

August and September 2003

No. 256

Senior Citizens Tea Party
Sunday 3rd August, 3 - 5 pm at Temple Close
Music by the Hook Norton Brass Band

Sibford Horticultural Society
Annual Flower and Produce Show
Saturday 23rd August 2.30 - 4.30 pm
Entry Night - Wednesday 20th Aug. 7 - 9 pm at the Surgery

Cheese & Wine at 7 High Meadow Friday 29th August 7.30 pm In aid of Holy Trinity Church Funds

Monday 18th August. Ferris Parish Council Meeting Friday 5th September. Gower Parish Council Meeting

Nature Notes

June 22nd. Three bumble bees nests in our garden have been taken by badgers but there are still quite a lot around so they can't have found them all.

June. 25th Got the best view I have ever had of a hummingbird hawk moth. It stayed for over 10 minutes after I first spotted it feeding on wall valerian which gave me time to get my camera and fetch my wife to see it. For all that time it was perfectly still as it hovered and then moved sharply to a fresh bloom. It never got closer than half an inch to the bloom and with its long proboscis reached from there to the nectar. With its colourful fan tail, blurr of wings and speed of movement between stops, it looked much more like a small humming bird than a moth.

June. 30th After saying last month that we were seeing adult bullfinches but no young ones a close neighbour rang to say that a pair with several young ones were coming to feed on seed that he had put out.

July. 1st I saw another humming bird hawk moth briefly this time at 9 pm feeding on lychnis.

July. 8th This evening we cycled along the Wigginton to South Newington road which is always good for wildflowers and although one swath had been mowed on each side of the road they were still as good as I have ever seen them. Particularly nice was a patch of agrimony with about 50 spikes of flower instead of the 1 or 2 that we usually see. Most flowers in the garden as well as in the wild are especially fine this year although the dry weather is making them go over quickly. I arrived home about 9 pm to find yet another humming bird hawk moth feeding on the red salvia. These moths can easily reach the nectar unlike the little bumble bees that take a short cut to it by puncturing the side of the flower.

July.12th It is a better year for butterflies in numbers if not in variety. Meadow browns are plentiful in fields that have yet to be cut for hay or not hard grazed, and in the garden today I have seen a comma, a painted lady and a small skipper. There are still some ringlets and meadow browns around and there has been a big hatch of gatekeepers over the last few days.

July 13th. Wasps had built a nest in one of our bird boxes about 6 feet above the ground. It filled the box and they built an extension as big as a tennis ball over the entrance which acted as a porch, but today while we were out, it was completely destroyed having only a few wasps crawling round. I doubt whether a squirrel would tackle a wasps nest so I think it

must have been a bird and having talked to a naturalist friend about it, we agreed that a woodpecker is the most likely culprit. Great spotted woodpeckers have after all been known to peck their way into old beehives and he told me that they had also pecked out all the mortar from the gable end of the house opposite his to get at the mason bees, leaving it all ready for re-pointing.

July 16th. Went with my niece to Swalcliffe Common where we saw more butterflies than I have ever seen there, both in the clearing and along the bridle way at the bottom, which was cleared last winter and has grown up with wild flowers.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Please Be Aware Unwelcome Visitors Are Up To Every Trick!

- · Posing as officials asking for help or offering help.
- · They could be male female or children.
- 1. Do not allow any unknown person into your home
- 2. Check with the authority the identity of any official, do not ask them for the phone number.
- 3. Take care to dose windows and lock doors when you are out of sight
- 4. Lock garden sheds and tools out of sight.
- 5. Look after your neighbours property especially when they are away. Make sure post, papers etc. are left out of sight.

Be prepared and avoid distress. Enjoy a wonderful summer.





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A THANK YOU TO YOU ALL

Gillian and Barry Tanswell, the new proprietors of The Wykham Arms, would like to express their sincere thanks to everybody for making them feel so welcome since taking over in May. Barry commented, 'Gill and I have been most struck by the countless offers of help and support from villagers, whilst getting to grips with our new venture'. We are settling in well and many of you have been to sample our hospitality. We hope many more of you will join us in the near future. We have had many requests from you to change the opening hours, to this

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end, we are pleased to announce that we are now open seven days a week. So after a busy Sunday outing or a stressful Monday back at work we are now providing the opportunity for someone else to take the strain, whether you want a quiet pint or a three course meal. Once again, many thanks for the warm welcome.

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OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday 5.30am to 6.00pm Sunday 5.30am to 1.00pm

Sibford Gower Parish Council

A regular meeting was held on 11th July 2003 chaired by Eric Payne. He was pleased to say that where branches overhanging footpaths had been reported at the previous meeting, the property owners had arranged for pruning to take place and he expressed appreciation of their co-operation. Matters which were discussed included The Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, The Quality Parish Council Scheme, the new Recycling and Refuse arrangements, a commemorative plaque to mark the bequest of land by the late Miriam Tebbs for the benefit of the Village and road safety in Burdrop. The Clerk presented the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2003 and these were adopted and will now be submitted to the External Auditor. It was reported that the Mobile Police Station had visited on 2nd June 2003 but because its stay was limited to 8.00 to 8.45am no one took advantage of it. The Sergeant-in-Charge told the Clerk that there is a hope that visits may be more frequent in future and at varying times of the day. Concern had been expressed by one or two residents about the possible paddock usage of gardens of the houses which are to be erected and which adjoin the fields at the rear of the Sibford Manor development. Whilst acknowledging that the properties fall outside this Parish, disquiet was voiced at the possible impact on land within Sibford Gower's boundaries. A resident had written to Cherwell District Council seeking an investigation as to whether this contravenes the original planning approval. The Clerk has also written for clarification of the position. The final topic at the meeting was the village pond. Research is to be undertaken to establish what may be done by way of the introduction of plants, water snails, fish etc to help keep the water clear

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on Friday, 5th September 2003 commencing at 8pm. PH



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The date of the Summer Walk organised by Robin Spicer was incorrectly put into the Scene last month and should have read **Thursday 21st August**, so if you would like a gentle walk from the Bishop Blaize towards Blenheim Farm, please be at the pub by 7.00

pm on that evening. The walk will be about 5 miles and will finish at the Blaize, where Sam will be on hand to offer suitable refreshment.

Our autumn programme starts on **Thursday 18th September** when Mike Hallam's talk is 'Before the Age of Plastics' and he will be bringing

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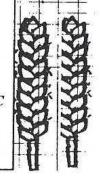
a collection of articles to illustrate his talk. Again, we welcome non-members to our meetings in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30 pm.



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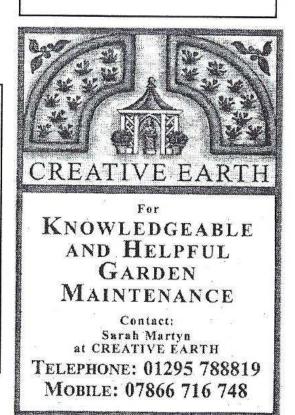
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SIBFORD W.I.

On a sunny afternoon, the 28th June, we entertained members from other W.I.s in our group. Gilian and Glennis acted as guides to view two contrasting but equally glorious gardens belonging to Vera Jones and Sarah and Charlie Smith. Afterwards, in the village hall, a delicious home made tea awaited. Tables were set with pastel cloths and pretty flower arrangements in true W.I. style. To add to the enjoyment, the President's husband, Peter Hardman, played light background piano music. Our guests showed enthusiastic appreciation for what proved to be a happy occasion for us all.

The annual July garden meeting is always special, and this year's was certainly no exception. Thanks to preliminary instructions from our hostess-to-be, Pat Horsley, we arrived at Castle Farm in Chacombe and were warmly welcomed to her comparatively new home. A photograph depicting the premises prior to their move gave some indication of the hard work (or labour of love!), which had transformed the garden to its present delightful state.

With Glennis at the helm, supported by Lynda and Barbara, even the business session added to the relaxed atmosphere, as we learned of

County, Group and our own W.I. activities, outings and celebrations.

Most of us had done nothing to earn it, but how we enjoyed, and did justice to, a sumptuous tea! Thus fortified, several members availed themselves of the outdoor table-tennis facilities, whilst all of us at one time during the afternoon ambled round the garden, crossed the little bridge into the field and round the pond. We **could** have reclined in the hammock or swung on the swing - but modesty or decorum prevailed!!

What a truly pleasant afternoon it was, and as we bade farewell our hostess was presented with a small token of our sincere appreciation.

On August 12th we are visiting Cerney House Gardens, near Cirencester, leaving the Village Hall at 10.30 a.m.

MC.

North Oxfordshire Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers Will be 'Spinning a Yarn'and demonstrating their crafts At 'The Hopper', Station Road, Kingham Sunday 10th August 2 - 5 pm admission £1 including refreshments

Sydney Agnew - An Appreciation.

I cannot remember my first encounter with Dr Agnew although, in mitigation, I was in his car on my way to the Neithrop Maternity Unit. I was just about to be born!

My second recollection is almost as vague. It happened at primary school. We had to give the class an account of our recent weekend. Katrina his daughter said, in a very matter-of-fact kind of way, that her dad had been out at the weekend - flying in his aeroplane! This typified his joie de *vivre*.

Dr Sydney Agnew was born on 3rd March 1924 in Portglenone in Northern Ireland and was educated at the nearby Ballymena Academy. He went onto study medicine at Queens University in Belfast and graduated as a doctor in 1951, marrying his first wife, Josephine, (known to many as Peter), in the same year.

In between his studies he fostered a life long passion for flying when, at the age of eighteen, he volunteered to join the RAF, serving as a pilot for several years. He always kept up his flying licence and in 1976 took a year out as a flying doctor in North Queensland, Australia. He was a member and one time president of the French and English Flying Doctors Associations.

In 1952 he came to work as a general practitioner in the village which undoubtedly he developed an uncanny affinity for. He was to live and serve in Sibford until his retirement. During these years he and Peter raised five children and were active participants in village life. He became very involved with the building of the new village hall which he officially opened in 1955 and for which he remained Chairman and trustee until his retirement. Sadly Peter died in 1984 and after his retirement in 1989 he went to live in North Devon.

Predictably, he remained active in his retirement both as a locum doctor and pilot. In 1998 he married his second wife, Celia, a fellow travelling companion and pilot.

He had a great love of horses both as an owner and breeder. He was a keen follower of the National Hunt and any true Sibfordian knew that you should try not to be ill during Cheltenham Gold Cup week!

He was a true countryman, aviator, horseman, socialite and GP but more than this, when you visited Nicholas Corner you not only went to see your doctor, you saw your friend as well.

Sydney Agnew was not just an integral part of the health and well being of our family for nearly forty years but also of the community that I grew up in. He was an intrinsic part of, and influential contributor to village life. We must all grateful for that.

MD Q

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Sibford Horticultural Society

A very enjoyable evening was spent at Kiftsgate with a nice lot of members and friends going - it would be nice to see so many at our monthly meetings!

The next monthly meeting will be on **September 10th** when Joy Hillman will come to talk on Fuchsias. We hope to see everyone then and new members are always most welcome.

The Annual Horticultural Show takes place on Saturday 23rd August from 2.30 - 4.30 pm at the Village Hall. Entry night is on Wednesday 20th August from 7 pm to 9 pm at the Surgery. (Entries may not be accepted if not entered beforehand).

Everybody commented on what a good show it was last year so we hope that people will all have a go again this year. If you are unable to find any floral or vegetable exhibits there are plenty of other classes to have a go at. If you have mislaid your schedule there are some spare copies at the surgery.

We would also be very grateful for donations of bottles for the tombola, cakes, plants, books and bric-a-brac for the stalls that contribute to an entertaining afternoon and raise much needed funds for the society.

So have a go!

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NILE CHALLENGE CYCLE RIDE

You may have seen me cycling around the village over the past few months in an effort to get fit as on the 13th October I will be traveling to Egypt as part of The Lardie Tours Cycle Ride along the banks of the Nile. The ride is to raise awareness and money for Macmillan Cancer Relief.

The Lardies are a group of ordinary people 35 and 62 years from the Banbury area. We will be cycling in memory of Paul Bithell the former editor of the Banbury Guardian and a member of the Lardies. Paul unfortunately died earlier this year having battled bravely against brain cancer for 3 years.

The challenge will be to cycle 420 kms over 5 days, cycling between 30 and 85 miles a day in temperatures of up to 33° C.

In order to take part in the challenge I need to raise a minimum of £2000, this is where I am asking for your support please. If you feel you can make a donation I can be contacted on 788506 (evenings) or Terry and Judith have kindly offered to hold a sponsor form in the Village Shop.

Any contributions will be gratefully received. Thank you for your support.

Ann Lewis, 10 Barley Close.

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The Warriner Choral Society

Friendship Club

We spent a lovely day at Highgrove in June, unfortunately Prince Charles had to go off to Heathrow to meet President Putin but we did hear his helicopter leave just as we arrived. The sun shone for us which helped to make it so enjoyable walking around the estate.

July began with a Talk from the Rev. John Whitwell which was quite entertaining. He told us about his life in London and it was more interesting when he discovered that one of our members came from the same district. It revived many memories for them both.

Our July outing was to Rutland Water when again the sun shone all day, in fact it was almost too warm at 80°F, but we were able to enjoy a lovely breeze when we were in the boat.

Thank you to Evelyn for arranging two such lovely outings.

We were sorry to hear of the death of Violet Harris, she was one of our oldest members although due to ill health she had not been able to sup-

port the club in the last few years.

We have no arrangements for August but our September schedule is as follows;

Tuesday 2nd September Meet in the Village Hall at 2 pm when Hilary will be talking on 'The History of Hats'.

Tuesday 9th September an outing has been arranged to go to the Forestry Commission at Melton Mowbray.

The Katharine House Hospice

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Warriner Choral Society and other Choirs

Cherwell Orchestra

(Judy Springate, Leader)

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Soprano

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Annual Village Fayre was a great success and raised £1,500. We are now going to refurbish the front of the main Hall and carry out other essential repairs. The Village Hall Management Committee would like to thank everyone who sponsored the event by either donating prizes, advertising in the programme, sponsoring individual competitions, donating items, judging, organising, running stalls, helping on the day and coming to the event - without you all there would be no Fayre. Well done everyone.

In the Art competition our local artist Nigel Fletcher had a difficult job choosing the winners. The Under 5's was won by Tom Pyne, from the Gower; 2nd Chloe Young from Burdrop & 3nd Rebecca Stokes from the Ferris. 5-8 yo's winner was Jack Loveridge; 2nd William Smith both from Epwell; 3nd Caiti Pyne from the Gower. The 9 to 14 yo's winner was Elizabeth Matthews from the Ferris; 2nd Hollie Graham from Tadmarton; 3nd Inga Kemp from the Gower. Well done to everyone for such colourful pictures and so many entries which were displayed and enjoyed by all.

The Fancy Dress again gave our Judge Judith Marshall a difficult job. The under 3's was won by 10 month old Tom Lovegrove from Epwell (whose Mum Joanne won £10 in the Wordsearch) dressed as a tractor driver and he received a lovely teddy bear kindly donated by Debenhams. The 3's & over was won by 10 year old Brett Knapman as a Dalek who received a Free Entry kindly donated by Funtasia. Runners up were Megan Pashley & Harry Berks as The Three Little Kittens and Jack Knapman was 3rd as an Egyptian Mummy.

The Fun Dog Show, kindly sponsored by Mrs Vera Jones and judged by Mrs Netta Best was much enjoyed by spectators and again a tough task for Netta. The Best Young Handler was won by Jade Cooper from Churchill with Ziggy receiving The Harry Challenge Trophy donated by Mrs Virginia Bennett in memory of her dog Harry who was Sibford Top Dog in 1999. Ziggy was also winner of the Handsomest Dog class and 4th in the Best Pedigree. Best Pedigree was won by Ida Tengvall from the Gower with 10 month old miniature wire haired Dachshund Oscar, who was also 2nd in the Handsomest Dog and went on to take the Championship and the title of "Sibford Top Dog" receiving the wonderful Challenge Cup. Ann Batchelor from Churchill with Milo was 2nd in the Best Pedigree and 3rd in the Handsomest Dog class. Prettiest Bitch went to last year's "Top Dog" Sybil, a beautiful red and white Setter shown by 11 yo India Seely from the Gower. India had earlier entered a picture of Sybil in the art competition, capturing Sybil's expression so well, and they also had a 3rd & 4th in earlier classes but were 3rd in this year's Championship. The dog agility class kept the audience amused and was won by Polly handled by confident Inga Kemp, who also had a 4th and two 5ths in other classes. Charlie, a chocolate Labrador gave us all a lot of amusement in the dog agility class, trying to go home in the middle of it! Best Cross Breed was Rory Cremin's Sprout from the Gower, who was 2nd both in the Prettiest Bitch and Dog Agility and then went on to be Reserve Champion receiving a Challenge Trophy. Second in the Best Cross Breed was Inca, bought at Stow Fair some years ago, shown by 13 yo Lara Skovronska from Burdrop who earlier was 2nd in The Best Young Handler with 7 yo sister Zosia. Well done to everyone for entering this Competition.

Our Grand Raffle top prize of £200. kindly donated by The Swan Hill Group, went to a lady from the Ferris, who assists at Sibford Playgroup. The £100 kindly donated by Mr Roger Brown of RJB Contract Services Ltd from Tadmarton went to an ex-Sibfordian now living in Wigginton. Winner of The George & Dragon competition went to a lady from Spain staying with her daughter in Burdrop. Our thanks also go to The Wykham Arms, The Gate Hangs High, Sibford Stores, the Red Horse Fuels Group and to the many individuals for donating raffle prizes. We have yet to decide the winner of the Balloon Race.

The date of next year's Fayre is Saturday, 19th June, 2004 - please make a note in your diaries!

We have renamed our monthly Table Top/Car Boot Sale, as a Monthly Market. We are now including fruit, vegetables and plants for sale, as well as all the usual items. If anyone has any fruit, vegetables or plants they would like us to sell for them, please contact Muriel on 780025. The next Sale will be on Sunday, 3rd August, followed by Sunday, 7th September and Sunday, 5th October, etc. To book a table or outside pitch for £5 please ring 01295 251339.

The Village Lottery Game is still running and monthly draws are made at the above. If you would like to join in the fun please ring either 780025 or 780373. Half the proceeds go to Village Hall funds, the other half back in monthly prizes.

Computer Courses start again in September. Please contact Bancee on 01295 266763, leaving a message for Mr Peter Titman. The computer situated in the Village Hall can be used by Clubs using the Hall on a regular basis and you can have access to the internet for information for your Clubs etc. Please ring Muriel on 780025 for details. We need to use this to keep it!

Hall Bookings can be made to our Booking Secretary Kathleen Winter on 780461.

HAVE YOU GOT PATIENCE ENTHUSIASM AND A FEW HOURS TO SPARE EACH WEEK?

Volunteer Reading Help recruits, trains and supports volunteers who visit a local primary school twice a week to give individual help to children who are finding reading difficult. No formal qualifications are needed to be a reading helper, and volunteers can be of any age from 18 upwards. There is a short and relaxed training course which takes place locally. If you'd like to find out more, please contact Hilary Burr at VRH, 36 Windmill Road, Oxford OX3 7BX; telephone 0845 4500329 or e-mail: vrh.oxfordshire@tiscali.co.uk

A PLEA FOR A BIT OF PEACE AND QUIET from Victor Meldrew

The sun is out, summer is here. It's Sunday and you're sitting in the garden taking it easy and enjoying some peace and tranquility. Then, all of a sudden, some dipstick starts up the lawn mower, strimmer, chainsaw and anything else that has a motor attached to it. It just makes Sunday like every other day of the week; we may as well have the bins collected on a Sunday, the building site open at The Manor and why not let the council do some road repairs. Go on, try and give it a rest for just one day of the week and just hear what a difference it makes. You'll still have all day Saturday and every evening to make as much noise as you want. Just keep Sunday for those quiet jobs and let us all have some peace.

CAPE TALK

I was on a South African Airways flight recently and was given a little pamphlet on South African speech along with my plastic sandwich. I kept the pamphlet as it contained some typical South African words which are in common use but usually confound the tourists. I got rid of the sandwich though! Anyway, I thought I might share some of these with you so you can blend in if you visit SA.

A must for all visitors to South Africa is to go to a braai ("bry") which is a barbecue. Braai means grill in Afrikaans and the full version is braai vleis which means grilled meat. You may also be given some boerwors ("bou-re-vorse") which is a farm style sausage cooked on the braai. This is only after you have sampled some biltong with your drinks. Biltong is called "jerky" in the United States and is dried meat cut into strips. All this food is really lekker which means nice or good. If you go to the gym you will want to wear your takkies which refer to sneakers, trainers or running shoes. Originally this word referred to a brand of tennis shoe that South African fashion gurus deemed as rather "tacky". Today anyone's sports shoes can be called takkies. Fat takkies on a car are the big tyres that some people like to fit for a more racey appearance. Eina ("ayna") is a very expressive word used when something hurts. For example if you fall over and graze your hand it can be really eina. On the other hand you can have a jol ("johl") which is to have some fun. The classic definition of jolling is a get-together with music, dancing and dangerous amounts of alcohol, but the term refers to any enjoyable activity. A boykie is a term of endearment or admiration which applies to males only. South African men often refer to their friends as "boykie". As a rule of thumb, the more macho the man is, the more likely he is to be a "boykie", especially if he is a rugby player. So you can now have a jol at a braai eating biltong and boerwors with your boykies. The food will be lekker as long as you don't burn yourself on the braai which will be eina. You may then have to go home in your car with the fat takkies! There are many more words and expressions which makes South African English interesting and entertaining.

Now just a few nature notes from my back garden. I always read Arnold's notes and thought you would like a South African version. I was sitting eating my breakfast the other day and saw a mongoose run along the top of the wall and disappear into the undergrowth. A short while later a second mongoose followed suit, probably the mate. Mongeese are fairly common in the Western Cape but it's the first time I've seen them in Erinvale. While doing some gardening I came across my first snake! Fortunately it was only six inches long and about the size of my little finger. I've no idea what type of snake it was but I have been warned that Cape cobras have been found in these top gardens and they are rather poisonous. Finally, whenever I garden I'm always accompanied by a Fiscal Shrike which loves to feed on the insects and grubs I disturb. He hops along quite closely and suddenly dives for his prey, not unlike the English robin. The shrike is also known as the butcher bird as it will sometimes store it's larger catch like grasshoppers on the thorns of a nearby bush for later consumption.

Steve and I will be visitng the UK at the end of August, early September and we will be coming to Sibford as usual. Hope to see some of you then.

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 Ann Bishop on Swalcliffe 788188 (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.

This month we WELCOME Charlotte Bird and Michael Drake, who are now happily settled in Weston Mead, Acre Ditch, Sibford Gower. They previously lived in Hook Norton. Charlotte has two sons, Rory and Barney, who are aged ten and seven. They also have a border terrier/Jack Russell cross, who takes her job of patrolling the garden extremely seriously! Charlotte works part time for fountains in Banbury. She edits their magazine and is constantly on the look out for timber/ arboricultural related stories - (hint!).

We next welcome Sue and Andrew Childs, who have recently moved into Stonewalls, Bonds End Lane, with their three children. First there is Isabella (7), then Alexander (5), and lastly Cameron (2). Both Isabelle and Alexander are already attending the village school. Sue and Andrew are both English, but have spent the last thirteen years in Australia, Andrew working as a sales executive for an Australian firm called Ampec, which has now branched off to England. So Andrew has been transferred here on a five year contract. Sue is a midwife. Sue hasn't had much time for hobbies, but Andrew loves windsurfing, sailing and fishing. We hope they will all settle happily in Sibford Gower for the time of their stay.

We also welcome Martin Thomas and Kathleen Randall who moved to Stewarts Court from Shipston, having enjoyed walks through the Sibfords in the past

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SIBFORD CRICKET CLUB MATCH REPORTS III

14TH June Enstone away

An eventful Sunday afternoon friendly with Lee 'the claw' Gilbert making his Sibford captaincy debut as the usual Sunday skipper skives off on holiday. Sibford batted first on the artificial track with Dave'sumo'Simms in good form in only his second game of the the season scoring 71. He was accompanied by Midas who blasted a surefire 59, the remaining batsmen only managed a quintuplet of ducks (that's five) for the seasons ever increasing tally, too many names to mention Matt Simms and Simon Chard being but two. This gave a total of 154. So Enstone come in to bat and there is what could only be described as imaginative umpiring, I'm sure the umpire isn't meant to ask the batsmen if he hit the ball after an appeal (We think there may have been a grudge after our South African from last year failed to walk.) Dave Simms then put himself out of action for a few weeks when in the process of dropping a dolly he broke his finger.......aaaahhl! Enstone won by 8wickets. We'll have them at home!!

16th June 2nd round cup Charlton home

Another evening game this time against high flying premier team Charlton. We had a slightly underpowered line up but as they say in football we were prepared to give 110%. A tight all round bowling performance that was unlucky not to see more than the 2 wickets it got and some athletic fielding from recalled Mike Inns (he'll have a few aches and pains tomorrow) kept Charlton to 119 runs.

Their bowling as it turned out was just a little sharp for us and despite an unbeaten 23 from Chris'bettabuys' Wollerton and a flamboyant and gut straining 8 not out from Mike Inns we could only muster 51 in our 20 overs. But we'll have revenge soon....a week on Friday in fact.

21st June Gawcott away

After a string of Saturday defeats we now find ourselves approaching the 'must win' stage. Gawcott elected to bat first. What is usually a green and lively track turned out to be a bit lifeless and despite taking 9 wickets the fact that most of the batsmen reached double figures (unheard of in Sibford) meant a tricky total of 212 to chase. Things got of to a shaky start with the new opening partnership of Matt 'sponge' Simms and Mr Chard (You would think he'd realized by now). Simms was back in the hutch with another duck for his collection and Chard was not far behind with 8. Four more ducks followed meaning another quintuplet for the season (I didn't think I'd have to use that twice in one report) Even Midas Barton succumbed with his third of the season.....don't tell me he's after that title as well! And seasoned campaigner Phil Gilbert made it a brace of first ballers after Enstone. Things can only get better Phil. Only lan Wollerton 29 and new Player G Bedward 33 put up any resistance. All out for 99! 28th June Wardington home

This was even more 'must win' than last week. Things started well with a cracking fielding and bowling display, three catches for Kevin Peachey (who said he can't field), two for Simon Chard who at one time thought he might never catch a ball again and four wickets apiece for Jason Barton and Chris Sabin meant a very gettable 107 was the prospect for the batsmen. Dave Pratt set out his stall early and looked determined in Boycottesque style to go the distance which he almost

did lasting until the 34th over with 46 out of the 92 scored to his name. Chardy then took the reigns and finished off with 24 from only 25 balls finishing with a glorious straight six to cap the victory....to the pub!

29th June Enstone home

Sibfords chairman Ian'Taffy'Davies rolled back the years to produce a match winning performance. Opening the batting with a well timed 64 out of our total of 174 also including Peachey 31 and a quick fire 26NO from Simon Chard and the promise of Graham Wealsby streaking round the village spurred Adam Leyburn on to make 2 only 43 short of the required target to attain said streak. Enstone never looked like making the total with alround tight bowling including 26 for 1 from eight overs by Ian Davies. When asked about his performance he said "Tidy bit of cricket....isnit!"

11th July Charlton away

We went, we saw, they conquered.....again!

12th July Preston Capes home

Well what can I say. Two great innings in one match ...from Sibford, wonders will never cease. Ian Wollerton with 103 and Kevin'psycho'Peachey with his maiden century finishing on 110 not out! This gave us a total of 263 which was more than enough to contain the Cape's. Just a shame we couldn't take the last two wickets to gain maximum bowling points. Still it will give us a boost with our flagging league position.

13th July Long Compton away

The yearly game at our Nemesis ground where I have yet to see a Sibford victory. As usual the bowling at Long Com went through our batting like a dose of salts with only Chris Wollerton putting up much resistance with 43. Chris Sabin raced to the top of the duck chart with his fourth of the season, determined not to be left behind Matt Simms had his third after playing and missing at 14 deliveries. Long Com plucked off the 120 run total with three overs to spare.....no thanks to

some very un-Jonty like fielding from Lee Gilbert



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LEO.

We had a complete change of venue for our summer evening out. We went to The Manor at Long Compton. There were twenty of us and everyone seemed to be in a party mood. So much so, that the noise was deafening and seemed to get louder as the evening progressed. We had a most enjoyable meal and I think it will have been voted a great success. There will be no LEO meeting in August. Please keep an eye on the Scene to find out what is going to happen at the September one. MW.

Sibford Ferris Parish Council. Next meeting Monday August 18th 7.45 pm in Sibford School Sports Hall Upstairs classroom

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QUIET DAYS AT HANDYWATER FARM, SIBFORD GOWER TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER

Coffee 9.30am before first meditation at 10am Last meditation at 2.45pm Bring-and-share lunch

Encouraged by the interest shown in the four quiet days so far this summer, we are now pleased to offer two more topics for the autumn that we hope will stir your curiosity and inspire you to come along and join us.

On Tuesday 9th September Jessica Rose will focus on exploring eastern spirituality. Jessica is a member of the Orthodox Church in Oxford, and runs the Russian choir there. This quiet day promises to be a really interesting insight into Eastern Orthodoxy.

On **Tuesday** 7th **October** the Rev John Stroyan will lead on the theme of 'desert' in our spiritual lives. Most appropriately he will just have returned from leading a retreat in the Sinai Desert the week before.

Anyone of any faith or none is welcome, and it is not necessary to 'join in' - you are equally welcome just to come and enjoy the garden on these days in stillness and peace.

If you would like more detailed information about quiet days, or directions on how to find Handywater Farm, please ring Sue on 01295 788770.

SIBFORD TOTS & BABES

New start time from September - 10.30 am

After the summer break, Sibford's toddler group will meet again on Tuesday, 9 September at 10.30 am until 12.00, in the small hall at the Village Hall in the Gower. In July, we said goodbye to some of the older children and their mums/carers, and we wish them all well in the future. We look forward to meeting up again in September and if there is anyone new to the villages interested in coming along, or just new to the toddler group, we'd be very pleased to see you. Just come along on a Tuesday or, for more information, phone Anita on 788557.

Thank goodness for a voice of sanity regarding traffic regulation from Peter Duggins, The only thing that slows most motorists is a camera and that only temporarily. Added to this, the accident statistics have not been reduced by cameras! What is really needed is a change in human consciousness - people behaving with kindness and consideration as they drive through places where people live and expecting the same in return. No amount of government action will cause this.

Suzy Straw.

SENIOR CITIZENS GARDEN TEA PARTY

TEMPLE CLOSE - SUNDAY 3RD AUGUST - 3pm to 5 pm On the 3rd August senior citizens are invited to join Vera for tea in the garden of Temple Close, Music will again be provided by the popular Hook Norton Brass Band

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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

A very successful Cheese & Wine evening was held at the home of Tom & Doreen Pratt to whom we are very grateful.

The Church Fete held on Saturday 5th July was an outstanding occasion. A beautiful day witnessed a greater than usual attendance with strong support from the villages and a financial result of almost £1,200 to help with church running costs. The support in gifts and donations, helpers at the stalls and setting up, and the generosity of visitors were all hugely appreciated, also the use of the Rectory garden with the grass immaculately trimmed by the Rector.

The Family Service held on July 13th needs special mention. The theme was The Sea and the story of Jonah was beautifully read by Erica Wimbush to start the service, with children gathered at her feet. A group of actors (not forgetting Peter Hardman using the organ to great effect for the storm), gave a wonderful presentation of St Paul's shipwreck. Hymns all had a sea connection and there were fishing nets and sea creatures abounding. It is just a pity that so many village children are missing these imaginative services which are so carefully and thoughtfully designed.

People of all ages are warmly invited to a special Family Service on Sunday 10th August at 11.00 am, followed by a "Bring and Share" lunch in the Village Hall. During this occasion, we shall explain the Church Family Roll as being a new list of adults and children who would like to be involved in the life of the local church. Anyone can belong and financial support is not the primary function of this roll. We very much hope that you will be able to join us. Come and help us launch the Church Family Roll.

Other Parish dates for your diaries are as follows:

Friday 29th August. Cheese and Wine at Robin and Anne Spicer's home at 7 High Meadow at 7.30 pm.

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Saturday October 4th. Harvest Supper in the Village Hall after the Harvest Festival which will be held in Church.

Saturday 15th November Christmas Bazaar in the Village Hall at 2.30 pm. Saturday 20th December Christmas Bingo in the Village Hall

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

Hook Norton **Baptist** 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 September

Sun 3rd Benefice Eucharist 10am, Epwell Sun 7th Benefice Eucharist 10am

Sun 10th Family Service 11 am at Shutford

Sun 17th Holy Communion 9.30 am Sun 14th Family Service 10 am

Sun 24th Holy Communion 9.30 am Sun 21st Holy Communion 9.30am

Sun 31st Holy Communion 9.30 am Sun 28th Holy Communion 9.30am

Saturday October 4th Harvest Service at 5.30 and Supper afterwards

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Calendar of Events

August

Sun 3rd Senior Citizens Tea Party at Temple Close p20

Sun 3rd Table Top & Car Boot Sale 12 noon Village Hall

Wed 6th A Midsummer Night's Dream - Leasowe House - 780569

Sun 10th Church Bring and Share lunch. P21

Sun 10th 'Spinning a Yarn' at Kingham p7

Tue 12th Recycling Roadshow at the Village Hall

Wed 13th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)

Mon 18th Ferris Parish Council Meeting 7.45 pm p18

Tue 12th WI Visit to Cerney House Gardens p7

Wed 20th Horticultural Society Show Entries - see schedule

Thu 21st Sibford Society Evening Walk. 7 pm Bishop Blaize p6

Sat 23rd Horticultural Society Annual Show p9

Wed 27th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4,20pm)

Fri 29th Cheese & Wine party in aid of Church funds. P21

September

Tue 2nd Friendship Club 'History of Hats' p11

Fri 5th Gower Parish Council Meeting 8 pm p5

Sun 7th Table Top & Car Boot Sale 12 noon Village Hall

Tue 9th Quiet Garden at Handywater Farm p19

Tuc 9th Friendship Club Outing, P11

Wed 10th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)

Wed 10th Horticultural Society talk on Fuchsias p9

Tue 16th Spinners & Weavers Talk 'The Pearl Button Man' (Tel 251088)

Tue 16th Deadline for contributions to the October Sibford Scene p6

Thu 18th Sibfords Society 'Before the age of Plastics' p6

Wed 24th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25-4.20pm)

Cover Picture - Sibford Club Day.

Sibford Scene

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