



December 2004 & January 2005

No. 269

## Sibford Playgroup Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 27th November 2.00 - 4.00 pm  
in the Village Hall

## Methodist Chapel Coffee Morning

Saturday 4th December 10.00 - 12 noon  
in the Chapel

Holy Trinity Church

## Traditional Carol Service

Friday 17th December 7.00 pm

Methodist Chapel

## Carol Service

Sunday 19th December 11.00 am

Holy Trinity Church

## Christingle Service

Wednesday 22nd December 6.30 pm



## Nature Notes

Oct. 24th. On the way to Hickling Broad we called again at Grimes Graves where flint was mined on an industrial scale when flint weapons and tools were in demand (3000 - 2000 BC). I went down a shaft that has been opened and lighted so that visitors can see how it was done. On the surface lots of 3 inch long fox moth caterpillars were crawling over the short vegetation which is mostly wild flowers. There were still a few late blooms on the wild thyme and harebell.

Oct. 25th. In How Hill nature reserve we found quite a lot of royal fern in its autumn yellow. This fern was apparently collected almost to the point of extinction in Victorian times.

Oct. 26th Sunny and the wind has dropped. We took a trip on an electrically powered boat through the narrow channels cut through the vast reed beds near the river Ant. Could see little except the tall reeds except where we stopped at a hide looking over a big area of shallow water where about 200 teal were feeding. There are still a lot of red common darter dragonflies around and two female brimstone butterflies. One of them settled on a bush to sun itself and a fly settled on its wing probably thinking that it was a leaf and had a surprise when a few minutes later the 'leaf' flew away. Two of our party went fishing only catching a roach that would not have been much too big for the kingfishers that they saw. A barn owl was out early this evening flapping gently across in front of the house. There are also plenty of tawney owls around.

Oct. 27th This morning we hired a boat and went across Hickling Broad and Horsey Mere. Saw quite a lot of duck of various kinds and increasing numbers of geese. These are truly wild, not like the semi-tame ones that hang around the boathouses. There were several hundred greylag or pinkfooted geese on the broad and with the big skeins flying round there may have been 1000 in view altogether. The sand dunes at Horsey looked to be good for wild flowers but I was surprised to see a green woodpecker there. This afternoon a rather disappointing visit to Hickling Nature Reserve except for marsh harriers which seem to be getting more common in the area. From a hide we were looking at a windfarm a few miles away and a lad told us that the huge wind generator standing alone generated as



much electricity as the 10 smaller ones, who's faster spinning blades looked to be a far greater danger to birds. If we are to have more wind generators let them be big ones that have an altogether more leisurely less stressful appearance.

Oct. 28th We were told that there are cranes on the marshes beyond Hickling reserve but when we went to look we found that the area was closed to keep it quiet and we could not see any through our binoculars. It would be a good place for a tower from which birds could be seen without disturbing them. Some of our party went up to Cley on the North coast and saw turnstones, various duck and avocets. It had dried up a bit since we came and one or two farmers are making another attempt at harvesting sugar beet. I don't think they have done more than 30% of them yet so a good dry spell is needed.

Nov. 10th In the British Isles Natural History programme this evening we saw the rubber tracked reed cutter that was working at How Hill.

Nov. 18th A song thrush has been in good voice for the last few mornings. This morning it was singing in the rain.



**Ann Woolgrove**  
FABRICS, CURTAINS & SOFT FURNISHINGS

**Handsewn & interlined curtains & pelmets our speciality**  
Roman & Roller blinds  
Customised design service and home consultancy  
Every kind of fabric from many leading manufacturers  
Decorative Poles, Tie backs & Trimmings

<i>Loose Covers and Cushions</i>	<i>Lampshade making</i>
<i>Wallpapers &amp; Interior Decoration</i>	<i>Custom made Bedspreads &amp; Headboards</i>

**Tel/Fax: 01295 788145**



**Oddjob**

**CARPENTRY  
PLUMBING  
ELECTRICS  
HEATING INSTALLATION  
KITCHEN & BATHROOM FITTING  
BUILDING WORKS  
SECURITY**

**FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RELIABLE  
LOCAL SERVICE  
HUGO SEELY 01295 780355  
FREE NO-OBLIGATION ESTIMATES  
No job too large  
Excellent local references available**



## Methodist Chapel

We will be holding our annual coffee morning on  
Saturday December 4th 10 am - 12 noon in the Chapel.

Everyone will be very welcome to come and join us

for coffee and a chat with friends.

We should have our usual stalls - plants,  
cakes and provisions, fancy goods etc.

Entrance 65p which includes coffee and  
biscuits.



**BUILDING PLANS**  
**BUILDING REGS. SUBMISSIONS**  
NEW BUILD EXTENSIONS ALTERATIONS

D.R. BOVILL, B.A.  
PLANNING & DESIGN CONSULTANT

PRIVATE AND TRADE ENQUIRIES - PLEASE CALL  
**01295 780609 OR 07890 591783**

## Chapel Carol Service

Our carol service will be on Sunday  
19th December at 11.00 am.

Mrs Christine Bond will be taking the  
service and we would love to see you  
there and to stay for a cup of coffee  
afterwards.

*Sibford Stores & Post Office*

*Sibford Ferris*

*OX15 5RG*

*Tel: 01295 788317 / 788348*

### *Your Local Convenience Store*

Your local newsagent, we deliver newspapers and magazines 7 days a week to  
all the surrounding area, always a wide selection of newspapers and magazines  
available in the shop. Place your regular order today

Bread, cakes and savouries baked on the premises throughout the day.

We are your local National Lottery Agent

Photocopying, fax and mailing service available on the premises.

Agents for Dry Cleaning and Laundry.

Chilled & frozen foods, groceries, cigarettes, beers, wines and spirits, fresh  
fruit & vegetables, pet foods, medical and toiletries and lots, lots more.....

Telephone your grocery order for free local delivery 7 days a week.

### OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday 5.30am to 6.00pm

Sunday 5.30am to 1.00pm

## Friendship Club

At our last meeting Rosalie brought a wonderful selection of different things she had created from goose eggs. She even had a beautiful coach and horses. She explained how she started this hobby which has now developed into quite an interesting business and then some of the club members tried their hands at either making brooches or decorating wooden spoons under Rosalie's supervision with some very good results. The afternoon was then concluded with lovely refreshments supplied by Sandra and Jo.

### Dates for December and January

**Tuesday 7th December** - Christmas Lunch at Melbickes of Solihull with a chance to look around the garden centre afterwards.

**Tuesday 21st December** - Christmas Tea in the Village Hall.

**Tuesday 4th January** - Outing to see the Christmas lights in Stratford and we hope to stop on the way home for a fish and chip supper.

**Tuesday 18th January** - Meet in the Village Hall at 2.00 pm.



### ***The Bishop Blaize Inn***

17th Century Freehouse

***Burdrop, Sibford Gower***

Tel. (01295) 780323

Sam and Sheila welcome you

Senior Citizens Winter Special

25% **OFF** all meals on our main menus board

Monday - Friday Lunch (For persons 65 and over)

Dont forget - Monday night is take-out night

Fish or double jumbo sausage and chips - **NOW** includes ALL meals from our childrens menu

**QUIZ NIGHT** - our quiz night will now be the last Sunday in each month until the end of March, 2005 - 8pm start

**NO** food will be served Sunday evening October to March





With a busy time ahead for the Playgroup, the children are enjoying making the final preparations for the Bazaar. As this is our major fundraising event we hope to see as many people as possible come along and support us on Saturday. We are raising money towards a new computer and other equipment.

We say farewell to Rory Thompson, Bonnie Lunel, Toby Jones and Matthew Graham as they leave for school in January. We will end the term on a high note with the Christmas Party on Friday 17th December.

### Sibford Playgroup Prize Christmas Quiz

As part of the Playgroups fundraising activities at this time of year, a festive quiz has been put together to tax your brains.

**Dog Poo**

The nation's best kept secret.  
It's everywhere.  
(Except in hanging baskets)

**PICK IT UP!**

The sheets cost £1 and all profits go to Playgroup funds. A prize will be awarded to the highest score and the deadline for entries is January 7th 2005. (details on the quiz sheet) Quiz sheets can be purchased from The Village Shop, Sally Grey, Barnes Cottage in the Gower or Sarah Darvill, The Old House in the Ferris. For more information please ring Playgroup on 788998

### The Gate Hangs High Inn

Hook Norton

Oxfordshire OX15 5DF

Tel: 01608 - 737387 Fax: 01608 - 737870

*Home Cooked Food daily Lunchtimes & Evenings*

*Traditional Sunday Lunches*

*Hook Norton Real Ales Courtyard Garden*

*Car Park Accommodation Available*

Proprietors: Stephen & Karen Coots-Williams

Contributions for the  
February  
Sibford Scene  
to the Shop or Editor  
by  
January 18th






On a very wet evening, brave souls congregated to hear Dusty Roades speak on Country Customs and we were told of many customs that have grown up over, sometimes, hundreds of years in towns and small villages. From well dressings in Derbyshire to shin kicking, the beginning of pancake races four hundred years ago, Dusty, who belongs to the Folklore Society, kept us fascinated and amused.

The next meeting will not be until **20 January** 2005, when we will hold our Annual Social in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30 pm, when we look forward to welcoming members and their friends. As usual, we will have a Bring and Share Supper and would ask you to bring along a plate of food, ready to put on the table and serve, as we would like to keep the preparation of food in the kitchen to a minimum. If it is a hot dish, please bring it cooked and place it in the hot cupboard when you arrive. We will be providing the usual mulled wine and fruit punch to start the evening but please bring a bottle of wine to enjoy with your supper.

With our best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing you all in 2005.



*sarah walker*  
FLOWERS

*Fresh flowers in Sibford*

- ✿ *Gorgeous hand-tied bunches*
- ✿ *Tissue wrapped seasonal blooms*
- ✿ *Weddings - parties - christenings*
- ✿ *Flowers for offices - shops and restaurants*
- ✿ *Funeral flowers*

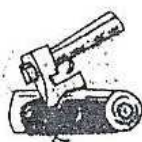
*Free local delivery*

*Telephone 788505*

*Lavender Cottage, Bonds End Lane,  
Sibford Gower, Banbury OX15 5RT*



## LOGS



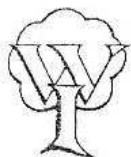
TOP QUALITY, SPLIT, SEASONED  
HARDWOOD LOGS  
BULK OR BAGS

DAVID RANDALL TREE WORK  
01608 738109 / 07831 571176

## Re - Upholstery

Antique & Modern  
Dining Chairs Easy Chairs Arm Chairs  
Three Piece suites Etc.  
Furniture Repair  
20 Years Experience  
Free Estimates  
B. WEBBER  
01295 269362





Women's  
Institute

## W.I. News

At our Meeting on the 9th November, Gaynor again took on the role of Secretary as Lynda was still away in Florida. Lynda had sent a postcard which was read out. Sadly, we learned that we are losing one of our long standing members (Maureen Warden) who is generally reducing her commitments. She stressed that she had valued immensely the warmth and friendship shown to her by Sibford W.I. Maureen will not only be personally missed but also in her capacity as Press Officer which she has efficiently carried out. Grateful thanks are due to her.

Glennis reported on the Group Meeting hosted by Tadmarton on 28th October. Seven of us attended and much enjoyed Sheila Jones' talk on "Me and my Dolls". Later she judged the competition for a Halloween Doll and the cup was won by Sibford - thanks to Kathleen Winter's beautifully made white witch. Congratulations, Kathleen.

Our Speaker, Mr G Holden, delivered a clear and fascinating talk on Scandinavian and Baltic Capitals illustrated with colourful slides taken whilst on a cruise. He and his wife visited Copenhagen, Helsinki, St Petersburg, Stockholm and Tallin -all beautiful cities with the buildings impressively decorated internally and externally with gold leaf. Tallin stood out as particularly charming with its narrow streets and interesting nooks and crannies. It has a strong Russian influence with its dominant onion domes. Mr Holden was thanked warmly by Kathleen Reid who said that his sunny slides had brightened up a dull afternoon.

Welcome cups of tea and delicious cakes, including Danish delicacies made by Greta, were served by her and Jane. Kathleen Reid won the raffle and the results of the competition for a holiday souvenir

### **Richard Wallington**

Builder

Block Paver Drives A Speciality

Also Extensions, Patios

Fencing etc.

High Quality Work, Free Estimates

01295 780705 07743 932545

(Sibford Gower) (Mobile)

were 1st Gaynor. 2nd Kathleen (Winter) and 3rd Glennis.

Our Christmas Meeting is on **Tuesday, 14th December** and members are asked to bring a plate of seasonal food and a reading or poem plus a small wrapped gift.

GH



## Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting Friday, 22nd October 2004

All the Parish Councillors were in attendance together with County and District Councillor George Reynolds, Peter Neighbour (Chairman, Sibford Ferris PC), three local electors and the Clerk. The Meeting scheduled for October had to be postponed because a quorum of Councillors was not available and, because of the extra time period, the agenda was somewhat longer than normal. Since the previous meeting, the Councillors had considered seven planning applications and six planning decisions had been received from Cherwell DC. The Sibford Ferris Manor Development was discussed and Cllr Martin Layer gave a detailed report on his enquiries into what may or not be allowed on the land at the rear - whilst not in our Parish, whatever is erected will have a visual impact. Sibford Ferris PC had carried out considerable dialogue and correspondence with Cherwell DC in this regard. In turn, Cherwell DC is in correspondence with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister which has the ultimate decision to make. Cllr Layer reported on a Waste Debate which he recently attended. The Councillors were pleased to have seen the new Village Hall notice board which a little while ago replaced the old one. The Council's own notice board is starting to look a little bit the worse for wear and work to smarten it will be put in hand. A resident of one of the Pound Lane (High Meadow) properties fronting on to Pound lane raised the matter of a light being installed at the steps leading down to the road.

Bearing in mind the fact that the Village has no street lights and no obvious connection point, the Clerk was instructed to make en-

Continued on page 10

### **GRAPHIC DESIGNER & ARTIST**

*20 years experience  
with design and print*

t: **01295 780234**

m: **07792 657 248**

♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠

**Aromatherapy, Swedish Massage  
Indian Head Massage, Reiki,  
A Holistic attitude to health.**

**Virginia Bennett RGN 01295780373**



**THE  
INN**

— at —  
Sibford GOWER

#### **\* Fish on a Friday \***

Fresh Fish Specials every Friday  
from Torbay. You'll be hooked!

Take-Away Orders Every Friday  
from 6.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Enjoy traditional Fish and Chips wrapped in  
newspaper in the comfort of your own home.

Cod in the Inn's Best Bitter Batter  
or our Famous Fish Cakes £4.95 per portion  
Call in to place your order and have a drink  
while you wait!

#### **\*Ladies Dining Club\***

Every Tuesday Night, groups of two or more  
Ladies only may dine from the Menu de Jour  
all night with all house wines at half price.

The Inn at Sibford Gower, Temple Mill Road,  
Sibford Gower, Near Banbury,  
Oxfordshire, OX15 5RX

Tel: 01295 788808 Fax: 01295 788806

E: [office@innatsibfordgower.co.uk](mailto:office@innatsibfordgower.co.uk) W:

[www.innatsibfordgower.co.uk](http://www.innatsibfordgower.co.uk)



quiries to establish whether there may be a solution. Cllr Muriel Chandler then referred to the steps which are falling into disrepair and she pointed out that many elderly local residents use them. The Clerk will take the matter forward with the County authorities. Several highway matters still need the County's attention and County Cllr George Reynolds said that this village is not unusual in this respect. The County Council has a budget which it apportions as fairly as is possible but he suggested that pressure be kept on. The Clerk has this well before him. With regard to footpaths, all outstanding remedial works have been completed. The annual financial return for the year ended 31st March 2004 had been signed off by the External Auditor and was approved and accepted by the Councillors. Cllr Peter Abbott had been nominated by the other Councillors for appointment to the Conservation Board in the Chilterns and Cotswolds (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty). The outcome of the election is awaited. Turning to Affordable Housing, four sites in the village had been highlighted by the District Housing Enabling Officer and he will discuss these with the District Planning Officer. Should one be thought suitable, dialogue will be opened with the Parish Council and the land owner. It was decided not to pursue the matter of a permissive footpath on Upper Wheathills after a letter from The Town Estate Charity (the land owner) setting out its conditions. The Clerk reported that he and interested parties had met earlier that day with the Pond Officer from Ponds Conservation Trust who will be providing advice and suggestions for the future of the pond as to its appearance and attraction for pondlife etc. The land bequeathed by the late Miriam Tebbs was a subject for discussion. A suggestion as to making it attractive had been received but would mean a capital outlay which, at this stage, the Councillors could not justify. The Councillors felt that it would be a good thing to publicise their phone numbers so that contact may be made as and when necessary. They are given below. The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.45pm thanking all who had attended. The next Meeting will be in the usual venue (Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School) on 26th November 2004 commencing at 8pm. Local residents are cordially invited to be present.

Peter Abbott 780731      Muriel Chandler 780025

Martin Layer 788139      Eric Payne 780216      Robin Spicer 780690

## CHIROPRACTOR

**John Mulley**

**DC MCC BAAC**

AM Clinic, Banbury: 01295 262100  
Bicester Chiropractic Clinic: 01869 321166  
Or: 01295 780629

McTimony-Corley

Also treats animals

## DAVID MALONE

HIGH CLASS PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Acre Ditch  
Sibford Gower  
Banbury  
Oxfordshire OX15 5RW  
Tel: (01295) 780546



CITB REGISTERED

*Broken Colour Effects and Paperhanging a Speciality*



## Pages from the Past

### Recollections of a Farm Worker by Eric Payne

In February 1933, when I was 14, I finished school in April on a Friday, came up to Elmridge Farmhouse, above the pond in Sibford Gower, on Saturday to collect my Dad's wages. He had been a carter in the employ of Mr. John Lamb since age 16 till he died when he was 60 in 1940. I came to collect my father's 1.0.0 per week wage and Mr. Lamb said "Eric, I understand you have left school. Would you like to come and work for me", and I said "Thank you very much Mr. Lamb, I would". He said "You can start on Monday" I said "No, because it is my cousin Lizzy Payne's marriage (to Ambrose Sabin) on (Easter) Monday, but I can start Tuesday". He said "Alright", and I arrived on Tuesday morning at 7:00a.m.

The first job I did was to go up to Elmridge Barn to collect a horse and cart and bring it back. Then I had to collect a pig, put it in the cart and take it back to Elmridge Barn. This took 2 hours and then I had my lunch, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Lunch would consist of a crust of dry bread, no butter, white cheese (from the co-op) and cold tea (in a glass bottle). After lunch I put the horse in a flat roll and went and rolled wheat in a field near Elmridge Barn,

From 12:00 to 1:00 we had dinner consisting of a crust of bread, boiled bacon (home cured) and a bit of cheese and cold tea. After lunch we continued working in the field. At about 3:00p.m. we would stop for a drink of tea, my father scolded me once

for sitting down to drink my tea, saying there was no need to sit down during this short break. At 4:30 p.m. I put the horse in the stable at Elmridge Barn, took off the harness, fed it and then let it out in the field. Work finished at 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Then we went back home to the Colony for tea - a cooked meal consisting of boiled potatoes, cabbage, swede. Afters - boiled apple or jam pudding. In the evening sometimes I would play football or help my father in the garden. We didn't have a radio and didn't get one

#### SIBFORD SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL

The School pool is available for public swimming  
avoid the traffic in town and appreciate a  
recreational or family swim with free parking.

##### NORMAL OPENING TIMES

Mon: 07:00-09:00 & 18:00-20:00

Tues: 18:00-19:30

Weds: 07:00-09:00

Thurs: 18:00-19:30

Fri: 07:00-09:00, 14:30-16:30 & 18:00-21:00

Sat: 07:30-09:00 & 18:00-20:00

Sun: 10:00-12:00 & 15:00-18:00

Parents & Tots: Mon & Thurs 09:00-11:00

Adults only: Mon: 20:00-21:00

Family Splash Time: Sat & Sun: 12:00-15:00  
(times could vary in school holidays)

CHILDRENS PARTIES -with facilities for after  
swim entertainment.

SWIMMING LESSONS available for beginners upwards  
For details telephone - 01295 781254 or 01295 781211



until I was 17: a crystal set with cats whiskers.

This routine would be for 5 1/2 days per week (till 1 p.m. on Saturday) and the pay was 7s 6d per week. Of this money I would give 5s. Od to my mother for groceries and the other would be used for clothes. A good pair of hob nailed boots cost £ 1.0.0 and last about one year. Jacket and trousers cost about 30s between them.

On Sunday we had a best suit which would last for years, a pair of light boots costing about 15s. I was in the choir, so church at 11:00 a.m. and again at 6:30p.m. We would be paid to be in the choir - 3d per service. The vicar then was Thomas Coles, In the afternoon we would usually go for a walk around the Elm at Sibford Ferris or Traitors Ford. The only holidays we had were the 1st Monday in June - Sibford Club Day and Christmas Day.

In March 1933 we used to cross plough the ground with horses. With a good pair of horses on reasonably sandy ground you would achieve up to 3/4 acre per day. Then the ploughed ground would be scuffed (long tines to break up the ground). Then it was dragged and harrowed to get the squitch out, which was then burned. Then in April you could plant your oats and barley. Then more ground would be prepared for mangle - planted in May (mangle is like beets - food for cattle). Then swedes and turnips would be planted in June.

After these chores - end of June - we had to get ready for haymaking. Two horses on a mowing "machine"; a four foot blade pulled along between two horses. On average every hour you would have to get off and sharpen the blade with a file. The hay would lay for a week then would be turned with a swath turner. After another 3 or 4 days it would be stacked in heaps then pitched on the wagon. The wagon would take the hay to the ricks near Elmridge Barn. This job would last until harvest time - August. The first harvesting job would be cutting the winter oats (planted in October of the previous year). They would be stacked in stooks and "Let the Church Bells ring on them for 3 Sundays" by which time they were ready to rick up. The Spring barley would be ready to cut and then the wheat was left to the end (September) The wheat was cut down in a field in ever decreasing circles. The rabbits would stay in the middle and work would stop at some time and the guns would come out. The rabbits would be shot, gutted on site and taken home to be eaten. After harvesting, we would thatch the ricks, 5 or 6 hay or corn ricks and it would take 2 days for each rick.

October time would be time for hedge trimming with a splashing hook, this for a week; then ploughing the clover back in and planting



wheat. At the end of October the oats were planted. November, get the mangles up and store them in a trench (buried them in a "clamp") Then get up the swedes. The sheep had the turnips.

The winter months would be for hedge laying or, if the weather was bad, clearing manure out of pens.

In December and January the "corn" (wheat, barley oats) would be threshed. Mr. Gibbs used to come from Ascott with his Fordson Tractor and Threshing Box. This would involve 7 men: the tractor would drive the pulley which would turn the drum and thresh the corn. One man on the cornrick to put the sheaves up on to the threshing box. Another man would cut the string (and save it). One man fed the drum. Another man carried chaff and cavein. Two men would pitch the straw on to the rick. One man building the rick. One man would take the corn away. The machine would start at 7:00a.m. and stop at 5:00p.m. Cider would usually be taken - sometimes quite strong because Frank (Wealsby) and I used to add some wheat to the mixture.

---

Oxfordshire Advisory Committee on Appointment of Justices of the Peace

Are you a good listener?

Can you see both sides of an argument?

Do you like a good discussion?

Do you like to see fair play?

Then you could dispense justice in your community!

Why not be a magistrate?

Magistrates try to reflect the community they live in. That means we need a mix of people from all walks of life and ethnic groups, with different backgrounds and skills. The role is a fascinating one. It opens up many new avenues of interest and gives an insight into how we live and behave in the 21st century. Most of all you will be using your skills as a service to your community - 'justice to the people by the people'. Few of us have any legal background, and training is provided and continuous. All you need is good character, common sense and the personal skills listed above. A typical day in court might include motoring offences, theft, supply of drugs, affray, assault, drink-driving and burglary. Sentences for these offences vary from conditional discharge or a fine to 6 months in prison. Try arranging them in order of seriousness! Interested? Contact your local Advisory Committee for an information pack and details on how to apply:

The Advisory Committee for Justices of the Peace in Oxfordshire:

Malcolm Leeding, Committee Secretary - 01865 815327

Do it today!



Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting. 15th November 2004

Amongst other subjects discussed, were items relating to Sibford School. Michael Goodwin, the new Headmaster of Sibford School, and the new Business Manager, Peter Robinson, attended the meeting in order to respond on these items and also to answer any queries from members of the public. Peter Robinson explained that the tree maintenance programme being undertaken by the School, including the removal of the second beech from the sports ground and three other trees, was for safety purposes. Mr Robinson advised that tree planting was also scheduled and this was welcomed by those at the meeting. He also reported that access points to the School were under revision, and that a "No access" sign would be put up at the Hook Norton road end of Back Lane to discourage vehicles from using this route. Mr Goodwin took the opportunity to thank the village for the warm welcome received by him and his family and said that he was keen to strengthen links between the School and the community. There were plans to create an arts workshop and other areas were being looked where there was potential to develop new and existing links. Peter Neighbour, Chairman, welcomed this initiative on behalf of the Parish Council and looked forward to working with the School. On other matters, it is hoped that a Parish Council notice board will be available once again within the next month on the new wall of the Manor development close the junction with Main Street. This is dependant on Listed building consent being obtained from the District Council. The new board will have a section for public notices. The new footpath at the top of Mannings Hill has been completed and the path provided by Swan Hill Homes has been opened. The Parish Council will try once more to address Swan Hill on the problem of contractors parking on the pavement by the Lanes End junction. The problem of speeding vehicles was also discussed and an offer by the Highways department to provide speed measuring strips will be accepted. The proposed new layout at Lanes End is still under discussion with Highways, but it is hoped that some progress was made by Councillors who attended the Parish Liaison Meeting at the District Council on 4th November. The Councillors are concerned that pro-



posals to create a built-out section on the west of the junction will put at risk those waiting at the bus stop on the east side unless a safe area is created on the bus stop side. The local Chairman of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) has made an initial response to the Parish Council's concerns that the fields adjacent to the Manor development be maintained as open countryside as intended by the planning permission. The CPRE Chairman requested documents and information which have been supplied, and her further response is awaited. Investigations into potential sites for affordable housing are continuing.

The Cherwell Villager service is still under review by its provider, Banburyshire Community Transport Association Ltd, who advised that the timetable and prices published in the Scene were out of date. The correct

information has now been provided to the Scene and is published in this edition. The accounts have been internally audited since the last meeting and the annual return for Sibford Ferris Parish Council has been sent to the external auditor.

The next ordinary Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday, 10th January 2005** in the top floor room of the Sports Hall, Sibford School.

Anita Spencer, Clerk

## Hack n Bash

**But, we actually do Seriously  
Good Building Work  
Carpentry and Plumbing are  
Our specialities, but all  
Building trades are covered.  
Proprietor with over 30 years  
Building trade experience,  
References available, all work  
Guaranteed  
01295 788488**



The Firs, Hook Norton, Banbury, OX15 5DD  
Email: [graphicsdirect@aol.com](mailto:graphicsdirect@aol.com)  
Phone: 01608 730555 Fax: 01608 730271

**For all types of Vinyl Graphics & Signage.**

**Theresa Jack**

DESIGNING, PRODUCING & FITTING

## TREES

### WE'RE THERE FOR TREE CARE

**All aspects of tree care undertaken  
Specialising in reduction/removal of  
trees in confined spaces**

**Supplier of logs & chippings  
Over 20 years experience  
Fully Insured**

**For a free quote and a chat please  
contact:**

**Arthur White (The Tree Chap) 01295 788549**

142776



## LEO NEWS

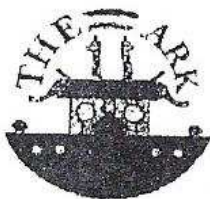
At the Leo meeting on the 16th of November, there was an almost full house and everyone was in a very jolly mood. This was an early Christmas celebration and we were at Mary (Bristow's). There was an excellent spread, by courtesy of M. & S., and everyone tucked in and enjoyed it. This was followed by some entertaining Christmas readings and ended with a Pam Ayres poem read by Glennis in her "country" accent, which had us all in stitches. We were disappointed to find that it was time to go home, as the evening had passed very quickly.

There is no meeting in December and the next get-together will be in January. More news about that later.

Fire Lighting Wood  
For Sale  
£2 per big bag  
Call in anytime and ask  
for Mick Canning, at  
The Old Malt House,  
Sibford Ferris 780321  
Tel; 01295 780321

**HOMŒOPATH**  
**Sheila Job LCH**  
Consultations by appointment  
Family budget scheme available  
For details please telephone  
**01295 780468**

### Children's Day Nursery, Epwell



- Full day care for children 2½ to 5 years
- Full and part time places
- Open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm.
- Excellent Ofsted Report

The nursery provides excellent opportunities for children to explore and learn at their own pace under the guidance of trained, experienced and caring staff.

For further information ring Julia  
Tel: (01295) 780580

**Leys Farm**  
**CHRISTMAS TURKEYS**  
**Hook Norton**

NO ANIMAL PROTEIN  
NO GROWTH PROMOTERS  
NO ANTIBIOTICS\*  
NO ADDED WATER  
100% TRACEABLE  
(\*other than medicine)

Average price:  
14lb free range £35  
14lb barn reared £25

Also available  
cockerals  
pork sausages  
beef

**FREE RANGE**

Our turkeys are reared on our own farm in the beautiful Oxfordshire countryside, under strict rules of husbandry. We take great pride in producing this top quality product for your Christmas table.

leysfarmturkeys@aol.com 01295 788421

**Bed & Breakfast**  
**AGDON FARM**  
**Nr Brailes**  
Comfortable rooms  
in old stone farmhouse  
**Tel: Maggie Cripps**  
**01608 685226**



## 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 788252 (Gower or Burdrop) or Ann Bishop on 788188 (Ferns), 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 say WELCOME to:-

David and Sue Rowley, who have moved into Brayes Close in Burdrop. They are expecting their first baby in December. Although they have moved from London, they are originally from the Lake District and Cheshire. Sue is an independent financial adviser and David a sound engineer in television. They enjoy walking, music and sport.

-o-O-o-

Sandra and Patrick Clacy are now living in 'Tambun House', Pound Lane (formerly 'Farthings'), with their 2½ year-old twins called Matthew and Emma. They previously lived in Wardington. Patrick is no stranger to the village, having attended the Friends' School when he was a child.

Patrick's parents now live in the Ferns, which is one of the reasons why they have moved here, but also because they wanted peace and quiet, which they are satisfied they have now achieved. They both run a bed shop in Oxford called 'And so to Bed'.

**Bed & Breakfast or Self Catering**  
Self Contained & Over Looking Garden

### **'THE LOFT'**

Forge House  
Swalcliffe

Comfort & Privacy

Contact Carole Ralph

Tel/Fax: 01295 788677

Mysite.freemove.com/the\_loft

**NOAH'S ARK**  
PAINTING  
COMPANY

Inspiring a generation to say NO to magnolia!

EVERY FORM OF

INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR  
PAINTING AND DECORATING

**01295 257785**

Approved by **DULUX**



## SIBFORD SCHOOL - SPORTS FACILITIES

With the dark nights here you can still be active.

The Sports Hall is available in the evening and at weekends for a range of sports including 5-a-side football, cricket, badminton and basketball.

Two squash courts are also available throughout the week.

Clubs most welcome - discount provided for regular bookings.

Children's parties can also be booked in the hall.

Telephone 01296 781254

## Sibford Horticultural Society

At our last meeting Chris Scotter gave us a very interesting talk about fungi. Having talked about how fungi (especially some mushrooms with hallucinogenic properties) have been revered over the centuries by certain cultures, he showed us slides of different varieties both edible and non-edible! There was a great slide showing a mushroom pushing up through a tarmac path just to show their adaptability and resilience. Despite most of the fungi having the most un-pronounceable names we really enjoyed the talk. The next meeting will be at the Village Hall on **Wednesday 8th December** at 8.00pm when Roger Powell will be showing slides and there will be seasonal refreshments.

# David Randall

Fully  
Insured



Est.  
1989

## TREE WORK SPECIALIST

- Tree Work  
All Types  
Crown Thinning  
Reduction  
Pruning / Re Shaping
- Stump Grinding  
Service  
Minimum ground  
Disturbance
- Hedges  
Reduced / Trimmed
- Wood Chip  
Mulch Supplied
- Garden Fencing  
All Types  
Supplied & Erected

Free Quotes & Friendly Advice

**01608 738109 / 07831 571176**

22 The Glebe, Hook Norton OX15 5LD



**FOLLY FARM  
BACK PAIN CLINIC**

## ACHES & PAINS?

**I can help you!**

**Just visit the new clinic near**

**SWALCLIFFE**

**Contact - John McArthur**

**DC, BSc (Chiropractic)**

**McTimoney-Corley Practitioner**

**TEL: 077 40404 678**

**OR: 01295 788774**



## Katharine House Jumble Sale Result

May I express my very grateful thanks to all those who helped on the day and to the many who donated. The final total raised was £575.57. A job well done.

Bernie Jones.

The Charity Lunch held on 15th November by Mrs Sue Lovatt, raised £555.00 for the Katharine House Hospice.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and attended.

I would like to express my thanks to everyone who helped me to make the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 24 September such a success.

I was able to bank £280 for this worthy charity and without the support of those who came to the Village Hall on that sunny morning to enjoy a coffee and chat, it would not have been my largest sum banked to date. I have held the coffee mornings for the past four years in my home gradually increasing the takings over the years. Following the success of this one in the Village Hall I plan to hold it there again - so watch out for the date in the Scene for the one in 2005 when my target will be to raise more than £300.

Pam Ascott

### Patrick Bowen Fine Art Consultants

Patrick Bowen BA (Hons) Lond, MRICS

- \* Asset management
- \* Professional inventories
- \* Valuations for insurance, probate, market and family division
- \* Sale and acquisition

2 Stewart's Court  
Sibford Ferris  
Oxon  
OX15 50X

Phone: 01295 780 999  
Mobile: 07979 911 892

Email: patrickbowen@blowenworld.com

### FRANCIS MORDAUNT

MSSCh, MBChA

VISITING CHIROPODIST

To enquire about a Home Visit,  
please telephone;

01295 730615

Professional Foot Care

In Your Own Home

### GODSWELL NATURAL THERAPY CENTRE

Godswell Lodge, Church Street, Bloxham  
Banbury, Oxon OX15 4ES

\*\*\*\*\*

Acupuncture, Alexander Technique,  
Aromatherapy, Art Therapy,  
Chiropody, Chiropractic,  
Counselling & Psychotherapy,  
Cranio-sacral therapy, Homocopathy,  
NLP, Nutrition, Physiotherapy,  
Reflexology, Remedial Massage,  
Reiki, Spiritual Healing,  
Shiatsu, Yoga.

\*\*\*\*\*

Fully qualified professional therapists  
For information Ring 01295 720347



**DISC, The Dementia Information Service for Carers** is a new project which will provide an information service to carers of older people with dementia. DISC will provide a professional, personal, friendly and easily accessible information service to carers. It offers basic information about dementia, legal rights, what care services are available and how to get help. It signposts carers to agencies that can support them particularly during times of difficulty such as before and after the person they care for has moved into a care home. If people wish to have help in contacting health or care organisations then DISC can provide this. Advice and information is available by telephone, e-mail, letter or through the DISC website. DISC will also offer help to carers via two indirect means. It will provide an information service to care homes

## **SHEILA TRAFFORD**

BABTAC, CST1, CST11, SER1, VM1A, VM1B

### **CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY**

HELPS CRONIC PAIN, 'STIFF JOINTS', LOW ENERGY, MIGRAINES, JAW PROBLEMS, NEURALGIA, DYSLEXIA, INSOMNIA, CLUMSINESS, COLIC, HYPERACTIVITY, ANXIETY, FEEDING AND SLEEPING PROBLEMS IN INFANTS ETC.

PRACTICE at College Barn,

Back Lane,

Epwell.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL**

**TEL: 01295-780027**

that wish to improve their contact and support to relatives of people with dementia. It will also offer a consultancy service to health and social care organisations to help those organisations find out what carers think of the services they receive.

Contact DISC by phoning 0845 120 4048, writing to DISC, Oxford Dementia Centre, Institute of Public Care, Roosevelt Drive, Oxford, OX3 7XR, or sending an e-mail to [info@disc.org.uk](mailto:info@disc.org.uk) We also have a website at [www.disc.org.uk](http://www.disc.org.uk)

# **The Firs Garage**

**HOOK NORTON, OXON**  
(1 mile north of village)

**Phone:**

**01608 737349**

**[www.firs-garage.com](http://www.firs-garage.com)**



***We offer far more than the city garages at country prices.***

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| * Sales (New & Used)   | * MOTs                          |
| * 3 year unlimited mileage warranty (New)                                | * Parts                         |
| * Optional 12 months warranty  | * Body work                     |
| * Part exchange welcome  | * Insurance estimates           |
| * Off Road demos   | * Attendant service (Fuel)      |
| * Service  | * Jet wash                      |
| * Vinyl graphics: for vehicle graphics, signage, magnetic, banners, etc. | * Friendly service & lots more! |

**ESTABLISHED 1960**

**IT PAYS TO DEAL WITH A FAMILY BUSINESS**

*Where good old fashioned personal service & value still count.*

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



## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

A very large congregation attended the ecumenical Remembrance Service which this year took place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10.55 am. and was conducted jointly by Robin Spicer and The Rev. Ralph Mann, a retired clergyman who assists in Chipping Norton and on the local Methodist circuit. As is customary in Sibford, the service started with a parade of the uniformed organizations around the War Memorial. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the British Legion by Bill Dunkley, and for the uniformed organizations by brother and sister Poppy and William Smith. Tom Simon-Norris sounded the *Last Post and Reveille*, Robin Spicer read out the names of the Sibford War Dead and those of the Royal Canadian Air Force, whose aircraft crashed near Sibford, before prayers and the two minutes silence. The Rev Ralph Mann gave the address at the following service in church.

The Brownies, that popular and well supported part of the Uniformed Youth Organisations, urgently needs help for Pam Ascott who has taken over from the present leader, Sue Sabin. Sue who has given so much to the organization for a long time, has retired and it is very much hoped that support will come forward quickly for this important local group.

The Church Bazaar raised over £1,000 for Church funds. Thank you to all who helped and attended.

Other dates are as follows:

**Traditional Carol Service (with Mince Pies and Mulled wine)**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7 pm**

**Christingle Service with carols: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6.30pm.** Budding actors should contact Eveline Boughton, Erica Wimbush, Catherine Berks or Helen Earle as there will also be a Nativity play in the service.

**SIBFORD SALON  
OF BEAUTY**

01295 788463

Botox - Red vein removal - Hydradermie

Oxygen facials - Calgel nails

Indian head massage - loads more

Regular offers - Gift Vouchers

[www.sibfordsalon.co.uk](http://www.sibfordsalon.co.uk)

**New clients 10% discount with advert**



**What do you want from  
your garden?**

For: Garden Design & Advice,  
Planting Plans, Sourcing  
& Planting

Tel: 01608 685 314

**Cathy Wallwork**

**Garden Design**



Let me turn your garden dreams into reality..



# 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.		

December. Sun 5th Tadmarton 10.30 (St. Nicholas in attendance)

Sun 12th 10.30 am Confirmation Renewal, Bishop of Dorchester at Broughton

Fri 17th Traditional Carol Service 7.00 pm

Sun 19th No service, please attend the Carol Service at the Chapel 11am

Fri 24th Midnight Mass at Epwell & Broughton

Sat 25th 10 am Holy Communion

Sun 26th Epwell 10.30 am

January Sun 2nd New Year Benefice Service 10.30 am

Sun 9th 8am Holy Communion & 10am Family Service

Sun 16th Holy Communion 9.30am

Sun 23rd No service, please attend Meeting for Unity at the Friends Meeting House 10.30

Sun 30th Holy Communion 9.30am

## **FARMHOUSE BED AND BREAKFAST GRANGE FARM SWALCLIFFE**

*Enjoy warm hospitality & peaceful  
surroundings in our comfortable 18<sup>th</sup> C  
Farmhouse*

**CONTACT: BARBARA TAYLOR.  
TEL. 01295 780206**

## **THE VILLAGE SHOP HOOK NORTON**

### **\*NATIONAL LOTTERY\***

Grocery - Greengrocery - Bakery  
Wines - Spirits - Confectionary  
Newspapers - Magazines - Cards  
Video Rental - Bottled Gas

Open Monday to Friday

7 am to 8 pm

Saturday 8 am to 8 pm

Sunday 8 am to 6 pm

Telephone: 01608 737245



## **RED HORSE VALE LTD**

All Types of Fuel, Coal, Smokeless, Gas,

Logs, Kindling, Barbecue Needs

Central Heating Oil, Oil Tanks & Coal Bunkers

Landscape & Building Materials, Garden Centre  
& Garden Supplies, Farm & Country Sundries

Equestrian Products, Horse & Pet Feeds

Open: Monday - Saturday 8am - 5pm

Windmill Farm, Banbury Road (A422),

Oxhill, Warwickshire CV35 0RL

Tel: 01926 642832

Fax: 01926 642 853

## *Reflexology Remedial Massage*

### **Elizabeth Webber**

MAR.LCSP (Phys)

12 years experience

Godswell Natural Therapy Centre

Bloxham, Banbury

**Tel: 01295 - 788101**



# Sibford Bus Services

## Free Bus Service

To Banbury Thursdays Dec 2nd, 16th & 30th Jan 13th & 27th Departs 10am  
 To Chippy Wednesdays Dec 8th & 22nd Jan 5th & 19th 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	The bus leaves
Sibford Ferris	9.57 am	Banbury at 12.30
Hook Norton	10.05 am	but arrival home
Milcome	10.15 am	is variable due to
Banbury	10.30 am	drop-off needs.

Cost £1.40 each way (National Bus Cards and Bus Tokens are accepted)

## Cherwell Rural Dial-A-Ride Scheme

A mini bus with tail-lift to take **elderly or disabled people** and escort to Banbury (max fare £1.60) Door-to-Door service. Book at least one day in advance. Operates on WEDNESDAYS ONLY. Phone 263777 for details.

BCTA also takes bookings for groups of 8 or more on a weekly/monthly basis (Wednesdays only) to and from Banbury. Tel; 263777

## 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

## December

- Wed 1st Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)  
Sat 4th Methodist Chapel Christmas Coffee Morning 10 - 12 noon p4  
Sun 5th Village Hall Market  
Tue 7th Friendship Club Christmas Lunch p5  
Wed 8th Horticultural Society Christmas Meeting p18  
Sun 12th Village Hall Market  
Tue 14th WI Christmas Meeting p8  
Wed 15th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)  
Fri 17th Traditional Church Carol Service. 7.00 pm p21  
Sun 19th Methodist Chapel Carol Service 11am p4  
Tue 21st Friendship Club Christmas Tea in the Village Hall p5  
Wed 22nd Christingle Service. 6.30 pm in the Church p21

## January

- Tue 4th Friendship Club trip to Stratford Lights. p5  
Mon 10th Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting 7.45pm p15  
Tue 18th Friendship Club. Village Hall 2.00 pm p5  
Tue 18th Deadline for contributions to the February Scene p6  
Thu 20th Sibfords Society Social p7

## A Very Merry Christmas to all our readers

Cover picture - Club Day gathering in front of the Pond in Sibford Gower

### Sibford Scene

Editor; Adrian Lamb. Grounds Farm, Sibford Ferris. 780380  
e-mail [adrian.lamb@care4free.net](mailto:adrian.lamb@care4free.net)

Treasurer; Timothy Wimbush, The Rectory, Acre Ditch, S.Gower  
780555

Advertising; Ivor Hopkyns, Elmridge Farmhouse, Sibford Gower,  
Banbury, Oxon. OX15 5RT. Tel 788367