

Sibford Scene



August and September 2005

No. 276

Church Fete July 30th 2.30 pm in and around the Village Hall

Sibford Horticultural Society Annual Show

Saturday August 27th 2.30 - 4.30pm

Saturday 10th September 10 - 6 pm

Historic Churches Ride & Stride

Nature Notes

June. 26th. Saw my first humming-bird hawk-moth of the summer hovering to take nectar from a shrub salvia.

July. 3rd. A neighbour has a song thrush nest with recently hatched young ones at head height by the front door. Hopefully this will be a second brood but as I have not seen any young ones around I think it is more likely to be a second or third attempt to rear a family. The odds are heavily stacked against garden birds with the number of predator there are around.

July. 5th It was nice to see that wild liquorice and danewort or dwarf elder still grow by a roadside telegraph pole near Swalcliffe Lea. They are both quite rare in this district and in a vulnerable position.

July. 6th. When driving back from the Forest of Dean a buzzard flew up from the verge just as we were passing. It looked huge as it struggled to gather speed a foot or two in front of our bonnet. Nearer home there was a loose horse galloping away down the road. When the traffic stopped it turned and trotted back by us presumably towards home.

July. 10th. While walking by Folly Farm we noticed a lot of volcanoes of soil on the area in front of the grain bins. They were bigger than worm casts with a hole going into the ground from the centre of the crater top.

July 11th. Having talked to an expert on insects I went at midday to have another look at the heaps of earth at Folly Farm and found the area busy with mining bees which were, as suggested to me, responsible for the heaps of earth. It is amazing that such a small bee can dig into that hard ground and bring out so much soil grain by grain. I also saw a few of the cuckoo bees, that look more like wasps, that I was told might be around as they make use of the mining bees holes and food supplies for their offspring.

July 12th. I am pleased to find that there is a pair of flycatchers nesting in the Ferris. I was wondering whether I would see one this year but they are easily missed as they tend to stay close to their nest often within one large garden. While cycling this evening a badger scurried across the road between two groups of riders. It is the second time this has happened in recent weeks. I expect they are finding food hard to find in this drought and hunger brings them out early. There are also a lot more mouths than there used to be to share the available food.

July 17th. I was surprised to find that badgers had destroyed half of my sweet corn over night as there are no cobs on it yet but I expect they found the juicy stems quite appetising. I have put wire netting round the remaining plants which may deter them. I saw a flock of about 40 swifts over the

Ferris today. I wondered whether all the swifts from the Gower had joined them.

July 18th. Quite a few gatekeeper butterflies have emerged over the last few days. Their pristine condition makes the older ringlets and meadow browns look a bit shabby.



What a busy and successful year the staff and playgroup children have had. Michelle and her team have provided the children with a variety of colourful and exciting themes to explore and the children have learned about everything from sea creatures to dinosaurs, as well as focusing on learning how to care for themselves and others.

We have welcomed many new children over the course of the year and helped to prepare many others for their entry to school. We look forward to continuing the good work with the children when we start back on 5th September.

For information about playgroup or to secure your child a place for September, please contact us on 01295 788998 (term time, mornings only). During school holidays please call the supervisor, Michelle Knapman on

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A little thought when you stop at the shop really will help traffic flow

Please remember when parking vehicles overnight that we farmers do work late into the evenings and, if we need to move large equipment, tend to do it very early in the morning when there is less traffic. Nothing seems to upset the residents quite as much as being woken up to move a car before 6 am!

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Sunday 5.30am to 1.00pm

Friendship Club

We would like to thank the Fielding Centre for inviting us to join them to see a play - "Housewives Choice" about life for a young married couple in the early 1950's. It certainly took most of us back to what married life was like in those years after the war and we all found it to be quite hilarious. We have no meeting in August so our next get together will be on **Tuesday 6th September** at 2.00 pm in the Village Hall and a trip to Cotton Gardens has been arranged for **Tuesday 20th September**.

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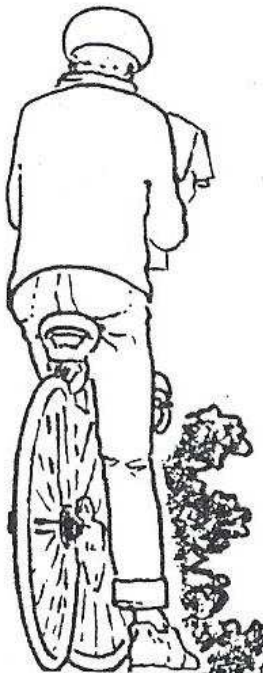
Sponsored Ride or Stride

Saturday 10th September 10 am - 6 pm

Once again the Ride or Stride is coming up. The idea is to visit places of worship (Churches, Chapels, Meeting Houses etc) on foot or by bicycle and to raise funds both for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and for your nominated place of worship - which receives 50% of your sponsor money directly. With so many churches having increasing maintenance costs the need for the work of the Trust in giving grants for repairs is increasing. Our own church received help from the Trust when the roof was repaired a few years ago.

A number of our Tuesday Night Bike riders will be taking part, some (like your editor) with children, so if you are an occasional cyclist who would like to join in please get in touch. If having to raise sponsorship puts you off, come and join in and sponsor yourself - all

contributions help however small. If you are worried about the distance traveled, remember that you only ride or stride to the next Church before the next break. Most Churches offer a cheery welcome and some form of refreshment and a few, like Hempton, have achieved a reputation for their catering! With kind weather it makes an enjoyable day out for all who participate and we would love to have a few more people with us on the day.



Sponsorship forms are available from
Arnold Lamb (780357)
Petra Berry (780462)
or contact the Editor.

Contributions for the
October
Sibford Scene
to the Shop or Editor
by
September 20th

The report on our walk around the Sibfords with Robin and Ann Spicer will be delayed until October, as it takes place after the date set for copy to be included in this month's Sibford Scene.

However, we are able to give you a date for your diaries of 15 September, at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall, when Keith Hicks will present 'Voices around the Sibfords'. This will consist of new recordings in our Oral History collected from Sibford residents and will be a fascinating insight of how life was lived some years ago in the village.

Our previous evening devoted to listening to the first batch of recordings, was very interesting and much enjoyed by everyone, so do come and join us, even if you are not a member of the Society.

Road closures

Reminder - Epwell Road, Shenington will be closed for drainage works for 3 days from Monday, 8 August from the Epwell turn to the Tysoe/Shenington crossroads. New order - Shutford Road, Epwell will be closed for carriageway edge strengthening works for 3 weeks from Monday, 15 August.

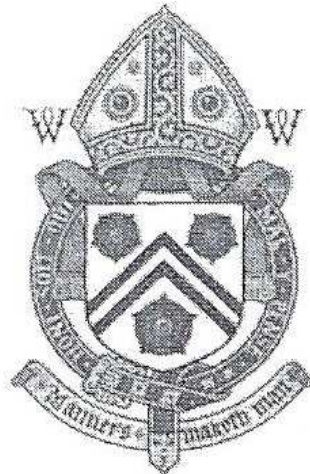
Further information may be obtained from
Simon Marsden, OCC Roads and Transport, on 01865 844300.

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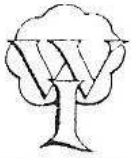
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W.I. News - July Meeting

We were nearly a full complement meeting in Gillian's lovely garden on a beautiful sunny day. A marquee had been set up on the lawn where Glennis welcomed us and we conducted the business part of the Meeting. Glennis also welcomed our guest, Joan Robinson, who is going to join us. Rosemary Neal was formerly co-opted onto Committee.

Lynda reported on the Officers' Lunch at Horton- cum- Studley which had proved to be an informal gathering to thank W.I. Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers for their work. Glennis, Lynda and Barbara attended.



Members who had been to visit Brenda on the 28th June reported on their outing and the lovely welcome and delicious tea provided by her.

Gaynor thanked everyone for their help with teas at the Village Hall Fayre. She was very grateful for the extra help from Tots and Babes, especially Rebecca's Mother who did sterling work in the kitchen and Joanne who took tea and cakes round to the stall-holders. Thank you for all the amazing cakes. It seemed to be a very busy and successful event.

Members were reminded that we will be leaving for Rockingham Castle at 10.15am from the Village Hall on Tuesday, 9th August. Also, that the trip to Highgrove will leave the Village Hall at 8.30am on Tuesday, 30th August. **Don't forget your passports!**

After the business, Members were served a wonderful tea by Gilian and her daughter, Helen, and we all retired with our chairs into the cool shade of the trees to find relief from a very hot sun. Thank you, Gilian, for looking after us so well and allowing us to wander around your beautiful garden. The cakes were deliciously tempting.

Our next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 13th September at the Village Hall at 2pm. Visitors and/or new Members very welcome. Carole Richardson will talk to us on "Traditional folk painting in Europe and North America". The competition is a hand painted item.


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Sibford Horticultural Society
Annual Show - Saturday 27th
August 2.30 - 4.30 pm

The entry night is at the Surgery on Wednesday 24th August from 7-9pm or in advance to any committee member using the form in the schedule.

Donations of bottles for the bottle stall would be most welcome and can be handed to any committee member (see list inside the cover of the schedule) or better still, bring them along on entry night which will help to get the stall set up early on Show day. Donations of cakes for the cake stall would be most welcome on the day.

Corrections to the Schedule


Page 6 - Class 18 will be disqualified if signed on the front (not 17)

Page 7 - Class 18 of section F must have been completed since 28th August 2004 (not 23rd Aug 2003)

Page 8 - Yoghurt Pot Cakes. The yoghurt should be of a strong flavour and included in the mixture.

Our September meeting will be on Wednesday 14th in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm when Mr. Frank Hardy will talk on "Vegetables without Tears". Please come along and join the Horticultural Society for the autumn and winter talks which are always interesting.

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Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting
Friday, 15th July 2005

The Parish Council met in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School on Friday, 15th July 2005. Four Parish Councillors were present together with one member of the public and the Clerk. Apologies were received from Cllr Peter Abbott. Two planning applications had been considered since the previous Meeting. A point of concern was raised as to whether conditions attaching to Permissions granted are checked as to compliance by the District Council. The Clerk was instructed to make appropriate enquiries. The Deputy Area Engineer, Oxfordshire CC is to visit on 21st July with a view to touring the Parish in the company of the Clerk and those Parish Councillors who may be available in order to discuss the areas where remedial work has been outstanding for some time. It is hoped that a timetable for completion may be arranged. The Clerk reported on his attendance on 22nd June at Bodicote House at The Cherwell Local District Framework Parish Seminar (very poorly attended). Cllr Robin Spicer raised the matter of branches overhanging the Acre Ditch pathway and in another area the fact that substantial clippings from a hedge had not been cleared from the public side by the resident. The Clerk was instructed to contact the people concerned. With regard to the village pond, arrangements for a public meeting to discuss its future had to be postponed because of the coincidence with another event. A full survey by Pond Conservation, Oxford is to take place on 21st July and it was decided to rearrange the public meeting at a later date when the survey results are known. The Parish Council had received a letter from BT advising that the payphone in the village has very little usage but rather than have it withdrawn, it is proposed that it be retained on a cashless basis. The box would still have all other functionality including the ability to make emergency, operator controlled, reverse charge, credit card and Chargecard calls. The Council has responded acknowledging the relatively little usage but retention is sought albeit on a cashless basis. Turning to the matter of street lighting, Oxfordshire CC has confirmed that where there is no safety issue it will not install street lighting but if it is required the cost would have to be carried by the Parish Council although the County Council would maintain thereafter. The land at Burdrop which was bequeathed to the Parish Council by the late Miriam Tebbs was discussed. Enquiries had been made by a local resident as to whether it may be available for sale. The Councillors, after some discussion, agreed that a sale would not be acceptable but it may be that the granting of a short term lease may be a possibility. This would ensure that the land remained in the ownership of the Council. Cllr Robin Spicer reported on his attendance, on behalf of the Council, at the recent commemorative service and ceremonies held in Oxford to mark the 60th anniversary of the ending of World War II. He said that it was a very moving experience.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Friday, 2nd September 2005, starting at 8pm, in Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School.

Horse-chestnut trees on the Hook Norton Road

As previously reported in the Scene, a serious disease (*phytophthora cactorum*) has been identified in the horse chestnuts alongside the School entrance on the Hook Norton Road, which are the responsibility of Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department.

The original order, given by a Highways inspector in January this year, to fell two diseased trees, was put on hold as new staff were employed at OCC specifically to record all Highways trees within the County.

A new survey was undertaken recently and revealed that in fact three of the horse chestnuts are unstable and, unfortunately, will have to be removed within the next month or two, one of them having lost a large branch earlier this year. OCC will replace the felled trees, probably with small-leafed limes. The other trees in the line are to be tidied up and it is hoped that the remaining horse chestnuts will prove still to be sound.

Sibford Ferris Parish Council

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MSSCh, MBChA

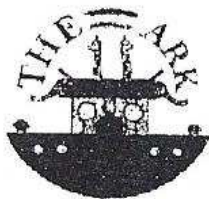
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Summertime only - Heritage Hopper Bus Sunday service running until 4 September.

This temporary bus service will be running every Sunday between Banbury and Leamington Spa town centres taking in tourist destinations between the two (Broughton Castle, Upton House, Edgehill, Burton Dassett Country Park, Gaydon Heritage Motor Centre). A family day rover ticket (up to 2 adults and 2 children) costs £10.00, a day rover ticket £5.00 and a single journey hopper ticket £3.00 (all concessions half price). For times and more information telephone 0870 608 2608.

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The Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning which will be held in the Village Hall on Friday 30 September from 10.00 - 12.00 noon, all proceeds go to the Macmillan Nurses.

As in previous years there will be a cake stall and bring and buy stall. If anyone wishes to help or contribute to the stalls I can be contacted on 780346.

Pam Ascott



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Tot n Babes

It's been a quiet lead up to the summer holidays with lots of tots off to play-group and some babes to childcare as their mums return to work. Therefore we were a much reduced group at the end of July when we stopped for the summer holidays.

So, to all you tots 'n' babes out there, convince your big people to come along and have a chat and a cup of tea while you swap notes with your fellow comrades on how to drive your parents up the wall.

We meet on Tuesday mornings in the village hall from 10:30 to 12:00, starting back on 6 September. For more information contact Becky Skinner on 01295 780495

sarah walker
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SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL NEWS

SUNDAY MARKETS continue in the Hall on 7th August, 4th Sept. & 2nd October, 2005. We do have a number of different stalls selling goods you probably would not expect to get at such an event. Local support is badly needed to keep this fund raiser going.

On Saturday, 22nd OCTOBER we have The Heart of England Jazz Band back again, bringing you the finest in traditional and Dixieland Jazz. Starts 7.30 p.m. with Licensed Bar open from 7 p.m. Tickets £10/£8 concessions, available in September from the Village Shop or ring 780025.

The Annual Village Fayre despite the cold and overcast weather again proved popular and raised around £1,500 for Hall improvements. Joanna Gilkes again organised two great games which proved very funny with a lot entering into the spirit. The children's Art Competition in the Under 5's was won by Eleanor Gray, 4, beating twin brother Jo with Tom Lovegrove, 2, in 3rd place. The 5 – 8 age group was won by Lydia Kitchen, 7, with Jack Lovegrove and Naomi Spencer 2nd and 3rd. In the 9 – 14 group 12 year old Helen Everett won with Leo Smith 2nd and Polly Smith 3rd. The Fancy Dress saw some very innovative entries. The winner of the under 3's was Tom Lovegrove dressed as a rocket with 22 month old Henry Taylor a close 2nd as pirate Captain Redbeard. The older group was won by 7 yo Joel Smith as a great scarecrow with 6 yo Jack Lovegrove 2nd as a robot and 4 yo Ellie Gray as a very pretty Snow White. The Dog Show had more entries this year and was judged by Margaret Ingles from Cheltenham. Sibford Top Dog title went to newcomer Saffron, the 11 month old German short-haired pointer, shown by Jane Meyler from Burdrop, beating Sybil, the lovely red & white setter who has been the Top Dog Champion for the last two years and ended as Reserve Champion shown by sister and brother India & Toby Seeley from Sibford Gower. Winner of the Best Young Handler went to Callum O'Hare, 10 yo with the nearly 2 yo Springer Spaniel Cassie.

The Fayre Committee's thanks go to everyone who helped in so many ways and to all who supported us on the day — a great village effort.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

Please do not forget **The Annual Church Fete** which will start at **2.30 pm** on **Saturday 30th July** in the Village Hall/Grounds. There will be stalls for Books, Bottles (separate children and adults), China Glass & Cutlery, Good Food, Plants, White Elephant, Toys, a Raffle and Hampers to win; delicious teas, ice creams and lots of games and prizes. Gifts for the various stalls would be greatly appreciated and any questions to Mary Nash 780275.

The Family Service on July 10th was based on *Sea Sunday* and celebrated all seafarers and those involved with the sea. Taken by Canon Hugh Marshall, one of our regular team of clergy assisting the Benefice, it will be particularly remembered for a one-person play brilliantly acted by James Wimbush (perhaps to celebrate his Banns of Marriage which were read out at the beginning of the service.) There are a great many youngsters now attending these services and if there are any in the villages who have not yet been to one, it is strongly recommended that you get your parents to bring you. A mixture between an enlightened Sunday School and a Church Service, they are a great way to gain knowledge and understanding. They only occur once a month and last for less than an hour, so it shouldn't be too disruptive in the busy life of your parents, who will almost certainly enjoy it as well.

Family Services are normally held on the second Sunday of each month, leaving out August. The next would have been on September 11th but Harvest Festival; a great Family occasion will be then (see below) so the next normal Family Service will be on **Sunday October 9th at 10.00 am**.

The **Harvest Festival Service** in Church on **Sunday September 11th at 11.00 am** shared jointly with members of the Methodist Church will be followed by a Bring and Share lunch in the Village Hall. Gifts and decorations of fruit, vegetables and other seasonal harvest items will as usual be donated to Katharine House Hospice.

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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.

August

Sun 7th Benefice Eucharist at Epwell 10.30
 Sun 14th Family Service 10.00
 Sun 21st Holy Communion 9.30
 Sun 28th Holy Communion 9.30

September

Sun 4th Benefice Eucharist at Shutford 10.30
 Sun 11th Harvest Festival and Bring and Share lunch 11.00
 Sun 18th Holy Communion 9.30
 Sun 25th Holy Communion 9.30

October

Sun 2nd Benefice Eucharist at Broughton 10.30



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Sibford Bus Services

Free Bus Service

To Chipping Norton Wed Aug 3, 17 & 31 Sept 14 & 28 Departs 10 am
 To Banbury Thu Aug 11 & 25 Sept 8 & 22 Returns 12 noon
 Pick up points are; The Colony, High Meadow, Cross Roads, Village Hall.

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 5th June 2005 - Mondays to Saturdays

From Banbury towards Shipston

Banbury Bus Station dep.	09.00	11.00	12.30	13.30	15.30	17.10	18.10
SIBFORD GOWER School	09.25	11.25	12.55	13.55	15.55	17.35	18.35
Shipston, Tilemans Lane	09.47	11.47	13.17	14.17	16.17	17.57	18.57

From Shipston towards Banbury

		NS		S	NS			
Shipston, Tilemans Lane	06.50	07.45	08.50	09.50	11.50	13.20	17.10
SIBFORD GOWER School	07.12	08.07	09.12	09.12	10.12	12.12	13.42	17.32
Banbury Bus Station	07.37	08.35	09.37	09.37	10.37	12.37	14.07	17.57

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

Notes: S = Saturdays only, NS = Not Saturdays.

Most journeys, where possible, will operate 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 available from bus drivers and in the Village Shop.

The Fare structure has changed: Adult Fare £1.70 each way Child (5-16yrs) £0.85

Family ticket (2 Adults = up to 3 children) £5.00 Monthly ticket £55.00

Calendar of Events

July

Sat 30th The Annual Church Fete 2.30 pm Village Hall p17

August

Sun 7th Village Hall Market p16

Tue 9th W.I. Rockingham Castle Trip 10.15 am p8

Wed 10th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Wed 24th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Wed 24th Horticultural Show entries evening 7 - 9 pm at the Surgery p10

Sat 27th Horticultural and Produce Show 2.30-4.30pm Village Hall p10

Tue 30th W.I. Highgrove Trip 8.30 am p8

September

Fri 2nd Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting 8pm p11

Sun 4th Village Hall Market p16

Tue 6th Friendship Club 2.00 pm Village Hall p5

Wed 7th Mature Movers in Tadmerton Village Hall p9

Sat 10th Historic Churches Ride & Stride 10 - 6 pm p6

Sun 11th Harvest Festival 11 am with Bring and Share lunch p17

Tue 13th W.I. Traditional folk painting. Village Hall 2 pm p8

Wed 14th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Wed 14th Horticultural Society. 'Vegetables without Tears' 8pm VH. p10

Thu 15th Sibfords Society 'Voices around the Sibfords' p7

Tue 20th Friendship Club outing to Coton Gardens p5

Wed 21st Ferris Parish Council 7.45pm upstairs in the Sports Hall, Sibford School

Wed 28th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Fri 30th Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning. In the Village Hall p14

Cover picture - Sibford Flower Show in the 1950's. Arnold, Ina and Judy Lamb viewing the exhibits with Eveline Poulton in the foreground.

Sibford Scene

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