

# SIBFORD SCENE

May 2020

No 422

## RAINBOWS FROM THE VILLAGE





## ED'S THOUGHTS

Well! We have poems, jokes, recipes, limericks, a quiz and a book page. THANKYOU for all your contributions. Please keep them coming!

Please note: some of the services being offered in this month's adverts may not be available at this time of lockdown

*Thought for the month:*

"From the dark end of the street  
To the bright side of the road "

*Van Morrision*



## LETTERS AND NOTICES

### **The Marie Curie-Great Daffodil Appeal March 2020-Sibford Ferris**

The House to House Collection in Sibford Ferris between Tuesday, the 10th and Wednesday, the 18th March raised the sum of **£158.20**.

Many thanks to the households in the village who contributed to the appeal, your support will enable Marie Curie Nurses to continue to give vital care to those who need it most.

*David Bennett*

### **BONFIRES**

Why do these inconsiderate people, decide to light fires, on the few sunny days we have, especially now, when we are self isolating. The only places we can go, are in our gardens, or go for a walk. The air is now being polluted with the smell of smoke, blowing around causing sore throats, discomfort for people who have health issues and young children. Please refer to the information guide on Garden Bonfires Environmental Protection UK. Please also consider, there is washing hanging out to dry in the sunshine too!!!.

*Tom West*



## LETTERS AND NOTICES

### Let's Create for When We Meet Again

Are you painting, sewing, knitting, sculpting, baking, designing or attempting something new during this lockdown? Are you a group of friends creating something between you? Would you like to have a project to work on but have not yet found the motivation? Or are you just looking forward to a village get together?

If the answer is yes, then we are planning an event which might be of interest.

Our plan is to hold an exhibition of all those creative (or not so creative) projects we have been working on during this time. It will be a chance to catch up, talk, discuss those projects that have kept us going or even meet new people in the village with similar interests. If you have been trying new recipes perhaps you will bake them again for us to try.

We hope this may spur you on to start that new project you have been thinking about or organise a group (whether adults or children) to create individual pieces of work that can be part of a larger project.

If you are interested in being part of this event (however big or small) then please email [joanneconnor@rocketmail.com](mailto:joanneconnor@rocketmail.com). We will set a date once restrictions have eased and will keep you all informed.

*Joanne Connor*

### **SIBFORD SUPPORT GROUP**

Dear Ed,

Over the many years that I have lived in Sibford I have been very aware of the wonderful sense of community here and this is more evident now than ever.

I would like you to know that there is an army of "younger" volunteers ready to help those of us who are self-isolating, shielding and lonely. Having attended the meetings online of the Sibford Support Group I am humbled by the positivity and general desire to do so much for others and with so many new ideas and new technologies at their fingertips. There is ready and willing help to get us all through this.

Please do not hesitate to call on your local registered volunteer who will contact any one of the 80+ volunteers to act for you. There is no need for anyone in Sibford to feel isolated and without help at this time.

Stay safe!

*Jean Scouse*

### **Adult Tap Class.**

Sibford Village Hall, Tuesday nights 7pm-8pm.  
If interested please contact Denise Cook via email:  
[denisemcook04@gmail.com](mailto:denisemcook04@gmail.com) or text  
07566210187 or just come along and join us.

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**CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**



When I sat down to write some words for the Sibford Scene exactly one month ago, about a dozen of us had just had our first surreal experience of a socially distanced meeting of the newly created **Sibford Support Group** in our Village Hall.

Over that same frantic month, I have been humbled by the fantastic response from our Community, with **over 90 selfless volunteers** offering their generous support to those in need during this unprecedented crisis.

As lockdown became our new reality, our Group communications switched to the high-tech wizardry of Nextdoor posts, a dedicated webpage & email address, Zoom virtual conferencing, WhatsApp messaging and even the odd traditional phone call, but my most memorable experience has been of the enthusiasm and dedication of our volunteers, who are now working together in the following

teams:

Our **Prescription Delivery Team** is led by **Dr Anne Spackman** and involves around a dozen volunteers, delivering vital prescriptions to high risk and shielding Surgery patients in and around The Sibfords. If **you** are at high risk, just ask for SSG Delivery when you order your next prescription.



Our **Area Support Teams** are being coordinated by **Chris Cullen** and **Charlotte Davies**, and their **17 Area Leads** are making direct contact with their local neighbours across The Sibfords. We now have around 60 volunteers ensuring that essential supplies are delivered to everyone in need of our help.

Some of our volunteers are themselves self-isolating, but are still keen to help others in any way they can. **Joan Broady** is now leading the **Friendly Phone Call Team** whose aim is to keep in touch with those who are hit hardest by enforced isolation of extended lockdown.



And finally, for those who haven't got easy access to a teenage, tech-savvy grandchild, **Vicky Pougatch** is building a team of **SSG Tech Buddies**, who might just be able to provide enough encouragement and assistance to allow you to unbox that dust-gathering smartphone or tablet device. Who knows, it could prove more useful than a bookend whilst you are forced to stay at home.

So if you or your family find yourself in need of assistance as these challenging times continue, please contact us, preferably by calling the number on the SSG blue on white card left by your local Registered Volunteer, by emailing us at [ssg@thesibfords.uk](mailto:ssg@thesibfords.uk), or by phoning Ginny on

780373.

With my grateful thanks to all our generous volunteers

**Cllr David Allen**

Sibford Support Group  
[www.thesibfords.uk/ssg](http://www.thesibfords.uk/ssg)  
18/04/2020

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## YOGA

### **Sibford Village Hall**

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**Traditional Yoga** Fridays 9 – 10am

**Chair Yoga** Fridays 10.15 – 11am

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## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

### **EASTER EGG TRAIL**

This event was sadly postponed. If the future permits we may be able to hold it during the summer?

### **FILM NIGHTS**

These have been cancelled for the next few months, but we will let you know as soon as we can when they will resume.

### **JAZZ PICNIC**

On July 11th WE HOPE to host an outdoor concert if "lockdown" has eased by then.

Great Jazz Music to listen to, whilst you enjoy your own picnic and drinks. Watch for more details in the future.

### **CONTACT AND INFORMATION**

Many clubs and societies have cancelled their sessions so please check with the organisers.

*Ginny Bennett*

### **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).

# SIBFORDS PARISH COUNCILS

## A PLEA FROM THE FERRIS COUNCIL

### **WALKERS AND DOG WALKERS ATTENTION PLEASE**

In these unusual times many of us are taking enjoyable walks and exercising the dogs.

Sadly some irresponsible villagers are not doing their civil duty and picking up after their animals or are bagging it and LEAVING IT ON TOP OF SOMEONES ELSE`S BIN!

This anti social behaviour is not acceptable. Take your bag to a dog bin or take it home with you.

Dog waste can be placed in a green bin or brown bin, but NOT a blue bin.

There is a dog bin in Sibford School`s field near Hillside and one at the end of Woodway Road at the edge of the village.

### **BOTTLE BANK**

The Bottle Bank in the Ferris layby is very useful but please DO NOT squash your empty bags in between the pods or leave empty boxes on the ground. The bank is for bottles only .

Anything left other than glass is called FLY-TIPPING and requires Cherwell District Council to clear it up! and is illegal. The more times that CDC have to clear up may well have an effect on the future Council Tax as it all has to be paid for.

The pods are monitored by the Parish Council and reported when full .

To whoever left over 200 items of clear, brown and green glass in several bags up there the other week please do not do it again as it took ages for one of your local councillors to sort it out!

*Ginny Bennett*

### **VIOLIN/PIANO LESSONS**

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## **Sibford Gower Parish Council**

### **A personal message from the Chairman**

In these confused and confusing times, It feels odd at the time of writing at the end of April to be anticipating with any certainty events in the coming months! But of this much I can be sure. When you get to read this, and take a look at the entries on the Sibfords website < <https://thesibfords.uk/>> 'In the Sibfords today' you will surely find the latest communication from the Sibfords Support Group.

There has been a slew of stories and anecdotes in the news of how Covid-19 has "brought Britain back together again". That was actually the heading to a podcast interview with AnneMarie Plas and how her idea we might 'clap for the NHS' became a national outpouring < <https://www.theguardian.com/world/audio/2020/apr/13/how-covid-19-brought-britain-back-together-podcast> > Worth watching!

I don't think we needed Covid-19 to bring our Sibfords community together, but it has certainly made it more visible and I would like to pay tribute to David Allen and the growing band of helpers who have fanned out across the valley with so many acts of thoughtfulness and kindness in these last few weeks.

The planned combined Ferris and Gower 2 parishes 1 Community meeting we have had to postpone at least until the Autumn but you should also be able to see details on the Sibfords website right now of how to log on to Sibford Gower's first 'virtual Annual Parish Council Meeting on **Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May**.

This magazine's redoubtable editor, Tony Skowronski put out a call to us all to help him fill the pages in this issue with anything that will make us laugh.

This clip of Vinnie Jones made me laugh. I was actually looking for a promotional video to celebrate the fact that we now have a de-fibrillator installed in the porch of the Village Hall to match the one that is outside the Sibford School's swimming pool. They both have instructions on how to administer CPR, but this clip caught my eye.

< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O92KL1mw77c>>

There's a kids version of it too; equally funny. Do watch it. We should all know this.

< <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3sI2rIQiWY>>

*Hugh Pidgeon*



# SIBFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

What times we are living through! Families within our school community, those of both children and staff, have been directly affected by this horrible virus in many ways; personal loss of loved ones, financial impact, and daily living and working experience for all of us, including those school community members who are key workers.

Whether frontline NHS staff, care workers, delivery drivers, essential shop workers, teaching assistants and teachers, or families supporting everyone by following the directive 'stay home, stay safe', everyone in our school community has been doing their bit to look after everyone else, sometimes in very challenging circumstances.

The staff at Sibford Gower Primary School have been wonderful. All staff, regardless of their role within school or their personal circumstances, are making a contribution.

During the weeks since the lockdown started and we have had to close the school to the majority of children, staff have continued to work to support the continued education of all of our children through the provision of home learning resources.

Teachers are fast becoming experts in the art of the video conference, holding regular online staff meetings from our homes to discuss issues facing our school community in these challenging times and to discuss the best ways of supporting the education of the children. This includes agreeing the approaches to providing access to education that are likely to be the most inclusive, so that no children are at risk of getting left behind educationally for reasons beyond their parents control, e.g. because their family don't have access to certain kinds of technology.

Although those parents who can keep their children safely at home are doing so, in line with government guidance, some of our parents who are working in the 'front line' on a regular basis, supporting the sick and vulnerable, are not in a position to make other arrangements and need our support.

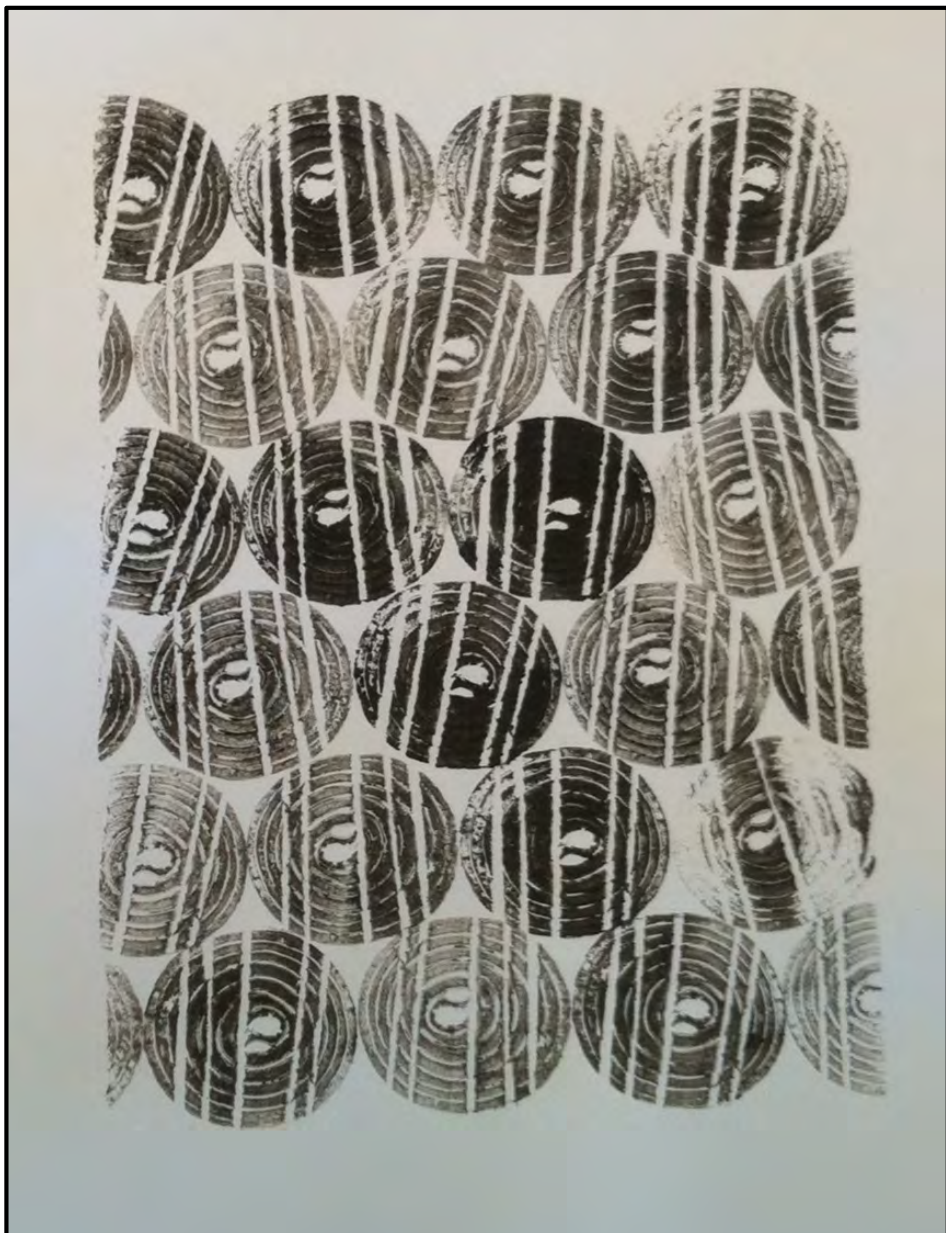
For the children of these key workers, and for some of our most vulnerable families, members of school staff have continued to open the school site so that we can provide child care provision as part of the collective effort to support in the response to Covid-19. They have been taking care of children, making regular welfare checks with families, ensuring care packages are picked up and delivering essential items and learning resources to homes where needed. As the Headteacher of our school, I am incredibly proud of our staff for their selflessness and dedication in doing this and I am sure that everyone in our school community would echo that sentiment.

Little things can make all the difference to morale in these times and the positive messages from parents and carers to our staff via facebook or email have been greatly appreciated.

Keep safe.

*Jane O'Sullivan, Headteacher.*

In the spirit of 'lockdown thrift', here is a simple idea for something you can do with those onions you have been rubbing on your fingers to discourage contact with your face and eyes (a handy tip suggested in some elements of the national press a couple of weeks ago)! Rather than just throwing them away, get out paints and paper and create some onion print art!



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Email: [Julia@arknursery.net](mailto:Julia@arknursery.net)**





## NATURE NOTES

With the warm sunny weather in early April butterflies have been starting to appear in some numbers. Much to my surprise my first garden butterfly of the year was a Large White on the 25<sup>th</sup> March. This was the first record this year in the Upper Thames region according to the Butterfly Conservation website. Small Tortoiseshells and Peacocks have been abundant around nettles where they lay their eggs.

The spring flowers are looking good when the sun shines and Celandines have been particularly impressive this year.

Colin Lamb has managed to get some good photos of Green Woodpeckers on his lawn.

Iain Brown has been building up a good list of birds he has seen around the Sibfords. He saw his first Swallow of the year on the 5<sup>th</sup> April near Lamb's Pool. Good numbers of Linnets, Blackcaps and Yellow Hammers were observed. Other notable birds included Marsh Tits, Meadow Pipits, Skylarks, Wheatears, a Cormorant! and male Redstart.

John and Becky Skinner reported seeing 2 House Martins and a Swallow on 11<sup>th</sup> April.

I was pleased to catch a Blossom Underwing moth on 10<sup>th</sup> April – a new species for the garden.

Please send any contributions for the next Nature Notes to [ajnewbold88@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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# SIBFORDS HISTORY SOCIETY

This all seems long ago, and now, in line with the Government's updated advice on the Coronavirus, we have sadly had to cancel all future meetings until at the earliest, next September. When this virus has been curbed, we hope to continue with our programme, and to invite speakers whom we will miss this year, to come to Sibford in 2021.

Meanwhile keep safe and well!

*Diana Hughes*



## GREAT TASTE

### **Roasted Rhubarb**

550g rhubarb

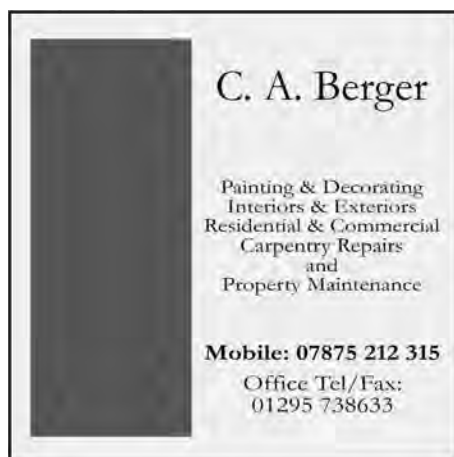
85g caster sugar

Crystallised ginger

Chop up rhubarb into finger lengths and put on a baking sheet. Add sugar and toss to incorporate then order into a single layer deep. Cover with foil and roast for 20 mins until rhubarb is tender but still kept its shape.

I add chopped crystallised ginger but you don't have to.

*Diana Thompson*



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## THE JOKES CORNER

"Mary had a little lamb,  
Full of fun and frolics,  
Tried to jump a five barred gate  
And landed on his b!!!!!!!. "

*Jo Gilkes*

A plane with 5 passengers on board.....Donald Trump, Boris Johnson,  
Angela Merkel, the Pope and a 10 year old schoolboy.

The plane is about to crash and there are only 4 parachutes.

Trump says "I need one, I`m the smartest man in the USA and I`m needed  
to sort out the problems of the World ! " so he takes one and jumps.

Boris says "I am needed to sort out Britain". So he takes one and jumps.

The Pope says, "I definitely need one, as the World needs the Catholic  
Church". He takes one and jumps.

Angela says to the 10 year old: "You can have the last parachute. I`ve  
lived my life, yours is only just starting!"

The 10 year old replies: "Don`t worry, there are 2 parachutes left...the  
smartest man in the USA took my school bag!"

*Ginny Bennett*

What do you get when you cross a centipede with a parrot?

A walkie-talkie

*Juliette Glazebrook*

Why do bees hum?

Because they've forgotten the words

*Fiona Pidgeon*



## SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

### Forthcoming Walks:

Obviously the walking group is in abeyance until the situation changes.

However I am still selling plants by appointment, have a wide range, anyone wishing to attend should ring or email (details below) for an appointment so I don't get a clash, wear machine washable or disposable gloves, bring a container if possible as I am running out, may walk round the garden to see how things grow, I will be in attendance but well distanced to give advice. Sales have been going very well and I am donating the takings 50%/50% to the Sibford Horti and the NGS.

*Sue Bannister*

Email: [sebannister@gmail.com](mailto:sebannister@gmail.com)

Phone: 780365

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



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## LOCAL NEWS

### Swalcliffe Parke Equestrian Calendar of Events-2020

Fri 7<sup>th</sup>-Sun 9<sup>th</sup> August

BRC Nat Horse Trials Championships

Sat 12<sup>th</sup> & Sun 13<sup>th</sup> September

Horse Events One Day Event (TBC)

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October

Crown Riding Club Hunter Trial (TBC)



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

### **Watch out, watch out there are scammers about.**

Don't be alarmed but be cautious - they are taking full advantage of the current crisis to get their hands on your dosh.

Some recent examples include;

- Online shopping scams where people have ordered PPE equipment which has never arrived.
- Fraudsters purporting to be from HMRC offering a tax refund and directing victims to a fake website where you will be asked for personal and financial details !!!
- An ASDA offer advising you that you are eligible for a £500 shopping voucher - "...and all we need are your bank details !!!"

There are plenty more examples and advice from Action Fraud to be found on the Sibford SSG website - [www.thesibfords.uk/ssg](http://www.thesibfords.uk/ssg)

The message is the same - don't engage, don't give any personal/financial details and there is plenty of help about.

Finally, I couldn't resist the bad luck story of the week, and the victim was French. He had spent his career working in the aerospace industry at a military airfield in northwest France. His colleagues had arranged a surprise flight in a modern fighter aircraft. As the jet took off at an angle of about 45%, our pensioner grabbed a lever in order to steady himself. It was of course the ejection handle and at about 2.500 ft the pilot was surprised to lose his passenger. Other than a few dents and scratches our retiree was fine but was later heard to say that he never liked flying anyway. Stay safe.

Peter Hine  
Watch co-ordinator

788830.





## GREAT TASTE

And another recipe from Diana, well at least, the bbc good food website.

Thought people might like to give it a try. There's wild garlic everywhere at the moment and it's easy to make.

### **WILD GARLIC PESTO**

#### **Ingredients**

150 wild garlic leaves

50g parmesan

1 garlic clove, finely chopped

1/2 lemon, zested and a few squeezes of juice

50g pine nuts, toasted

150ml rapeseed oil

#### **Method**

1. Rinse and roughly chop the wild garlic leaves
2. Blitz the wild garlic leaves, parmesan, garlic, lemon zest and pine nuts to a rough paste in a food processor. Season, with the motor running slowly, add almost all the oil. Taste, season and add a few squeezes of lemon juice
3. Transfer the pesto to a clean jar and top with the remaining oil



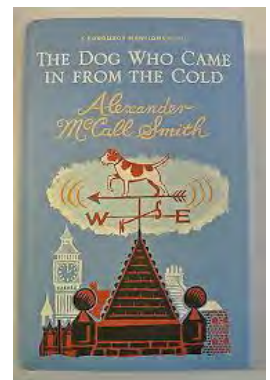
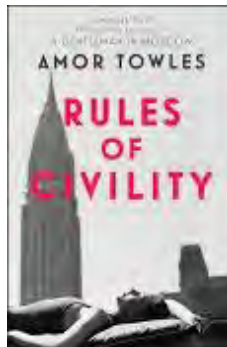
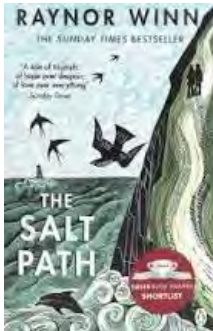
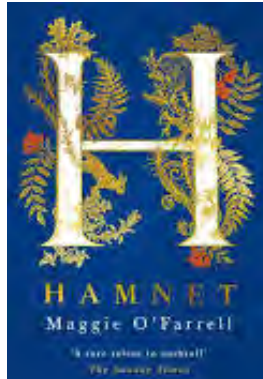
*Will keep in the fridge for 2 weeks.....*

*Taken BBC Good Food by Diana Thompson*



# WHAT WE'RE READING.....

A selection of books being read around the village this month.....





## POET'S CORNER

### Resourceful

Pilots with swallows duck and dive and red kites soar;  
Diplomats, presenters, producers, doctors, nurses;  
Builders, walkers and academics;  
Farmers and supporters too: SSG carers all;

Horses, lambs, dogs, cows: milkers and beefers;  
Grain and grass;  
A dog barks;  
Stone, Great Tew: old and older;  
Helicopters, a few, jet liners, fewer still;  
A breeze, not so sharp;  
Peace and quiet;

And, the virus too.....

*Andrew Finding* ©  
*Haynes Barn*

*19 Apr 20*

This is the time to be slow  
Lie low to the wall  
Until the bitter weather passes




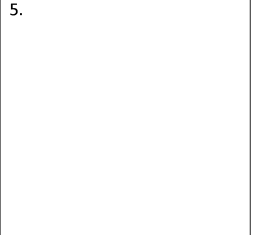




Try as best you can, not to let  
The wire brush of doubt  
Scrape from your heart  
All sense of yourself  
And your hesitant light

If you remain generous  
Time will come good  
And you will find your feet  
Again on fresh pastures of promise  
Where the air will be kind  
And blushed with beginning

*John O'Donohue*

## The Sibford Scene Picture Quiz – May 2020

Name the 15 well known individuals and work out the connection between them all. Answers next month. Good luck.

1. 	2. 	3. 
4.  <i>'Do not judge, and you will not be judged.'</i>	5. 	6. <b>1856-1939</b> 
7. 	8. 	9. 
10. 	11. 	12. <b>460-370 BC</b> 
13. 	14. <b>1859-1930</b> 	15. 

Quizmaster: Adam Layburn



## In Your Garden - May

1. Any newly planted trees and shrubs will need constant watering, unless ( we have another summer of rain). and make sure they have a sturdy stake to hold them up if we get a gale. That all sounds rather pessimistic! I must cheer up.
2. Check your lilies for the wicked little red beetles - they look a bit like ladybirds, they can eat away and ruin your expensive lilies. Squidge them. And slugs are on the rampage too.
3. Plants you have started off in the greenhouse now need to be gradually hardened off. I put mine outside during the day, but bring them in at night, until there is no danger of frost, or put them in a cold frame.
4. Plant out dahlias when frosts are past, towards the end of the month, and also gladioli and galtonias.
5. When your potatoes are showing shoots about 5inches tall, they need earthing up. You can do it with lawn mowings, too.
6. Spinach is the easiest veg to grow, and you can just go on cutting it right through to winter. And I grow dwarf French beans, which give us a terrific crop, and don't take up too much room in a small garden like tall runner beans.
7. Watch out for greenflies on your roses, and at the first sign of blackspot give them a thorough spray with Roseclear, and feed them too.
8. The lawn now need mowing every week, and you can gradually reduce the height of the blades. The amount of rain we had has made so much moss appear, and a hard raking, and a scattering of weed and feed can make all the difference.
9. I hope you can get some plants to use in your pots or hanging baskets. Nurseries are at the moment closed, but many of them will deliver plants if your order is big enough, so try getting a group together for a big order. My favourite local nursery is Quarry Nurseries at Hornton. You can see his catalogue online at [www.quarrynurseries.co.uk](http://www.quarrynurseries.co.uk) , run singlehandedly by Phillip, who works so hard to raise such great plants.
10. We are all counting our blessings that we live in the country, with gardens and fields around us, and can find peace and quiet outside. Gardening is good for everything! Particularly for settling your mind, and getting rid of all the anxiety that surrounds us. Take a chair outside and relax, and look at the blossoms - you will feel better. Promise. *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](http://thesibfords.org.uk)



## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Just hoping that everyone is OK.  
And being looked after.....also, perhaps, we MIGHT meet in June????????

*Eveline Boughton*

### **PILATES IN SIBFORD**

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Holmby  
House 



## DID YOU KNOW?

As we mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of Victory in Europe Day on 8<sup>th</sup> May the planned commemorations and celebrations have all been cancelled. In these difficult and challenging times, as we observe the government's 'Lock-down' directions, it is good to reflect on those who kept the Sibford villages safe in a different way and at a different time – our very own Dad's Army.

The **Home Guard** (initially **Local Defence Volunteers** or **LDV**) was an armed citizen militia supporting the British Army during the Second World War. Operational from 1940 to 1944, the Home Guard had 1.5 million local volunteers otherwise ineligible for military service, such as those who were too young or too old to join the regular armed services (regular military service was restricted to those aged 18 to 41) or those in reserved occupations. Excluding those already in the armed services, the civilian police or civil defence, approximately one in five men were volunteers. Men aged 17 to 65 years could join although the upper-age limit was not strictly enforced. Service was unpaid but gave a chance for older men to support the war effort. Their role was to act as a secondary defence force in case of invasion by the enemy forces. The Home Guard were to try to slow down the advance of the enemy even by a few hours to give the regular troops time to regroup. If intelligence reached Sibford Home Guard of any suspected enemy activity locally there was a definite air of nervous anxiety amongst the men!

The photograph from the Sibfords Historical Societies' archive shows some of the Sibford men who served in the Home Guard. So far it has not been possible to identify where this wonderful photograph was taken so if anyone can help to pinpoint this location in the villages I would be very pleased to hear from them (780259). Led by Cecil Crabtree (in the centre of the front row wearing leather gloves) the group includes many familiar village names:- Lamb, Poulton, Payne, Haynes, Woolgrove, Lines, Spicer, Green, Tanner and Hall. Working during the daytime, these men mounted nightly patrols and kept watch over the village during the hours of darkness whilst carrying out a bit of rabbiting for the pot along the way!

One villager remembers his father being issued with a full face mask and respirator – useful items then and now! A shepherd's hut at the entrance to the village in Pound Lane became a command post and a roll of entangled barbed wire could be placed across the road to form a barricade and road block. Vehicles were often stopped at road blocks and drivers questioned as to their business.

## DID YOU KNOW?

*continued.....*

One memory is of a shot from a twelve-bore gun being fired at the tyre of a vehicle unwilling to stop – the driver soon complied with the request! In the Ferris men from the Home Guard met near to Rymells Corner where Simms' electrical workshop was during the war years. This is now a residential property known as Westerways. In the Gower the patrols met outside Miss Wyatt's home - a 3-storey house (now demolished) where Miss Wyatt had a small shop. This is now part of Wyatts Close on Main Street

The Sibfords also had a Royal Observer Corps post which was sited on the top of the hill on the southern side of the B4035 as you drive from Sibford towards Swalcliffe cutting. The Royal Observer Corps (formed in 1925) was a 'grassroots' organisation which had national coverage; The operations of the observation posts during World War II provided the 'Eyes and Ears' of the Royal Air Force, reporting aircraft movements in our locality. Their elevated observation post commanded a great view over the surrounding countryside and during the raid on Coventry the fires raging in that city could be seen from Sibford. Sadly, none of these men who gave their valuable service to our village are alive to tell their stories today but we are reminded that at times of national emergency we are all very dependent on volunteers and others to keep us safe. Other villagers served in the Armed Forces away from the village - we remember them all with thanks and pride.

*Maureen Hicks*

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## THE SIBFORD HOME GUARD 1942



### **Sibford Home Guard – 1942/43**

Back Row – L to R

C. 'Danny' Dannenburg, Henry Tanner, Dick Haynes, Will Keen, Charles Lamb, Erne Woolgrove

Middle Row – L to R

Don Harvey, Tom Lines, Daniel Payne, R. Padbury, Gerald Lamb, Alfred Green, F. Haynes, Frank Jones

Front Row – L to R

Len Sullivan, Erne Spicer, Eric Payne, Fred Hall, Cecil Crabtree, Bill Haynes, Lewis Poulton, Harold Kaye, Henry Poulton



THE  
WYKHAM  
ARMS  
SIBFORD GOWER

## TAKEAWAY MENU

The Wykham House Steak  
Fresh local grilled steak with chunky chips,  
leaf salad & green peppercorn sauce.  
£16.00

Classic Ale Battered Fresh Fish  
served with chunky chips & Tartar sauce.  
£11.50

Chicken Satay  
Egg noodles & Stir fried vegetables.  
£12.50

Thai Style Curry & Basmati Rice  
Tender strips of fresh chicken or Tiger prawn.  
Chicken £12.50 - Prawn £14.50

Grilled House Burger, with chips  
Beef Burger or plant based vegan burger.  
£9.00  
(add mature cheddar, Brie or stilton £1.00, Back Bacon £1.50)

Oriental Noodle Box  
Salt & pepper chilli fried squid & Tiger prawn  
wok fried Oriental vegetables & Egg noodles.  
Vegetarian option also available.  
£14.50

Sunday Lunch Roast  
Roast Beef, Yorkshire puds, Roast potatoes, fresh Vegetables  
and gravy.  
£13.00

\*\*\*\*

All of our food is cooked to order with the same  
care and attention as our restaurant dishes.

\*\*\*\*

Takeaway Menu available Tuesday - Saturday 12pm-2pm / 6pm-9pm.  
Sunday 12-2pm. Please pre order if possible.

Ask about our range of Takeaway Wines, Beers and Soft Drinks.

Best wishes to everyone at this tough time. Many thanks for all your support.  
Keep safe, Damian & Debbie

Tel 01295 788 808



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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## MAY

Absolutely nothing is going on in the Sibfords in May

**BUT - clap your hands, blow your horns, sound your sirens on Thursday at 8pm!!!!**



## MAY BIN COLLECTIONS

Green                      Tuesday: 12th; 26th  
Blue/Brown              Tuesday: 5th; 19th

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 **JUNE** ISSUE -  
12 NOON - 18th MAY 2020

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