lavender Review on page 9. Planting trees on page 5 and don't forget "Not So Great Taste" on page 18

Let's hope that the storms are all over and we can look forward to Spring!!!!

Thought for the month:

"Follow my lead, oh, how I need
Someone to watch over me"

George Gershwin



LETTERS AND NOTICES

Garlic and Lavender

A big thank you to everyone who came to support the Sibford Players latest show 'Garlic & Lavender' it is always so heartening that so many people in the village want to come and watch.

It is a great group to be part of so supportive and silly. We started rehearsals in September but for the first month we just play games, dance around & sing a bit. Laughing is a great way of bonding and I have to say Anne Spackman has the best laugh ever. I am so proud of everyone's performance in the play, every year confidence grows and performances get stronger. The whole cast worked really hard to learn their lines and make their characters fun.

We have had so much positive feedback but of the best comments I had was 'It's so fun to watch because everyone looks like they are having such a good time'

Kat Davison



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

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rachelbunnviolin@gmail.com



LETTERS AND NOTICES

PLANT A TREE

I have spoken to several groups in the village about tree-planting

In view of the large amount of information that has highlighted the fate of the planet and climate change and how one of the ways we can help is to encourage the Government to plant trees, I believe it is upon us to do our 'bit' in planting trees. To this end I wondered how fellow villagers felt about the two villages getting together to try to plant trees or hedgerows. There are grants that we could apply for or individuals could sponsor a tree(s).

If anyone is interested in this thought, do you have any ideas where there is land we could plant them, is there room in your garden to plant a tree? The Village Hall Committee is interested in the project and the Primary School are also discussing the possibility. Perhaps The Millennium Field?

The Woodland Trust is a useful web page to look at to see what saplings are available and the prices. It must be the right tree in the right place.

I would welcome anyone's thoughts on this proposal and help with moving it forward.

I do believe we owe it to our children and grandchildren to do something positive.

Pam Ascott ascott305@icloud.com

Adult Tap Class.

Sibford Village Hall, Tuesday nights 7pm-8pm.

If interested please contact Denise Cook via email:

denisemcook04@gmail.com or text

07566210187 or just come along and join us.

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MOROCCAN FEAST

*Pop-up Moroccan Feast on Saturday 18th April at 7.30pm
In the Village Hall*

3 delicious courses and other bits (nibbles, salads, bread)

£30 per head - BYOB

In Memory of David Tarring

All proceeds go to the Brain Tumour Charity

If anyone would like to book for the feast, please email me at: sibfordscene@gmail.com
It's going to be a great night with lots of fun, conviviality and delicious food!!





VILLAGE HALL NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS

The winning Team for the Annual Quiz was `The Potting Shed` Well done for retaining your title.

A very pleasant evening was enjoyed, so many thanks to all the helpers and to Adam and Simon for being Quizmasters again.

BOOK SWAP CAFE

This will be held on the first Saturday of each month from 10am until 12 midday, in the small hall.

You are welcome to borrow books and to donate some of your own for others to enjoy.

We have a good selection to choose from already.

Come and sit a whilst and have a chat as you browse.

Tea / coffee and biscuits available for a small charge.

EASTER EGG TRAIL

On Good Friday , April 10th, 2020 from 2pm until 4pm you are welcome to take on the Easter Trail.

Starting from the Village Hall there will be a route for smaller children and buggies , and one more challenging .

A Chocolate egg for all participants who enter. Afternoon teas available in the small hall.

MUSIC EVENT ON THE FIELD

On July 11th 2020 we will host an outdoor music event , so you can bring a picnic and chair and enjoy a summer evening.

More details next month ,but put the date in your diary.

BRIDGE DRIVE

This is being planned for late September or early October .

VOLUNTEERS

We are always on the lookout for helpful people to join in when we have events on.

There is a need to introduce a younger range of people to look after the Village Hall.

Some of us are nearing our `Sell by date` and we want to know that the wonderful things happening at the Village Hall will continue in the future.

The Hall does not look after itself and relies on a stalwart few to ensure that it remains a pleasant ,safe and attractive environment.



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

continued...

CAR PARK

We hope that the car park resurfacing will be carried out during August when the Village Hall is fairly quiet.

CONTACT AND INFORMATION

To book the hall please contact Ginny via thesibfords.org website or E-mail ginnybennett@googlemail.com



FILM NIGHT

The film for Wednesday March 25th is "Judy".

It is 1968 and Judy Garland arrives in London to perform a sold-out concert run. Her dreams of love seem undimmed as she embarks on a whirlwind romance with Micky Deans, her soon-to-be fifth husband. Renee Zellweger (who won an Oscar for best actress in this film) stars as "the world's greatest entertainer" in this gritty look at Garland's final months.

Film starts at 7.30. Doors open at 7. Refreshments available. Tickets £2

Petra Berry

Garlic and Lavender - Review

This year Sibford Players transported us to the creepy castle of evil vampire Count Drackenbergh and left us all quaking and shaking - with laughter not fear.

The spooky spoof was a hoot from the opening scene to the now obligatory dance mash-up finale.

Comedy was deftly delivered through the marvellously bewigged Count and his faithful sidekick Murk, giggly Tunbridge Wells maids, a pair of mucky serving wenches and a group of beer-swigging dirndl-clad locals.

Cleverly cast by sure-handed Director Kat Davidson and produced by Juliette Glazebrook, this was the perfect play to showcase a cast of local talent which grows more assured every year.

The mid-show screening of a beautifully shot black and white 'Benny Hill' style film took the characters and plot out into some familiar village locations.

Excellent lighting, sound, set and costumes all added to the success of a genuinely funny and entertaining production, the best yet, no pressure guys.

AA

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



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





NATURE NOTES

With the continuing mild wet weather this winter I think survival rates of some of our garden birds and small mammals will have been higher than normal.

Wrens have been much in evidence feeding on invertebrates around log piles and Song Thrushes have been singing, often before it is light in the mornings and leaving piles of snail shells around stones and concrete paths where they have been feeding. Black Birds have also been much in evidence with their distinctive alarm calls and frequent fights between the males establishing their territories.

Both Winter Aconites and Snowdrops have put on an impressive display this year. Both plants are probably not native to the UK. Winter Aconites were almost certainly introduced from Southern Europe around 1576. The situation is less clear with Snowdrops. Some authorities think they may be native around the Welsh borders but that they are introduced elsewhere. They were originally given the rather odd name of Bulbous Violet but by the mid-1600s were referred to as Snowdrops. I have also heard that they have been called Candlemas flowers and were introduced by monks as they flower around the time of Candlemas.

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

Andy and Gill Newbold

Rooms to Hire Sibford Gower

Are you looking for a space to hire for a one off event or a regular booking? The Meeting House at Sibford Gower might answer your needs. The Meeting House has a large meeting room, a fully fitted modern kitchen with crockery, cutlery etc and a well equipped children's room.

The cost of hiring is £12 per hour for short hiring periods. The price for longer periods is negotiable.

For further information contact: Gill Yeomans gill@crofthouse.eu

Tel: 01608 737890

SIBFORDS PARISH COUNCILS

VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATORS

Cardiac Arrest can happen to anyone – even in the Sibfords! Save a life! When it happens having someone on hand who knows how to perform CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) and use a defibrillator is critical and can save life. In the UK over 30,000 cardiac arrests happen outside of the hospital environment every year and currently less than 1 in 10 survive.

In Norway where CPR is taught to everyone at school, 1 in 4 people survive. If we can achieve the same survival rates in the UK we could save almost 5000 lives a year.

The Parish Councils of the Ferris and the Gower have therefore come together to provide defibrillators in both villages and will be supporting training using the South Central Ambulance service.

One defibrillator is already installed at the Sibford School through the good efforts of Sibford School. Work is progressing the defibrillator in the Gower in the Village Hall.

However many people tell us they would not be confident in the use of CPR and would like to be trained in the defibrillator use. Local sessions have already been held in Hook Norton, Adderbury and Chipping Norton. Shortly we want to make these available in the Sibfords.

We want to hold sessions in Sibford School, the primary school and the Village Hall. Dates will be advertised in the next Scene as well as on the website and council notice board, after close liaison with the parties concerned.

John Wass
Hugh Pigeon

Sibford Ferris & Sibford Gower Parish Councils





SIBFORD DRIVERS

Change of Responsibility

Norman has passed the monthly task of creating the back up rota to Jeremy Dougall. Many thanks to David Gill who continues to do a marvellous job as the primary responder in Margaret's continued absence and of course to Norman Nash who has done a sterling job of co-ordinating the Sibford Drivers

Jeremy Dougall

Sibford Drivers		March 2020		
If you require a lift				Rota 8
In the first instance please ring David Gill 788171 or				07730431118
<i>If no reply, please try:</i>				
<i>from Sunday</i>	<i>to Saturday</i>			
1st March	7th March	Andrew Finding		07866 569798
8th March	14th March	Gay Harris	788427	07875 852749
15th March	21st March	Mary Nash	780980	07581 200585
22nd March	28th March	Richard Thomas	788048	07976 221658
29th March	4th April	Jeremy Dougall	780908	07831 647072



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OPEN GARDENS 2020 – CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

As the new year starts Katharine House is planning for sunnier days encouraging all you keen gardeners to open your gardens and raise money next year with every penny raised going towards your local hospice. Could you help and open your garden for us?

Please also tell your friends and neighbours – villages with several garden openings on the same day are particularly successful. Our team can talk through the options with you and help every step of the way to ensure your open garden event is a success. We can advertise your open garden, provide resources and signage, and give you a detailed information pack to help you plan. We can even offer an Open Gardens mentor – someone who has opened for them in past years – to support you as you organise your event.

Please get in touch at getinvolved@khh.org.uk or call 01295 816 484 to find out more.

KATHARINE HOUSE COMMUNITY CHOIR – OPEN TO ALL!

Everyone's welcome at our new community choir! Held at Katharine House on Tuesday evenings from 6-7.30pm, come along and join others for some singing and social. No experience necessary, simply turn up on the night and join the fun. Sessions cost £5 with a portion going to support the work of Katharine House in the hospice and in the community.

What's on in 2020:

This year there are more ways than ever to get involved and help make every moment matter for local families living with a life-limiting illness. Below are just some of the fundraising events in 2020. For more information about our events, please visit www.khh.org.uk/whatson

Wingwalking 2020

Join us on 21 May 2020 for this amazing experience with the world's most experienced wing-walking team. It's something to strike off your bucket list and build memories that last a lifetime.

Midnight Walk 2020 - Saturday 20 June

Hold the date - join Banbury's biggest fundraising event - Midnight Walk 2020

Oxford Half Marathon – October 2020

Challenge yourself to complete a half marathon with a route going through the beautiful city of Oxford



The first half-term of 2020 at Sibford Gower Primary School has been full of learning with all sorts of creative and interesting activities going on across the school.

Year 5 & 6 have been exploring the theme of Stargazers and started the term with a visit to the History of Science Museum in Oxford where they found out about the history of stargazing and planetary theory and explored the constellations

At the end of February we are hoping to welcome the Chipping Norton Amateur Astronomy group into school to run a stargazing event for pupils and their families. Looking at the moon and the night sky through their big telescopes is an awe-inspiring experience and the team are always happy to share their extensive knowledge and expertise. This should be a highlight of the term for everyone, with hot chocolate and biscuits to keep us warm as we wrap up in hats and scarves to gaze up at the heavens in the brilliantly clear sky above Sibford Gower, far from the lights of town. This event will be an excellent way of rounding up the Year 5 & 6 Stargazers topic and launching the new topic of 'Moon Zoom' for the younger children.

The youngest children have been exploring the topic theme 'Street Detectives'. They have been out and about in Sibford Gower investigating how buildings and businesses have changed through time by comparing the current village landscape with old photographs.

Our longest serving school governor, Mr Fred Inns, kindly came into school to spend the morning with the children. He was able to tell them about how school and village life has changed since he was first a pupil at Sibford Gower Primary School more than 75 years ago! This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to ask all sorts of questions of a local resident with extensive first-hand knowledge and we would all like to thank Fred for the pleasure of his company and his commitment to supporting the learning of our children.

In our Year 3 & 4 class the children have been exploring the oceans through their topic 'Blue Abyss'. We welcomed some students from Oxford University into school to lead workshops with the children exploring the impact of plastic pollution on our ocean wildlife. They shared slides of their recent month long trip to the Seychelles with some startling photographs of the many, many tonnes of plastic rubbish they helped to clear from this beautiful environment. They also brought in some artefacts from the Natural History Museum for the children to handle, including a sharks jaw, some corals and a turtle (unfortunately stuffed!) which was the same species as the living one that the class have chosen to adopt.

Next term is set to be just as inspirational. If you would like to find out more about our wonderful and welcoming village school, please look on at the school website: <http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/>



Upcoming open events

Whole School Open Mornings

Friday 13 March 2020. 09.45am – 12.00pm.

Friday 1 May 2020. 09.45am – 12.00pm.

Free Early Years Stay and Play sessions

Friday 13 March 2020. 10.30am – 11.45am.

Friday 8 May 2020. 10.30am – 11.45am.

If you would like to attend an event please contact Elspeth Dyer, admissions officer via email: admissions@sibfordschool.co.uk or via phone: 01295 781 203.

Record number of unconditional university offers for Sixth Form students

Year 13 students at Sibford Sixth Form have been celebrating after receiving a record number of unconditional university offers. 9 unconditional offers have so far been received, meaning that students have already met the entry requirements of their chosen courses ahead of taking their final A Level exam later this year. A number of students have been fortunate in being offered financial scholarships. Furthermore, a number of our students have been given reduced offers (lower entry requirements) because of the strength of their personal statements or completion of an Extended Project Qualification.

Places have been offered to study Physics, Law, Fashion Marketing, Astrophysics, Drama, Marine Biology, Maths and Philosophy and Sport Science.

Cate Mallalieu-Needle, Head of Sixth Form said, 'We are delighted that so many of our Year 13 students have started to receive their well-deserved university offers. 'We are a small, close knit community and offer our students high levels of support and guidance. We pride ourselves on helping students make successful post 18 applications, with on ongoing 1 to 1 support to help with UCAS applications and the creation of personal statements that really stand out.'

Fun in the Country Holiday Club

The Fun in the Country Holiday Club is now booking for the Easter holidays. The club will run from Monday 6 April – Friday 17 April (weekdays only). Activities include swimming, team games, cookery, arts and crafts, sport and much more. £30 per day. Call 01295 781 203 to book your place.



NOT SO GREAT TASTE

BREAD!

Thought I'd share my bread recipe with you. First of all - it's a piece of cake making it!. (ouch!) And you can shove anything into it (caraway seeds, spinach, garlic, sun-dried tomatoes, pesto, to name a few)

Now, here it is - you'll need:

400g strong white bread flour

100g wholemeal bread flour

1 pkt of yeast

blob of honey and some salt

300g warm water

So - oven at 220C. Chuck all the ingredients into a bowl and knead. I use a mixer with a dough hook at speed 3 for 15mins. Then leave it to double in size with a tea towel over it. Prep whatever you're going to bake it in - I use a benneton proving basket - by either oiling or lobbing some semolina into the container. (I just use flour)

Prove for about an hour, then gently place on a baking tray or pizza stone in the oven for about 30 mins, spraying it with water maybe 3 times during the baking. You'll know it's baked by tapping its bottom - if firm, then it is ready





SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

Forthcoming Walks:

2 March; 16 March; 30 March; 20 April Please note the gap over Easter

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.



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LOCAL NEWS

ST JOHN PASSION SATURDAY 4 APRIL 7.30pm **St. Mary's Church, Banbury**

Banbury Choral Society will give a concert of JS Bach's masterpiece St John Passion on Saturday 4 April at 7.30pm. They will be accompanied by the well-known chamber orchestra, the Oxford Sinfonia, six young bright soloists, all under the baton of their inspiring conductor, Julian Harris.

Bach St John Passion is intensely dramatic with an overriding message of compassion, hope and ultimate salvation, and is one of the most demanding, and rewarding, works for a choir to perform. This oratorio was first performed on Good Friday in Leipzig in April 1724.

Banbury Choral Society goes from strength to strength and attracts members from Oxfordshire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire. Founded in 1942 the choir has staged numerous concerts in Banbury and North Oxfordshire.

Tickets for St John Passion: £15 (£5 under 16s) from www.banburychoralsoc.co.uk;

Box office 07721 204734 or the Banbury Tourist Information Centre.

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 - Every Saturday 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)



LOCAL NEWS

Two day Introduction To Beekeeping course

Run by Shipston Beekeepers - a branch of Warwickshire Beekeeping Association

Saturday 25/04/20 09.30 - 16.00 Brailes Village Hall OX15 5AS Theory - How a honeybee colony works; the beekeeping year; how to get started; essential equipment; harvesting your honey and wax.

Sunday 26/04/20 10.30 - 14.30 Practical at club apiary OX15 5HZ - Siting an apiary; assembling hive parts; apiary safety; inspecting a honeybee colony / handling bees (weather permitting) Beesuits provided.

Light lunch and refreshments provided both days. Gift Voucher available.

Enrolment: www.sbka.org.uk/training Enquiries: secretary@sbka.org.uk

Swalcliffe Parke Equestrian Calendar of Events-2020

Sat 14 th & Sun 15 th March	British Eventing Horse Trials
Sunday 5 th April	Warwickshire Hunt Pony Club Hunter Trials
Sunday 19 th April	Festival of the Horse Area 5 Qualifier
Sat 25 th & Sun 26 th April	Horse-Events One Day Event
Fri 7 th -Sun 9 th August	BRC Nat Horse Trials Championships
Sat 12 th & Sun 13 th September	Horse Events One Day Event (TBC)
Sunday 27 th October	Crown Riding Club Hunter Trial (TBC)

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HORTI SOCIETY

Our programme begins on Wednesday 11 March with Bob Brown who is coming to talk to us on 'First impressions, second thoughts'. It is also, by happy chance, the AGM, which will be dispatched as swiftly as possible, and membership renewal, so could you come armed with £!

Please remember that doors open at 7.00pm for anyone who would like coffee/tea and refreshments and the talk starts after the conclusion of the AGM around 7.30.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Best wishes,

Diana Thompson

Horti Programme 2020

Wed 11 th March	Bob Brown	'First impressions, second thoughts'
Wed 8 th April	Harriet Rycroft	'Summer Splendour'
Sat 9 th May	Plant Sale	Carter's Yard 10am – 1pm
Sat 16 th May	Spring Show	Plant sale and refreshments
Wed 10 th June	All day outing	Waterperry and Haseley Court
Wed 15 th July	Evening visit	Aston Pottery
Sat 29 th August	Summer Show	Plant sale and refreshments
Wed 14 th October	Timothy Walker	'Garden hunting in China'
Wed 11 th November	Tom Duncan	'Re-imagining the Garden – Colour, Painting and Plants' <i>Veronique Chown</i>

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In Your Garden - March

Oh joy! Spring at last. but this wet winter has been bliss for slugs, so first job is to deal with the little blighters.

1. Battle commences. One of the best ways is to go out at night with a torch and look under the leaves. You will be surprised how many are larking about.

So: -

a). You can mulch with straw or woodchips, eggshells and holly leaves, around vulnerable plants.

b). Ferric phosphate pellets are certified organic, so less toxic, but be wary of them for children and pets.

c). Nematodes can be used but not until the soil has warmed up to at least 5 degrees centigrade.

d). You can fill half an empty grapefruit shell with beer, and leave it in the soil. They love drowning in beer.

An article in the RHS magazine suggests you can kill them by putting them in a bag in the freezer! Not me. I'm bad at labelling things in my freezer anyway..... Plants most at risk are delphiniums, dahlias, hostas, sweet peas, lettuces and potatoes.

2. Hardy annuals can now be sown indoors, to plant out later.

3. At the end of the month start dahlia tubers into growth, but keep them frost free.

4. Dead head the daffodils, but leave the foliage to die back naturally.

5. Hostas can be divided to make more plants, so can hellebores and polyanthus.

6. If your early potatoes have chitted, you can plant them out.

7. Cut back penstemons to a low bud, and divide any overgrown perennials.

8. Hoe over all the weeds, and add a mulch of compost or manure to the flower and veggie beds.

9. When the lawn has finally dried out, you can give it a first cut, and trim the edges.

10. Leave sowing veggies outside until the soil has warmed up, oh! if you haven't pruned your roses yet, do it at once..

Jupe Hitching

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 Club meets on March 3rd we have our friend Troy. So it will be games all afternoon.

The trip is not yet sorted.

Any one wishing to join our club, well, come along and have look. You might like what you see. For a visit ,it only cost 50p. Eveline Boughton

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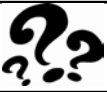
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DID YOU KNOW?

Worship in the Middle Ages – the Chapel of St John the Baptist, Sibford

The Banbury Hundred, one of the fourteen Hundreds in the County of Oxfordshire, comprised the four large parishes in North Oxfordshire – Banbury, Charlbury, Cropredy and Swalcliffe and, until the Middle Ages, remained in the ownership of the Bishops of Lincoln. The Banbury Hundred was sold in 1547 by the Bishops of Lincoln, to Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset who granted it firstly, to the Earl of Warwick in 1550, and shortly afterwards to the Duke of Northumberland. In 1551 the Duke of Northumberland sold it to the Crown in exchange for other lands and by 1595 it was leased, with Banbury Castle, to the Fiennes family at Broughton Castle.

The ancient parish of Swalcliffe contained several small villages and was well documented because some of those villages contained extensive estates owned by abbeys and colleges. Swalcliffe Parish covered an area of 6946 acres. In the Middle Ages Swalcliffe Parish contained four Chapels, one in each of the four villages of Sibford, Epwell, Shutford and Swalcliffe. The Chapel of St John the Baptist at Sibford Gower was independent of the ecclesiastical parish church at Swalcliffe. By 1153, following the death of her husband, Agnes of Sibford granted its ownership and use to the Knights Templar. They retained the services of a priest to say prayers for her dead husband and kept the Chapel in good repair. In 1311, the Pope suppressed the International Order, due to alleged scandals and everything in their ownership was handed over to the Knights Hospitallers. By 1338 the Chapel at Sibford had passed to the Order of St John who looked after it for some 200 years. They paid an annual fee of £3.6s.8d to a chaplain to celebrate Mass three times a week for the souls of the departed and to make repairs as necessary to the Chapel.



A Medieval Chapel

In 1542 when the Manors of Sibford Gower and Sibford Ferris were sold to the Crown the 'free' Chapel was only valued at £1.00. 'Its walls were very old, of rough stone while the lead and timber roof was slatted and badly decayed. There was little glass and two bells'. By 1560 the Chapel was described as 'small and ruined and all religious celebrations had ceased' and villagers had to make the difficult, swampy journey to Swalcliffe to worship. The site of the Chapel of St John the Baptist remains unknown although some buildings near to the Cross in Sibford Gower do contain small elements of stone work which may have been salvaged from the ruined Chapel. Only the Chapels at Shutford and Epwell survived in the mid 16th century.

Maureen Hicks

CHURCH SERVICES

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



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHATTER

1st March 10 am benefice service in Sibford
8th March 9.30 am morning praise (lay led)
15th March 9.30 Holy Communion
22nd March 10 am Mothering Sunday service look forward to seeing families for this.
Tuesday 24th march 12.30 pm Lent lunch at Wyatt's Close (home of David & Gillian Soden) look forward to seeing many of you.
29th March Holy Communion. *Gill Soden*

Our next **PCC** meeting is on 12th March at 7.30 pm in Church.

Barbara Foster

Sibfords History Society

On 19 March we are happy to welcome Cathy Stoertz who will be giving us a talk with the title of 'One Saturday afternoon on the Home Front - stories from an aerial photograph'.

During her 35-year career in the Aerial Investigation and Mapping Department of English Heritage, Cathy worked on many regional surveys of the historic environment and looked at thousands and thousands of aerial photographs.

Cathy's talk is based on her research." One single frame from a run of aerial photographs of Moreton-in-Marsh taken by the US Army Air Force on 27 May 1944 evokes stories ranging from the personal to the international."

How fascinating does this sound?!

Before Cathy begins we will have a brief AGM. Please come ready to renew your membership and receive the programme for 2020/21.

Sibford Village Hall: doors open 7.45p.m. AGM begins 8 p.m. Visitors welcome,
£3 p.p., Refreshments free of charge. *Diana Hughes*

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

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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



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

11th - SGPC Open Meeting - 730pm at Primary School (IT Room)

11th - Horti Society talk - Bob Brown - Village Hall - 730pm

12th - PCC Meeting - Church - 730pm

14th 15th - British Eventing Horse Trials - Swalliffe Park

19th - Sibfords Historical Society Talk - Village Hall - 8pm.

24th - Lent Lunch - Wyatt's Close - 1230pm

25th - Film Night: "Judy" - Village Hall - 730pm

APRIL (Part)

10th - Easter Egg Trail - Village Hall - 2-4pm

18th - Moroccan Feast - Village Hall - 730pm

MARCH BIN COLLECTIONS

Green Tuesday: 3rd; 17th; 31st

Blue/Brown Tuesday: 10th; 24th

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 **APRIL** ISSUE -

12 NOON - 18th MARCH 2020

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