

November 2002

No. 248

Sibford Gower Primary School Firework Display and Bonfire Tuesday 5th November 6.30 pm

Sibford School Christmas Fair Friday 22nd November 5 - 7.30 pm

Holy Trinity Church
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 23rd November 2.30pm
In the Village Hall

John Mills Guitar Concert Saturday 23rd November 8 pm In the Village Hall

The Toy Theatre
Thursday 5th December 7 pm
In the Village Hall

Nature Notes

Oct. 10th The leaves of many trees have shriveled up and are falling prematurely. Whether it is caused by fungus diseases or by this very dry spell of weather, there will be fewer of them to colour later in the month.

Oct. 16th After 4 weeks in which we have only had one tenth of an inch of rain, which did little more than lay the dust, the last 4 days have produced 3.44 inches culminating in 1.84 inches in the last 24 hours.

Oct. 17th As I was walking up the village in the dark this evening I stopped to listen to the calls of birds flying over. They seemed to be going from north east to south west and were not ducks or geese but probably some sort of waders making for the Severn estuary. It was unfortunate that a car came by just as they were passing overhead making it difficult to hear them but living up here I am not very familiar with the calls of waders anyway.

Oct. 23rd I have now measured 4.98 inches of rain in the last 11 days which is more than two months average rainfall, but the ground must have absorbed most of it as I have not seen a dramatic rise in stream levels although there was a bit more water in the Sib yesterday.

Warriner Choral Society Concert

An evening of choral and organ music including

Schubert - Mass in G

And other works by Elgar, Haydn, Rachmaninov

Saturday 30th November at 7.30 pm

St Mary's Church, Bloxham

Musical Director: Matthew Smallwood

Organist: Dr. Christopher Tadman-Robins

Tickets £7 (concessions £5.50)

From: Bloxham Post Office, One Man Band, spratt endicott or Jenny 01295 721224

Refreshments sponsored by spratt endicott.

Sibford Horticultural Society

The AGM of the Horticultural Society was well attended, the committee was re-elected and prepared to serve again but we have two spaces, one for general committee and one for flower show committee. If anyone feels they are able to help please let us know, also please let us know if there are any special topics you would like and we will try to find speakers for them.

We had an interesting talk by Guy Barker from Wellesbourne Research Centre. He certainly gave us a science lesson!

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 13th November** at 8 pm in the Village Hall when Anne Chambers is coming to talk and show slides of Kiftsgate, this is where we are going for our evening outing next year so we hope to see lots of you at the meeting - new, existing members and friends.

The Village Hall Quiz

Unfortunately your regular quiz organisers are unable to set up a quiz this year. I hope that there is a willing volunteer somewhere in the Villages to take over. It would be a great pity if a well attended and much enjoyed (or so I am told) fund raiser for the Village Hall were to be abandoned.

Adrian Lamb





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COFFEE MORNING

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Wednesday .

November 6th

10:00 - 12 noon

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G.D.B.A. Sales - Christmas Cards and Gifts.

(Used stamps and clean aluminium foil gladly received)

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Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting Friday 15th November at 8 pm in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School



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- n You may receive a reward

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Fish or double jumbo sausage and chips

Now Serving Traditional Sunday Roast.
Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding,
Roast potatoes, New Potatoes,
and Three Veg.

Book Early To Reserve Your Table.

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



At our October meeting Alun T Jones gave us a most interesting talk on the history of the garden and its design. We had our own 'Grand Tour' of the many designers whose ideas have influenced garden design over the centuries. It was good to hear that many designs are

still preserved in gardens and sites throughout Oxfordshire today.

Our November meeting will be held on **Thursday 21 November** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall when Trevor Rowley will be coming to talk to us about 'Oxfordshire Landscapes'. New members or visitors are always welcome so we look forward to your company on that evening.

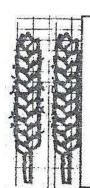
We take a break during December which is always a busy time for everyone but are currently preparing for our Old Fashioned Social in January - details of this evening not to be missed, next month!

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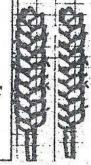
Proprietors: Stephen & Karen Coots-Williams
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Sunday 12 - 2.30 & 7 - 9.30



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I am Terry Martin and for 15 years I have brought fresh, best quality fish and shell fish

to your area direct from Grimsby on the Lincolnshire coast, and I'll be appearing at Sibford Village Hall car park from approximately 4 pm till 6 pm every Monday.

All welcome. I hope to see you all soon. T.P. Martin

Friendship Club

Unfortunately the day we went to Bourton -on-the-Water was the day that the rains came down, but in spite of the weather we all donned our waterproofs & faced the elements. Admittedly the rain was badly needed but it could have chosen another day to fall. However I think most of us enjoyed ourselves.

At our October meeting in the Village Hall we were entertained by Mr. Keith Hicks who told us all about 'Old Sibford' and showed many slides which kept us guessing, but not all. Afterwards we enjoyed a lovely tea provided by Mrs. Bea Tanner who was celebrating her birthday.

Dates for the Diary are as follows;

Tuesday 5th November. Meet in the Village Hall at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 19th November. Christmas Lunch at the Red Lion, Little Compton. Transport will be arranged at our meeting on 5th Nov.

Tuesday 3rd December. We are going to Turners at Northampton to see their Christmas Show. Lunch will be included. If non-members would like to come please contact Mrs Boughton (Tel; 263460) for availability.



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FIREWORK DISPLAY AND BONFIRE

TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 6.30 pm (gates open 6.00 pm)

FAMILY TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY £6.00

Adults £3.00 Children over 11: £1.50 Under 11's and OAPs £1.00

HOT DOGS
BAKED POTATOES
MULLED WINE
SOFT DRINKS

Does Mental Health Matter to You? Would you like to help other people find a way through their problems?

Oxfordshire Mental Health Matters provides interesting Volunteering Opportunities in a friendly environment in <u>Information</u>, <u>Advocacy and Administration Work</u>. Full training is provided. For more information, tel. 01865 728981, call in at 19 Paradise Street (nr the Westgate Shopping Centre) or e-mail info@oxfordmentalhealth.org.

HEALTH CHECK The NHS Plan in 2000 stated that:

'HEALTH CHECK', set up by the Community Health Council is a way of obtaining your views both good and bad about the health-care you receive. We want you to tell us about your experiences in the NHS by filling in a 'Health Check' form. Your comments will be passed on to NHS staff across your area and the Community Health Council will provide a response to you individually on the resulting action that arises from your comments. You can report on any aspect of the NHS that you have used within the last six months. You can report on someone else's behalf as long as you have their permission.

All that you tell us is confidential.

For more information contact the Community Health Council: 01865 723569 and ask for a 'Health Check' form and freepost envelope.

NOT TO BE MISSED

Sibford School Christmas Fair November 22nd: 5pm - 7.30pm Lots of exciting stalls (Craft's, games, homemade, Santa's Grotto)

SIBFÖRD TOTS & BABES GROUP

Sibford Tots and Babes group meet every Tuesday during term time, 10.00 to 11.30, at Sibford Gower Village Hall in the new child and baby friendly "Small Hall".

New faces always welcome, so do come along, even if only for half an hour, to have a chat, a cup of tea or coffee, and an opportunity for the tots and babes to get together too!

For more information, please telephone Anita Spencer on 788557.

Candle Drop In

28th November at Folly Cottage, Main Street, Sibford Ferris

Come and view a range of quality candles and related giftware in the comfort of my home.

Take this opportunity to purchase a gift with a difference for your friends or relations this Christmas, a treat for your family and home or why not just spoil yourself.

Everyone is welcome between 2pm and 8pm.

Tea and Mince Pies being served

Interested but can't make it then why not have a party in your own home. I have a few dates available prior to Christmas.

Telephone 01295 780 772

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News from Playgroup.

Playgroup continues as a popular place to be on a weekday morning with an average of 18 children per session. A rousing rendition of 'head, shoulders, knees and toes' started our current topic of learning about our bodies and faces, some lovely self

portraits are now on display. Another popular activity has been decorating (and eating!) gingerbread people.

The Committee is beavering away in the background planning the mega, magical Christmas Bazaar, bigger and better than ever! This year it is on Saturday December 7th. Full details in next month's Scene, mark it on the calendar and we look forward to seeing you there.

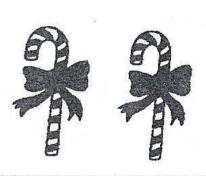
If you would like further information about Playgroup, please contact Michelle on 780998

COME AND SEE SANTA AT THE SIBFORD PLAYGROUP CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2 PM - 4 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL ADMISSION 20P



TOMBOLA - CRAFTS - GAMES - RAFFLE - TOYS - BOOKS REFRESHMENTS - CAKES

REGISTERED CHARITY 1026753







A Very Trying Oldie

I had found at 92 There were some things I could not do, And said, "This does not worry me, I'll do them when I'm 93!" But now discover, more and more, They'll have to wait for 94, Or, even, if I'm still alive, I'll try again at 95. At this my great ambition sticks To do it all by 96. If still on earth and not in heaven, There's always time at 97, But leaving it a little late, To-try again at 98. The perfect number 99 Will be a chance I can't decline, And prospects of a hundred's score Attracts me onward more and more. I'd like to be, before I'm done A fully fledged CENTURION.



Sheila Walsh.

Could you be an Independent Parental Supporter?

The Oxfordshire Parent Partnership Service runs a very successful volunteer scheme called the Independent Parental Supporter Scheme.

Unfortunately, due to a combination of unforeseen circumstances, some of our volunteers are unable to participate at present.

As parents and schools become increasingly aware of the helpful nature of the support that an Independent Parental Supporter can offer, we regularly receive requests for help.

We try to ensure that none of our volunteers are overloaded or persuaded to unrealistically commit themselves, so we wondered, are you:-

- * A good listener?
- * friendly and approachable?
- * aware of need for confidentiality?
- * interested in education?
- * not afraid to ask questions?
- * reliable?
- * looking for another interest?

Then you might be just the person we are looking for to be an Independent Parental Supporter. (IPS)

IPS give help and support to parents in Oxfordshire who have children with Special Educational Needs, when they have difficult decisions to make about their child's education.

1 in 5 children will need some extra help at sometime during their school life. The system that supports children can be quite confusing for parents. That's where you come in.

An Independent Parental Supporter can be there for a parent at a difficult time, perhaps by helping with the paperwork, attending a meeting with them or just by talking things through. We offer training and pay your expenses so you won't be out of pocket.

INTERESTED?

For more details, ring: Parent Partnership on 01865 810516 Training sessions:

Autumn, Thursdays, October 31st, November 7th, 14th, 21st. Oxford College of Further Education, Oxpens Road, Oxford Winter, Saturdays, March 1st, 8th, 15th and 21st. All sessions are from 10-12.30.

CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS - AT SPECIAL PRICES

Cards of our Village Panels will bring happy memories to those who have visited or lived in The Sibfords.

Ideal as a small gift to give to friends, neighbours and family. Use as Christmas Cards, Greetings Cards or Notelets.

New residents, The Village Panels created by sixty seven residents show the Sibfords today and illustrate their history with characters from our Historical Pageant June 2000.

3 packs (6 cards each) for the price of 2 packs - £7.00
Single cards (65p each) - 50p
Available from Pauline Inns Tel; 780702
Or Mollie Mulley Tel;780629

AGE

needs your help to deliver its new footcare service to older people in our community.

'Sole'Mates is a new service to be launched by *Age Concern* in the autumn of this year. Its aim is to provide basic footcare to older people in our community.

To deliver this service we need to recruit and train a small group of volunteers - might you be interested? To find out more contact - Tina Cooper on

01235 849400 mobile 07946032217 email: tinacooper@ageconcernoxon.com

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8pm Saturday 7am to 8pm Sunday 8am to 8pm Telephone: 01608 737245

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Beautifully modernised 2-bedroomed period cottage available to rent, unfurnished, in Sibford Gower (by the pond).

New white goods, including dishwasher.

New carpets, decoration and flooring. Pretty garden. Suit single person or professional couple. Sorry, no pets

Contact: 01295 780355

ON THE MOVE IN THE CAPE

We moved house last week and anyone who has done it recently will know that it's exhausting. However as moves go it wasn't too bad. I felt sorry for the removal people as it was a beautiful sunny day with a temperature of 28 degrees so they really sweated!

We are still in Erinvale and have moved further up the hill right to the top of the estate. In fact I think we are the highest house. We have the most magnificent views over the rest of Erinvale to the farm on the other side which has recently been planted with vines. From our back garden we look straight up the Helderberg Mountains which is quite breathtaking. The fynbos behind our garden is pink with watsonias at the moment. We also have some beautiful Spring flowers to enjoy in our own garden.

The house is owned by an Englishman who came to South Africa in 1975, the same year that we arrived in Johannesburg on our first stay. He has now sold his business and is busy sailing his yacht around the world. He built this house as his retirement home. He hasn't lived in it yet so that pleasure is still to come. It is quite a splendid place and we feel very lucky to borrow it for a while.

The house we were renting has been sold to a German couple. Houses in the Cape are still increasing in price because of the demand for property, mainly from foreign buyers. One Estate Agent reckons that at least 60% of their sales are from overseas buyers and many Agents regularly make trips abroad to sell their property. Although many people are buying houses to use as holiday homes, there is also a growing number who are choosing to retire here. Since 11 September last year, the Cape is seen as a 'safe' destination; how times have changed!

So the last few weeks have been rather occupied with our move. However, on 15 September, Steve and I celebrated our 30th Wedding Anniversary. We decided to have 'a bit of a do' and invited twenty three guests to dinner at our favourite restaurant at a wine farm outside Stellenbosch. It was a wonderful evening, lovely food and a great atmosphere made really special by the performance of an African choir who sang and danced for us. We weren't sure if they were going to turn up as they all have regular jobs and when they get paid on a Friday, they sometimes have a few drinks too many and disappear for the weekend! Anyway, they all came and gave us a wonderful exhibition of their unique talent.

We're off to Port Elizabeth next week for a long weekend, driving back along the Garden Route, so I'll have more to report about that next time.

Pat and Steve Bates

"You may not see me as unique but I've never died before'

THE OXFORDSHIRE BEFRIENDING NETWORK

Volunteers visiting people with life threatening illness at home.

The Oxfordshire Befriending Network welcomes sensitive, trustworthy and friendly volunteer befrienders to join this lively Rapidly developing local organisation. Excellent free training and support provided.

Please contact Catherine Gundry, Regional Manager, on 01365 316200

COMMUNITY FUND Lottery money making a difference Registered Charity No. 1086264





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CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY 23RD NOVÉMBER 2002

SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL AT 2.30 PM

BOTTLE STALL, GOOD FOOD STALL, CHRISTMAS HAMPER, RAFFLE, WHITE ELEPHANT, CHRISTMAS GIFTS, BOOKS, PLANTS, CHINA & GLASS, GAMES & COMPETITIONS

TEA & CAKES

Gifts for the stalls would be greatly appreciated. Please contact: Jenny Barratt 780336 or Tom Pratt 780489

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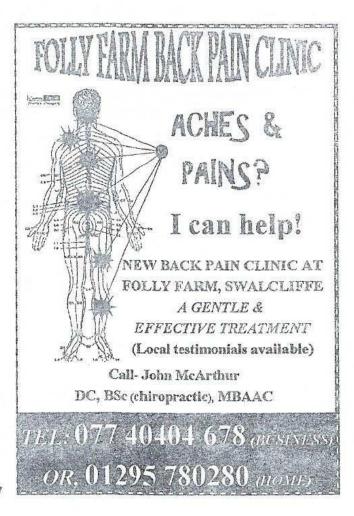
and The Good Pub Guide



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HOME IMPROVEMENT HELP IN CHERWELL

Have you ever felt concerned about having trustworthy builders in your home or have you

ever had problems in finding someone who would do the odd job in your house?

Anchor Staying Put provides a service that helps people in the Cherwell District to remain in their own homes, in comfort and security, by attending to large or small repairs, improvements and adaptations. Staff from the agency can visit people at home to discuss their needs and help them find the right solution. Special focus is on all health and security related work, such as helping to obtain appropriate heating and insulation and making sure windows and doors are sound and safe.

Anchor also offers free, confidential. advice and practical help with obtaining local authority grants to pay for the work, finding reliable builders and overseeing any work that is done, as well as providing advice on what social security benefits may be available and helping to apply for them.

In October 2000, Anchor Staying Put launched a **Handyperson** Scheme. For a minimum cost (£15 for the 1st hour, £7.50 per subsequent hour, plus the cost of materials), this scheme covers **minor repairs and adaptations**, such as rewiring a plug, hanging a curtain rail and fixing shelves, or small plumbing jobs, such as fixing a dripping tap. Anchor's Handyperson also gives advice an Home Security and fire Prevention.

The service is available to anybody who is disabled or over 60 years old. Anchor Staying Put is a non profit-making organisation, established in Cherwell in 1996, supported by Cherwell District Council, Oxfordshire Social Services and North East Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust.

For more information, please ring 01295-221660.

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W.l. Meeting - October 8th.

Our top table had a new look. Gaynor Harper-Tarr stood in for Lynda Conway and Glennis Hardman for Barbara Crabtree. Only Greta Baadsgaard was in her usual place and welcomed us to the meeting at the unusual time of 2.30 p.m. However, future meetings will revert to 2.00 p.m.

Greta read out a very nice letter from May and Allan Jarvis, who have now moved to Calgary in Alberta and had received our gift of an antique map of Oxfordshire, together with a cheque for a frame.

Our Speaker Dr. Nigel Reid, a partner in a Banbury surgery, had taken time off from his practice to visit Somaliland where the Halo Trust organises the clearance of minefields and where doctors are in short supply. He stayed in a lovely house 4,000 ft. up and above the town. We saw from his excellent slides how beautiful it looked. However, close-ups showed that there was hardly a dwelling that hadn't been wrecked and the rubbish in the streets was simply appalling. A lot of money is needed for restoration work and even more for minefield clearance.

The local Somalies are very laid back about all this, probably due to taking the drug Khat. It arrives daily by 'plane from Russia and even Somalies in London are allowed to take it!

Greta thanked Dr. Reid for his most illuminating talk - watched over by one of our committee, his mother Kathleen.

Mary Bristow won the raffle prize, most appropriately as it was her birthday.

Teas with ever-more delicious cakes were served by Margaret Baines and Jane Martin.

The competition for 'A Pot of Chutney' had only two entries. Oh

dear, we shall have to pull our socks up!

Our next meeting will be on November 12th at 2 p.m. Mr & Mrs Perks: 'The National Trust'.

Competition: A National Trust Property photograph.

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RP

Sibford Village Hall Newsletter

The next Car Boot sale at the Village Hall will be on Sunday 17th November 2 - 4 pm and two in December - 1st & 15th. Refreshments available. To book a table please ring 01295 251339.

On Saturday 23rd November at 8 pm we have an evening with one of Britain's finest concert guitarists - John Mills. He is now a professor at the Royal Academy of Music in London. There will be two 45 minute performances with an interval. A member of Duns Tew Village Hall, where he played last year, said "We felt privileged to share such an intimate evening with an internationally known artist of such brilliance. A truly memorable evening." Tickets £6 & £4 from the Village Shop or ring 780025

On Thursday 5th December at 7 pm Cornelius and Jones present "The Toy Theatre" for families and children aged 5+. Running time is 50 minutes. The play explores the themes of colour, light, music and dance using acting, paper-card costumes, masks and authentic Victorian theatre paraphernalia. Tickets £5 & £3 from Village Shop or ring 780025

To Hire the Village Hall please ring the Booking Secretary, Mrs K. Winter on 780461.

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Saturday

6 am to 1pm on Sunday

Terry & Judith
Main Street Sibford Ferris
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LEO NEWS

The October Leo meeting was held on the worst day we have had this year. We battled our way through the puddles and the pouring rain and arrived on Sheila Job's doorstep like a lot of drowned rats. Sheila had a very warm fire, however, and we were soon cosy and dry.

Most of us, if not all, knew almost nothing about homoeopathy and so were fascinated to hear Sheila's story of how she first became interested in the subject about 10/12 years ago. Since then, she has been training hard so that she will eventually be able to practise this very beneficial part of healing. We all came away much enlightened on the subject.

The next meeting, on November 19th, will be at Jenny Barratt's house. Please bring one of your favourite ghost stories to relate.

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Sunday at 10.30 am

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.

November

Sun 3rd Young at Heart Service 10 am

Sun 10th Service of Remembrance 10.55 am

Sun 17th Holy Communion 9.30 am

Sun 24th Holy Communion 9.30 am

December

Sun 1st Holy Communion 8.00 am Sun 1st Christingle Service 4.00 pm Sun 8th Confirmation Service at Broughton 10 am

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Sibford Bus Services

Free Bus Service

To Banbury Thursdays Nov 7th & 21st To Chippy Wednesdays Nov 13th & 27th

Departs 10 am Returns 12 noon

Pick up points are; The Colony, High Meadow, Cross Roads, Village Hall.

Service 480 Shipston - Sibford - Banbury

Not Sat (NS) Sat Onl	y (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

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Sun 3rd Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 2.00 pm p20

Tue 5th Friendship Club meeting. Village Hall 2pm p7

Tue 5th Primary School Fireworks. 6.30 pm. p8

Wed 6th Guide Dogs for the Blind Coffee Morning. p4

Wed 6th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)

Tue 12th W.I. Talk. 'The National Trust'. p19

Wed 13th Horticultural Society talk 'Kiftsgate' p3

Fri 15th Gower Parish Council Meeting. 8 pm p4

Sun 17th Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 2.00 pm p20

Tue 19th Friendship Club Christmas Lunch p7

Tue 19th LEO Meeting. 'Ghost Stories' p21

Tue 19th Deadline for contributions for the December and January Sibford Scene. P16

Wed 20th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)

Thu 21st Sibfords Society talk. 'Oxfordshire Landscapes' p6

Fri 22nd Sibford School Christmas Fair. 5 - 7.30 pm p9

Sat 23rd Church Christmas Bazaar. Village Hall 2.30 pm p17

Sat 23rd John Mills Guitar Concert 8 pm Village Hall. p20

Thu 28th Candle Drop In. 2 - 8 pm. p10

Sat 30th Warriner Choral Society Concert in Bloxham p2

December (part)

Sun 1st Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 2.00 pm p20

Tue 3rd Friendship Club trip to Northampton. P7

Wed 4th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)

Thu 5th 'The Toy Theatre'. Village Hall 7 pm. p20

Sat 7th Playgroup Christmas Bazaar 2 pm p11

Sun 15th Collectables and Car Boot sale. V.Hall 2.00 pm p20

Cover picture. The Elm (c 1915) after the top was blown out in 1893

Sibford Scene

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