

SIBFORD SCENE

MARCH 1991 NO. 144

SPORT FOR ALL

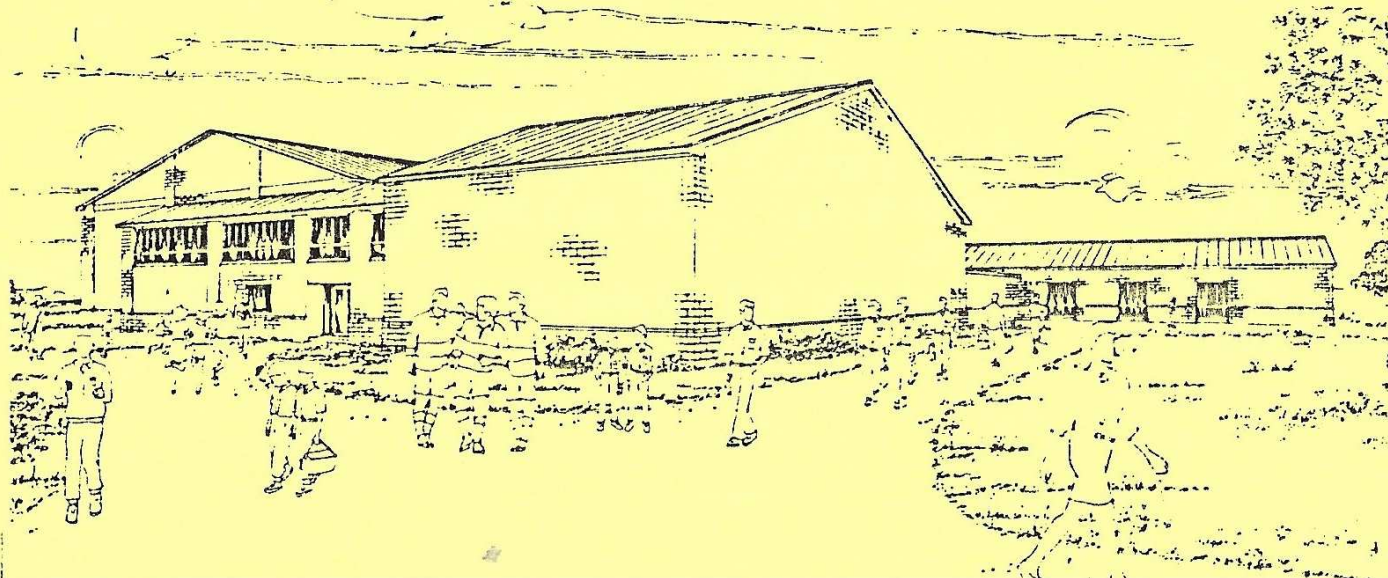
Sibford School's Sports Complex is now complete and available for use. The complex was handed over at the end of January at a short ceremony involving the Surveyors, the Contractors and the Headmaster and with the whole school present.

The school is eager to encourage community use of the complex in the evenings and at weekends.

Local clubs, teams, societies and individuals will be most welcome to hire the facilities. These include two Squash courts, changing rooms and a multi-purpose sports hall equipped for badminton, volley ball, basket ball, tennis, indoor hockey, cricket coaching and other team games. There is also a table tennis room.

As the Headmaster said during the completion ceremony, "The doors of the Sports Complex will be open at once for the wider community, and we hope that this will contribute much to the range of leisure facilities in the area.

So, 'Scene' readers, do come and make use of this wonderful new facility. After all, 1991 is The Year of Sport!



SNOW
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH!

Michael Fish has proved more reliable in predicting snow than wind!

Once again villagers awoke to peer through bedroom curtains and exclaim "He was right! Here it is again!"

The thanks of our little community go to 'George the Milk' for pushing, pulling, sliding and slithering his pick up round snow bound lanes to ensure that we received our 'extra pinta'.

Congratulations too to Helen of Tadmarton and her paper boys and girls for their valiant efforts.

Not (of course) forgetting our postman who never failed. We are well served. Well done everybody.



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The INN that was OUT!

To all who suffered the disappointment of the cancellation of the Theatre outing, sincere apologies from the organiser.



At the time the decision was made, in conjunction with the coach proprietor, the hill this side of Brysoe was not negotiable, the forecast was for "heavy snowfalls later in the day" and with 10 customers already "cried off" the outlook was not promising.

From the few who braved the elements and went under their own steam, we hear it was a "super show" - little consolation to those who were "let down!"

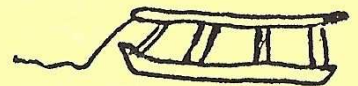
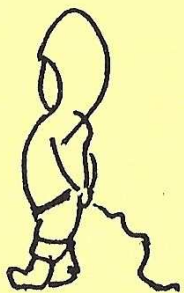
Again my apologies. M.C.

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FOUND

IN ODDIES FIELD, A SLEDGE,
GREY TUBULAR STEEL FRAME
WITH WOODEN SLATS AND ORANGE
ROPE.

ENQUIRIES 494 (EVENINGS).
TONY SKEATH.



NATURE NOTES

Feb. 7th - Very cold. The temperature this morning was 15° F which is probably as low as it has been since 1985 when it went down to 11° F and 1984 to 8° F.

I now regret not having picked more apples last autumn. Those that we did pick are keeping so well that there are very few specked ones amongst them to sort out for the birds. I threw out some good ones today, which were very soon eaten. The blackbirds & a redwing were often driven off the apples by the fieldfares, but they in turn, gave way to the starlings.

Feb. 10th - A starling with some white tail feathers came to the bird table today. It looked quite smart.



Feb. 13th - There has been a flock of about 150 skylarks by our farm road for the last few days. They seem to be enjoying some birdseed that my daughter scattered on the road, thinking that it might help them through this cold snap. I wonder whether it is a flock that has come from northern Europe or just a collection of local larks.

Feb. 15th - On opening a long black seed-pod that was picked up under a tree in a Leamington Park, I was surprised to find that it contained winged seeds. The seed was beautifully packed in over-lapping layers on each side of a strong central divider which ran the length of the pod. The wing on each seed is over an inch long with the seed in the centre. Perhaps someone can name the tree for me ?

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CHILDREN IN RUMANIA

The next Austerity Lunch in The Friends Meeting House will be on Wednesday, March 6th - 12.30 - 1.30 p.m. Cost £1 - any donation will be welcome. So far the Fund has almost reached £200.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS' SCHOOL

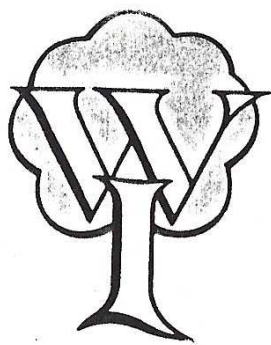
By far the most important event of the first half of term was the handing over of the new Sports Hall and Squash Courts by the Contractors, Thomas Williams, to the School. An article on this particular event appears elsewhere in this month's Scene but we certainly hope that the Hall will be of great benefit to the local community as well as to the School and there will be an official opening in the Summer to which we hope as many of you as possible will be able to come.

The two other recent additions to the School continue to flourish; Orchard Close, the junior department is always a hive of exciting activity and we are now looking forward to welcoming children aged 7 and 8 as pupils for the first time in September of this year. The Sibford Mothers and Toddlers Group continues to meet at Orchard Close every Wednesday morning and on the 13th February they were treated to a special birthday puppet show staged by the pupils, an event much enjoyed by everyone. During the break the Orchard Close pupils served all the visitors with coffee and biscuits showing their usual courtesy and enthusiasm. The second round of snow conditions in February gave ample opportunity for pupils both at Orchard Close and in the Senior part of the School to demonstrate their tobogganing skills in Oddy's field. Although it wasn't quite "Ski Sunday", the gasps of admiration from the onlookers showed clearly how impressed they were with the talented exploits of the young people.

The School's new Music and Drama Studio continues to be in regular use, both for productions and for all types of events involving visitors to the school. The most recent of these, at the time of writing was a highly successful evening concert by the folk singer Tony Maude. It is hoped that the Oliver Studio too will be having an 'Official' opening before long.

The end of the Christmas Term 1990 was, of course, marked by the exceptional weather conditions and the loss of power for 5½ hours! Fortunately the School kitchens were still able to prepare food for the boarders and resident staff and anyone who was on the school campus during that bitterly cold weekend would have been most impressed with the way everyone pulled together, with sixth formers and younger pupils too involved in the preparation and serving of food and doing their best to keep up morale while the uncertainty lasted as to when power would be restored. It was good to resume a more normal school routine in January but there is no doubt that experience of this winter has already left enough anecdotes and memories to go down in school (and of course village) history.

A most unusual event in the life of the school took place on Wednesday 13th February when the Friends' School marked the Chinese New Year. As many in the village we have a large community of pupils from the Far East in the school and this was one way for us all to share in some of the excitement of this annual festival. We had to hold our celebration a day or two before the official start of the New Year (which fell during the half term holiday) and all members of the school community enjoyed an excellent Chinese meal served by kitchen staff in colourful traditional costume and in a dining hall decorated most attractively, and in the evening a number of pupils were able to see an unusual Chinese film that was being specially shown in the Oliver Studio. We hope that this may now become an annual event in the school calendar.



Bad weather again upset the W.I. programme, & the February meeting had to be abandoned. Mrs. Baadsgaard kindly offered a venue at her house at a later date, & a report will follow next month.

The March meeting will take place at 2 p.m. in the Village Hall on Tuesday, 12th, & Mrs. Plowman will speak on "Village Collectables".

There will be a competition for a special Cup and Saucer.

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HORTI SOCIETY



The first meeting of the year takes place on Weds. 13th March, when it is hoped that members, old & new, will attend to enjoy a talk by Stephen Haw, supported by slides, on the Influence of China on English gardens.

You are reminded of the June day out to the R.H.S. gardens at Wisley. The cost is likely to be about £5 per head, including admission, & to assist with planning, would you please inform Dr. Heath at the Surgery as soon as possible of your intention to join the party.

Members are advised that Batsford Garden Centre, Moreton in Marsh, has kindly agreed to allow 10% discount for a trial period of the next 3 months - please use this facility to ensure future benefits. You will need your card.

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Village Hall Jumble Sale & Bingo (held on 23rd Feb)

£120 was raised towards Village Hall Funds. A big "Thankyou" to all who contributed 'good' jumble, to the bargain hunters & bingo players, and last, but not least, all who helped on the day.

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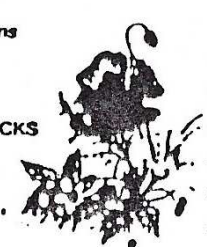
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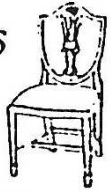
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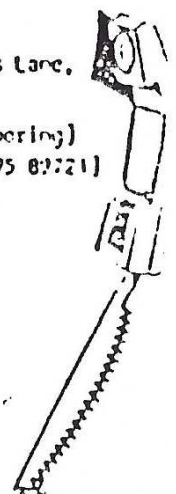
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THE WARRINER NEWS

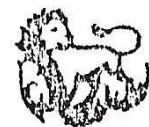
Race Night - this had to be cancelled because of snow & will be re-scheduled as soon as possible, probably in April. All tickets, race-horse ownership etc. will be transferable.

Resignation - following an unfortunate disagreement within the PTA Committee, Sue Prentice has decided to resign as PTA Chairperson. Sue has been on the committee for 6 years & her help has been much appreciated. A new Chairperson will be elected shortly.

Future Events - the second half of this term is very short & therefore no PTA events are planned before Easter. School breaks up on Friday, March 22nd & returns on Monday, April 8th.

French Exchange - this year is the 10th Anniversary of the Warriner's French Exchange with the College Gambetta in Cahors, Lot. 38 french children, aged 12 - 15, will be arriving on March 4th, to stay with Warriner pupils & their families for a fortnight. For many it will be their first visit to England. 5 will be staying with families in Sibford. Their time is divided between sight-seeing, going to school & they spend evenings & weekends with their English families. Our children will be making the return visit in June to stay with French families.

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LEO CLUB

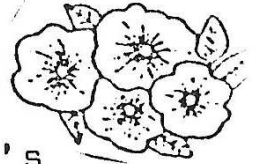
LEO club members and friends spent a very enjoyable evening out at Banbury School when they saw a fine performance of "Kiss Me Kate".

Many thanks to Sheila Baseby for organising the evening.

The next meeting of LEO will be held on Tuesday, 19th March, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Miriam Henbrey, Virginia Cottage, Sibford Ferris.

Please come along with lots of ideas for future meetings.

GARDENING NOTES



How many of you were fuming after last month's mistakes. No doubt my handwriting was to blame. To put the record straight - the first FUMED should have read FIRMED and the second PRUNED. All clear now ?

The severe weather is hopefully behind us & I hope that I am not being blamed for that also, in view of my opening comments last month. No doubt there will be some losses both in the garden & greenhouse. Some plants can & will recover from the base, so don't hurry to discard them.

Many half-hardy annuals can be sown indoors this month, especially if you have some warmth & can maintain temperatures.

Some vegetable seeds can go in when the ground has warmed a little & is workable. Sprouts, parsnips, onions (salad or sets) late shallots, radishes, leeks even early potatoes in a warm well-drained site. Early peas can still be planted.

Dust off your gloves - sharpen your secateurs & start on pruning the roses. Remember hybrid trees need pruning harder than floribundas & either type should have lighter pruning applied to more rigorous types. Climbers should have some old wood removed & side shoots spurred back to 2 or 3 buds. Shrub roses need little attention, except for removal of very old wood from the centre of the bush.

Tidy up your rockery & alpine beds & trim back any plants which are encroaching on their neighbours. Autumn sown sweet peas can now be planted out & seed sown indoors. Don't forget to take precautions against slugs.

I could go on forever listing things to do at this time of the year but I will finish with a comment on lawns. I know that you don't need reminding - the lawn tells you. Sometime during the month, the growth will be forward enough & the weather right to carry out the first cut.

Gardening notes (cont)

Don't be tempted to cut hard & low at first.
Seed can be sown on the bare areas after raking.

Use a wire rake to remove the thatch of dead grass & mosses. If you are troubled by dandelions, daisies, plantain, etc. apply selective weed-killer when they are growing well. This assumes that you do not like these plants in your lawn. Daisies especially can be attractive.

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A CONCERT - CHIPPING NORTON MALE VOICE CHOIR

on SATURDAY, MARCH 9th, at 7.30 p.m.

in Sibford Village Hall. SOLUIST - Bridget Barlow

Tickets - £3, to include supper and a glass of wine. Get your tickets from The Surgery, The Post Office, or any Committee member.

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FRIENDSHIP CLUB - Notes for March

Tuesday, 5th March - in the Village Hall. 2 p.m.
Speaker to be arranged.

Wednesday, March 20th - OUTING (to be arranged)

A.L.B.

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THE VILLAGE HALL - MISSING CHAIRS

There are 20 chairs missing from the Hall. Please, would the person who has borrowed them, return them as soon as possible.

Thank you.

April issue of The Scene

Our hardworking staff would like to deliver your next Scene before Easter. To enable us to do that please note that the deadline for copy for April only will be MARCH 18th - please! and Thank You!.

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SIBFORD GOWER TOWN ESTATES CHARITY
FREE BUS SERVICE FOR RESIDENTS OF SIBFORD GOWER/BURDROP

SCHEDULE

			<u>Departure</u>	<u>Return</u>
Friday	March 1	Banbury	10.00	12.00
Wednesday	March 6	Chipping N.	11.00	13.00
Friday	March 15	Banbury	10.00	12.00
Thursday	March 20	Chipping N.	11.00	13.00
Friday	March 29	Banbury	10.00	12.00
Wednesday	April 3	Chipping N.	11.00	13.00

Note: Friday 29th March is Good Friday but as the majority of shops will be open it has been decided to run this as usual.

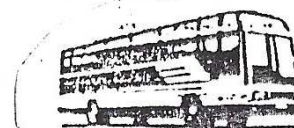
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Busstation	12.00	3.40	4.30	5.15	6.10

WELCOME TO SIBFORD - all newcomers

If you have just moved into the village and have not received a copy of the leaflet - Welcome to Sibford - please ring Petra Berry on Swal. 462 (Gower or Burdrop) or Jane Holliday on Swal. 500 (S. Ferris) & they will deliver a copy. The information will help to make you feel at home - by acquainting you with the services, schools, Churches, clubs & societies, currently active in the village.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ed,

Please find enclosed cheque for last year's subscription for the Sibford Scene, and also this year. Your pleadings for financial support for your editorial feasts (or do I mean feats?) have at last reached this furthest outpost of the parish. I am sure that when all the other non-contributors of the Scene find out that even I have contributed, they will have pangs of conscience and, at the very least, follow my example.

Is is really TRUE that you have had to pawn that lovely GREEN TRACK SUIT and RED SOCKS ?.

R.L.M. Butt, College Barn Farm

Note

Just one of a similar number of letters enclosing donations and congratulating our team of thirty villagers who each month "strive to please".

A good response - plenty of brown envelopes fluttering through letter boxes.

Result of collection in next month's Scene !

Ed.

Overfed or undernourished

In November a number of interesting items had to be postponed or cut from the Sibord Scene - causing a little heartache! Despite this we still finished with twenty eight pages and four fingerweary typists and a bleary eyed Sandra slumped over a never ending copying machine!!

This month copy is on the scarce side and it has been necessary to push and pull articles to fill sixteen pages (for we have to work in multiples of four). This is a good opportunity to plead for more villagers to submit interesting articles, not necessarily of immediate concern but, topics which can be kept on ice to be used in months to come to balance our lay out. It is YOUR 'SCENE' and YOUR news and reports are of interest to us all.

SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL P.T.A.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

PARENTS' SOCIAL EVENING FRIDAY 8th MARCH

The P.T.A. Committee invite all parents to a PUB GAMES NIGHT at the School at 8.00 p.m. on Friday 8th March. Participate in traditional pub games whilst enjoying traditional pub beverage and snacks. Bring old- and make new- friends at a relaxed social occasion - this is NOT a fund-raising event!!

JUMBLE SALE WEDS. 20th MARCH

This definitely is a fund-raising event. 2.00 p.m. at the School - ALL WELCOME. Cakes, Raffle, Teas etc. Jumble to Charmaine Tuthill, or any Committee Member, please.

