

SIBFORD SCENE

SEPTEMBER
1988

No. 119

*Received
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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The message I wish to give is basically the same as that I asked the Banbury Guardian to print in the Villages Column. At a meeting called by the Parish Council of Sibford Gower, I volunteered to form a Neighbourhood Watch. I see such a scheme as a way to help reassert and maintain a degree of the common right to peace and security within our villages, within which all villagers may live and fulfill their lives.

The system depends on commitment to Caring - and is not a vigilante organisation. Four volunteer co-ordinators and I have been calling on every household in the villages (not quite complete to date!) with the aim of signing up those who are definitely in favour of joining in and giving out information and report forms. If any we have not managed to see, due to holidays or lack of time would like to join, please phone one of the following people: Jill Crisp 643, Ashley Gurr 358, Bob Humphrey 209, Tony Rye 763, or myself. Figures to hand, out of about 160 dwellings, 75 are now members.

When our calling and lists are complete, we shall call a meeting of all members to keep you all informed and to provide a forum for further ideas. Remember the scheme depends on Care, Vigilance, Observation, Recording, Reporting: old virtues of village life.

John Mulley, Swa. 629. Co-ordinator.

SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL AUTUMN PAYRE

DON'T FORGET - SATURDAY 17th SEPTEMBER starting at 2.00 p.m. Nearly all the organisations in the Village are running at least 1 stall. Do come along and support them all on the day.

Stalls will include, White Elephant, Books, Tombola, Bran Tub, Hats/Gloves/Scarves, Cakes, Fruit and Vegetables, Ice Cream, Sweets, Bric-a-Brac, Raffle and lots lots more. Sibford W.I. will be providing teas and there will be plenty of side shows for young and old. A barbecue will be run by the Scouts during the afternoon.

We would welcome any further offers of help and anyone else wishing to run a stall would be more than welcome and they should ring Mrs. Horn on Swa. 658 without delay.

The Hook Norton Fire Engine will also be on site (lack of fires permitting!) during the afternoon for those interested and for the children to look over.

DON'T FORGET THE ATTIC AUCTION on the same day (Sat. 17th) which will now be held in the Village Hall at 3.45 p.m. Please contact Ellen Warwicker on Swa. 764 for more information, and also to let her know if you have items for the Auction as she is willing to have them before the day. Otherwise items should be brought to the Village Hall on 17th Sept. from 1.30 onwards.

GARDEN PARTY, AT TEMPLE CLOSE

It is well known that the Lord sendeth his rain on the just as well as the unjust, but it was simply too much for him to send rain three times in one year on Temple Close - a just place if ever there was one. With minutes to spare he turned off his celestial tap and Vera and Ernest Jones' annual Garden Party for The Friendship Club and senior citizens was saved from an unjust wash out.

The band played, tea was served and this unique occasion - so much appreciated by our older villagers, was once again a wonderful success - such kindness shines through in this somewhat murky world.

A fuller report will appear in next year's Scene when our wandering reporter who, having been informed that the Friendship Club was 60+ turned up last year and was subsequently admonished for gate crashing!, will be of age and will have a bus pass to prove it!

NORTH OXFORDSHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION SIBFORDS AND EPWELL BRANCH A MUSICAL EVENING

A rare opportunity to listen to a number of the finest young musicians in the country will occur on Saturday, 15th October next, when the MANOR HOUSE, SIBFORD GOWER (by kind permission of Mr. M.J. Edwards) is the venue for a very special concert featuring the talents of Graham Hobson, Thiy Mallalieu, Jo Skrimshire and Lis Varlou. The concert marks the first reunion of these young people who commenced their studies at college and university nearly two years ago. Each has a remarkable story to tell for they have all overcome a disability to perform at a very high level of excellence on their respective instruments.

The concert, promoted by the North Oxon. Conservative Association, Sibfords and Epwell Branch, will provide not only a platform for their skills but, in addition, will allocate half the proceeds to the establishment of music scholarships through the medium of the charity 'OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE DISABLED' which was responsible for the organisation of the original 'Evening of Music in Coventry Cathedral' in 1985.

Tickets for the Concert are priced at £10 each to include a Wine and Cheese Supper and will be available from 5th September next from Monty Pearlman, Burdrop House, (8162), Bobby Harbour, Horseshoe Cottage, Epwell, (530), David Bennett, 3 Mannings Close, (373) or any other Committee member. Early booking is advised owing to the limited accommodation but if demand is sufficient an extra performance will be arranged if possible. Further details will be announced later including a possible guest 'star'.

SIBFORD BROWNIES ON PACK HOLIDAY

On Sunday August 7th 18 very excited brownies set off for Brownie Pack Holiday, this year to Fladbury Village Hall, near Evesham. The weather had been ordered specially and we were not disappointed - it was one of the finest weeks of our 'so-called' summer. The theme for the week was Jungle Book and we had lots of activities based around this theme. We went to Malvern and climbed to the top of the hills, went swimming to Evesham, entertained Shennington Brownies when they came to visit us for a day and also played lots of good games while we were there. We made souvenirs to bring home and even had an improvised shower (which was Brown Owl standing on a chair with a watering can!) - very refreshing it was too on one of the hottest days of the year.

We all arrived safely home on Friday very happy, but very tired, and already asking 'where are we going next year Brown Owl?'

VERY GRATEFUL THANKS to all our helpers; Chris Billings, Victoria Scouse, Helen Soden, Julia Conway and Dawn Morbey - we couldn't have done it without them.

Vivienne Scouse.

NOTE: Sibford Brownies will meet in future on Tuesdays from 5.15 - 6.45. in Sibford Village Hall commencing on Tuesday 13th September.

SIBFORD W.I.

On June 22nd a coach party of W.I. members, husbands and friends visited the Herb Farm near Stroud. The outing organised most ably by Mrs. Cox was a great success and took place on one of the few warm sunny days at that time. The journey both ways was scenically delightful and a visit to Prinknash Abbey was included in the afternoon, to complete a most interesting day.

The July meeting took the form of a visit to Hook Norton Brewery where our party were shown round by Mr. Fred Biold. He and his antecedents have worked at the Brewery since it was built in Victorian times and he supplied interesting background to the visit. Afterwards Mrs. Jarvis very kindly invited all back to her house for tea. Mrs. Crabtree gave her assistance.

The next meeting on September 13th will hear Mr. Bernard Phillips speak about the Confectionery Industry and there will be a competition for the best Home Made Sweets.

Any members who may have unusual or pretty egg cups and would be prepared to lend one for the Produce Day at Kidlington on Sept. 26th are asked to bring them along to the September meeting. A special one is needed for a miniature flower arrangement.

GAS SURVEY

The Sibford Ferris Parish Council should like to thank all those electors of the two Parishes who kindly helped the sixth formers of The Friends School to conduct the Gas Survey. The Council has received a letter from British Gas who say that they found the efforts of the sixth form to be very pleasing.

British Gas say that they have been inundated with requests for gas supplies and that they would be delighted to take the matter further. There is (not surprisingly) a slight snag - they estimate that contributions of about £1000 would be needed from each household to be connected. They would need a 'substantial level of acceptances at such a contribution' in order to proceed.

I should be grateful if you would let me know if you would wish me to persue the matter and am quite happy to convey a sack-ful of your acceptances to British Gas in Oxford!

Tony Skeath (Clerk to Sibford Ferris Parish Council).

A CHANCE TO BECOME "STAFF" !!

The Scene's assistant editor would like to hear from a competent typist who would be prepared to relieve her from time to time in the production of the Sibford Scene. Because of all her other commitments, Vivienne does find that some months she is very pushed, and some occasional help would be much appreciated and would also mean that she does not have to arrange her holiday dates around the dead-line dates for the Scene.

There must be a villager - maybe a new member recently welcomed by these very pages who could assist?? Please phone Vivienne on 8320.

The position of Advertising Secretary to the Scene is still open! An easy but most important job - one where creative ability and persuasion can shine.

CONGRATULATIONS

.....are due to Alex and James Marcovitch, James Millward, Marc Adams, Mark Chater and Andrew Wimbush for successfully raising £200 for Leukaemia Research. They all put a great deal of effort into organising and publicising the event and it paid off superbly.

Thanks also to all those who supported the sale either by donations or simply spending their money!

Well Done Lads!

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NATURE NOTES

June 28th About 10 years ago after we seeded a steep bank with a permanent pasture, there were so many stones on top of the grass that we tried to work out an easy method of collecting them. We thought of using chain harrows to work them down the hill and then collect them with the fore-loader bucket, but needless to say we didn't get round to it. Each year since, however, there have been fewer and fewer showing on the surface until now there are very few to be seen. They seem to have been buried gradually, by the action of insects and worms burrowing under the stones and pushing the soil out round the edges.

July 1st We came home this evening to find a dead blackbird on the lawn only a few yards from the back door. It's breast had been picked clean of feathers and a hole pecked into the breast. Obviously the work of a sparrow hawk that may have been disturbed by our arrival.

July 5th The two yellow wagtails, that I mentioned last month, are still with us and today I saw one carrying food in its beak, so I expect they have a nest with young.

July 10th Found a well established patch of Sweet Cicely growing on the roadside near the Elm. I associate Sweet Cicely with northern England where it is as common on roadsides as heck (cow parsley) is here.

July 15th We took delivery of our solid fuel for the Rayburn today. I remember that when I started farming about 30 years ago, we could buy a ton of anthracite for the price of $\frac{1}{2}$ a ton of wheat. Now it takes about $1\frac{1}{4}$ tons of wheat to pay for a ton. Does this reflect the relative improvements in efficiency in the two industries?

Aug. 9th We are missing the flycatchers that have, for the last fortnight, been feeding young in the nest box on the wall of our bungalow. From dawn to dark there has been at least one using the bush outside the window as its perch from which to watch the nest and make insect catching sorties. But today they have flown and moved off.

Aug. 12th I counted 18 magpies in one field near Swalcliffe Common. They are too numerous and must be destroying a lot of birds' nests and eggs.

Aug. 17th Even magpies have their uses. This morning I saw one working its way along the gutter of the next door house, throwing out the rubbish as it went.

There were 2 fox holes in a 9 acre field of spring barley that I combined today, but no beaten down areas to make me think any cubs had been reared there. As I was finishing the field what I think was a grasshopper warbler flew out of the last triangle of barley in front of the combine knife, only to settle by some bales a few yards away. When I walked along to get another look, it let me walk past it and flew up from just behind me to some nearby bushes.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The September Meeting on Wednesday 14th will be addressed by Miss M. Spiller from Water Perry Gardens, Wheatley. She will give a talk on Growing Herbaceous Plants and Delphiniums, illustrated with colour slides. (8 p.m. Village Hall):

Death of Edna Wealsby

Edna Wealsby, who has died at the age of 90, lived most of her life in the Village. She and Frank Wealsby (Snr.) farmed Home Farm for many years before retiring to their bungalow on the Colony Road, where she created a beautiful garden.

A life-long loyal member of the Society of Friends, and a quiet supporter of village activities, she spent the last years of her life happily settled in a nursing home.

We extend our sympathy to her 3 children and their families, for she was a much-loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER

Tuesday Sept. 6th 12.30 Lunch £1.25. please bring Knives, Forks & Spoons.

Wednesday Sept. 21st Outing to Cheltenham 11.30 - 5.30. All information from Mrs. Webb, 4 High Meadow.

In our previous report, reference was made to the glorious English summer days, but the past weeks have been more worthy of Indian Monsoon Season, with the team showing a clear determination to defeat the climate to pursue their sporting ambitions - yes, its been "rust", not "sun tan" that has the prevalent colour element!! The highlight has been in reaching the final of the George Clark Cup - the first time in 15 years that Sibford has reached that stage, reliving memories for the older brigade (Roger Gilbert - how old is he?). In the semi-final (for which the captain apologises profusely), Warmington were the victims of the accuracy of Roger Gilbert 7 - 48 and the originality of Adrian Lamb 3 - 38 as they were dismissed for 91 and then after a sound start by David Inns and Nigel Fletcher, it was the admirable A.L. with 30 not out who led the team home to a 7 wicket success. The final, there being one postponement, was an anti-climax - Sibford, for once, failed to get sufficient runs and were all out for 64 and despite a brave attempt by Roger and Adrian to break Brailes resistance with some resourceful bowling, the game was lost by 6 wickets. With twenty more runs it may well have been a different story!! But that's what cricket is all about and we will have to try to go one better in 1989.

In the League, the results have been mixed, but too often the close games have been going against us. Team selection has been difficult with a good squad available and a number of our able and willing group have undertaken the role of 12th and 13th man with dignity and understanding and always in the best interest of the club. Equally there have been a number of fine individual performances with bat, ball and in the field which are reflected below:-

- v. RADWAY - Lost by 18 runs. Radway 122 all out (Adrian Lamb 3 - 27)
(Nigel Fletcher 3 - 33)
Sibford 104 all out (Roger Gilbert 24)
(David Bennett 19)
(John Simms 15)
- v. ALVESTON lost by 9 wickets Sibford 106 all out (Adrian Lamb 22)
(Roger Gilbert 21) (Mervyn Simmons 21)
Alveston 107 for 1.
- v. WARMINGTON - Won by 7 wickets W'ington 79 all out (Nigel Fletcher 3 - 20)
(David Lamb 3 - 15)
Sibford 83 for 3 (Brian Holliday 49+)
(David Bennett 21+)
- v. CLAYDON - Lost by 2 wickets. Sibford 144 for 6 (Percy Turner 34+)
(Roger Gilbert 25) (Philip Gilbert 24+)
(Mervyn Simmons 23)(Brian Holliday 17)
Claydon 145 for 8 (Adrian Lamb 3 - 33)
(Brian Holliday 3 - 35)
- v. BRAILES - Won by 56 runs Sibford 122 for 7 (David Inns 31)
(Nigel Fletcher 24) (Mervyn Simmons 15)
Brailes 66 all out. (Percy Turner 6 14)

So with two-thirds of the season gone, Sibford lie in 6th place in the League with aspirations to move at least a couple of places higher - and that is no dream with the remainder of our matches on home ground at Sibford School, where wickets are cut to our liking and where boundaries are marked to cut out the running of fives!! We have one further secret weapon - "Sibford Teas" are the best in the League (as voted by our opponents) and our foes have often found their "legs" less co-operative in chasing runs or balls! Seriously ladies, the culinary art is terrific and many thanks for your excellent efforts.

Shefford Cricket Club (continued)

So to the statistics (up to and including the 30th July).

<u>Batting</u>	<u>Innings</u>	<u>Not Out</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Highest Score</u>	<u>Average</u>
Brian Holliday	7	1	181	49	30-16
Mervyn Simmonds	6	1	111	28	22-16
Percy Turner	5	2	59	34*	19-67
Roger Gilbert	9	1	121	25	15-12
David Inns	11	2	135	39	15-00
Adrian Lamb	10	1	111	37*	12-33

<u>Bowling</u>	<u>Overs</u>	<u>Maidens</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Wickets</u>	<u>Average</u>
Percy Turner	8.0	4	14	6	2-33
Adrian Lamb	68.2	12	187	21	8-90
John Simms	21.0	1	104	10	10-40
Roger Gilbert	93.5	27	188	14	13-43
Brian Holliday	38.0	3	164	12	13-67
David Lamb	50.5	11	140	9	15-56
Nigel Fletcher	80.0	18	248	14	17-71

Fielding

Fred Inns	9 catches + 4 stumpings
David Inns	5 "
David Bennett	3 "
Nigel Fletcher	3 "
Roger Gilbert	3 "
Percy Turner	3 "

So one report to come - the 'ghost writer' hopes the price of this article is not a heavy fine by the team on the scale of Mr. Gatting's penalty - penal servitude would be accepted by a period of time in the scoreboard only!!

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 1988 12th November - Poppy Day

Once again this period of remembrance is drawing close and I am trusting that all my band of collectors are fit, well and willing! If you have any doubts please let me know. The period of collection is from 31st October to 12th November inclusive for House to House collections. One or two fresh names put themselves forward as collectors. If I have missed calling on you, would you please 'phone me, Swa. 629.

All of us would do well to think on the fact that there are some 6,000 War Widows needing support from the days of the First World War: these last weeks will add some more, children too.

Remembrance Sunday 13th November

John Mulley
Hon. Collector, Sibfords.

Canterbury Tales at Tadmarton

Geoffrey Chaucer first told his Canterbury Tales five hundred years ago. To celebrate this anniversary there will be a re-telling of some of the Tales in the Old Barn, Tadmarton on the evening of Saturday 24th September at 7.00 p.m. As with the production of Everyman in the Barn last year, the cast will be drawn from the village and its neighbours and profits will go to the Katharine House Hospice Appeal. Tickets £2.00 from Tadmarton Post Office.

LETTERS TO AND FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I have a picture of a biplane which came down in a field at Sibford Heath in July 1916. I wonder if there is anyone who can remember it? Also I have a report of Sibford Cricket Club. They were playing Chacombe but Sibford were out for eleven and Chacombe for 12 (that was in 1968)!

NOTE If the writer will kindly advise the Editor who she or he is then the '50p' enclosure will be returned!

Who remembers the plane??

ED.

Pond Cottage,
Sibford Gower.

Dear Sir,

The setting up of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the Sibfords is not only the most ridiculous idea I have ever heard, but also the most disconcerting. It seems fine in inner-city areas where there is an increased crime rate, but in two tiny villages it is simply an excuse for a minority to spy on the rest of us. It is quite obviously aimed at the younger people in the village who have done nothing more serious than congregate at the village pond, smoke the odd cigarette and say the odd four-letter word more than once. Surely the solution to this boredom is not to tut-tut at them through twitching curtains, but to encourage them to do something more constructive. Does any older villager realise how little there is to do in Sibford for someone aged between fourteen and twenty? Teenagers have to live too, and the way to keep harmony in the villages is not by establishing a ridiculous method of spying on one another.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Marcovitch.

Dear Sir,

re: The unwholesome habits of pet dogs in the village

Despite the fact that there are a lot of open spaces around the village, it appears that a number of dog owners allow (or even take) their pets to deposit lumps of processed Chum, Valumix etc. on footpaths and in the road. If this happens in towns then the owner of the hapless "guilty" dog is often liable to a fine of up to £100.00.

PLEASE PLEASE dog owners think of others. The end result would be cleaner footpaths and less antagonism towards dogs and their owners.

Signed: Prohibitus Depositus"

(name and address supplied).

HELP?

Is there anyone within the villages willing to teach a very keen 6 year old the piano? If so, please contact Bernie Jones, 7 Cotswold Close, Sibford Ferris at any time.

WANTED

LIFT

on Wednesday mornings from Sibford Gower to
Banbury Cross for around 9.00 a.m.

Please ring: Swa. 544.

OXFORDSHIRE PROBATION SERVICE

Dear Sir,

Crime, and what can be done about it, is a subject of general interest to us all. You probably know that the Probation Service is something to do with this but many people are less sure of exactly what our job entails. This letter is to introduce the Probation Officers, based in Banbury, who cover this area and invite you to know more about us.

In order to understand this more fully I write to extend an invitation to someone from your magazine, or one of the readers, to come and interview one of us and write up your own article on our work. This could be on our work in the Courts, or with people in prisons and their families, or offenders with drinking problems or our Community Service unit - or some other aspect of our work. Please contact me by letter or by telephone at the Probation office in Banbury so that we can arrange an appointment.

The Probation Service, like the Police force, is funded from public funds, so perhaps you SHOULD know a little more about us! As President Reagan quoted from the recent Moscow Summit "Better to have seen once than to have heard about it one hundred times".

Yours sincerely,

Linda M. Nutt (Mrs.)
Senior Probation Officer.

A full report will appear in the next edition of Sibford Scene. This month's issue is already bursting. John Endersby has kindly agreed to do the interview. We look forward to his article.

ED.

Dear Anonymous,

You may remember that you had a bit of a gripe in the July Scene regarding the jocular report about the AGM of the Gower Parish Council? Actually, I received two or three similar comments, but you alone sort notoriety in anonymity!

I write to keep the record straight. The Report had nothing to do with the Council to whom I apologise. It was commissioned by myself who requested, rightly or wrongly, a light-hearted piece from the Gower, believing that a small local rag could not support the 'weight' of two lengthy secretarial compositions of blow by blow accounts. This year it was the Ferris' turn to be faithful to Hansard. Next year we shall turn around and the Ferris will (I hope) submit an offering worthy of Punch!

With love,
Editor.

(Sometimes he too wishes he could be 'anonymous' but his obvious style will always betray his hand!)

PLEASE!! No more anonymous letters. We are a small community and should be able to 'belly ache' with pride.

MUMS & TODDLERS

Mums and Toddlers group is held on Wednesday mornings, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, at Lister Girls Common Room, Sibford School, and starts on September 14th. New members are always welcome. For more information, ring Joanna Gilkes on Swa. 8190.

L O S T

in Sibford Gower on Sunday July 31st a
GOLDEN BRACELET

If found, please contact: Petra Berry, 2 Barley Close
(Swa. 462).

A concert will be given in the Village Hall on Saturday, September 10th at 7.30 p.m. by members and friends of the Banbury Amateur Operatic Society.

The first half of the programme will be devoted entirely to excerpts from the Savoy Operas by Gilbert and Sullivan. The second half will consist of items from popular shows and light Operetta. During the interval cheese and wine will be served which will be included in the admission charge of £2.50.

The proceeds of this concert will be given to the Katherine House Hospice and "Fight for Sight". This latter charity is under the Patronage of H.R.H. the Duke of York and is a special appeal campaign for the Institute of Ophthalmology to be rehoused on a new sight next to the world famous Moorfields Eye Hospital, which will enable doctors and scientists to work even more closely together.

The Institute of Ophthalmology has more than 250 research projects under way helping to bring fresh hope to the 40 million blind in the world today. In one project alone the Institute is testing a new drug which may save the sight of one million people threatened by the scourge of river blindness. Other studies are being undertaken to combat eye cancer and blindness in old age.

The donation we send to "Fight for Sight" from this concert will be matched pound for pound by Melson Wingate Ltd., Opticians.

All in all this promises to be a most enjoyable evening which will benefit two very deserving causes.

Tickets are available from the Sibford Surgery and Greens Stores, Sibford Ferris, who have kindly agreed to sell them, or from Melson Wingate Opticians in Banbury.

V I L L A G E H A L L Q U I Z

The date for this year's Quiz followers has been fixed for Monday 7th November in Sibford Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Teams of three names (with suitable titles) to be sent to Mrs. V.E. Scouse, Meadowbank, Burdrop, Sibford Gower (8320) by 17th October please.

No age limit on teams. Anyone can enter (it would be good to have as many of the Village Organisations represented as possible.) Do come along and enjoy a really good family evening.

Timothy Wimbush.

SWALCLIFFE & TADMARTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

5th ANNUAL SHOW

Saturday Sept. 3rd - open 2.30 p.m.

in Swalcliffe Village Hall

with Teas in the garden at Miss Gifford Kings

Arts, Crafts and Antiques Fair

On September 17th and 18th the Upper Heyford/Croughton Officers Wives Club will hold its annual Arts, Crafts and Antiques Fair. This year we are happy to host over 100 of the best merchants in England. A wide variety of fine merchandise will be on display under one roof. As in the past we will also have an outdoor carnival providing entertainment and refreshments. Parking and admission are free. Proceeds raised by the Wives Club will go to benefit local British and American charities.

WELCOME TO SIBFORD

TO NEWCOMERS If you have just moved into our Village and have not received a copy of the leaflet 'Welcome to Sibford', please ring Sue Colquhoun on 660 and she will deliver a copy to you. This information sheet is designed to help you feel at home as soon as you move into your new house by acquainting you with the services, schools, churches, clubs and societies currently active in the village. So let us know you've arrived!

Peter and Liz Mawdsley have recently moved into Barley Close. They have two children, Heather who is nearly four and John aged two. Originally from Southport and the Isle of Man respectively, they have resided in Stockport, Jersey and Bristol prior to moving to Sibford Gower. The nomadic influence is due to Peter's career with Nat. West. He is currently working at the Staff Training College at Enstone.

+++++

Chris, Claire and Tom Rosser have recently returned to England after some years farming in France. They formerly lived near Shipston-on-Stour and so are not complete strangers to the area. Tom is aged 3½ and they have two dogs, Mungo a Black Labrador and Angus a Border Terrier.

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EVENTS OF INTEREST FROM OUR GOOD NEIGHBOURS OVER THE BROW OF THE HILL

1. Tadmarton Autumn Fayre Sat. 10th September 2 p.m. in aid of the Village Hall.
2. Family Church Sunday 18th September 10 a.m. Short inter-denominational service in Tadmarton Church for all ages.
3. Tadmarton Gardens open Sun. 18th September 2 - 6 p.m. with plants and teas in aid of N.G.S. Charities and Katharine House.
4. BBONT Autumn Event Sat. 24th September 2 p.m. Tadmarton Manor and Village Hall. Wild flower seeds for sale, also plants, teas and gifts in aid of Berks. Bucks and Oxon. Naturalist Trust. The Church, decorated for Harvest Festival will be open.
5. 'Canterbury Tales' in Tadmarton Manor Old Barn. Sat. 24th September 7 p.m. Tickets from Tadmarton Shop in aid of Katharine House.

WELL DONE 'SISTER'

Some few months ago the attention of readers of the Sibford Scene was drawn to a competition run by the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council for the best village newspaper. Although the Sibford Scene was not entered due to the reasons previously given it IS happy to report and indeed congratulate The Epwell Echo, its sister paper, for being awarded a merited 5th place.

A prize was also awarded to The Sibford Ferris Mothers/Toddlers group in the Village Venture Section. Well Done!

It would be encouraging to be able to enter next year's competition; so all you roving reporters and potential authors of interesting local articles, please - get cracking!

LEO CLUB

The next meeting of Leo Club will be held on Tuesday 20th September at 8.00 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Ellen Warwicker, The Court House, Sibford Gower.

'HORTI' SHOW - STOP PRESS!

Next month we shall be able to give more details of the show with "who won what?" and "Did we recoup the cost of the Marquee?" and all that sort of thing. However, for this month it is very nice to record what a happy occasion it was despite the rain arriving precisely at 2.30 when the Show opened. Fortunately an inside event had been decided in advance and all exhibits and stalls were under cover. It was a bit of a squash in the Village Hall but after such a lot of uncertain weather everyone was glad to get out and meet everyone else and it was a convivial event.

The judges were very impressed with the standard of entries and many new people took the plunge and entered their cakes or flowers or photographs this year, and often with great success. The relative coolness also meant that all the flower exhibits were still looking as fresh in the afternoon as when their owners staggered in with them all in the morning, and consequently the tent looked splendid.

This year too, a great deal of help was given by dozens of people, both beforehand, during and after the show and no request in any direction was refused. It resulted in a real team effort and if anyone didn't get thanked - apologies and your contribution was much appreciated.

Walking round with ones ears cocked, one heard snippets of conversation such as "and it took my family five hours to fold up the counterfoils" or "if we hadn't got them back with extra tent pegs it would have blown over to Hook Norton and they could have used it", "I made an enormous curry and told them to fend for themselves". And at the end of the afternoon - "What do you do with two large bowls of whipped cream?".

Thanks to everyone. More news next month and don't forget Miss Spiller on Herbaceous Plants and Delphiniums on September 14th.

SIBFORD FERRIS PLAYAREA

At long last work has commenced on the playarea and we hope that by October, weather permitting, the children may start to use the equipment. The group would like to thank all those who have helped us to make this project possible, including the Sibford Ferris Parish Council. Special thanks must go to Sue Ethrington-Smith who 'opened up her home' for a coffee morning held recently and which raised £55 and to Jayne Fletcher who shed half a stone and raised £80 in sponsors. Well Done. Jayne. Thanks also to Gill Newbold who spoke with Mr. M. Finch of the Friends School about the project and who then granted the group £75 from the School's Social Fund.

The Group's next fundraiser will hopefully be a Children's Fancy Dress and Halloween Party, and more details of this will be in next month's Scene.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

HORSES AND PONIES IN NEED

GLENDIA SPOONER TRUST

AUTUMN FAIR at

THE HOUSE-ON-THE-GREEN

CHERINGTON, SHIPSTON-on-STOUR, WARWICKSHIRE

on THURSDAY 6th OCTOBER, 1988

10.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Security car windscreen etching service
available on the day at £4.50 per car.

'HORTI' SHOW - PRIZE WINNERS Mrs. Warwicker (764) has unclaimed prizes from the 'Horti' Raffle. She would be grateful if the people concerned would contact her:-

P. Rogers, Wigginton Heath, T. Goodfellow, Hook Norton, I. Harris, H.Norton 737353
J. Mahoney, Sully, 0222-530788, Abbott, 0628-33557, Nash, Swa. 275, Daltrey,
Chipperfield, Herts, Miss Emery Banbury, 710686.

HOOK NORTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE
AUTUMN TERM - starts MONDAY 19th September

Monday		Painting & Drawing £11.50 term	Russian language & culture £11.50 10 weeks. Stress Management £11.50 10 weeks starts 26th Sept. Mens Keep Fit £10.50 term Shorthand £10.50 term * Evolution of the landscape (Geology) £17 10 weeks Herbal Medicine £2 1 eve. 17th October. Handbell ringing £11.50 term.
Tuesday	Kindergym £7 term Coffee Shop open during term time 9.45 to 11.15 Microwave demon- stration £2 1 morning 1st Nov.	Bridge £11.50 term	Typing £11.50 term * Music Appreciation £17 10 weeks starts 27th Sept. Ladies Work Out £9 term Picture Framing £8 5 weeks Flower Arranging & Xmas decorations £11.50 10 weeks
Wednesday	* European Litera- ture £17 10 weeks + 10	Gymnastics for primary children (enrol 7th Sept. 3 pm at school) starts 14th Sept. £7 term.	Psychic World £10.50 10 weeks Xmas Crafts £8 5 weeks starts 2nd Nov Indian Cookery demos £9 5 weeks Easy entertaining cookery demos £9 5 weeks starts 2nd Nov. Calligraphy £11.50 term Yoga £10.50 term French Conversation (1) beg French Conversation (2) int £9 term
Thursday	Yoga £10.50 term	Painting & Drawing £11.50 term	Patchwork & Quilting £11.50 term Guitar for adults £11.50 term Wine Tasting £2.50 1 eve 24th Nov. * Discovering Cotswold Churches £8 4 weeks Italian Conversation beg £11.50 term Yoga £10.50 term Painting & Drawing £11.50 term Church Tower Bell Ringing £10.50 term.

Day Schools: Saturday 15th October: Kite Making for 8 - 11 year olds. £2.50
Saturday 12th November: Patchwork & Quilting - £5.50
Saturday 3rd December: Christmas Cake Icing - £7.50 to include icing.

For full details phone: Community Education Organiser,
Linda Buchanan - H.N. 730052
(9-4 Mon - Fri).

* WEA classes: Phone
Joyce Ferlie for
details H.N. 737842

ENROLMENT: Monday 5th September 7 - 8.30 p.m. at The Primary School, Hook Norton
where all the classes are held.

Programmes will be in village Post Offices from the end of August and a file with
details of each class will be in the Library at Hook Norton.

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

GOOD NEWS FROM BANBURY CAREERS OFFICE

School and College Leavers have never had it so good. It's true, there has never been a summer like it for years. If you want a job, a college course or, to train for a particular skill, Banbury Careers Office will have something good to offer you. Don't forget that we can help you choose from the wide range of opportunities available. Telephone Banbury 56224 for more information.

A-Level results were published on 18th August and you might need to re-think your plans for higher education. Advisors at Banbury Careers Office can help you with the latest vacancy information from the colleges and polytechnics. Telephone Banbury 56224.

Re-scheduling of Mobile Library Services

A countywide rescheduling of mobile library services came into effect on June 27th. This has been necessary in order for the service to be extended to a number of additional communities throughout the County. Below are the schedules for communities in your area where revised times apply; these are indicated by an asterisk. Other stops have not been affected by the changes.

Commencing 1st July 1988 the Mobile Library will call on alternate Fridays at:

ROLLRIGHT	Duck End	10.50 - 11.00
	The Green	11.05 - 11.30
* SIBFORD GOWER	The School	11.50 - 12.45
* BURDROP	Vets	12.50 - 1.05
* SIBFORD FERRIS	Green's Shop	2.10 - 2.35

"A Village, divided by individual interests, united by common concern" -
T.S. ELLIOT

THE VILLAGE DUCK POND

Never before had so many green wellies come together in one place - the duck pond on Saturday July 23rd was the focus as pair after pair brought their owners from not far but certainly wide all armed with fiercesome implements such as yard brooms, rakes and shovels. Was it the assembly of the old Home Guard? Sadly no. Merely the villagers aroused to a call to assist, sent out by Beverly Hardman with the object of cleaning the pond. The most effective weapon turned out to be a sludge pump thoughtfully provided by someone who knows a thing or two about 'sludge'. By eleven the fish were safe in large tanks, the ducks confined to barracks and the pond drained. In the first stages a gully was revealed and on investigation and a certain amount of grimy grovelling the children found all manner of goodies concealed within the last of the gooie slurrie. Marbles, coins - no teeth were uncovered but Tom Woodall recovered a fifty pence piece which he had cunningly encouraged a friend to skim across the pond a week or two previously with future salvage in mind! Small pyramids of stones were built on the concrete bottom to add interest to the navigation of the carp, who must be frightfully bored just to swim around a hazard-free pond all day. Joe arrived with trays of coffee - packed lunches and biscuits were eaten with grubby hands (to date no typhoid has been reported to our team of Doctors) and that was that. Everyone went home leaving the pond to refill naturally which it obligingly did by the following morning.

By this time the old hands of the village had re-appeared from behind their net curtains to investigate and comment. "Not like we used to do. Why there's been no repair to the concrete, and all these piles of stones - why they be silly! To much of a hurry. Thats whats wrong with folks today. Why in my day.....".

Despite the criticism the pond is again wholesome and the Heron can once again see the fish and the puddle ducks will be able to find Tom Kitten's clothing.

"Hold you the Watch tonight?". Hamlet Act I, Sc. II.

General concern about theft and vandalism in the village, plus a little persuasion, prompted the Parish Council to call an extraordinary meeting of villagers to discuss the problem and its solution which included the possible formation of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme as promoted by the Police.

A goodly gathering of over 100, including many youths, came together on Monday 1st August. in the village hall which in itself showed the anxiety felt by the residents. The meeting was opened by Eric Payne, Chairman of the Parish Council, who introduced P.C. 'Ron' of the Banbury Force before retiring into the shadows. P.C. 'Ron' had brought with him reams of stickers and posters and a Video on Crime Prevention through the vigilance of Neighbourhood Watch members. A fairly convincing case was put forward for the formation of just such a body which could have no disadvantage and possibly considerable merit. Following the presentation the Chairman reappeared from 'square leg' to announce "Well its over to you now to do what you want about it!" The meeting was then thrown open and a general discussion ensued wherein those present seemed to divide into two factions - those who had already been the victims of crime or vandalism and were firmly for the formation of a self help vigil and a second group who had as yet been personally unaffected by action against their property or person. This latter section made many more general points as to the importance of establishing cause before action leading to prevention. From the back of the hall one eloquent case was made for the fact that the troubles experienced by Sibford Gower were but the occasional over exhuberant actions of a few intoxicated youths. This begged the question from the front of the Hall as to whether, by the same process of argument, rape was therefore merely the manifestation of over sexual desires of a deranged opportunist. Such observations had roached the realms of the cost of nuclear submarines and the meeting had become somewhat out of hand with parties on their feet addressing one another direct in loud tones. When sanity was restored by the suggestions that the meeting was not concerned with a decision depending on a majority vote but simply that those interested in forming a Village Watch could remain and do so and the remainder could depart to form a youth club should they consider this to be equally helpful.

Molly Mulley spoke movingly about the wanton mindless vandalism of her car and was concerned for others who, unlike herself, did not have the protection of a husband. The story of wheel nuts having been loosened on cars was simply beyond the comprehension of those present. Surely even drunken lunacy would not stoop to attempted manslaughter? Time and time again the point was made of the importance, nay necessity of once again having a Village Bobby with his "size fourteens" firmly planted on the village green. A swipe of his heavy cape, as of old, was probably of more benefit to the 'education' of youth and its integration into adult society than all the juvenile courts in the land. Concern for others and the ability to anticipate the consequence of ones action was the true turning point of mindless youth into adulthood and could take place at any age from six to twenty six.

The Chairman again made a well timed intervention and called for volunteers to form a watch, if that was the intention of some of those present. It took little persuasion for John Mulley to step forward and he was soon at work with pencil and paper recruiting others from the four corners of the village to help him in the organisation and planning. The Scene is open with all the help it can give to John to publish his ideas and methods of organisation. It may not be beyond the brief of his committee to perhaps, at a later date, call another meeting to take up the questions raised as to why such things happen - when people, anxious to help, rather than merely criticise and suggest, may come together to discuss the matter further.

It is earnestly hoped that the youth of the village will be incorporated into the Watch Scheme and be prepared to help. Responsibility is a great bridge to maturity. Above all there should be no division into an US and THEM situation, but only "WE TOGETHER". We have a unique, beautiful village and a kind and considerate community. Together, the mindless silliness of a small section, with their eventual understanding, can hopefully be eliminated.

CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends
Methodist
Roman Catholic Mass

Hook Norton
Brailes

Sundays at 10.30 a.m.
Sundays at 11 a.m.
Sundays at 11 a.m.
Sundays at 11.30 a.m.

Holy Trinity - September

Sept. 4th	8 a.m.	Holy Communion (said)
11th	10 a.m.	Holy Communion (hymns and sermon)
18th	10 a.m.	Family Service
25th	10 a.m.	United Benefice Eucharist (hymns and sermon)

Saturday 1st October 6 p.m. HARVEST THANKSGIVING and supper following
in Village Hall.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Swimming Club	Friends School	Monday & Wednesday 6 - 7 p.m. Friday 5 - 6 p.m. (Toddlers)
Brownies	Village Hall	Tuesday 5.15 - 6.45 p.m.
Folk Dancing	Village Hall	Tuesday 8 p.m.
Badminton	Village Hall	Wednesday 8 p.m.
Guides	Village Hall	Thursday 7 p.m.
Beavers	Village Hall	Friday 4.30 p.m. - 5.45 p.m.
Cub Scouts	Village Hall	Friday 6 p.m.
Scouts	Village Hall	Friday following Cubs
Playgroup	Village Hall	9.30 Monday, Wed. & Friday (term time)
Mums & Toddlers	Friends School	10 - 12 noon Wednesday (term time)

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

3rd Sept.	Scout Paper Collection.
3rd.	Swalcliffe & Tadmorton Annual Show 2.30 p.m.
5th	Enrolment at Hook Norton Education Centre 7 - 8.30 p.m.
6th	Friendship Club, Lunch 12.30 p.m.
10th	September Serenade, Village Hall 7.30 p.m.
10th	Tadmorton Autumn Fayre, 2 p.m.
13th	W.I. Meeting, Speaker Mr. B. Phillips on the Confectionary Industry.
14th	Horticultural Meeting. 8 p.m. Village Hall - Miss Spiller to speak.
17th	Sibford Village Hall AUTUMN FAYRE AND AUCTION 2 p.m. onwards.
18th	Tadmorton Gardens open 2 - 6 p.m.
17th/18th	Arts, Crafts & Antiques Fair. Upper Heyford/Croughton Officers Wives Club
20th	Leo Club. 8 p.m. at The Court House, Sibford Gower.
21st	Friendship Club, Outing to Cheltenham.
24th	Canterbury Tales at the Old Barn, Tadmorton. 7.00 p.m.
24th	BBONT Autumn Event, Tadmorton Manor & Village Hall.

ALSO on 10th September SPONSORED BIKE RIDE round the Oxfordshire Churches.

SIBFORD SCENE

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