



June 2000

No. 224

Sibford Village Fayre

Saturday 3rd June

at the Village Hall

Gates Open 1.30pm. Official Opening 2pm.

See page 14

The Sibford Pageant & Local History Exhibition

Thurs. 22nd. Fri. 23rd Sat. 24th June 7.30pm

See pages 12 & 13

'Cider with Rosie'

Theatre Evening at the Village Hall

Thursday June 8th 7.30pm. See page 14

Nature Notes

May 4th. A fortnight ago someone told me that they thought they had seen a merlin and today, along Woodway Road a bird flew for some distance in front of the car in which I was travelling. As it had a dark back and was skimming along close to the road surface, it was difficult to see and in the moving car I failed to pick it up with my binoculars. The driver saw it first and got a closer view than I did. His description of it fits well with a merlin. It finally flew away low over the crop of wheat. Merlin are occasionally seen in the Banbury area as a winter visitor but have usually moved away to their moorland nesting areas by this time.



May 12th. Today we found that the long tailed tits nest had been taken from the gorse bush in our garden. From a height of about six feet it had been taken to the base of the bush and a hole torn in the side of it which looks like the work of a cat. I expect the cat was attracted by the chirrups of the young ones as they were about due to hatch out.

May 13th. The beauty of the roadside flowers between the Epwell turn from the main road and Epwell White House takes some beating at this time of year, with gorse, bluebells, red campion and keck all in bloom and for good measure the lilacs, that still mark the site of Billberry Hall, are just coming out. Rarer and still quite pretty is the annual pink purslane which although not thought to be native, has bloomed in Epwell Wood for 70 years or more. Further on towards Tysoe the gorse topped hills on the right

are completely yellow.

May 16th. A rook with a damaged leg has been to our bird table several times today. It uses its tail or wing to balance itself while it tries to get he nuts the mesh tube feeder.

Open Garden
Sunday June 25th 2-5pm
at Katherine House Hospice
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October**

Ray and Miriam Henbrey

This last week has seen the move to Chipping Norton of Ray and Miriam where they now live in a lovely flat.

During their many years in Sibford they have both been very active in working for the community and charities. Ray was, for many years, editor of the Sibford Scene and was instrumental in changing the format from sheets of A4 to it's current presentable form.

Ray also set up the Fielding Day Centre on behalf of Social Services, organising the many helpers and the necessary rotas. For many years Ray and Miriam organised the visits to Cheshire Homes at Adderbury on behalf of the Red Cross, where patients enjoyed the chance for a chat and the provision of necessities.

Ray was also active on the Horticultural Society committee for many years and helped with the presentation of the annual accounts.

During most of the last twelve months Ray has unfortunately suffered much ill health and Miriam has had to take charge during a very stressful time. Happily Ray is recovering slowly and I am sure there will be many in the Sibfords who would like to join with me in wishing him and Miriam a very happy future in their new home.

Roger Powell

Oddjob

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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 Maureen Warden on 788252 (if you live in the Gower or Burdrop) or Mary Mills on 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.

The Franklin family eventually moved into Woodway Barn, Woodway Road in March, several long months after buying the property.

Now they are here Chris, Briony and Kate are all enjoying their new location. Edward is in his final year at Nottingham University and is rarely home. From September, he will be working in London and travelling up to town with his Dad (at least until he finds accommodation nearer to his city office)

Kate is in the sixth form at Stratford Girls' Grammar, studying History, English and French. Briony, an ex-language teacher, enjoys staying at home, looking after the house, 3 cats and 2 horses.

Chris and Edward don't ride but enjoy playing golf and watching football.

We also welcome Maureen and Keith Hicks to the Ferris, who have moved all the way from the Gower to Greenfields, Back Lane. We wish them every happiness. (phone number remains the same)

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W.I. NEWS & INFORMATION

Jam & Jerusalem ? - there wasn't a mention of either at our May meeting when minds were on weightier matters.

Lynda Conway, our V.C.O. cum secretary, expounded upon the resolutions selected to go before the T.G.M. at Wembley in June when our president, Brenda Power, will raise her hand on our behalf saying a definite "YES" to :-

1) We wish our benefits payments paid through a Post Office and not directly into the Bank.

2) Childrens Hospices should have financial assistance equal to that of other hospices.

3) Greater support should be available to stroke victims.

Westminster please note !!

Cake makers and helpers were enlisted for serving teas at the Village Fayre and dates were fixed for entertaining our Link Group, visiting Broughton Castle in September.

Knitting pins had obviously again been busily clicking, providing more gaily striped jumpers for Kosovo children.

Chocolate cake and cream buns were provided by tea hostesses Audrey Taylor and Gwen Whitehead along with the ever welcome cuppa.

N.B. The June meeting is on
Tuesday June 13th

"My life as a Florist"
by Pat Horsley

Competition :- Arrangement in an egg cup.

M.C.

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QUIET GARDEN AT HANDYWATER

It was lovely to welcome 14 people to the Quiet Day on Tuesday 18th April, for which Linda Shepherd had prepared a walk through the fields around the garden, indicating appropriate points for particular meditation and reflection. Linda had chosen different texts to illustrate progress through faith, and entitled the day 'The Journey', and her carefully thought-out preparation was appreciated by all of us.

There has been no Quiet Day organised for May, but three further dates have now been settled upon for meetings over the next six weeks:

Tuesday 6th June. A visit to Stanbrook Abbey near Worcester has been arranged. Cars will be leaving in the morning to take a party of not more than a dozen people to St Mary's House, the retreat house attached to this Benedictine convent. Visitors may attend the community's church worship, and if you have ever heard Gregorian chant, you will know that the nuns' singing of their daily offices is one of life's soothing experiences. During our time there we may attend the midday office at 12.30 before lunch, and Vespers at 6pm before we leave for home, spending a quiet afternoon in the sitting room, retreat house chapel and garden in between. We have elected to ask for lunch to be provided and the cost per person for the day, including coffee on arrival and tea in the afternoon, will be £13. There are still a few places available, so please would you contact Tim Wimbush, or Sue on 788770 if you would like to come with us. We will be leaving at 9.30am and should be home at about 8pm. Sue has leaflets about St Mary's House at Stanbrook Abbey if you would like one.

Friday 16th June. The garden at Handywater will be open to anyone who would like to spend a quiet time reading or meditating. There will be no leader giving spiritual direction, but there will be prayers in the sitting room at 10am and 12.30pm and again at 1.30pm and 4pm for those people who would like to attend. There is no obligation to come to the prayers, and people are welcome to come and go at any time they please. The garden is offered to anybody who would like to enjoy it in peace, and the house will be open as usual if wet, with light refreshments available at any time in the kitchen. Please bring your own packed lunch if you would like to come all day.

Thursday 6th July. Pam Smith, the licensed lay minister from the Ironstone Benefice, has agreed to come and lead the last Quiet Day before the summer holidays start. The day will follow the same pattern as usual, and fuller details will be given in next month's magazine.

Sibford Ferris Open Gardens

We were extremely fortunate after the wet April to have a lovely day on April 30th for opening the four gardens - Home Close, Marias House, Pettiphers Piece and Back Acre. We had about 280 paying visitors and were able to send £656.05 to the National Gardens Scheme towards the charities that they support. This included a percentage from 2 plant stalls and the Primary School P.T.A. who again supplied teas which were much enjoyed.

We should like to thank all those who helped to make it a very happy and successful day and the Friends School for again allowing us to use the Piece for parking.

Sibford Horticultural Society.

By the time you read this the Plant Sale and Coffee Morning will have taken place with, it is hoped, a generous contribution to funds for the Show on August 19th. Show Schedules should soon be issued.

In the meantime we look forward to our exchange of Garden Visits with Shenington Garden Club on **June 7th**. We meet at Meadow Cottage in the Colony at 7pm. From there we proceed to the Manor and ultimately to Gowers Close, the home of Judith Hitching where coffee will be served.

The return visit to Shenington on **June 28th** meets on the Green at 7pm. Those wishing to share transport please be at the Village Hall by 6.40pm.

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LEO CLUB NEWS

The May meeting was held at the home of Ginny and David Bennett. David had very recently returned from his 650-mile walk, visiting Premiership football grounds all round England in order to (hopefully) raise £50,000 for Workable, a charity he helped to set up ten years ago.

First of all, we were all very surprised at how fresh he looked. He assured us that he didn't have a single blister on his feet, due he said to the lotion that Ginny had mixed up, of essential oils! He told us that the weather on the first week of his walk was appalling and on the third day there was snow, sleet, thunder and lightening.

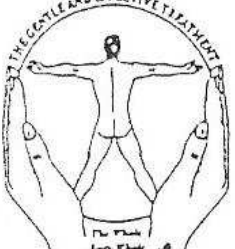
He had a letter of support from Tony Blair, from 10 Downing Street and appeared on B.B.C. Breakfast News at one point. He had collected a tremendous amount of memorabilia - signed football shirts and footballs, to name a few - which will be auctioned off later, and had seen some wonderful areas of the country.

He seemed very elated about the whole experience, but added that he wasn't thinking of doing it again!

Our next meeting will be on June 20th, when we shall meet at Maria's House, Sibford Ferris - the home of Mary Mills. Mary will show us round her pretty garden.

MW

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The Sibfords Society

At our meeting in April, David Eddershaw spoke about the devastating effect the Civil War had in Oxfordshire. The Royalists made Oxford their headquarters and as the large garrison needed billeting and feeding, the surrounding county suffered badly during the four years of the War. The

Sibfords were probably affected by many skirmishes, as Warwickshire was a Parliamentary stronghold and ordinary life ceased for the people of this area. David is a very gifted speaker and we hope he will visit us again in the future.

There will be an exhibition of village archive memorabilia at the Manor House, Sibford Gower on 22-24 June, before the Pageant begins, from 5-7.00 pm, together with the embroidery panels depicting some of the houses in the Sibfords, so do come along to see it before going across the road to the Pageant. If you do have any old photos or brochures of village life you could loan for the exhibition, perhaps you could let Ian Warden know on 788252 as soon as possible please.

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Sibford Millennium Pageant

Not long to go now until the pageant is finally staged and over three years of hard work will become a reality.

Thank you for your support

There was a great turnout on Saturday for the clear up of the site for the pageant - so thank you everybody.

The hard work of everyone involved in the pageant is really appreciated and we will be moving into top gear as the big event approaches.

Your Village Needs You

But don't just sit there - we need you in the pageant for the crowd scenes (Tel: Mary Nash on 780275) or in the field watching the stories of our local history unfold (Box Office 780512)

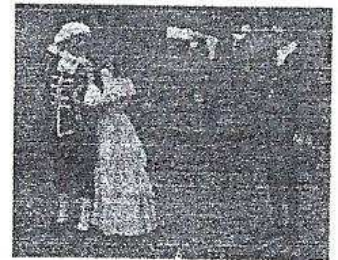
Local History and Panels Exhibition



*A local cat surveys
Bond's End Lane*

Running alongside the pageant will be an exhibition of local history together with the tapestry panels at The Manor House, opposite the Wykham Arms.

The exhibition will be open from 4.30 to 7 pm each day of the pageant so come along and have a look at some wonderful old photos of the village and the panels.



*Plays being
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Barn Close

Burdrop

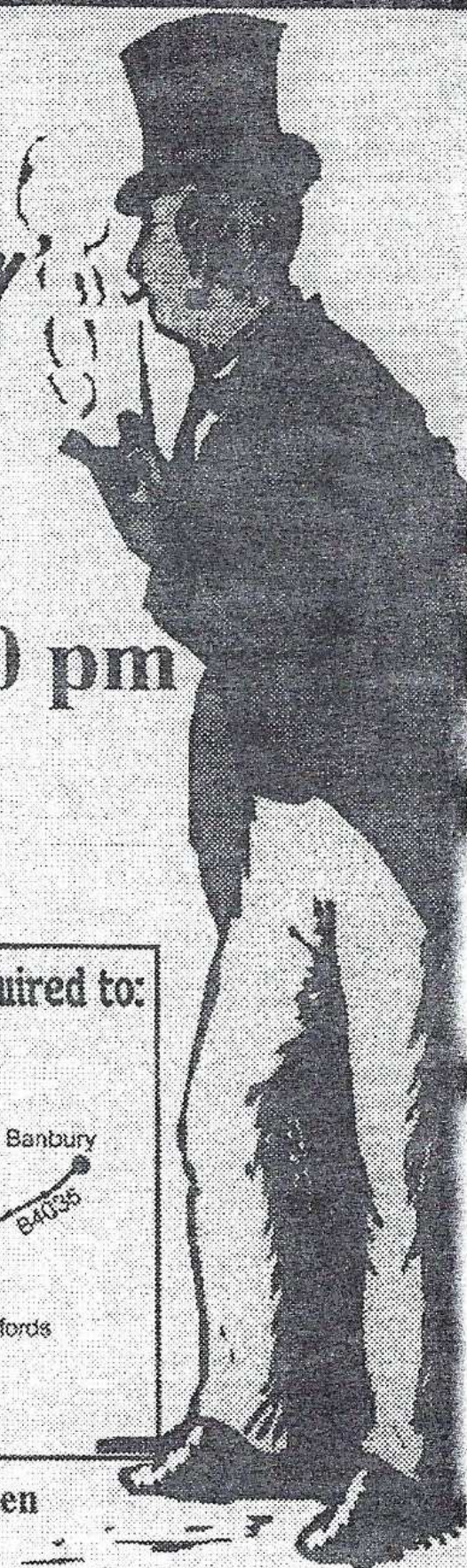
Sibford Gower

Oxon OX15 5RQ

Tel: 01295 780512



Sibford Gower is located off the B4035 between
Banbury and Shipston on Stour



Letter from Sibford Village Hall Committee

We hope you have by now received a complimentary programme for our Annual Village Fayre, which takes place on **Saturday 3rd June**, gates open at 1.30pm official opening at 2 O'Clock. **Please support us on the day** - a lot of work has gone into making it a fun day. Lots for all the family to see and take part in. Please let us have entries for the Children's Art Competition on the day by 2.30pm which will be judged by our own local artist Nigel Fletcher. Entries on the day for the Children's Fancy Dress at 2.15pm; Fun Dog Show at 2.45, with the Challenge Trophy going to the Sibford Top Dog; the Children's Obstacle Course from 2 to 4pm.

The April and May Collectables and Car Boot Sales were not quite as profitable for the Village Hall, raising £80.20 and £84 respectively for Hall funds. Again our thanks go to residents who have helped to keep us supplied with items for the Village Hall table (£10 & £17.50 included in these sales). At the Fayre on **Sat. 3rd June** will be a number of our regular Car Booters selling their goods. The next sale in the Hall will be on **Sunday 18th June**. For bookings (tables/Pitches £5) please ring 01295 251339. The Committee thanks Josie and Bert Marshall for helping to raise £1,000 over the last year from these Sales.

On **Thursday 8th June** we will be having a Theatre evening at the Village Hall - "Cider with Rosie", which is at the Mill in Banbury shortly - performed by the North Oxfordshire B Tec. students, starting at 7.30pm. for approximately two hours -tickets £3 & £1.50 from the Village Shop or ring 780025.

Dunns Auctions will be holding their regular monthly auction on **Saturday 17th June** at 2.30pm. with viewing from 12 noon. For further details contact 01608 662587. Refreshments available.

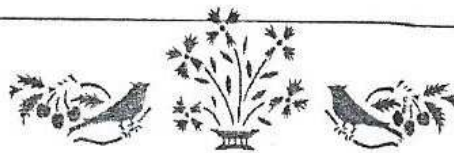
Deadline for contributions to July Sibford Scene will be
Tuesday 20th June.

Contributions to Editor, Treasurer or Village Shop.

DIALABILITY

Our Mobile Information Unit will be in Banbury on Wednesday 14th. June, Wednesday 26th July and Wednesday 9th August 2000. We shall be parking in Bridge Street outside Marks & Spencer and we look forward to seeing you between 10.30 am and 3.30 pm.

We can offer all sorts of advice and information on any topic to do with disability. It does not matter whether or not you are disabled yourself, a carer, a friendly neighbour or a relative..... or, just someone who wants to know what goes on in our van..... we really would like to meet you, so do call in and say "hello".



Open Gardens Sunday July 2nd(2-5pm)

Temple Close

By kind permission of:-
Vera Jones

The Manor House

Martyn & Elaine Booth

Meadow Cottage
6 The Colony

Roger & Val Powell

Admission to all three gardens is £3 with accompanied children admitted free and all entrance fees will go to THE CARERS CENTRE(NORTH & WEST OXFORDSHIRE), BANBURY which provides information and help to local families taking care of those with disabilities. Your support will be very much welcomed and appreciated.

Sibford Village Hall Extension Project

Cherwell District Planning Department has now given its approval to the plans for the proposed extension to the Village Hall.

On 3rd June (Fayre day!), there will be a display stand inside the village hall showing the up to date plans.

The Village Hall Committee has appointed several professional advisors to assist our architect to cost the project for our Lottery application.

The advisors comprise a quantity surveyor, a planning supervisor, and a structural engineer.

We hope to submit our application to the National Lottery around the end of June.

The Steering Committee

The Firs Garage



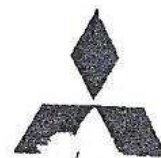
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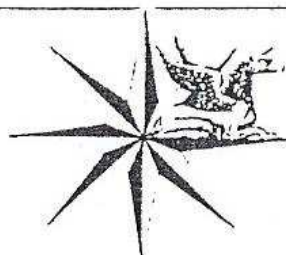
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Friendship Club

After a quiet May when we held our A.G.M. and the future of the Club was discussed we can now look forward to some summer outings, the first of which is as follows:-

Tuesday 6th June. Lunch at the "Wheelbarrow and Castle" at Inkberrow and then on to Worcester for a trip down the river. Further details from Mrs. Boughton (263460)

Tuesday 20th June we meet in the Village Hall at 2.00pm.

Methodist Chapel

We are holding our Anniversary Service on **6th June at 7.30pm.** Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

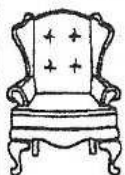
On **Wednesday 14th June 10-12 Noon** we have a Coffee Morning in the Chapel. All proceeds at this event will go towards different Methodist Funds.

Everyone will be very welcome to join us at either or both of these functions.

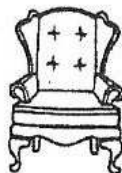
Don't Forget
The Pageant
22, 23, 24th June
see page 13

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SEEN THE PANELS? NOW GET THE BOOK!

A BOOK about the **Sibford Millennium Panels** is to be published in June.

The book will contain high quality full page photographs of each panel with keys to show exactly who did what. There will be a map showing the locations of each of the houses or public buildings illustrated. A directory of artists will take you quickly to the work of any artist you are interested in. Finally, nearly half the 40 page book will be devoted to individual reproductions of each house or public building with notes on history, former residents, anecdotes etc, as well as the names of residents at the turn of the millennium.

In addition to the 6 village panels, the book will include a panel prepared for the millennium by each of the two schools, the Primary School and the Friends' School.

The Sibford Millennium Panels was a major community project covering more than 100 square feet of detailed artwork. The book is a tribute to Mollie Picken and the 66 villagers who contributed to the work. It will be a handy and accessible record of the work and provide an added dimension of history and village memory.

The book is published by Andrew and Martin Gordon. Text and photographs are by Andrew Gordon. The price (which has been subsidised by a sponsor) will be £6 during June only, and subsequently £8. The book will be available in early June from the Village Shop, at Pageant locations or it can be ordered from Andrew Gordon at Leasowe House, Sibford Gower, OX15 5RT (Tel 780569).

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Church Services

Society of Friends

Sunday at 10.30 am

Methodist

Sunday at 11.00 am

Roman Catholic Mass (Wroxton) Sunday at 9.00 am

(Brailes) Sunday at 11.30 am

Baptist

(Hook Norton) Sunday at 10.30 am

Church of England, Holy Trinity, Sibford Gower

June

Thursday 1st Ascension Day. 8pm Benefice Eucharist at Tadmarton

Sunday 4th Benefice Eucharist 10am. at Swalcliffe

Sunday 11th Holy Communion 9.30am. - Pentecost

Sunday 18th Holy Communion 9.30am.

Sunday 25th Holy Communion 9.30am.

July

Sunday 2nd 10am. Young at Heart Service at Sibford.

Charity Car Boot Sale at Wheathills Farm

Sunday 23rd July 11am til 2pm

Tel 780490 to book your pitch

More details next month

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Sibford Bus Services

FREE BUS SERVICE

	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Return</u>
Thursdays 8th and 22nd June to Banbury	10am	12noon
Wednesdays 14th and 28th June to Chippy	10am	12noon

The pick-up points are: Banbury Bus Chippy Bus
 Village Hall Village Hall
 Crossroads High Meadow
 High Meadow Crossroads
 The Colony

2. Stagecoach 480 Shipston - Sibford - Banbury

	Mon ~ Sat (M-S). (NS).			Not Sat Sat only (SO).	
	M~S	NS	SO	M~S	NS
Shipston	-	-	9.20am	-	-
Sibford Gower Crossroads	7.30am	9.00am	9.45am	11.45am	12.45pm
Sibford Ferris School	7.32am	9.02am	9.48am	(11.38)	(12.38)
Banbury Bus Station	8.00am	9.30am	10.15am	12.15pm	1.15pm
	M~S	SO	NS	M~S	M~S
Banbury Bus Station	11.15am	12.15pm	12.15pm	2.15pm	6.00pm
Sibford Ferris School	11.38am	12.47pm	12.38pm	2.38pm	6.23pm
Sibford Gower Crossroads	11.40am	12.50pm	12.40pm	2.40pm	6.25pm
Shipston	-	1.15pm	-	-	-

3. CHERWELL VILLAGER. 55 Sibford ~ Banbury

	Outward	Return (read up)
Wednesday only		
Sibford Gower	9.55am	1.55pm
Sibford Ferris	9.57am	1.53pm
Hooky	10.05am	1.45pm
Bloxham	10.35am	1.15pm
Banbury	10.50am	1.00pm

4. CHERWELL RURAL DIAL-A-RIDE SCHEME-A mini-bus with tail-Lift to take ELDERLY OR DISABLED PEOPLE, and escort, to Banbury (max fare £1.20),

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Calendar of Events for June

Sat 3rd	Village Fayre 1.30pm. Village Hall p14
Tue 6th	Friendship Club Outing to Worcester p19
Tue 6th	Quiet Gardens - Stanbrook Abbey Trip p8
Tue 6th	Methodist Chapel Anniversary Service. 7.30pm p19
Tue 6th	Tuesday Bike Rides 7pm (Ferris crossroads)
Wed 7th	Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop 2.25 - 4.20pm
Wed 7th	Horticultural Society visit by Shenington p9
Thu 8th	Theatre - 'Cider with Rosie' - V.Hall 7.30pm p14
Sat 10th	Skip in Pound Lane
Sat 10th	Shakespeare's Tempest-Leasowe House 7.30pm Ph:780569
Tue 13th	W.I. Meeting in the Village Hall. p6
Wed 14th	Methodist Chapel Coffee Morning 10am-12noon. p19
Wed 14th	Dialability Roadshow in Banbury. p15
Fri 16th	Quiet Garden at Handywater p8
Sat 17th	Dunns Auctions at the Village Hall 2.30pm p14
Sat 17th	Puppet Show at Winderton 2.30 pm p7 p7
Sun 18th	Collectables and Car Boot sale, V.Hall p14
Tue 20th	Friendship Club Meeting 2pm Village Hall p10
Tue 20th	L.E.O. Club Meeting at Marias House p10

Tue 20th Deadline for Contributions to July Scene. Contributions to Editor, Treasurer or Village Shop.

Wed 21st	Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop 2.25 - 4.20pm
22 - 23 - 24th	Sibfords Society Exhibition in the Manor p11
22 - 23 - 24th	The Sibford Pageant. p12/13
Sun 25th	Hospice Gardens Open. 2-5pm p3
Wed 28th	Horticultural Society visit to Shenington p9

July part

Sat 1st	Skip in Barley Close
Sun 2nd	Gower Open Gardens. p15
Thu 6th	Quiet Garden at Handywater p8
Sun 23rd	Car Boot Sale at Wheathills. p22

Sibford Scene

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