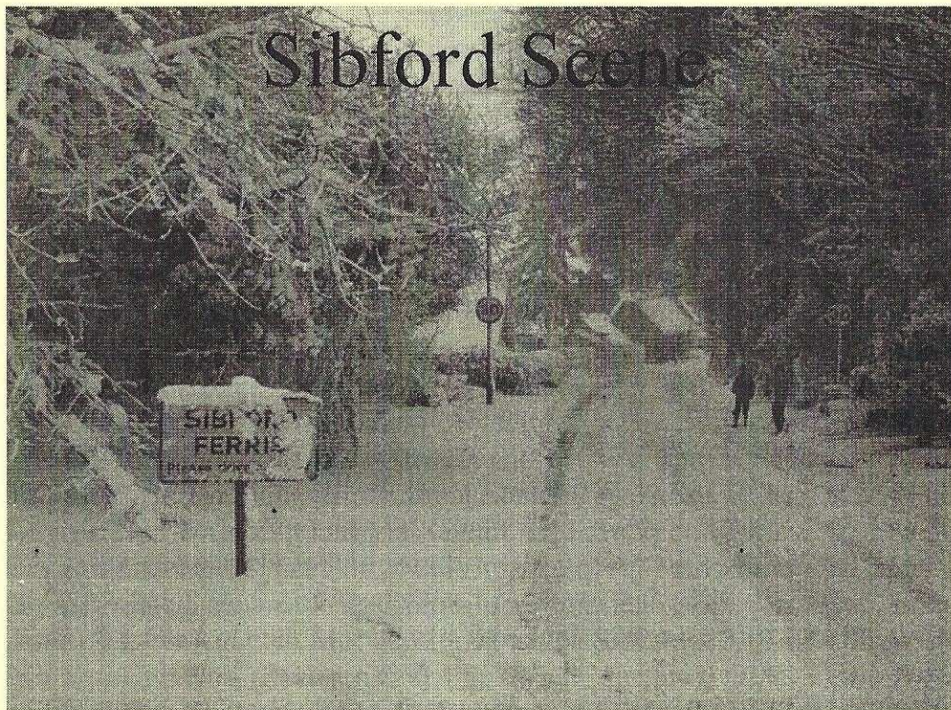


Sibford Scene



March 2009

No. 310

Sibford Ferris Spring Clean

Saturday 7th March 10am

Primary School Art Exhibition

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th March

10.30 - 4.30 daily

Preview evening Friday 13th 7.30-9.30pm

The Rainbow Chasers

At the Village Hall

Saturday 21st March 8.00pm

Sibfords Society Walk

Saturday 28th March

9.45am from the Village Hall

Nature Notes

Jan 23rd. I crumbled a home made bird bun on to the bird table and was surprised to see a nuthatch come several times to take pieces away in preference to the nuts or sunflower seed.

Jan 31st. The gritting lorry put an extra heavy salting on the Sibford roads this evening which will no doubt help traffic movement if we get the snow that is forecast but I wonder what the effect on the streams will be if we get a prolonged period of snow. We have never had a really long snowy winter since we started using salt on the roads.

Feb 6th. It is not easy to get an accurate measurement of rainfall when it falls as snow. This morning the gauge was hidden under a mound of snow. I sometimes resort to measuring the depth of new snow and estimate it on the basis of 10 of snow to 1 of rain. Even with this heavy snow cover the badgers still bulldoze it away so they can dig the lawn up for worms etc. on most nights. The lawn is going to look pretty rough when the snow has melted. The squirrels also are still chasing along the snow covered branches at their usual mad speed.

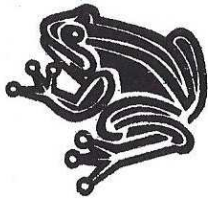
Feb 9th. I don't know what the song thrush had to sing about this morning with snow over all and more forecast but he cheered me up.

Feb 10th On this cold but sunny afternoon a blackbird felt perky enough to practice a few notes which is unusual in February.

Feb 12th. At 21F (-6C) this is a very cold day even for the winter and being very still it is probably a good deal colder in the valleys. This morning two mistle thrushes have joined the blackbirds and fieldfares to feed on the apples that we put out for them.

Feb 17th Milder now but it will take a few days to clear the snow completely. At it's deepest there was nearly a foot of lying snow but never enough wind for much drifting.

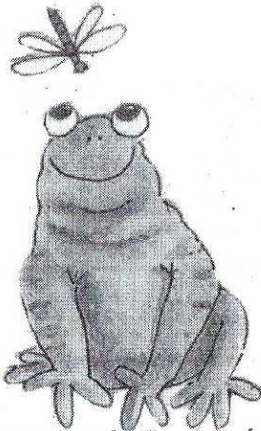
Sibford Cricket Club
Annual General Meeting
at 7.30pm on Sunday 8 March
at the Wykham Arms.



In March 2004, Sibford Village Pond was full to overflowing with mating frogs. However, since then the numbers have declined dramatically each year and in 2007 only eight pairs were spotted and in 2008 only two pairs were seen. On talking with people in this corner of Sibford Gower, I learned that the Primary

School pond and private garden ponds had followed the same pattern. However, in other villages, such as Epwell, ponds had been visited by the usual number of frogs. This is a curious situation, indeed, and the question is will there be any frogs around our pond this March? Motorists and pedestrians, please watch out and avoid running over or stepping on any that may appear.

Glennis Hardman



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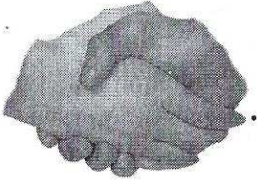
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Mob: 07740 404 678



Friendship Club

Well wasn't the weather awful during Feb. I hope you will have received the Scene before March 3rd so that I can remind you all of the BIG BIRTHDAY PARTY of that day. Times are 2pm. till 4pm. Talking of parties a

BIG thank you to Alice and Dora for a lovely afternoon.

We will be having a trip in March it's on the 17th. I THINK IT WILL BE SLIMBRIDGE, BUT if we don't get more people to go THERE WILL NO TRIPS AT ALL, as the club cannot afford to subsidize them..

SIBFORD FERRIS SPRING CLEAN

The annual litter blitz will take place on Saturday, 7th March. Anyone willing to volunteer with the clean up will be most welcome. Meet at 10.00 am at Lanes Corner, Sibford Ferris, near the notice board. Some equipment will be available, but if you have your own fluorescent vest, please bring it along. Martin Thomas will be organising routes on the day. If you would like to take part but cannot make the spring clean, Martin would be pleased to hear from you on 788908 to make alternative arrangements.

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Sibford Ferris

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Sunday 5.00am to 1.00pm

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Women's
Institute

Sibford W.I.

Due to severe adverse weather conditions, the 10th February meeting unfortunately had to be cancelled. The next meeting is on Tuesday, 10th March in the Village Hall at 2pm. Alistair Lack will be making a return visit, this time to give a talk entitled 'Travels with Auntie'. Members who heard 'The History of the University of Oxford' will recall that he is an excellent and very clear speaker. The competition is for an old postcard. Visitors are most welcome.

Glennis Hardman

SIBFORD SWAP SHOP - REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

Are there any eco-minded people who would be prepared to help with a village Swap Shop on Saturday, 18th April for a couple of hours in the afternoon? The aim of the Swap Shop is to encourage re-use of items and to reduce the amount of landfill. People can bring along items, which must be of usable quality, and pick up anything they might need. Everything is free. There is no requirement to bring in order to take or vice versa. Any serviceable items such as toys, games, CDs, books, ornaments, kitchenware, pictures, gardening equipment, clothes, etc are welcome. Only electrical equipment is not permitted. At the end of the session, it is hoped that all items not successfully swapped will be taken home to be disposed of by those who brought them. If you would like to be involved in the Swap Shop, please contact Anita on 788557.

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7 am to 8 pm

Saturday 8 am to 8 pm

Sunday 8 am to 6 pm

Telephone: 01608 737245

PARKING OUTSIDE THE SHOP BUSES SUSPENDED!

The parking outside Greens Shop in the Ferris was so bad on Saturday, 14th February that a 480 bus, trying to make progress through the village, hit a parked car. The management at Geoff Amos promptly suspended the bus service through the Ferris for three days before being persuaded to try again. Most people take care when parking for the shop, but you only have to go past it on a regular basis to know there are some that do not. Once again, we are obliged to make the appeal:

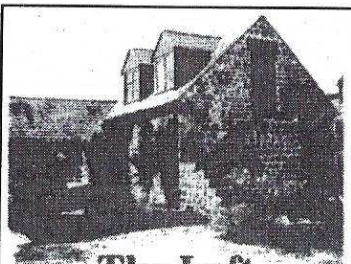
Take a moment to think:

“Have I left plenty of room for a large vehicle to get through?”

You may say to yourself you will “only be a minute” but you never know how long the queue will be and you may be causing others serious inconvenience by a moment’s thoughtlessness and lack of consideration.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sibford Ferris Parish Council



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The Sibfords Society

The next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday, 19 March at 8.00pm in the Village Hall, which we will keep as brief as possible and will then show photos taken of the conservation work carried out on 'Little London' in Sibford Ferris by the previous owner of this old cottage.

Robin and Ann Spicer will lead a walk on 28 March of about four miles. Please meet in the Village Hall car park at 9.45am for a 10.00am start and come prepared for a little(?) mud!

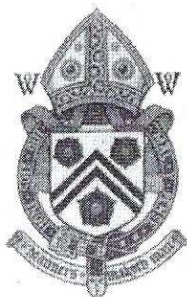
Avon products are now available to all residents in Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower. I've already met a few new customers but if there's anyone that would like to receive a new brochure, then I will deliver one to you and let you know when I'll be calling back with the products.

Please give me a call if you are interested. Nicola Sims 01295 788530

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'Hooky Night' Wednesday
evening 6.00 - 7.30 pm
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6.00 pm - 11.30 pm

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Do not forget our FILM NIGHT on February 28th, Saturday, showing the fantastic "MAMMA MIA". Village hall doors will be open at 5-30pm, and the film starts at 6pm. Tickets are £1 a head from SIBFORD Stores. Snacks, ice cream and soft drinks available.

Following the successful night with Mervyn Stutter in January, we are delighted to bring you "The Rainbow Chasers" led by Ashley Hutchings {of Radio, Fairport Convention and Steeleye Span fame} on March 21st. This will be an evening of songs and instrumentals by the group. This should be a popular event and tickets are going fast so please get yours soon. Do Not expect to get tickets at the door because there may be none left! Tickets from SIBFORD Stores, price £8 {or £7 for concessions}.

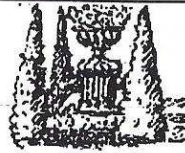
In April we are organizing an Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday. More details in the next Sibford Scene.

April 25th is QUIZ NIGHT. Teams of up to 6 people are invited to enter at £5 per head which will include a light supper. A licensed bar will be available. The quiz will follow our usual format. Team names to Ginny 780373, or Muriel 780025 as soon as you like.

The Village Fayre will be on June 20th with a slightly different variety of things to do. If anyone would like to help organize an attraction or help on the day, please speak to Ginny on 780373.

We are raising money to improve the Village hall and would very much welcome some input from the villagers. If you have any suggestions do contact Joan on 780410.

Village Hall Lottery Game. Anyone interested in joining this game could you please ring Muriel on 780025. For a one off payment of £12 per year, half would be paid out in monthly prize money and half would go to Village Hall funds. If 200 people were interested, £100 in prize money per month could be



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paid, divided between 1st 2nd and 3rd. With the high cost of oil and electricity, and always wishing to keep the Hall in a good state of repair, fund raising has to be an ongoing item.

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Do you think it would be devastating to have to live in a wheelchair?**

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If you are thinking of running a marathon or entering any other kind of sponsored event you could help more people achieve mobility. Or you might choose to do your own special activity to raise sponsorship. We can provide sponsorship forms and T-shirts

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A BIG THANK YOU TO TERRY AND JUDITH AND ALL AT THE SHOP

The whole village extends grateful thanks to Terry and Judith, Dave, Andrew, Megan, Jo, Anita and the others for their huge effort in keeping the shop up and running, despite the snow over the last couple of weeks. We continued to receive our papers (except for the day the papers didn't make it as far as Sibford), because Terry and Judith and co got up at 3.30 every morning as usual, defying snow and ice, and putting most ordinary mortals to shame. Not only that, but they plied back and forth all day in those difficult conditions so that their house-bound customers could get their shopping safely. And a lot of new faces showed up as well – the place was packed. Wouldn't it be nice if those new customers could now become regulars . . . Come on you guys – use it or lose it. The effort that Terry and Judith and their helpers put in to make the shop so successful and such a hub of our community needs to be rewarded with as many people using it as possible. A village shop of this quality is to be treasured as a jewel beyond compare these days.

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10.30 am - 4.30 pm

Free admission

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General enquiries (School Office) 01295 780270

Exclusive preview evening

Friday 13 March 7.30 to 9.30
Wine and nibbles included
Entrance £5

Admission by ticket only ~ available from 01295 780888

Life Drawing Classes

Master of Fine Arts, John Lendis, who has recently returned to Oxfordshire having spent the summer as Artist in Residence at the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge University, is launching a series of adult education classes.

Held at Sibford School, Sibford Ferris, the Life Drawing classes are aimed at anyone interested in art ... whether an experienced artist or keen amateur. Tuition will be given according to experience.

Classes will take place on Monday evenings between 6.30pm and 8.30pm. Cost is £7.50 per session (£5 for students). Further information is available from the school on 01295 781200.



Sibford Horticultural Society

We start our 2009 programme on Wednesday 11th March at 8pm in the Village Hall when Brian Ellis will give a talk entitled 'A Riot of Colour, Form and Texture'.

Please come along and join us.
All are very welcome to attend.

Advance Notice: Plant Sale at Buttslade House - Saturday 16th May
Annual Flower and Produce Show Saturday 29th August

Thank You

I wish to thank all the friends and relatives who came to my 80th Birthday Party, and also to those who were unable to attend due to the weather, but sent cards and gifts.

I also wish to thank David and Muriel for their help, Val for the lovely flower arrangements, Robin for proposing the toast, Gill Judd for the Birthday Cake, Victoria for the wonderful refreshments, and to all who helped in any way, especially my sister Dora who made all the arrangements.

Once again, many thanks to all.

Alice Fowler.

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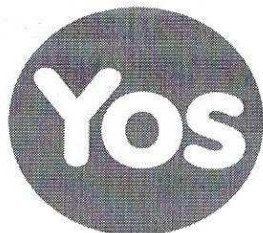
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Volunteers needed for Youth Offender Panels!

Would you like to represent your local community?

Would you like to help prevent young people offending in your area?

Do you want to help victims of crime have their say?

We are looking for volunteers to take part in local Youth Offender Panels. These panels consist of two trained volunteers from the community and a member of the Youth Offending Service. The panel meets with the young person and their family and the victim of the crime can also be invited to attend. The Panel agrees a contract with the young person aimed at repairing the harm done to the victim and to prevent further offending.

No formal qualifications are required and full training is given. Applicants must be 18 years or over.

To find out further details and an application pack please call: Colette Selwood, Volunteer Co-ordinator or Hannah March, Panel Administrator or on 01865 202218 or

E-mail Colette.selwood@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Email: Hannah.march@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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<p>Micks Sticks Fire Lighting Wood For Sale £2.50 per big bag Call in anytime and ask for Mick Canning, at The Old Malt House, Sibford Ferris Tel: 01295 780321</p>
--

WELCOME TO SIBFORD

If you are a new resident of Sibford and have not yet received a copy of the "Welcome to Sibford" booklet, please telephone Pauleen Inns on 780702 (Gower or Burdrop) or Ann Bishop on 788188 (Ferris), and a copy will be delivered to you. The information will help to make you feel at home - by acquainting you with the services, schools, clubs and societies that are currently active in the villages.

This month we welcome three new residents to our village.

Eleanor and Brian Joynes moved in to Silver Birches, Backside Lane, Sibford Gower before Christmas (sorry for the delay) They previously lived in Barford. They have one daughter and three grandchildren. Brian is a Consultant Engineer. Reading, Fine Art and the country side are their interests.

Julie Snelson moved from Chipping Norton into Greycote Sibford Gower. She works at Automotive Car Ind in the Human Resources Dept. She brings with her three cats. Her hobbies include Formula One Racing and gardening.

Neville and Lucy Johnson and their two daughters Amy & Maya have moved from Mexico to 4 Barley Close Sibford Gower. Amy and Mayo have settled in at the local school and are fluent in Spanish! Lucy is a swimming tutor, and Neville is an engineer. Both do Triatholons but are busy doing alterations to their new home.

Sibford Gower and
Burdrop Litterblitz
Saturday 4th April
Meeting at the Village
Hall at 10am *

The more volunteers, the
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Get Oxfordshire Active!

Get Oxfordshire Active (GO Active) is an exciting new initiative that is aiming to help adults aged 16 and over lead a healthier more active lifestyle by offering support advice and signposting to activities in their area. A three year project, GO Active is led by the Oxfordshire Sports Partnership with Sport England and the Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust the major funding partners. Cherwell District's GO Active Co-ordinator is currently working to create and promote opportunities for adults to take part in physical activity in the Cherwell District. GO Active wants to provide opportunities that are enjoyable, social and suitable for all ages and abilities. This is where we need you; we want to know what you would like to try or, if you want information on where you can participate in a particular activity we would be pleased to help.

If you would like further information on GO Active or would simply like to have a chat about activities you would be interested in please contact Marianne on 01295 221715 or email Marianne.boyle@cherwell-dc.gov.uk.

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Sibford Scene White Envelope Campaign

Once again a small white envelope has arrived with your Sibford Scene this month. Please make your contribution (we suggest £3) to your parish magazine and return the envelope to the collection box in the Post Office. Please feel free to enclose comments or suggestions of what you would like to see included in the Sibford Scene in the future.

Funding for the Sibford Scene comes from the White Envelopes, the advertisers and donations from the Clubs, Societies and Parish Councils who contribute items for inclusion. Our costs are for printing the 430 copies 10 times a year. The people involved (about 25 in all) are all volunteers - no one receives anything but out of pocket expenses - and in general the Sibford Scene does achieve its objective of being delivered free to every household in the Ferris, Gower and Burdrop before the start of the month. We feel that we must try to achieve this to ensure that all events planned can be certain of their publicity.

As Editor I try to include everything that comes to me for inclusion but I will not use articles submitted anonymously, so please put your contact details on them somewhere.

Thank you for your contribution. Adrian Lamb, editor.

Oddjob

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We have had a number of Ringmaster Calls.

Supermarkets

Beware of people asking for directions. One lady was asked by a man with a map to show him the way to a place. When she got in her car she found the passenger door open, when she drove off, she had a flat tyre on the passenger side.

Beware of people asking for change. A lady was asked for change for a shopping trolley, after exchanging the money she found her credit card, which she had just used, missing and later money was removed from her account.

The Police are asking people to be extra careful with bags, purses and credit cards as there has been an increase of thefts in Banbury.

Distraction Burglaries are on the increase across the area. Always check the identity of the person, if you are not expecting anyone check with the authority before you allow them in.

Parked Vehicles. Tools have been removed from a parked van. The Police advise you to lock parked vehicles and remove all goods and tools.

Alarms. The Police advise you to get 3 estimates and make sure the installer is NSI (National Security Inspectorate) registered, before having an alarm installed.

Any information phone the Police 08458 505505. Please take care, as we are likely to see an increase of similar activities during the present financial climate.



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The Two Tree Toads.

A he toad loved a she toad that lived in a tall tree.

He was a two-toed tree toad, and a three-toed toad was she.

The two-toed tree toad tried to win the she toad's friendly nod,

For the two-toed he toad loved the road that the three-toed she toad trod.

Alas! his efforts were in vain, with all her strength and vim,

From her tree toad bower with her three toed power,

that she toad vetoed him.

Anon.

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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

The Lent Austerity Lunch in aid of charity will be held at 12.30 pm on Thursday 5th March at the home of Gilian & David Soden at Wyatts Close, High Street, Sibford Gower. Our villages are extremely fortunate in its two wonderful surgery nurses and indeed all at our surgery, and it is to be hoped that Gilian's effort for charity during Lent will be strongly supported by many in the villages, irrespective of whether they are churchgoers. The other Lent lunches in the benefice, all at 12.30 pm are as follows: Monday 9th March at Grange Farm Swalcliffe (Barbara & Mike Taylor); Monday March 16th at The Manor Tadmarton, (Jane & Richard Asser); Monday March 23rd at Gage Farm Barn, Epwell, (Alison & Charles Pollard); Monday 30th March at the Village Hall Shutford; and Monday 6th April at St Mary's Hall Broughton. Following the change of timings for Benefice services to assist attendance at other churches in the Benefice, it is hoped that Sibford parishioners will support the Lent lunches held in the other Benefice parishes just as they support ours. A Benefice Discussion Group will meet on Thursdays at 10.30 am at 32 Danvers Close, Broughton commencing 5th March. Every Monday in lent at 7.30 pm there will be a non Eucharist service in one or other of the Benefice churches. There will be a Eucharist service on each Friday in Lent at 7.30 am in Sibford Church.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in Sibford Church at 7.30 pm on Thursday 5th March. There will be an election for the two churchwardens and for the 8 members of the Parochial Church Council. Nominations should be handed to Peter Hardman, PCC Secretary and should contain the signed consents for nomination.

There will be a series of Coffee Mornings in Sibford Church on Saturdays April 18th, May 16th, June 20th and July 18th. Please make a note of these in your diaries. They are always a joyful social occasion and also raise much needed funds to help keep the church building going. Please remember that the Church is always available and regularly used by all in the villages for Christenings, weddings and funerals on a non-denominational basis and costs a lot to keep in being.



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

Advance notice for your diaries:
The Annual Church Fete will be
held at the Village Hall on
Saturday 25th July at 2.30 pm.

Has anyone taken from the church the key to the porch notice board? If they have taken it by mistake, could they please return as it is now impossible to open the notice board without damage.

Holy Trinity Church, Sibford

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in the Church on Thursday, 5th March 2009 starting at 7.30 pm and a cordial invitation to all is extended.

The purpose is:- For the election of Parochial representatives of the laity as follows:-

To the Parochial Church Council - eight representatives.

Two Church Wardens.

For the appointment of Sidespersons and the independent Examiner or Auditor.

To hear Reports on Church related matters.

All persons whose names are entered upon the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote at the election of parochial representatives of the laity.



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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.

March

Sun 1st Benefice Eucharist service at Swalcliffe 10.00am

Fri 6th Holy Communion 7.30am

Sun 8th Holy Communion 9.30am

Fri 13th Holy Communion 7.30am

Sun 15th Holy Communion 9.30am

Fri 20th Holy Communion 7.30am

Sun 22nd Family Service 10.00am

Fri 27th Holy Communion 7.30am

Sun 29th Holy Communion 9.30am

April

Sun 5th Palm Sunday Service 10.00am at Epwell



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Great Bourton

2nd. The Owen Family, Epwell

3rd. Vanda Kirk, High Meadow.

Childrens Page, Sophie &
Gemma Kirk

Sibford Bus Services

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 £2.10 each way

Child (5-16yrs) £1.05

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

Calendar of Events

February

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

March

Tue 3rd Friendship Club Big Birthday Party p4

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

Thu 5th Lent Austerity Lunch at Wyatts Close. 12.30pm p20

Thu 5th Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting 7.30pm in Church p21

Sat 7th Sibford Ferris Spring Clean 10am at Lanes End Corner. p4

Sun 8th Sibford Cricket Club AGM. 7.30pm in the Wykham Arms p2

Tue 10th W.I. 'Travels with Auntie' 2pm Village Hall p5

Wed 11th Horticultural Society 'A Riot of Colour...' V. Hall 8pm p12

Fri 13th Primary School Art Exhibition Preview Night 7.30-9.30pm p11

Sat 14th & Sun 15th Primary School Art Exhibition 10.30-4.30 p11

Tue 17th Friendship Club Slimbridge Trip. p4

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

Wed 18th Ferris Parish Council Meeting

Thu 19th Sibfords Society AGM and talk. Village Hall 8.00pm p7

Sat 21st "The Rainbow Chasers" at the Village Hall p8

Tue 24th Gower Parish Council Meeting

Sat 28th Sibfords Society Walk. Meet at the Village Hall at 9.45am p7

April (part)

Fri 10th Good Friday Easter Egg Hunt at the Village Hall p8

Sat 18th Sibford Swap Shop p5

Sat 18th Church Coffee Morning p20

Sat 21st Village Hall Quiz p8

Cover picture. Snow in Sibford Ferris

Sibford Scene

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