

SIBFORD SCENE

NO. 155
APRIL 1992

SIBFORD METHODIST CHURCH

The Chapel members would like to thank all those who gave so generously to support our effort on 21 March. We are delighted with our total of £500. It is a marvellous example of pulling together and we are greatly encouraged in our endeavours.

The Early Days of Methodism in Sibford

It appears that Methodism was first established in Sibford with the creation of house group meetings for worship in members' houses.

Subsequently, on 3 July 1826, an appeal was launched to the benevolence of an enlightened and generous public on behalf of the Wesleyan Methodists at Sibford Gower who 'having been brought to an experience of the blessings of the Gospel, are desirous to erect a house for the worship of God, that others may be brought to participate with themselves of the same blessing'.

Then, in order to expand, and with membership growing, a lease was obtained in October 1827 for the use of a cottage at a rent of 5/- a year. The next day a re-lease conveyed extra ground, which was freehold subject to certain conditions. We believe this was the origin of the present Chapel; in July 1832 the site was extended by the acquisition of a blacksmith's shop or shoeing shed.

Anyone who would like to join us on Sunday mornings would be sure of a warm welcome.

THE HORTON HOSPITAL CHAPEL AND BEREAVEMENT CENTRE APPEAL

The collection for this worthy cause raised	£391.86
With Deposited Covenants grossed up for tax of	£240.00

We have sent the Appeal Treasurer	£631.86
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Grateful thanks to organisers, collectors and donors.

RESULTS of COLLECTION for SIBFORD SCENE FUNDS

by

'The Brown Envelope Scheme'

Having crawled around the floor counting coins, the Treasurer reports the following results, which are given as facts without comment:

1. The Target Total was £700.
2. Approximately 400 envelopes were distributed.
3. 80 envelopes were returned - 20% of those distributed.
4. 26 of the 80 envelopes contained most generous donations in cheques or notes amounting to £195.
5. The rest of our villagers managed to return 54 envelopes containing a total of £105.
6. Thus the Total collected was £300 - 43% of the Target.
7. This £300 will fund 5 months publication of the Scene.
8. To all contributors - *Thank You* for your generosity.
9. To those who felt you could not donate - we are grateful for your consideration of our funding problem.
10. The Collecting Box is still in the Post Office and the Editor's & Treasurer's letterboxes are available for any late donations.

* * * * *

SIBFORD GOWER ENDOWED

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Required --- A CLEANER

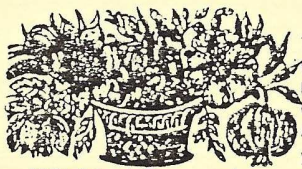
Monday - Friday,

2 hours per day.

Commencing April 27th.

For further details and application
form please contact ----

Jeff Elliott at school on 270.



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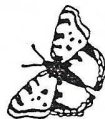
Vehicle Sales, Service + MOT
Accident Repairs, Petrol,
Forecourt Shop, Car Wash, etc



DAIHATSU



Nature Notes



Feb 24th. While breakfasting we watched a Long-tailed tit in our weeping Prunus, which fortunately has a yew hedge as a back cloth, which helps us to see the colours of the birds that like to perch on the bare, arching branches.

Feb 25th. As we were walking across a piece of bare ground where sheep have been fed, our footsteps disturbed a mole that was busy throwing up a new mole bank. Four worms that had been thrown up with the soil were crawling with some determination away from the molehill, but on the bare ground they must have been in as much danger of being eaten by birds as by the mole.

Mar. 13th. This winter we have only rarely seen the Spotted Woodpecker at our bird table but today we have seen both male and female feeding on the peanuts.

Mar. 15th. We have had fewer Bullfinches taking the buds off our weeping Prunus this winter and consequently have much more bloom than in recent years.

Mar. 18th. This mild weather leads to a good deal of excitement among our garden birds. The Tits are investigating the nest boxes and the Mistle Thrushes are once again building a nest, made largely of scraps of plastic and other litter, where a branch joins the trunk of our dead tree.

Mar 19th. Saw a Yellow Brimstone butterfly today and while moving some soil with a moss-covered surface, we came across two separate Bumble Bees that seemed to be hibernating just below the soil surface.

Mar 20th. The early blooms on our Iris Stylosa were beautifully marked with streaks of purple but they have now reverted to normal. I cannot think of anything that could account for this phenomenon. Had a walk in a wood, alas not local, which is well known for its variety of wild flowers. We found Violets, Primroses and yellow Star of Bethlehem in bloom and Town Hall Clock (Moschatel) in bud; also Wood Anemones which varied greatly, not only in size, but also in number of petals - anything from 5 to 9.

* * * * *

SIBFORD CRICKET CLUB - Early Dates for your Diary
3 April - Club Dinner - Royal Oak at Whatcote
25 April - League Match v Whitnash - at Friends School
2 May - League Match v Wroxton - at Friends School
THURSDAYS 6-7.15pm Indoor nets - Friends School sports hall
Full Fixture List & AGM Report in next month's Scene.

LEO
CLUB



Ladies
Evening
Out

On 17 March, at the home of Miriam Henbrey, members enjoyed a slide show of 'Life in the USA' followed by refreshments and a selection of Miriam's home-made American-style 'cookies'. The next LEO Club meeting will be on Tuesday 28 April at the home of Mary Bristow. This will be an evening of wine-tasting - do not bring any food - cheese & biscuits will be provided out of club funds.

New members are very welcome - for information please phone Vivienne Scouse on 8320.

* * * * * S * * * * *



All brides are radiant - most weddings are pretty - the vast majority are happy and some are memorable. But all four of these ingredients combined at the marriage of Sibford's Jennifer Wealsby to veterinary surgeon Tony Roberts at Hook Norton's Baptist Church on Saturday 22 February 1992.

The bride had focussed her considerable artistic talents to include a Spring theme to the lovely simple floral arrangements, the bouquets and the design of the service sheets.

Most of the wedding party mingled in an informal manner before the ceremony; on her arrival, on her father's arm, Jennifer looked absolutely charming in her cream all-lace wedding dress. She was attended by her sister Dawn in a beautiful gown of purple velvet.

A number of friends made music in the church on a variety of instruments - adding to the inspiring sincerity of the occasion.

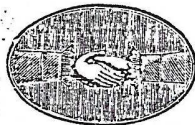
A very, very happy day and the whole of the villagers of Sibford wish Jennifer and Tony a wonderful, exciting and adventurous life together - "Blessings on you both."

* * * * * S * * * * *

WOOD CHIPS, for garden
mulch. For sale at £2.50 per
bag. Aprox. 2.5 sq/M per bag.
Phone Helen Lamb on Swal.380.



WELCOME
TO
SIBFORD



ALL
NEWCOMERS

If you have recently joined us and have not yet received a copy of the 'Welcome to Sibford' leaflet, please telephone Petra Berry on Swa. 462 (Gower or Burdrop) or Jane Holliday on Swa. 500 (Ferris) and a copy will be delivered to you. The information will help to make you feel at home - by acquainting you with the services, schools, churches, clubs and societies that are currently active in the villages.

This month we say "Welcome" to the following families:

Jenny and Brian Barratt have moved into 11, Barley Close, Sibford Gower. They have moved from Brailes where they ran the Post Office.

Their son Ian lives at home at the moment and they also have a daughter Helen who works at the Manchester Theatre.

Ann and Mike Lewis have moved from Wick, near Bath into 10, Barley Close, Sibford Gower with daughter Kate 7 and son Andrew who is nearly 3. After having moved around the country several times they have returned to their home county as Mike comes from Oxford and Ann from Kidlington.

Linda and Tony O'Neil have moved into 7, Barley Close with their three teenage sons Simon, Timothy and Matthew. They have moved from Southend.

THE STAGS HEAD (FUND RAISING COMMITTEE)

proudly presents a Concert by the

PENARTH WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

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(in aid of Cot Death Research)

on SAT. 25th APRIL 1992

at SS Peter & Paul Church, Swalcliffe
(by kind permission of the PCC)

7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Tickets from The Stags Head (232)

August & Lester, Estate Agents, Banbury,
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Adults ££3.50; OAP & Children 5-14 £2.50

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- HELP NEEDED for CHURCH SPRING CLEANING -

On Saturday 4 April, starting at 10.00am, the usual band of helpers who regularly clean Holy Trinity Church will be Spring cleaning. We would be very grateful for some extra help. An hour or so of your time would ease our task.

Thank You.

Toonie Law

* * * * *

WITH MANY THANKS

Sincere Thanks to the LEO Club Ladies for the lovely plant I have received.

Also to my Friends for the flowers, plants and cards they have so kindly given me. Your kind thoughts are very much appreciated.

Best Wishes.

Mary West



* * * * *

CAROL & JOHN

extend a warm welcome to all at

The Wykeham Arms

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- - THE VILLAGE QUIZ - -
VILLAGE HALL - Thursday - 23 APRIL - 7.30pm

Calling all Masterminds! The delayed Village Quiz (should have been last autumn, but quizmaster was quizzically inactive!) will take place on the above date.

NEW FORMAT FOR QUIZ

The style of the quiz has altered this year: teams of up to six will sit round tables, eating and drinking, and writing answers to questions which Magnus W. will read out. No-one needs to speak - and it's a lot quieter if no-one does! and everyone has the same questions to which they might know the correct response. One scribe is all that's required!

Please get your heads together - and let Vivienne Scouss have your team-names before Easter (April 19th). The holders of the trophy will no doubt polish it smartly and bring it with them.

Each team will pay 50p per member (minimum): refreshments (only finger-snacks) will be available, together with liquids - and it'll be a cracking good evening. Any proceeds will be for the Village Hall funds.

T.W.



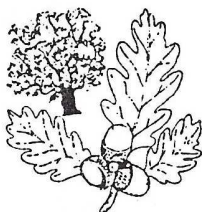
Sibford Sports Club.



The Sibford Sports Club has been set up in conjunction with the Friends School to promote the use of the School sports facilities. At the moment the club consists of a Badminton section running on Wednesday evenings, a Tennis section with Junior coaching during the summer and a Junior football session on Sunday mornings in the Sports Hall. The club hopes that enough support will come from the villages to start up a Squash section soon. Any more sports people would like to play can also be set up through the club, it only needs the enthusiasm on your part! For more information contact; Sue Ethrington-Smith on 8492
or Adrian Lamb 380

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- - A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - -
Friday 8 May 7.00pm - at Swalcliffe Tithe Barn
'An Auction of Favours'
in aid of a Pavilion for Sibford Gower Primary School

Sibford
Endowed

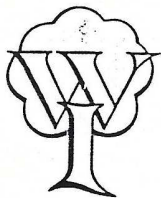


Gower
Primary

School

As you may have heard, the school has hired Chipping Norton Theatre for the day on April 8th. This is to be the highlight of the Key Stage 2 children's project on 'Leisure'. The infant children are performing 'The pied Piper of Hamlyn' complete with many rats; Mrs Stanford's children have been busy rehearsing their slightly off-beat production of 'Cinderella'; while the older children are singing and dancing their way through 'Rumplestiltskin'. As well as performing the plays, children will be ushering guests to their seats, selling ice-creams, helping with lighting, special effects and make-up. The older children have already designed scenery and worked out how much it's all going to cost and consequent ticket prices. We are becoming used to seeing the budding actors and actresses pacing around, clutching scripts, their brows furrowed as they mumble their lines. Eager members of staff will soon be pouncing on unsuspecting mothers and persuading them to bring down their sewing machines from the attic, dust them off, and set to work producing anything from a rats tail to Cinders ball gown!

Carrying on the theme of leisure, a puppet theatre visited school on Thursday, 19th March. They talked to the children about puppets and their theatre before putting on a performance for them.



News and Information

NATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

The Institute met on March 10th to hear a most moving talk, with slides, on the work of the Penhurst School. This is a school run by the *National Children's Homes*, which caters for severely physically handicapped children, many of whom have learning difficulties also. The typical day of one child was described - from rising in the morning, until bed-time. The problems of mobility, feeding, learning and social mixing were all touched upon and the roles of the staff and the many volunteers were shown. It was a thought-provoking experience and many questions were asked and answered.

The competition was for the best plate of home-made sweets and the entry was good. Consequently a very good selection was able to go back to Penhurst with the Speaker. Mrs Cox produced the best plate, with Mrs Conway and Mrs Power 2nd and 3rd.

Mrs Mills and Mrs Walpole kindly provided teas.

During the business discussion a meeting to discuss the Produce Show for 1992 was arranged for May 7th at 2.30 at Mrs Hutchinson's House. It was also decided to hold a *Bring and Buy* sale at the next meeting on April 14th at 2 PM in the Village Hall.

The speaker for the April meeting will be *Mollie Strafford* on "A day in the life of an 18th century Lady". A competition for a set of special buttons will be held.

THE WELL ESTABLISHED
**SIBFORD
PLAYGROUP-**

**SEEK A SUPERVISOR/
LEADER, FOR THREE
MORNINGS A WEEK-
8.45am - 12.00 noon.
PPA TRAINED OR
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Assistant Supervisor already
employed - Position to start -
beginning of July 1992 -
Apply in first instance to:
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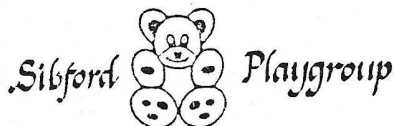
1ST THE SIBFORD SCOUT GROUP

METAL CAN COLLECTION

Several people have asked if we will take metal cans along with newspapers when we collect on the first Saturday of each month. This we have readily agreed to do, but since we have no storage facilities and have to arrange our own transport to the recycling depot we must make a few conditions:

- ☐ We collect both aluminium and steel cans provided they are wash and crushed flat.
- ☐ Cans should be sorted into aluminium and steel, ideally into separate plastic carrier bags.
- ☐ They should be left out with the newspapers or taken to the skip before 12 noon on the first Saturday of each month.

Our thanks to everyone who helps in anyway with this useful environmental service.

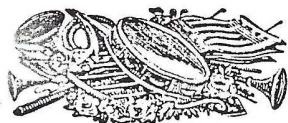


* TWO YEAR OLDS *

From next term
we are starting
a half-session
9.00-11.00am
one day a week
for any two year olds
accompanied by mother
at £1.00.
FRIDAYS for first half
of term.
MONDAYS for second half.

ALL WELCOME





THE MESSAGE OF EASTER

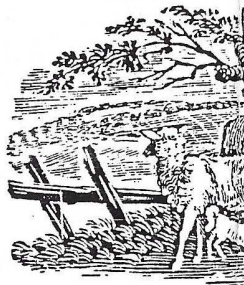
There is no doubt that living in the countryside and in a village such as this is a great privilege. Among other things it allows us to see and be aware of the changing year and new seasons.

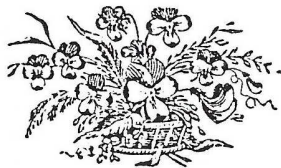
Lent and Easter are a time of new beginnings; the one a preparation for the other. Easter is the great festival of hope and proclaims the message that more and more people wish to hear in a darkening world. Hope must be well founded and it is the sure foundation of our hope which is the true message of the Easter gospel; the recognition that God is, and that his nature is love which cannot be destroyed even by the worst excesses of human pride and fanaticism.

The empty tomb is a declaration of God's love as the only ultimate and real power in the world. The church lives for ever in the quiet confidence and joyful hope of the Easter faith. This is our hope in which we rejoice this Easter and always, and in which we invite others to share.

Holmby House
Sibford Ferris

+ Anthony Dorchester





THE MEANING OF EASTER

The Easter festival commemorates the death and resurrection of Jesus and so is rightly associated with new life in Spring-time, and the birth of young animals and birds, as well as the Christian Church. But to me this spring is specially memorable for the dedication of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone at Milton Keynes, built jointly by five different denominations for sharing worship together, and where on 13th March a Catholic cardinal preached to a British monarch for the first time in three hundred years.

We should remember too, that the first Easter coincided with the festival of Passover, the ancient Jewish tradition celebrating the birth of their nation and the faith from which both Christianity and Islam sprang. My hope is that we may each work towards mutual understanding and respect for all faiths, recognising that there is "that of God" in all men and women, everywhere.

West Town
Sibford Ferris

Jim Shields



Sibford Ferris Parish Council

The Council met on the 3rd March 1992 and amongst the items which people might find interesting were the following -

The new Register of Electors (February 1992-1993) has now been issued. If anybody wishes to check their entry then a copy is available at the Post Office or from the Clerk (8393).

Grants are now available from Cherwell District Council for the facilitating of countryside access. Application forms and further details available from the Clerk.

If anyone is interested in the Draft Cherwell Local Plan and does not want to go to Banbury to study the details then they could borrow the Council's copy. The Clerk also has a number of leaflets which summarise the main points and make much easier reading!

THE NEXT MEETING IS THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 28TH APRIL IN THE LIBRARY OF THE FRIENDS SCHOOL COMMENCING AT 8PM. PLEASE TRY TO COME ALONG.

HELPLINES HELPLINES

The Samaritans	Banbury 270000
Young People's Helpline	(0865) 310810
'Life' Pregnancy Counselling Service	Banbury 261257
Banbury Family Centre	Banbury 266358
Katherine House	
Counselling Service	Banbury 272216
Victim Support Schemes	(0869) 40751
Relate (Marriage Guidance)	Banbury 258141
Cancer Link	(0865) 257946
Banbury Community Transport Assoc.	Banbury 255863
Oxfordshire Rural Community Council	(0865) 512488

(Knowledge is power, and those who feel powerless, in need or fear can be helped by knowing who to contact for support and advice. If you know of a helpline not listed above, please submit the details to Banbury & District CVS.)

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Sibford Gower Parish Council

RUBBISH SKIP

The Parish Council has arranged for a Skip to be delivered to the village on a once-a-month basis. Villagers can use this free collection service for items of household/garden rubbish. The skip will be sited on the grass verge adjacent to the layby in Pound Lane from Saturday 8.00am to Monday 6.00pm latest. Please make use of this service, but once the skip is full do not leave additional items - there will be another skip in a months time.

FIRST DATE: Saturday 18th April. Further dates will be advised in the diary section.

NATIONAL SPRING CLEAN/OXFORDSHIRE LITTER BLITZ 1992 3-12 APRIL

The Gower Parish Council are supporting the county and national scheme to tidy up our village. Please help us to collect litter by coming along to the village hall at 2pm on Saturday 11th April. Sacks will be provided but please wear strong shoes/boots and protective gloves. Younger children will be accompanied. Please come and help - many hands make light work.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at Sibford Primary School Hall on Thursday 30th April at 7.30pm - All welcome.

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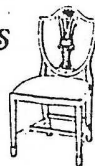
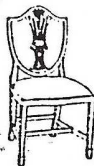
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**HOOK NORTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE
SUMMER PROGRAMME**

MONDAY

MORNING

TAP DANCING for adults -
Marigold Carter. A good way to
keep fit. Tap shoes not
necessary.
9.15 - 10.15 5 weeks £6.50

AFTERNOON

BOOK KEEPING - RSA Stage 1 exam
course (continuation).

EVENING

MENS KEEP FIT - Scott Orchard
7.30 - 9.00 9 weeks £13.50

EVENING

REFLEXOLOGY - Roger and Phoebe
Marsh. With this ancient healing
art one can treat the whole
person. These sessions will
enable students to use
reflexology in a safe and useful
way.

7.30 - 9.30. 5th and 12th May
£5.00

LADIES WORK OUT - Pam Heanen
7.45 - 8.45 10 weeks £13.00

LADIES' SWIMMING is fully booked

TUESDAY

MORNING

KINDERGYM - Ruth Wade. For the
under 5s to explore and enjoy
gym equipment with an adult.
9.00 - 9.30 10 weeks £10.00
9.30 - 10.00 10 weeks £10.00
10.00 - 10.30 10 weeks £10.00

Coffee shop open 9.30 - 11.15
during term time.

LADIES' SWIMMING is fully booked

AFTERNOON

PILLOW LACE - Sue Austin. A
course for beginners.
1.00 - 3.00 6 weeks £10.00

FIT FOR KIDS - Pam Heanen

Exercising to music. Please wear
suitable clothing, gym shoes or
trainers.

9 - 11 year olds.
3.15 - 4.00 6 weeks £6.00

HOOK NORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
(Affiliated Society). Second
Tuesday of the month 7.15pm.
Tel. 737001.

HOOK NORTON BONSAI GROUP
(Affiliated Society). Fourth
Tuesday of the month 7.30 pm.
Tel. 730015.

WEDNESDAY

MORNING

LITERATURE GROUP (Affiliated
Society). 4 meetings 9.45 -
11.45 from 29th April. Tel.
737417.

AFTERNOON

GYMNASTICS - Ruth Wade. For
primary school children.
3.15 - 4.00 9 weeks £9.00
4.00 - 4.45 9 weeks £9.00

HOOK NORTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE
SUMMER PROGRAMME

THURSDAY

MORNING

YOGA FOR ALL - Lorraine Newman
Bring a mat with you.

9.45 - 11.15 10 weeks £15.00

AFTERNOON

GENTLE EXERCISE to music - Pam
Heanen. Suitable for the not so
fit. Wear non slip footwear and
bring a mat/towel with you.

2.00 - 3.00 6 weeks £3.00

EVENING

FLOWER ARRANGING - Ann Anson
For beginners and experienced
alike.

7.30 - 9.30 4 weeks £9.00

CAR CARE for Women - Rob Fear
Wheel changing and simple
maintenance. 1 evening 18th June
7.00 - 9.00 £2.75

YOGA FOR ALL - Stella Dunstan
7.30 - 9.00 10 weeks £15.00

ITALIAN CONVERSATION - Isabella
Hepton (intermediate).
7.30 - 9.30 6 weeks £10.00

HOOK NORTON FAMILY HISTORY GROUP
(Affiliated Society). Third
Thursday of the month 7.30 pm.
Tel. 737519.

- - - - -

CHILDREN'S AND ADULT FRENCH
CLASSES: Please contact the
office.

WORKSHOPS

JUGGLING AND OTHER CIRCUS SKILLS
- Nikki Thomson-Stuart. An
opportunity to try juggling,
stilt walking and uni-cycling.
8 - 11 year olds 11.00 - 3.00
£4.50. Bring a packed lunch.
Sat 9th May

CONTAINERS AND HANGING BASKET
WORKSHOP - Stuart Hoggard. Come
and fill your baskets and
containers to give colourful
results throughout the summer.
The afternoon will be part
theory, part demonstration and
part practical.
2.00 - 5.00 £5.00. Sat 9th May

LITERATURE DAY - VIRGINIA WOOLF
Ruth Dowley. The life and
achievement of Virginia Woolf
will be discussed focusing
particularly on Mrs. Dalloway.
(handout available)
10.00 - 4.00 £9.00. Sat 9th May

ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE (fully
booked). Sat 9th May

TERM STARTS WEEK COMMENCING 27th
APRIL. Half term 25th - 29th May
Classes are held at the Primary
School.

RE-ENROLMENTS may be made prior
to the end of the spring term or
on the first day of your class.
NEW ENROLMENTS and enquiries
please contact the Community
Education Organiser: Linda
Buchanan, The Primary School,
The Bourne, Hook Norton Tel:
730052. CHEQUES payable to
HNCEC.

The Friendship Club



TUESDAY 7 APRIL - 2.30pm Tea at Mrs Huckings flat,
High Ways, Sibford Gower. Raffle.

TUESDAY 21 APRIL - Outing - details later.

TUESDAY 5 MAY - 12.30pm in the Village Hall
Lunch & Annual General Meeting
NEW COMMITTEE to be elected

*****S*****

- - FASHION SHOW - 9 APRIL - CHANGE of VENUE - -

The Spotlight Fashion Show on 9 April at 8.00pm will now be in the Primary School, by kind permission of Jeff Elliot. Refreshments will be served and all items modelled during the evening will be for sale.

Admission £1.00. Tickets are available from the Village Shop & the Surgery and from Committee members -

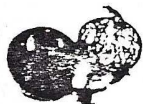
- Joan Shields & Jane Holliday in the Ferris
- Vivienne Scouse & Sheila Baseby in the Gower.

*****S*****

THAMARTON POST OFFICE & STORES & NEWSAGENTS

General Grocery, frozen food, THAYERS Ice cream, confectionery, home-cooked ham.

Home delivery of newspapers & magazines. Should you require a delivery please contact HELEN BUTLER at above or 'phone SWALCLIFFE (0295 78) 668.



9 - 1 2 - 5.30
(Mon./Tues/Thurs/Fri/Sat)
9 - 12.30 (Wednesday)
10 - 12 noon (Sunday)

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FIELDING DAY CENTRE

The Day Care Scheme for frail elderly people will start operation on Wednesday 29 April. The agreed name 'Fielding Day Centre' was chosen by the seven students involved, who are members of Fielding House. The Centre will be in Orchard Close Common Room and will operate on alternate Wednesdays from 12.15 - 3.15pm, providing a hot meal and social activities for the elderly people.

An administrative team of chairman, treasurer, secretary & coordinator is now in place and the Local Authority has provided a one-off grant. The Centre will charge £1.00 per meal, which will also be available to the volunteers. Volunteer car drivers will be paid a mileage rate.

At present the Centre has seven volunteers, from Sibford & Swalcliffe, plus three young people from Sibford who will be available during the holidays.

However, it would be a great asset if the Centre had a larger pool of volunteers to draw from, so that, for example, individuals might be needed only once a month.

If you think you might be able to help for a few hours a month, as a driver, meal server, entertainer or just to sit and chat with a lonely elderly person, please contact Ray Henbrey (8265) or Colin Frith (512) for further details. Transport can be provided to & from the Centre for volunteers without cars.

Please be assured that asking for details or visiting the Centre when it is open will not commit you to anything.

* * * * *

Horticultural Society

The Horti Society year got off to an excellent start in February, when Sibford's own Neil Mattinson gave a very interesting presentation showing both the 'muck' and the 'magic' of British and European Garden Festivals.

The next meeting, on 8 April, will feature the return of Timothy Walker of Oxford Botanic Garden who will reveal all the excitement of 'Plant Hunting in Eastern Anatolia'.

On 13 May Ray Henbrey will take us on a more serene horticultural journey through 'The Seasons in North America'.

The Society's Summer events, on 6 & 24 June and 4 & 22 July are listed in *Forthcoming Events*. The full 1992 Programme will be distributed at the meeting on 8 April.

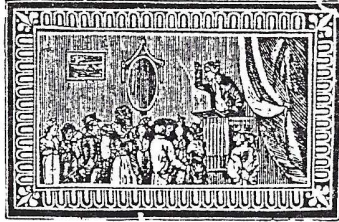
New members are always welcome - phone 8265 for details

* * * * *		* * * * *
* FOR SALE *		* CAT FOUND *
* Large Crochet Blanket *		* Ginger & White Cat *
* to fit Double Bed. *		* has adopted me. *
* Main Colour Brown - £35 *		* Owner Please Phone *
* Jenny Hone - 12 Cotswood Close - Swalcliffe 554 *		* * * * *

"PROGRESS" BY MONTY'S MIGHTY MINIONS

The social escapades of Paddy and Neil have little effect on Sibford and Epwell Conservative Party but they are obviously greatly attracted to the antics of the 'Progressive Party' as indicated by their decision to hold their recent AGM in a jacuzzi.

The local delegates draped themselves in gay abandon over dock chairs, cane furniture and cushions as Monty (who had bravely declined the offer of a bath robe) rose up behind a high pulpit, which tripled as a cocktail bar and a massage plinth, to open the proceedings.



He welcomed the assembly, now pink and steaming with more than anticipation. In the dim, romantic light he paid tribute to the late Terrie Malloy, a past Chairman, and continued to report a very successful year, both socially and financially.

He introduced Peter, the Treasurer, who rose to his substantial height uninhibited either by the high pulpit nor a large turkish towel. Budget targets had been exceeded, substantial sums given to local charities, as usual, and there was money in the Bank.

Monty then let some of the steam out of the boiler by announcing that, unlike the blessed Margaret, he had decided to retire at the pinnacle of his success after five glorious years at the steering wheel. The local District Chairman then rose out of the steam to thank Monty. He was clutching an enormous sports bag which thankfully did not hold heavy keep fit equipment but a plaque and a cup which he presented as recognition of the best local Branch in Oxfordshire.

The pressure of steam in the boiler rose again as he proposed Robert Tompkins as next Chairman and in the same breath added that both the Secretary and Treasurer were willing to continue and that the Committee could be elected en bloc. As everybody was now truly stuck to their seats there was no dissension.

This brought Robert to his feet red from his turn in the jacuzzi rather than embarrassment. He presented Monty with a rather splendid cut-glass decanter and Rosalind received a huge cellophane-encased and blue ribbon tied house plant; Monty had previously referred to her rather charmingly as the 'Power behind the Purdah'.

Katharine, the sweet hostess, was given a suitably blue flower arrangement in appreciation of all she had done and indeed was doing.

The steam was turned off, the bubbles subsided and a hot, exhausted but exhilarated throng wound its way to a nearby candle lit Baronial Hall for the Annual Dinner.

The ancient smell of a huge log fire mingled with the aroma of salmon mousse, beef olives and chocolate roulade. Wine flowed, tongues clicked and the mellow crowd were entertained by a suitable after-dinner speech by the prospective candidate for Rutland - a place that the 'Pin' had recently dug up, along with Mercia and the Pictish and Anglian King-letts, from ancient history books as a sure vote winner. The proceedings lost a little but gained a lot from the absence of last year's 'Barracking Ernest' whose presence had obviously been prevented by the thought of the preliminary purifications in the jacuzzi.

Grateful thanks were expressed to Mike and Katharine for their lavish hospitality as the Chairman (renowned for his perception) observed that the Manor was a better 'booking' than the Village Hall.

Apologies had been received from Tony Baldry who was away in Japan examining the 'Hot Communal Baths' and their effect on our environment. Are they a possible venue for next year's AGM?

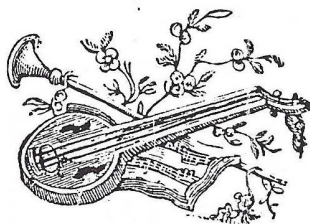
A splendid friendly evening. Lindi St. Clair and Cynthia Payne would have been proud of Sibford and Epwell's Conservatives as they grope their way steadily forward towards a 'Progressive Party'.

* * * * *

A BUSY WEEK

FOR

SIBFORD MUSICIANS



Congratulations are due to Frank Soden, Mary Holliday and Anna Pidgeon who reached the Final of the Young Musician of Banbury Competition, playing the trumpet, flute and classical guitar respectively. The Final Concert was held at the Friend's School on Saturday 14th March, organised by the Rotary Club. Sixty-one young people between the ages of 9 and 19 had entered the competition and 18 were selected to play at the Final. Marcel Zidani from Bloxham School, playing both the trumpet and the piano quite beautifully, was awarded the title of "Young Musician of Banbury". Frank, Mary and Anna did themselves proud, conquering their nerves and playing very well before an audience of over 200, including the Mayor, the adjudicators and microphones! They received medals to remind them of their achievements.

Earlier on the same day, Anna had taken part in the Aylesbury Music Festival, and was the proud winner of the John Cadman cup for guitarists of 12 and under.

This week, Chipping Norton has been holding it's Music Festival. Jenny and Anna Pidgeon played a duet on clarinet and flute, as did Jenny and Mary Holliday. They had got together entirely on their own, with no help from a teacher, and performed very well in front of a larger than expected audience! Anna also played her guitar and was awarded a Highly Commended certificate.

Phew!

Sibford Gower and Burdrop Neighbourhood Watch

I will start with a friendly warning. The Police have received complaints about vehicles parked on our footpaths, this means that they have to act. Please be more careful.

You would like to earn the undying gratitude of the local farmers? Possibly pocket a £10,000 reward? If you are a nightbird (for any legitimate reason!) keep your eyes peeled. The area arsonist is still around, as you will know by now. Whoever it is seems to prefer weekends and nighttime. CRIMEWATCH number 9-271999.

REMEMBER vigilance not vigilante. NOTE vehicle registration number, description of person(s), vehicle type, colour, condition & REPORT. Urgent assistance or reports of course use 999.

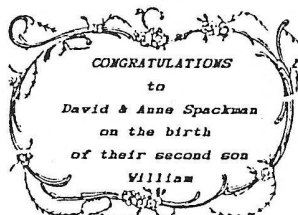
We have agreed locations of intended Village entrance road N.W. signs with the Local Authorities and now have the signs. Please back these by displaying your house signs, they do help!

Any new people in these villages who would like to register, I live at the Old Post Office, Sibford Gower (629). Ashley Gurr (358) looks after the south part, Tom West (8246) the middle and Gill Crisp (643) the north. BUT PLEASE we still need a co-ordinator for Burdrop. Surely there is a public spirited person there somewhere?

If you have reason to ring the Banbury Police Station (9-252525) please be patient; it is a very busy switchboard. For advice, our local policeman is Constable Archie Bullard at Hook Norton (0608-737225)

Thank you for reading this and I hope that you have found it helpful.

John Mulley, Co-ordinator (629)



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CAROL CORDINGLEY
SRG31

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Telephone: Banbury (0295) 720862

SIBFORD BUS SERVICES

1. SIBFORD GOWER TOWN ESTATES CHARITY

Free Bus Service for Sibford Gower and Burdrop Residents

			Depart	Return
Wednesday	1, 15 & 29 April	to Chippy	11.00am	1.00pm
Friday	10 & 24 April	to Banbury	10.00am	12.00noon
Friday	8 May	to Banbury	10.00am	12.00noon

The pick-up points are:	to Banbury	to Chippy
	Village Hall	Village Hall
	Cross Roads	High Meadow
	High Meadow	Cross Roads
		The Colony

2. REGULAR BUS SERVICE - BRAILES COACHES.

Brailes - Banbury - amendments - Monday, Wednesday, Friday ONLY

Pick up at Sibford Gower..... 1.15pm

Return from Banbury Bus Station... 2.45pm

Shipston - Banbury - Monday & Saturday

Pick up at Sibford Gower..... 9.50am

Return from Banbury Bus Station... 12.15pm

3. REGULAR BUS SERVICE - MIDLAND RED. 480 Sibford Gower - Banbury

Leave from Sibford Gower	Mon-Sat	Extra Buses on
	7.30am	Saturdays
	9.05am	3.00pm
	12.00noon	5.30pm
	(11.55 Tuesday)	

Return from Banbury Bus Station	
	11.30am
	2.30pm
	5.05pm
	6.05pm

Forthcoming Events



8 May	Friday	Auction for Gower School 7pm Swalcliffe Barn
10 May	Sunday	Rothmans National Village Cricket Comp.
		Sibford v Tiddington - Friends School 2.30pm
13 May	Wednesday	Horti Meeting - 'The Seasons in N America'
23-25 May	Sat/Sun/Mon	Sibford Church Flower Festival Weekend
6 June	Saturday	Horti Garden Sale, Temple Lodge, Gower - 10.00am
7 June	Sunday	National Gardens Scheme - Ferris Gardens open
20 June	Saturday	Conservative 'Summer Event'
24 June	Wednesday	Horti Evening Visit to Manor Garden - Ferris
27-28 June	Sat/Sun	'Open Weekend' in the Sibfords
27 June	Saturday	'Shindig' at Temple Mill - Pig roast/Dancing
4 July	Saturday	Horti Coach Trip - Two Worcestershire Gardens
4 July	"	Swalcliffe Village Fete-Evening Dance in Hall
19 July	Sunday	National Gardens Scheme - Gower Gardens open
22 July	Wednesday	Horti - Bloxham Club visit to Sibford gardens
22 August	Saturday	Horti Society Annual Show - Friends School
30 August	Sunday	Epwell Village Fete

CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends	Sunday at 10.30 am
Methodist	Sunday at 11.00 am
Roman Catholic Mass (Hook Norton)	Sunday at 11.00 am
(Brailles)	Sunday at 11.30 am
Baptist (Hook Norton)	Sunday at 10.30 am

Church of England, Holy Trinity, Sibford Gower - Services for April

Thursday 2nd:	7.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 5th:	10.00am United Benefice Eucharist - Sibford
Thursday 9th:	7.30am Holy Communion
Palm Sunday 12th:	10.00am Swalcliffe Service - meet at Tithe Barn
Mon/Tues/Wed 13/14/15:	7.30am Morning Prayer (said), 5.30pm Evensong (said), 7.30pm Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday 16th:	7.30am Morning Prayer, 5.30pm Evensong 8.00pm United Service - Epwell (Epwell Church open till midnight for prayer)
Good Friday 17th:	7.30am Morning Prayer, 7pm Evensong & address 1.30pm Service at Tadmarton
Easter Eve 18th:	7.30am Morning Prayer, 5.30pm Evensong 11.00pm Easter Vigil Service & Communion
Easter Sunday 19th:	10.00am Family Morning Communion for Easter (8.00am Prayer Book Communion - Swalcliffe)
Sunday 26th:	10.00am United Service at Epwell

WEEKLY EVENTS

As listed in previous editions of *Sibford Scene* plus:

Cricket Club Nets	Friends School	Thursday	6.00 - 7.15pm
Callanetics Fitness	Friends School	Thursday	8.00 pm

(Full list will be included next month)

CALENDAR for APRIL 1992

Friday	3rd	Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting
Saturday	4th	Holy Trinity Church Spring Cleaning - 10am
Saturday	4th	Scouts Newspaper/Magazine/Metal Can Collection
Saturday	4th	Friends Schools Joint Choirs - Coventry Cathedral
Tuesday	7th	Friendship Club - Tea with Mrs Huckings 2.30pm
Wednesday	8th	Gower Primary School at Chipping Norton Theatre
Wednesday	8th	Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20 pm)
Wednesday	8th	Horti - Village Hall - 'Plants of Anatolia' 8pm
Thursday	9th	Fashion Show - Sibford Primary School - 8.00pm
Saturday	11th	Litter Blitz in Gower - (see page 15 for details)
Tuesday	14th	WI Meeting - Village Hall - Talk & Bring/Buy Sale 2pm
Saturday	18th	Rubbish Skip in Gower - (see page 15 for details)
Tuesday	21st	Friendship Club - Outing - details later.
Wednesday	22nd	Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20 pm)
Thursday	23rd	VILLAGE QUIZ - Village Hall - 7.30 pm - DONT MISS IT.
Tuesday	28th	Ferris ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - Friends Sch'l Lib'y 8pm
Tuesday	28th	LEO Club - Wine-tasting - at Mary Bristow's, Burdrop
Wednesday	29th	Fielding Day Centre - Start of Operations
Thursday	30th	Gower ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - Primary School 7.30pm

CALENDAR for MAY 1992 (partial)

Saturday	2nd	Scouts Newspaper/Magazine/Metal Can Collection
Tuesday	5th	Friendship Club - Village Hall 12.30pm - Lunch & AGM
Wednesday	6th	Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20 pm)

* * SIBFORD SCENE * *

Editor - Barry Davies, Stonecutters Cottage, Bonds End Lane,
Sibford Gower (Tele: 291)

Asst Editor - Ray Henbrey (8265) Treasurer - Timothy Wimbush (555)

Advertising Secretary - Muriel Chandler (759)

Cost of Adverts: personal 50p, large £1.00, larger still - ask Editor

Display Advertising: £15.00 per year

*** COPY for APRIL ISSUE to THE EDITOR by 20 APRIL PLEASE ***

SIBFORD SPORTS CLUB

Sibford School's sports facilities are open to members of the club at the following times:-

Sports Hall	Wednesday to Sunday	17.30 to 21.30
	Sundays	09.00 to 14.00
Swimming Pool	Daily	18.00 to 19.30
Tennis Courts	Daily	18.00 to 20.00
	Sundays	09.00 to 12.30

All the facilities may be available at other times on request

How do I join the club?

By completing the attached form and returning it with a £5 family membership subscription to Sue Etherington - Smith, The Dower House, Sibford Ferris. Alternatively, the form can be handed into Sibford School reception.

What Sports are available? and How much will it cost?

Badminton	£4 per hour	Outside Tennis	£1 per court hour
Squash	£3 per 40mins.	Basketball	£15 per hour
Indoor Tennis	£15 per hour	Volleyball	£15 per hour

Other prices are available on application to the School

How do I book?

All facilities are booked by contacting the School reception on Swalcliffe 441 at the following times.

Monday to Friday	9am to 5pm
Saturday Mornings (Term time only)	9am to 12 Noon

Application Form

Please complete and return to Sue Etherington-Smith
The Dower House, Sibford Ferris. (Swalcliffe 8492)

Name of Family:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Sports interested in: