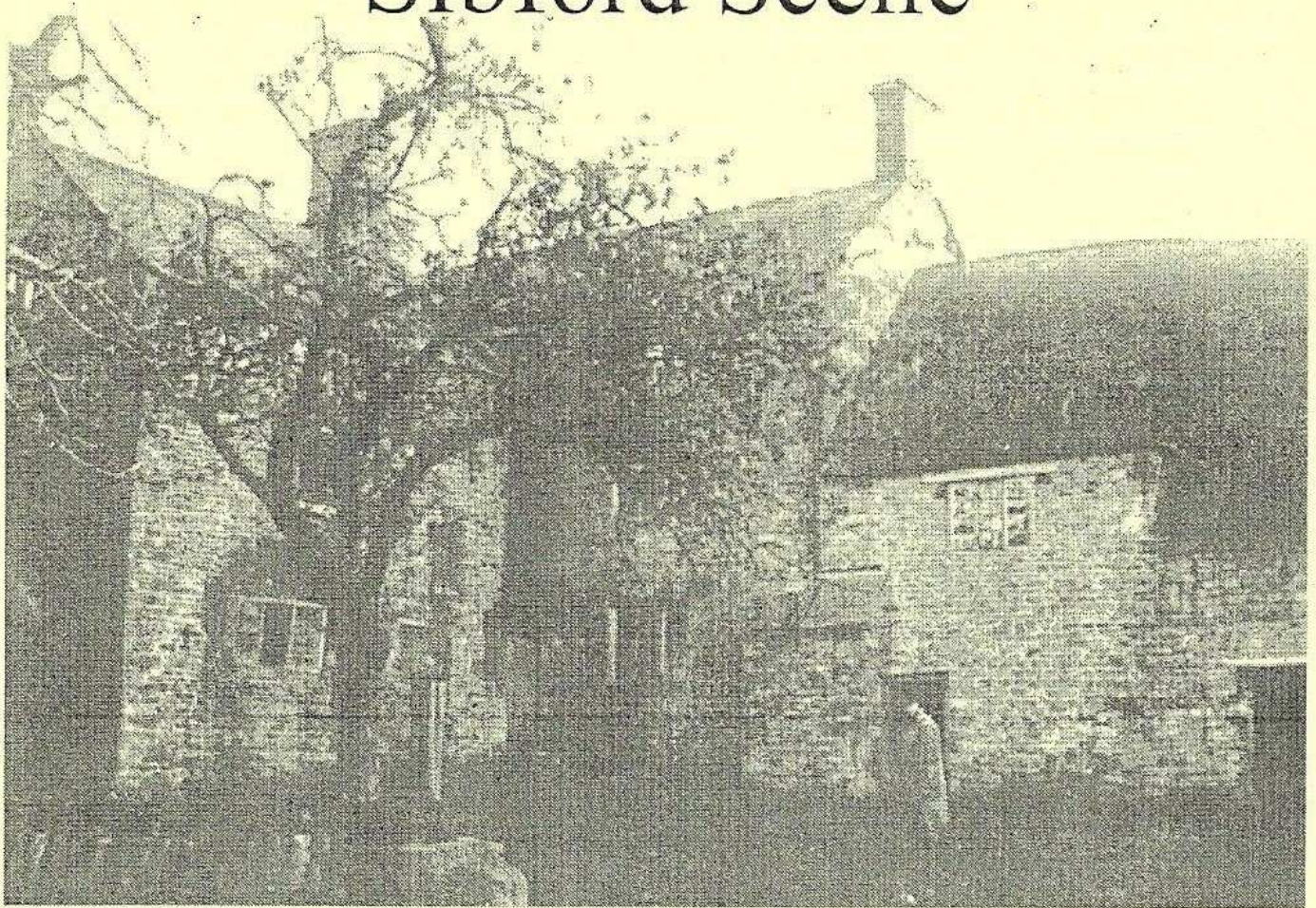


Sibford Scene



November 2006

No. 288

Sibford School Christmas Fair

Friday 17th November 3-5 pm

Holy Trinity Church Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 18th November 2.30pm

In the Village Hall

Cornelius & Jones

Performing

The Happy Prince

Saturday 25th November at 7.00 pm

In the Village Hall

Playgroup Christmas Bazaar

Saturday December 2nd 2 - 4 pm in the Village Hall

Nature Notes

Sept. 23rd. As it was such a lovely afternoon we walked along to Lambs Pool. There were very few birds there but we did see several dragonflies and walking back along the field we saw more small copper butterflies than I have seen in Sibford before. There was also a comma, some tortoiseshells and a silver y moth on the thistles inside the gate.

Sept. 25th. In The Piece there were eight red admirals and a comma on one small patch of ivy flowers which shows how valuable ivy is to insects as a late source of nectar.

Sept. 29th. Today's two storms produced 2.05 inches (52mm) of rain which with the 0.17 inches that fell overnight makes 2.22 inches (56mm) in less than 24 hours or about an average months rainfall.

Oct. 2nd. It must have been an exceptionally large autumn hatch of red admirals. I have been told that even at 8.45 this morning all the ivy clumps from Sibford Heath down to Tysoe had its compliment of red admirals often as many as 20 around one clump.

Oct. 3rd. This morning I came across what I at first thought was a headless pigeon which had been almost buried by a fox, but on closer inspection I found that the head had been doubled round in the burying. I don't know how they catch so many pigeons that they can put them in store like this one or, if foxes were responsible, leave the body behind as I mentioned last month.

Oct. 14th. Saw what we were pretty sure was a clouded yellow butterfly at Hook Norton this afternoon but it would not settle for us to get a better look.

Oct. 15th. It is not only a good year for orchard fruit but there are also heavy crops of beech nuts and acorns. The ground is littered with

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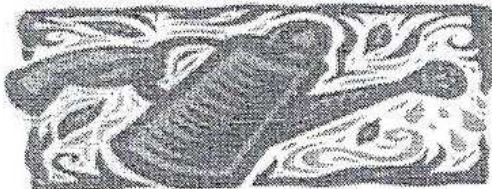
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Mysite.freeseve.com/the_loft

acorns under most oaks but under the ones at the top end of Hill Bottom the grass is nibbled down and they have all been eaten by sheep. Apparently it is only part of the flock that eats them but the ones that do are extremely keen. I don't recall that the sheep we kept years ago were so fond of them.

Oct. 17th. Over the last two months tits have been taking as much sunflower seed from our bird table as they do in the winter months. At the moment they should be homing in on the plentiful supply of beech nuts but I expect that they find the sunflower easier.



Sibford Horticultural Society

A small, select turn out for our October meeting which started with the A.G.M. The chairman and secretary gave reports on the previous years activities and speakers, while the treasurer reported on a healthy bank balance particularly due to a good annual show this year. Both committees were re-elected and it was decided to raise the membership fee to £5. This is partly due to rising costs of speakers and that subs have not risen for many years!

We quickly got to the speaker for the evening, Mr. James Arbuthnott who talked about unusual climbers and wall shrubs. He gave a brilliant talk about how he and his wife purchased a walled garden near Kidderminster and have turned it into a garden and nursery. The most fascinating part (in my book at least) were all the towers he built, by himself, along the perimeter wall. They were all different in style but most had a balcony from which musicians played in concerts there. We had slides of climbers such as roses and clematis, through the more unusual ones such as aconitum, dicentra and the fantastically named wattakaka, with cultural instructions given for each of them. It was a very entertaining and informative talk. A visit to Stone House Cottage Nurseries, nr. Kidderminster has got to be a must. (Open again in March, see www.shcn.co.uk for more details)

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 8th November at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. The speaker will be Mr. White talking about orchids. Everyone is welcome to attend.



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SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

For reasons beyond its control the Parish Council will be unable to hold its meeting which was scheduled for Friday 3rd November.

It has now been possible to re-organise the meeting for **Friday 10th November** at the Primary School.

Peter Hardman, Clerk

Friendship Club

Forthcoming events

Tuesday 7th November; Derek Parks will talk on 'Being Father Christmas'. Meet in the Village Hall at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 21st November; Outing to Evesham Country Park.



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*The
Sibfords
Society*

At the last minute, our speaker for the October meeting was unable to come, due to illness and Maureen and Keith Hicks saved the day and produced a film taken by Keith in 1982 of the Cropedy villagers' reenactment of the Civil War Battle of Cropedy Bridge. About 2,000 members of the Sealed Knot took part, as well as the villagers and the commentary was spoken by an historian.

We meet again in the Village Hall at 8.00pm on 16 November, when Carol Anderson, of the Woodstock Museum will speak on Woodstock Steel and non-members are very welcome to join us.

Sibford Gower Primary School PTA

Fireworks Display

Friday 3rd November

Gates open 6.00 pm

Fireworks 6.30 pm

Hot Dogs, Burgers etc. on sale.

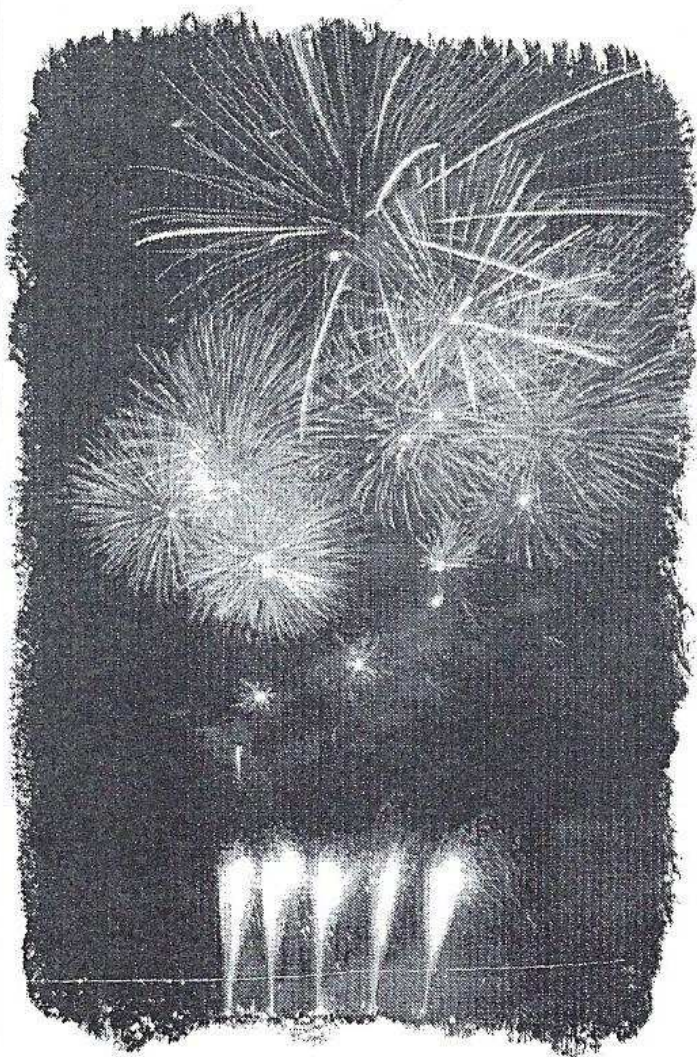
Family Tickets £9

Adults £4 Children £2

On sale at the start of school on

Wednesday 1st, Thursday
2nd & Friday 3rd.

**NO FIREWORKS - EVEN
SPARKLERS - ARE TO
BE BROUGHT TO THE
DISPLAY**



4 0'clock, 29-09-06 Sibford Ferris submerged in water and traffic.
From Little London to Ross's corner, it seemed ages.

The water was moving but not the traffic!!!

Two school coaches cannot pass on the road between Lanes
End Corner and Malvern House!!

When the drainage work is finished maybe the lake will not
return. But those cars and coaches will, twice a day. When will the
school help the village with an entrance before Little London??

D. Dyer

Have you thought of volunteering but are not sure? The Oxfordshire
Befriending Network, who support people isolated by illness are
looking for new volunteers. For more information contact Linda on
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Peter Baadsgaard has now resigned from this Charity having served it for the last 20 years. His commitment, enthusiasm and diligence have been second to none over the years and we rather fear a future without his input. His interest in local historical record has resulted in a store of knowledge which has been invaluable. He has certainly earned the right to hang up his pen and enjoy his evenings at home instead of at lengthy committee meetings.

The Trustees would like to record their gratitude to Peter and wish him well for the future.

Jean White Secretary

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COTSWOLD CLOSE PLAY AREA

The play area has been closed, pending refurbishment, because, sadly, the two main items, the climbing frame and the swings, had to be removed due to timber rot. The play area will be on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting on 30th October and Councillors will endeavour to find the best way forward for achieving all the aims expected of it, which are to provide facilities for teenagers and younger children alike. Obviously, it is all the more important now to achieve those aims as speedily as possible; under discussion at the meeting will be whether to approach them separately, which would speed up refurbishment of Cotswold Close, or still as a joint project which could maximise funds, but is hindered by as yet not fully resolved legal and insurance issues on the sharing of facilities.

Sibford Ferris Parish Council

Katharine House Hospice Jumble/Recycling Sale result.

Once again due to the incredible support & generosity of all involved the staggering amount raised to date is £878.18. We are hoping that the excess jumble left will bring in a certain amount more so all in all a good days work.

Very grateful thanks must go to all those who contribute behind the scenes as without this unstinting support along with our family helpers the event would be much more difficult to co-ordinate.

Thank you all, Bernie & Andrew Jones.



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I Remember

On November the eleventh my mind goes back seventy years to the Armistice Day service in the middle thirties in my school assembly hall in Banbury where a wreath was laid on the war memorial with it's plaque in memory of about four dozen former pupils who lost their lives in the Great War. Little did we think that ten years later there would be a second plaque with over forty more names of pupils who died in an even longer World War which included a large number of that congregation and several of my classmates, including Peter Erikson who sat at the desk behind mine and Leslie Tyrrell from the one in front. His birthday was the day before mine, a fact of which I had an annual reminder by an in memorium notice in the Banbury Guardian each year at that time. I left school in 1938, but those who stayed on for their Higher School Certificates would have left in the summer of 1940 at 17 or 18 years of age and many chose to go straight into the RAF as pilots or aircrew rather than wait for their call-up and be drafted into the Army.

In Sibford I think Arch Kaye was the first loss in WW2. Arch was a pre-war regular army soldier. At that time their kitchen garden adjoined ours on the Hook Norton road before their move to Epwell and as a child I used to think how smart he looked in his uniform with white lanyard etc. That was before the days of the (dare I say it?) 'hairy-Mary' battledress which we wore in the army and prior to that in the Home Guard. I also wore the RAF blue version in the Royal Observer Corps in the Cold War. Arch lost his life at Dunkirk and we heard later that he had been seen boarding a troop ship which may well have been the ill-fated Lancastria. She was hit three times by dive bombers while lying fully loaded awaiting a destroyer escort. She capsized with thousands on board. estimates I have seen vary from 2,500 to 6,000. The loss of life must have been on a par with that in the Twin Towers of 9/11 but the news of the sinking was hushed up when Churchill said he thought the British people had had enough bad news for one day.

I also remember Bob Freeman of Epwell who was in Mr. Hoopers classroom at Sibford Gower School when I moved into it. He lost his life on a bombing raid over Germany.

I remember the Wellington bomber which crashed in the fields across the road from Little London while doing 'circuits and

bumps' on a quiet night when the weather suddenly changed. Sadly it was only one of many which met the same fate that night.

After my Army call up in June 1943 and Royal Signals trade training, I was posted just before Christmas to the 79th Armoured Division in Suffolk and was attached to the 22nd Dragoons, a flail tank regiment. They were being trained to flail paths through the minefields on the D. Day beaches. They had a motley collection of tanks and vehicles but when mobilisation started these were replaced with brand new Sherman flails, Austin lorries etc. We all had booster jabs for the three T's, typhoid, tetanus and typhus and we all made our wills which were handed in. Then we moved to Sussex where we were based at Petworth House with the troops of tanks in the surrounding countryside. Shortly before D. Day they gathered for an inspection by a V.I.P. who turned out to be H.M. King George VI.

Everybody was given a 24hr leave pass and travel warrant for home leave and on our return Petworth House was sealed and D. Day briefing of the tank crews began. I thought of the lines of the hymn we used to sing on Armistice Day. "Proudly they gathered, rank on rank to war". There was some talk of the 50% casualty rate that they had been warned to expect on D. Day but mostly they kept off that subject. A and B squadrons were selected to go on D. Day with C squadron to stay in reserve to supply trained replacements. They all had an invasion haircut which left them almost bald and left in good spirits to be re-united with their tanks on the invasion ships.

They were destined to land on Juno Beach to flail paths for the Canadian Army. Thankfully the regiments casualties were not as heavy as had been feared and it was some months before the 50% total was passed, a figure which included 60 dead and almost 300 wounded by the end of hostilities.

While I was serving in Normandy I received a letter from my father with the shattering news that my mothers sisters Ella and Nora met up in London with their brother Len, when a doodlebug fell, killing all three! Nora, the youngest had already lost her husband, a naval reservist, when his ship was sunk while escorting an Atlantic convoy.

For our tomorrow they gave their today.

Bob Lamb



The new members of staff have settled in well, and it already feels like they have been here for years. (I'm sure they are feeling that way too!) Our Annual Christmas Bazaar is edging closer, this year it is being held on Saturday 2nd December in the Village Hall. This year the Bazaar is being organised by Charlotte and Huw Jenkins, and I am sure

like I was this time last year they will soon be asking for donations etc, so watch this space! On Thursday 5th October, we held our AGM. I stood down as Chairperson, and would like to take this opportunity to thank Becky and Lynne for all their help and support over the last year. It has been a hard, but very rewarding year, which has seen lots of changes and new faces at playgroup. I leave as chairperson, and pass the "baton" on to Nicki Kitchen, whom I'm sure like me, will enjoy her term as Chair. With Becky and Lynne still on the committee I'm sure they will help Nicki "settle" into her new role. Listed below, is the new committee for the next year. Chairperson - Nicki Kitchen, Secretary - Lynne Wealsby, Treasurer - Rebecca Skinner, Registration - Richard Springate-Drew, Publicity - Joanne Lovegrove, Deputy Secretary - Kay Greene. I would like to say a big thank you to all those named above for volunteering their help for the next year, and I hope you have a great year! We currently have spaces available at playgroup, please call Emma, Nicky or Helen on 01295 780998 during term time to discuss your requirements.

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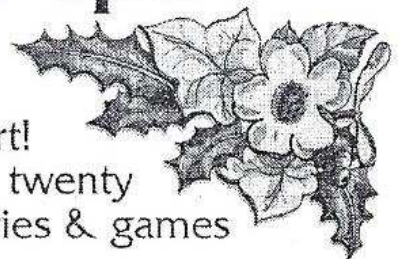
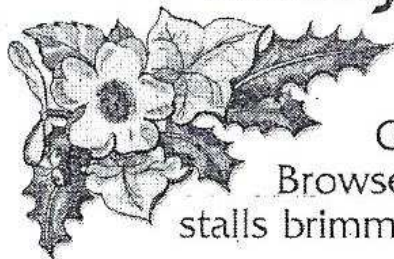

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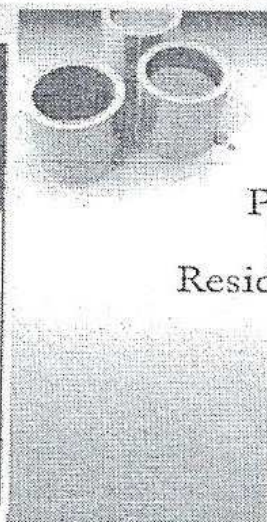
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at home - by acquainting you with the services, schools, clubs and societies that are currently active in the villages.

sarah walker

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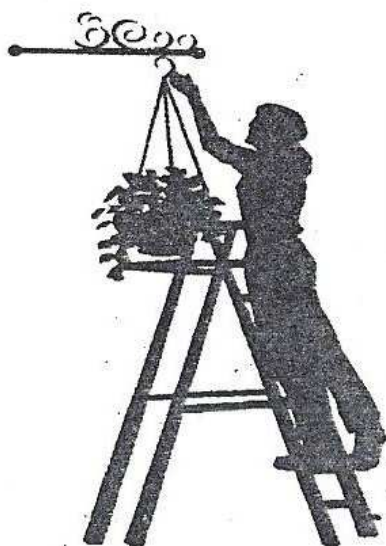
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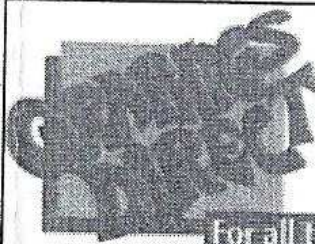
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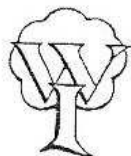
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Women's
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Sibford W.I. Tuesday. 10th October 2006

Following the welcome by the President and the reading of the record of last month's meeting by the Secretary, Lynda described the brilliant evening spent in the company of Pam Ayres on 26th September when twenty one members and their friends joined an audience of nine hundred at the Kings Centre, Oxford. Glennis reported on the course she had attended at Denman College on 9th October. Oxfordshire W.I. have undertaken to help assemble the Oxon Parish Pond Survey as part of the National Pond Inventory. Led by Rod d'Ayala and Anita Weatherby from Oxford Brookes University, full instruction was given on the filling in of the survey form followed by the donning of wellies and macs for a visit to the huge pond in the grounds. Pond Conservation needs to know of the situation of as many ponds as possible. If you have a garden pond and would be willing to take part, the necessary form can be obtained from Glennis on 780391. Arrangements were discussed for the Group Meeting on 26th October which will be hosted by Wigginton and held in Swerford Village Hall.

Our speakers for the afternoon were Joan and Geoff Todd with their talk "Getting Organised - Travels with a Street Organ". Joan and Geoff became interested in street organs when on holiday in France. After attending a succession of mechanical music festivals in the village of Contravoz, they bought their own street organ in Britain, a twenty one note Trueman model with one book of music. Subsequently, they acquired further music and have since become well-known locally for their money raising work for Cheshire Homes and McMillan Nurses, and for the church roof at Deddington, their home village. The couple have also made a name for themselves in Europe through the self-contained world of mechanical music. Joan and Geoff adopted their magnificent pearly king and queen costumes when they discovered that they were expected to perform in a cabaret at the end of the larger festivals in Europe. Soon they began to invite members of their audience to join in the entertainment and, thus, introduced bewildered Europeans to the Hokey Kokey. At the end of his talk, Geoff played various old songs on his street organ while Joan and the members sang; then several ladies were selected to take part in a rendition of Old Mc Donald's Farm and, indeed, the Hokey Kokey - a rousing finish to

an entertaining afternoon. They were thanked by Jean for sharing their exciting experiences in such a lively and colourful way.

Tea and lovely cakes were served by Gaynor and Kathleen (Reid). The competition for a monkey was judged by Geoff and he awarded first to Kathleen (Winter) for her charming monkey teapot, second Jane and third Greta.

On November 14th, May Parker will be making a return visit, this time to tell us about the Wild Life Sanctuary that she and her husband created from overgrown land and which was officially opened by David Bellamy. Her talk will be illustrated with excellent slides. A nature picture or photograph will be required for the competition.

Gaynor

Dear Sibford Scene re: Bishops Blaize

Now that we've received the welcome news that the planning permission has been refused, shall we put the whole business behind us, forgive and forget and pull together to make the pub a real success so that there's never a danger of it closing again?

Suzy Straw.

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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

The Annual Harvest Festival Family Service took place on Sunday 8th October and will long be remembered by those many people who attended. The first item, a definite highlight, was a poem entitled *Autumn*, written and read by Polly Berks (aged just 10) and is worth quoting in full:

*The golden corn rustles in the winding wind,
The rumbling tractor ploughs the fields.
As the seagulls come calling after.
The corn is cut by the crimson, red combine,
The trees branches creak as the wind lifts them
from side to side.
A hedgehog snuffles through a pile of scarlet
and bronze wrinkled leaves.
Some,
Trees bare looking like monsters in the gloominess.
Children run through a pile of leaves
Kicking them about
There
Calls a Robin to its mate.
You take a bite into a luscious apple
And smell the firecrackers as they pop!
Winter is just around the corner,
As the darkness draws in.*

There followed seasonal hymns, a psalm and an anthem sung by the choir, the usual group of children at the feet of Catherine Berks as she read a seasonal story and a sketch, directed by Helen

	<p>FARMHOUSE BED AND BREAKFAST GRANGE FARM SWALCLIFFE</p> <p><i>Enjoy warm hospitality & peaceful surroundings in our comfortable 18th C Farmhouse</i></p> <p>CONTACT: BARBARA TAYLOR TEL. 01295 780206</p>	
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Earle and acted by a miscellany of children and adults suitably dressed in middle-Eastern headdress. Finally, an extremely bountiful *Bring and Share Harvest Lunch* in the Village Hall.

Remembrance Sunday will this year be on **November 12th** and the usual service will start round the War Memorial from 10.50 am. This service takes the place of the monthly family Service.

The Annual Church Bazaar will be held on **Saturday 18th November 2006 at 2.30 pm.** with the usual stalls, games and excellent teas. Both this and the Coffee Morning are in aid of Church funds.

There will be a traditional Christmas Carol service in Broughton Church at **7.00 pm on Sunday 17th December** and in Sibford Church at **7 pm on Friday 22nd December.** The Benefice Choir will sing a number of carols for which they will be practicing at **8 pm on Fridays** in Sibford Church commencing **27th October** and at **7.30 pm** in Broughton Church from **24th November.** Anyone wishing to sing with the choir for these practices will be very welcome.

Your garden could
reflect your style..

Cathy Wallwork

Garden Design



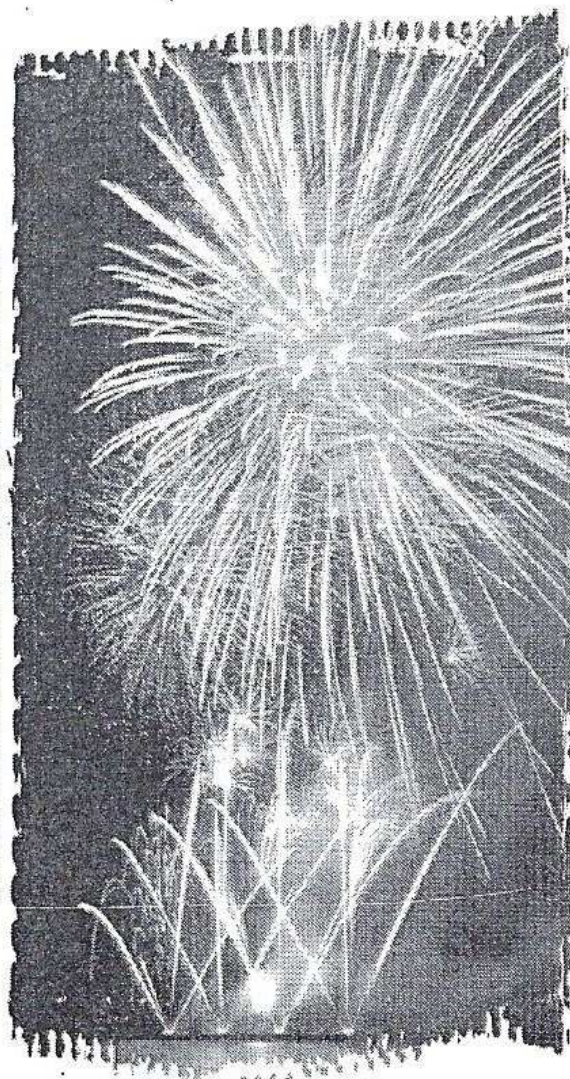
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Church Services

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.

November

Sun. 5th Benefice Eucharist 10.30 at Broughton

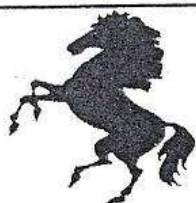
Sun. 12th Remembrance Day Service 11.55 am.

Sun. 19th Holy Communion 9.30 am

Sun. 25th Holy Communion 9.30 am

December

3rd Confirmation Service 10.30 am Bishop of Dorchester



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Sibford Bus Services

Free Bus Service

To Chipping Norton Wednesday November 1st and 15th

Departs 10 am and 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

November

- Wed 1st Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)
Fri 3rd Primary School Fireworks Display 6.00pm p6
Sun 5th Village Hall Market from 12 noon p4
Tue 7th Friendship Club 'Being Father Christmas' V. Hall 2pm p5
Wed 8th Horticultural Society talk on Orchids. 8 pm Village Hall p3
Fri 10th Sibford Gower Parish Council meeting p5
Sun 12th Remembrance Day Service 10.50 am. p21
Tue 14th W.I. Wild life sanctuary talk. p18
Wed 15th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)
Thu 16th Sibfords Society "Woodstock Steel" 8.00 pm Village Hall p6
Fri 17th Sibford School Christmas Fair. 3 - 5 pm p14
Sat 18th Church Christmas Bazaar. 2.30 pm Village Hall p21
Tue 21st Friendship Club outing. Evesham Country Park p5
Tue 21st Deadline for contributions to the **December & January** Sibford Scene p16
Sat 25th "The Happy Prince" 7.00 pm at the Village Hall p4
Wed 29th Shopping Bus to Stratford-upon-Avon p15
Wed 29th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)

December (part)

- Sat 2nd Playgroup Christmas Bazaar 2 - 4 pm Village Hall p13
Sun 3rd Village Hall Market from 12 noon p4
Sun 10th Village Hall Market from 12 noon p4
Wed 13th Mobile Library in Sibfords and Burdrop (2.40 - 4.25pm)
Fri 22nd Carol Service in the Church p21

Cover picture - Holly House, with John Lamb in the garden prior to his rebuilding work.

Sibford Scene

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