

May 1998

Sibford Extra Scene

No. 7

"SIBFORD MAD"

Sibford Mad is a new venture which will start next term. M(usic) A(rt) and D(rama) Courses for 5-11 year olds. These will take place at Sibford School on Saturday mornings and if you have, or know of, any children who might be interested in joining please tell them about "Sibford Mad". Details are available from Janet Dunkin on 781200.

MIDLAND YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Sibford School.

Saturday 2nd May 7.30 pm

See page 21

THE SELLARS ENGINEERING BAND

St Michael's Church, Whichford.
Saturday 2nd May 7.30pm.

See page 14

Nature Notes.

Mar 22nd. Two beeflies were busily feeding on a pulmonaria this morning. They look very like bumble bees but move more quickly and tend to hover in front of the flower while drawing nectar through a ridged feeding tube, rather than settling on the flower as a bumble bee does.

Mar 23rd. This is the time of year when male blackbirds defend their territory but the one that spent much of today fighting its own reflection in our bathroom window was carrying things to the extreme. We eventually hung an old shirt from the hopper window to scare it off and to stop it damaging itself.

Mar 27th. The area of frogspawn in our pond is hatching and our youngest granddaughter came to tell us that "the pond is shivering with tadpoles" which was an apt description.

Apr 3rd. After some half hearted performances there was quite a powerful dawn chorus this morning rejoicing in the mild bright morning after a wet night. It finished very abruptly going from full chorus to silence in a few minutes. I don't expect that we shall get a more powerful one but could have a more varied one as more summer visitors join in.

Apr 5th. There was an unusually large collection of five male blackbirds in our beech tree this morning. I suppose they must have been disputing their territories but in a very gentlemanly way.

Apr 9th. As it was a very wet morning we rashly decided to make an overdue visit to Littleton and Badsey Growers near Evesham. At Brailes we had to drive with one wheel up on the pavement in order to get through the flood and although we found several more roads where water was flowing strongly over the full road width none was as deep as Brailes. On our way back we went to look at Traitors Ford which was touching the 3 foot mark on the depth post and the bridge arches were full to the top with about as much flowing round the bridge as was going through the arches. I have never seen it as high as this

although it did cover the old bridge in 1947 when rain thawed the great snow.

Apr 10th. With 1.6 inches of rain, yesterday was not amongst the heaviest falls I have known. It must have been because it fell on ground that was already saturated and added to rivers that were already high that it caused so much flooding.

Apr 12th. Yesterday the temperature only reached 3°C at midday and overnight fell to -4°C which is low enough to damage the plum crop and perhaps gooseberries and currants.

Apr 18th. In spite of the chilly weather a cuckoo was heard calling in the parish this morning. We went to look for the pink purslane, and annual, that grows in Epwell Woods and were pleased to find that it had spread to cover a bigger area than usual and is just coming into flower.

Apr 20th. April with 4½ inches of rain is already the wettest month for several years.

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Mabel Payne 1915 - 1998

Mabel began her education at Winnie Inns' school at the Old Post Office here in the village. She went on to schools in Deddington and Oxford before taking a place at Miss Sayes' Dancing School and learning piano in Banbury. At the age of 21 she left Sibford to teach in a private school in Luton where she joined the Luton Girls Choir. In the war she came home to work on the farm and started a kindergarten school at Burdrop Farm for evacuee children. She delivered milk in the village with a yoke and buckets or later, by pony and trap, also serving in the ARP.

She married Eric in August 1946 at Sibford Church with a reception at The Manor and they made their home at Corner Cottage, now known as Cedarholme.

Music was the leading part of her life, for a total of over fifty years she played the organ in Sibford Church and was always willing to help out in Epwell, and later in Swalcliffe and Tadmarton Churches. She taught piano at the Friends School for twenty years and played for the local dancing school as well as socials and parties.

She served on the PCC for many years and was involved with the fund raising committee for the building of the Village Hall.

For 20 years she ran the Post Office at Cedarholme before retiring from the role.

She raised funds for the Church by organising small concerts where many were persuaded to sing, play or recite.

Our condolences go to Eric, Ruby and Jennifer.

the wykham arms

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From the Village Hall Committee

Takings from March's Village Hall Car Boot Sale amounted to £90.80, and the two April Sales brought in a total of £136, less advertising costs. The next one will be on Sunday, 3rd May, where there will also be a table selling items in aid of the Village Hall, which have been kindly donated. Details from 01295 251339.

The new rates for hiring the hall are as follows;

For Village organisations only;

£3.50 per hour for weekdays, Saturdays or Sundays.

Private Hiring;

£6.50 per hour for weekdays, Saturdays (mornings or afternoons) or Sundays, Includes Childrens Parties (up to 16 years of age, with adult supervision), Luncheons, Christenings. Deposit £20 required at time of booking.

Weddings, Evening Functions (inc. with music), Adult Parties £75.

Deposit of £100 required at time of booking.

Preparation time - one hour free, thereafter £1.50 per hour or part thereof.

We recently had one successful young child's birthday party, and congratulations to all concerned for the cleanliness of the Hall after the event. Lets hope there are more such bookings.

We have now had two informal Fete meetings, and very encouraging they have been. We hope this year's event will prove very popular with all ages. Our Press & Publicity co-ordinator will give further details.

This is to take place on Saturday, 27th June 1998.

We are pleased to announce that Richard and Rebecca Pearce have taken over the caretaking and cleaning duties of the Hall, and already have given us additional ideas both for the Hall and the Fete. Richard is also mowing the field at the moment, with Bert Gilbert in charge of mowing the lawns.

Mr & Mrs Arnold Lamb kindly offered to take over the care of the garden borders at no cost to the Hall, already these are taking shape. We are very grateful to them for their support.

SIBFORD MILLENNIUM PAGEANT

By the time you read this hopefully you will have received a leaflet headed "WANTED !". If you have been missed, apologies, but Cathy Ryall on 780574 has some spares.

The support of all villagers in the Sibfords is being sought in the development of the exciting project planned for the Millennium, in midsummer 2000.

Even if you cannot offer help a note of your moral support at the comments section of the form would be appreciated.

Those who have already registered interest at the open meeting will be contacted in due course but completion of the form will also be welcome.

THE MILLENNIUM PANELS

DATES of WORKSHOPS at SIBFORD GOWER ENDOWED PRIMARY SCHOOL:

SUNDAYS at 2.30pm: May 10, 17;
June 7, 14, 21, 28.

EVENINGS at 7.00pm: April Mon 27;
May Wed 6, Thur 14, Mon 18;
June Mon 1, Tue 9, Wed 17, Thu 25, Mon 29.

We will welcome new projects until 1st June 1998. We also have scenes from the Pageant to work. We really would like you all to join us and make your own individual contribution regardless of artistic or needle skills. Workshops are happy, friendly occasions with plenty of help and advice. The work speaks for itself, so why not come and see what you can add.

Mollie Mulley tel.780629.

Sibford Ferris Playarea Family Quiz

This is going to be 3 sheets of questions suitable for all ages including a short walk round the Sibfords with clues and questions.

A small prize will be awarded for the highest total score.
Hopefully the quiz will appear in mid May with a closing date in June.
It will cost £2.50 per entry with all proceeds going to Playarea funds.
Further details in the June issue.

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Does anyone enjoy a bike ride?

We are aiming to have a short bike ride from the villages once a week through the summer months and would like any like minded villagers to join us. Our first two outings are planned for May 12th leaving the Village Hall at 7.00 pm and May 19th from Lanes End Corner (Ferris crossroads) also at 7 o'clock. Please come along. For more details please phone Joanna Gilkes 788190 or Adrian Lamb 780380

Sibford Gower Parish Council

The Council wishes to remind dog owners that it is now an offence not to clear up behind their dog.

Under the Dog Fouling of Land Act, owners can be prosecuted and fined up to £1000. It covers all public places including Backside Lane. The dogwarden has pledged to prosecute owners who leave their pet's mess in public areas.

The skip will again be in the village twice a month during the summer months. See Sibford Scene for dates.

If the household waste skip is full, please do not deposit waste, instead ring 252535 ext 4552 and arrange for a bulky household waste collection service.

The Council would like to thank everyone who helped with the Litter Blitz.

Petra Berry, Clerk (780462)

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Friendship Club

We all enjoyed a delicious Easter Tea which was provided by some of the members. Thank you to everyone who brought food, we had a lovely variety plus two simnel cakes which were made by Mrs. Sandra Tustain.

Owing to the weather we cancelled the outing to Cotswold Wildlife Park and instead went to Moreton, parked for an hour and then went on Inkberrow for lunch which was appreciated by everyone.

Future Events are as follows;

Tuesday 5th May - AGM in the Village Hall at 2.00 pm. We would like to see as many members as possible.

Tuesday 19th May - Outing to the Guide Dogs For The Blind Centre at Leamington Spa.

Tuesday 2nd June - Meeting in the Village Hall At 2.00 pm when a representative from Sainsburys will be giving a talk.

Tuesday 30th June Boat Trip on the river Thames with lunch on board.

All enquiries regarding any of these events should be made to Mrs Boughton on 263460

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OPEN MORNING

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Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday

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NATIONAL CARERS WEEK

National Carers Week will begin this year with open gardens on Sunday 7th June from 2-5pm. Two gardens in Sibford Gower will be open:

Temple Close - courtesy of Mrs V. Jones, where teas will be available plus a cake and good as new stall.

Meadow Cottage, 6 The Colony - courtesy of Mr and Mrs Roger Powell, who will be selling plants.

Entrance fee for the two gardens will be £2. with accompanied children admitted free. All proceeds will go to the Carers Centre which provides information and help to local families looking after someone.

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W. I. NEWS & INFORMATION

It may have been bleak without, but all was warm and friendly within as our new president, Mrs Brenda Power, guided us through the varied business session.

Were we interested in the Group's forthcoming musical evening at Cropredy ? Would we be willing to help entertain and cater for our visitors on the Sibford Circular Walk next month ? And would we like to make an advance payment on our own 70th anniversary celebration ? Both the secretary and treasurer were busy taking names!

Then it was time to relax as we heard of the healing and soothing properties of the wonder herb, Aloe vera. From an itch to an ache, from spots to sores, there was a cream, a lotion or potion for all!

The competition for our (less exotic) home grown herbs was won by Mrs Hutchinson and Mrs Mills.

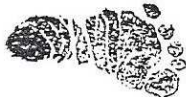
Next month's competition is for an original limerick - the scope is unlimited!

Mrs Ellred and Mrs Gallard ensured that we were fortified to face the elements at the close of another pleasant meeting.

M.C.

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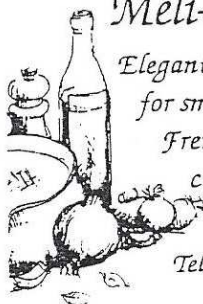


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Sibford Playgroup News
Mon./ Wed./ Fri. 9.00 - 12.00
Sibford Village Hall

Firstly, we are sorry to be losing a brilliant Playgroup Assistant. We will all miss Mandy Wymer's effervescent presence and imaginative creations and wish her the very best for the future.

As we say "Goodbye" to Mandy, we welcome Chris Hall whom many of you know from the village. Chris is a 'natural' with the children and we love her already. We hope she will be very happy with us in her new role as Playgroup Assistant.

FUND-RAISING EVENTS

The fashion show we held recently made ~~£~~2011! We are very grateful to everyone for supporting this event and we hope you enjoyed the evening.

On behalf of the Committee, Thank you to Pam Ascott and Christine Bell who made a Profit of ~~£~~45 at the last car boot sale and donated it to Playgroup funds!

ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE DEMONSTRATION - FIRST AID OF CHILDREN. A lady from this brigade will be giving a demonstration on how to save a child's life and will be available to answer questions on the subject.

WEDNESDAY 20th MAY - 7.30 p.m. - SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL.

Tickets - price to be confirmed but refreshments and raffle prizes on the night. Look out for posters for details or contact 01295 780813 for further information.

For anyone interested in sending their child to Sibford Playgroup, our Playgroup Supervisor, Julie Bruggenwirth, will be happy to answer any enquiries. Tel 01608 730861.

Michelle Knapman, Publicity Officer

A warning to all dog owners

All dogs should be kept on leads while around livestock.

With ewes and lambs and cattle freshly turned out the potential for the animals to be protective is at its height. This means that owners should be wary and give the animals a wide berth if possible.

The most obvious problems we have in our own flock is people who ride through with loose dogs. The usual excuse is "my dog never chases sheep". That may or may not be true, but if the sheep are not used to being handled by dogs, they always run away and even the best trained dog sometimes chases a running animal. The Police tell farmers to shoot any loose dogs they see in livestock and while I am sure most local farmers try to resolve problems amicably in the last resort it may happen. Lets not have it happen in Sibford.

Adrian Lamb



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FRANCIS MORDAUNT

MSSCh, MBChA

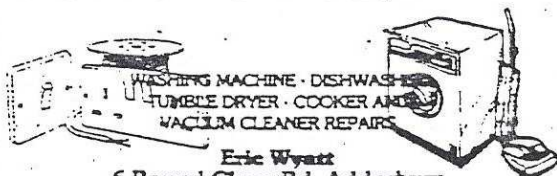
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SAT 16th MAY VERSES PRIORS, AWAY
SUN 17th MAY VERSES MICKLETON, AWAY
SAT 23rd MAY VERSES THORNBOROUGH, AT HOME
SUN 24th MAY VERSES ROUND OF GRAS, AWAY
SAT 30th MAY VERSES BRAILES, AT HOME
SUN 31st MAY VERSES LONG COMPTON, AT HOME

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S S S

* * **SIBFORD L. E. O. CLUB NEWS** * *

(Ladies Evening Out Club)

The next meeting of the LEO Club will be held on Tuesday 19 May at Greta Baadsgaard's home at Quince Cottage, Bonds End Lane, Sibford Gower, starting at 8 pm.

Muriel Chandler will entertain us with another of her inimitable autobiographical talks, this one simply entitled 'More of my life' - so do come along, ladies, and hear about some parts of Muriel's life that other talks haven't reached.

M. H.

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The Sibfords Society

A very interesting evening was enjoyed when Peter Baardsgaard traced the long history of the Town Estates Charity which was started in the 16th century by two ladies from Sibford Gower. They remain anonymous, however, as the records were lost in the Great Fire of London. Our grateful

thanks to Peter for his painstaking research of the Charity.

Our Summer Programme commences on 28 May with a village walk, to which non-members are warmly invited. The walk will be led by Robin Spicer along the footpaths of our beautiful area to Blenheim Farm. We meet at the Bishop Blaize at 6.30pm and the distance will be about 4.5 miles and stout shoes are strongly recommended. Dogs are also welcome if kept on leads.

Keep Sunday afternoon 21 June free for a midsummer's day Family Country Walk & Picnic led by Arnold and Ina Lamb from Grounds Farm.

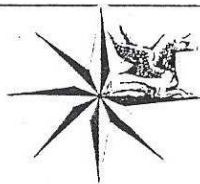
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Sibford Horticultural Society

A very enjoyable and informative meeting was held in April when Chris Brown came and showed us how to propagate by taking cuttings and seed planting.

Next meeting is on May 13th when Mrs. Cropley will be coming to talk on herbaceous plants, hope to see alot of you there as Mrs. Cropley is a very entertaining speaker.

Non Members it's only 50 pence a meeting.

May 14th Coffee morning at the Court House 10.30 am

Cakes Plants etc. Do hope as many as possible can come as this is a necessary fund raiser to help pay for the marquee for the Annual Show.

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The Firs Garage would like to thank the local community for their loyal support; it is very much appreciated.

THE 1998 BROWN ENVELOPES APPEAL on behalf of the *Sibford Scene* Funds.

As Willie Nelson observed in song - "It's funny how time slips away." In fact it is 13 months since our last appeal for help to keep the *Sibford Scene* and *Sibford Scene Extra* going for another year.

So, dear readers, you are once again asked to put your **annual 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 still £2 per household, although larger amounts would, of course, be greatly appreciated!

Remember, you now get eleven issues a year for the price of ten!

THANK YOU - The Editor.

£ £ £

LETTER-BOXES for BROWN ENVELOPES

SIBFORD GOWER

Roger Powell	6 The Colony
Petra Berry	2 Barley Close
Mollie Mulley	Old Post Office, Main St (garage door)
Kathleen Winter	Cels Bield, Backside Lane
Ann Spicer	7 High Meadow
Timothy Wimbush	The Rectory, Acre Ditch

BURDROP

Sheila Baseby	Park Farm House
Colin Frith	Barn Close

SIBFORD FERRIS

Jim Shields	West Town Cottage
Ray Henbrey	Virginia Cottage, Hook Norton Rd
Bruce Horn	3 Cotswold Close

* also Collection Box at Village Shop *

£ £ £

Tadmarton Church Bell Fund.

There will be a Coffee Morning in Tadmarton Village Hall on Saturday May 9th 10am - 12noon in aid of the fund.

Also a Plant Stall over the road and the Manor garden open (£1) all for the same fund.

A Day In The Countryside
Oxfordshire Young Farmers County Show

Come and join the Oxfordshire Young Farmers at this years
County Show being held on

Saturday 16th May 1998

at

Roundhill House, Manor Farm

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EARLY BOOKING IS ADVISED !

Easter is naturally a busy time for churchgoers and this year was no exception. Throughout Lent we have had a Friday morning Communion at 7.30 am and during Easter week, Matins was said each day at the same time, an excellent reminder of the old Prayer Book service, the Psalms which are becoming, to the regret of many, rather a rarity these days and the Benedicite which reminds us to praise God for all of nature; very much worth reading.

On Good Friday morning, 70 children from the Benefice attended the Children's Holiday Club morning in North Newington School where they enjoyed storytelling, music, crafts and other activities based on the Easter story. Many thanks to the 25 adults who helped with this worthwhile project.

There were various other services around the Benefice and few more moving than the singing of Stainer's Crucifixion in Broughton Church on Good Friday evening by the combined and augmented Wykeham Benefice Choirs. Two excellent soloists and the organ exceptionally well played by Timothy Wimbush helped the choir, painstakingly drilled by Rhys Williams, the Broughton organist and choirmaster, to give a pretty good presentation. Your correspondent, being a member of the choir, would not like to over-exaggerate the musicality but it is a moving piece and many members of a large congregation bore testimony to this aspect of the presentation.

We should have been at the top of Jesters Hill for the 5.30 am daybreak service on Easter Sunday, an event which was started last year with such a memorable and spectacular sunrise. Alas this year the ground was deemed too waterlogged so, for the stalwarts, the service was held in Swalcliffe church and well rewarded they were too for after all the rain of the past weeks (or months it seems) a glorious sunrise broke through the stained glass to gladden the heart.

Easter Sunday also saw Sibford Church in all its glory with beautiful decorations, despite the shortage of early blooming daffodils, and the Easter Garden, constructed as usual by Ian Warden was perhaps the best he has ever made, and that is saying something.

Our hard working choirs are now preparing for the visit of the Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Rev Richard Harries to Tadmarton church for a Benefice Eucharist service at 10.00 am on Sunday 3rd May. Would that Tadmarton church was a little larger for it is likely to be a tight squeeze that day and seats will go fairly early.

* SIBFORD SCENE *

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CHURCH SERVICES

Society of Friends

Methodist

Roman Catholic Mass (WROXTON)

(Brailles)

Baptist (Hook Norton)

Sunday at 10.30 am

Sunday at 11.00 am

Sunday at 9.00 am

Sunday at 11.30 am

Sunday at 10.30 am

Church of England, Holy Trinity, Sibford Gower

3 May 10.00am Benefice Eucharist, Tadmarton,
The Bishop of Oxford

10 " 9.30am Holy Communion

17 " 9.30am Family Service

24 " 9.30am Holy Communion

31 " 9.30am Holy Communion

SIBFORD BUS SERVICES

1. SIBFORD GOWER TOWN ESTATES BUS SERVICE

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Calendar of Events

May.

- Sat. 2nd Scouts Paper Collection
- Sat. 2nd Midland Youth Jazz Orchestra Sibford School p21
- Sat. 2nd Sellars Engineering Band, Whichford Church p14
- Sun. 3rd Car Boot Sale. Village Hall
- Mon. 4th Sibford School Open Morning p9
- Tue. 5th Friendship Club AGM. Village Hall 2pm. p9
- Wed. 6th Millennium Panel Workshops throughout May p6
- Sat. 9th Coffee Morning Taddy Village Hall 10 - 12. Plant stall and Manor Garden open.p19
- Tue. 12th Bike Ride. 7.00 Village Hall p7
- Wed. 13th Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20)
- Wed. 13th Horti Society Talk, Mrs Cropley on herbaceous plants. p18
- Thu. 14th Horti Society Coffee Morning. Court House 10.30 am. p18
- Thu. 14th Fashion Show. Swalcliffe Village Hall 7.30.pm.
- Sat. 16th Oxfordshire Show at Balcote. p20
- Tue. 19th Deadline for June/July edition of Sibford Scene
- Tue. 19th Friendship Club Outing. p9
- Tue. 19th LEO Club. Talk by Muriel Chandler, Quince Cottage 8pm.p16
- Tue. 19th Bike Ride. 7.00 Lane End Corner p7
- Wed. 20th Playgroup First Aid demontsraton, Village Hall 7.30pm. p12
- Sat. 23rd Skip & re-cycling units in Acre Ditch, S. Gower.
- Wed. 27th Mobile Library in Sibfords & Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20)
- Thu. 28th Sibfords Society Village Walk, Bishop Blaize 6.30pm.p17

June (part)

- Tue. 2nd Friendship Club meeting, Village Hall 2.00pm. p9
- Sat. 6th Scouts Paper Collection
- Sun. 7th Village Hall Car Boot Sale
- Sun. 7th Sibford Ferris Open Gardens. 4 gardens 2 - 6 pm.
- Fri. 12th Sibford School Open Morning. p15
- Sun. 21st Sibford Society Family Walk & Picnic p17
- Sat. 27th Village Hall Fete p5
- Sat. 27th Macbeth at Leasowe House Amphitheatre 7.30pm Phone 780569 for details.
- Sat. 27th Warwickshire Singers' Concert. 7.30pm. Tadmarton Church.