

# SIBFORD SCENE

NO. 194  
MARCH 1996

† ARTHUR BISHOP †  
1919 - 1996

A Thanksgiving Eucharist for the life of Arthur Bishop will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Sibford at 3.00pm on Saturday 2nd March.

Family flowers only, please. If desired, donations, for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, may be sent c/o J&M Humphris, Albert Street, Banbury.

† † †

## DRAWING COMPETITION for LOCAL CHILDREN organized by Sibford Bowling Club

**\*\* Drawing to be on the theme of 'Country & Western' \*\***

Each drawing must be no larger than A4 (8.25" by 11.6"), must have the child's name, age & address on the reverse and must be all the child's own work.

Entries should be sent to Muriel Chandler, 2 Pound Lane, Sibford Gower or can be handed in at Sibford Primary School.

The CLOSING DATE for entries will be Thursday 7 March.

The drawings will be judged in 3 age categories:

4 - 7 years; 8 - 11 years; 12 - 16 years.

THREE prizes will be awarded in each category.

# Nature Notes.

Jan. 26th. The cold weather has brought many birds into the garden for food including a female blackcap which is feeding on apples. Even the sycamore seeds that have been lying on the lawn since the autumn and look most unappetising are now being taken by bullfinches.

Jan. 28th. Among the fieldfare that are feeding on the apples is an aggressive one that spends most of the time chasing other birds. It looks and acts exactly like one that we have seen here over the last two winters which makes me wonder whether they always come to the same area each year. A friend tells me that he had a lone fieldfare winter in his garden for three consecutive years which he thinks must have been the same bird which supports this theory.

Jan. 31st. I estimate that the redwings, fieldfares, thrushes, blackbirds and starlings which have been coming in fairly constant numbers over the last few days have been eating almost half a pound of apples per bird each day.

Feb. 6th. Over seventy birds of the thrush family are feeding on apples etc. after the overnight snow. The main of the increase in numbers is made up of redwings, one of these which has lost all its tail feathers, is pretty aggressive. There was also a yellowhammer which we seldom see in our garden. The muntjac with the lame leg came at about 11 o'clock this morning to eat some of the apples which had been hollowed out by the birds. It finds these easier to chew than whole ones.

Feb. 7th. I find that the muntjac has been lying up in our woodshed during this snowy weather. It was in there again this morning.

Feb. 8th. Still cold but the sunshine cleared the snow from a few south facing fields which was enough to bring about a big reduction in our fieldfares and red wings as they found other food. Waxwings are coming into the country in unusually large numbers this winter so we must keep an eye out for them. I hear that some were seen in a garden at Hook Norton today. A Scottish farmer wrote a few years ago to say that he had 28 feeding on a cotoneaster bush in his garden which must have been quite a sight. I have yet to see one.

Feb. 12th. The photographs that I took last winter of ice towers growing on birdbaths have just been printed and have come out quite well. I would like to hear of any others that have been seen by anyone.

Feb. 20th. Frost and drifting snow again. Quite an old fashioned winter.

## SIBFORD-PLAYGROUP

(Held Mon/Wed/Friday mornings 9-12 for children aged 2-5)

*Sibford Playgroup is a Registered Charity (No. 1026753)*

Julia's baby will be arriving sometime this month and we wish her well. We thank Judith Kenningale for stepping in to help during Julia's maternity leave.

S

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE of DATE for our  
50%/50% SALE of nearly-new  
CHILDREN'S CLOTHES, TOYS & BOOKS,  
EQUIPMENT & MATERNITY WEAR.  
Saturday 23 March 10am to noon  
in the Village Hall.

We hope you have found many such items you wish to sell in your cupboards or loft. Please bring them along before the event, clearly labelled with the selling price and your name & address or phone number.

For information, please contact Julie Bruggenwirth (788231).

S S S

# Oddjob

- ◆ CARPENTRY ◆
- ◆ PLUMBING ◆
- ◆ ELECTRICS ◆
- ◆ HOUSEHOLD REPAIRS ◆
- ◆ SECURITY ◆
- ◆ HEATING INSTALLATION & REPAIRS ◆

.....and much, much more!

FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND  
RELIABLE LOCAL SERVICE

CALL HUGO SEELY ON (01295) 780355

FREE, NO-OBLIGATION ESTIMATES

◆

NO ODDJOB TOO SMALL OR TOO  
LARGE

Excellent local references available

SIBFORD POST OFFICE and STORES  
is now a  
NATIONAL LOTTERY POST OFFICE

POST OFFICE OPEN SATURDAY AFTERNOON  
WITH FULL SERVICE & MAIL COLLECTION  
Going Abroad?

We Sell AMERICAN EXPRESS Travellers  
Cheques & Foreign Currency

Stores Opening Hours;

Mon to Sat: 8am - 1pm & 2pm - 6pm  
Sun: 10am - 1pm

VIDEO HIRE - CURRENT RELEASES  
DRY CLEANING SERVICE  
COUNTER SALE of PAPERS & MAGAZINES

Groceries, Greengrocery, Stationery,  
Confectionery, Cigarettes,  
Wines & Spirits.

\* FREE DELIVERY SERVICE \*

Tel: 01295 - 789317

Proprietors: Colin & Helen Henderson

# The Sibfords Society

We were pleased to see so many families represented at our Old Fashioned Social in January. We have also heard that lots of you enjoyed yourselves so we shall include a similar event in our calendar for next year.

We hope that during the recent snowy weather our 'photographers' have been out with their cameras capturing the winter scenes in the villages. If you have a print which you feel could be considered for our Christmas card 1996 please let us see it - if there are lots we will have a competition to choose the most suitable one.

Our next meeting is the AGM on Thursday 21 March at 7.30pm in the Mission room. After the business meeting we plan to examine the work being done on the Lesley Baily archive material. Do come along and examine the Digests that we are currently working on.

## THE MILLENNIUM

Sibford Gower, Sibford Ferris and Burdrop - three closely situated and interwoven villages in North Oxfordshire - quiet, peaceful and typical of the English countryside, lying at the very heart of the nation. Over the centuries, they have been touched by, or waited upon, innumerable historical events.

Some forward looking people have already been saying "We do have something to be proud of here in the Sibfords. Are we going to do anything for the Millennium?"

The Sibfords Society has decided to pick up the challenge and invites all villagers to a meeting to express their views, opinions, thoughts, reservations perhaps - or just to listen to others.

SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL

Thursday 11 April 1996

7.30pm

§ § §

## Firs Garage

*a world apart from the rest*

**HOOK NORTON OXON**

(1 MILE NORTH OF VILLAGE)

☎ 01608 737349

DAIHATSU



SALES OPEN : Mon - Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 8am-5pm, Sun CLOSED  
(Out of hours please phone for an appointment)  
PARTS OPEN Mon-Fri 8am 5.30pm, Sat 8.30am-12.30pm

### WE OFFER YOU

- \* Sales (New and Used)
- \* 3 year unlimited mileage warranty (New)
- \* Optional 12 months warranty
- \* Part Exchange
- \* Off Road demos
- \* Service
- \* MOTs
- \* Parts
- \* Bodywork
- \* Insurance estimates
- \* Attended Service (Fuel)
- \* Car Wash
- \* Friendly Service and lots more!

ESTABLISHED 1960  
IT PAYS TO DEAL WITH A FAMILY BUSINESS

STUART and 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

\* BAR MEALS ALSO AVAILABLE \*

Open Seven Days per Week.

Bar only on Sunday evenings.

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



## The 1996 BROWN ENVELOPES APPEAL on behalf of the *Sibford Scene* Funds

Yes, dear readers, it's that time of the year again - the month for the annual re-enactment of that great Sibford tradition, *The Brown Envelopes Appeal*, an event whose origins are so lost in the mists of time that even the *Sibfords Society* can find no reference to it in their archive material.

If you would like to join in this ancient ceremony (and help to keep the *Sibford Scene* going for another year), all you have to do is put your voluntary contribution (cash or a cheque payable to *Sibford Scene*) into the enclosed BROWN ENVELOPE and drop it into the collection box at the Village Shop or into the letter-box at one of the addresses listed below.

The suggested contribution is £2 per household - if we catch you on a good day a larger contribution would, of course, be greatly appreciated!

*Thank You - The Editor.*

S S S

### LETTER-BOXES



#### **SIBFORD GOWER**

Roger Powell  
Petra Berry  
Mollie Mulley  
Kathleen Winter  
Ann Spicer  
Timothy Wimbush

6 The Colony  
2 Barley Close  
Old Post Office, Main St (garage door)  
Cels Bield, Backside Lane  
7 High Meadow  
The Rectory, Acre Ditch

#### **BURDROP**

Sheila Baseby  
Colin Frith

Park Farm House  
Barn Close

#### **SIBFORD FERRIS**

Carole Moir  
Ray Henbrey  
Kathleen Horn  
Jane Holliday

4 Home Farm Close  
Virginia Cottage, Hook Norton Rd  
3 Cotswold Close  
2 Hillfield

\* also Collection Box at Village Shop \*

SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL  
Sibford Bowling Club Dance

\* Don't Forget This One \*

COUNTRY & WESTERN night with live music from  
' THE NEW DORNE VALLEY BOYS '  
SATURDAY 9 MARCH from 8pm till midnight.

- \* Good Music, Good Food & Good Company \*  
All for £5 single ticket or £12 family.  
\* Ticket price includes Buffet \*  
\* LICENSED BAR AVAILABLE \*

Tickets from David Baker (780676),  
Muriel Chandler (780025) or Village Shop.

*A donation will be made to Sibford Primary School.*

§ § §

SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL - IS THERE A NEARLY SECRET SOCIETY?

Ask yourself a few simple questions:

1. Do you get too little exercise?
2. Would you like a good laugh?
3. Would you like to meet some very nice people for a couple of hours?

If your answer is "Yes" to any of the above, then come along to the **Monday afternoon Village Hall Bowling Club at 2pm.** The exercise is bending to bowl; there is laughter galore and just a few more friendly people would make it all worth while.

You might even get a cup of coffee!

§ § §

**The Bishop Blaize Inn**  
17th Century Freehouse

Burdrop, Sibford Gower 01295 - 780323

WARM and FRIENDLY  
with a

Well-kept Range of Traditional Ales  
and Guest Beers

BAR FOOD SERVED:

Tuesday to Sunday 12.00 - 2.00pm  
Monday to Sunday 7.00 - 9.30pm

Patio & Large Garden with Superb Views

**Smart Hats**  
To Hire or Purchase

ENQUIRIES WELCOME

28 Dashwood Road, Banbury, Oxon. OX16 8HD  
Telephone: (0295) 254444

† ARTHUR - BISHOP †

Sibford is mourning the loss of yet another well known Sibfordian, Arthur Bishop who died on the 9th February, aged 76. Born at Fodge Farm, he came with his family to Home Farm in the Ferris, as a child.

Although destined to be a farmer, his greatest and lifelong interest was classical music. His first instrument was the piano, followed by organ lessons with Mr Palmer at St Mary's Church in Banbury.

He became organist at Whichford at the age of 14 and then continued his organ playing career at Swalcliffe Church for over 50 years! A keen Churchman, his talent and dedication were much admired by all who knew him.

As close neighbours we shall miss his friendly presence at the farm ... the sight and sound of handsome cockerels crowing on the wall, ducks going contentedly about their own business in the yard... his old Fordson tractor carting manure up to the field .. and, of course, Daisy, his dear old cow.

No more shall we see him, accompanied by excited dogs, pushing a wheelbarrow laden with vegetables back from his "allotment". He was justly proud of his produce, and we were often recipients of his generosity - a swede, a cabbage, or a bunch of carrots left in our conservatory as he passed by.

This corner of Sibford will never be the same again. Arthur was unique, and will be sadly missed.

J&JS.

S S S

**'A CENTURY of FASHION'**

23 March 7.30pm - Sibford Village Hall

A Mannequin Parade of period clothes from Victorian times to the present day, modelled by local people.

Come and see what you might have worn all those years ago!

**Proceeds to the Village Hall and Red Cross.**

Tickets £5; OAP & students £3. Refreshments included.

Tickets available at the Surgery or at the door.

## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Sadly, we have recently lost another member, Molly Wyatt of Epwell, who passed away quite suddenly; our sympathies go out to her family.

Our February meeting had to be cancelled because of the bad weather. We hope the elements will be kinder to us for our next meeting - we meet on **TUESDAY 5 MARCH** at 2pm in the Village Hall, when the **Bishop of Dorchester** will be giving a talk.

There will be a **BRING & BUY SALE** at this meeting to raise funds for the Club. **ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US.** BH

§ § §

## SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

Cherwell District Council has introduced a concessionary travel pass scheme from 1 April 1996. It operates throughout the District and entitles senior citizens and other eligible persons to travel on local bus routes at half the standard fare.

If you are interested please contact the Clerk (780462) for an application form.

The Council has also been asked to appoint a Parish Transport Representative.

Anyone interested please contact the Clerk.

Whilst the Council is encouraging local farmers to maintain styles and to keep footpaths open, this is helped considerably by the co-operation of walkers who the Council urges not to stray from the marked paths and bridleways.

Dates for skip - 20th April - Barley Close

18th May - Village Pond

The next date for the Roving Recycler is March 9th.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Friday 19th March at 8pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on May 3rd at 7.30pm in the Primary School Hall.

The Neighbourhood Watch is asking people to be vigilant after a couple of break-ins in Sibford Gower and advises villagers not to leave valuables in their cars.

Also the Police are warning villagers to be aware of "antique dealers" knocking on doors, looking for bargains. They would like you to report car numbers to John Mulley of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.



## SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

**\*\* Important News for Pensioners \*\***

The District Council are introducing a new District-wide scheme of BUS PASSES which will replace the present tokens. Any District resident of pensionable age will be entitled to purchase a bus pass for a one-off payment of £2, which will entitle them to half-price travel on buses in the area. This sounds an excellent scheme and it will be good to have more uniformity between parishes.

The District Council is sending details of the scheme to every household, together with an application form. Parishioners who have had tokens previously, and anyone else who wishes to use the scheme, should complete these forms and return them to the District Council direct. I have some spare forms if you need them. Those who have outstanding travel tokens can use them up, but we will not be issuing further ones. People who currently receive them can rest assured that they will be able to use the new scheme.

For the first time in ages there were no public present at the PC meeting on 23 January. This was not surprising as it was a dreadful night - your Councillors had to slither & slide to reach the School Library and to slither & slide even more to leave it after the meeting!

The main task of the evening was to set the Parish precept for 96/97 and the sum of £1198 was agreed. This should cover our expenditure for the coming year and give us a little to go into the reserves.

The next PC Meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 6 March in the library of Sibford School. As always, all parishioners are warmly invited to attend. The Annual Parish Meeting will be at 8pm on Wednesday 24 April at the same venue.

*Judith Weeks (788393)*

§ § §

### SIBFORD GOWER NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Our grateful thanks go to Ashley Gurr for his help in the Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the Barley Close area. We are now looking for a replacement for Ashley. Anyone who would like to volunteer, please get in touch with me.

We also need an NW coordinator for the Burdrop end of the village.

*John Mulley (780629)*

\* HELP WANTED \*

For up to 3 hours ironing per week  
Phone 788530 after 7.30pm

STATE REGISTERED CHIROPDIDIST

Mrs MARGARET NELSON DPodM MChS

SURGERY: Ashcroft Clinic  
Deddington 01869-338854

HOME VISITS:  
Swalcliffe 01295-780309

**RALPH C. HOGGINS**

MIDDLE TYSOE  
WARWICKSHIRE  
CV35 0SE

TYSOE 01295 - 680281

SOLID FUELS & LOGS  
BOTTLED GAS  
GARDEN PEAT/COMPOST  
GROW BAGS/SHARP SAND  
etc.

**AGDON FARM**

Brailes,  
Banbury OX15 5JJ  
0608 - 685226



A warm welcome awaits all our guests. Our comfortable Cotswold stone farmhouse is set in 500 acres of mixed farming, in an unspoilt part of the countryside.

Accommodation with full English Breakfast.

TV room, separate diningroom. Central heating, guests' bathroom, pleasant rooms with tea/coffee facilities.

Contact: Mrs M. Cripps

**ALAN HESSEL**  
**ANTIQUE RESTORATION**

The Old Town Workshop  
St George's Close  
Moreton-in-Marsh  
Glos GL56 0LP



**SPECIALIST CONSERVATION OF  
FINE ENGLISH PERIOD FURNITURE**

Telephone: 0608 650026  
Evenings: 0608 685404

flowers for all occasions

*Petals*

43a Market Place, Banbury, Oxon. OX16 8NW  
(Next to Laura Ashley)

Telephone: (01295) 255450

AN EVENING OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

THE ERNEST JONES MEMORIAL CONCERT

AT

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH  
WHICHFORD  
SHIPSTON ON STOUR

ON

SATURDAY, 13 APRIL 1996 @ 7.30p.m.

GIVEN BY

*ELISABETH VARLOW, VIOLA, LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
TOP BRASS SOLOISTS &*

THE HOOK NORTON & DISTRICT SILVER BAND  
CONDUCTOR : WARREN BELSHAW

Programme to include:

A selection of Andrew Lloyd Webber compositions  
including 'Memories' and 'Love Changes Everything'

*Lara's Theme from Doctor Zhivago*

*Cavatina from the Deer Hunter*

ALL TICKETS: £10

Proceeds to The Ernest  
Jones Music Scholarship

This memorial concert will raise funds to create a scholarship for young musicians from the local area to attend the Brass Band Summer School at Brookes University College, Oxford.

At the time of going to press we cannot confirm who the soloists will be but we are fortunate to have the support of Yamaha-Kemble Music who have renowned musicians such as Alan Morrison, Nick Hudson and Tracey Redfern to call on!

The organising committee believe that Ernest Jones would have encouraged the creation of such a scholarship and we hope that local people will join us for a special evening of entertainment and at the same time help young aspiring brass musicians to enjoy a week of exceptional tuition this summer.

More details and tickets will be available from:  
**Paul Saunders 01295 788325 : David Bennett 01295 780373**  
**Derek Wylie - Whichford (01608) 684341**

## Young Scene

Hello, and welcome to Young Scene. I expect that you have been outdoors playing in the snow. I must say that I have seen some very unusual sledges zooming down our slopes!! Did you find time to try out any tricks and illusions from last month's Young Scene? I hope so.

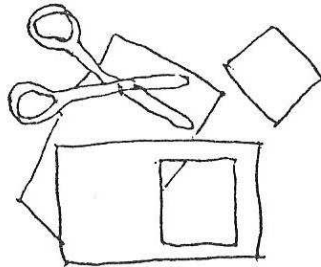
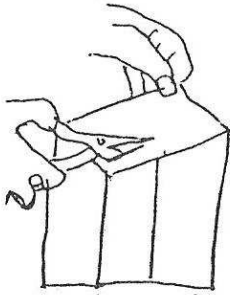
Lots of people are now looking forward to warmer Spring days when plants burst into growth. With this in mind, I thought you might like to make a plant maze. Plants must have light in order to grow because they use the light to make food for themselves. If your maze works the plant should find its way through the maze because it always grows towards the light.

### How to make a plant maze:

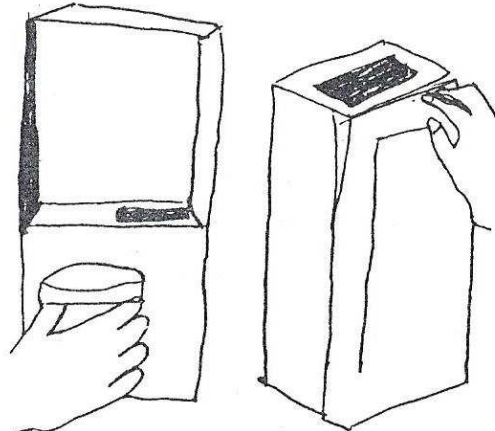
You will need a large shoe-box (with a lid), some card, a flower-pot full of compost, a runner bean seed, scissors and some water.

Soak the bean seed for a day before you plant it.

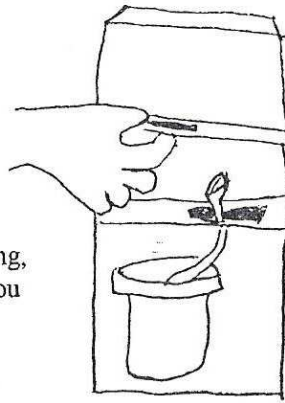
- 1) Stand the box on end and cut a window out at the top.
- 2) Use the bottom end of your shoe-box as a template to make two pieces of card which will eventually slide into the inside of your box to make compartments.  
Cut a window in each card.



- 3) Plant the bean seed in the pot and water it.
- 4) Put the plant pot into the box and then fit one of the cards into the box above the pot.
- 5) Put the lid on and stand the box in a warm, light place.
- 6) When the bean starts to grow through the window in the first piece of card, insert the second card. Make sure that its window is not directly above that of the first piece of card. Replace the lid and return the box to its warm, light position.



7) You will find that the plant bends in order to get through all the windows and reach the light. Of course you could make more windows to create a more difficult maze for your plan.



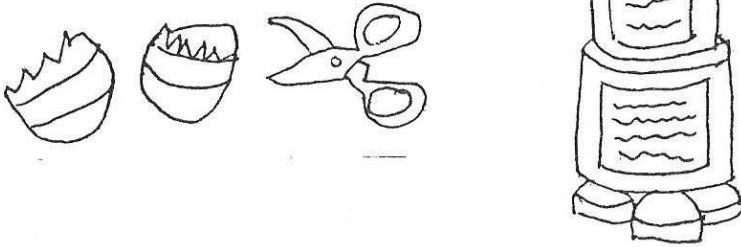
Not only are we looking forward to the arrival of Spring, but many of us are thinking about Easter. No doubt you have already seen chocolate Easter eggs in the shops. Here is an experiment using eggshells. So you will need to collect the empty eggshells when your family has scrambled eggs or omelettes.

#### Egg Power.

Eggshells are fragile, aren't they? Or are they?

You will need 4 eggshell halves, scissors, masking tape and some tins of food.

Wrap a piece of masking tape around the middle of each empty eggshell half. Then, with your scissors, trim off the excess shell so that each one has a straight edge. Place the 4 eggshells, dome up, so that they form a square. Holding it upright, stand a tin on the eggshells. Keep on stacking tins on top of that one, until the shells crack.



How many tins did you manage to stack? The "fragile" eggshells can support a surprising amount of weight. The secret of their strength is their shape. No single point in the dome supports the entire weight of the object on top of it. The weight is carried down along the curved walls to the wide base.

Well, I'm running out of space again, so it must be time to close. Let me know how many tins you are able to stack on top of your eggshells and have fun making a plant maze. You could try inventing your own maze on paper too. Keep busy and I will see you next month.

## LEO CLUB NEWS

LEO Club members were forced to remain at their various base camps on 20 February, because of a shortage of crampons and ice-picks and had to abandon their proposed night assault upon Birch Hill.

Weather permitting, members will gather at 8pm on Tuesday 19 March at Burdrop House Barn, the home of Rosalind Pearlman. Please bring along an 'item' to talk about. MH

§ § §

### HANDYWATER FARM

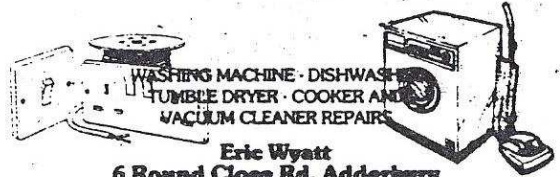
2 self-contained  
self-catering apartments  
available for short lets.

Sleep 2 and 4/5.

Full breakfasts  
available on request.

For further information  
phone Sue Colquhoun  
on 780660.

### ADDERBURY DOMESTIC APPLIANCES



Eric Wyatt  
6 Round Close Rd, Adderbury  
Tel. No. (0295) 810116

*-Ann Woolgrove-*  
*Fabrics &*  
*Soft Furnishings*

Phone/Fax:  
(01295) 788145

### TILE art

Bespoke hand painted tiles  
& murals, fired in our own  
kilns to your specification &  
requirements. Every tile  
painted individually. Murals  
of farmyard animals &  
country scenes a speciality.  
Jan & Barry Harmer Tel /Fax  
01608 643028

## SIBFORDS & EPWELL CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

### Dates for your Diary

- Thursday 7 March - AGM at Parsons Barn Farm, Shutford Rd,  
Sibford Gower, 8pm. All welcome.
- Thursday 21 March - Annual Dinner, The Gate Inn, Hook Norton  
7.30 for 8.00pm.
- Sunday 23 June - Fork Lunch, Valley View, Lower Tadmarton  
Mr & Mrs David Green. Time to be advised.

For further details, contact Robert Tompkins (780541)  
or Peter Baseby (780544).

S S S

### THE VILLAGE SHOP - HOOK NORTON

\* NATIONAL LOTTERY \*

Grocery - Greengrocery

Wines - Spirits - Confectionery

Newspapers - Magazines - Cards

Flowers, Plants & Accessories

Video Rental - Calor Gas

OPEN Monday - Friday 7am-8pm

Saturday 7am-6pm

Sunday 8am-1pm

Telephone: 0608 - 737245



### SIBFORD SCHOOL

Co-Educational Day and Boarding School

with a distinctive Quaker ethos

Founded in 1842 SHM15 380 Pupils 5-18

### OPEN MORNING:

Friday 15th March

Prospective parents and families are warmly  
invited to see the school at work.

- |       |                                       |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 9.45  | Tours of the school with pupils       |
| 11.00 | Coffee and talk by John Dunston, Head |
| 11.30 | Tour of boarding houses (optional)    |
| 12.00 | Further discussions with senior staff |
| 12.15 | Depart                                |

If you would like to come, please contact our  
Admissions Secretary on 01295 780441

### K.G. PREEDY & SON

GENERAL BUILDERS

for All your Building Work

\*

SPECIALISTS in STONE WALLS etc

\*

Braggintons Lane, Middleton Cheney

Tel: 01295 - 710977

\* Sibford References Available \*

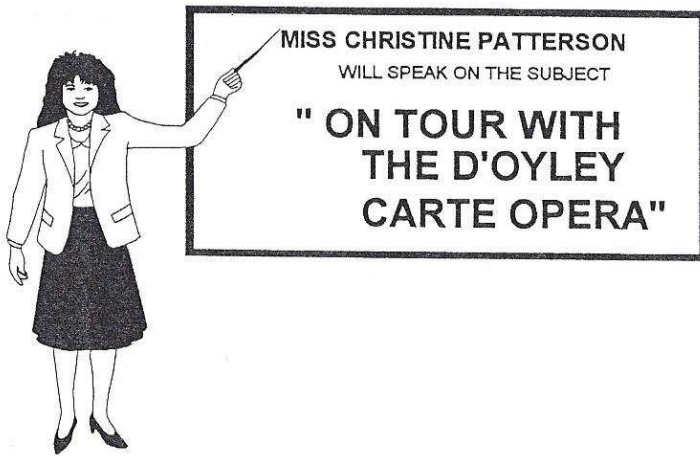
## W.I. NEWS & INFORMATION

The speaker, Mrs. Usherwood was unable to give her talk on " A Memento of Schooldays " because of illness, so at very short notice Mrs. Bristow gave a talk with slides about Florence. This was very kindly received.

Mrs. Grasby and Miss Gallard provided teas, the competition was won by Mrs. Hutchinson, who displayed an immaculate notebook from her school days written in her best copperplate writing.

We were glad to welcome Mrs. Winter to the Sibford Institute as a permanent member. We also had a visitor and hope that she and others will join us from time to time.

### NEXT MONTH



Musical and dramatic talks are invariably interesting and Miss Patterson enjoys speaking to a large audience, so the W.I. will be delighted to welcome anyone who would care to come along.

The meeting will be in **THE VILLAGE HALL** at 2 pm. on **TUESDAY MARCH 12th** with tea and refreshments.

There will be a competition entitled " A Musical Item ", which gives plenty of scope for interesting entries.



## SIBFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our first meeting of the Spring(?) season will be at 8pm on Wednesday 13 March in the Village Hall. There will be a talk & slide show by Mr Holliday, entitled 'Birds of the Garden'. Mr Holliday comes very highly recommended by Hook Norton Garden Club.

New members are always welcome to come along to our monthly meetings.

§ § §

Sibford Cricket Club.  
A.G.M. March 4th. 7.30 pm.  
Friends School Library.

Indoor Cricket Nets will be starting on March 27th, (Wednesday) 6 - 7.00 pm. and continue through until April 24th. Any new players are welcome to come along. Our league matches will begin with three home fixtures on May 4th, 11th and 18th and, as always, we welcome spectators of all ages to come and support our efforts. There will also be a Sunday friendly fixture list during the summer so there is plenty of Cricket to be played.

### Triple M Services

Quality Repairs TO  
All Makes Of Car And

Light Commercial  
Vehicles

MOT Prep

Welding

Call M.J Harris

on

Swaldiffe 780614

### **GREEN ACRES** Conference Centre



Residential and Non-Residential

The Conference Manager  
Green Acres  
Sibford Gower  
Banbury

Oxon OX15 5RW  
Tel: 01295 788115/788448  
Fax: 01295 780366.

## LET'S TALK

### an invitation to an open forum on local government in your community

It is a truism that people get the government they deserve, but there are two sides to every story. One of the most frequently heard criticisms of local councils is that they don't understand what people really need; at the same time, local councils often accuse residents of being apathetic, and not taking an interest in matters which affect us all.

At Cherwell District Council we are challenging this vicious circle, by looking more closely at how the services we provide meet residents' expectations and needs. In short, we're saying: "Let's talk". You may already have noticed that we're asking a lot more questions than we used to, and we now want to begin formalising the process of involving local people, businesses, and organisations in setting policies, priorities and standards. Our commitment is made clear in our recently published document "Towards a Community Plan", which sets out what Cherwell DC is doing at present, and asks for your help in deciding where to focus in the future.

We want as wide a range of views on the contents of "Towards a Community Plan" as possible. To facilitate the process, Cherwell DC is arranging six community meetings around the District, providing an open forum for your views. There is a questionnaire, and you may be contacted in a telephone survey. You can see a copy of the document at Council offices. Let's talk - we promise we will listen.

We will listen because we want to get it right. To get it right we need to hear what you think of the services and the way they are provided. We need to hear your concerns about your community, and where you think solutions may lie. We need to know how you think the responsibility for supporting and developing strong communities should be shared. We need to know what you think is important for the wellbeing of your community, and for a good quality of life for everyone in it.

We can't promise to right all the wrongs or solve all the problems, but we can promise to shift the emphasis, adjust the priorities, and formulate policies which more closely reflect the real needs and wishes of people in Cherwell District. But we must know what those needs and wishes are.

Good governance requires good citizenship, which does not mean turning out to vote once a year and doing nothing in between times. It's about taking an interest in your community, and being prepared to speak out. Wroxton Village Hall is the venue for the northern part of the District, on March 7 at 7.30pm, but if you are unable to get to the meeting in your area please do come along to one of the others. Also, if you have difficulty with transport to a meeting, please get in touch and we will help. We need you to talk to us.

Meetings will begin at 7.30pm, and are on the following dates:

Steeple Aston Village Hall	March 5
Arcott Village Hall	March 6
Wroxton Village Hall	March 7
Exeter Hall Kidlington	March 8
Town Hall Banbury	March 21

## SIBFORD SCENE by POST - Renewal of Subscriptions

Our stalwart supporters, from Hook Norton to Devon & Dorset, who receive their *Sibford Scene* direct from our Distribution Department by Royal Mail, are reminded that 12 months have sped by and subscriptions are due for renewal in March. The cost - £6.00 per annum including postage - remains the same as in 94 & 95. Cheques should be made out to '*Sibford Scene*' and should be mailed to *The Editor* (our Treasurer has more than enough to do, keeping a fatherly eye on his recently extended flock).

We hope you continue to find something of interest to you in each issue of the *Scene*.

\$ \$ \$

A FINAL DONATION to SIBFORD SCENE 1995 FUNDS  
brings the year's total to £297.

Sibford Cricket Club have recently provided a very generous donation to the *Sibford Scene* funds - *many thanks* and we wish 'our' team a victorious 1996 season. We look forward to publishing the reports of your endeavours as the season unfolds.

This brings the total amount donated by 18 of our local organizations in our 1995 financial year to a record £297. We thank you all most sincerely for so generously supporting the *Scene* in 1995. Our 1996 financial year has just started. (*Nudge, nudge, wink, wink, say no more, eh?*). *The Editor*

\$ \$ \$

FRANCIS MORDAUNT MSSCh, MBChA

VISITING CHIROPODIST

To enquire about a Home Visit,  
please telephone:  
01295 - 730615

*Professional Foot Care  
in Your Own Home*

the wykham arms

Sibford Gower 01295 - 780351

A Seventeenth-Century Thatched  
FREE HOUSE

Selection of Real Ales

HOME COOKED FOOD

\* Wooded Beer Garden \*

Ample Seating in Bar & Restaurant  
Booking Advisable at Weekends

Accommodation  
Children Welcomed

Recommended by Egon Ronay's Guides

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SIBFORD  
Lent Austerity Lunches and Course Study Groups  
Youth Group Event at Bloxham School  
Annual General Meeting

By the time this article is published, Lent will already have started. There are, however, a number of United Benefice activities still remaining to which all are invited:

Austerity Lunches - soup, bread and a cup of coffee - will be provided on Mondays from 12.00 noon until 2.00 pm with collections for a charity of the host's choosing:

February 26th at Gage Farm Barn, Epwell, (up lane opposite Chandlers Arms) host Alison Pollard; March 4th at The Red House, Burdrop, host Mary Nash; March 11th at St Mary's House, Wykeham Lane, Broughton, host Jean Lewis; March 18th at The Manor, Tadmarton, host Jane Asser; March 25th at Swalcliffe Grange, host Barbara Taylor, April 1st to be arranged.

There will be Lent Course Study Groups based on the Council of Churches publication "Building Bridges" (Price £1.95 available from the Rector):

At Tadmarton, with Rev Keith Walklate, Holly Tree House, The Old Glebe on Tuesdays from 27th February to 26th March (incl) 11.00am to 12.30 pm

At Sibford on Wednesdays from 8.00 pm to 9.30 pm on February 28th and March 6th at the Red House, Burdrop, March 13th and March 27th at Barn Close, Burdrop, and March 20th at the Rectory, Acreditch.

At Epwell on Thursdays from 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm at the Old Bakery (just opposite the entrance to the church) from February 29th to March 28th (incl).

There will be a youth group event for 12 to 18 year olds on Saturday 16th March from 9.00 pm to 10.30 pm at Bloxham School. (Enquiries to Rev Keith Walklate 780273)

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th March in the context of an abbreviated form of Holy Communion which will start at 7.30 pm.

## 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

3 Mar	9.45am	Benefice Eucharist at Shutford
10 "	10.00am	Holy Communion
17 "	10.00am	Mothering Sunday Family Service
24 "	8.00am	Holy Communion
31 "	10.00am	Palm Sunday Benefice Eucharist, Swalcliffe

Holy Communion at Sibford at 7.30am on  
Thursday 7, 14, 21 & 28 March.

t t t

### RECTOR'S SPECIFIC VISITING DAYS around the PARISHES

The Rector will spend as much time as possible visiting in his various parishes on the dates listed below. Please phone 780555 if you wish specially to see him by appointment - or trust to luck! Other visits are, of course, also made!

Tuesday	5 March	-	Tadmarton
Wednesday	6 March	-	Epwell
Thursday	7 March	-	Sibford
Friday	8 March	-	Swalcliffe
Tuesday	12 March	-	Broughton & N. Newington
Wednesday	13 March	-	Shutford

s s s

### HAPPY ENDING TO SCENE'S LOST CAT STORY

We are pleased to report that 'Holly', Leah Barden's tabby cat that got itself lost in the Colony at the end of January, is now safely back in the warmth of her own home, after nine cold nights away.

Leah wishes to convey her heartfelt thanks to Vicky Smith who, after several nighttime attempts by torchlight in sub-zero temperatures, eventually managed to trap Holly in her shed in the Colony.

Holly (presumably a Wolves fan - surely not Bolton?) has been given a severe ticking off and is now 'confined to barracks' whenever the Bardens go out for a long walk.

# SIBFORD GOWER TOWN ESTATES BUS SERVICE

Free Bus Service for Residents of Sibford Gower and Burdrop

			Depart	Return
Friday	8 & 22 Mar	to Banbury	10.00am	12.00noon
Wednesday	13 & 27 Mar	to Chippy	11.00am	1.00pm

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

§

NOTE: The commercial bus services will be listed when space allows or if there are known timetable changes.

§ § §

## WELCOME to SIBFORD - ALL NEWCOMERS

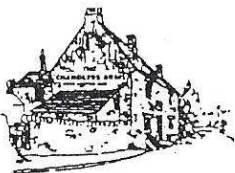
If you are a new resident of Sibford and have not yet received a copy of the 'Welcome to Sibford' leaflet, please telephone Barry Davies on Swa. 780291 (Gower or Burdrop) or Mary Mills on Swa. 780248 (Ferris) and a copy will be delivered to you. The information will help to make you feel at home - by acquainting you with the services, schools, churches, clubs and societies that are currently active in the villages.

This month we give a warm 'Welcome' to Peter & Ilone Jones who have recently moved to 'Coburg House' in Sibford Ferris. They have two children, 4½ year old Cleo and 20 months old Cory. Peter teaches at the Warriner School and he & Ilone are interested in travelling (somewhat curtailed at present with the little ones), music and sport.

§ § §

### THE CHANDLERS ARMS

Hot and cold meals  
Hook Norton ales  
REAL COUNTRY PUB ATMOSPHERE



MR AND MRS WARD  
TEL 0295 780344  
EPWELL  
NR BANBURY

### MEADOWCROFT SECRETARIAL SERVICES

Tel. 01295 780741

Word Processing, C.V.s,  
Manuscripts, Letters,  
Theses, etc.

LASER PRINTER

Photocopying

COMPETITIVE RATES

CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE

ASSURED

THE DEADLINE for CONTRIBUTIONS  
for the APRIL SIBFORD SCENE will be

\* TUESDAY 19 MARCH \*

Contributions to Editor, Treasurer or Shop

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

Guides	Hook Norton	Monday	evening
Indoor Bowls	Village Hall	Monday	2.00 - 4.00pm
Mobile Shop		Tuesday	10.00am - 4.00pm
Brownies	Village Hall	Tuesday	5.15 - 6.45pm
Mums & Toddlers	Gillett House	Wednesday	10.30am - 12noon
Fielding Day Centre	Friends School	Wednesday	12.30 - 4.30pm
Indoor Cricket Nets			
27 Mar - 24 Apr	Friends School	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00pm
Badminton	Friends School	Wednesday	7.30 - 9.30pm
Beavers	Village Hall	Friday	4.30 - 5.45pm
Cub Scouts	Village Hall	Friday	6.00pm
Scouts	Village Hall	Friday	following Cubs
Playgroup	Village Hall	Mon, Wed, Fri	9.00am - 12noon

\* \* \* § \* \* \*

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

DIARIST - Norman Nash (Tel 780275)

Apl 25	Thur	Sibford Horti Coffee morning	Court House	Ellen Warwicker (788400)
May 19	Sun	Broughton Fun-Run/walk for Christian Aid	Broughton Grounds	Margaret Taylor (730315)
May 25/27	Sat/Mon	Tadnarton Flower Festival	Church	Pat Salethorne (780630)
June 8	Sat	Sibford Horti Plant Stall	Park Farm House	Ellen Warwicker (788400)
June 8	Sat	Sibford Church Garden Party 2.30 pm	The Red House	
*	*	*	Burdop	Norman Nash (780275)
June 9	Sun	Epwell Fete 2 pm & Songs of Praise 5 pm	Church	R Kinchin Smith (780601)
June 15	Sat	Summer Concert Banbury Symphony Orchestra	Sibford School	Ann Stevenson (780441)
June 30	Sun	Walled Gardens Open (National Scheme)	Sibford School	Ann Stevenson (780441)
June 30	Sun	Open Garden of Mr & Mrs Powell in aid	6 The Colony	
*	*	*	of Holy Trinity Church	Norman Nash (780275)
July 20	Sat	Dressage and Fete 2.00pm Parkfield	Sibford Gower	
Aug 17	Sat	Sibford Horti Annual Flower Show	Shutford Manor	Alec Colgrave (780721)
Oct 5	Sat	Open day	Village Hall	Ellen Warwicker (788400)
Oct 11	Fri	Epwell Harvest Supper 7 pm	Sibford School	Ann Stevenson (780441)
Oct 25/27	Fri/Sun	Cottage Crafts for Christmas. Sale in aid	Village Hall	R Kinchin Smith (780601)
		of Katharine House	Malcoln's Cottage	Peter & Margaret Whittle (780453)
Nov 9	Sat	Epwell Grand Draw & Social Event	Tadnarton	
Dec 7	Sat	Sibford Methodist Church coffee/sale 10.00	Village Hall	R Kinchin Smith (780601)
			Methodist Church	Kathleen Winter (780461)

§

LOCAL CORRESPONDENT to BANBURY GUARDIAN - Sheila Baseby (Tel 780544)

Copy for Guardian by FRIDAY please

LOCAL CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCILLOR - David Green (Tel 780444)

## CALENDAR for MARCH 1996

- Saturday 2nd# THANKSGIVING EUCHARIST for ARTHUR BISHOP - see pp1 & 7  
Saturday 2nd# Scouts Paper Collection  
Monday 4th# Lent Austerity Lunch - see p20  
Monday 4th# Sibford Cricket Club AGM - see p17  
Tuesday 5th# Friendship Club - Bishop of Dorchester - see p8  
Wednesday 6th# Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)  
Wednesday 6th# Lent Course Study Group at Sibford - see p20  
Wednesday 6th# Sibford Ferris PC Meeting - see p9  
Thursday 7th# Conservatives AGM - see p15  
Thursday 7th# Cherwell DC Open Forum - see p18  
Thursday 7th# CLOSING DATE for Children's Drawing Competition - see p1  
Saturday 9th# Country & Western Evening & Buffet, Village Hall - see p6  
Saturday 9th# Recycler Unit in Gower - see p8  
Monday 11th# Lent Austerity Lunch - see p20  
Tuesday 12th# W. I. Meeting - D'Orley Carte Opera - see p16  
Tuesday 12th# Holy Trinity Church AGM - see p20  
Wednesday 13th# Horti Society meeting - see p17  
Wednesday 13th# Lent Course Study Group at Sibford - see p20  
Friday 15th# Sibford School Open Morning - see p15  
Saturday 16th# Church Youth Group Event - see p20  
Saturday 16th# Skip in the Gower - Pound Lane  
Saturday 16th# Sibford School - Young Musician of Year Finals  
Monday 18th# Lent Austerity Lunch - see p20  
Tuesday 19th# LEO Club meeting 8pm - see p14  
TUESDAY 19th# \* DEADLINE for *SIBFORD SCENE* CONTRIBUTIONS \*  
Wednesday 20th# Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)  
Wednesday 20th# Lent Course Study Group at Sibford - see p20  
Thursday 21st# Sibfords Society AGM - see p4  
Thursday 21st# Conservatives Annual Dinner - see p15  
Thursday 21st# Cherwell DC Open Forum - see p18  
Saturday 23rd# Playgroup 50/50 Sale, Village Hall 10 - noon, see p3  
Saturday 23rd# A Century of Fashion, Village Hall 7.30pm - see p7  
Monday 25th# Lent Austerity Lunch - see p20  
Wednesday 27th# Lent Course Study Group at Sibford - see p20

## CALENDAR for APRIL (part)

- Monday 1st# START of BUS PASS SCHEME - see pp8 & 9  
Wednesday 3rd# Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)  
Saturday 6th# Scouts Paper Collection  
Thursday 11th# Sibfords Society meeting - see p4  
Saturday 13th# Ernest Jones Memorial Concert - see p11

\* **SIBFORD SCENE** \*

Editor: Ray Henbrey, Virginia Cottage, H'k Norton Rd, Sibford Ferris (788265)  
Treasurer: Timothy Wimbush, The Rectory, Acre Ditch, Sibford Gower (780555)  
Advertising Manager: Ivor Hopkyns, Elmridge Farmhouse, Sibford Gower (788367)