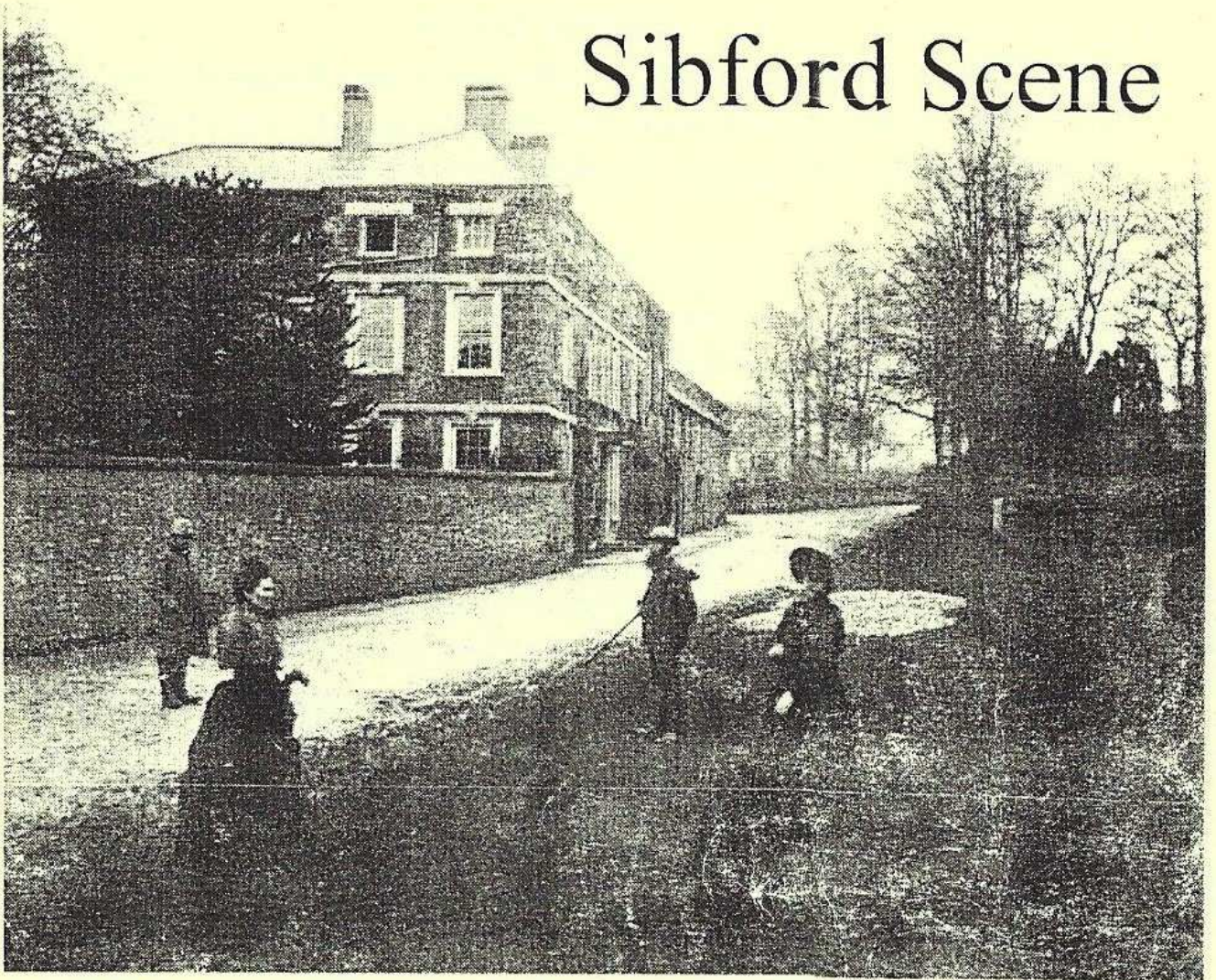


Sibford Scene



May 2004

No. 263

Sibford Horticultural Society

Plant Sale Wednesday May 12th at 7.30 pm

At Gowers Close (Village Hall if wet)

Warriner Choral Society Spring Concert

Saturday 15th May St. Mary's Church, Adderbury

Art Exhibition and Sale

Starts Saturday 15th May 10 am

The Mission Room, Sibford Gower

Village Hall A.G.M.

Monday 17th May, 8 pm in the Hall

Nature Notes

Mar. 27th. A smart male siskin came to our nut feeder this morning.

Mar. 28th. A male and female siskin feeding today and I have heard of some in Sibford Gower. I expect they will soon move on northwards.

Mar. 31st A wren is building a nest above our sitting room window. However it may not be used as the hen bird is fussy and only uses one of the several nests that the cock builds.

Apr. 6th Wood pigeons and blue tits are taking the flowers of our ornamental prunus and more seriously our plum blossom. I expect it must be the sweetness of the nectar that attracts them.

Apr. 12th After this mornings dawn chorus while the blackcap was making use of the quiet period for its solo performance some canada geese flew down the valley. Hearing them set my mind working on the changes in the natural sights and sounds around the parish since I was a boy. As well as the canada geese which came here after several large ponds were made in this area there is the collared dove that spread so rapidly across Europe in the 50s. The muntjac and the American mink have escaped from captivity. The polecat has spread east from the Welsh borders and buzzards have spread from West to East to become common here. Roe and fallow deer have increased considerably as have the badgers. On the downside the grey partridge has become scarce and their rasping call as they collected to roost on winter evenings is a sound that I have not heard for several years.

The quail that we seldom saw but often heard in the summer is now a rare visitor as is the turtle dove. Hedgehogs have also become scarce.

Apr. 13th A ten mile walk by some of the younger members of the family took them by Cottisford where they counted 83 dead frogs in the water but the fish seemed to be well. I know there are casualties at spawning time but this number must be excessive.

Apr. 15th Early in the month my son told me that he had a distant view of about 8 deer as they made their leisurely way toward Swalcliffe Common. I assumed that they were fallow as he said he only saw them at that distance because one of them was white. Tonight I met someone who had a better view of a group of roe deer containing a white one in the same area so we must keep our eyes open as I think a white roe is quite unusual.

Village Hall News

Monthly Markets continue in the Hall on the first Sunday of every month (2nd May, 6th June). We set up between 11 to 11.45 am and buyers drift in from then. A variety of goods are always on sale plus refreshments which you can enjoy in the small hall. To book a table for £5 please ring Josie on 01295 251339. If you have items you would like to donate for sale for Hall funds please ring Muriel on 780025. We really do appreciate this help from residents.

We have again received the menu of performances in the Cherwell DC Arts @ Large scheme but this year we have to make our choice of 2, which have to be in by the 7th May. Anyone who would like to look at what is on offer please phone Muriel on 780025 before the 7th. We can self promote one other performance but have to be sure this would be supported to avoid making a loss for the Hall. At the moment there is an interest in bringing the classical guitarist John Mills back to our venue.

The Village Lottery Game will restart in May if we have enough people interested to make it worthwhile. £12 per year with a monthly draw - half to go towards Hall funds to continue with improvements, half to go into the monthly winnings. Please ring Ginny on 780373 or Muriel on 780025 to get this restarted.

(continued over)



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The Annual General Meeting of the Sibford Village Hall will take place on Monday 17th May at 8 pm. All residents are welcome to attend and to vote in the election of committee members. The Committee includes co-opted members and representatives of those organisations using the Hall. It is your Hall, come along and have your say in the way it is run.

The Annual Village Fayre takes place in and around the Hall on Saturday 26th June from 1 pm. Any new ideas always appreciated at our monthly meetings - ring Ginny on 780373. The children's art competition subject this year is "Your Pop Idol" and application forms will shortly be in the Sibford Ferris Stores and Post Office, again kindly being judged by our local artist Nigel Fletcher. 3 classes for different age groups. If you can help on the day please let Ginny know - we appreciate any help if only for an hour or two. We are again looking for raffle prizes, bottles for the bottle stall, items for the tombola etc. If anyone would like a craft, or any other stall, at the fayre for £5 per table please let us know.

Our present committee: Chairman, Mark Darvil 780052. Treasurer, Nicki Kitchen 780633. Secretary, Muriel Chandler, 780025. Assistant Secretary, Ginny Bennett 780373. Booking Secretary, Kathleen Winter, 780461.

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Sunday 5.30am to 1.00pm

LEO

The April LEO was held at the Rectory on the 20th. Erica and Timothy were very enthusiastic about their last year's holiday in Switzerland and produced lots of photos and postcards to accompany their talk. They had gone on a coach tour and had found the whole holiday very comfortable and relaxing, with no need to drive and everything being organised for them.

We had an almost full house at the meeting, which seems to be the norm nowadays.

Our next meeting will be at Maureen's on the 18th May. Because of the lack of a speaker, we are to bring a story of a funny experience in our lives. We often find that providing our own entertainment makes for a very enjoyable evening. So hope that this one will turn out as well.

MW

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and Three Veg.

Book Early To Reserve Your Table.

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

Friendship Club

We had a very successful Easter Tea thanks to all the committee for their hard work in both providing the food and getting the hall ready. Many thanks to those who brought raffle prizes, to Bea Tanner for running the raffle, to those who took part in the Easter Bonnet Parade which was won by Jill Crisp and to all who provided the music. It all added up to an enjoyable afternoon.

Dates for the Diaries

Tuesday 4th May - A.G.M. in the Village Hall at 2.00pm. Subs will be collected on that afternoon.

Tuesday 18th May - Outing to Turners at Northampton. They will be closing shortly and this will be our last chance to enjoy their entertainment.

Tuesday 1st June - Meet in the Village Hall at 2.00pm when Roger Powell will be bringing some of his slides.

Methodist Chapel

We shall be holding our Chapel Anniversary on
Tuesday 1st June at 7.30pm in the Chapel.

Speaker - Rev. A Roberts of Kineton

Chairman - to be confirmed.

Light refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome.



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June
Sibford Scene
to the Shop or Editor
by
May 18th



Women's
Institute

W.I. NEWS

Glennis welcomed everyone, including our new member, Rosemary Neal. As usual, Lynda read the record of our March minutes. There were lots of matters arising from these, and a long discussion ensued, with emphasis on arrangements for the Group Meeting on 22nd April, hosted by Sibford.

The O.F.W.I. Annual General Meeting at Oxford Town Hall on the 23rd March had apparently turned out to be very interesting with two excellent speakers, Tracy Sortwell - Chairman of N.F.W.I. Affairs Committee and Tricia Stewart - the instigator of "Calendar Girls".

As a celebration of the 85th birthday of O.F.W.I., a picnic is planned, to be held on the 12th July at Denman College.

Interest was expressed on the "Evening with Betty Boothroyd" to be held at Cheltenham Town Hall on the 26th July, and an "Evening with Edwina Currie" on the 28th September at Oxford Town Hall, but names will be taken later.

Then we came to our speaker, Mrs Sheila Hallam, who gave us a very interesting talk called "New Zealand on a Motorbike". In 1998, it was thought to be a good idea that a Motor Cycle Rally should take place. This was suggested by New Zealand members, who put the rally together and the tour. The bikes were taken over in a container and had to be absolutely clean, as no earth was allowed to be taken into the country. They were on the boat from November to February and everyone was very relieved to find them all intact. Mrs Hallam went on to say that on these occasions she was always the pillion passenger. Her husband had told her she was so successful in that role that it is the reason why he had married her!!

The tour began at Christchurch and continued through to South Islands - a journey of almost 2,000 miles. They had to travel very light, carrying in her pannier just:- 4 pairs of pants, 2 pairs of socks, 2 blouses and trousers, 1 spare bra, a jumper, sandals, pyjamas and a tee-shirt or two. It will be obvious why a very large packet of washing powder was also included!

All in all, it had turned out to be a most successful trip.

Then it was time for refreshments, and Rosalind and Greta served tea and the usual tempting array of cakes. The competition for a Kiwi Cheesecake was won by Lynda, second Glennis and third Maureen.

On May 11th we are holding our usual Resolutions Meeting and the competition will be for the best flowering stem.

MW

The Warriner Choral Society

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Susan Mars

Mezzo-Soprano

Geraint Watkins

Tenor

Maurice MacSweeney

Baritone

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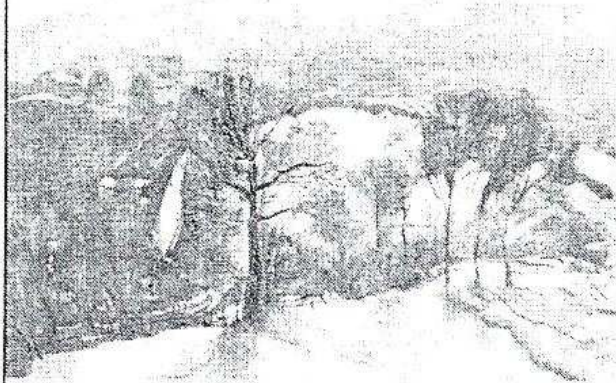
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The Sibfords Society

As a change from our usual speaker evenings, we held a workshop session in April in order to sort out material stored in our new Archive Room. Many articles were cut out and laminated to protect them for the future and photos were sorted and viewed on Mike Harper Tarrs Paxiscope. We also have a quantity of old tools much in need of cleaning and oiling. This proved to be a very dirty job but it was satisfying to see the tools gleaming again.

Our next meeting is in the Village Hall at 8 pm on Thursday, 20 May, when Gordon Abbot will talk about the Evacuees in World War II. This meeting is open to everyone and we would like to encourage more people to become members to help keep the history of the Sibfords alive, so do come and join us.

At this meeting, we would like to collect the money for the Society's guided walk and meal around Chipping Campden on 23 June, so could members please pay £10.50 per person, cheque made out to Sibford Society. We still have a few spaces to fill for this outing, so please ring Jenny Barratt on 01386 438238 if you wish to join us.

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In return to yours.

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We hope you stop and pause,
To look inside our public house,
For cheek we do not lack,
O gosh, o horror we hear you say,
The Moody Cow is back.

Sibford Horticultural Society

At the last meeting of the society Mr Tarver, whose grandfather was head gardener at Sibford School came to talk to us on auriculas which was most enjoyable.

The next meeting is on **May 12th** at an earlier time of 7.30pm when we are holding a plant sale with coffee and wine at the home of Judith Hitchens, Gowers Close where we hope you will all come along. if wet we will be in the Village hall. Plants for sale to Gowers Close on day of sale or to a committee member (who will try to keep them alive until the sale) or bring them along in the evening.

June 9th we have Gerald Sinclair talking on Hemerocallis. and June 26th is the Village Hall fete where we have been asked to run a plant stall.

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SIBFORD WOMBLERS


Uncle Bulgaria would like to thank all the members of the Gower branch of the Sibford Wombling Society who turned out to help in the recent Gower Litterblitz, also all the many temporary members for the day. He was almost (but not quite) embarrassed by the huge response from the good people of the Gower who all did a wonderful tidying up. He would particular like to thank Peter Hardman, that highly efficient and indefatigable Clerk to the Sibford Gower Parish Council who not only cleared a particularly difficult area but also collected all the bags of rubbish, two carloads, and took them to the Cherwell Council dump. The High Council of Sibford Womblers has been pleased to elect him as an Honorary member and awarded him the 2004 Rubbish Bag prize.

THE YETTIES

Are coming to give a concert in aid of
Katharine House Hospice on
Saturday June 5th in Sibford Village Hall.
We do hope you will all support this event.
Please get your tickets as soon as possible.

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A Page from the Past
AN EARNEST' APPEAL
TO THE
LABOURERS OF THE BANBURY AND OXFORD DISTRICTS
OF THE N.A.L.U.

BRETHREN, - For the last nine years I have been a member of the N.A.L.U. and in some few instances I have taken upon me to write in defence and support of this Society, and at all times I have studied to serve both the people and the Society to which I belonged. But being occupied during the whole of this time in the cultivation of the soil, my opportunity for doing this was rare and my efforts in this direction somewhat crippled. But being lately appointed by the Executive Committee of the above Society to serve as a Delegate for the above named districts, has invested me with greater opportunities, and opened up to me a more extensive field for my labours. I shall therefore, all being well, commence to hold meetings in the above districts during the Winter months of the present year. Will you aid in my efforts by attending these Meetings in good numbers, if so I am satisfied as to the result.

Remember, I am one of yourselves, having been a tiller of the soil from my boyhood. I therefore understand the subject on all points, having worked for one gentleman nearly twenty years and if I can by any means be of service to my fellow Labourers, by seeking to infuse into their minds, habits of sobriety, thrift, and Unionism, I am desirous of doing it. Let every man aid me by coming to listen to what I have to say, and also by any other means he may suggest. Rich and poor are both respectfully invited. Let those who wish to join the Movement, come. Let those who will not or cannot join, come. Their presence will cheer me on. Will you Let the answer be both loud and decisive - WE WILL.

Yours faithfully,

W. H: GOLDER

UNION SONG.

[TUNE: " Onward Christian Soldiers."]

Forward! honest toilers. Let us not delay.
Marching on to victory,
Through life's chequered way,
Let us then with vigour, Duty's paths pursue:
Never weary, till we, Grasp the prize in view.

Forward! honest toiler, Marching to the fight:
Every foe we'll vanquish, If we all unite,
For our cause is righteous,
And will bear us through,
If, with honest effort, We our path pursue.

Forward! honest toiler, Sin's stronghold assail:
If your courage fail not, Truth will soon prevail.
Gird you on your armour, Freedom's cause defend:

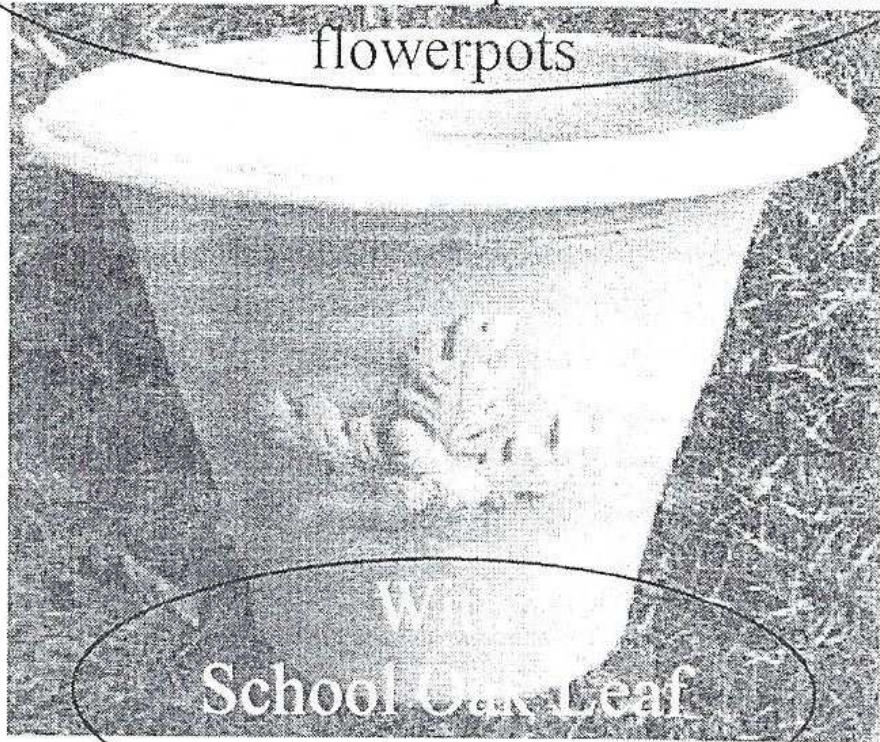
Pause not in the conflict,
Which shall in victory end.

Forward, honest toiler,
Wave your banners high,
Led by Arch your Captain,
Heed his warning cry,
Soon shall vile oppression,
Vanish from your sight,
Each defeated tyrant, Shall confess your might.

Forward, honest toiler, Soon the strife shall end,
Be your watchword ever,
God will the right defend,
Soon each fertile valley, Jubilant shall be,
With the gladsome tidings, England's sons are free.

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**God in the depths - encountering God in times of difficulty
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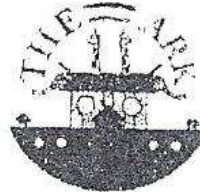
As a former Chaplain at the Churchill Hospital in Oxford, Stephanie Bullock's insight and reflections on the theme of this quiet day will be relevant to many, and thought-provoking for all.

You are invited to arrive from 9.30am ready for a 10am start. There will be a period of silence after Dr Bullock's introduction in the morning, followed by a bring-and-share lunch to which you are asked to bring a contribution. The afternoon session ends at approximately 3.30pm.

Further quiet days will take place on Wednesday 16th June,
Thursday 15th July, Thursday 23rd
September and Wednesday 20th
October.

If you would like directions to Handywater, or if you would like any further information about our quiet days, please telephone Sue on 01295 788770.

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Burdrop & Sibford Gower Litterblitz - 2004

The annual Litterblitz was held on Saturday, the 3rd of April and the Sibford Gower Parish Councillors extend their thanks and appreciation to the very willing volunteers who came along to take part. It is always amazing (but not, by now, surprising) how much litter and rubbish is collected from the road verges - most of it thrown out of car windows. Particularly bad were the verges of the Shipston road between Hawkes Lane and Pound Lane. One of the volunteer collectors thought that he could have put together a car with the unwanted pieces of vehicles disposed of there! Thanks are due, also, to Mary and Norman Nash for organising the event and their involvement was extremely welcome. Luckily, the rain held off for the period when activity took place but the strong winds made controlling the plastic waste bags a little tricky. All in all, it was a job well done.

Sibford Gower Parish Council



The Simon Weatherby Garden at the Katharine House Hospice, Adderbury, will be open on **Sunday 6th June** from 2pm to 4.30pm.

Please support this, the only fundraising event which maintains the garden at the Hospice, which staff and patients regard as so important. There will be Teas, Raffle and Plant stalls.

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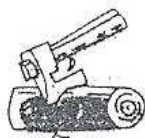
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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

The programme of Lent Austerity lunches in the Benefice was its usual success for fellowship and finance. Most of the Parishes donated their contributions to the Katharine House Hospice and the Sibford collection from the lunch held at The Red House, Burdrop totaled £131.87 (including tax relief). All those who supplied the very delicious soup and attended and contributed to this excellent total are warmly thanked.

The Sibford Annual Church meeting held on March 29th was well attended but learned from the annual accounts that although much better than the previous year, we still suffered a deficit of £1,009. (An extra £1 a week from those present, quite apart from those unable to be present, would raise this even without the available tax relief). Eric Payne and Ann Spicer were re-elected as Churchwardens, Kathy Yorke, Erica Wimbush and Evelyn Boughton continued as Deanery representatives and Helen Earle, Tom Pratt, David Soden, Maureen Warden and Sue Wilson were elected as PCC members. David Soden, the retiring Treasurer, was greatly thanked for many years of hard work. The appeal for more people to mow the churchyard has produced no new names but it is noticed that much work has been done on the grass in the last week or two so there must be a number of generous but anonymous donors of their time putting in some hard work for which we and the whole village should be grateful, as the burial ground is for all. (Kathy Yorke would still like some new names on 780361)

The report for last month unfortunately failed to reach the editor so the report of the usual wonderful Family Service on Mothering Sunday, exceptionally well attended, was unreported. The services in the Benefice over Easter were equally well attended, and the sight of the flowers in the church and the magnificent Easter garden were even more beautiful than ever. Those who do these each year should be thanked ever more warmly for such artistry and devotion.

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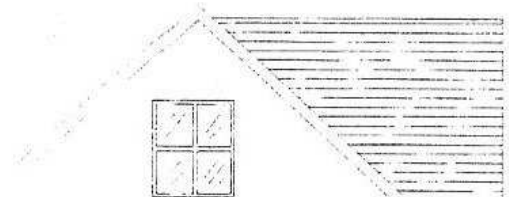
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Church Services

Society of Friends		Sunday at 10.30 am
Methodist		Sunday at 11.00 am
Roman Catholic Mass	Wroxton	Sunday at 8.30 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.		

May

Sun 2nd Young at Heart service 10 am at Tadmarton
 Sun 9th Family Service 10 am
 Sun 16th Holy Communion 9.30 am
 Sun 23rd Holy Communion 9.30 am
 Sun 30th Holy Communion 9.30 am
 Sun 6th June Benefice service 10 am

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To Banbury Thursdays May 6th & 20th Departs 10 am
 To Chippy Wednesdays May 12th & 26th Returns 12 noon
 Pick up points are; The Colony, High Meadow, Cross Roads, Village Hall.

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

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BUS 480 - Times from 13 April 2004 - Mondays to Saturdays

From Banbury towards Shipston

	GA	CH	GA	GA	CH	GA	CH	GA
Banbury Bus Station dep.	08.45	10.50	11.45	13.45	14.45	16.10	17.10	18.10
SIBFORD GOWER School	09.10	11.15	12.10	14.10	15.10	16.35	17.35	18.35
Shipston, Pettifers Garage	09.31	11.36	12.31	14.31	-----	16.56	17.56	18.56

From Shipston towards Banbury

	Sats		M-F							
	CH	GA	CH	CH	GA	CH	GA	GA	GA	CH
Shipston, Pettifers Garage	6.55	7.45	8.45	-----	9.45	11.45	12.45	14.45	17.10	18.10
SIBFORD GOWER School	7.20	8.10	9.10	9.10	10.10	12.10	13.10	15.10	17.35	18.35
Banbury Bus Station	7.45	8.35	9.35	9.35	10.35	12.35	13.35	15.35	18.00	19.00

Buses serve Sibford Ferris two minutes before the times shown towards Shipston and two minutes after the time shown at Sibford Gower towards Banbury.

Notes: Sats = Saturdays only. M-F = Mondays to Fridays only.

GA = Operated by Geoff Amos. CH = Operated by Cheney Coaches.

Both companies will operate most journeys, where possible, by low floor wheelchair accessible vehicles.

Sorry, No services on Sundays or Public Holidays

For complete times at all of the intermediate places that are served by 480 please see new timetables on bus stops from 13 April or available from bus drivers beforehand.

Calendar of Events

May

- Sun 2nd Village Hall Market p3
- Tue 4th Friendship Club AGM. 2 pm in the Village Hall p6
- Wed 5th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)
- Sat 8th Choir Concert in Hook Norton Church.
- Wed 12th Horticultural Society Plant Sale p10
- Fri 14th Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting
- Sat 15th Art Exhibition starts p8
- Sat 15th Warriner Choral Society Concert p8
- Mon 17th Village Hall A.G.M. 8 pm p4
- Tue 18th Friendship Club Outing p6
- Tue 18th LEO Meeting p5
- Tue 18th Deadline for contributions for the June Scene p6
- Wed 19th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)
- Fri 21st Quiet Day at Handywater. P14

June (part)

- Tue 1st Friendship Club Meeting p6
 - Tue 1st Chapel Anniversary Service 7.30 pm p6
 - Wed 2nd Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)
 - Sat 5th Yetties concert in the Village Hall p11
 - Sat 5th Open Garden and Concert p5
 - Sun 6th Village Hall Market p3
 - Sun 6th Hospice Open Garden, Adderbury p15
 - Wed 9th Horticultural Society Talk - Hemerocallis p10
 - Wed 16th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)
 - Wed 16th Quiet Day at Handywater p14
 - Sat 26th Annual Village Hall Fayre p4
 - Wed 30th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.25 - 4.20pm)
- Cover picture - The Manor, Sibford Ferris. (1890's aprox)

Sibford Scene

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