

# Sibford Scene



May 2005

No. 273

## Jumble Sale

In aid of Holy Trinity Church

Saturday 7th May 2 pm in the Village Hall

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Sibford Horticultural Society

## Plant Sale and Coffee Morning

Saturday 21st May 10.30 am

Gowers Close

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## Art Weeks Exhibition

Furniture and Textiles

21st to 29th May 12 - 6 pm

The Old Post Office, Sibford Gower

## Nature Notes

Mar. 17th. Today's sunshine brought some butterflies out of hibernation. I had 3 brimstones and a tortoiseshell in view at the same time.

Mar. 20th. Quite a good dawn chorus this morning but as last year a fair way from the house. The song birds don't seem to like having the rooks nesting overhead. Whether they feel threatened by them or it is that they need protection from the same risk that we take by walking there I don't know but it brings to mind an image of a singing wren holding up a cocktail umbrella for protection.

Mar. 28th A red kite was seen over Whichford a few days ago and today my son rang to tell me there was one at Temple Mill being chased off by a buzzard. By the time I got down there I could see a buzzard going away towards Traitors Ford but no sign of the red kite. Today I had a phone call to say that one had been seen over Epwell. They are expected to come into this district but the buzzards will not welcome them.

Mar. 31st. We had 1.73 inches of rain over the last 2 days which is considerably more than in the first 2 months of the year.

Apr. 1st A blackcap is singing in the garden this morning which is a few days earlier than last year.

Apr. 8th. To Worth Matravers in Dorset for a few days. It is a stony area with drystone walls round many of the fields and most of the houses built of the same grey limestone with big roof tiles of similar stone cemented into position. Most of the steep land sloping to the sea locally is terraced with what the map calls strip lynchets. I presume that crops were grown on them originally but they are now grazed.

Apr. 9th. Walked to the big stone quarries at Winspit Point. As well as quarrying there were some horizontal mines the biggest of them leaving a 10 or 12 foot ceiling supported by a few pillars of rock which were left in situ. The siting of equipment made us think that most of the stone had left the quarry by sea. While we were there a peregrine falcon flew by probably looking for a meal in the form of a rock dove. The heads of last years carline thistles still looked bright. I can remember a lady in Sibford that used to collect them to put with dried helichrysums for winter decoration. There were also some patches of early scurvy-grass in the old quarry.

Apr. 10th. Walked to Chapmans Pool where about a dozen people were busy on the annual litterblitz. They were quickly filling bags along the high tide mark which then had to be taken by rowing boat to a point acces-

sible to vehicles. On the way we saw swallows and on the way back crossed a meadow where the introduced milk thistle or sillybum now grows as a weed. Our path also took us through a quarry which, like several in the area, is still being worked. The spring sown corn crops are suffering from the lack of rain.

Apr. 12th. In the ruins of Corfe Castle we found that ravens were nesting in the tallest of the remains. One of them was seeing off a buzzard as we arrived. In the Corfe Castle Museum I read that much of the stone from Winspit quarry was shipped to London as paving slabs which may be why they mined into the most suitable strata.

Apr. 13th. Before leaving for home we visited Kimmeridge Bay which has great geological variety in the surrounding cliffs and much of interest in the bay but the tide was in covering that. A rock pipit was performing its song flight which probably means a nest close by. There was a nodding oil pump working on the bank at the other side of the bay. Seeing all the tempting footpaths setting off up the gorse covered hillsides makes me think that this is a very good walking area especially at this time of year although July would be as good for wildflowers.

Apr. 19th. A while ago I was told that 4 buzzards were seen over Sibford, then came a report of 7 and now 8 at the same time. Any more bids?



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Sheila Walsh wrote this poem for the Sibford Scene in March 2001.

To an Oxfordshire Village

I left my old familiar place and friendships far behind,  
and came to unaccustomed land not knowing what to find.  
I saw the widespread landscape, the springing flowers, the sky,  
the beauty all-surrounding that took and held my eye.  
Though all these things enchantment gave, they are the lesser part,  
the welcome from the people - ah! - the people took my heart.

S. Walsh 2000

Sheila died on 23rd February 2005.  
We will miss your fun and laughter.  
You were an inspiration to all who knew you.

JA

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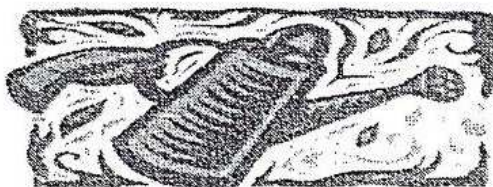
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Sunday 5.30am to 1.00pm



## Sibford Horticultural Society

A most informative and interesting evening was enjoyed when Sue Bedwell came to talk on 'Making the most of your plants' with advice on taking cuttings, pruning etc.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday May 11th at 8.00 pm** in the Village Hall when Dr. Sue Rhodes will talk about 'Knot Gardens' and the knot garden at Warwick.

Our Annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 21st May at 10.30 am at Gowers Close in Sibford Gower.



The Simon Weatherby Garden at the Katharine House Hospice will hold its annual Open Day on **Sunday 5th June from 2 - 5 pm**

There will be Plant Stalls, Raffle, Teas & Cakes. Please do your best to attend and support the gardens which do so much to enhance the Hospice.



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The final term of the playgroup year is upon us and we have said farewell to Jamie Lamb, Ashley Clark, Harry and Sam Prickett, Isabelle Cook, Kit Field and Toby Lovick, as they start school. We wish them lots of happiness in their new environment.

We are very pleased to welcome some new children to playgroup. This term, Thomas Kitchen, Finlay Smith, Tom Lovegrove, Isobel Earle, Samuel Jenkins, Chloe Lewis, Charlie Skinner, Emily Inns and Isabel Collis have joined our happy band of children. We are sure that they will settle in quickly. Despite the dreary weather the children are managing to celebrate many things about the spring. They have made a visit to the pond to see the tadpoles and are enjoying learning about other living things such as snails, butterflies and caterpillars.

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

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### SIBFORD TOTS & BABES

We meet every Tuesday (during term time) between 10.30 and 12 in Sibford Village Hall for playing, tea, reading, tea, toddling, tea, biscuits, tea, drawing and of course the occasional tantrum.

Our numbers are quite good at the moment with babes as young as eight weeks to toddlers of nearly three, so lots of fun for everyone.

For more information, please contact Becky Skinner on 01295 780495

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to the Shop or Editor  
by  
May 17th

The  
*Sibfords*  
Society

As Mr. Steele was unable to come the meeting in April to demonstrate making a chair, Martin Way came at short notice and spoke on 'The Golden Age of Coaching' to a fascinated audience. He brought with him a collection of old maps and coaching memorabilia and showed slides to illustrate his talk. Up until the early 17C a road would be very like our farm tracks are now and were often deeply rutted, sometimes up to four foot deep by the heavy carts and coaches passing along them, so travel was slow with many accidents happening. The first 'good' road was made in 1718 and the Turnpike Trust was set up and tolls levied on all who passed through a turnpike - literally a pike set across a road and turned when payment had been made. The first Royal Mail coach went from London to Bath in 1784 but this service finished in 1823 with the advent of the railways.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday, 19 May at 8.00pm** in the Village Hall. Mr Sirot Smith is talking about the 'History of Sulgrave Manor and the Washingtons', which will give us a background for our visit to Sulgrave Manor on 16 June at 7.00pm. If you were not at the a meeting in April and would like to join the visit, please add your name to the list at the meeting in May or ring Maureen on 780259. The cost of the guided tour is £7.50 and it would be appreciated if monies could be collected at the meeting in May.

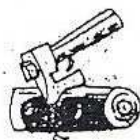
The Annual Litterblitz, in Sibford Gower, took place on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2005 commencing at 10am and a group of fifteen volunteers (some others had already carried out advance rubbish collection) gathered at the Village Had car park where Robin Spicer allocated the areas which were to receive attention having first dealt with Health and Safety matters as they related to the work to be carried out. The operation was completed in under two hours and some fifteen very full black waste bags were the result of removing items that, sadly, had been carelessly and without thought deposited on the verges of Burdrop and Sibford Gower. One of the worst areas in the Parish was, as usual, the road between Banbury and Shipston where items are obviously thrown from the windows of passing cars.

The Parish Council is extremely grateful and thanks all those who so kindly and very willingly gave of their time to take part in the Litterblitz - a job well done!

PH



**LOGS**

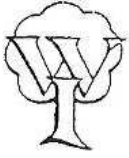


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## W.I. News

**Women's  
Institute**

There was a good attendance for the AGM on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> April. The President, Glennis, welcomed back Secretary Lynda and expressed thanks to Gaynor for efficiently deputising during Lynda's absence. It was reported that two more past Members died recently - Irene Tanner and Irene Hitchins. After reading the record of the March Meeting, Lynda then delivered her Annual Report and it was good to be reminded of the enjoyable happenings over the past year. Glennis then gave her Address and thanked the Committee for its help and support. She thanked also all Members for their loyalty and the undertaking of various jobs to ensure the smooth running of our monthly Meetings. For the coming year, the Officers will remain unchanged; President - Glennis, Secretary - Lynda, Treasurer - Barbara. Other Committee Members are Gaynor and Jane. Greta and Kathleen (Reid) have retired and were thanked for their long service. The Financial Statement was explained by Barbara and adopted.

Jane give an excellent report on the Speakers' Selection Meeting held at Steeple Aston and said that she would be including a number of the speakers at our own future Meetings. Glennis told us about the OFWI AGM at Oxford Town Hall. She was impressed by the two guest speakers. The National Chairman, Barbara Gill, reminded the audience of 450 ladies that W.I. is celebrating its 90th Anniversary. She is launching a W.I. Challenge named SWIM (Searching for W.I. Members). Her main message was that we should go forward, embrace challenge and get to grips with E-mail but still find time for jam and cake making! The second speaker, Paul Whittaker, was a delightful surprise. Despite being profoundly deaf, he has become a brilliant musician, extremely proficient in signing and is Artistic Director for Music and the Deaf.

Greta announced the results of the monthly competitions and presented prizes to the winners. 1st Glennis, 2nd Gaynor. 3rd Norma.

April events were discussed including an OFWI coach trip to Berrington Hall and Croft Castle on 20<sup>th</sup>, The Resolutions Briefing Meeting at Chadlington on 27<sup>th</sup> and the Group Meeting at Cropredy on 28<sup>th</sup>. Our Annual Outing on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> August will be to Rockingham Castle in Northamptonshire.

♣♣♣♣♣♣♣♣♣♣

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Glennis has been successful in having one of her photographs selected for inclusion in the OFWI calendar 2006 themed Oxfordshire Traditions. It is a picture of Eric Payne with his ewes, entitled "Shepherding in Sibford Gower"

With the lengthy business over, everyone made a bee line for the tea trolley where Gwen and Audrey were dispensing welcome cups of tea and delicious victoria and chocolate sponges. The Bring & Buy stall, laden with interesting items, was a big attraction which considerably boosted our funds.

At our next Meeting on the **10th May**, Lynda will take us through the Resolutions. OFWI raffle tickets will be on sale. Competition - Best Flowering Stem.

GH

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## Friendship Club

We sat down to a lovely Easter Tea which was provided by the club members. It was a shame so many could not attend due to illness, including Phyllis who organised it but we hope they are now feeling better. At our meeting in April Mrs. Lesley Wragg came to talk to us on how she is helping the people in Gambia. She collects and then takes things out there to help them to have a better standard of life. She has already taken out three container loads of goods and is now collecting for a fourth. She says anything is welcome from a paper clip upwards. When some one tells you how they live from first hand experience it makes you realise how lucky we are but it is not appreciated. It made me feel quite humble. The afternoon concluded with tea and cakes provided by Beryl and Bea.

Dates for May as follows:-

**Tuesday 3rd. May.** Annual General Meeting at 2.00pm in the Village Hall. We hope to see as many members as possible please.

Dates for the future will be discussed at this meeting.



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## ARTWEEKS EXHIBITION

### *Furniture and Textiles*

We would like to invite you to our colourful and compact exhibition.

The exhibition will be open as part of the Artweeks Open Studios Festival from

21<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May opening daily at 12:00 noon and closing at 6:00

Thursday we will be open till 8:00pm.

We will be delighted to see you.

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### **Admin. Assistant Required**

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- To promote the enjoyment and experience of live music amongst people who would not normally have access to it, and especially the disadvantaged in society.
- To assist gifted young professional musicians at the outset of their careers.

The Midlands Branch Director (working from home in Sibford Gower) requires a part-time Admin. Assistant to help with maternity cover May – July (this could be extended).

The ideal person will have:

Good computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook etc.)

Pleasant phone manner

Organisational/administrative skills

Interest in music

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For more details, please contact Jayne Rollason 01295 780689 or [midlands@livemusicnow.org](mailto:midlands@livemusicnow.org)

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## SIBFORD CRICKET CLUB PLAYER PROFILES

### # 2 KEVIN PEACHEY

Nickname/s :	Psycho
Cricketing Occupation:	Sibfords hardest cricketer / Saturday captain
Cricketing Style:	Intense! Highly competitive
Sponsors:	Colt , Smith & Wesson and Purdy
Favourite batting stroke:	Anything that involves lots of bottom hand.
Favourite fielding position:	Anywhere as long as the ball is coming fast
Cricketing Hero:	Jonty Rhodes or Fiery Fred Truman
Don't mention:	Anything if he's out for a duck or drops a catch
Most likely to say:	"Bingo!" or "Who said I can't catch!"

### KEVIN PEACHEY'S FAVOURITES :

Favourite colour:	Camouflage (particularly clothes)
Favourite Hobby:	Pest control / Indiscriminate killing.
Favourite Car:	Anything with off road capability.
Favourite Film:	Watership Down ( only he likes the bits when the Bunnies cop it)
Favourite Music:	Ride of the Valkaries (a la Apocalypse now)
Favourite Drink:	Coke, it keeps you focused!
Favourite Vice:	High speed driving and heavy artillery.
Favourite batting score:	A winning score of course.

### THE INTERVIEW:

So Kevin how do you see your role as captain?

A: Well I see it very much like Sibford as a pride of Lions stalking it's prey on the rolling plains of the Serengeti only with bowling changes, field settings and the occasional batting collapse.

What thoughts go through your head when a match or perhaps your innings isn't going as well as planned?

A: Well I wouldn't really call them thoughts, it's more a kind of buzzing sound and then this strange red mist comes down.

And finally in one sentence Kevin could you sum up your outlook on cricket and perhaps life in general. A motto if you like?

A: "Kill or be killed!"

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## AFRICAN RAIN

Why do we get so obsessed with the weather? Well, when it affects the crops we grow, our means of transport and most importantly, the water we drink, we take a keen interest in what the weather is going to do. It's been a much talked about topic in the Western Cape over the last twelve months as a lack of rainfall has meant dwindling water supplies. The dams are down to 28% of capacity on average and some are lower than that. Why so little water left? Well, we had poor winter rains last year, coupled with a very long hot, dry summer. Planning of new dams and alternative water supplies has slowed down as the politicians have argued over silly things like renaming the roads in Cape Town. We are also experiencing incredible growth of new houses and shopping centres as more people migrate to the Cape. Then there's the annual influx of tourists. To say that the water situation is critical is an understatement!

However, last week we had our first autumn storm and what a storm it was! The thunder and lightening was quite spectacular - a rare sight in the Cape. We had lots of glorious rain but the Overberg, the mountains to the west of Cape Town, had too much too quickly with the result that roads got washed away, including the main N2 highway up the Garden Route. We went to Knysna last week and had to divert via Worcester and the Robertson valley. The water coming off the mountains was amazing and all the rivers were raging torrents.

I'm glad to report that this week we have had some more good rain as two cold fronts have passed through. We're now waiting to see if it's made any difference to the dam levels. Otherwise, we're into our lovely autumn weather with our warm days and cool evenings, which I prefer to the heat of summer.

I mentioned that we went to Knysna, which is on the Garden route and is a good centre for different activities. My mother is over from the UK at the moment so we did some things with her that we've been meaning to do for a while. We took the Outeniqua Tcho Choo, a steam train that runs along the coast to George which offers some lovely views of the sea and the lagoons. We also visited an elephant park where you can feed and touch the elephants. There were lots of little ones, which were very cute. Then we had a river cruise up the Keurbooms River by Plettenberg Bay where you get an idea of the forest as it was before man came along and chopped most of it down. We

saw the Knysna Lourie, which is a parrot type of bird found particularly in this area.

Another excursion was to an old farm, just north of Wellington, called Bartholomeus Klip. Once a sheep farm, it has been converted to the native vegetation and buck and zebra re-introduced. We stayed in the old Victorian farmhouse, which was beautifully restored to its former glory. Sitting on the stoep (veranda), in the gardens or by the dam was so relaxing. A great place for a quiet getaway. Oh! And did I mention the wonderful food including a high tea at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Once my mother goes back to the UK next week we can finally hang up our B&B sign for the season. It's been quite busy this year. Then we start to do some travelling with our first trip to Chobe in Botswana. Steve is keen to go after the famous tiger fish, which are difficult to catch and put up a great fight. I will be happy to see all the wonderful game along the Chobe River and in the National Park.

So here's hoping for more rain and good fishing!

Pat and Steve Bates

**Cherwell District Council's Environment Forum presents:**

## Planning and the Environment

Speakers will cover

The Local Development Framework which will replace the existing District Local plan.

The South East plan.

Sustainability Appraisals.

Strategic Environmental Assessments

Tuesday 10th May

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For further details please contact Alison McHugh on 01295

221637 or e-mail [alison.mchugh@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:alison.mchugh@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

A Page from the Past (continued from last month)  
 A short account of Farming in and around Sibford  
 in the 1930's by Charles J. Lamb

The next holding, Elmridge Farm, formerly known as Ryehill Farm, 90 acres, was the property of my grandfather John Lamb, who farmed here together with the 60 acre property of Gibraltar Farm just across the River Stour in Hook Norton parish. Ryehill Farm was formerly owned by my grandfather's cousin, William Lamb, and before him by his father, A.J. Lamb, and his grandfather, Joshua Lamb, since 1819. On the sale of the farm following my grandfather's death in 1940, it had been farmed by a member of the Lamb family for 120 years.

William Lamb, in addition to farming, ran a jam preserving business in the custom built brick buildings behind Elmridge House, but little is known of its operations, and the buildings were largely disused during my youth, but after the sale of the farm to Hopkyns, were used as a cabinet maker's workshop by my wife's father and brother for some years, but are, again, largely derelict.

Adjacent to the jam factory lived my Uncle Jack in a cottage that obviously had at one time been a separate property from Elmridge, and was popularly supposed to have been a public house known as the Red Lion. This was partly borne out by the fact that adjoining the "Red Lion" was a small cottage lived in by my grandfather's sister, Rachel, which had been converted by my grandfather from a building described in 1868 by A.J. Lamb as a malthouse. A.J. Lamb also at that time owned Stickleys Farm and Wells Ground, later to be the property of my mother.

Home Farm, 120 acres, had long been the property of the Hopkyns family, who were also to purchase the adjoining Elmridge Farm.



*sarah walker*  
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Home Farm was farmed by Elizabeth Wealsby, a widow for many years, and whose son, Frank, after his marriage to my father's sister, Edna, was to farm here and Elmridge until his death when the property again reverted to its original components to be farmed by my cousins Frank and William Wealsby. (Elmridge has therefore by 1984 achieved a further 44 years in the hands of Lamb relations, giving a total of 164 consecutive years.)

Adjoining Home Farm, and extending in a narrow strip up Pound Lane, was a small 20 acre farm belonging to the Gaydon family. A Miss Gaydon was the sole survivor at the time of which I write and she, in the loneliness of middle age, married her ploughman, Harry West, who then inherited the farm on her death. After his retirement the farm was worked by the Will Poulton family and on his death broken up and sold partly for building and partly to neighbouring farmers. The farmhouse appeared to be one of the old village farmhouses from pre-enclosure days and was considerably larger than to be expected on a 20 acre farm, and I believe that the Gaydon family did, at one time, own a farm later to be part of Handy Water Farm. Handy Water Farm, with its Barn Farm, approximately 90 acres across the tumpike, was farmed by my uncle Will Bishop until ill health necessitated his retirement to the small 10 acre Glebe Farm adjoining Stickleys. (To be continued - Ed)

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## 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 welcome;

Ian and Julia Wallace have moved into the pub in the Gower and quickly made their mark by restoring the Wykham Arms sign. They have a pub/restaurant in Leamington Spa with 2 AA rosettes and have brought with them a highly trained team. Ians' parents are also involved in the business. They are all working hard to put Sibford on the gastronomical map. Julia is also a teacher at Shipston school.

Diane and Jon Thompson have moved into Buttslade house. They have two daughters Olivia and Polly who are away at boarding school, and Lottie their dachshund dog. Jon is a chartered surveyor and Diane, a dyscalculic teacher. They both enjoy gardening and are going to continue with the open garden scheme. Diane enjoys a game of tennis and Jon goes car racing.

### HOMŒOPATH

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**QUIET DAYS AT HANDYWATER FARM, SIBFORD GOWER  
DATES FOR 2005**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

**9.30am to 3pm or later**

led by Rev Professor Abbott Conway, priest-in-charge at Great Tew.

*The Seafarer: Exile and Homecoming*

Formerly of the Diocese of Montreal, Abbott has in the past led quiet days at Marywood, a 200 year old farm in a lovely riverside setting near Montreal.

Like Handywater, Marywood is affiliated to the Quiet Garden Trust.

**The evening of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
from 6.30pm**

An opportunity to observe the natural world during the evening,  
with St Francis at the centre of our reflections.

**The evening of Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July  
from 6.30pm**

An interfaith evening, with representatives from six of the world's great faiths  
gathering to pray and reflect together.

Everyone is welcome, from any denomination, or indeed any faith, or none.

Please bring a contribution to a bring-and-share meal.

If you are curious to know more about quiet days,  
or if you would like directions to Handywater Farm,  
please telephone Sue on 01295 788770.

**Jumble Sale**

In aid of Holy Trinity Church

**Saturday 7th May at 2 pm**

Sibford Village Hall

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Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting  
Friday 18th March 2005

At the Parish Council Meeting held in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School, all the Parish Councillors were in attendance together with six members of the public and the Clerk. The following matters were on the agenda:-

Highway Matters: There are a number of areas where remedial work is required by Oxfordshire CC. The Deputy Area Engineer is due to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> May and the Clerk has written to him reminding of the outstanding attention needed so that he may be properly prepared to answer questions which may be put to him. An acknowledgement had been received in which he said that he is most conscious of what needs to be done and has budgeted for monies to be expended on some of the items.

Footpaths and Bridleways: The matter of motor cyclists and scramblers using Bridleways was raised and the Clerk was instructed to write to the Field Officer, Oxfordshire CC to check the position.

Church Burial Ground: Negotiations continue regarding the acquisition of additional land from the Diocese of Oxford to allow the present churchyard, which is reaching full capacity, to be extended. As a matter of current policy, the Diocese will not transfer land to a church or Parochial Church Council but only to a Parish or District Council. The Parish Council is having to consider the purchase of the land. Discussions are ongoing in partnership with Sibford Ferris Parish Council -both communities being served by the Church.

The South East Plan: Cllr Martin Layer gave an outline of the plan which will influence what happens throughout the South East for the next twenty years. The plan is the re-


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sponsibility of the South East Regional Assembly (SEERA) which has replaced the County Councils and Unitary Authorities as the strategic planning authority. He provided an informative paper on the subject and a copy was provided to the other Parish Councillors.

Village Pond: It is anticipated that a detailed ecological survey of the pond by Pond Conservation, Oxford will take place sometime in May, June or July This will be funded by its Ponds for People Project. The results of the survey (plants, invertebrates and amphibians) should shape the way the pond ought to be managed. The Parish Council has been asked to keep a detailed collection of data regarding the activities of amphibians during a three month period (February to April) and Glennis Hardman has kindly undertaken to do this during her nightly "Frog and Toad Watch".

Miriam Tebbs' land: The Council has received an approach from a local resident, who represented other residents also, advising that they will consider managing the land. The intention is to include the reinstatement of a hedge which was taken down a couple of years ago - without the knowledge of the Parish Council. The initial clearance and subsequent maintenance will require funding and this will be looked for from the Parish Council. Discussions are to be taken forward.

1-6 Pound Lane: Investigations continue as to the ownership of the cracked steps, the hedge and the pathway in front of the properties. Oxfordshire CC, Cherwell DC and Charter Community Housing are in some disagreement as to where responsibilities lie. The Clerk will continue pressure to resolve matters.

British Legion: In the absence of a local branch of the British Legion, Cllr Robin Spicer acts as a Correspondent. He has been asked whether a fund raising event may be possible. He advised the Meeting that the local Scouts are willing to arrange a barbecue later in the year. A date and details will be forthcoming.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.25pm thanking all present for attending and their contributions.

**THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON 4th MAY 2005 IN SIBFORD GOWER ENDOWED PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMENCING AT 7.30pm**

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

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## Save Sibford Brownies

Sibford Brownies will close if a new leader is not found.

why not give it a try?

We are a well-attended and expanding pack, and want to keep going.

Is there a Brown Owl out there?

Phone Pam on 780346

### Cover Picture - Sibford Cricket Club 1932 - 33

Back row - left to right:

Horace Salmon, Justin Poulton, Will Poulton, Fred Sabin, Fred Inns (snr), Harold Kay, Frank Barton (snr), Stuart Rose, 'Not Known', Gordon Keyte.

Front row - left to right:

Henry Long, Henry Poulton, George Poulton (snr), Bernard Lamb, Fred Berry.

I am grateful to Alice Fowler and Dora Rumley for passing a copy of this picture on to the Sibford Scene. If any of our older villagers could supply the missing name please let me know. Ed.

### HOOK NORTON TENNIS CLUB

Now that Spring and Summer are just around the corner, it's time to dust off your tennis racquet, stretch those muscles and get along to Hook Norton for some tennis!!

There you will find 3 new Astroturf, floodlit courts located at the Hook Norton Playing Fields.

Club Nights are on Tuesdays and Fridays and on Sunday there is a club morning.

Teams compete in the Banbury Town League, played in the evening during the summer and under floodlights or at weekends in the winter. The Club's 1<sup>st</sup> team have been Summer League Champions for the past 2 seasons.

There is a full programme of coaching for adults and juniors of all ages and abilities.

Social events and tournaments are also arranged and members can use the courts whenever they wish outside Club sessions.

For further details, please contact Richard Blencowe on 01608 684007

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## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

Spring Cleaning of the church will take place on Thursday and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> June at 5 pm. both days. Could you help please? If you could let Gilian Soden (780543) know that you can be there on either date it would also help but otherwise just please turn up with a duster or polishing cloth. There are 18 names on the weekly church cleaning rota, which is a good start, but it shouldn't be all left to them.

The old Benefice Choir together with the Broughton Choir, who when they sing together are now known as the Wykeham Benefice Choir, sang a Good Friday service of Easter music with readings in Broughton Church.

There was an Easter vigil service at Sibford at 11.30 pm on Easter Eve and on Easter Day at Sibford, the service was taken by Bishop James Johnson. Bishop James, formerly the Bishop of St Helena, now retired and living in Bloxham, will be helping with services in the Benefice from time to time. We are doubly fortunate that Canon Glyn Evans has come to live in Sibford Gower and will also be helping with services.

Canon John Whitwell took the Family Service on 10th April with considerable help from family members young and old. Yet another of our excellent services in this series.

Tim and Erica Wimbush have been away on holiday and we very much hope they have had a happy and successful time.

The series of **Quiet Days at Handywater Farm** will have started by the time this article is printed. The next is **May 21<sup>st</sup> at 9.30 am to 3 pm** and the others are as noted separately. These have been excellent series in the past and are strongly recommended.

The Annual Church Fete will be held in the Village Hall on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 2.30 pm.**

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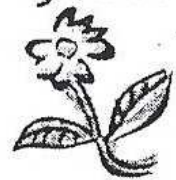
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# Church Services

Society of Friends		Sunday at 10.30 am
Methodist		Sunday at 11.00 am
Roman Catholic Mass	Wroxton	Sunday at 9.00 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 1st Benefice Service at Tadmarton 10.00 am  
 Thu 5th Benefice Eucharist for Ascension Day 8.00 pm  
 Sun 8th Family Service 10.00 am  
 Sun 15th Holy Communion 9.30 am  
 Sun 22nd Holy Communion 9.30 am  
 Sun 29th Matins & Holy Communion 9.30 am

## June

Sun 5th Benefice Service at Swalcliffe 10.30 am

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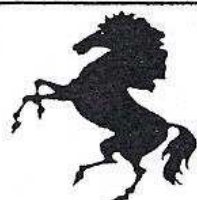
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# Sibford Bus Services

## Free Bus Service

To Banbury Thursdays May 5th & 19th Departs 10 am  
 To Chipping Norton Wednesdays May 11th & 25th 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 & Thursdays. 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*

	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 1st Village Hall Market  
Tue 3rd Friendship Club A.G.M. P9  
Wed 4th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)  
Wed 4th Gower Annual Parish Meeting 7.30 pm Primary School Hall p19  
Sat 7th Church Jumble Sale. 2.00 pm Village Hall p17  
Tue 10th W.I. Resolutions meeting p8  
Tue 10th Planning and Environment Meeting at Bodicote House. p13  
Wed 11th Horticultural Society; 'Knot Gardens' 8pm Village Hall p5  
Tue 17th Deadline for contributions to the May Sibford Scene p6  
Wed 18th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)  
Thu 19th Sibfords Society 'History of Sulgrave Manor' 8 pm V.Hall p7  
Fri 20th Family Bingo at Tadmarton Village Hall 6.45 pm p9  
21st to 29th Artweeks Exhibition - Tho Old Post Office S.Gower p10  
Sat 21st Horticultural Society Plant Sale p5  
Sat 21st Quiet Day at Handywater. P17

## June (part)

- Wed 1st Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)  
Sun 5th Village Hall Market  
Sun 5th Open Gardens at Katharine House Hospice, Adderbury. P5  
Wed 8th Ferris Parish Council Meeting 7.45 top floor, Sibford School Sports Hall  
9th & 10th Church Spring Clean p21  
Wed 15th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)  
Tue 21st Quiet Evening at Handywater from 6.30pm p17  
Wed 29th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Cover picture - See page 20 for details.

### Sibford Scene

Editor; Adrian Lamb. Grounds Farm, Sibford Ferris. 780380

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