

April 2006 No. 282

Sibford Ferris Litterblitz Saturday 1st April

Meet at Lanes End Corner (Manor crossroads) at 10 am

Tuesday 4th-Bike rides and Cricket Nets Start

Sibford Stores Taster Events April 6th, 7th & 8th

Sibford Gower Litterblitz Saturday 22nd April

Meet at the Village Hall at 10 am

Sibford Ferris Annual Parish Meeting Wed 3rd May Sibford Gower Annual Parish Meeting Friday 12th May

Nature Notes

Mar. 3rd. I hear that two red kites were seen recently at the pond end of Sibford Gower. One was perched on a post. It would have been interesting to have thrown out some meat to see whether they were ones that were used to being fed at a feeding station.

Mar. 6th. We saw a very smart male grey wagtail by the stream where the bridleway from Sibford Ferris joins the Colony Road.

Mar. 9th It is cold in Canada too. My cousins sent a message entitled "Where is spring" to say that although they still have a cover-

ing of snow and the temperature is minus 10°C the cardinals are singing. The cardinal is a very colourful finch with a head crest and quite a long tail. The male is largely red with a very bright breast and crest and a black face but as with our bullfinch the fe-

male is less colourful.

Mar. 12th. Foxes dug a hole under the floor of our garden shed last night. Perhaps it was mean of me to shovel the earth back and put stones to stop them trying again but I did not want cubs playing amongst my vegetables.

Mar. 16th. I looked out at about four this morning to see what was making a chattering noise hoping that it might be hedgehogs.

It was too dark to see but I expect it was badgers.

Mar. 19th. Our guests saw a male grey wagtail by the stream below Burdrop this morning. It could have been the same bird that we saw on March 16th as it was less than half a mile upstream. Mar. 21st. The temperature still struggles to get much above freezing and although bird song has subsided there is plenty of activity around the garden with the rooks snapping twigs off our beech tree for their nests and tits investigating the nest boxes. There is also great activity at the bird table with long tailed tits, bullfinches and a goldcrest coming frequently.

Mar. 22nd. It has been a remarkably dry start to the year with less than an inch of rain each month although March has a bit to go yet. It is no wonder that we already have a ban on the use of hose pipes. March has also been an extremely cold month with the coldest morning of the winter at 19°F on March 3rd and mostly

cloudy with the temperature in the 30's F.



Sibford Horticultural Society

At our last meeting Mrs Dyer gave an interesting and informative talk about colour in the

garden at this time of year accompanied by slides of her garden she showed how much interest can be seen in early spring. Hellebores are a big passion of hers and there were some splendid examples that could be purchased.

For our next meeting on Wednesday 12th April at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall our speaker will be Val Bourne talking on the best Perennials to grow.

20th May. Plant sale and coffee morning at Gowers Close.

14th June Evening outing to Bourton House Gardens, Bourton on the Hill.

Deddington Parish Church

SEVEN WORDS. Saturday, April 8, at 7.30pm.

This Lent meditation is based on the book "Seven Words for the 21st. Century" by Canon Edmund Newell of St. Pauls Cathedral. It combines

thought-provoking addresses with music by Adrian Snell and dance by members of the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance.

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Firstly, we would like to say a big thank you and goodbye to Sue who left us before half term. She will be sadly missed by the children, staff, committee and parents of the playgroup. We wish her every success for the future.

Maygroup

In the last few days we have had to clean up dog mess from the children's play area. Please could dog owners refrain from foul this area as it not nice for the children, or the staff who

letting their dogs foul this area as it not nice for the children, or the staff who have to clean it up!

We are currently seeking a full time person with level three NVQ in early years care and education or equivalent (NNEB, Diploma of Pre-school Practice) to come and join our happy team. There are also positions available on our committee, without a committee the playgroup would have to close so if you are a parent or carer of a child that attends playgroup and would like further information on joining our committee, or would like more on the staff vacancy we have then please contact Claire Inns on 01295 780035.

We now have spaces available Monday to Fridays 9am until 12pm.

After Easter we are hoping to have our lunch club running three days a week until 1pm so watch this space for more news.

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OPENING HOURS

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

Our meeting in March was a birthday party for all those celebrating their birthdays in the first quarter of the year. After the preliminaries we played 'passing the parcel' which was great fun, this was followed with a quiz and then we sat down to a lovely tea which was provided by Sandra, Val and Alice. A big thank you to them all.

We shall be meeting in the Village Hall on **Tuesday 4th April** for our Easter Tea and the AGM will be held on **Tuesday 2nd May**. Hope to see you all at both of these meetings.

Our outing in April will be on Tuesday 18th - destination yet to be decided.

The Yetties are coming!

To the Village Hall on Saturday 17th June concert in aid of Katharine House Hospice.

Details of tickets and prices for May Sibford Scene

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Taster Events for Local Foods

We are holding a number of tasting sessions in the shop of local drinks, speciality breads, (gluten free and /or wheat free), crisps and cakes.

If you have suggestions of other locally produced food and drink we would be interested. Do join us on one of the dates below:

Thursday 6th April 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Friday 7th April 10.00am - 12.00 noon Saturday 8th April 10.00am - 2.00pm

We look forward to seeing you. Terry & Judith, Sibford Stores

This year the Annual Village Hall Fayre will be held on June 24th. We hope to have some new things for your entertainment, but also some old favourites, such as childrens fancy dress and the dog show. If you are interested in helping to organise the Fayre contact Ginny on 01295 780373.

Look forward to seeing you!!

A polite request for some residents in the Ferris - please could bins not be left all week at the front of houses if at all possible as they are not only an eyesore, but, when the weather gets warmer, they will probably not smell too good either. Thanking you for your

cooperation.

Sibford Ferris Parish Council.

Sibford Cricket Club
Pre Season Nets
Sibford School
7.00 to 8.30pm
April 4, 6, 11, 13, 18,
and 20
All players and ages
welcome

Micks Sticks

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

Contributions for the
May
Sibford Scene
to the Shop or Editor
by
April 18th

Sibford Tots 'n' Babes

It is with great regret that after the best part of **thirty years** Sibford Tots 'n' Babes has run its last session of fun for the children of these villages. Over the last twelve months the group has gone from a thriving 15 to a small but perfect 5. This is mainly due to the children reaching their third birthdays and going up to Playgroup. The down side of this is that we cannot function without money to pay rent and insurance, not to mention drinks, snacks and art material, and 5 tots do not generate enough money.

We hope that in the future there will be a need for Tots 'n' Babes to start again. But in the meantime it has come to an end and we would like to thank all those people who have shown their support over the years and hope they found it a beneficial part of parenthood and village life.

We hope to run occasional Tots 'n' Babes coffee mornings at people's homes until numbers increase, please watch this space. If you are interested in hosting a morning, please contact Becky Skinner on 01295 780495.

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Parish Councils Notice Board Dog Mess - another plea

In the interests of all, **please** could we entreat dog owners and walkers to clear up after their dogs and -take the mess home with them. Dog mess has even been noted on the School playing field in the Ferris and close to the primary school and Village Hall in the Gower, which is particularly unacceptable. Your cooperation in this will be greatly appreciated.

Parish Councils of Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower - Elections

Parish Council Elections will take place on Thursday, 4th May 2006. Candidates' guides and nomination papers may be obtained from 24th March from the respective Parish Council Clerks (Sibford Ferris - 01295 788557 and Sibford Gower - 01295 780391), from the Returning Officer at Cherwell District Council Elections Office - 01295 221534/5 or downloaded from wwww.cherwell-dc.gov.uk/yourcouncil/parishelections.cfm. Nominations must be delivered to the Elections Office by noon on 3rd April.

SIBFORD FERRIS LITTER BLITZ

The Annual litter blitz in the Ferris will take place on

Saturday, 1st April

meeting at Lanes End at 10.00 am.

Volunteers most welcome!
Equipment will be provided. If you would like to take part, but cannot make that day or time, please contact Arnold Lamb on 780357 to make alternative arrangements.

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The Tuesday Bike Ride Starts Again

With the clocks changing and the evenings getting lighter we will once again be out on our bikes every Tuesday evening from the start of April. We leave Lanes End Corner (the cross roads outside the Manor in Sibford Ferris) at 7.00pm and return at dusk. There is a huge spread of ages (from 11 to 70+) and abilities so everyone can join in. (It is important that all children are accompanied by a responsible adult). I have been asked about a ride for younger children which could be set up if there is enough interest - please contact Adrian Lamb, details below. With the shorter evenings early in the season, it is a very good time to start as the rides are short and we can all get broken in gently! There is a wide variety of friendly cyclists who come along and enjoy the bike rides as a social occasion as well as a pleasant form of exercise so please come along and join in. More details from Adrian Lamb 780380 or Joanna Gilkes 788190

Katharine House Hospice Easter Bunny Raffle. Tickets 50p each

available by kind permission of Terry & Judith from the village shop. Draw will take place on Friday 14th April (Good Friday).



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Sibford Ferris Parish Council Ordinary Meeting 15th March 2006

All five Councillors, District and County Councillor George Reynolds, PC Gerry Doyle from Banbury Police Station and Sarah Goldthorpe of the Banbury Guardian were present at the meeting. New Chairman, Barbara Crabtree, welcomed Chris Franklin to his first meeting in his capacity as Councillor.

PC Gerry Doyle made a presentation to the meeting, explaining that the rural police team would be strengthening links with the village communities, partly via the parish councils. It is intended that village issues made known to rural team officers at meetings will by this time next year be dealt with using the services of Community Police Officers. A pilot scheme is currently under way in Banbury. PC Doyle agreed in the meantime to look at parking problems within the village. Miss Gold-thorpe addressed members of the meeting in her role as reporter with the Banbury Guardian and explained that her presence was part of an initiative to encourage stronger links between communities and the newspaper.

The parish notice board is now in place and in use and a kind offer has been received from Mr Mike Spring to engrave it, which has been accepted with thanks.

It has been agreed once again with Oxfordshire Highways to put in a small platform with access ramps on the eastern side of the junction at Lanes End for the safety of pedestrians rounding the blind corner. Highways also propose to raise the kerb on the south side of the junction.

The Clerk was asked to keep chasing Oxfordshire County Council regarding the small-leafed limes promised as replacements for the diseased horse chestnuts as the early planting season is nearly over. The subject of the maintenance of the church yard is still being discussed but it is anticipated that an arrangement for the forthcoming year will be finalised in the near future.

Negotiations by the Oxfordshire Rural Communities Council to secure a site for affordable housing in the villages continue. James Alcock of ORCC will be attending the Gower Annual Parish Meeting on 12 May, and the Gower Parish Councillors have kindly agreed that Ferris Councillors and villagers will be welcome to attend also. Mr Alcock will give

the results of the recent housing needs survey at that meeting and answer any queries.

The Clerk has been asked to communicate further with Highways on the subject of securing the gap in the wall on New Road in order to resolve this matter as quickly as possible.

The verges between Malvern House and Lanes End, and also alongside the stone wall on New Road, have now been cleared. Oxfordshire County Council has written to confirm that they will investigate instances of lorries from Ferris Hill Farm using Main Street and also lighting on the site.

Following complaints regarding the damage to verges in Main Street, the matter has been notified to Highways, who are aware of the problem, but advise that funds are not available for kerbing in the forthcoming financial year.

A kind offer from a resident to re-instate the Back Lane entrance to the footpath between Orchard End and Penn House has been accepted and much appreciated.

Four planning applications and three notices of decision have been received since the last meeting. The meeting closed at 9.50 pm. The next ordinary parish meeting will be on 17th May 2006 at 7.45 pm in the Sports Hail classroom, at Sibford School. The Annual Parish Meeting will be on 3 May (see separate notice).



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Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting - 10th March 2006

All the Parish Councillors, with the exception of Cllr Muriel Chandler who sent her apologies, four local electors and the Clerk were present. Since the previous Meeting, five planning applications had been considered and the views of the Council conveyed to Cherwell District Council. The District Council's decision regarding the retrospective planning application in respect of Wheathills Barn is awaited. The Clerk reported a new direction sign had been erected at Burdrop corner and a "no exit" and width restriction sign placed at the entrance to Bonds End Lane. He had met with a County Council Clerk of Works to discuss the pruning of trees and bushes on the verge in Pound Lane. Work is to be carried out but the timing depends upon the County Council's budget constraints. With regard to the protection of the verge at Shepherds Close corner where the Parish Council had been promised that contractors had been instructed, it now appears that no record of this exists and the whole matter will have to be reassessed. Cllr Martin Layer reported that he had been approached by a local resident concerning the poor state of two footpaths and the Clerk was instructed to investigate as to remedial work. With regard to The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances)(England)Regulations 2003(As amended) Parish Subsistence Schemes, the Parish Councillors resolved to continue to carry out their duties without payment of Basic, Travelling and Subsistence allowances as they consider this as being appropriate for Councillors of a small parish. The date of the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting was confirmed as 12th May 2006 and it will commence at 7.30pm in the main hall of Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School. Local residents are warmly invited to be present to hear of what has been done by the Parish Council during the year and also to enable them to raise matters of concern and interest. This year's Litterblitz will take place on Saturday, 22nd April 2006 and volunteers are sought to meet at the Village Hall at 10am when Cllr Robin Spicer will allocate the areas requiring attention. It is hoped that many members of the community will come along and give an hour



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or so of their time in keeping Sibford Gower and Burdop tidy. The Councillors discussed the maintenance of the churchyard and details require finalising fairly quickly so that plans can be put in place prior to the soon to be on us growing season. Turning to the transfer from the Diocese of the land for the new burial ground, matters are in solicitors' hands but finer details, such as the type of boundary fencing, have still to be resolved. The Chairman opened the Meeting for general discussion and the following matters were raised. A verge at High Meadow is being churned by the refuse collection vehicles which have to mount it to avoid parked cars and vans. A request will be made to the owners to move the vehicles on refuse collections days. Overhanging branches in Hawkes Land and Acre Ditch were reported and the Clerk will speak with the owners with a view to suitable pruning. Finally, the verge adjacent to the village pond is suffering serious damage from heavy vehicles and the Clerk will speak with Oxfordshire Highways to ascertain what may be done to resolve the situation. The date of the next Meeting which will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting has been set for Wednesday, 17th May 2006 commencing at 8pm and take place in the usual room at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School. As always, local residents are warmly invited to be present. The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.45pm having thanked all those present for attending.



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The members who braved the bitterly cold evening at our March meeting, were rewarded by Mike Harper Tarr's knowledge of the history of bus travel, which was illustrated by many illustrations and old photographs of

the evolution of motorised transport. Before the First World War, in the early days, many individual operators tried and failed to transport groups of people in rural areas, due to bad roads and mechanical problems. However, by the end of the war, many of the large lorries which had been used in France, were converted into charabancs and early type buses.

He went on to tell us about local operators in the Banbury area, which brought back memories for some of our members, particularly Tanners coaches, who were based in Sibford Ferris and the Ally bus, which took workers to the Alcan Factory throughout the Second World War and afterwards. This had wooden seats and passengers often slid off on the corners!

The next meeting will be the AGM, with a talk afterwards by Martin Greenwood, on the history of local villages. This will be on 20th April, at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall and non members are always very welcome to join us.

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Sibford W.I. -14th March 2006



Glennis welcomed a good attendance on a very cold afternoon. She gave an account of the fascinating and enjoyable visit with Kathleen (Winter) to the British Legion Poppy Factory in Richmond, Surrey on the 7th March and to the Group Meeting, with seven other Members, at Jubilee

Hall, Bloxham on the 9th March. The lively fashion show was in contrast to the more usual formal Group Meetings. Caroline has attended Heritage Lectures in Oxford and Jane and Glennis were at a Speakers' Selection Meeting at Cassington on the 1st March and came away with excellent ideas for future speakers for our Meetings. Lynda and Glennis will be attending the OFWI AGM at Oxford Town Hall on the 22nd March. Members were introduced to the new glossy "News and Views" setting out exciting events ahead including a trip to Exbury Gardens on the 7th May and a walking tour of Legal London in July. She also described Pat's funeral which took place on 20th February at Banbury Crematorium, which she attended with Norma and Ann. The chapel was packed to overflowing and the family flowers were breathtakingly beautiful – a huge coffin spray of gorgeous large pink roses. The occasion was very moving, ending with the reading of a message that Pat had written especially for her service and the singing of Jerusalem.

Our speaker, Maureen Robertson, became interested in crewel embroidery whilst living in America. On her return to England, she set up a group in North Oxford and began teaching. She still takes a class at home and once a month teaches a group of W.I. ladies at Harwell. Crewel embroidery is worked with wool on a linen, linen twill or fine wool backing. The history of crewel embroidery goes back to the 5th century BC. Early examples were found in Egyptian tombs and the Ancient Greeks embroidered the hems of their garments. Maureen is most knowledgeable about American crewel work. In the early 17th century life for the colonists was very hard with little time left for fancy work. Also, the Puritans disliked show, wanting plain things. Their frustrated womenfolk rebelled by making hidden embroidery, first of all in the form of a kind of pocket hung from the waist under their skirts and then by embroidering the hems of their petticoats. In 1749 an advertisement appeared in the Boston Gazette asking for the return of a stolen Boston petticoat with a large embroidered hem and offering the staggering some of forty shillings reward, and no questions asked. Our Speaker showed us charts of the twelve stitches she uses and the method of working -them. We all admired the marvelous examples of her work.

Mrs Robertson was enthusiastically thanked by Mary for her most informative talk and display of work. Greta and Rosemary served tea with delicious lemon cake and Danish biscuits. The competition for an item of embroidery attracted eleven entries and Mary was awarded a well deserved first for her fine example of crewel embroidery. Second was Greta and Gaynor third. Our Meeting on Tuesday, 11th April will be the AGM. Instead of the raffle, there will be a bring and buy stall run by Greta and Rosemary.

Gaynor

Warriner Choral Society Haydn ~ The Seasons Saturday 29th April 2006 7.30 pm in Deddington Parish Church

Musical Director Martin Quinn
Organist Jeremy Meager
Soprano Nicola Roberts
Tenor Ian Muddle
Bass Richard Evans
Tickets £8 (Concessions £6.50) from
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Bloxham Post Office or on the door
Contact: Jenny 01295 721224

The SIBFORD FERRIS ANNUAL -PARISH MEETING will be held on-Wednesday, 3 May 2006 at 7.45pm in the first-floor room of the Sports Hall, Sibford School. This is an open meeting and an opportunity for residents to air their views, raise and discuss any issues of concern or ask questions of the Parish Councillors. The Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer will give their reports for the year.

It is anticipated that Rural Team Constable Gerry Doyle will also be in attendance to answer any questions residents may have about policing. Please note that the subject of Affordable Housing will be dealt with in a presenta-

tion by the Oxfordshire Rural Communities Council representative at the Gower

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Familiar with: Quark. Photoshop. Illustrator. Acrobat

T:01295 780234 M:07792 657 248 E: nvfletcher@btinternet.com Annual Parish Meeting, which is at 7.30 pm on 12 May in the Primary School Hall. It will be the first item on the agenda and residents of Sibford Ferris will be welcome to attend the presentation (courtesy of the Gower Parish Council).

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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.

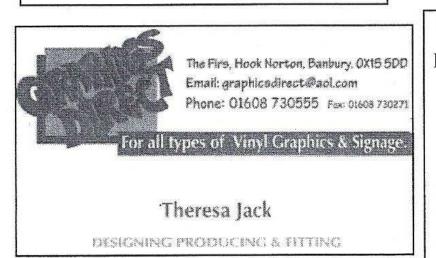
This month we say welcome to;

Geoff Nuquet with his wife Jackie is the new Landlord at the Bishops Blaize. They have moved to Sibford from Berkshire and after a three year break from running a pub are now back in the business. They have an 11 year old daughter, Christabelle who is continuing her education in Berkshire. They have two small dogs and Jackie enjoys a game of tennis when she gets chance.

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We would like to say Thank You to David and Gillian Soden for leading the walk on Saturday 4th March.

We really enjoyed it. Delicious soup and rolls to welcome us back was most appreciated. Do hope that by now Robin and Ann have fully recovered. Tom and Mary West



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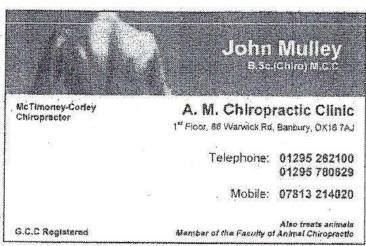
LITTERBLITZ

Saturday, 22nd April 2006

The Annual Litterblitz will take place on **Saturday**, **22nd April** 2006 and volunteers are sought to give an hour or so of their time to help with the work of clearing litter from where it may have gathered in Burdrop and Sibford Gower. We will meet at Sibford Village hall at 10am when Robin Spicer will allocate the areas

which require attention.

The Members of the Parish Council hope that the occasion will receive the usual enthusiastic support and look forward to seeing you on the 22th of April.







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Village Hall News

The Annual Quiz proved a great success with 18 teams battling it out and the lead moving but the Challenge Cup was finally won by "The Neighbour Challengers" (Ginny & David Bennett, Peter Neighbour, Ann Bishop, Jo & Leo Huckvale) all from Mannings Close. Their third time of winning the cup! The hall treasurer reported a profit of nearly £600 so very well done to everyone who supported the event. Our very grateful thanks go to Timothy and James Wimbush, our quiz masters and also to Joanna Gilkes for her wonderful food, very much appreciated by everyone, and to everyone who donated raffle prizes. See you at the next quiz evening! Hank Wangford and Reg Meuross Country and Western evening in March also proved very popular, with 106 tickets being sold. After paying Cherwell District Council's Arts@Large the 60% performance costs of £345, the profit on ticket sales was £409 plus a smaller profit on the bar and supper. Well done to Village Hall Committee members who provided and cooked the supper, and to the bar and washing up helpers. Also our thanks to the Village Shop who support us so well and sold the tickets. We do appreciate all your support. Our next concert will be on Saturday, 21st October when "The Heart of England Jazz Band" return by popular request, at 7.00 pm. Our Sunday Markets continue and the next one is on Sunday 9th April from 12 noon followed by Sunday 7th May. Refreshments available. A wide range of goods on offer homemade, handmade, new and secondhand items. To book a table for £5 please ring 01295 251339. We would be grateful for any small unwanted items to be donated for the table raising extra funds for the Village Hall - please ring 780025. The Halls running costs continue to rise so fund raising is essential to enable hiring charges to remain competitive. We are happy to announce the SITA Trust have awarded us a grant to have the main Hall redecorated, plus ceiling repairs, and it is hoped this will be done during the summer holidays. To hire the Hall please ring 01295 780461





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We would like to thank the local community for their support, it is appreciated. Family business Established 1960

LEO (Ladies' Evening Out) CLUB

LEO Club has become so popular that we are now up to full capacity for meeting in each other's homes. in fact, we are limited to a small number of venues with large enough sitting rooms to accommodate us all. We prefer the informality and cosiness of home meetings rather than the renting of a hall which we feel would change the character of our club. It is with regret, therefore, that we are forced to close the membership. However, a waiting list has been started so if you were thinking of joining LEO, then please ring Glennis on 780391.

The Committee on Inclusive Transport (CIT)

The Committee on Inclusive Transport (and Infrastructure), often referred to as CIT, is a small, friendly, independent 'user group' supported in its work by Oxfordshire County Council. The forum represents anyone who has difficulty in using the highways, the pavements, public transport and the related built environment.

Participants include elderly people, parents, people with disabilities, and people who carry shopping or luggage on many forms of public transport – in fact almost everyone.

CIT meets about four times a year. It meets in Oxford City Centre or at the various District Council offices, where participants and officers from various organisations discuss future proposals or issues which might affect the people of Oxfordshire.

CIT look into and advise locally on any difficulties faced specifically by people using public transport and highways. The group offers this information to County, District and Parish Councillors, as well as other colleagues, to help make changes. We have affected local and national policy, and best practice, for over 15 years and worked well with local transport providers and authorities during that time.

The independent Committee on Inclusive Transport is looking for more organisa-



tions and individuals to join them. If you are able to attend any of the meetings then your travel expenses can be re-imbursed from the small budget that CIT holds. Please note: you will need to bring a receipt for your travel, to the meeting, and fill in a claim form.

If you would like to contribute in this way or receive the minutes from the meetings, please contact:

Gwyn Huish, Chairman of CIT, on 01865-251946, or Deborah Whelan, Disability Equality Advisor, on 01865-815591 or e-mail gwynhuish@ocva.org.uk

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

There will be a Coffee Morning in the church on Saturday 8th April 2006 from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. Entry £1 including coffee and biscuits.

The Annual Meeting of the church was held on Thursday 23rd March. Many tributes were paid to Eric Payne who retired as Churchwarden after 45 years service and was elected "Churchwarden Emeritus" and as a member of the Parochial Church Council. Eveline Boughton was elected Churchwarden in his place and Ann Spicer was re-elected. Other members of the PCC re-elected were: Cathy Cawley, Helen Earle, Gladys Stevens, Sue Wilson, Kathy Yorke, Peter Hardman, and Tom Pratt. Erica Wimbush continues for another two years as Deanery Synod representative. All of these were elected as Sidespersons and in addition Judy & Peter Abbott, Roger Alder, Bill Dunkley, Petra Berry, Rob Cawley, Gaynor Harper-Tarr, Keith Hicks, Gilian Soden, Robin Spicer and James Wimbush. The accounts and Treasurer' Report were accepted, the Treasurer reporting a loss of £1,701 after charging the full cost of the installation of the "Loop" system of £2,392. As the church has no capital fund, this deficiency will need to be made up and it is hoped that members will consider increased contributions. At the subsequent meeting of the Council, Peter Hardman was re-elected as Secretary and Cathy Cawley as Treasurer.

We were able to send £56 to The Katharine House Hospice collected at The Annual Lent Austerity Lunch held at the Red House, Burdrop, despite a rather low turnout. There was a much larger number at the second such lunch held by Alison and Rosie Pollard at Gage Farm Barn, Epwell, mostly from Epwell but a number from Sibford and Tadmarton. Other Lent lunches in the Benefice will be at Dash House, (David & Lynn Deacon), Tadmarton on Friday 31st March at 12.30 pm and Swalcliffe on Saturday 1st April at 12.30 pm. in Swalcliffe Church

Lent began this year on March 1st with a Eucharist Service at Sibford, and is continuing with similar services at 7.30 am on Fridays, also at Sibford. During Holy Week, (from 10th to 15th April) there will be Services of Matins at 7.30 am each day at Sibford. Easter services are listed elsewhere in this publication.

Church Services

Society of Friends Methodist

Sunday at 10.30 am 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.

April

Sun 2nd Benefice Service 10.30 am at Sibford

Fri 7th Eucharist 7.30 am

Sun 9th Palm procession & Benefice Eucharist - Epwell 9.30 am

Mon to Sat 10th-14th 7.30am Matins

Thu 13th Benefice Eucharist Tadmarton 8pm.

Fri 14th. Children's activities for Good Friday. Primary School 9.30-12noon Fri 14th Devotional Service 1.30 pm.

Fri 17th 7pm at Broughton Words and Music for Good Friday.

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Sat 15th 11 pm Easter Vigil cerimonies and first communion of Easter Sun 16th Easter Communion 10am Sun 23rd Benefice Eucharist 10.30am at Tadmarton Sun 30th Matins and Holy Communion 9.30am Sun 7th May Benefice Eucharist 10.30 am at Swalcliffe



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Sibford Bus Services

Free Bus Service

To Banbury Thu April 6th & 20th Departs 10 am
To Chipping Norton Wed April 12th & 26th 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

From Banbury towards Snipston

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

April

Sat 1st Sibford Ferris Litterblitz 10am Lanes End Corner p8

Tue 4th Friendship Club Easter Tea. 2.00 pm Village Hall p5

Tue 4th First Sibford Cricket Club Nets. P6

Tue 4th Tuesday Bike Rides Start Again 7 pm Lanes End corner p9

Wed 5th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

6, 7 & 8 Taster Events at Sibford Stores p6

Sat 8th "Seven Words" Deddington Church 7.30 pm p3

Sun 9th Village Hall Market from 12 noon p19

Tue 11th W.I. AGM and Bring and Buy p15

Wed 12th Horticultural Society - Best Perennials - V. Hall 8 pm p3

Fri 14th Hospice Easter Bunny Raffle Draw p9

Tue 18th Friendship Club Outing p5

Tue 18th Deadline for contributions to the May Sibford Scene p6

Wed 19th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

Thu 20th Sibfords Society AGM and Local History talk. 8pm V.H. P14

Sat 22nd Sibford Gower Litterblitz 10 am Village Hall p18

Sat 24th Warriner Choral Society. 7.30 pm Deddington Church. P16

May (part)

Tue 2nd Friendship Club AGM 2.00 pm Village Hall p5

Wed 3rd Sibford Ferris Annual Parish Meeting p16

Sun 7th Village Hall Market from 12 noon p19

Fri 12th Sibford Gower Annual Parish Meeting p16

Wed 17th Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting p11

Wed 17th Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting p13

Cover picture - The Manor, Sibford Gower from an etching by S Gallard.

Sibford Scene

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