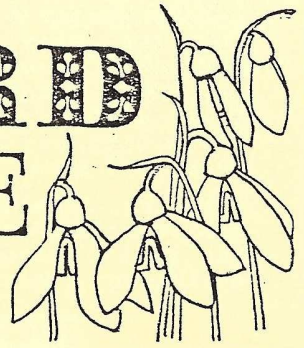


SIBFORD SCENE



NO. 163
FEBRUARY 1993

A CHRISTMAS FAIRY TALE ... without an end.

The King awoke in a panic. *Only two weeks to go!!* He wrung his hands and then his little brass bell, summoning his band of fairy godmothers & godfathers to Centredejour Castle. "Alas and, even worse, alack," he bemoaned. "Most of our pixie helpers are going on their hols and all the cooks are going on their tours. How can we feed our venerable guests at our first annual festive pre-Christmas nosh-up?"

Up jumped, appropriately, a baker's dozen of the King's fairer fairies. "Have no fear, your fairies are here," they trilled in unison. [*They always start like that - sickening, isn't it.*] "We will wave our magic mixers, our charismatic cutters & our splendent spoons. We will get weaving with our spells over our serendipitous saucepans & our mysterious microwaves. We will..." "Enough, already," snapped the King. "I get the picture - Plan B it is then."

Thus it came to pass that at the pre-Christmas gathering at Centredejour, sixteen guests sat sipping sherry at tables decorously decorated by a fairy godfather, pulling their crackers and donning their paper hats, eagerly awaiting the feast being assembled by the King's fairies.

A final wave of their wands (and serving spoons) and - abracadabra! - 37 plates, piled high with turkey, sausage & bacon, roast potatoes and vegies galore, appeared on the tables, plus goblets of juices served by two local pixies.

With many an appreciative "oo!" & "ah!" and only one philistine "Where's the HP?", the guests, fairies, pixies and the King gleefully demonstrated their own vanishing acts on the delectable dinners before them.

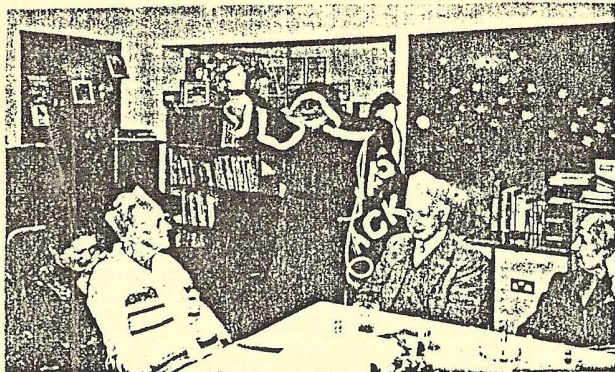
Further fairy razzmatazz and - hey presto! - there appeared more plates, loaded with deliciously squidgy trifle and with mince pies & brandy butter, followed by 'a nice cuppa' for everyone, and an encore from the pixies - this time distributing sweeties from a huge jar kindly provided by Rachel, one of Centredejour's venerable guests.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

With the party now in full swing, the King slipped out to welcome a secret visitor, who had quietly arrived in his snow-white saabmobile, explaining that Rudolf & Co. were getting their pre-season check-up with Carol Cordingley and his sleigh was having its bells retuned and its annual MOT up at The Firs.

Changing from his shocking-pink Summer disguise into his ermine-trimmed and hooded red cloak, Santa Claus burst in on the party, clanging his spare sleigh-bell and roaring his obligatory "Merry Christmas Everybody!!".



Santa's arrival takes guests Bessie Haynes, Jack Rowlett and Hilda Lissaman by surprise. Pixie Kate Weeks tries to hide behind Bessie.

After a brief pause - whilst fairies Soden & Holiday lifted a few guests back into their seats and checked a few pulse-rates - Santa jovially began distributing presents from his sack to all the guests and largesse to everyone else. With a "Happy New Year Everyone!!" and a final swish of his magnificent whiskers, he was gone, not even waiting for his traditional mince pie and glass of Cockburns.

"Thanks a million," shouted the King, as Santa disappeared into the dusky sunset. "Pity he left his sleigh-bell. Think I'll keep it as a memento." He returned to the party - but the high-point had passed and most of the guests were ready to go home.

"Time for bed," said Florence, as they dozily crocodiled their way to the bus, clutching their presents and still wearing their paper hats. "Jolly good party," piped the last guest, as he passed the King, who himself was starting to doze off in his chair. "We're looking forward to your first post-Christmas nosh-up - in two weeks time, isn't it?"

The King awoke in a panic. *Only two weeks to go!!* He wrung his hands and then his newly-acquired sleigh-bell, summoning his band of fairy

* * * S * * *

Nature Notes



December 18th. While walking home this evening I was surprised to hear the "wang-wang" of a Swan's wings as it flew over in near darkness.

December 24th. My old bird book says that Blackcaps migrate to the Mediterranean area to spend the winter, but in recent years some have wintered in southern England. On this cold morning I saw a male Blackcap feeding on an apple that is still hanging from the tree outside our kitchen window.

January 4th. I measured a total of 31.40 inches of rain in 1992 with almost 19 inches of that falling in the second half of the year. February was, as it often is, the driest month with 0.84 of an inch and July the wettest with 4.47 inches.

January 12th. One of the Nuthatches that frequent our garden ventured onto the window-ledge today. They react strongly, becoming quite noisy and agitated if they see a Cat.

January 14th. While we were watching the Blackcap, I presume that it was the same one that I saw in December, a group of Long-Tailed Tits made their way through our garden ignoring the bird table where other Tits were feeding. The only time that I have seen Long-Tailed Tits feed on a bird table was during a cold winter about 50 years ago, when they came to our table at Woolman Cottage on the Hook Norton road from the adjoining orchard which is now Cotswold Close.

S S S S S



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ATTENTION
!! ATTENTION !!
! ATTENTION ALL CONTRIBUTORS!

Because of circumstances not entirely within our control, it will be necessary to complete the major typing items and finalize the layout of the March edition of the Sibford Scene by 18 February.

Consequently, ALL contributors are earnestly requested to provide their contributions by Sunday 14 February.

It might not be possible to include copy that arrives after that date.

In general, it would always be greatly appreciated if reports on past events & dates of future events could be provided as soon as possible. No need to wait for the deadline date before submitting your copy.

Please contact the Assistant Editor *at any time*, if you have any queries or problems.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.
Ray Henbrey (8265) Asst Editor

* * * S * * *



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BANKING
BUSINESS



"Now look here" growled the bank manager to our ever suffering Treasurer. "It's no good giving me that 'I'm just a simple cleric' story. If we are to continue our generosity to the likes of Robert Maxwell and collapsing property developers, then someone has to pay. If we say the *Sibford Scene* is a small business, then a small business it is and as such we can load maximum charges on you - so just you go back to your villagers and increase your through-put of fund-raising coffee mornings."

Luckily this year, for the first time at the end of our financial period, we are still in the black. It seems sensible, however, to continue with our established specific time in the calendar for making our annual request for contributions from our villagers - and that time is nigh.

It is just one year since our last 'brown envelope' campaign, so once again in March we shall be requesting that you contribute to the cost of producing the *Scene*, which runs at about £70 per month.

Our Advertising Secretary has worked wonders this past year promoting income from adverts; also, local groups, societies & councils have continued to contribute generously to our funds. But more is essential if we are to thwart the bank manager by remaining solvent throughout the year.

Last year we asked that each household consider donating £2 (single occupancy homes £1) and many responded, including quite a number who gave very much more than that.

So once again we shall be enclosing your brown envelope in next month's *Scene*, together with addresses where these can be deposited, for your 'nearby' convenience.

Do please help us - we earnestly hope that this year *ALL* will respond, so that further appeals during the year will not be necessary.

A statement of account will be published in April to show how generous you all have been. *Thank you dear readers.*

* x J W BAKER * *

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FRIENDSHIP CLUB

TUESDAY 2 FEB - Afternoon at Mrs Huckings Flat - 2.00pm

TUESDAY 16 FEB - Outing to The Bell, Ladbroke for lunch.
Contact Mrs Webb (8211) for details.

During December the Club enjoyed a Christmas Tea in the Village Hall and a very nice Christmas Lunch at the Wykeham Arms - *Many Thanks* to the Wykeham Arms for this.

Many Thanks to Mrs Warwicker for raffle prize on 19 January.

ADVANCE NOTICE of Garden Party on Sunday 20 June at
Temple Close, the home of Mr & Mrs Jones.

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* SIBFORD PLAYGROUP *

Sibford Playgroup would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our Christmas Bazaar, which was held in the village hall on Saturday December 5th. The afternoon raised a total of £315 profit, and in addition we were able to send three sacks of clothes to Oxfam and three sacks of warm children's clothes to Bosnia.

The children held their own carol service in the church on Friday 18th December and a party, complete with a visit from Father Christmas in the village hall on Monday 14th December. The group looks forward to a prosperous and busy new year, and already has plans for many more such fund-raising and fun events - so keep your eyes on The Scene!

New pre-school children are always welcome to join our friendly group, which meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning in the village hall between 9 and 12.

- - - - -
SIBFORD PLAYGROUP NEW-TO-YOU SALE

MAKE SOME EXTRA CASH! Sell all your nearly-new good quality children's clothes at our super 50/50 sale (50% to you, 50% to the Playgroup), to be held on 12 March.

Start sorting and pricing up your best buys now!

For more details phone Ann (8506) or Rebecca (8635).

- - - - -
! SUPERVISOR WANTED !

We urgently need an assistant playgroup supervisor to help run Sibford Playgroup on Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings from 8.30am to midday.

Applicants should be experienced & suitably qualified, or willing to undertake relevant training. Pay £3 per session.

Please contact: Rebecca Stanford on Swalcliffe 8635
or Amanada Glanvill on 0608-84-363

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BUILDING PLOT WANTED

Quiet location sought to build detached single storey home - of approximately 1400 sq ft. Cash available. Please contact (0295) 720337



AUSTERITY LUNCHES

I would like to remind everyone who is concerned about the deprived children in Eastern Europe of an easy way of helping them. Margaret Le Mare is again organising Austerity lunches to support ORFAN, the registered Charity for the relief of children in Romania.

These are held at the Friends Meeting House between 12.30 & 2pm on the first Tuesday of each month, ie, 2nd February and 2nd March, etc. A collection will be made for the fund in exchange for a simple meal - which many children would consider is a veritable feast!

Jim Shields.

renfrey *bovill*

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LEO
CLUB



Ladies
Evening
Out

Did you hear the one about the dentist, the cleaning lady & the finger stall? No? Then you missed a most enjoyable Christmas LEO meeting at Greta's, with mulled wine, snacks and anecdotes, a few of which bordered on (some might say strayed beyond) the risqué.

The festive spirit was continued in January, when 21 ladies gathered for a most enjoyable 'Evening Out' at The Horseshoe Inn, Shipston - nudge, nudge, say no more!

Dignity will be restored on Tuesday 16 February, when LEO members meet at 8.00pm at the new home of Rosalind Pearlman, to learn the benefits of the ancient healing art of Reflexology from our local expert, Elizabeth Webber.

We are always happy to give lifts to anyone who can't get to a LEO meeting. Phone Vivienne Scouse on 8320.

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THE RAINS CAME

*Clap hands, sing and shout, ring the bell!
At long last we've good news to tell
We feel we're in clover
Our cup runneth over
'Cos so does our duck pond as well!*

*Parish Councillors! It's just been hell:
An 'Annus Horribilis' spell.
We've now but one wish
Bring back Ducks and Fish.
Come Councillors, crawl from your shell!*

Elizabeth Webber A.M.A.R.
REFLEXOLOGIST

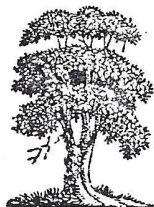
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SIBFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



The first meeting of 1993 will be on 10 February at 8.00pm in the Village Hall; Mr Powell, who has now recovered from his bout of pneumonia, will lead the first question-and-answer session on 'Gardening Topics for the Time of Year', deferred from the December meeting. This will be followed by a talk & demonstration on 'Instant Bonsai' by Mike Thomas of the Hook Norton Bonsai Group.

New members are welcome to join us at any meeting. New membership (£2.50) will be valid until October 1993; or why not come along to an individual meeting (50p) to see if you like us? Alternatively, phone the Secretary (8265) or Treasurer (525) for more details of our club.

* * * * S * * * *

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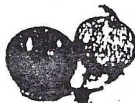
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9 - 12.30 (Wednesday)

10 - 12 noon (Sunday)



THE SIBFORDS SOCIETY

The elected committee has met and decided several things, including our name, topics for projects & meetings and dates for meetings.

The next meeting will take place on Friday 12 March at the Mission Hall, Sibford Gower at 8.00pm. We will be launching our first project, details of which will be in the March issue of the *Scene*.

We would be especially pleased to see anyone who has expressed an interest in the group, but was unable to attend our inaugural meeting on 26 November.

For more information contact any committee member:

Barbara Crabtree

Maureen Hicks

John Simms

Ian Warden

Bernard Keen

David Ryall

Anne Skowronska

Verity Stanley

Verity Stanley (729)

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NORTH OXFORDSHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION Forthcoming Events

Thursday 11 March - A G M at Parsons Barn Farm at 8.30pm,
by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Robert Tompkins.

Thursday 25 March - Branch Dinner at The Gate Hangs High,
Hook Norton at 7.30pm for 8.00pm.

Saturday 3 April - 1940's Dance in the Village Hall,
Sibford Gower. Dancing to a live band - full details later.

* * * S * * *

* * BON VOYAGE * *

Nathalie Gordon leaves at the end of the month, to take up a two-year contract with VSO in S E China, teaching English.

We wish her well and, as our official China correspondent, we hope for one or two 'on the spot' reports about life in that part of the World - *Good Luck* - and G.G.W.Y.

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* * WELCOME * *

Grandparents Margaret & Bill Wealsby are thrilled to announce that their daughter Dawn and her husband David found a beautiful baby girl under their Christmas tree. Santa was a little early and came on 18 December.

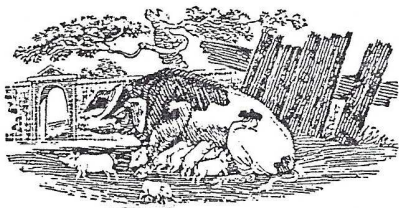
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HOUSEWIFE looking for PART-TIME CLEANING WORK

Please phone Carolyn: Swalcliffe 497

Winie and Mary Wyatt
Grand-daughters of the late
John Wyatt.

Bieldrop - Wyatts Cottage belonged to my Grandfathers parents, which was in the days of the pepper-corn rent. - his father used to have a Scythe, and go out in the district mowing hay and corn for local farmers - they also had a Shop at Wyatts Cottage. general Shop - and kept a pig in the back garden.



Sibford Gowee

My Grandfathers Aunt (Ann Wyatt) kept a Village Shop which is now as (Wyatts) (Josc) and when she died my Grandfathers Sister Elizabeth; (Bessie) kept it on. The stores came from Boxons.

One winter night she was pushed against the Churchyard wall and her bag taken with the weeks takings in it. (it was never found.)

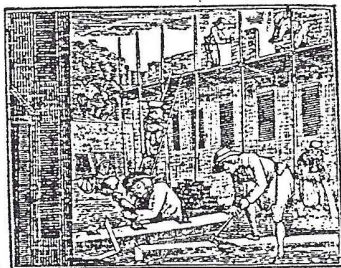
There was also a Co-op Stores at the Gowee.

Friends School.

My grandfather and father worked at the School when it was being built, my grandfather had tuence havern an hour - and my father tuence and hour.

In their day it was always know as the big house School.

Theodore Lamb
lived in a shack tough, he dressed in Sacking, he was barred from Banbury because of his clothing - he pushed an old truck round the Village and would play a tune on his tin whistle for a cup of tea. he is buried and The Friends and all the School Children gathered bunches of wild flowers for his grave.



BAULKS WOOD

DOG WATCH IN SIBFORD GOWER

The word-processor that types what you think is now, of course, old hat but the curious piece of software tucked into my Christmas stocking was new - at least, I think, in Sibford. It was called 'Microdog'. Having read its instructions with rising disbelief, I inserted the floppy disk into Drive A, trailed the wires out into Bonds End Lane and clapped the gadget on the first literary-looking canine who came by. By the time I regained my study, neatly formatted text was already scrolling down the screen.

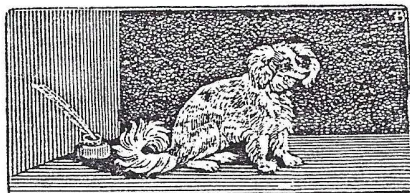
By Saint Wulfhad and Saint Ruffin, have you seen what is happening down the Baulks? The Baulks is the field below Bonds End Lane and the name is generally thought to be something to do with its ridges and furrows, but, of course, WE know that baulks are where the well-brought-up dog repairs after breakfast to make himself comfortable for the day ahead. We have the best baulks in the district and no bad thing since those yellow notices appeared on every stickable upright threatening unspeakable agony to any of our kind who happens to be out without his cheque book.

It was a couple of months ago that these Baulks suddenly sprouted bamboo canes all over the place. If this goes on, I said to myself, mornings will become distinctly uncomfortable. However, the plague was arrested one day by a swarm of twenty-somethings who dug about, muttering earnestly about saving the planet, and wrapped the canes in plastic, since when they have ceased to multiply.

Rumour below tables has it that the news is even better. Each plastic thing (I counted 560) will become a tree. There will be at least 26 different types of tree, giving us an incredible choice of facility for the leaving of messages etc. They will be set about a central stick-retrieving range and the whole area will have a fence to stop our beefy friends from the field below coming to spoil the fun.

The evidence for most of this is a leaked document - mentioning Lambs, Broadies, Gordons and a few others - the source of which wild humans will not drag out of me.

(PALG 3.1.93)



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.

* * * S * * *

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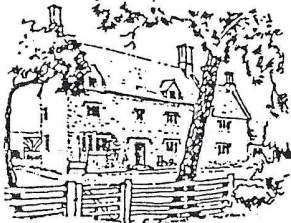
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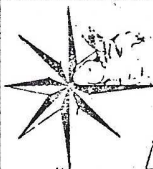
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WHAT'S ON AT CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE

In the enchanting intimacy that only a small theatre can generate, MOTHER GOOSE has just ended its outstandingly successful run. "Quite the best pantomime I've seen", our discerning Editor, Barry, tells me. "Far superior to those London productions!"

The fame of the annual pantomime has spread far and wide but what goes on during the rest of the year may not be so widely known. So our editor has kindly agreed to a monthly WHAT'S ON spot in the Scene. And here's the programme for the next five weeks for both the theatre and the cinema. There is something to suit all tastes:

Theatre:

Feb	3	Us and the Others - a play by Nick Martin	- 8.00 pm
	7	An Evening of Words and Music with Ludovic Kennedy, Moira Shearer and Gillian Tingay (harp)	- 8.00 pm
	12	The London Ragtime Orchestra presents Jazz'n Joplin	- 8.00 pm
	16	Cymbeline by William Shakespeare	- 7.30 pm
	21	Any Racing Questions? Put your questions to a celebrity panel including champion jockey Peter Scudamore, MBE	- 7.30 pm
	26	Madness in Valencia by Lope de Vega	- 8.00 pm
March	4	Alan Price - The Greatest Hits Tour	- 8.00 pm
	5	The Albion Band, in concert	- 8.00 pm
	6	The Coal Dust Affair by Eugene Labiche	- 8.00 pm

Cinema:

Feb	13	The Rocky Horror Picture Show (15)	- 8.00 pm
	19	Othello (U) with Orson Welles (Special Schools Matinee 1.15 pm)	- 7.30 pm
	20	Les Amants Du Pont - Neuf (18) - subtitles	- 7.30 pm
	22-25	Walt Disney's Beauty and the Beast (U)	- 2.30 pm

Further information can be obtained from the Box Office 0608 642350 Monday to Saturday 10.00 am - 6.00 pm.

Vera Jones

A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

CHRISTMAS WEEK was saddened by the death of MRS ILMA INNS, wife of the late MR FREDERICK INNS. She was well known in the Village of Swalcliffe in her maiden life. When she married she came up to SIBFORD, and spent many years with her husband and her children Fred, Elizabeth and Alec by the Village Pool area.

M.P.

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BOOK NOW! BOOK NOW!

Theatre Outing by Coach from Sibford

' KISS ME KATE '

Stratford Theatre

Saturday Matinee 13 February

Theatre Ticket £6.00 Coach extra

Tickets still available

Contact Margaret Cox (Swa. 510)

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WHAT IS A GIRL TO DO?

"Look here", said Belinda fluttering her long, black, false eyelashes. You must know Belinda - Features Editor to the Scene. Blond hair piled high in wispy tiers; bright red lipstick with finger nails to match; large hoop earrings; black patent 6" high stilettos and a tight leather mini-skirt. No? Well admittedly she doesn't really stand out among all the seething masses in Sibford's busy Shopping Mall. Mind you she's always to be found in the Ferris Wine Bar at lunch time on a high stool swinging her long legs cling-silk wrapped in back tights with butterflies up the back seam - Ah you do remember her? No doubt it was the black butterflies that jogged your memory. So.

"Look here" said Belinda, "it's just too frightfully frightful - what is a girl to do? I had planned a series of articles about the various operations in producing the Scene, each article introducing the next month's edition with a brief reference and, to give continuity, each was to commence "A rather brief one-liner appeared in the previous edition". But darlings I can't do it. Last month somewhere between my Copy and the printing, the "dismissive one-liner" about our typing lay-out presentation team just disappeared - vanished - eliminated. So how can a girl proceed with next month's feature about this most important of all operations? The series, darlings, is ruined. The Editor will be furious."

Our office boy put down the paper knife with which he had been cleaning his finger nails. He leaned round the rubber plant, across a department dividing plastic ferns and levering aside the hoop earrings whispered into Belinda's ear. There was a pause. "That's marvellous sweetie!" Her face broke into smiles cracking the pancake make-up like some old painting hanging in the uncontrolled atmosphere of The Hermitage,

She licked the tip of her word processor and began:-

FROM BATTERED PORTABLE REMINGTON

TO SHINY WHITE AMSTRAD!

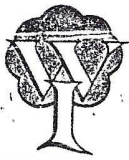


In last month's edition there was, alas, not even a brief dismissive one-liner regarding our most important and exacting department - the typing and lay-out process team. During the last ten or more years there has been a continuing improvement in the presentation of The Scene. Jenny - dear Jenny - started it all and there are still collector's items of the original A5 well-typed Scenes changing hands at enormous prices. When Jenny vanished the arduous task of typing was gladly taken over by Vivienne who insisted on doing all the typing herself. This gave a uniformity to the presentation. Vivienne became extended with her sundry duties and handed over to Sue who then gathered round her a valuable team of typists all sharing the responsibility of reading the Editor's writing. It was Sue, who, returning from a seminar on Village Newspapers run by ORCC, insisted that the Editor stir himself and consider a more sophisticated presentation by means of a photocopier.

Our local charity was generous enough to finance the purchase of a second hand copier and Erica was kind enough to find room for it in the Rector's study by stacking his cricketing books twenty high instead of in piles of ten. Improved lay-out, logos and small interesting wood-cuts were now possible and after a few months of furor from a dozen or so villagers who preferred the old A4 single sheet, smudged grey-type duplication style, the present form was established - although there are still rumblings about small print and aging eyesight.

Eventually Sue departed for smokier climes dutifully following husband Nick, who is a king in his bank's continuing game of chess with its employers (may they eventually call Checkmate by bringing him back to Banbury). We were lucky - or was it divine intervention - that brought Ray Henbrey into our team? Ray had never heard of typewriters and carbon paper as they had disappeared from the American scene in the early twenties. With his smooth, silent Amstrad he has gathered round him a number of local processing enthusiasts all happily pounding away on floppy discs (what are they? - Editor) thus allowing Ray to play about with the layout of articles and news items - a job he likes best and Oh boy is he good at it.

His lovely sense of humour in choosing the right woodcuts to illustrate the pages has been continually commented upon by all readers. Many of our contributors, thus encouraged, are submitting their copy typed in suitable layout ready for reducing or direct printing. Our advertisers are also contributing to better design encouraged by our indefatigable new Advertising Secretary (note the brief dismissive reference!). Ray and his team have brought the Scene's presentation to a state where one asks "Where can it possibly go from here?" Well maybe under a new young imaginative editor the question will soon be answered. In the meantime thank you Ray and your wonderful team.



News and Information



There was a good turnout for the January meeting, despite the extreme cold. The reward was an excellent talk by Mr Oliver Lane, the Administrator of Upton House, who showed slides and spoke about the National Trust in general and the properties in the Hereford, Gloucester and Warwickshire areas. An expert in his field, he had much of interest to tell, ending with some good slides of both the outside and gardens of Upton House and its treasures inside.

A display of decorative plates was judged and Mrs Grasby's was judged the best. Mrs Walpole kindly provided a raffle prize, and Mrs Walpole and Mrs Baadsgaard served teas.

In February the Headmaster of Sibford School, Mr John Dunstan, will give an account of a visit to China and there will be a competition for a Chinese Artifact. This will take place on February 9th at 2 PM in the Village Hall.

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HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

The Healthy Lifestyles Group will meet at Sibford Surgery from 1 - 2pm on alternate Wednesdays starting on 3 February Telephone 213 for further details of these sessions which include
Healthy Eating, Weight Reduction, Exercise, etc.

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SIBFORD FERRIS POST OFFICE, STORES
Tele: Swalcliffe (C29578) 795

Opening Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
8.30am - 1.00pm
2.00pm - 6.00pm
Thursday, Saturday
8.30am - 1.00pm
Sunday
11.00am - 12.30pm

Groceries, Greengrocery, Stationary,
Confectionery, Cigarettes,
Wines & Spirits
We can deliver if required.

STUART & JOYCE
welcome you at
"THE GATE HANGS HIGH"
Hook Norton

Traditional Ales in our friendly pub
with excellent food available
in the recently extended restaurant.
Evening Bookings Advisable
Telephone: 0608 737387

Open Seven Days per Week.
Bar only on Sunday evenings.

"The Gate Hangs High & Hinders None.
Refresh & Pay and Travel On."

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

There was a Council meeting on Tuesday 12th January when the following matters came up for discussion.

The Parish Precept for 1993/94 was set at £1895 and details leading to this decision will be given at the Annual General Meeting due to be held in April.

It was decided to enter into a *BUS PASS SCHEME* with Midland Red whereby retired people living in the Parish issued with a pass will be able to travel to Banbury at half fare. This scheme will be adopted for one year in the first instance and reviewed again when the full extent of the demand will be better known. Passes for those people who have already expressed an interest will be available as from 1st April.

A letter has been received from Mr. Houchin of Thames Water acknowledging the problems that some residents have been experiencing with dirty water. Necessary work of either transferring customers to an alternative main or replacing a new main altogether will begin shortly. Roof tanks are also going to be cleaned out where there has been a build up of deposits. This will all be done at Thames Water expense. This shows the benefit of tireless campaigning on the part of one or two people in the Parish to whom the Council are grateful.

The Clerk has details of various Carers Self Help Groups which exist in the Banbury area. If anyone would like a copy of this leaflet please contact 8393.

We have a timetable for the X60 Tuesday Bus Service to Coventry which was recently threatened with closure but is now being financed by Warwickshire County Council. Copies available from the Post Office or the Clerk.**

The next meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday 2nd March 1993 in the Library of The Friends School beginning at 8pm. All are welcome to attend. Pat Romans (Clerk)

** Summary of revised X60 timetable is on page 22.

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**Banbury
District Carers**

Alexandra House
Church Passage, Banbury
OX16 8JZ

Tel: 0295-264545

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CHRISTMAS EVE CAROL SINGING

Kate Woodall and Patrick & Rosamund Murray thank everyone who so generously supported their carol singing on Christmas Eve in the Gower. We raised £46.58 for the Katherine House Hospice. Bless You All.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I would like, through the pages of "The Scene", to inform residents of the Sibfords and Birdrop that a local branch of the Constituency Liberal Democrat Party has been formed for all the north Oxon. villages which fall within the Banbury constituency, and to invite all the many people locally who expressed interest in the Democrats during our campaign for the April General Election to join the branch.

Any local party needs members who do not become activists, but who support social functions and who help at times of campaigning, as well as those members who may well wish to stand for office within the branch and constituency, or even for election to the District and/or County Council.

Please feel free to contact me for more information.

Yours sincerely,



Sean Kenny - Vice-Chair of the Branch.

The Common Room
Sibford School
Sibford Ferris
OX15 5QL

Phone: Swa 8293

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OLD TIME MUSIC HALL

Now for the Authorized Version!

Once again the Banbury Amateur Operatic Society performed for the North Oxfordshire Conservative Association Sibfords and Epwell Branch at the Sibford Village Hall. This time the theme was "Old Time Music Hall" and they were superb. Some of the sketches were hilarious and their leader, Jan Bishop, in a threesome, gym slipped and hockey sticked for 'Three little maids from school are we' was a sight we shall never forget!

At the special request of our MP, Tony Baldry, they were deservedly recalled for an encore later in the evening. Two Japanese guests of the MP were seen to be hugely enjoying themselves - in spite of the language difficulties - to the extent of making an impromptu donation of £200. They also filmed the performance and we wonder what they will make of it in Japan.

The bar was under the capable hands of Councillor David Green and the ladies of the committee provided a hearty Victorian style supper. Other supporters transformed the Village Hall and stage with greenery, balloons and floral decorations for the candle lit supper. A particular thank you to David Baker for his unstinting help in preparing the Village Hall for the evening.

Prizes were awarded to Mrs Toonie Law and Mr Norman Nash for the most appropriate and elegantly dressed lady and gent. Mrs Catherine Baldry kindly picked the winners of the raffle assisted by our Chairman, Mr Robert Tompkins. A donation of £50 was made from the proceeds towards the forthcoming redecoration of the Village Hall. A great evening and at 11 a head - a snip!

JUMBLE SALE in aid of SIBFORD FERRIS PLAYAREA GROUP

A Jumble Sale will be held early in March and we would appreciate any offers of jumble, bric-a-brac, etc, which can be left with me at any time. Please look out in the March *Sibford Scene* for date & place of the sale. Thank You.

Bernie Jones, 7 Cotswold Close, Sibford Ferris.

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

Our 1992 collection amounted to £468.45, made up of £313.14 house-to-house, £110.31 remembrance service and £45.00 wreaths. Very many thanks to all those who contributed and to my little band of collectors. The ex-service folk, their wives, families & widows who benefit from the Legion's many benevolent & welfare schemes appreciate every bit of help given. *Well done!*

John Mulley

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SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The annual united service was held this year in the Friends Meeting House, and followed the usual form of Quaker service based on silent worship. At the beginning it was explained that Quakers do not have ministers set apart, but that in the meeting anyone who feels led is free to rise and speak.

After a period of silence our thoughts were led by several speakers on the theme of true worship, unity among Christians, and hope for the coming year - despite all the current world problems. Afterwards we enjoyed a friendly chat over tea and biscuits. Dare we suggest once again that even more people could enjoy this feeling of unity and fellowship if the United Service was the only one in the village for that particular day?

Jim and Joan.

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DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR HORSE?

An experienced rider available
for exercising your horse.

Tuesday - Sunday

Height 5'11" Weight 11 stone
Contact Tony - Swalcliffe 490



SIBFORD BUS SERVICES



1. SIBFORD GOWER TOWN ESTATES CHARITY

Free Bus Service for Sibford Gower and Burdrop Residents

			Depart	Return
Wednesday	3 & 17 Feb	to Chippy	11.00am	1.00pm
Friday	12 & 26 Feb	to Banbury	10.00am	12.00noon
Wednesday	3 Mar	to Chippy	11.00am	1.00pm

The pick-up points are:

Banbury Bus	Chippy Bus
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 Saturdays
	7.30am	
	9.05am	3.00pm
	12.00noon	5.30pm
	(11.55 Tuesday)	

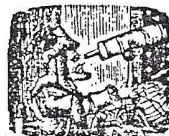
Return from Banbury Bus Station	11.30am
	2.30pm
	5.05pm
	6.05pm

4. REVISED SERVICE - MIDLAND RED. X60 Hook Norton-Banbury-Sibfords-Tuesdays Only

	Outward	Return*	
Sibford Ferris	09.39am	2.15pm	* All return times are one hour later during school holidays
Sibford Gower	09.41	2.13	
Shipston	09.55	1.59	
Stratford	10.25	1.30	
Coventry	10.55am	1.00pm	

Forthcoming Events

DIARIST - Norman Nash (Tel 275)

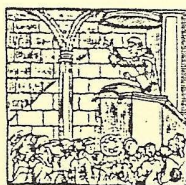


11 March	Thursday	Conservatives A G M
12 March	Friday	Playgroup 50/50 Sale
12 March	Friday	Sibford Society Meeting
25 March	Thursday	Conservatives Branch Dinner
3 April	Saturday	Conservatives 40's Dance - Village Hall
20 June	Sunday	Temple Close - Mr & Mrs Jones' Garden Party
21 August	Saturday	Horticultural Society 1993 Annual Show

Secretaries - Please keep *Sibford Scene* or Norman informed.

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 LOCAL CORRESPONDENT to BANBURY GUARDIAN - Sheila Baseby (Tel 544)
 - Copy for Guardian by MONDAY please

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

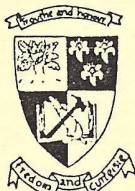
7 February	10.00am	United Benefice Eucharist at Epwell
14	"	10.00am Holy Communion
21	"	10.00am Family Service
24	"	7.30am Holy Communion - Ash Wednesday
		8.00pm United Benefice Eucharist at Swalcliffe
25	"	7.30am Holy Communion
28	"	8.00am Holy Communion

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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.)



SIBFORD SCHOOL

Sibford Ferris,
Banbury,
Oxon. OX15 5QL
Telephone: (0295) 78441
Fax: (0295) 78 8444

A Co-Educational Quaker Boarding and Day School.
Founded in 1842. 340 pupils 7-18

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL at Orchard Close (7-10)
A full preparation for Secondary Education

THE SENIOR SCHOOL (11-16)
A broad curriculum leading to GCSE

THE SIXTH FORM (16-18)
A unique combination of the Diploma in Vocational Education and A Level Studies

- * A tradition of excellence in boarding care
- * Nationally known Dyslexic Department
- * Small classes and highly supportive atmosphere
- * Excellent new Sports, Music and Drama facilities
- * Widespread use of Information Technology
- * School buses daily to and from surrounding towns



WEEKLY EVENTS

Guides	Hook Norton	Monday	evening
Youth Club	Village Hall	Monday	7.00 - 9.00pm
Yoga	Friends School	Monday	7.15 - 9.15pm
Mobile Shop		Tuesday	10.00am - 4.00pm
Brownies	Village Hall	Tuesday	5.15 - 6.45pm
Folk Dancing	Village Hall	Tuesday	8.00 pm
Volleyball	Friends School	Tuesday	7.30 - 8.30pm
Beavers	Village Hall	Wednesday	5.15 - 6.30pm
Badminton	Village Hall	Wednesday	8.00pm
Badminton	Friends School	Wednesday	7.30 - 9.30pm
Mums & Toddlers	Orchard Close	Wednesday	10.30am - 12noon
Cricket Club Nets	Friends School	Thursday	6.00 - 7.15pm
Callenetics Fitness	Friends School	Thursday	8.00pm
Mobile Fish & Chips		Thursday	
Cub Scouts	Village Hall	Friday	6.00pm
Scouts	Village Hall	Friday	following Cubs
Playgroup	Village Hall	Mon, Wed, Fri	9.00am - 12noon
Sibford Sports Club	Friends School	(Phone 380 or 8492 for details)	

CALENDAR for FEBRUARY 1993

Tuesday	2nd Austerity Lunch - Friends Meeting House - see page 8
Tuesday	2nd Friendship Club - Mrs Hucking's - 2.00pm - see page 6
Wednesday	3rd Healthy Lifestyles Group - Surgery - 1.00pm - see p 18
Saturday	6th Scouts Paper & ALUMINIUM Can Collection
Tuesday	9th WI Meeting - Village Hall - 2.00pm - see page 18
Wednesday	10th Fielding Day Centre - 12.15pm - 3.00pm
Wednesday	10th Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)
Wednesday	10th Horti Society Meeting - Village Hall 8pm - see page 10
Saturday	13th Rubbish Skip in Gower
Saturday	13th Theatre Outing - 'Kiss Me Kate' - Stratford - see p 16
Sunday	14th DEADLINE for SIBFORD SCENE CONTRIBUTIONS - see page 4
Tuesday	16th Friendship Club - Pub Lunch Outing - see page 6
Tuesday	16th LEO Club - Reflexology - Mrs Pearlman's - see page 9
Wednesday	17th Healthy Lifestyles Group - Surgery - 1.00pm - see p 18
Wednesday	24th Ash Wednesday - Services at 7.30am & 8.00pm
Wednesday	24th Fielding Day Centre - 12.15pm - 3.00pm
Wednesday	24th Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)

CALENDAR for MARCH 1993 (partial)

Tuesday	2nd Austerity Lunch - Friends Meeting House - see page 8
Tuesday	2nd Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting - see page 19
Wednesday	3rd Healthy Lifestyles Group - Surgery - 1.00pm - see p 18
Saturday	6th Scouts Paper & ALUMINIUM Can Collection

* * SIBFORD SCENE * *

EDITOR - POSITION STILL VACANT ! !

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

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

Advertising Secretary - Frank Stevenson (612)

Cost of Adverts: personal £1.00, larger £2.00, half page £6.00.

Display Advertising: small £15.00 per year, larger - ask Advert. Sec.

Loose Leaf Insertions: £10 for distribution (to approx 400 households)

COPY for MAR ISSUE to RETIRING EDITOR or ASST EDITOR by SUNDAY 14 FEB

(See page 4 for details)