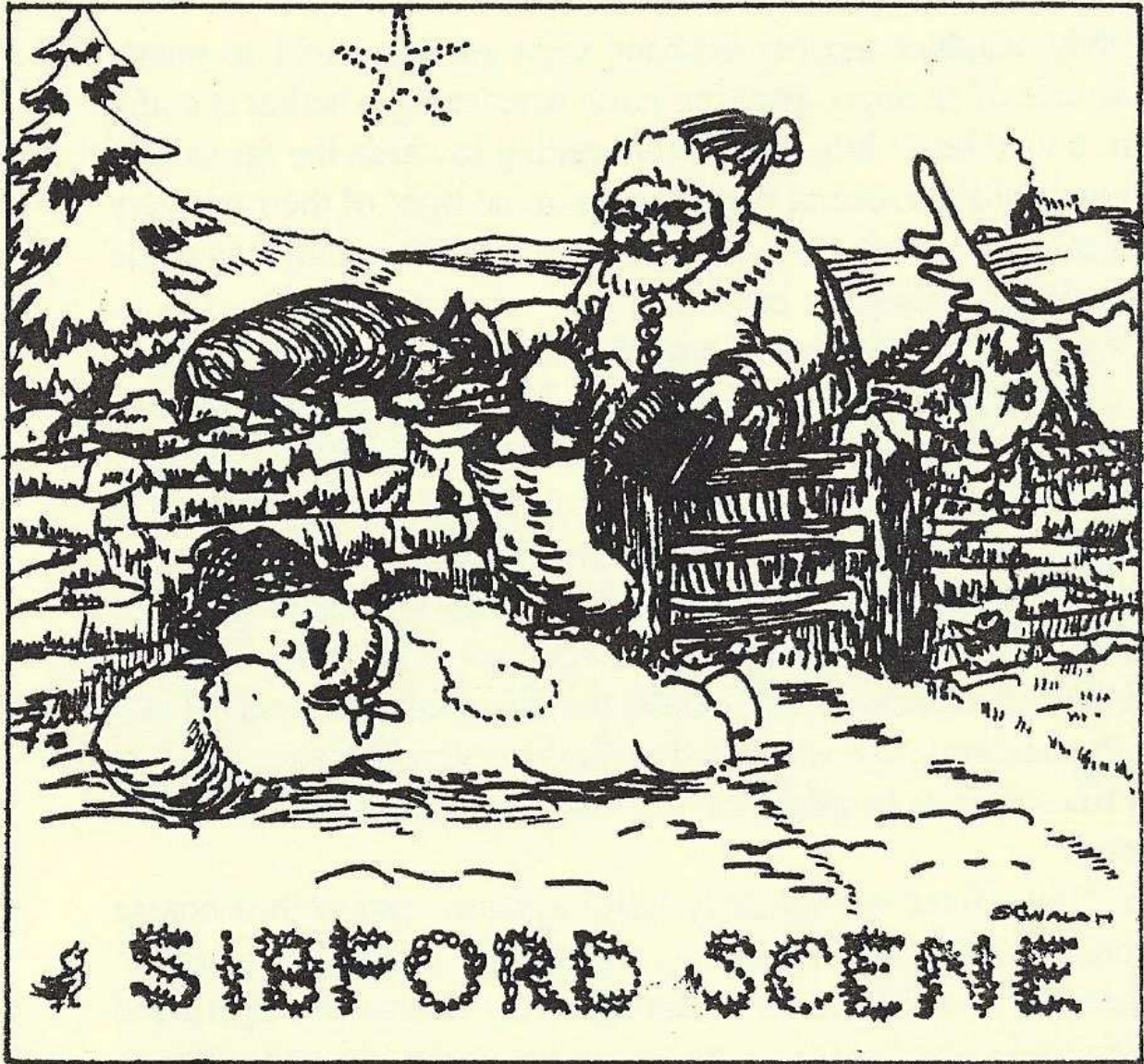


2001



December & January 2000/1

No. 229

Heart of England Jazz Band

Saturday 2nd December
in the Village Hall

Playgroup Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 9th December 2 - 4pm
in the Village Hall

Chapel Carol Service
Sunday 17th December 11 am

Nature Notes

Oct 28th. My daughter and her husband went out last night to investigate the source of an angry grunting noise wondering whether it could come from a wild boar! When they were getting towards the far side of the field they could see several pairs of eyes in the light of their not very powerful torch. They went close enough to see that the sound was made by a rutting stag guarding his harem.

Nov. 7th. I get frequent reports of buzzards being seen over the village, in one case five were seen at one time but today I was in the right place at the right time to see one for myself. It was being mobbed by 2 crows.

Nov. 16th. A hen pheasant walked across our lawn this morning. We used to see them more often than we do now; indeed they nested in the garden once or twice. Not that we want too many of them as I can remember the trouble that my brother had with released pheasants, when we chased them up one side of his raspberries they just ran round the end and down the next row, and what with pecking his young plants and dust bathing in his seedbeds he might as well have had a flock of hens loose in his garden.

Nov. 17th. Last winter we regularly heard a tawny owl with a hoarse voice which I thought could have been a young one as there sounded to be two others with it. We are now hearing a very hoarse one again and still cannot decide whether it is a young one yet to find its full voice or the same one with a permanent croak.

Nov. 20th. On November 7th I saw my first 4 fieldfares of the winter flying southwest and on the 11th another 25 going in the same direction but have not seen any since.

Neighbourhood Watch

Christmas is a time to enjoy, don't allow unwanted visitors to spoil it for you.

Impersonation is a real problem. Check the identification of any officials calling before letting them into your house. Don't allow strangers in.

Lock all doors and windows when you are out. Keep tools etc. locked in your garden sheds or garages.

Cancel newspapers, milk etc. when you are away.

John Mulley.

Letter from the Village Hall Committee.

Tickets are now available for The Heart Of England Jazz Band who will be appearing at the Village Hall on **Saturday 2nd December at 7.30pm**, playing Dixieland and Traditional Jazz. Tickets cost £5 and £3 from the Village Shop or ring 780025. Price includes a glass of wine and nibbles.

On **Wednesday 3rd January 2001** Circus Berzercus present "A Komedy of Errors" in the Village Hall at 7 pm. A family show packed with comedy, dazzling juggling, circus skills, unicycling and daftness, with two brilliant performers Ben Cornish and Steve Eldridge. Tickets adults £5, £3 for children and concessions and family tickets £12 (either 2 adults & 2 children or one adult and 4 children) will be available at the Village Shop or ring 780025.

The Annual Quiz proved to be another great evening, raising £242.76 for Village Hall funds. Our grateful thanks go again to Adrian Lamb and also to Helen Lamb and Joanna Gilkes. We have had lots of compliments for the wonderful supper.

The Collectables and Car Boot Sales in November were very busy, raising a total of £191.85 for Hall funds, less advertising costs. The next sale is on **Sunday 3rd December** with one more before Christmas on **Sunday 17th December** - 12 noon to 3 pm although prospective buyers do start arriving around 11am! The first sale of the new year will be **Sunday 7th January**.

There will be one more Public Auction in the Village Hall on **Saturday 16th December** with viewing from 12 noon, auction at 2.30pm. Ring 01608 662587 for details. Refreshments available.

The Lottery Application is nearing completion after months of very intense work on the proposed extension. We will all breathe a sigh of relief when it is sent off, with eager anticipation awaiting the result!

11.11.11.00

I am sure that I speak for a good many others when I say how much we appreciated the young bugler who played at the Remembrance Service! I do not know his name, but feel that he should be commended for the quality and style of his playing and accept our thanks for his contribution.

Roger Powell.

LETTER FROM CAPE TOWN

This is the first letter of several I hope to write from sunny South Africa as a Sibfordian in exile. Steve and I are here for approximately two years while a new factory is being built and developed in Cape Town by Steve's Company. Steve is heading up this manufacturing plant which is making ceramic substrates for catalytic converters. Now that might mean something to some of you but I'm not (and can't) get more technical than that. Suffice it to say that the Government and the Western Cape in particular are delighted to have foreign investment and job creation, so badly needed in the new South Africa.

I hope to give you a flavour of what it's like to live here, some of the changes that have taken place, a few nature notes, and perhaps a bit of what we have been doing with ourselves. This, I hope, will appeal to those who know us and those who don't. For those of you who have been to the fairest Cape I hope it will bring back happy memories and for those of you who haven't been, maybe I can tempt you to visit this beautiful part of the world.

We arrived in September, at the end of Winter, just going into Spring so the weather has been mixed. Sometimes we have had misty starts to the day, sometimes a bit of rain but the sun is never far away. Temperatures have varied during the day from about 17 degrees to the high 20s. However, as the weeks go on the weather gets more settled and last week we had our first day with the temperature over 30 degrees; a day when we were glad to have a swimming pool in the garden! The flowers are wonderful at this time of year with roses, lillies, agapanthus, strelitsia, to name but a few, in full bloom. The jacaranda trees have now started to blossom too. These have wonderful intense purple blossom made more vivid by the fact that the blossom appears before the leaves. The native bushveld here is fynbos (fine bush) which is ablaze with colour at the moment. The proteas are particularly striking and come in many different colours and varieties.

We are living in a place called Somerset West which is actually about 45 km from Cape Town, the other side of False Bay. We are surrounded by beautiful mountains, the Helderberg on one side and the Hottentots-Holland on the other. We can just see the sea from our

house so the beach is not far away. We are also on the famous wine route with Stellenbosch just up the road. Our nearest vineyard is called Vergelegen which produces a very nice red!

We have been rather busy since we arrived as you can imagine with a hundred and one things to do including finding a house and moving in. I'm pleased to report that on the whole things have gone smoothly and we're beginning to settle into our new way of life. We are very lucky to have some very good friends from our days in Johannesburg staying close by who have been great at introducing us to people and pointing us in the right direction. Life has certainly been busy since we got here with one lot of overseas visitors come and gone and the next lot arriving soon.

I think I might have room for one last bit of information in this letter. For anyone who would like to see whales at close hand, this is the place to come. The Southern Right whale comes close into shore to breed between July and November every year. It really is the most incredible sight to see these huge creatures in family groups basking on the surface, blowing big water spouts and then sounding, showing the classic tail fluke. We spent a wonderful afternoon watching them at a place called Hermanus which is becoming quite famous for whale watching, although you can see them all around False Bay.

I think that's enough for this letter. I hope it has been of interest to you so it just remains for Steve and I to wish everyone in Sibford a happy Christmas and New Year. We will be thinking of you while we sit on the beach enjoying the sunshine!

Pat and Steve Bates

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Phone for more details

To commemorate the Sibford Millennium Pageant we will be planting a tree, placing a commemorative plaque and burying a time capsule at the site of the pageant. Anyone wishing to attend the above event will be very welcome, I will announce the date early next year.

If you would like to preserve your memories of Sibford 2000 by placing something in the time capsule please contact me by 31.12.00 to let me know what you would like to contribute.

Paul Hobson. Green Acres, Sibford Gower. 788730
e-mail mpahob@waitrose.com

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THE ROLE 7 HOURS A WEEK £6.80 PER HOUR
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

DAVID BENNETT 01295 780373

The Sibford Panels

Christmas is coming!

Our cards tell the story of the Sibfords and celebrate our Millennium Year. They are unique, colourful and personal with individual contributions worked by so many of our residents.

Ideal for Christmas cards, general greetings cards thankyou cards and notelets.

Individual cards 65p each or a pack of 6 cards £3.50 per pack.

For sale at The Sibford Ferris Post Office and Stores or Mollie Mulley (780629) or Pauline Inns (780702)



SIBFORD MILLENNIUM PAGEANT

Reunion and BIG SCREEN

viewing of Pageant Video

Photographs, etc

Sibford School Monday 11 December 7.45 pm

If you took any photographs at the Pageant please bring them along on the evening and display them for everyone to view

Everyone Welcome

Admission £1.00 - children free

Light refreshments

All proceeds to Sibford School Development fund

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W. I. NEWS & INFORMATION

Many a little girl would have proved an equally captivated audience as were the W.I. members at the November meeting when Kathleen Winter gave the most fascinating talk and demonstration on DOLLS. Giving a potted history of their wooden origins of nearly 200 years ago via the developments of the German Kestner and French Jumeau families, through to the superior porcelain models of today, must have been the result of much research and keen interest in her subject.

The ensuing demonstration of producing "spare parts" in plaster casts and the delightful display of enchantingly dressed dolls, ALL the result of her own skill - and patience! - were the source of great admiration.

Kathleen was presented with a gift voucher as a token of our thanks and appreciation.

Jean Puddle was presented with a basket of appropriately coloured flowers in celebration of her and Bill's recent Golden Wedding.

Welcome refreshments were provided by Ann Benham and Norma Allen.

Altogether, a very enjoyable meeting.

* * * * *

December 12th.
CHRISTMAS MEETING
2.00 p.m.
In the Village Hall

Please wear a funny hat - Christmas or otherwise - to this meeting, and don't forget your small wrapped present.

M.C. / G.B.

Simple yoga & meditation practices
Trial session Monday 8th Jan.
Continuing Mondays for 8 weeks 7.30-9.00 pm
£32
Suitable for women and men
no experience necessary
Sibford Village Hall
Call Emma 01295 788969 for details

Methodist Chapel
Coffee Morning Saturday 2nd December
10 - 12 noon in the Chapel
Tea / Coffee and biscuits - 60p
Usual stalls and friendly chat.

Carol Service - Sunday 17th December 11.00 am
Pastor Henry Edwards will be officiating.
Anyone will be very welcome to attend either or both events.

G.D.B.A.

A big thankyou to our helpers and to all of you who so generously supported the Coffee Morning on November 1st. in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind.

We have raised a wonderful total of £403.39 on behalf of G.D.B.A.

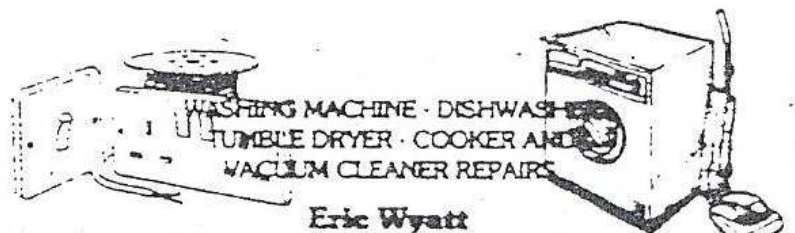
Swimming

I go to Shipston Swimming Pool 2 or 3 times a week. It's a pleasant pool, usually reasonably warm and uncrowded, and there are adults only sessions four days a week. If anyone would like to join me, regularly or occasionally, please phone 780631.

Jean Jones.

GARAGE SALE
SUN 10TH DECEMBER
AT 10 COTSWOLD CLOSE 10.30AM.
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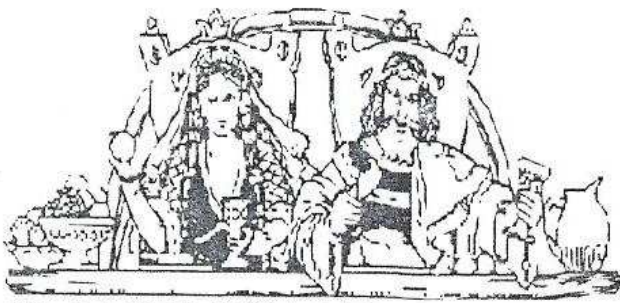
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WELCOME TO SIBFORD

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 Swalcliffe 788252 (Gower or Burdrop) or **Mary Mills** on Swalcliffe 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, clubs and societies that are currently active

Suzy Straw moved into Rufus Cottage in July, from Tysoe and previously London. She ran an Adult Basic Education Scheme in Essex and in Tysoe worked for Educational Charities researching the truths common to the major religions and the purpose and power of pilgrimage. Her main focus is dancing, in many forms. She teaches dance and hopes to offer classes for children in Sibford. She is involved in a project to help reestablish dance as a form of worship in Cathedrals and Churches. She is also a professional masseuse and studies and uses complimentary therapies.

"Sibford is so beautiful and has such a lively, friendly community spirit - I love it".



**YE OLDE STAG'S HEAD INN,
SWALCLIFFE,** cordially invite you to ye Merrie
Medieval Banquet to celebrate ye
New Year's Eve 2000.

Medieval dress preferred. A bottle of champagne for the 'best' costume. Men in tights and wenchies in bodices welcomed. Banquet commences at 8.00 p.m. Arrival 7.30 - 7.45 p.m.

£25.00 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance. TEL: 01295 780232

WE HAVE VACANCIES FOR STAFF FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON. PLEASE TELEPHONE FOR DETAILS.

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Open Tuesday to Saturday
10am to 5pm February to
October



SIBFORD PLAYGROUP
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2000
2PM - 4PM

SIBFORD GOWER VILLAGE HALL
ADMISSION 20p



COME AND SEE SANTA
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GAMES - RAFFLE - BRIC-A-BRAC
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THANK YOU

TO EVERYONE
WHO HELPS TO
PRODUCE YOUR

SIBFORD SCENE

The people involved in bringing you your Sibford Scene each month are too numerous to mention individually but all deserve thanks, from the regular contributors through to the hardy folk who deliver them in all weathers and usually very promptly. Special thanks to Shelia Walsh for the cover designs each month and for this months pantomime puzzle, also to Ina Lamb for the village names puzzle.

I hope people have appreciated the varied articles which have appeared over the year from as far afield as Australia and South Africa and more contributions in the same vein would be most welcome.

It only remains for me to wish all our readers a happy Christmas and New Year.

Adrian Lamb

Merry Christmas

The deadline for contributions for the February Sibford Scene will be **Tuesday 16th January.**

Contributions to the Village Shop or the Editor please.



TREES

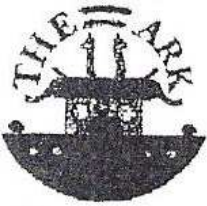
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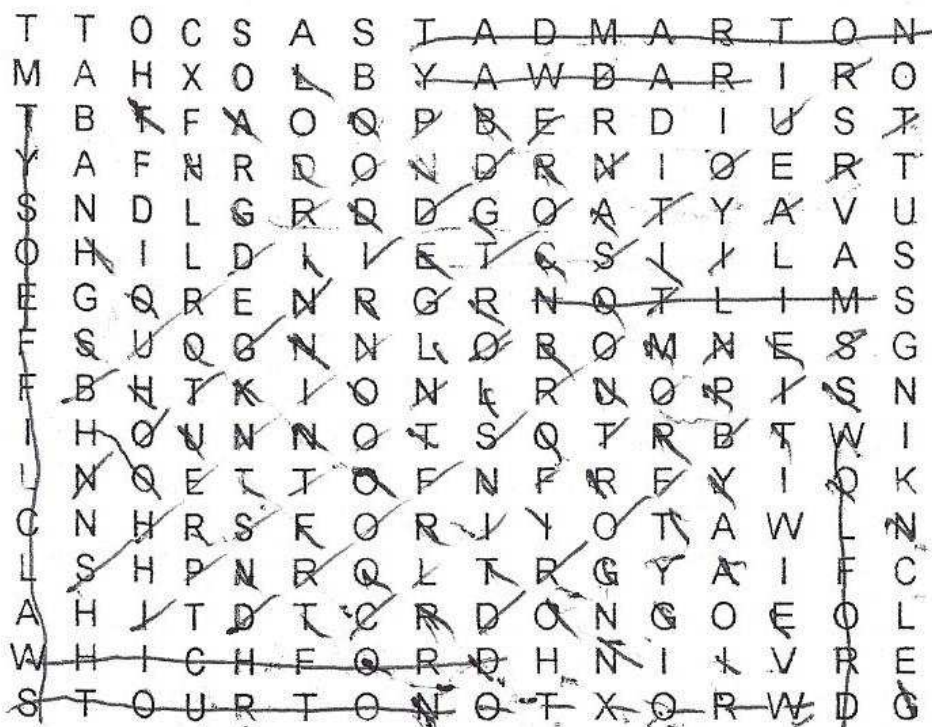
Tel: 01608 730555 Fax: 730271 Mobile: 0403 548154

Christmas Puzzle Page

The Sibford Scene has a number of small prizes for the two puzzles. The Pantomime Puzzle is for children while the Village Names puzzle is open to all ages.

Entries to the Village Shop by **December 18th** and the prizes will be awarded before Christmas.

The grid of letters below contains the names of many of our local villages (printed backwards or forwards, up, down or diagonally). When you have found them all, the un-used letters can be reformed into a relevant sentence.



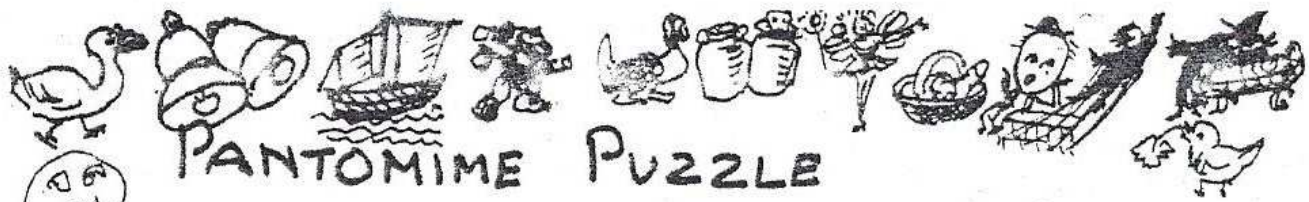
The sentence is: _____

Pantomime Puzzle Answers

- | | | |
|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 |

Name _____ Age _____

Telephone No. _____



PANTOMIME PUZZLE

Name the pantomimes on the balloons

Had some golden eggs

slipped a slipper

He climbed high

paid no Electricity Bills?

PERSKI'S FAVOURITE AND FOLLOWERS

What a xmas quilliser!

Did not bounce alas!

Did he never look back? turn back

He flew thro' the air with the greatest of ease!

GRANNY'S GIRL

ALL THE NICE GIRLS LOVE HIM BUT THEY DO NOT LIKE HIS NAME

He Met Score Bad Lads

GUESS WHO?

SSN

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Oddjob

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01295 788598

SIBFORD HORTI.

Those who did not attend last month's talk on Ferns and Ivies missed a riveting evening, when many of those present went away with arms full of plants for their garden.

Next month we meet on Wednesday the 13th for our Christmas party, when eats and mulled wine will be served, after a slide show entitled "The Travels of a Photographer". This should be good fun, so see you there!

R.P.



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JULIE BRUGGENWIRTH ON 01295 788594
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

The Village Hall Quiz

Saturday 28th October saw 12 teams battling it out for the coveted trophy! (or the task of polishing it for next year) The first round of Pot Luck questions saw some good scoring and the Geography and Literature rounds were so varied and general that every team found some easy and some hard questions. At this stage the W.I. were holding a small lead which they maintained through to the supper break with a good score on the music questions.

Supper is rapidly becoming the objective of entering for some of the teams and even saw one team sending home one member to fetch a container to take a few of the meatballs home in!

The supper time problems were a dozen pictures of birds to identify and to list all the events at the Olympics in which Great Britain won medals. This round proved decisive with the 'Follies' team picking up 27½ points to give them the lead. The final round of pictures culled from magazines to be identified, saw all the teams scoring well but being unable to close the gap, and the Follies ran out the winners by 11 points. Many thanks to all those individuals and companies who supported the raffle so generously and to those who came along and spent their money on the night, and a big thankyou to Sam at the Bishop Blaize for organising the wine which always help the evening along!

£242.76 was raised for the Halls funds.

The Scores

Follies 117½	Handywater Horrors 92½
Wined Up 106½	Burdrop BADJAS 82½
W.I. 103	Horti 79
No Hoppers 101	West End 76
Village Hall 99½	Greens Cabbage Heads 69
Crossroads and beyond 98½	
And the little on on the end 96½	

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To help staff the Telephone Helpline at our office in Oxford

And

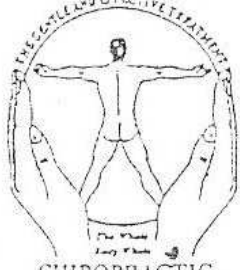
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SIBFORD MILLENNIUM PANELS - THE BOOK

Special Offer

for people sending the BOOK to friends or relatives outside Sibford or overseas.

From now until Christmas the book will come with a **festive red envelope**. Still only £8.

Available at the Village Shop or by phoning:
780629, 780702 or 780569.

The John Loggins Charity

The Trustees of the Charity will soon be meeting and the annual distribution of funds will be considered. As in previous years, those people, older or younger, who feel themselves in need of the financial assistance offered, please write to The Trustees, c/o The Rectory, Sibford Gower by December 12th. All applications will be considered in complete confidence by the trustees and distribution carried out in time for Christmas.

Timothy Wimbush. (Rector)

The Firs Garage

a world apart from the rest

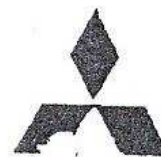
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The Firs Garage would like to thank the local community for their loyal support; it is very much appreciated.

The Sibfords Society

During the next few months, members of the Society are intending to ask for the help of villagers who were born in the Sibfords or have lived here for many years, in recounting their memories to make an Oral History of the Sibfords. This will be done in a very informal and relaxed way, on a one-to-one basis to begin with and later on, when we are recording the communal events which took place in the village, we will ask a small group to meet, so that they can help to stir up memories of days gone by. This project is very important, as it will help to record the life of a village community throughout the last century. Other communities in the country have already commenced this work and future generations will find our lives as fascinating as we find the diaries and accounts of life from previous centuries.

We do not have a meeting in December and would like to remind you that we have our enjoyable annual Social Evening on Thursday, 18 January at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, and would ask everyone to provide a plate of food for a bring and share supper. The evening is open for non-members of the Society to come along and join in a very pleasant evening.

CHRISTMAS CARDS – we have cards left from the previous two years, as mentioned in last month's Scene. We are selling these at the bargain price of 5 for £1.00 and Ivor Hopkyns will be happy to help you on 788367.

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LEO CLUB NEWS

After a very long summer break, the October meeting at the home of Mary Mills was very well supported, and we were also lucky enough to have two new members. Timothy Wimbush's memories of amusing things that he had experienced during his 32 years of ministry went down very well and there were lots of questions for him to answer afterwards - always a sign of a good speaker. There was an enjoyable and varied selection of food for the 'bring and share' supper, and full justice was done to it. Once again, we had an efficient wine waiter in the form of Mary's husband, Bryan.

The November meeting, which was held at Mary Bristow's, was also well supported. It was run on the lines of 'Desert Island Discs' and four volunteers had made their choice of music. Their tastes varied from Mozart, Welsh Choirs, a recording of a reading by Roald Dahl with Martin Butler's music, and then on to didgeridoo music, which caused great amusement.

The Christmas meeting (on December 19th) will be held at Greta Baadsgaard's home: Quince Cottage, Bonds End Lane, when members will bring Christmas readings and poems. Please also bring a small plate of seasonal food.

MW.

DAVID MALONE

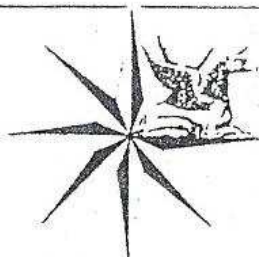
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Saturday

8am to 1pm on Sunday

Terry & Judith

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Friendship Club

We all enjoyed a most entertaining afternoon when Mr W. Wyatt talked about some of the things which happen behind the scenes at the B.B.C. The afternoon was concluded with our usual raffle and refreshments.

We would like to thank Mrs. Alice Fowler and Rene Girling for their efforts in raising £128-33 for club funds at their sale.

Dates for the diary;

Tuesday 12th December. Pantomime trip - Dick Whittington at Chipping Norton 5 O'Clock performance

Tuesday 19th December. Christmas Tea in the Village Hall. Time to be notified.

Thankyou

I would like to thank the people who supported the Friendship Club sale. Also those who donated raffle prizes and items to sell, those who helped on the stalls and the raffle and to Rene for donating the hampers, not forgetting Stan and Tony for serving tea.

Alice.

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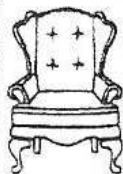
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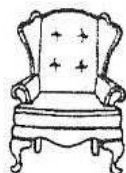
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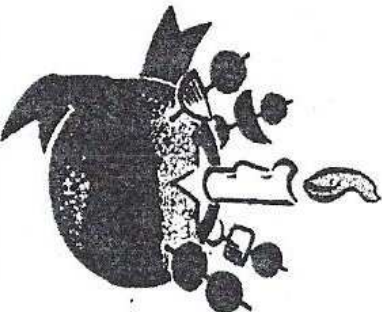
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CHRIST-LIGHT



Holy Trinity Church. Sibford Gower
Christingle Service
Friday December 22nd at 6.30 PM
Come along and light up a child's life



Children's

Service

Bears & Prayers

Come along on
Sunday 14th January 2001
at 10am.
Celebrate the start of the
year with a prayer
share it with your teddy
bear!
EVERYONE!
Please bring your bear to
the church

Holy Trinity Church Sibford Gower

Sibford Bus Services

FREE BUS SERVICE

	Depart	Return
Thursday 7th & 21st December to Banbury	10am	12noon
Wednesday 13th and 27th December to Chippy (January not yet available Ed.)	10am	12noon

The pick-up points are :

Banbury Bus
High Meadow
Crossroads
Village Hall

Chippy Bus
Village Hall
Crossroads
High Meadow
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

Wednesday only	Outward	Return (read up)
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

December

- Sat 2nd Chapel Coffee Morning and Christmas Stalls, 10-12. p9
Sat 2nd Heart of England Jazz Band at the Village Hall 7pm p3
Sun 3rd Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 12-3pm p3
Wed 6th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)
Sat 9th Playgroup Christmas Bazaar, 2pm. p11
Mon 11th Pageant display and video at Sibford School. p7
Tue 12th W.I. Christmas Meeting in the Village Hall p8
Tue 12th Friendship Club trip to Pantomime. p23
Wed 13th Horti Christmas Party. p17
Sat 16th Skip at the Pond
Sat 16th Dunns Auctions at the Village Hall. 2.30pm p3
Sun 17th Carol Service in the Chapel at 11am p9
Sun 17th Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 12-3pm p3
Mon 18th Entries for the Scene Christmas Competitions to the Village Shop. pp 14&15
Tue 19th Friendship Club Christmas Tea. p23
Tue 19th LEO Club meeting at Quince Cottage. p22
Wed 20th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)

January

- Wed 3rd 'A Komedy of Errors' Circus at the Village Hall. 7pm p3
Sun 7th Collectables and Car Boot sale. 12-3pm p3
Mon 15th Ferris Parish Council Meeting. Friends School
Tue 16th **Deadline for contributions to the February Sibford Scene. p12**
Thu 18th Sibfords Society Social. p21
Sat 20th Skip in Acre Ditch

Sibford Scene

Editor; Adrian Lamb, Grounds Farm, S.Ferris 780380

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780555

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