

Sibford Scene

August & September 2002

No. 246

Senior Citizens Garden Tea Party
Temple Close, Sunday 4th August 3 to 5 pm

“It was THIS BIG”

Open air theatre at the Village Hall at 6.30 pm
On Thursday August 15th

Sibford Horticultural Society
Horticultural and Produce Show
Saturday 17th August 2.30 pm.
At the Village Hall

Entries on Wednesday 14th between 7 & 9 pm
At the Surgery, or in advance to any committee member
listed in the schedule (delivered with your July scene)

Village Hall Official Opening of the new Extension
Saturday September 14th from 1 pm

Nature Notes

June. 23rd This evening at Swalcliffe Common I suddenly found myself surrounded by long tailed tits. I tried to count them, which was an impossible task with them always on the move, but I am convinced that there were more than 20 of them which would mean that the group consisted of more than one family. There were also some young blue tits with them. I went there to see if I could hear quail, which we have heard in that area in past years, but failed in that.

June. 29th I am glad to see that there are a few more young birds in the garden, mostly tits with a few blackbirds and robins.

July. 3rd I went to see whether there were any chimney sweeper moths in Blindwell Hades this year but found none nor could I find any of the pig nut that used to flourish there and is the food plant for the caterpillars of this moth. A few years ago I noticed that a lot of the pignuts had been dug up by badgers so I suppose their digging and perhaps less regular grazing has caused the pignut to disappear and with it this colony of chimney sweepers.

July. 12th A neighbour informed me that he had heard corncrakes but the news came on a card from one of the Scottish islands. It is a long time since they nested in Sibford. My grandfather said that it was when mowing machines replaced scythes for cutting grass for hay that their numbers declined sharply. I can remember, when I was a boy, in 1939 or 40 being told that it was a corncrake that flew up from the last patch on uncut corn in the middle of a field that we were harvesting with a binder. It had rather a weak flight a bit like that of a moorhen.

July. 17th A croak drew my attention to a family of 5 ravens which were making their leisurely way northward over the villages. When I looked up at them I was surprised to see how high up they were. The distance at which their croak can be clearly heard always amazes me. Five foxes were seen in Sibford Gower fighting over what started as a live rabbit. I expect that foxes, like cats and other predators bring live prey to their offspring to encourage them to hunt.

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Saturday 14th September

A sponsored event to raise money for the church of your choice and the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. This annual event is held across 31 counties to raise funds for essential repairs to Churches, Chapels and Meeting Houses of all denominations.

walk to visit as between 10am and raise sponsorship like to take part sponsors, just

To take part you have to cycle or many churches as you feel able to 6 pm on the 14th Sept. and hopefully money for the cause. If you would but don't like the idea of getting sponsor yourself and come along. (10 people raising £5 is as good as one raising £50)

If you would like someone to

cycle with contact the organisers who will put you in touch with other riders. More details, sponsor forms etc. are available from; Arnold Lamb; 780357 or from Petra Berry 780462. If you can't take part please find someone who is, to sponsor or volunteer to man one of our churches and sign in the visiting cyclists. It is a lot of fun to be involved with so please join in.



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Monday, 24 June was one of the most delightful days this summer. The sun, which has seemed so reluctant of late, shone all day and we were blessed with an enormous turnout for our *Breathe Easy* Coffee Morning. There was a most generous spirit abounding and by 12-30 pm when the raffle was drawn you and those who had sent donations because they were unable to be present had raised the grand sum of

£1359 (by the time we have received the tax back on the sensibly 'Gift Aided' donations).

Our thanks to all who support and helped in so many ways.

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Please Note...our kitchen will now be closed Tuesday evenings until March.

Note from Sibford Gower Parish Council concerning the Village Pond

The village pond is cleaned out annually and the Parish Council extends thanks and gratitude to those involved in the work carried out. The Council, in liaison with the Pond Committee members, is giving consideration as to how the pond's appearance may be enhanced and has in mind the introduction of fish and more water plants. The Council is very conscious that the water attracts children but this leads to some problems including the addition of 'foreign' objects (eg balls, etc) into the pond and the uprooting of water plants. Regrettably, the latter has been observed to happen. The co-operation of parents is sought to try to ensure that the young folk have due respect for the well-being of this attractive feature of the village and thought is being given to having suitable signs installed as a reminder that the pond be kept in as good a state as is practicably possible. Any thoughts that residents may have as to the maintenance of the pond would be welcomed by the Clerk to the Parish Council (Tel: 780391).

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Friendship Club

On a beautiful sunny day in June we went on our mystery trip which was to 'Milestones' near Basingstoke where we were all transported back in time in Hampshire's 'Living' History Museum. It brought back many memories of how things were in days gone by and made many of us wonder however we managed without all of our 'mod cons'. A most enjoyable day.

At our meeting in July we had Marilyn Duerden from Holloways who talked about the "treasures" we had taken, unfortunately none of us are going to become millionaires.

Dates for the diaries.

August 13th. We hope to arrange a lunch at the Bishops Blaize.

September 3rd. Meet in the Village Hall at 2.00 pm.

September 17th. Outing to Bletchley Park. Times to be arranged.

Non Members would be very welcome to join us on this outing.

I would like to thank everyone for their messages of sympathy and support during Johns illness and afterwards.

This enabled us to be strong.

God bless you all.

Diana Baker

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Sibford Cricket Club

Mixed fortunes again over the past month. The Saturday League team are in the top half of the South Northants League Division Two but just out of the promotion race at present. A combination of good and indifferent performances have contributed to this.

New City (A)	Won	Danny Watts 4-28, Tom Holliday 4-23 Dave Simms 40no, Dave Pratt 36no
Deanshanger (H)	Won	Dave Simms 85no, Ian Wollerton 59 Chris Sabin 5-38
Gayton (A) Bowled)	Lost	Jason Barton 5-49 (Four Ct and Jason Barton 37
Afro Carribean (A)	Lost	Jason Barton 54
Evenley (Cup) (H)	Lost	Simon Chard 3-12, Chris Sabin 2-16 Simon Chard 24

The Sunday 'Friendlies' Team Results

Lower Swell (H)	Won	Chris Sabin 3-23 Chris Wollerton 34, Kevin Peachey 39no
Long Compton (A)	Lost	Dave Simms 32 Ian Davies 2-11 (for the opposition)
Darlingstott (H)	Won	Ian Wollerton 112no Simon Chard and Henry Taylor 3 wickets each

At the annual Chairman's Invitation Match, after much questionable comment about the make-up and balance of the teams, Dave Pratt's eleven eventually past the Simon Chard team total of 155-8 with overs to spare. Past cricketing exponents from the village ironed their whites and duly took to the field. Brian Holliday, Dave Bennett, Dave Lamb, Ron Morbey, Roger Gilbert, John Simms and Peter Randall all made useful contributions but were eclipsed by a rejuvenated Matt (Junior) Simms with his maiden 51no. Other notable performances included:

- The Morbey father & son combination 28
- Peter Randall - a flowing 20
- Graham Wealsby - several hefty blows in 13
- Tom Pratt - an unexpected 2-19
- Ian Davies - a crafty 3-13

Sam Marchant's extended stay at the crease, and 'whippet-like' fielding resulted in a limping, aching torso the following day. A good afternoon was had by all.

Forthcoming home games include:

Saturday 10th August	Gawcott (League)
Saturday 24th August	New City (League)

Spectators welcome.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The holder of lucky Fayre programme did claim her £50 prize before we made a second draw, a resident of Burdrop.

At the last Car Boot Sale the Village Lottery prize winners were drawn and 1st prize went to Mrs Judith Marshall (£12); 2nd to Mrs Jean Puddle (£6) both from the Gower, and 3rd to Mrs Ginny Bennett (£5) from the Ferris. Next draw at the Collectables and Car Boot Sale on **Sunday, 4th August, at 2 pm** with the next one on **Sunday, 1st September**, followed by Sunday, 6th October. Refreshments available. To book a table/pitch for £5 please ring 01295 251339.

On **Thursday, 15th August** at 6.30 p.m. the Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company will be performing a family outdoor show in the field of Sibford Village Hall, entitled 'It was THIS BIG" a slightly fishy tale. Please bring your picnics. A licensed bar available. No charge but a hat will be passed round to support OTTC.

On **Saturday, 14th September**, from 1 p.m. is the Official Opening of the new extension, with a children's party in the afternoon when there will be a visit from Freddie The Fox from Fox FM, Punch & Judy, magic show, bouncy castle & The Penny Arcade will be there. Teas and soft drinks for the children. Licensed Bar. In the evening from 7.30 p.m. there will be dancing to The Blue Lagoon, buffet food and a licensed bar will be available. Tickets at £4 each (children 11 and under free) will be available shortly. We will also have a Grand Raffle.

The Heart of England Jazz Band will be performing at the Village Hall on **Saturday, 26th October**, from 7.30 p.m., with tickets at £5 each. Licensed bar and bar snacks will be available.

We hope to have a Quiz evening in October ~ details later.

The Oxfordshire Rural Learner's Projects Computer Open Day at the Village Hall was well attended and courses will commence on **Tuesday 10th September**, 2002, starting with Introduction to Word Processing and Internet for Beginners. It is hoped to continue into October with introduction to Desk Top Publishing. Mr Peter Titman will be writing to the people who attended the recent Open Day. There are a few spaces available on the courses and anyone interested should ring Bancec leaving their name and telephone number for Mr Titman, who will contact you. Bancec's number is 01295 266763.

W.I. NEWS & INFORMATION

Our Summer Meeting (on the 9th July) is normally held in a members garden. On this occasion it should have been in Lynda's garden at Shenington. Once again this so-called Summer let us down and we were as usual in the Village Hall. Lynda's husband, Peter, had spent time on making their garden just so for us. Such a shame. On the other hand, he had an unexpected peaceful afternoon.

Greta saw that the business part of the meeting was kept short so that we had lots of time for socialising before tea was served. Lynda had prepared some quiz games to stretch our minds - maybe it was the pounding of the rain that put us off as no genius appeared. Just as well as there were no prizes!

We hope for good weather for our Summer Outing on **August 13th to Stanway Water Gardens**. Meet at Village Hall at 10.30 a.m.

R.P.

LEO NEWS

Our summer outing to the White Horse at Wroxton was very successful. It was a lovely sunny evening and the drive there through the beautiful countryside (passing Arnold's team of cyclists on the way) started off the evening perfectly.

There were thirteen of us and we occupied a small alcove all to ourselves. This was rather fortunate, as we are never quiet, but I think on this occasion we made even more noise than usual. We all enjoyed the meal, the wine and the very good company, so a great time was had by all.

We don't have a meeting in August, as so many people tend to be on holiday.

On **September 17th**, however, we are meeting at Jenny Barratt's home, 11 Barley Close, where we shall talk about our summer holidays and of the other interesting things we've done since last meeting." MW

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SIIBFORD TOTS AND BABES GROUP

**New venue in the autumn!
New members always welcome!**

The Tots and Babes sessions ended with the school term, and they will start up again on Wednesday, 4 September. The first three meetings (4th, 11th and 18th September) will be on Wednesdays, 10- 11.30 at the Friends' Meeting House in the Gower -as normal, but **from 24 September** we will meet on **Tuesdays**, 10-11.30 in the new, child and baby friendly, **'Small Hall' at the Village Hall**. New members very welcome! If you would like any more information, please do telephone Anita Spencer on 788557.

Sibford Tots and Babes, past and present members alike, would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sibford Preparative Meeting very much indeed for giving us a home for the past four years or so. The hospitality provided to us has been invaluable - many youngsters have had fun and made friends at the Meeting House on a Wednesday morning, and, just as important, their mums (mainly - we do have one dad) could do the same!



VINYL GRAPHICS
by
THERESA JACK

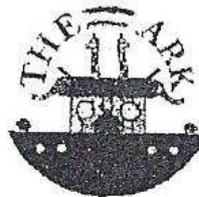
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grammes offered by the two Community Education Committees. You can obtain a copy from your local Post Office, Library or village stores, alternatively please give us a ring and we will send you a copy. Courses for the Autumn include:- drawing and painting, watercolours, life drawing and painting, digital cameras and scanners, Chinese brush ink calligraphy, upholstery, computing, jumping beans - kindergym, flower arranging, xmas flowers and wreaths, gymnastics for children, introduction to Oxford, winetasting, deaf awareness and introduction to sign language, sugarcraft, glass painting, children's music and dance classes, canvaswork embroidery, fitness classes, children's art classes, junior badminton, bonsai society, yoga day, dry stone walling, hedgelaying and much more.

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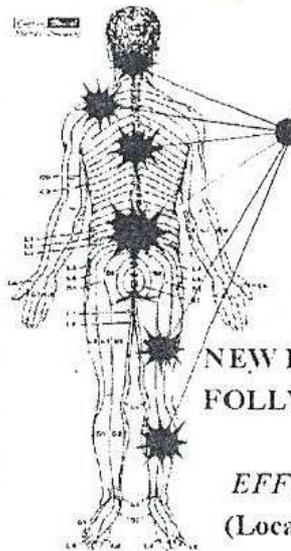
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Sibford Horticultural Society Annual Flower and Produce Show Saturday 17th August

The Annual Flower Show is on Saturday 17th August 2.30 - 4.30pm. If you have not received a schedule there are a few available at the Surgery or the Village Shop. (The picture for the under 5's colouring competition is also available from both places.)

We hope that people will make a real effort and enter as many classes as they can this year. from fruit to flower arranging, plants to pasties there is something for everyone. (Even a men only class - to make chocolate brownies.)

The main thing is to HAVE A GO!

We need donations, to any of the committee members listed in the schedule, of cakes (for the popular cake stall), bottles and gifts (for the tombola), raffle prizes, plants, books and bric-a-brac. Please contribute to this enjoyable event so that we can raise funds to ensure the continued running of the Sibford Horticultural Society and the Show.

September 11th at 8 pm in the Village Hall Mrs S Burn will be coming to talk on Batsford Arboretum. We hope to see lots of members and newcomers at this meeting.

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The following came from the Society of Friends
Monthly Meeting News Letter.

Imagine the conversation The Creator might have with St. Francis: Frank, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down in the Midwest? What happened to all the dandelions, violets, thistle and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no maintenance plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracted butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colours by now. But all I see are these green rectangles. It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers weeds and went to great extent to kill them and replace them with grass. Grass? But it's so boring. It's not colourful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees, only grubs and sod worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there? Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn. The spring rains and cool weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make Suburbanites happy. Apparently not Lord. As soon as it grows a little they cut it - sometimes twice a week. They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay? Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags. They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it? No, sir. Just the opposite. They pay to throw it away. Now let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away? Yes, sir. These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work. You aren't going believe this Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it. What nonsense! At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life. You better sit down, Lord. The Suburban-

ites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall they take them into great piles and have them hauled away. No! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter and keep the soil moist and loose? After throwing away your leaves, they go and buy something they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves. And where do they get this mulch? They cut down trees and grind them up. Enough I don't want to think about this any more. Saint Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight? 'Dumb and Dumber', Lord. It's a real stupid movie about...

Never mind I think I just heard the whole story.

WELCOME TO SIBFORD

If you are a new resident of Sibford and have not yet received a copy of the "Welcome to Sibford" booklet 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 in the villages.

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Harvest is coming!

A number of local farmers have expressed concern about the parked cars in our villages and their impact on the movement of tractors and trailers through the harvest period. During the day the problems are not too great but when people return home from work and park for the night it can easily become a problem to get a long trailer through the gaps. Please remember that, while you have finished work for the day, the combines may well be running into the small hours and the grain trailers will have to keep the grain moving. No one likes to be called out to move a vehicle so please make sure when your car is parked, that there is enough room for other traffic to get by.

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Services we offer:- Lawn Mowing, Hedge Trimming, Garden Tidying, Fence Erection, Slab Laying, Block Paving, Landscaping, Mini Digger Hire, Replacement Oil Tanks.

Call us now on 01926 642832 for a free quotation!

LEARN TO DRIVE

Roy Bishop A.D.I.

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2 Cotswold Close
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Re - Upholstery

Antique & Modern

Dining Chairs Easy Chairs Arm Chairs
Three Piece suites Etc.
Contracts Undertaken

20 Years Experience

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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 the Firstborn (Bridleways S.Gower)		Sunday at 10.30 am
Church of England, Holy Trinity, Sibford Gower.		

August

Sun 4th Benefice Eucharist at Tadmarton 10 am
 Wed 7th Mums and Tots 2.15 pm. (For all under 5's)
 Sun 11th Family Service 10 am
 Sun 18th Holy Communion 9.30 am
 Sun 25th Holy Communion 9.30 am

September

Sun 1st Benefice Eucharist at Epwell 10 am
 Wed 4th Mums and Tots 2.15 pm. (For all under 5's)
 Sun 8th Holy Communion 9.30 am
 Sun 15th Family Service 10 am
 Sun 22nd Holy Communion 9.30 am
 Sun 29th Holy Communion
 9.30 am

TREES

WE'RE THERE FOR TREE CARE

All aspects of tree care undertaken
 Specialising in reduction/removal of trees in confined spaces
 Supplier of logs & chippings
 Over 20 years experience
 Fully Insured

For a free quote and a chat please contact:

Arthur White (The Tree Chap) 01295 788549

COMPTON LANE NURSERIES

Little Compton
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 Tel:- 01608 674578

We offer an exciting and diverse range of herbaceous perennials, many of which are not widely available. A sales area surrounded by planted borders offers interest and ideas all year round. The alpine garden allows visitors to see some real gems growing in the open and under glass and houses the Joe Elliot collection.

As featured on Gardeners World.
 Open Tuesday to Saturday
 10am to 5pm. February to
 October

Sibford Bus Services

Free Bus Service

To Banbury Thursdays Aug 1st, 15th & 18th Departs 10 am
 To Chippy Wednesdays Aug 7th & 21st Returns 12 noon
 To Chippy Wednesdays Sept 4th & 18th
 To Banbury Thursdays Sept 12th & 26th
 Pick up points are; The Colony, High Meadow, Cross Roads, Village Hall.

Service 480 Shipston - Sibford - Banbury

Not Sat (NS) Sat Only (S)

		NS	S		NS	S	
Shipston			8.45				
S Ferris School	7.15	9.10	9.13	10.57	12.57	13.43	18.27
S Gower Crossroads	7.18	9.13	9.10	11.05	13.05	13.40	18.30
Banbury Bus Station	7.45	9.40	9.40	11.32	13.32	14.10	18.57
		NS	S	NS	S		
Banbury Bus Station	10.30	12.30	12.30	14.40	15.10	18.00	
S Ferris School	10.57	12.57	12.57	15.07	15.37	18.27	
S Gower Crossroads	11.00	13.00	13.00	15.10	15.40	18.30	
Shipston			13.25				

Cherwell Villager 55 Sibford ~ Banbury

Wednesdays Only	Outward	Return
Sibford Gower	9.55 am	1.55 pm
Sibford Ferris	9.57 am	1.53 pm
Hook Norton	10.15 am	1.45 pm
Bloxham	10.35 am	1.15 pm
Banbury	10.50 am	1.00 pm

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)

Door-to-Door service. Book at least one day in advance.

Operates on WEDNESDAYS ONLY.

Phone 263777 for more details.

Calendar of Events

August

- Sun 4th Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 2.00 pm p9
- Sun 4th Senior Citizens Garden Tea Party at Temple Close 3pm p15
- Tue 13th Friendship Club Lunch. p7
- Tue 13th WI outing to Stanway Water Garden p17
- Wed 14th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)
- Thu 15th 'It was THIS Big'! Village Hall Field 6.30 pm p9
- Wed 14th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)
- Sat 17th Horticultural Society Annual Show p14
- Sat 31st to Sept 14th Art Exhibition at Tysoe p11

September

- Sun 1st Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 2.00 pm p9
- Tue 3rd Friendship Club meeting in the Village Hall p7
- Tue 10th Computer Courses Start. p9
- Sat 14th Churches Bike Ride / Walk p4
- Sat 14th Opening of the Village Hall Extension from 1 pm. p9
- Tue 17th Friendship Club trip to Bletchley Park p7
- Tue 17th LEO Meeting at 11 Barley Close p10

Advance Notice

Sat 26th October. Heart of England Jazz Band at the Village Hall.

Congratulation to Terry and Judith on their Wedding
With thanks for all you and your staff do to help the Sibford Scene.

Sibford Scene

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