

NO. 173  
FEBRUARY 1994

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS** **DIARIST - Norman Nash (Tel 275)**

Our various village clubs, societies, groups, committees, etc are no doubt coming out of their mid-winter hibernation and beginning to plan their 1994 activities.

They are reminded to keep Norman Nash informed of the proposed dates for their major public functions and, if possible, to contact Norman *before* setting such dates in concrete, to ensure that they do not clash with others.

One phone call to Norman and your function will be publicised throughout the known world - well, in Sibford, Epwell, Swalcliffe & Tadmarton, at least.

Also, you can obtain even wider publicity by including your event in the District-wide Leisure and Events Directory being compiled by Cherwell District Council (see page 18 of the Dec/Jan edition of the *Scene*). For details, contact your Parish Clerk *as soon as possible*.

Remember the old Chinese advertising proverb -  
'He who hide candle under bush, liable to get  
fingers burnt.' (Sa Chee & Sa Chee, 500 BC).

\* \* S \* \*

\* \* TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE \* \*

CHIPPING NORTON MALE VOICE CHOIR

SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 29 JANUARY at 7.30pm

Tickets £3.50 including Supper & Glass of Wine  
from Sheila Baseby (544) or Colin Frith (512).

RACHAEL TURNER-HUGHES

Rachael Turner-Hughes died peacefully at her home in Sibford Gower on 17th January 1994. She was eighty-four years of age.

It is hard to believe that she had only lived in The Gower for three and a half years, as during that time she had touched the lives of so many people. It is particularly surprising in view of the fact that, for all the time that she lived among us, she was suffering from Alzheimer's Disease. Her courageous struggle with this illness linked to her loving and deep-thinking personality made her deeply loved by all with whom she came into contact.

In her early years here she was a familiar figure around the village for she loved to walk and to be out in the countryside. Increasing frailty and chronic difficulty in breathing meant that she only got out in a wheelchair or a car, but by that time she had become a familiar face at Fielding Day Centre, where she made many friends.

She was a woman of deep religious conviction and a member of the Anglican Church for eighty-one years of her life. In the last three years, she decided to join The Society of Friends and became a much loved and valued member of Sibford Meeting.

She had become more seriously ill since November and had been cared for at home by her daughter, Judy, and her family. They were increasingly supported by people in the village and with that help, Rachael was able to remain in her own home until she died. She will be sorely missed.

Judith Weeks

+ + +

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## NATURE NOTES

*Dec. 8th.* Five different sorts of Tit visited our bird table in less than a quarter of an hour today. The Long Tailed Tits were not actually feeding at the table, they seldom do, but were in the bush a few feet away where birds perch while waiting their turn to feed. The Great, Blue, Coal and Marsh Tits were all busily working on the fat, peanuts and sunflower seed.

*Dec. 24th.* The Heron that flew up from our garden pond this morning seemed to have something in its beak. There are no fish in the pond but it could have found a Frog or something smaller.

*Dec. 31st.* We were lucky to miss the exceptionally heavy rains that caused so much flooding along the south coast yesterday. Some places had over two inches. I only measured 0.38 of an inch.


*Jan. 1st.* While walking on this bright and frosty morning, we saw the biggest group of Long Tailed Tits that we have seen for some years. There were at least a dozen of them working the hedges at the top of Pound Lane.

*Jan. 3rd.* This morning a male Blackcap was feeding on the apples that I have put out for the birds. Blackcaps all used to move to warmer climes for the winter but their habits seem to be changing, due perhaps to the run of milder winters that we have experienced and now we see one or two Blackcaps most winters.

*Jan. 5th.* As we walked past a flooded area near Temple Mill, two Herons flew away up the field where they settled seemingly to wait until we had passed by. They may well have been feeding on worms and other creatures forced to the surface at the edge of the floods.

*Jan. 6th.* A cousin of mine writes from Dartmouth that she measured over ten inches of rainfall in December, which is more than three times as much as I recorded. With about average rainfall, 1993 was a good deal drier than the previous year here. February and March were the driest months. The last four months produced almost twelve inches, accounting for the boggy end to the year.

*Jan. 15th.* A Squirrel that feeds on the Rose Hips in our garden shows a marked preference for the ones that have gone black, as did a Greenfinch that I watched a few days ago. Wood Mice seem happy to take them while they are still red, as shown by the little heaps of debris left in the hedge bottoms and in old birds nests. All these creatures seem to be eating the seeds rather than the case of the hips.



Sibford Playgroup

OPEN MORNING - WEDNESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY  
9.30 - 12.00 at Sibford Village Hall

Anyone with children aged between 2 and 5 is welcome to come along to find out more about the Playgroup and see the wide range of equipment and facilities available in this pleasant, spacious venue. If you are unable to attend but would like a brochure, please phone Sandra Butt on 352.

Our Christmas Bazaar & Jumble Sale was a great success thanks to Julia Neal and Louise Moorman, whose enthusiastic efforts are much appreciated by the Committee. The total profit made, after expenses, was £324. Special thanks to all those who contributed and, in particular, to those who donated raffle prizes - namely the Bishop's Blaize, Walker & Glanvill Veterinary Surgeons, Whichford Pottery, Sibford Ferris Grocery Stores and Kraft General Foods.

Party games and entertainment by a magician provided great fun for over 30 children at the Playgroup Christmas Party, the highlight of which was a visit from Father Christmas who brought presents for all. We would like to thank Father Christmas (c/o Stonecutter's Cottage) very much indeed for sparing the time to come and see us at such a busy time of year! Many thanks too to all those who provided party food.

*Elizabeth Webber* AMAR.  
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# !! ATTENTION ALL CONTRIBUTORS!!

THE DEADLINE for the MARCH SIBFORD SCENE  
will be

\* TUESDAY 15 FEBRUARY \*

All items or personal adverts for publication can be submitted  
to either The Editor or The Treasurer

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## MONEY HELPS THE SCENE COME AROUND

By tradition, this is the month when the Editor starts to wheedle his way into your wallet or purse, with tales of dwindling finances, inverse cash flow, etc. Luckily, for the second year in a row, we will still be solvent in March.

There are three very good reasons for this. First, Frank Stevenson has continued to work wonders in promoting income from adverts, bringing in about £400 in the year; secondly, generous donations from local councils, clubs, societies and other committees has continued unabated, providing about £240; thirdly, about a quarter of our village households responded to our March 1993 'brown envelope' campaign, adding a very useful £360 to our coffers.

Unfortunately, we cannot be too complacent, since our income is only about £70 more than our outgoings for the year, so next month we shall be doing some serious wheedling, asking our readers for contributions to our production costs at the usual rate of £2 per household (single occupancy homes £1).

Your support of our previous annual 'brown envelope' campaigns has been greatly appreciated, since, as the above figures show, *your* contributions are essential to the continued existence of the *Scene*. *Thank You.*

## 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 Paul Matthews, Sallie Matthews and Nola Wood.

Paul Matthews and his mother Sallie Matthews have become the new Landlord and Landlady of the Bishop Blaize in Burdrop. Paul has 14 years experience in the licence trade, the last 3 years with Taylor Walker in London. Before that he spent 10 years in Australia, lecturing in food and beverage and owned and ran 2 restaurants in Sidney. He is a lover and connoisseur of wine and specialises in real ale.

Sallie comes from Great Missenden in Bucks. She worked in the Ambulance Service for 3 years and for the last 6 years has worked in various pubs. She is very fond of animals and owns 6 cats, 2 dogs and 2 guineapigs!

Paul's partner Nola Wood has also moved into the Bishop Blaize. She is currently taking a break from a family centre in Slough where she was a careworker and is now doing a 3 year course training to be a Social Worker.

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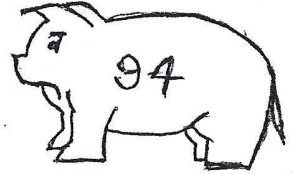
\*

BURDROP, SIBFORD GOWER, SWA 323

\*

The Bishop Blaize and the customers wish Martin (ex-landlord) every success in the future.

Open Letter  
from  
'Sailor' Hindig



Dear Friend of Ben,

It was good to read your article in the October 'Scene' about the 1993 Shindig - great food & music, pity about the Hooky as I recall!

You might like to know that the **SIBFORD SHINDIG 94** is being planned for **SATURDAY 9th JULY** when the weather should be warmer! For entertainment, there will be live, popular music. And for the food, by popular demand, we are going '**Back to Basics**' (actually, we are supporting the Village Hall, not the Tories!), by changing from foot long sausages to a succulent **PIG ROAST**

We don't know yet whether there will be a Hooky; but tell Ben to put the date in his diary

S HINDIG

*[Good News for Ben and for all our fun-loving villagers,  
but somewhat disheartening news for the pig. Editor]*

\* \* S \* \*

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# SIBFORDS SOCIETY

We were delighted to see many new faces at our last meeting: those who were able to attend both the Sibford and Swalcliffe Society meetings enjoyed a real treat within the space of a week. At Sibford, Vera Hodgkins shared with us her knowledge of the plush industry which once thrived in Shutford. Her talk covered details of the specialised weaving industry and included vivid memories of the many processes and the people who carried them out. Some of the examples of plush materials were stunning in both colour and quality, wonderful examples of a local industry which furnished many of the palaces all over the world during the early 1900's.

Our next meeting will be our AGM on Friday 11 March at 8.00pm in the Mission Room. Kevin Larnar (Cherwell District Council Leisure and Recreation Department) has agreed to come and talk to us after the AGM. Kevin has already helped the Society to secure a grant towards the production and printing our VillageWalk leaflet, so please make a note of this date in your new diary.

\* S \*

## SWALCLIFFE SOCIETY

At Swalcliffe, Sheila Stewart, in her own special way, shared with us many stories and anecdotes from her researches and meetings with the boatwomen who worked on the canals between the wars. "Ramlin Rose", although a fictitious character really came alive during the evening as Sheila gave us a detailed insight into life on the Cut.

The next meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday, 16 February at 8.00pm in Swalcliffe Village Hall.

The formalities will include a discussion about possible links with the SIBFORDS SOCIETY.

Afterwards you will be able to choose between delving into:

(a) the village archives or (b) your own memories.

Verity Stanley (729)

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**CALCUTTA RESCUE**  
**\* Church Collection Raises £300 \***

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who so kindly donated to the Christmas collection in Sibford Church for Calcutta Rescue, and also those of you who donated old spectacles. More than £300 was raised from the collection - thank you to Sibford Parochial Church Council for allowing this to take place.

For those of you who don't know, Calcutta Rescue is a small organisation which was set up back in 1979 by a British doctor, Dr Jack Preger, to help the destitute and homeless of Calcutta - some of the poorest people in the world.

The organisation runs a street clinic (seeing well over 200 patients per day), a mobile clinic, a school and a spinning and weaving project. The clinic is not like those you find over here; it is not in a building but under canvas canopies set up on the side of the street each morning, and put away each night.


The organisation receives no funding from the Indian Government or any other Government, and so relies entirely on voluntary donations from abroad.

If you would like further information about the work undertaken, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Thank you.                      Helen Soden (543)

\*   \*   \*   \*   \*

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## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

\* Next Meeting on Tuesday 1 February \*

Christmas has now receded into the back of our minds and we all agree it is nice to get back into a routine, but we cannot let it pass without saying what a lovely time we all had at our Christmas tea and also thanking Mrs. Mabel Payne for accompanying our 'Carol Sing-Song' on the piano. We also enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the Lampitt Arms in December and raised £31.60 with our raffle which was given to the Waterfowl Sanctuary at Wigginton.

At the beginning of January we went by coach to Walton Hall at Wellesbourne for a meal and then on to Stratford-on-Avon to see the Christmas lights which everyone agreed were well worth the trip.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 1st February at 2.00 p.m.

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Fed up with Judy & Richard or with Ross King's inane Quiz Call on morning TV? Had to switch off one too many unknown pop 'stars' on midday Pebble Mill? Are Richard Whiteley's puns getting you down?

Then why not take this rare opportunity to get away from it all and do something useful on 3 or 4 Tuesdays a year?

We have vacancies for two or more volunteers on our printing team, who, on a rota basis, print the 415 copies of the *Sibford Scene*, usually on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

The present team (Ian & Maureen Warden, Jenny Barratt and Frank Stevenson) would welcome a few more members, so as to spread the load and to cater for emergencies due to holidays, illness, etc.

The work involved would be ideal for a pair of friends or, for example, a retired couple, although individuals would be equally welcome.

Please be assured that any new members would not be left alone at the mercy of our monstrous printing presses (actually it's a nice little table-top photocopier, which sits quietly in Timothy Wimbush's office at the Rectory) until you have assisted one of the hardened 'professionals' in producing at least one edition of the *Scene*.

I've heard it said that printing the *Scene* is as easy as feeding a tame goat - *you just shove paper in at one end and unsavoury rubbish automatically appears at the other*. Maybe it is that easy, but, as Editor, I'm not too smitten with the implication.

But seriously folks, if you think you could help a few times a year, or would just like to know more details of what is involved, please contact Ian (8252) or me (8265).

\* \* S \* \*

## LEO CLUB - LADIES EVENING OUT

More than 20 members carefully made their way to The Roebuck at North Newington on a wet & blustery evening in January.

Once there, they enjoyed a delicious three-course meal, served at the leisurely pace of one course per hour, allowing plenty of time between courses to catch up on two months village news.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 15 February at Margaret Eildred's home, where Margaret, with the help of David's own video, will tell us about their 1993 holiday in China.

If you would like to know more about our Club, phone Vivienne Scouse on 8320.

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## SIBFORD BEFORE THE ENCLOSURE

Sibford before the Enclosure (in 1790 for Sibford Ferris) was a very different place. There were few houses beyond the immediate village and most outlying farms were not built until the 19th century. There were closes (small fields) and orchards, belonging to houses in the village, which were enclosed, but beyond these were the common fields, which were farmed in strips. The whole of any one area of common land would be arable one year, and all the strip-holders would have to comply, while other common fields would be leys or pasture.

A list of Benjamin Lamb's half yard land (about 15 acres) in 1750 includes 43 separate pieces, examples of which are:

One yard of greensward above Whitemore (Jos. Harris west &  
Thos. Walford east).

One acre at Mill Hill (Thos. Walford east, The Hill west).

One butt at Bromswell Head (Thos. Walford north & south).

One land in Wagborough (Thos. Walford east).

One hadland at Long Oathill (Thos. Walford east).

(In each case, the persons farming  
the adjoining strips are named.)

In 1776 John Lamb had corn crops on 14 of his own strips and on 7 of Jonothan Farden's, which he appears to have farmed with his own. He recorded the number of shocks and sheaves harvested on each strip, presumably all to be carted back to the village for threshing with flails.

To visit all his strips, a Sibford strip-holder might, for example, have had to walk to Debrook Leys (by the bridge on the way to Shutford), or to Between Churchways (the field between the Shipston - Banbury road and the road to Sibford Ferris) or to Longmans Pool & Lower Dick (bordering the Hook Norton parish) or Mill Hill & Hide Furlong (towards Temple Mill). He must, surely, have been ready for his home-cured bacon, home-produced vegetables and home-baked bread on his return.

Ina Lamb

\* \* \* \* \*

'SOUTH PACIFIC'

at

Stratford Theatre

Friday Evening 25 February 1994

A Few Seats Left - £7 per ticket

(Coach Fare payable on the night)

Margaret Cox - Swalcliffe 510

## Young Scene

Hello again,

I hope you have not been getting too muddy during the very wet January. Hands up if you have been cleaning your own wellies and shoes.....well done ! Hands up if you have been coming home from school with muddy coats .....I bet your Mum has been pleased!  
Let's hope there is not so much rain in February.

Thank you for the competition entries. The winner of the 8-11 year old competition is Sian Crisp who managed to unjumble the titles of pantomimes.

The answers were :

1) Aladdin and his Magic Lamp, 2) Cinderella, 3) Peter Pan, 4) Puss in Boots, 5) Robin Hood.

The winner of the 5-8 year old competition is Georgia Berry who found the five hidden mice and took great care in colouring the picture of Cinderella.

Congratulations Sian and Georgia.....your prizes are on their way to you

### Joke Time.

William Parmiter has sent in his favourite jokes. Thank you ,William. You are the first person to share jokes with us.

Why do giraffes have long necks?.....So they can't smell their feet.

Where does a monkey make his toast?.....under a gorilla.

What do hedgehogs like to eat?.....prickled onions.

William seems to like jokes about animals - I like the one about the monkey.

Come on the rest of you . Let's see if you can make us laugh or groan with your favourite jokes.

### Did you know ?

A cryptographer is a person who reads codes and here is your chance to have a go at doing just that.

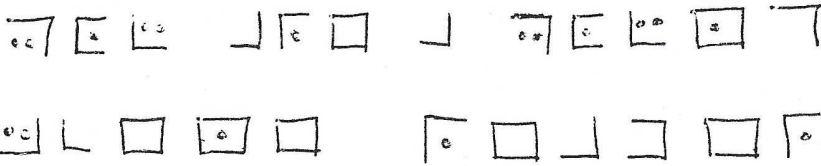
You can write a message using a white candle on paper. Your friend has to paint over your invisible message to discover what you wrote or drew.

Can you write something backwards ? If so ,hold it up to a mirror in order to read it.

You have to practise this.

How hard to practise this

The next message is written in Porta's Box and Dot Cipher. It was invented by an Italian scientist called Giambattista della Porta in the sixteenth century.



To help you read this message here is Porta's Box and Dot Cipher:

A	B	C	J.	K.	L.	S..	T..	U..
D	E	F	M.	N.	O.	V..	W..	X..
G	H	I	P.	Q.	R.	Y..	Z..	

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
H	I	J .	K .	L .	M .	N .
O .	P .	Q .	R .	S ..	T ..	U ..
V ..	W ..	X ..	Y ..	Z ..		

### Competition

5-8 year olds. Draw and colour a picture about "The Animals of Farthing Wood ". Use a piece of paper 30cm x 21cm.

8-11 year olds . Write the title "The Animals of Farthing Wood " backwards (mirror writing ) and in Porta's Box and Dot Cipher . Also write down the name of the author who wrote the stories of Farthing Wood.

The winner will be announced in next month's Young Scene . Good luck to all of you.

### Remember

All competition entries , jokes and March birthdays must have your name , date of birth and address written clearly on the back. Please put them in the Young Scene box , either at the village shop or at the primary school by Friday, 11 February,

# Oddjob

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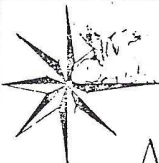
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19 Feb at 2.30pm. Adults £2 / Children, Students, OAP's £1.

For information & tickets phone 0869 47497.



# SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Humps - Housing - Tree Preservation - 1994/95 Precept

Another well attended meeting of the Council recently gave members the opportunity to hear further views on the two major issues currently under discussion - that of possible traffic calming measures in the village and the provision of affordable housing. The Council intend to seek advice from as many quarters as possible before making a decision on traffic humps or some alternative, whilst the survey to ascertain need and views on affordable housing is currently underway. It is hoped that everyone with something to say on one or both of these issues will give the Council the benefit of their opinion.



We have been notified by the District Council of new procedures when applying for work on trees within Conservation Areas and protected by Tree Preservation Orders. A map of the Sibford Ferris conservation area will be printed in the March Scene, for the benefit of anyone who is unclear about the actual boundary and details of the new procedures can be obtained from the Clerk (8393).

We have received copies of the new Local Directory of Family Health Services for the Cherwell District. This contains details of all the doctors, dentists, pharmacists and opticians currently providing treatment and services. A copy of the Directory is being held at the Post Office or one can be borrowed from the Clerk.

The Parish Precept for 1994/95 was discussed and was eventually set at £1770 - a reduction from last year.

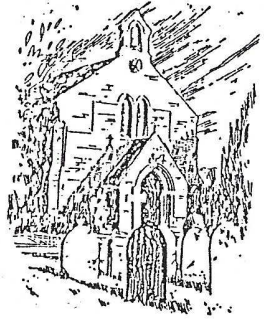
The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Library of the Friends School on Thursday 24th February at 8pm. We hope you will be able to come along.

Pat Romans Clerk SFPC

## NOT DOWN OUR WAY

'Nestling in Sibford Ferris, the church of Holy Trinity presents an unusual sight to the eye, as it has neither tower nor steeple.'

[excerpt from 'Down Your Way' in the *Banbury Cake*]



In addition to the most obvious correction, how many *other* words or phrases would you change, add or omit, in order to make this sentence factually and grammatically correct? If your answer is greater than four, then you are probably even more pedantic than I.

\* \* S \* \*

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Wed. 9.00 - 12.30  
Sun. 9.30 - 11.30

# SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

## \* Windows & Doors in Historic Buildings \*

The Council has received a new leaflet produced by the Development and Property Services Dept. The leaflet is advisory and sets out how to approach the repair and replacement of windows and doors in historic buildings. This is the first in a series of guides concerned with the care and protection of listed buildings and conservation areas.

The leaflet clearly sets out legal requirements, historic precedence for windows and doors in Cherwell District, the approach to repair or replacement and there are further sections on grants and inappropriate windows and doors as well as where to go for sources of advice. Anyone who would like more details please contact the Clerk on 462.

The Council also received a letter from Cherwell District Council regarding Dog Fouling and Doglitter Bins. Rather than have the village littered with unsightly Doglitter Bins, the Council requests dogowners to be more responsible in trying to prevent their dogs from fouling pavements. This problem has become particularly bad again near the Primary School.

The Parish Precept 1994/95 has been set at £1300.

Next Parish Council meeting 25th March 8pm in Primary School.

Petra Berry, Clerk to Sibford Gower Parish Council.

\* \* S \* \*



## \* 'CHILDREN IN NEED' - NOVEMBER 1993 \*

On 19 November a Sports Evening was held at the Friends School to raise funds for Children in Need, boys & parents joining in a variety of sports & games. The entry fees, raffle, competitions and tuck shop (our trailer outside the hall) raised a total of just over £100.

At their next meeting the Beavers made & sold food, raising a further £10.

Pudsey Bear visited the Wykham Arms, sat for a week in the Surgery reception area and went to Choir Practice on Children in Need day.

The final total from these various exploits was £164.93, which has been paid into Pudsey's fund. Our thanks go to all who helped realise this worthwhile result.

(Pudsey has now gone back to bed, to dream up new ways of making money for his good cause in 1994!)

The Leaders of the Scout Group

## MARQUEE FOR HIRE at VILLAGE HALL

Sibford Village Hall Committee are organising another Shindig (and a Village Fete) on a Saturday in July (date suggested 9 July) and will again hire a marquee, which would then be available for hire on the Sunday.

Is anyone interested in **HIRING THE MARQUEE** on the Sunday - price negotiable - ideal for a coming-of-age party / children's birthday party, etc.

Phone Colin Frith (512) or Peter Baseby (544).

\* \* § \* \*

## MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

The Mobile Library lends books and provides information to people who live some way from a local library. Each vehicle carries about 2000 books and the selection changes constantly. All types of books are carried from picture books for babies to **LARGE PRINT FOR THE PARTIALLY SIGHTED**. Why not pay a visit to the 'Book Bus' next time it stops in your vicinity and see what services are available.

The Mobile Library visits Sibford on alternate Wednesdays (see the Calendar on page 28) at the following times:

Sibford Gower (High Meadow)	2.25 - 2.50pm
Sibford Gower (School)	2.55 - 3.25pm
Burdrop (Red House)	3.30 - 3.55pm
Sibford Ferris (Village Shop)	4.00 - 4.20pm

\* \* § \* \*

## HELP THE AGED

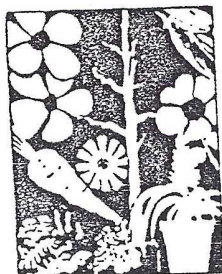
\* House-to-House Collection in Gower Raised £108 \*

'Help The Aged' works to improve the quality of life of elderly people in the UK and internationally, particularly those who are frail, isolated or poor.

The pleasing sum of £108.88 was collected in the Gower. Sincere thanks to my willing helpers - Maureen Hicks, Greta Baadsgaard, Jean Puddle, Barry Davies & Ian Warden, and to those of you who generously donated.

Glennis Hutchinson

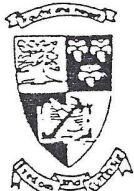
**SIBFORD  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY**



The 1994 season of monthly meetings will 'Spring' into action on **Wednesday 9 March** at 8pm in the Village Hall, when Peter Sheasby will present one of his super slide shows.

Visitors are welcome to attend (50p). If you like what you see, you can then, for an additional £2, 'join our club', which gives you the bonus of good discounts at several garden centres in the area.

\* \* § \* \*



## SIBFORD SCHOOL

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LETTER



TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

Medmenham, Buckinghamshire  
January 15th 1994

May I through the medium of 'The Scene' express our grateful thanks to our many friends in The Sibfords and Burdrop for their kindnesses over the last year - one that many were glad to see the end of! We moved just before Christmas, and in our haste said too few goodbyes - temporary though they may be.

Katharine and I are now living in a delightfully rural part of Buckinghamshire, between Henley and Marlow, in a pretty cottage in the middle of farmland and forest teeming with deer and other fauna. We have three pet sheep, unlimited logs, and some much sought after personal space. For a year we have let The Manor House to some charming Norwegian people (no, we haven't sold!) while we take the opportunity of deciding the form of the next chapter in our lives.

I commute daily to Banbury (when I am not airborne) and Katharine has practically completed converting a large stable into a workshop where she will continue her much-loved soft furnishing commissions.

We made an awful boob when we left, which we hope did not give the wrong impression. Imagine sending out change of address cards with a non-existent telephone number on it! One digit got misplaced - the correct number is 0491 578093.

Although we shall remain as close to Sibford as we can without actually sleeping there every night, we would ask your indulgence in posting us 'The Scene' each month (contribution and stamped envelopes enclosed!) to help us fill in the gaps during our sabbatical year.

Katharine and Michael Edwards

## W. I. NEWS and INFORMATION

The Members' meeting held in December at Mrs Brenda Power's house in Hook Norton was well attended and very enjoyable. Mrs Cox had organised games, and a team of members produced delicious refreshments. Flower arrangements made by Mrs Hutchinson were presented to the President, Mrs Conway, and Treasurer, Mrs Elldred. There was one also for our hostess. Christmas gifts were also brought and distributed.

In January, Lady Saye and Sele gave a talk on Broughton Castle - behind the scenes. It was extremely interesting, dealing with many aspects of running, and at the same living in a Stately Home. Lady Saye and Sele - who participates very actively in running the castle - told many amusing and touching anecdotes and answered many questions. It was a rewarding afternoon.

Members had brought along a number of beautiful silver spoons for inspection and Mrs Baadsgaard's was judged the best, closely followed by those belonging to Mrs Power and Mrs Pearlman.

The February meeting will be on Tuesday, February 8th when Miss H. Knowles will speak on *A Journey through the Holy Land*. There will be a competition for interesting bibles.

M.B.



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## CHURCH? NO THANK YOU! BUT WHERE CAN I GO?

We are constantly being told in the media that there are many people 'out there' who are looking for some form of spirituality but don't like what the various denominations offer - perhaps don't actually know what they do offer! It is said that this explains the multiplicity of religious sects which have sprung up especially in the United States, but increasingly here in the United Kingdom.

Is this so in Sibford too? And if it is, is part of the problem that seekers don't know where to start their search? And even if they have an idea about whom they might approach are they afraid that their questions might seem naive or even ignorant?

In an attempt to offer solutions to the latter two questions some local Catholics, Methodists and members of the Church of England and Society of Friends (Quakers) have formed a team. They team would be happy to talk to anyone who would be interested but hasn't known where to go. It should be emphasised that the team members are not experts, know-alls and above all, not recruiters! They're people like you and when they don't know, they'll say so. Contacts are Julia Gordon (Swa. 569), Elisabeth Francis (0608 662284) David Soden (Swa. 543) and Kathleen Winter (Swa. 461). Others may be found who would like to help - in particular the team is aware that some young people might like to be able to talk to someone more nearly of their own age.

As a complementary exercise it is hoped to organise a quiet day (probably near but not in Sibford) to be led by a person of experience at which people could explore, if only by listening if they don't want to talk, where they are and where they might be going. **Watch this space for details.**





# 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
(Brailes)	Sunday at 11.30 am
Baptist (Hook Norton)	Sunday at 10.30 am
Church of England, Holy Trinity, Sibford Gower	

6 February	10.00am	United Benefice Eucharist at Epwell
13 "	10.00am	Holy Communion
16 "	7.30am	ASH WEDNESDAY Holy Communion
	8.00pm	Service at Swalcliffe
17 "	7.30am	Holy Communion
20 "	10.00am	Family Morning Service
24 "	7.30am	Holy Communion
27 "	8.00am	Holy Communion

† † † † † † †

\* CAROL SINGERS RAISED £58 FOR CHARITY \*

Kate Woodall and Rosamund & Patrick Murray, from Sibford Gower, would like to thank all those who supported their charity carol singing on Christmas Eve. They raised £58.50 for the Katharine House Hospice. *Many thanks to you all.*

† † £ † †

## FREE ESTIMATES

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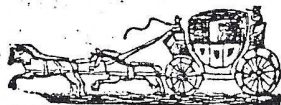
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# SIBFORD BUS SERVICES



## 1. SIBFORD GOWER TOWN ESTATES CHARITY

Free Bus Service for Residents of Sibford Gower and Burdrop

			Depart	Return
Wednesday	2 & 16 Feb	to Chippy	11,00am	1,00pm
Friday	11 & 25 Feb	to Banbury	10,00am	12,00noon

The pick-up points are:

	<u>Banbury Bus</u>	<u>Chippy Bus</u>
	Village Hall	Village Hall
	Crossroads	High Meadow
	High Meadow	Crossroads
		The Colony

## 2. REGULAR SERVICE - MIDLAND RED, 480 Sibford - Banbury Monday - Saturday

	Outward	Return (read up)
Sibford Gower Crossroads	7,30am	6,30pm
Sibford Ferris School	7,32	6,28
Banbury Cross	7,55	6,08
Banbury Bus Station	8,00am	6,05pm

## 3. REGULAR SERVICE - JEFFS COACHES, Shipston - Sibford - Banbury Monday - Saturday

	Outward		Return (read upwards)		
Sibford Gower School	09,45am	11,45am	11,45am	12,50pm	14,50pm
Sibford Ferris School	09,48	11,48	11,42	12,42	14,47
Banbury Cross	10,13	12,13pm	11,17	12,17	14,17
Banbury Bus Station	10,15am	12,15pm	11,15am	12,15pm	14,15pm

## 4. REGULAR SERVICE - CHERWELL VILLAGER, Sibford - Banbury Wednesday only

	Outward		Return (read up)
Sibford Gower	9,55am	1,15pm	1,15pm
Sibford Ferris	9,57	1,20	1,20
Banbury	10,50am	2,15pm	1,00pm

## 5. REGULAR SERVICE - MIDLAND RED, X60 Hook Norton-Banbury-Sibford- Tuesday only -Shipston-Stratford-Coventry

	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	

(read up)



## 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
Beavers	Village Hall	Wednesday	5.15 - 6.30pm
Badminton	Village Hall	Wednesday	8.00pm
Badminton	Friends School	Wednesday	7.30 - 9.30pm
Mums & Toddlers	Gillett House	Wednesday	10.30am - 12noon
Fielding Day Centre	Friends School	Wednesday	12.15 - 3.00pm
Mobile Fish & Chips		Thursday	
Cricket Club Nets	Friends School	Friday	6.00 - 7.15pm
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)	

\* \* \* 5 \* \* \*

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DIARIST - Norman Nash (Tel 275)

9 March	Wednesday	Horti Society Meeting, Village Hall, 8pm, see p 21
11 March	Friday	Sibfords Society AGM, Mission Room, 8pm, see p 8
25 March	Friday	Sibford Gower PC Meeting, Primary School, see p 19
30 April	Saturday	Sibford Parish Supper, Village Hall - 7.00pm
11 June	Saturday	Sibford Church Garden Party (afternoon)
18 June	Saturday	Swaltcliffe Donkey Derby & Barbecue - 6.00pm
9 July	Saturday	Sibford Village Fete - Village Hall, pm, see p 20
9 July	Saturday	Sibford Shindig - Village Hall, 8.00pm, see p 7
27/29 Aug	Sat/Mon	Sibford Flower Festival for Church/Katherine Hse
19 Nov	Saturday	Sibford Church Bazaar - Village Hall, 2.30pm

Secretaries - Please keep *Sibford Scene* (or Norman) informed of new or changed 'Weekly Events' or 'Forthcoming Events'.

----- 5 -----  
 LOCAL CORRESPONDENT to BANBURY GUARDIAN - Sheila Baseby (Tel 544)  
 Copy for Guardian by FRIDAY please

LOCAL CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCILLOR - David Green (Tel 444)

A HUGE 'THANK YOU'  
from  
All Those Sibford Children  
from 2 to 96 years old  
whose day has been brightened  
by a visit from or to  
Sibford's Own FATHER CHRISTMAS



\*  
May you continue to visit us  
for many years to come

\*

\*

### CALENDAR for FEBRUARY 1994

- Tuesday 1st Friendship Club - see p 10  
Saturday 5th Scouts Paper & ALUMINIUM Can Collection  
Tuesday 8th WI Meeting - see p 23  
Wednesday 9th Sibford Playgroup Open Morning - 9.30 to 12.00 - see p 4  
Wednesday 9th Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm) - p20  
FRIDAY 11th DEADLINE for *YOUNG SCENE* ENTRIES - see p 15  
Saturday 12th Rubbish Skip in Gower - Acre Ditch, opposite Rectory  
Tuesday 15th LEO - Talk/Video on China - see p 12  
TUESDAY 15th DEADLINE for SIBFORD SCENE CONTRIBUTIONS - see p 5  
Wednesday 16th Ash Wednesday Services - see p 25  
Wednesday 16th Swalcliffe Society AGM - see p 8  
Wednesday 23rd Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm) - p20  
Thursday 24th Sibford Ferris PC Meeting - 8.00pm - see p 17  
Friday 25th 'South Pacific' - Stratford - BOOK NOW - see p 13

### CALENDAR for MAR 1994 (part)

- Saturday 5th Scouts Paper & ALUMINIUM Can Collection

\*

### SIBFORD SCENE

\*

Editor - Ray Henbrey, Virginia Cottage, Hook Norton Rd, Sibford Ferris (8265)  
Treasurer - Timothy Wimbush (555) Ace Reporter - Belinda Basnoir  
Advertising Manager - Frank Stevenson (612)

Cost of Adverts; personal £1.00, larger £2.00, half page £6.00,  
Display Advertising; small £15.00 p.a., larger - ask Advertising Manager,  
Loose Leaf Insertions; £10 for distribution (to approx 400 households),

COPY for MARCH to EDITOR or TREASURER by TUESDAY 15 FEBRUARY

(see page 5 for details)