

February 2005

No. 270

Tsunami Fund Raising Concert
The Antonius Players and Louis de Bernières with
Craig Ogden, Peter Adams, Alison Stephens
Matt Platt and Supergrass

will perform at

St Marys Church, Bloxham
Sunday 13th February at 7.30 pm
Tickets at Sibford Post Office

Saturday 26th February

"Bluesy Susie"

at the Village Hall

Childrens Workshop 4.00-5.00 pm

Performance 8.00 pm

Nature Notes

Dec. 13th. Having sung every day for nearly a month as though spring had come our song thrush is resting. Some mornings he has combined with a mistle thrush and a robin to make a bit of a dawn chorus.

Dec. 15th. A heron landed on our lawn at lunchtime but was soon off again. I expect it could see that the pond was nearly dry.

Dec. 20th As I watched birds feeding at our bird table I was thinking about how much their habits have changed in response to the plentiful supply of food in so many gardens. Bullfinches that used to eat the seeds of the nettles that grow around the table but never visited it now ignore nettles and fly directly to the globe feeder to get sunflower seed. Starlings and robins have learned to hang onto the tube of peanuts and longtailed tits that used to pass through ignoring the bird table now make a bee line for it. Goldfinches have been coming for peanuts and now niger seed, which is a more natural feed for them. I think these changes have all taken place in the last decade and I wonder how easily they could revert to natural feeding after a few generations of luxury.

Dec. 24th My cousin Richard rang from Kitchener in Canada. He had a heavy snowfall overnight and had been digging out the paths in a temperature of -10°C.

Dec. 28th It was probably the same heron that landed on the lawn again today. It may be one that specialises in visiting garden ponds but found ours still very low as we have had little rain to fill it since it last came.

Jan. 1st With a total rainfall of 29.66 inches 2004 was a good deal wetter than average. August was the wettest month with 5.37 inches then October 4.86". The driest were December at 0.96" followed closely by February 1.10".

Jan. 8th Last nights gale blew quite a few small dead elm trees out of the hedges and some branches off healthy trees. In the norway maple branch that blocked our back gate there was a squirrels drey. It had dead leaves on the outside and a thick lining of what looked like fine wood shavings which I think they collected from the dead branches of a large leaved lime that grows close by. I have often seen them stripping it off and it certainly makes a very warm nest.

Jan. 15th My granddaughter spotted two white deer in the field below Grounds Farm. It is likely that there were others of natural colour with them that did not show up so well and so in the distance went unseen. The song thrush has started singing again after a rest of nearly a month.

Jan. 18th Being January, foxes are calling frequently as they seek a mate so nights are noisier.

SIBFORD SCOUTS GIVE TENTS TO TSUNAMI VICTIMS

1st the Sibfords Scout Group

Over the years our camping activities have changed and the Cubs and Scouts prefer to use small 2 or 3 man lightweight tents to the larger 8-man very heavy versions we purchased in the early 1990's. All are made of 16oz canvas complete with flysheets, ground sheets with heavy-duty poles and guy ropes - ideal for shelter from heavy rain and winds.

The heavy weight and large size presented a problem. Each tent was packed in three large valises and weighed a couple of hundredweight. All the major charities were unable to accept them. However we followed up an appeal on BBC South and found a charity in Oxford who was prepared to take them. The Scouts sorted and checked out three tents so that they were complete with pegs etc and ready to erect.

The tents are destined for either Srilanka or Indonesia. The person at the collection centre thought that Indonesia was most likely because the charity Humanity First had, at that date, arrived at a location in Indonesia that no other relief agency had reached. The victims were desperate for shelter from the monsoon rains. There must have been about 100 tents being packed ready for a flight out. Most were small hike tents, but I did notice a couple of large tents that had been donated by Guides. We have put a note in each of the tents explaining where they are from with a contact and email address in the slim hope that we might find out where they eventually end up.

We plan a fundraising event, probably in early March to raise funds for more equipment and aid - WATCH THIS SPACE! (see page 4)



Oddjob

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We meet every Tuesday during term time at Sibford Gower
Village Hall from 10.30 until noon.
For more information please contact

Phillipa on 01608 686918 pippawatts@hotmail.com Or Rebecca Skinner on 01295 780495

Offee Morning, Bring and Buy Stall and Ploughman's Lunch
Sibford Village Hall
Saturday 12th March 2005
10.30 am to 2.30 pm
All Proceeds to the Tsunami Appeal

Sibford Stores & Post Office Sibford Ferris OX15 5RG Tel: 01295 788317 / 788348

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OPENING HOURS

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

Friendship Club

Christmas has once again been and gone, we have enjoyed both a Christmas dinner and a Christmas tea. Thank you to the committee who once again came up trumps with their lovely refreshments and thanks must go to the many helpers who worked hard getting the room ready, clearing away and doing the washing up. Thank you also to Peter who came pre-



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

PRIVATE AND TRADE ENQUIRIES - PLEASE CALL 01295 780609 OR 07890 591783 pared to entertain us but unfortunately the afternoon went so quickly we were unable to enjoy his lovely music.

In January we were able to go to see the beautiful Christmas lights in Stratford and have a meal at Broom Hall near Bidfordon-Avon.

Diary Dates for February. Tuesday 1st. Feb. Village Hall, 2.00 pm Sylvia Brown will be entertaining us with "Experiences on a Milk Round". Tuesday 15th. Feb. Outing to be arranged.



The Bishop Blaize Inn

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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



The topic of dinosaurs is currently a roaring success with the children of playgroup. From making flying pterodactyls and giant papier maché models to sharing books on dinosaur skeletons and playing dinosaur hopscotch, the staff have been truly inspiring the children with this halfterm's work. Alongside all this prehistoric pleasure, the children (and staff) have been getting to grips with their new state-of-the-art computer, complete with fun educa-

tional and exciting games. The purchase of the computer was made possible by the bumper profits raised at our annual Bazaar last year - so a big thank you to all of you who gave us such great support.

We are almost at capacity numbers at playgroup at the moment (with a few spaces available after Easter) and if you have children wishing to join our happy and thriving group in the future we would advise that you contact us soon on 01295 788998 to place your child's name on our waiting list.

Methodist Chapel

We would like to thank everyone who attended our "Christmas Coffee Morning", we raised £340 towards the Chapel funds. Also thank you to everyone who came and made our carol service such a success. £126 was taken in the collection £100 of which has been sent to the Tsunami Earthquake Appeal.

Yoga

Come and join our very friendly yoga class on Monday mornings in Sibford Village Hall 9.30 - 11 am. Ring Maddy Lesser 01608 685726 if you need more information, or just turn up.

Bring your own mat if possible. £25 for 5 sessions or £6 per session.

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Contributions for the
March
Sibford Scene
to the Shop or Editor
by
February 15th



A dark, blustery January evening was brightened when members and their guests enjoyed an evening of social amusement based around the era of the 1920's and 30's. The village hall was soon buzzing with chatter and laughter and everyone was able to enjoy

a warming glass of mulled wine or hot fruit cup before sitting down to a delicious supper provided on a 'bring and share' basis - it seems to get better every year. After supper the fun continued with music and verse in line with our theme. Our thanks to all who came, those who took part in the entertainment and those who helped the busy committee behind the scenes.

Although we don't have a formal meeting in February we have arranged our annual walk in aid of Katharine House Hospice on **Saturday 5th March** meeting at The Brambles, Woodway Road at 10 am. Robin Spicer will be leading our walk which will be about 5 miles in length (no more than that!) Stout shoes are advisable as paths can be very muddy at this time of year. Hot soup and bread will be served on our return to the barn.

Our Annual General Meeting will be on **Thursday 17th March** when we will present the survey of our local churchyard, the programme for the forthcoming year will also be announced. We look forward to seeing you then.



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W.I.News

We were almost a full house for our meeting on the 14th December. Glennis Women's read out greetings from three members who had moved away, Margaret Elldred, Brenda Power and Margaret Baynes. Jane gave a fascinating account of the course on Dance Mix that she attended at Denman College in

November. She also told us about the three part Music Tasters course featuring Elgar, Rachmaninov and Saint-Saens which took place at Chipping Norton. Mary and Kathleen were in charge of tea-making to accompany the plates of delicious mince pies, fruit bread and cakes brought by members. We exchanged small gifts and entertained each other with readings and poems, some very humorous and others on a more serious seasonal note.

We met for our first meeting of the New Year on January 11th. The President welcomed a good attendance despite a number of apologies from members who were ill. Our Treasurer, Barbara, collected the annual subscriptions. It was noted that Lynda and Glennis would be attending a Resolutions Meeting at Chipping Norton on 13th January. It was requested that as many members as possible attend the Planning Meeting on 24th January at Greta's home. Jane, the new Programme Secretary, is hoping for lots of good ideas.

Our speaker, Maureen Rhymes (herself a W.I Member), took us "back to school" for a mini-science lesson. Her talk entitled "Science in a Picnic Basket" was aimed at investigating the chemistry behind common household products. She had, indeed, brought along a picnic basket full of powders and liquids and, at her

invitation, members had come armed with items of their own choice. Tables, set with phials and spatulas, gave rise to Buy your very own signed copy now some anxious looks but the experiments were all very light hearted and soon everyone was having fun. Lynda gave the vote of thanks.

Miriam organised the teas and her blueberry muffins were much enjoyed. Norma won the competition for a favourite kitchen gadget with Rosemary 2nd and Jane and Glennis joint 3rd.

On February 8th, Mrs Mary Parker will speak on "Other People's Gardens". Please bring a garden posy to enter in the competition. GH

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!

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EASTER FAYRE

SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL SATURDAY MARCH 5th 12 – 3pm

All proceeds in aid of World Challenge Expedition in Bolivia 2005 young people working with impoverished communities.

Delicious light lunches and teas. Easter flower baskets and plants.

Specialist hand made cards. Human 'Fruit' Machine. Children can visit the Princess Parlour, or decorate an Easter Biscuit, or guess the number of Easter Eggs. Superb raffle. And much more!

Please come and support this really worthwhile project Lucy Meyler. If you want to know more, call 780282

Play Area Questionnaire

With this issue of the Sibford Scene you have a short questionnaire about the Play Area in Sibford Ferris. Please take the trouble to fill it in, even if you live in the Gower or Burdrop, and return it as we are more likely to get a playground the kids will like if it is their ideas which drive the selection of the

BACK LANE SIBFORD
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AREA

TO HOOK NORTON (not to scale)

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

Virginia Bennett RGN 01295780373

equipment. If you have never visited the Play area and are uncertain of its location see the map below.

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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 Bankura.

Sibford Gower, Near Banbury, Oxfordshire, 0X15 5RX

Tel: 01295 788808 Fax: 01295 788806 E: office@imatsibfordgower.co.uk W: www.innatsibfordgower.co.uk

Sibford Gower Parish Council

A Meeting was held on 26th November 2004 in the usual venue - Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School. It was attended by all the Parish Councillors, the Clerk and three local residents. During the period since the previous Meeting only one planning application had been received and discussed. Two planning application decisions had been received from Cherwell DC. Cllr Martin Layer gave an update on his ongoing enquiries into the land at the rear of the Sibford Ferris development. He also gave an account of his attendance at the recent Waste Management Strategy Meeting. He provided the literature which he had received for perusal by the other Members of the Council. A letter from Tony Baldry MP concerning Community Policing was discussed and a response, as far as Sibford Gower is concerned, is to be formulated. The extension of the Church burial ground was a subject for discussion. Costings are still being gathered and when they are all in, the Clerk will present them to the Councillors for consideration as to what financial assistance they may feel able to justify bearing in mind that the sum involved will have to be precepted with the resultant impact on residents' local tax. A response is awaited from the Lansdscape Officer, Cherwell DC as to whether she may have any thoughts as to the best way forward with the land which was bequeathed by the late Miriam Tebbs. There would appear to be not a great deal of interest from local residents as to its usage but thanks are extended to those who have made suggestions. Quite a few matters still need the attention of the Highways Department of Oxfordshire CC but, despite a request for an update prior to the meeting, information is still awaited. Suggestions and recommendations for the village pond are still awaited from The Ponds Conservation Trust, Oxford following its "on-site" research. The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.15pm after thanking all those who had attended.

PH

CHIROPRACTOR John Mulley DC MCC BAAC AM Clinic, Banbury: 01295 262100 Bicester Chiropractic Clinic: 01869 321166 Or: 01295 780629 M. Dany-Corley Also treats animals



SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Sunday Markets restart on 6th February from 12 noon. Refreshments Available. More items have been donated for sale on the Village Hall Table in aid of Hall funds including books. To book a table for £5 please ring 01295 251339. If you have items to donate to the Hall please ring 780025. These Markets have been a good fund raiser over the last few years but we do need your support to visit them, otherwise they will sadly come to an end.

On SATURDAY 26th FEBRUARY we have the last of this season's Arts @ Large musical evening in partnership with Cherwell District Council. Bluesy Susie will be performing at the Village Hall from 8 p.m. We will have a licensed bar and doors will be open at 7.15 p.m. Bluesy Susie is a Jazz Duo. Susie Smithwick and Craig Webb have traveled the country performing up to 250 concerts a year. They play music from the 1920's to present day covering classics from periods of jazz, blues, rock 'n roll, salsa and pop, using vocals and guitar. Audience sing-a-long is obligatory! Very informal and lots of fun. Length of performance - two 45 minutes with a 15 minute interval and is suitable for all ages. Tickets £6 / concessions £4.

For the first time we have arranged for Bluesy Susie to run a Children's Workshop for ages 4 to 11 from 4 to 5 p.m in the Village Hall at £2 per child. We hope this will appeal to a lot of youngsters and that you will support this Workshop.

All tickets for these two events are on sale at the Sibford Ferris Village Shop or ring 01295 780025. We really do need your support for this event otherwise there is no point in taking part in this Scheme in the future. The Village Hall have to pay 60% of the cost of the evening performance and 70% of the Workshop and therefore need a good few youngsters to take part AT ONLY £2 EACH! Please tell your friends as advertising by word of mouth is the best possible way.

Hiring of Village Hall: We would ask that all people hiring the Hall do please sweep the floors after use, clean the kitchen work tops and the cooker if used, and turn all lights out and lock all doors on leaving. We have had complaints recently from hirers leaving the floodlights on - please read the notice under the timing button and avoid upsetting our neighbours.

TO HIRE THE VILLAGE HALL - please ring 01295 780461.

The Annual Village Fayre is scheduled to take place on **SATURDAY**, **25**th **JUNE** Again anyone interested in helping on the day or attending meetings to organise this event please telephone Ginny on 780373.

The Annual Quiz will hopefully take place towards the end of the year.

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BUS SERVICES FOR THE SIBFORDS

The Parish Councils of Sibford Gower and Sibford Ferns would like to ensure that all residents are aware of what is available to them by way of local bus services. As readers of the Scene, you will probably know that the essential information is given on the inside back page in every edition. However, with the future of the 480 Shipston to Banbury service under County Council review and some changes to other services, it seemed sensible to give an updated account of all the services from the two villages.

The Free Bus Service is provided by the Town Estate Charity. It operates twice a month from Sibford Gower to Banbury on a Thursday (drop off near the Post Office/pick up at the end of Broad Street), and twice a month from Sibford Gower to Chipping Norton on a Wednesday (drop off at The Bookshop on West Street/pick up near the Methodist Church on West Street). The bus picks up from The Colony (a few minutes before 10.00 am), the crossroads, High Meadow and the Village Hall, and the return pick-up is at 12.00 noon. The service gives passengers approximately 1hr and 40 minutes at both destinations. The dates on which the services run are published in the Scene.

The Cherwell Rural Dial-A-Ride Scheme, operated by Banburyshire Community Transport Association, BCTA, provides transport to Banbury for the elderly and those with disabilities, together with their escort, in a mini-bus with tail lift. This is a door-to-door service and must be booked at least one day in advance (phone 263777 between 9.00 and 11.00 am). The rural service operates on Wednesdays and now also on Thursdays. BCTA say that they will try to accommodate most people requiring transport, so it is always worth a phone call. Concessionary bus passes and tokens can be used with this service. The standard single fare is £1.60, but with a bus pass, the return fare is £1.60. Escorts without bus passes will be charged the standard fare. Once again, for further information, please phone 273086. (Village clubs and societies may wish to note that BCTA will also quote for group outings.)

The Cherwell Villager service, also run by BCTA, is continuing to run for the present. It operates on Wednesdays only, to Banbury and back via Hook Norton and Bloxham. The Villager turns in from Hawkes Lane, runs past the Surgery and the Bishops Blaize, through to the Ferris, turning right at the T-junction near Sibford School and on to Hook Norton. As there has been no recent uptake of this service, BCTA have suggested that anyone wishing to use the bus should call on 273086 beforehand so the driver will know to look out for them. If a number of people was interested in using the service, but would like the bus to use a different route, this could also be discussed with the operator (Kevyn Powell on 273086). The single fare is £1.40, return £2.80 and bus passes and tokens can be used.

A timetable for the 480 Shipston to Banbury public service is published in each issue of the Scene. Copies of the full timetable may be obtained from the village shop, Peter Hardman, Clerk of Gower Parish Council (780391) or Anita Spencer, Clerk of Ferris Parish Council (788557). The timetable includes information on bus stops within the Sibfords and in Banbury, and also price information to Banbury. Due to limited space, information on prices, etc to Shipston has been omitted, but may be obtained by telephoning the operators on the numbers given on the timetable.

Those eligible for concessionary travel passes (for information, contact Cherwell District Council on 252353) may apply at the Cherwell Council office by the bus station or at Bodicote House. They are free but a passport style photograph is required.

You may recall that all residents of Sibford were asked to complete a transport survey form last autumn. The completed forms were analysed by the Oxfordshire Rural Communities Council (ORCC) and the following points were noted, which may be of interest to parishioners.

Of the 110 who responded, 7.3% experienced mobility problems although were still able to drive; over a third used the 480 bus to Banbury, which was by far the most popular destination for shopping and car drivers (although the actual number of car drivers using the buses was higher than non-drivers); 13.6% of respondents used the 480 to Banbury on a regular basis (once a week or more); transport to GP surgeries was not an issue; 76% of those not using the buses or using them infrequently found the car to be more convenient

As mentioned previously, the Cheney portion of the 480 service is under review and its future is uncertain due to budget cuts and rising costs. The Geoff Amos portion is funded by Warwickshire County Council under a Section 106 agreement which only has two more years to run. A copy of the summary of the ORCC transport survey report mentioned above has been sent to the County Council as requested by them, and the two Parish Councils have also made written representations on behalf of parishioners that the villages would like to keep the 480 service in its present form.

The County Council has to be aware of the cost of providing services. The more a service is used, the better its chance of survival. Why not give it a try - no parking charge, direct to the town centre, and you may help to keep a service for those who have no alternative?

We hope that you will find this information useful.

Sibford Gower Parish Council

Sibford Ferris Parish Council

Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting, 10th January 2005

There was a full agenda for the meeting, which was attended by one member of the public, and progress was reported on several items. The Play Area Liaison Group informed members that advice had been taken from the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association on how to develop play facilities for the village. As a result, the Liaison Group is asking villagers, via the questionnaire included with this edition of the Scene, what sort of equipment they would like to see. When responses are known, the next step will be to ask selected equipment suppliers to do a site visit and offer suggestions and quotations.

The two Sibford Parish Councils plan to secure additional land required for the enlargement of the burial ground in the 2005/6 financial year, general agreement in principle having been obtained from the Oxford Diocese.

The County Council have agreed to carry out a traffic speed survey, initially on the Hook Norton Road, within the next month. It is hoped that the survey will be extended to include Mannings Hill and the top of Main Street by Little London. The measuring device will record vehicle numbers and speeds and, if a speeding problem is found to exist, the Parish Council will look at options for traffic calming.

Representatives from the two Parishes attended a meeting in December on the future of Oxfordshire's bus services including the 480 Shipston to Banbury service. Following this, and in the belief that any service is more likely to be retained if well used, it was decided to publicise all the bus routes available to the Sibfords. a separate note has been included in this Sibford Scene accordingly.

The proposals for junction alterations at Lanes End have been discussed with County Council officers and the Access Officer from the District Council. OCC has agreed that the cobbled, "rumble effect" bell-mouth to be constructed on the Manor side of the junction to slow traffic turning left to Burdrop will have a smooth section to enable people in wheelchairs and with walking difficulties to cross easily. For the safety of pedestrians waiting in the bus stop area on the east side of the junction, this will be marked by enclosed hatched white lines.

On the matter of the fields adjacent to the Manor development, it was agreed that the Parish Council will write to the owners of the newly constructed houses between which the land has been divided to ensure their awareness of the agricultural restriction on the land.

Unfortunately, it seems likely that at least two of the horse chestnut trees adjacent to the Sibford School entrance on the Hook Norton Road are suffering from a serious disease and that the County Council will have to remove them. The County Council has been asked to replace any felled trees.

The Accounts to 31 March 2004 have been audited and displayed at the Shop, with no major issues arising. The precept figure for 2005/6 was discussed at the meeting and a figure of £3690 (£12.14 per elector) will be submitted to Cherwell District Council. The precept is 25% higher than the previous year for the following reasons: a provision has been included for the purchase of the additional land for the burial ground; a provision has been included for Parish Council elections in 2006; and the cost of the new section of footpath at the top of Mannings Hill will be recouped over a six-year period.

It was decided to change the day on which the Annual Parish Meeting will be held from a Monday to a Wednesday to permit Cllr George Reynolds to attend. The date for the APM will be Wednesday, 27 April. All residents are welcome to attend and there will be an open session for questions and comments from the floor. The date of the next ordinary **Parish Meeting is Monday**, 7 **March**, 7.45 **pm** in the top floor room of the Sports Hall, Sibford School. All welcome.

Anita Spencer, Clerk

Sibford Horticultural Society

In preparation for this years horticultural show, section E will be as follows:

- 1. A cushion
- 2. A piece of tapestry
- 3. An item of cross stitch
- 4. A hand knitted article
- 5. An example of embroidery
- 6. A greetings card made from any medium excluding computer generated.
- 7. A handicraft exhibit please state size on entry.
- 8. "The spirit was willing" A craft item started but not finished. Photography.
- 9. Photograph. "Flowers".
- 10. Photograph. Taken within the parishes of the Sibfords and Epwell.
- 11. Photograph. Sunrise or Sunset.
- 12. Photographic portrait "People at Work".
- 13. Photographic portrait Animal.
- 14. Photographs of 4 related views mounted on one sheet and named.
- 15. A black and white Photograph.
- 16. A piece of computer generated art.
- 17. An amateur painting or drawing.

In addition to all the usual classes, 'Plant a Potato' will be included in the adults, 5 to 8 years and 9 to 12 years sections. The rules are as follows. Plant 1 seed potato (second early or maincrop will do) in a 9" diameter flower pot. Water and feed it (talk to it if you wish) and then bring the pot and its contents along to the show, undisturbed of course! The judge will turn out the pot and weigh the crop of potatoes. Heaviest wins - its as simple as that!

Dead easy so - HAVE A GO!!!





Guide Dogs for the Blind Association THANK YOU

To all our helpers and all those who so generously supported the Coffee Morning on 27th October The proceeds amounting to £450.45 have been forwarded to G.D.B.A.

Deddington Writers Group, in conjunction with

Deddington Festival 2005

Is organising a writing competition

short story (1500 words), non-fiction article (1000 words) poem (up to 36 lines) on the theme of FESTIVAL. Entrants MUST be Oxfordshire residents.

Entry fee: £2 (under-16 entrants in the non-fiction and poetry categories, free). £100 in prize money.

Send SAE for full details and entry form to: DWG Competition, 26 The Daedings, Deddington, Oxon OX15 ORT; or contact: daeda@clara.co.uk Closing date: April 16, 2005.

HOMŒOPATH Sheila Job LCH

Consultations by appointment Family budget scheme available

For details please telephone

01295 780468

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

Children's Day Nursery, Epwell



- Full day care for children 21/2 to 5 years
- Full and part time places
- Open Monday to Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm.
- **Excellent Ofsted Report**

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

For further information ring Julia Tel: (01295) 780580

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01608 685226

PATIENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN CHERWELL VALE HEALTH CARE

A "Patient and Public Involvement Forum" (PPIF) was established for Cherwell Vale in February 2004. It has statutory powers to ask NHS Trusts questions and the Primary Care Trusts and Acute Trusts are legally obliged to provide a response. They aim to make the NHS more patient-centred and by being a member of a patients' Forum or attending any other meetings in public (which are promoted via the local papers), you have the opportunity to influence the way health services are provided in your local community. Priorities identified for the Cherwell Vale PPIF up to March 2005 include:

- To observe, record and report back to the Trust on how its public involvement and consultation is going and whether it is effective.
- To review and monitor the range of hospital discharge home care packages and to obtain the PCTs commitment to improve and ensure equity of these services.
- To obtain the PCT's commitment to improve care for people suffering with dementia in general hospital settings.
- O To become involved in collecting public opinion and to voice this on any issue felt significant by members of the forum.

If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in becoming a Forum member, you can contact the Forum via John Appleton, Chair, PPIF Cherwell Vale, OACPPIH. 5 Bankside. Hanborough Business Park, Long Hanborough, Oxon OX29 8LJ, telephone 01993 886643, email info@oacppih.org.

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Sibford Stores & Post Office

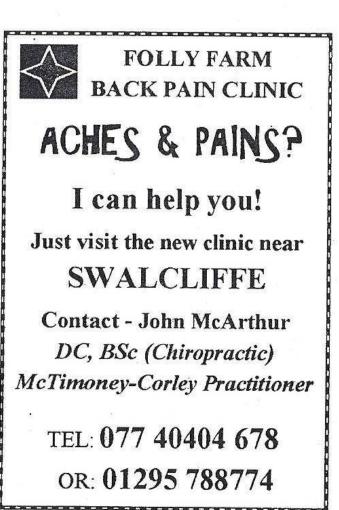
Our customer party on 16 December 2004 was a lively and most enjoyable occasion with a number of customers returning for a second visit! It was good to be able to spend some time, although not long enough, chatting with all of those who attended and also to see some new friendships being formed, A first, we believe, for this shop was to have 4 people all over 90 in the shop at the same time! The air in Sibford must be an excellent tonic.

Results of the Free Draw at our Party on 16 December 2004

Prize	No	Winner
DVD Player	250	Rachael Keeling
Teddy Bear	335	Kate Foley
Bottle of Wine	312	Roger Nicholls
Portable Radio	237	Richard Springate
Beach Towel	274	Cedric Brown
Roses Chocolates	275	Brian Brookes
Cosmetic Bag	230	Phil Edmunds

Many thanks for the Christmas Cards and Gifts received from so many of our customers. We do hope you all had an enjoyable Festive Season and we wish you all a happy and prosperous 2005.





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 Pauleen Inns on 780702 (Gower or Burdrop) or Ann Bishop on 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 say WELCOME to:-

John and Penny Perris, who have at last taken up residence in West Town House. We have all watched the long renovation with great interest, and I think we would all agree that they have done a fine job.Penny and John have moved here from Kings Langley in Herts and they are accompanied by their two flat coat retrievers Millie and Bess and a cat called Woody.

Jamie, Lianne & Kilian Aston moved into Greyote, Sibford Gower at the begining of December. Jamie is a salesman working in Adderbury. Lianne is a full time mum and a very good cake maker. Kilion is attending Play group and looking forward to getting to "big" school. Jamie and Lianne are keen gardeners and looking forward to "living off the land". Lianne produces some lovely cakes and preserves and hopes to do more of this in the village,

Patrick Bowen Fine Art Consultants

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SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL

ART EXHIBITION & CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th March 10.30am - 4.30pm

Admission Free

More than 230 paintings by numerous national and locally renowned artists Excellent cafe serving refreshments throughout the day General enquiries (School Office) 01295 780270

Exclusive Preview Night

Friday 18th March 7:30 to 9:30 Wine and Nibbles Included Admission by ticket only £5 available from: 01295 780832



Fire Mischell end

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"...the best classical guitarist of his generation"

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MATT PLATT

Talented local jazz pianist and his trio MP3

SUPERGRASS

An acoustic set from the well-known Oxford band

St. Mary's Church, Bloxham.

Sunday 13th February at 7.30pm

TICKETS £12 (£8 concessions) from the Village Shop Email: ilone@hotmail.com or tel: 780697

What did I do with that 2004 Christmas list???

It is to be found in the pocket of the olive green jacket, with an olive green checked lining (M&S) hanging in the porch in the Methodist Chapel.

Who knows, the list might do for Christmas 2005!!

SIBFORD SALON OF BEAUTY 01295 788463



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Cathy Wallwork

Garden Design

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Society of Friends

Methodist

Roman Catholic Mass

Wroxton

Brailes

Hook Norton

Church of the Firstborn (Bridleways S.Gower)

Church of England, Holy Trinity, Sibford Gower.

February

Baptist

Sun 6th Shutford 10am

Wed 9th Ash Wednesday, Swalcliffe 8.00 pm

Fri 11th Holy Communion 7.30 am

Sun 13th Family Service 10.00 am

Fri 18th Holy Communion 7.30 am

Sun 20th Holy Communion 9.30 am

Fri 25th Holy Communion 7.30 am

Sun 27th Holy Communion 9.30 am

Sunday at 10.30 am

Sunday at 11.00 am

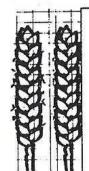
Sunday at 8.30 am

Sunday at 11.30 am

Sunday at 10.30 am

Sunday at 10.30 am

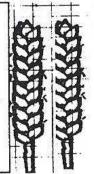
Sun March 6th Mothering Sunday Family Service 10 am.



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Sibford Bus Services

Free Bus Service

To Chipping Norton Wednesdays February 2nd & 16th Departs 10 am
To Banbury Thursdays February 10th & 24th 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 fl 10 each way (Nationa	I Dua Canda and Dua Th	arep off ficeus.

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 & Thursdays) to and from Banbury. Tel; 263777

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

From Banbury towards Shipston

	08.45	10.50	11.45	13.45	14.45		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

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 Shipston, Pettifers Garage
 6.55
 7.45
 8.45
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 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

February

Tue 1st Friendship Club 'Experiences on a Milk Round' 2pm p5

Sun 6th Village Hall Market 12 noon p11

Tue 8th W.I. 'Other Peoples Gardens' p8

Wed 9th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Sun 13th Tsunami Fund Raising Concert. Bloxham Church 7.30 p21

Tue 15th Friendship Club Outing p5

Tue 15th Deadline for Playarea Questionnaire Return.

Tue 15th Deadline for contributions to the March Scene p6

Wed 23rd Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Sat 26th "Bluesy Susie" Childrens Workshop. 4-5pm p11

Sat 26th "Bluesy Susie" 8pm at the Village Hall p11

March (part)

Sat 5th Sibfords Society Walk. 10 am p7

Sat 5th Easter Fayre. Village Hall 12.00 - 3.00 pm p9

Mon 7th Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting 7.45pm p14

Wed 9th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Thu 17th Sibfords Society AGM p7

Fri 18th Primary School Art Exhibition Preview Night. 7.30-9.30 p20

Sat 18 and Sun 19 Primary School Art Exhibition 10.30-4.30 p20

Wed 23rd Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Cover picture - Malvern House, Sibford Ferris.

Sibford Scene

Editor; Adrian Lamb. Grounds Farm, Sibford Ferris. 780380 e-mail 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