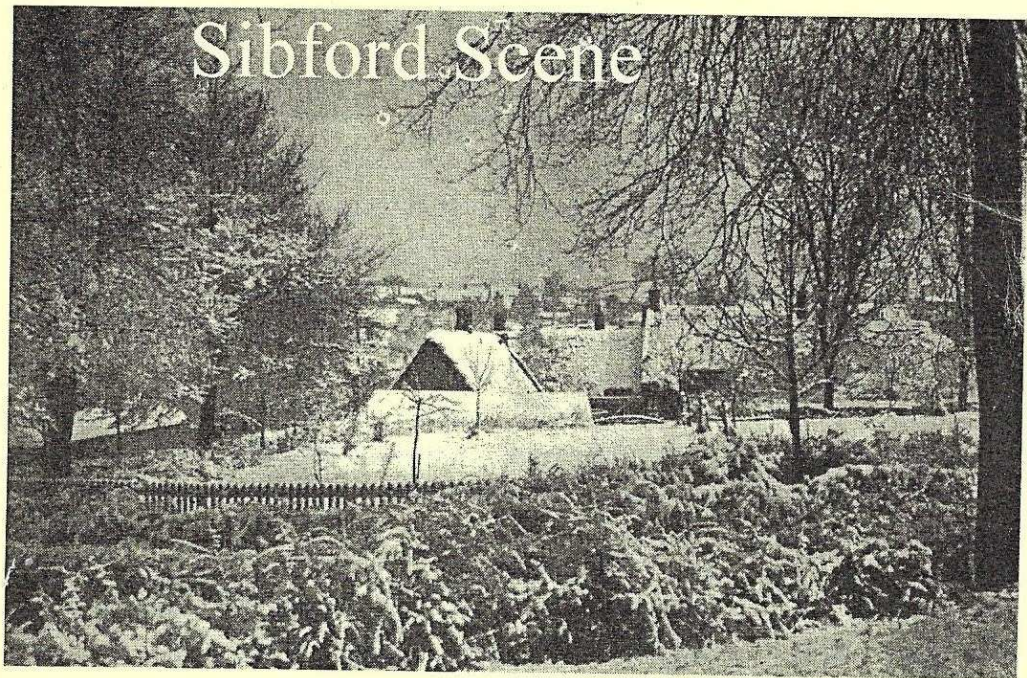


# Sibford Scene



February 2009

No. 309

Sibford Village Hall present  
**An Evening with Mervyn Stutter**  
**Saturday 31st January**

Doors open 7.30 pm, performance at 8 pm

The star of the Radio 4 comedy *Getting Nowhere Fast* comes armed with his guitar, fast wit and silly humour for an evening of fun, songs and banter. (suitable for Adults 16+)

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**Sibford Village Hall Film Night**  
**“Mama Mia” PG**

**Saturday 28th February**

Doors open at 5.30pm Film Starts at 6.00pm

## Nature Notes

Dec 9th. I came across the feathers and beak of a song thrush on our lawn. It was probably taken by a sparrowhawk.

Dec 12th. Went to Culworth to help my son sweep his chimney. We had a job to push the rods through a jackdaws' nest which had enough sheeps wool lining to stuff a cushion. Perhaps he should have put it in a plastic bag to use as a chimney bung as he said that room was much colder after removing the nest. Since then he has had two jackdaws come down the chimney!

Dec 14th. As the 1.38 inches of rain that all fell in 24hrs was falling onto saturated ground, it raised the stream levels dramatically causing some roads, notably at the Gate Hangs High and Tadmarton to flood for a while.

Dec 24th. My cousin phoned from Kitchener in Canada saying that they have had their biggest snowfall for some years with three feet of lying snow. Here it is quite a nice day with a great spotted woodpecker drumming and a song thrush singing. It is nice to know that there is still one around.

Dec 27th. Saw the first tree sparrow I have seen for a while on the editors bird table amongst some house sparrows and other birds. We also saw several goldfinches taking niger seed and sunflower hearts.

Jan 1st. It will not surprise anyone to hear that we have had a very wet year. I measured 35.78 inches of rain which is even wetter than last year (35.04"). The wettest month was August with 4.63" and the driest February with just an inch. The five months May to September produced 18.74 inches which is more than I measured in the whole

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of 1996. In contrast 1995 was a hot dry summer with June, July and August producing only 1.08 inches of rain between them.

Jan 3rd. We have been surprised by how quickly a short spell of sunshine raises the temperature of the fluid in our recently fitted solar panels. On this clear frosty morning the temperature at the panel outlet rose from minus 5.7C at 7.00am to 44.9C by 12 o'clock.

Jan 6th. With the thermometer reading 17F (-9C) this morning many birds are looking for food in gardens. Up to 20 blackbirds along with a few starlings and fieldfares are feeding on apples that I have thrown out for them. Some jays have been flying round, seemingly too nervous to join them and the hard frozen ground must have made it impossible to retrieve any acorns they may have buried.

Jan 11th. It is milder today after a fortnight of old fashioned winter weather but without much snow.

Jan 17th. I hear that it is very cold in Washington so I expect the snow remains in Kitchener 300 miles to the north.

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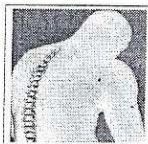
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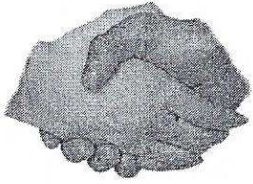
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I know it is February, but I do wish you all a Happy New Year and hope you are all well.

On Feb. 3rd, we have a speaker Mr. Peter Wroe who will tell all about the Talking Newspaper, then on the 17th our trip will be to Evesham Country Park for lunch and a look round. Anyone in the village who would like to come Please call Eveline for details on 263460.

During this month and that of March we have a lot of Birthdays to celebrate so the Meeting in March will be a BIG BIRTHDAY PARTY. But in Feb we wish Alice a very Happy Birthday and have a great Day.

### The Methodist Chapel

The members of the Methodist Chapel would like to thank everyone who supported their Christmas Coffee Morning and made it such a friendly occasion.

It raised £420 which will go towards Chapel maintenance and a donation to charity. From our Anniversary service in June a donation was sent to "Open Doors".

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**Women's  
Institute**

W.I. Meeting - 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009

The first meeting of the New Year started with an excellent attendance despite some apologies for illness and President Glennis Hardman wished members a happy and healthy 2009. It was reported that the December Meeting had been most enjoyable with the interest of a display of archive material, gift exchange and a delicious bring & share tea. Rosemary Neal was the winner of the competition for a Christmas plate with Norma Allen second and Glennis Hardman third.

This month, our speaker was Moira Byast. She came to tell us about 'Finding Father' or, in other words, tracing your family tree. She got started on this fascinating subject when she decided to research her Mother's family history and having traveled back through time with that side of her family, she decided to trace her Father's family as well — a much more difficult task as it turned out. She gave lots of advice as to how to get started, where to look for information and many hints for those thinking of trying their hand at their own research. She was thanked by Margaret Thomlinson.

Norma Allen and Ann Benham served welcome cups of tea and cakes, The competition for an old birth certificate was won by Jane Martin, second Glennis Hardman and third Gwen Whitehead. The speaker for February 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting will be Dr Gillian White on 'Portraits of Queen Elizabeth 1' illustrated with slides. Dr White is an outstandingly good speaker and to make full use of her, Sibford W.I. has invited two Members from each Institute in the Sibford Group plus Barbara Gray (Board of Trustees, Oxfordshire Federation) and Peggy Mumby (Group Convenor). An old portrait/photograph will be needed for the competition.

Rosemary Neal

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## Village Hall News

Dates for your diary through 2009

On **January 31st** we have Mervyn Stutter with his original songs and humour. His subjects range from the global to the local. We all need a tonic at this time of year, so come and help yourself to a good slice of laughter! Doors open and bar available from 7.30pm performance at 8pm. Nibbles included in ticket price £8.00 / £6.00 OAP. Tickets available from Sibford Stores, Anita Spencer 788557 or Joan Broady 780410.

Our **Film Night** is planned for **Saturday 28th February**. Join us to watch the fantastic "Mama Mia" (rated PG). Village Hall doors open at 5.30pm, the film starts at 6pm. Snacks, sweets, ice creams and soft drinks will be on sale. Admission £1 per person.

On **March 21st** you can meet "**The Rainbow Chasers**" led by Ashley Hutchings (of Fairport Convention and Steeleye Span fame). This will be an entertaining evening of songs and instrumentals by the group.

In April we are planning an Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday.

On **April 25th** we invite teams of up to 6 people to battle for the Quiz Night Trophy. The quiz will run to our usual format. Entry £5 per head with a light supper provided. More information to follow in the next Sibford Scene.

The Village Hall Fayre will be held on **June 20th**. In the autumn you can enjoy a Murder Mystery Evening and a Halloween Ball.

For further information or if you would like to help at any of the events please contact Ginny on 780373 or Joan on 780410.

## TREES

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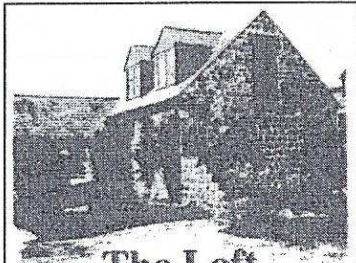
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# The Sibfords Society

Members and friends gathered together for the annual Social on 15 January, commencing the evening with a pictorial quiz and then we enjoyed the Bring and Share Supper of delicious food kindly provided by everyone. We were then privileged to be entertained by the Sibford School Jazz

Band, who are a very talented group of young people, playing and singing with expertise and great enthusiasm, to the delight of everyone there, so the evening went with a real swing and even enticed some to dance along to the rhythms. Many thanks to all who came and supported the Social. It was great to see so many of you there and also our thanks for your generous support of the raffle, which goes a long way to financing the evening.

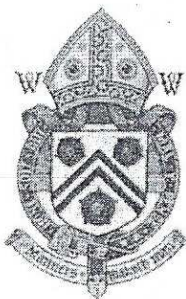
We now have a break until the March meeting and the details will be in the next Sibford Scene.

Sibford Gower Primary School are collecting the **Books for Schools** tokens from the Times newspaper. If readers could drop their tokens into the School Office that would be appreciated.

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A parallel competition is offered for those at school and is divided into two sections - secondary for those aged 16 and under and junior for those aged 11 and under. Entries may be for poetry or story on the theme of "the secret". These will also attract a first prize and modest prizes for the runners up together with a certificate and judges comment for all whose work is on the shortlist.

The closing date for all entries is 30th April 2009. Full details can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to; DWG competition, 26 The Daedings, Deddington, Banbury, Oxon. OX15 0RT. Or by going to

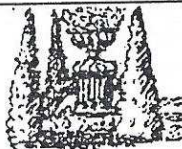
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Many Thanks for your help.

A word of warning to all residents of Cotswold Close, over the years certain past & present residents have experienced damage being done to their vehicles. On the morning of Sat 10 Jan, we woke to find our car covered in paint stripper (This is not the first time our car has been damaged either). The police have been informed once again, but with no real evidence the most obvious culprit has got away with it yet again. It seems such a shame with all that is going on around us in the world, that one like this lives in our same community. We hope the matter will be resolved at sometime, but in the meantime keep an eye on your car or lock it away!!

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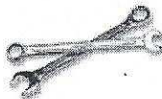
## Sibford Gower Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 25th Nov. 08

Present were four Parish Councillors, County & District Cllr George Reynolds, ten local residents and the Clerk. Various matters were discussed including Options for Growth: Cllr Martin Layer brought the Meeting up to date in this matter. After collating the Councillors' views, he had submitted the response to the questions raised in the Cherwell Local Development Framework Options. Village Pond: Following the reintroduction of ducks to the Village Pond, the work carried out by the Pond Action Team created to implement the recommendations of the ecological survey commissioned by the Parish Council had been undone. The forty potted aquatic plants have in every case been uprooted and destroyed by the ducks. Furthermore, they will cause deterioration in the quality of the water which has been emphasized to be a key element of pond conservation. It is understood that the general consensus reported to the Parish Council is that ducks are welcome. In these circumstances the principles of the wildlife management plan can no longer be sustained and the Parish Councillors felt they had no alternative other than to pass the following resolution which was proposed by Cllr Martin Layer and seconded by Cllr Robin Spicer. It was resolved that the financial support of the Parish Council to the Pond Action Team for the maintenance of a wildlife pond is withdrawn. Roadside verges in Village Pond Area: Considerable con-

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cern had been expressed by some residents regarding the serious erosion by parked cars of the road side verges in the pond area especially that next to the large chestnut tree. Site meetings with local residents in attendance were held on 17<sup>th</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> November with officials from Oxfordshire Highways. Various solutions were suggested including the installation of protective wooden posts and the widening of the road to allow for passing traffic. Should road widening be called for, it was learned that the cost would be very high and have to be borne by the Parish Council. It was apparent that the feeling of the Meeting was that no action should be taken apart from making periodic appeals in the Sibford Scene for greater care to be taken in the parking of cars. The situation regarding the exposed Chestnut tree roots will be monitored by the Tree Officer from Oxfordshire Highways on a six monthly basis. The Chairman reported on the Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting. He said that he was to attend the meeting in Banbury Town Hall regarding the review of local bus services. He will be pressing that no reduction is made in respect of the route (480) which runs through the Sibfords. Reference was made to the recent Transport Needs Survey. Forms were sent to 225 households and 45 were returned completed. Analysis is taking place and the result will be sent to Oxfordshire County Council in due course. Discussion regarding the new Burial Ground took place concerning regulations to be published and the installation of a notice board. With regard to Holy Trinity Churchyard, there was nothing to report at this stage apart from the fact that there is now only one grave space available. Consequently, progress with the Burial Ground is pressing.

### Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009

The Parish Councillors agreed a donation of £150 to the Sibford Meeting House Appeal. Resurfacing of 'Piggy Path', Burdrop had been carried out to a satisfactory standard. Flooding in Hawkes Lane recurred after Oxfordshire Highways had carried out remedial work and the Parish Council has been asked to send a photograph for analysis should it happen again. **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman expressed his thanks and gratitude to Cllr Martin Layer for all the work and research he undertook in connection with implementing the recommendations of the ecological survey commissioned by the Parish Council. Unfortunately, all his efforts and those of the Pond Action Team (to whom the Chairman also expressed thanks) were undone by the introduction of Indian Runner ducks. Leader of the Pond Action Team, Mrs Glennis Hardman, was interviewed by Radio Oxford and BBC South Today. Both programmes went out on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008. Cllr Martin Layer complimented Glennis on her diplomatic handling of both interviews in which she expressed her disappointment over the destruction,

during the summer of 2008, of the forty well established aquatic plants following the introduction of the ducks.

With regard to the temporary Christmas bottle banks installed in Acre Ditch, these were well used. So much so, that the green bank became full, could not be emptied by the District Council and the advice received was that green bottles **should be deposited** in either the clear or brown banks with the assurance that the green bottles would be sorted out in due course. With regard to the Review of Subsidised Bus Services in the Banbury Area, the Chairman had attended a recent **Consultation** Meeting and was disappointed as he felt that decisions had already been made without due consideration of the recent Transport Needs Survey. The Parish Council subsequently had received a letter from Oxfordshire County Council acknowledging receipt of the survey forms. All the contained comments are to be summarized and made available to the Cabinet Member for Transport before he makes the final decision on the award of new contracts in March 2009. **Clerk's Report:** Thames Valley Police had asked that a representative be allowed to attend the next Parish Council Meeting in order to achieve a closer relationship between the Police and Parish Councils. **Highway Matters:** Notification had been received from Oxfordshire Highways regarding capital maintenance schemes planned in the next financial year (2009-2010). Details are still provisional as the capital budget is not finalized until March. Included in the list of intended works are Acre Ditch (Footway resurfacing - estimated cost £ 6,240), Main Street (Footway resurfacing - estimated cost £ 7,920 - Pound Lane to School annexe), High Meadow (Footway **resurfacing** - estimated cost £ 19,740 -Pound Lane all round). **Finance:** Parish Precept 2009/2010: Having considered the known and probable outgoings plus sufficient funding for any contingencies for the next financial year, the Parish Councillors agreed that £6,000 was an appropriate figure (unchanged from the previous year).

**Freedom of Information Act. New Model Publication Scheme: The Parish Councillors considered what might be the most effective and**

**appropriate way of making information from the Parish Council available to the public. It was -decided that a detailed list should be displayed on the Parish Council notice board so that people may be aware of this. Any information that may be required will be available from**



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the Clerk to the Parish Council (01295 780391) **Burial Ground:** The Parish Council, after much discussion, decided that a notice board displaying regulations concerning the types of headstones and what is permitted to be placed on burial plots would be insensitive. Therefore, the suggested purchase of a notice board was abandoned. The best way forward is that the undertaker dealing with a burial be supplied with the agreed regulations and that one should be handed to those arranging a burial with the request that a signed acknowledgement be obtained. **Public Participation:** Matters raised during this part of the Meeting related to blocked drains in the Village Pond area and bushes and brambles on verges overhanging the roadway. **Any Other Business:** Matters raised included a broken fence endangering a footpath in the High Meadow area, Lay-by parking problems in Pound Lane and the thought that a Christmas tree may be an attraction in the Village for future years.

**IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES:-**Next Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 24th March 2009 in the Staff Room of Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School commencing at 8pm

**Annual Litterblitz** - Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2009 (Meeting in the Village Hall Car Park at 10am. Cllr Robin Spicer will handle the organization)

**Annual Parish Meeting** - Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (To be held in the hall of Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School commencing at 7.30pm)

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.40pm thanking all present for attending.

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## Notes of Sibford Ferris Parish Council Meeting, 14 January 2009

There were apologies from Councillors Simms and Connor. Three Councillors and the Clerk attended. *Play Areas - Cotswold Close* Items noted during the weekly inspections kindly carried out by a local resident were reported and appropriate actions agreed. Trevor Stewart Play Equipment has been asked to fill in the sides of the fixed plank walkway from the slide tower with vertical timbers. It was agreed to advertise the play area in the Sibfords Welcome Pack and on the notice board. A suggestion was made to hold an activity at the play area during a school holiday. *Sibford School MUGA* Councillors and a resident met with a representative from a County Council backed organisation with funds to spend on imaginative play areas, to discuss whether the MUGA project would be eligible for a grant from them, and various options are being explored. *Burial ground extension* It was agreed the charges proposed by P Hardman following substantial research were fair and in line with other comparable parishes. The question of how best to fence the section to be grazed was discussed and suggestions would be made to the joint burial ground committee. *Speed Signs* Temporary speed signs had been received from Speedwatch and were being rotated at various locations. The Clerk reported that a PCSO would like to attend the next meeting. *Review of Subsidised Bus Service* The ORCC report and summary of the Transport Needs Survey (32 respondents) had been received and forwarded to OCC. The department responsible for bus contracts has indicated it will probably be recommending a reduction from 7 to 5 buses a day. *Swapshop* The Parish Council would like to organise (hopefully with some help from residents) a Swapshop where people can bring along unwanted goods and find items of interest in return. The aim is to reduce landfill waste. It is hoped to hold a Swapshop in April.

***Freedom of Information Act - Model Publication Scheme*** From 1 January, the Parish Council is required to display a list of the information available to the public, how to obtain it and at what cost, under the following headings: Who we are and what we do / What we spend and how we spend it / What our priorities are and how we are doing / How we make decisions / Our policies and procedures / Lists and

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**Registers / The services we offer.** A list has been put on the notice board at Lanes End and a copy may be obtained from the Clerk (tel. 788557). *Signposts* It was agreed to ask Oxfordshire Highways to refurbish the wooden signpost by Home Farm that has fallen into disrepair. *OCC Local Villages Web Pages* A representative from the Sibfords Society has kindly agreed to provide information on the history and local features of both Sibfords to be included on village web pages on the OCC website. *Finance* The precept for 2009/2010 was agreed at £4095.00. *Planning* There were four planning applications and eight planning decisions since the last meeting. *Date of next meeting* March 18th. The Annual Parish Meeting will be on 29 April.

---

## 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.*

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## Down Memory Lane

I remember one bright day in Normandy in the summer of 1944 when, with other supply and service trucks, I visited our flail tanks to service their radios after the squadron had been in action. We found them parked in a very pleasant part of the French countryside, as far removed as it is possible to imagine from the hulks of burnt out tanks and the awful stench which were such unforgettable features of some Normandy battle fields and which seemed even more gruesome by moonlight.

On arrival I was met by a tank radio operator with a handful of the remains of his tanks aerial which he said 'had been shot away'. I gave him a new set of the three rods which, when fitted together, formed the tanks aerial and then set to work on the radio of a nearby tank. As I worked I could hear a plane flying high overhead but thought no more of it until I heard a bomb coming.

The explosion was not that of a heavy bomb but it was close enough for grit to spatter down on me through the open turret hatch. I finished off my job on the radio and as I left the tank I was again met by the same tank radio operator with more bits of aerial in his hand and a broad grin on his face. "You know those aerial rods you gave me just now?" he said "well they've just been shot away again!"

Bob Lamb

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## Boxing Day Charity football

The now annual Boxing Day Charity football match between Swalcliffe & Sibford kicked off on a lovely, bright morning but with most spectators still sadly curled up in their beds.

Referee (Mayor) Mick Foley started proceedings & had already liberally fined several Swalcliffe team-members for an unmarked pitch & attempted bribes. Play commenced; Sibford (in blue) were caught on the hop by a quick start by Swalcliffe (playing in lucky 'Alway Associates' orange), which led to a deflected shot & a 3-yard tap-in by Jimmy Phillips and a 3-minute, 1-0 lead. This with no-one there to see!

The rest of the 1st half saw both sides have several chances but their defences held. By now a few spectators had appeared & buckets started rattling. Half-time; oranges & team-talks by team captains Darren 'Parky' Parkinson for Swalcliffe & Sibford's Dr. David Spackman played their role in motivating both teams.

Soon into the start of the second half it was looking like Sibford's decisions to field youth over experience & forego extra subs offered by Swalcliffe (with a squad of 16 or so) might have been a mistake; Swalcliffe poured on the pressure & the crucial second goal for Swalcliffe wasn't long coming as Ross Gilkes split the blues' defence (& the back of the net) to make it 2-0 for Swalcliffe. Not long after, goal of the game came from a cracking volley by Parky to take Swalcliffe 3-0 in front.

But the blues weren't finished; a Swalcliffe mix-up on the left wing let the youthful Sibford front men through & an excellent finish by Tom Spackman brought some hope.. 3-1.

But it was not to be. Despite several valiant Sibford attempts to get through the solid orange back four, two more goals from Jimmy P. & Ross G. made the final score 5-1 to Swalcliffe; the game was played well & in great spirit by both teams. As well as the aforementioned scorers, notable mention to the managers Lorne Alway & Dr. S; the midfield & defence rocks from both sides - Kev Wild, Perran Moon, Steve Bull & Tris



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Koch; Swalcliffe 'keeper Mark Austin for a nearly clean sheet; and the inevitable comedy provided by Swalcliffe's Jason Boscott.

Many thanks to the following: Swalcliffe Park School Headmaster Gareth Lewis for the use of the pitch & facilities, & staff member Geoff Daniels (assisted by David & Jack) for all his work on the day; Referee (Mayor) Mick Foley for administering fund raising fines both during the match and at the post Match event; Charity Elves, Baileys chocolate/sweets saleswomen & bucket-rattlers Aileen, Pippa & Trudie; Graham & Ros & family at the newly-refurbished Stag's Head, Swalcliffe (come & visit!) who kindly added £1 for everyone who sampled their delicious chilli in the pub afterwards; Colin Hill for the use of his photos. And of course the generous spectators & players for their donation & fines.

Total donations were £460 (£160 more than 2007), to be split equally between this year's causes: Katharine House Hospice & the Frank Wise School, Banbury.

See you Boxing Day 2009!

Phil Sherer

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## SIBFORD VILLAGE HALL QUIZ ANSWERS

7, colours of the rainbow. 9, lives of a cat. 13, amp fuse. 0, runs in a maiden over. 147, maximum beak at snooker. 1961, first man in space. 1, armed bandit. 2, heads are better than one. 15, digits on a clock face. 5, number of toes on a foot. 6, wives of Henry the Eighth. 1086, Doomsday book. 5, rings on the Olympic flag. 1, wheel on a uni-cycle. 30, days hath September. 11, fingers of Ann Bolyn. 2, ugly sisters in Cinderella. 4, seasons by Vivaldi. 13, lunar months in a year. 25, years in a silver anniversary. 1605, Gunpowder plot. 360, Degrees in circle. 3600, seconds in an hour. 225, squares on a scrabble board. 22, miles across the English Channel. 29028, height of Everest in feet. 7, sides on a fifty pence piece. 1215, signing of the Magna Carta. 8, legs on a spider. 1930, half past seven.

HAVE A GUESS QUESTIONS. 1, 1991, 2, Mexico. 3, 1931. 4, Radium. 5, Guitar. 6, Happy Xmas (war is over). 7, Finland. 8, on both. 9, Toilet brushes. 10, Dublin.

CHRISTMAS CAROL ANAGRAMS. 1, We three Kings. 2, The first noel. 3, Jingle Bells. 4, Away in a Manger. 5, The Sussex Carol.

FIND THE SHOP 1, Littlewoods, 2, Abbey National, 3, Mothercare. 4, Debenhams. 5, Next. 6, Superdrug. 7, W.H. Smiths. 8, Woolworths. 9, Marks and Spencers. 10, Sainsbury's. 11, Waterstones. 12, Curry's. 13, Boots. 14, Kentucky Fried Chicken.

TV ADVERTS. WHAT IS THE PRODUCT. 1, Topic. 2, Harp Lager. 3, Snickers. 4, Coca Cola. 5, Ready brek. 6, Lilt. 7, Cadbury's Creme Eggs. 8, Mr Muscle. 9, Pedigree Chum. 10, Worthingtons. 11, Ford. 12, Norwich Union. 13, Stella Artois. 14, Caffreys.

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## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is this year 25th February. A Benefice Discussion Group will meet on Thursdays at 10.30 am at 32 Danvers Close, Broughton on the kind invitation of Margaret and Neil Howarth. Every Monday in lent at 7.30 pm there will be a non Eucharist service in one or other of the Benefice churches, the first being in Sibford on Monday 23rd February. There will be a service of Eucharist each Friday in Lent at 7.30 am in Sibford Church and there will be a Weekly Lent Austerity Luncheon in aid of a charity selected by the host in each of the parishes, the first being in early March so the next addition will give the time and place of this and all the others.

There is little doubt that there is a great feeling of unity in the villages of Sibford Ferris, Sibford Gower and Burdrop between Christians of all denominations, judging by the variety and number of members of all the Christian churches who came together on 18th January 2009. This was a joint worship at the beginning of the Week of Christian Unity, and showed that, although we all prefer our own form of church service, probably that to which we were born and brought up, we do so to worship the same Lord who is available to the whole human race, whether we want him or not. The social gathering after the service, aided and abetted by delicious cakes and other refreshments lovingly made by generous local cooks, continued for quite a long time and



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Contributions for the  
March  
Sibford Scene  
to the Shop or Editor by  
February 17th

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bore further evidence, if it is needed, of the goodwill and friendship that exists among our local inhabitants.

With no publication in January, Christmas seems a long while ago but the various services again bore witness to the large number who see the Church as a central part of their celebrations and family gatherings. Perhaps this year the international financial situation put into perspective the need to review the previously growing importance of shopping and money spent on presents, something that we would do well to remember in future years when perhaps there will not be such financial constraints. Our joint Benefice choirs from Broughton and from the other 5 churches led three carol services and very much welcomed support from numerous non-regular singers.

The choir was again in force in Broughton on January 20th to sing at the funeral service of one of its number, Janet Hopkins, who died unexpectedly. A very full church with many for whom there were no available seats, gave witness to the love and respect in which Janet was held by the community, and the appreciation of the huge service which she gave in many different fields.

The annual collections in Church Mission Society boxes, together with donations and Gift Aid tax benefits this year totaled £816.04, only a few pounds down on last year. There are still one or two who might be prepared to give Gift Aid status to their donations and this could well put the total just over that of last year. All those who collect their small, and not so small, change in this way are sincerely thanked and anyone who would like a box for this very worthwhile overseas medical, educational and spiritual charity should telephone 780980.



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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 England, Holy Trinity, Sibford Gower.

February

Sun 1st Candlemas **10.00am**, (note new time) at Shutford

Sun 8th Holy Communion at 8.00am and Family Service at 10.00am

Sun 15th Holy Communion at 9.30am

Sun 22nd Holy Communion at 9.30am

Wed 25th Ash Wednesday Benefice Service at Broughton 8.00pm

Fri 27th Holy Communion at 7.30am

March

Sun 1st Benefice Eucharist service at Swalcliffe 10.00am



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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 £2.10 each way**

- Child (5-16yrs) £1.05

**Family ticket (2 Adults + up to 3 children) £9.30 return**

# Calendar of Events

## January

Sat 31st Mervyn Stutter performing at the Village Hall 7.00 pm p6

## February

Tue 3rd Friendship Club. Talking Newspapers p4

Wed 4th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)

Tue 10th W.I. Portraits of Queen Elizabeth I p5

Tue 17th Friendship Club trip to Evesham p4

Tue 17th Deadline for contributions to the March Sibford Scene p20

Wed 18th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)

Wed 25th Circle Dancing Taster Session. Village Hall 1.15pm See insert.

Sat 28th Village Hall Film Night. "Mama Mia" 5.30pm p6

## March (part)

Tue 3rd Friendship Club Big Birthday Party p4

Wed 4th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)

Wed 18th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)

Sat 21st "The Rainbow Chasers" at the Village Hall p6

Wed 18th Ferris Parish Council Meeting p15

Tue 24th Gower Parish Council Meeting p13

Cover picture. Snow in Sibford Ferris

## Sibford Scene

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