

SIBFORD SCENE

May 2021

No 433



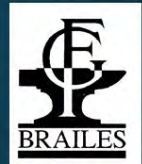


"Cathy's Back Yard" by Nigel Fletcher

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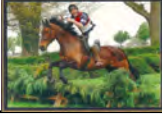
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ED'S THOUGHTS

Hey -It's **Artweeks** here in Sibford at the Museum of Modern Art and so I took the plunge and put 2 works by Nic Durrant and Alison Bell on the front and back covers - hope you like them! Nigel Fletcher will also be exhibiting at the Village Hall, Swalcliffe from the 15th - 23rd May and his painting of "Cathy's back Yard" is on the left

Thought for the month:

"I want to break free"

John Deacon



LETTERS AND NOTICES

VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY!!

The winners of the April lottery are:

- 1st prize Joan Broady - £65
- 2nd prize Issi George - £36
- 3rd prize Frances Claydon - £29

Picked by Juliette Glazebrook, Kathy Yorke and our very own Editor!

Don't forget to sign up for the May lottery!!

Contact Juliette53@btinternet.com



VILLAGE HALL FIELD

Whilst we are delighted that youngsters are using the field for games and football, can we please ask that they respect the area. On Thursday April 15th there were lads on the field, but when they left there were 3 plastic water bottles left on the grass which I picked up. The lads would have had to walk past the rubbish bin to leave the field. So come on Sibfordians - don't leave a mess!

Ginny Bennett



LETTERS AND NOTICES

Cont'd

Hook Norton Road Development

Thought I'd insert this about the donations that the Gade Company is making which have completely overlooked our primary school? (£68K to Sibford Friends School). The following did appear on the website this week.

The contributions that were requested are contained in the section 106 agreement. This was agreed as part of the outline planning application and is a legally binding document. It is not therefore open to negotiation. A summary of the financial obligation contained can be found below:

Contribution towards Financial contribution to be made Additional or enhanced facilities at the Sibford Village Hall £10,700

Improving community access to the playing pitches and tennis courts at Sibford School £50,425.75

Improving community access of the Sibford School swimming pool £8375
Refuse and recycling bins for each proposed dwelling £2650

Public transport improvements in order to provide a new bus shelter and hard standing for the existing bus stop on Main Street £20,000

Consultation for the alteration of the speed limit on Hook Norton and provision of a footway from the pedestrian access on Hook Norton Rd to the existing pedestrian footway £4850

Maintenance of the equipped local area of play £30,458.26
Maintenance and management of mature trees £198.82 per tree Future
maintenance and management of any SUDS provided £50.98 per square meter
Future maintenance and management of the existing hedgerow £20.49 / m2 of
existing hedgerows.

Travesty!



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Thank you everyone who enjoyed the Easter Egg Trail on Good Friday. You are helping to support the Village Hall by participating in our events.

CAR BOOT SALE

May 2nd on the Village Hall field .Pitches **MUST** be booked in advance by contacting Ginny 01295 780373 and cost £7 each, [pay on the day]. Cars may arrive from 11-30am and the public will be allowed in at 12 noon. Bring your own table and chairs if you need them.

Hot drinks will be available. COVID regulations will be in force, so please wear a face covering and use hand sanitiser.

JAZZ PICNIC

June 12th on the Village Hall field. You can sit with your family/ bubble and one other household.

No general mixing please . Bring your own picnic and drinks, chairs etc ,but no huge gazebos please.

Hopefully the weather will be a lot better than it was last year! More details in the next Sibford Scene about tickets for the event or check the sibfords web site in mid May.

BOOK SWAP SATURDAY

In the small hall we are restarting our book swap sessions, and will serve hot drinks as well.

Please wear a face covering and respect Covid guidelines. Books gladly accepted now.

There is no charge to borrow a book , but donations welcome.

Dates planned are MAY15th, JUNE 19th and JULY 17th

The Village Hall is "waking up" from lockdown now and children`s activities have already restarted.

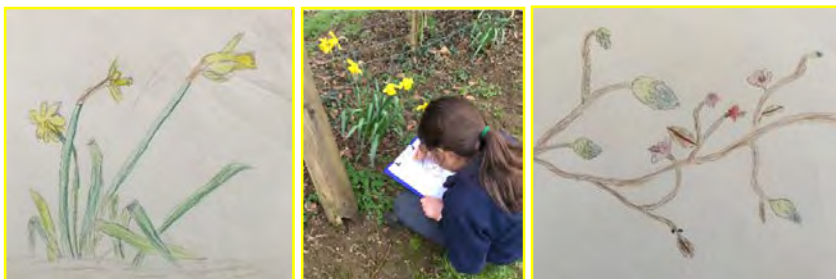
Exercise classes can start from May 17th

Ginny Bennett



We are all looking forward to the Summer Term at **Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School**. Although times are still far from normal, there is a definite sense of forward momentum. The new term sees the re-commencement of swimming lessons with our friends at Sibford School, the return of cycling road safety lessons (get ready to see our children 'out and about' around the village with their hi-vis jackets on) and the scheduling of face-to-face music tuition with Mr Keith Allen. These steps towards normality for our school community, though small, are very much to be celebrated.

It was so lovely to finish the Spring Term with all of the children back at school. The coming of spring meant that we were able to spend lots of time learning outdoors in the safety of our beautiful school grounds, with the children taking time to notice the changes in the weather and the natural environment. We really are very blessed here at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary.



Although the first weeks back were shaped by a focus on pupil well-being and learning assessments, we also found time to mark Shakespeare Week in school.

The children in Oak Class made some portraits of the bard. They were given a choice of styles: cartoon, pop art, abstract, collage or traditional.

Their responses were original, varied and highly creative. This pastel drawing is by Penny K in Year 6. Very well done, Penny!



Discover Sibford School

It's not too late to enquire about a place for entry in September 2021.

You can watch our virtual open event online today to discover what Sibford offers to pupils aged 3- 18, and learn how to enquire.

Simply visit www.sibfordschool.co.uk/events to learn more.

Delight for Sibford Sixth Form as university offers roll in!

Sibford Sixth Form students prove hard work pays off with UCAS offers being made and fantastic post 18 pathways opening up for Year 13s. To date:

- 41% of students have achieved 5 / 5 offers with more still to arrive.
- 9 Unconditional offers have been received.
- 5/5 offers for applications to Nursing.
- Alongside reduced grade offers, there have also been offers of financial bursaries to entice students.

Whilst final decisions are still to be made, and some offers still in the pipeline, Year 13 students will be heading towards a vast array of universities across the entire country: Kings College London, Durham, Cardiff, Reading, Bath Spa, Edinburgh, York and Sussex to name a few.

Cate Malleliu-Needle, Head of Sixth Form said 'I am so proud to highlight that our very deserving students will be studying a tremendously wide range of courses; Robotics, Industrial Design, Natural Science, Human Science, Mathematics, Physics, Environmental Management, Engineering, geography, Biochemistry, Nursing, Business and finance, MFL, Art & Fashion, Criminology and Film Studies!

'We are a small, close knit community and offer our students high levels of support, care and guidance. All staff actively support students in building on academic success and preparing them for their adult life, both vocationally and academically. We are very proud that in 2020, our A Level results placed Sibford Sixth Form in top 10% of all schools nationally, for the progress that students make.'

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Lots of good local pubs and restaurants, shops and galleries. Excellent public transport connections, including Newquay airport (half an hour by car).

For more information, please contact Linda on 01295 780 242 or 07973 226 032 or llindalaneyolo@gmail.com



SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

WALKING DATES

10 May; 24 May; 7 June; 21 June; 5 July; 19 July; 2 August

It appears that the rule of 6 for outdoor activities will come in on 29 March. I think therefore that if we walk for the first time on 12 April and again on 26 April, in groups of leader + 5, gap, leader + 5 and so on as we did before, we won't be breaking the law.

All walkers need to book in with me by phone or email as I need to know whether people are attending so I can pre-organise groups of Leader + 5, 100 yards, Leader + 5, in order to observe the rule of 6.

Leaving the village hall on foot or by car at 10.00 am sharp to do a circuit of approximately 2 hours' duration. It is therefore recommended that you get there for 9.55am.

Dogs welcome provided they are put on leads when requested. Walking boots and poles recommended but not compulsory. (Some routes include stiles). Walkers should either park on the road or on the grass field at the village hall and not on the tarmac area which is reserved for the painting class.

Once we get a bit closer to opening up I will add in more dates.

I am happy to answer any queries. Phone: 780365

Email: sebannister@gmail.com

Sue Bannister

FOOTPATHS

Ian Sharp, ian@iansharp.net, Lamb's Croft, Back Lane, Sibford Ferris, OX15 5RE. Tel. 01295 780790, is the footpaths warden and anyone who has a problem or complaint should contact him.

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Aaron O'Rourke

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SUNDAY SMALLHOLDING

We have experienced a long and cruel run of frosty nights. Those wanting to get on with growing flowers and vegetables early take the risk of losing their momentum and having an unheated greenhouse full of shrivelled seedlings! I have lost 9 young tomato plants. It is fascinating to see how the temperature within the greenhouse varies as the damaged plants were those closest to the glass. Outside in the veg plot the broad beans are battling on and I like to think that their flowers maybe get some protection from the fact that the leaves sag down, curling over them as the ice bites; the seed is Aqua Dulce, a fairly frost resistant variety. Also in the plot, and which are doing well are some magnificent cauliflowers (that surprised me as, for the past five months I thought they were spring cabbages), my life saving spinach, onions, leeks, and garlic. Four varieties of potatoes are deep underground. Peas have been sown outside but a backup crop sown inside for when the mice have eaten their fill. Gardening is very exciting just now.

Pigs

Sandy Boar was supposed to be returning home today. He has been no trouble and hopefully his next progeny are on the way with Esme. Graham Wealsby kindly agreed to transport him back to his owner in Mollington and duly arrived with the trailer. Loading a boar with sharp tusks is not for the feint hearted. We put food inside the trailer and waited. Esme went straight in and begun munching but Sandy was less sure and we patiently waited whilst he cautiously placed his front trotters on the ramp but kept his back legs on solid ground. After some time, he had made it almost inside the trailer and we held our breath with one trotter to go... then, Esme decided she had had enough food, she turned and headed back down the ramp with Sandy hot on her heels pushing through as we desperately tried to close trailer gates. The sun shone all afternoon to soothe our defeat, and as the pigs enjoyed a siesta, we sampled several bottles of homemade cider...we'll get him in tomorrow.

Sheep

Bill's Hebridean sheep have now finished lambing and the field is scattered with bouncy black bundles of joy. I always eagerly await the first lamb of the season. I think it is worth noting that this year's first lamb was born to a sheep who is 12 years old and has produced an impressive total of 16 lambs...so far.

SUNEDAY SMALLHOLDING

Cont'd

Goats

Alan has now made two Friday trips into the village to deliver the eggs and has, both times, carried them himself with no breakages. He appears to recognise the houses where he gets given treats and after eating digestive biscuits or carrots he tries to snatch a mouthful of whatever garden flora is going. These two Friday egg rounds have been easier to manage as we have been assisted by 10 year old Bertie Morley. She is learning all she can about running a smallholding as this is her dream for the future, and is currently waiting for her first lot of chicks to hatch. Rosie Red-Collar is just a week away from kidding.

Bees

Bill Crabtree has several hives placed around the village and one of these is in my garden. Unfortunately, when Bill and I looked into the hive last week we were very disappointed to find just a small number of bees at home. Bill is convinced this colony is too weak to survive and expects the hive to be empty on our next visit. Towards the end of May is the time when swarms are most likely to be seen, usually hanging from trees or clinging to some other structure. They literally hang around for a short time, perhaps an hour or so, then fly off to new premises. If you hear or see a swarm it would be brilliant if you could give me (07891 249526) or Bill (01295 780635) a ring as soon as possible as he now has two hives waiting for bees. On receiving your call, Bill will show a turn of speed that will surprise us and the bees!

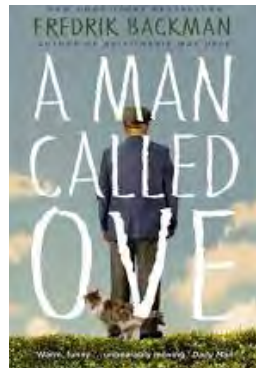
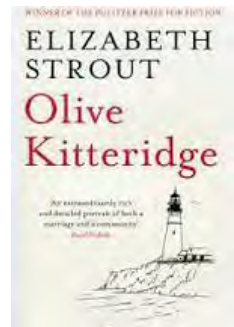
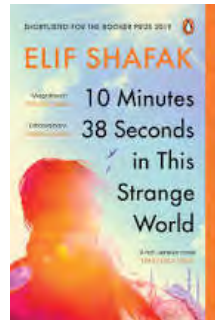
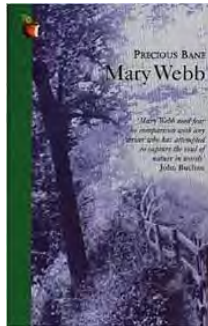
Dawn Chorus

I massively regret that the early morning bird ID walk has to be re-scheduled from 1st May to a week later on the 8th May, due to family circumstances. There are still spaces if anyone would like to join Iain Brown and myself and can make the new date. Those already signed up have been informed. Please give me a call if interested (780304 or 07891 249526).

Sue Sabin



WHAT WE'RE READING.....



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SIBFORD GOWER PARISH COUNCIL

SGPC Annual Parish Meeting 2021

In 2019 the Sibfords parish councils varied their approach to Annual Parish Meetings by hosting the very successful "2 Parishes, 1 Community" event that was held in Sibford Village Hall on 9th May that year.

Annual Parish Meetings were suspended in 2020 due to the COVID crisis, but for 2021 we will be able to hold such a meeting in a very limited way.

The Gower Council hope that we can promote a more celebratory "village showcase" event at the Village Hall later this year, but in the meantime we will be following the approach of the Ferris Council in holding our official **2021 Annual Parish Meeting on Zoom starting at 6:30pm on Thursday 6th May.**

The agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting is made up of issues and concerns put forward by anyone in the parish. A request for agenda items was published on The Sibfords website in mid-April, and the resulting agenda will now have been published on our website and our notice board, but there will still be an opportunity for open questions from parishioners during the meeting.

A copy of this agenda, including a Zoom weblink, will now be available at <https://thesibfords.uk/pc/sgpc> and we hope that you will be able to join us on Thursday 6th May at 6:30pm.

Kirsty Buttle
Clerk/RFO
Sibford Gower Parish Council
Tel: 01295 275372

E-mail: Sibford.gower.pc@thesibfords.org.uk

The worst thing about having a party in space is that you have to planet.

John Marshall



HORTI SOCIETY

On Wednesday 14th April, Victoria Logue gave us a useful practical demonstration via zoom, on plant propagation. Some of her tips were: To sow seeds in small pots or plugs, not trays. Fill the pots two thirds with compost and sow seeds in a top layer of vermiculite or perlite. Watering can be done from top to bottom. This reduces the danger of dampening off. For cuttings, cut just below a node or take heel cuttings. Put in compost round the edges of the pot. And to divide plants, use sharp tools, discard the middle part of the plant, using the young material around the side.

Our May Spring show will be unable to go ahead again this year, but we will be holding another 'Virtual Chelsea' in June, which Tim Huckvale has kindly agreed to organise once more. We are opening up the categories to include flowering and NON flowering plants so please start taking photographs now for all of us to admire. Tim has provided an online form at <https://the Sibfords.U.K./springshow>.

There is a limit of three entries per person and the deadline is midnight on Friday June 18th for publication on Sunday 20th.

Meanwhile Sue Bannister is still keen to sell you plants, many of which she has propagated herself. Please contact her on 01295 780365 or Sebannister@gmail.com to see a plant list, arrange a private view or donate plants to sell.

All proceeds from these plant sales go either to funding subsidies of our outings, hiring the hall for our shows, funding speakers or supporting NGS charities.

And looking ahead. Our evening visit to Rousham is still scheduled for Wednesday July 14th and we are hoping to visit Ashwood Nurseries by coach on THURSDAY July 22nd.

Diana Thompson

NGS Sibford Open Gardens – Sunday 27th June 2-6pm
Combined admission for all gardens £7 adult – children free



A group of 5 very different and interesting gardens with two newly opening for this year's NGS event.

Do come along and enjoy the socially distanced afternoon, support the NGS and its Nursing Charities (plus many more) and enjoy some tea and delicious homemade cakes at the village hall in aid of Holy Trinity Church.



In Your Garden - May

This is the merry month of May, and goodness me, we do all need a bit of merriment now, so although it is a time for all gardeners to be hectically busy, I am not going to go mad, but some days, just pootle about, enjoying it all, listening to the birds, sitting down in the sun. I do know there is great deal that should be done, so do it when you have great bursts of energy!

- 1...Having a decent lawn is worth working on. Keep mowing once a week, gradually reducing the height of the cut. A neatly trimmed edge is like a good haircut, makes all the difference.
2. Lift up and divide large overcrowded clumps of daffs and replant immediately
3. Harvest your delicious rhubarb, but remember to pull the stalks and not to cut them. And don't take more than half the clump at a time.
4. You can start planting up containers, pots and hanging baskets now. Garden shops have masses of good plants ready, and a bit of shopping adds to the merriment.
5. The tall perennials must be staked, delphiniums, asters, etc, and new growth on the clematis and roses needs tying in.
6. The soil should have warmed up by now, so you can sow annuals and your veggie seeds, but do not plant peas or beans until the end of the month. And you can give any taller flowers the Chelsea Chop at the end of May. It makes for shorter stems, and more flowers going on for longer.
7. Hedges will need clipping, but check that the birds are not nesting there first. And when your aubretia has finished flowering, give it a sever cut back.
8. Any newly planted trees and shrubs must be kept watered constantly.
9. If you have been keeping your dahlias under cover all winter, now is the time to plant them out. But be wary of frosts being forecast. Tall varieties will need sturdy stakes.
- 10 And lets all be horrid to the slugs. Look under leaves, creep out in the dark after the rain, with a torch, and you will be amazed how many you can put in your bucket. And it is the time to catch red lily beetles, and squidge them.

You may have noticed that medics have been advising people suffering from loneliness, misery, and depression after Covid, should turn away from sedatives, and pain killers, and get gardening. Well, we all knew that, so remember to flop in a chair, enjoy the flowers and the weeds, sit down with a drink, and be merry; the weeds can wait, at least until we get up for a refill.

Jupe Hitching

Hook Norton Road development

A public meeting with Gade Homes, the new owners of the Hook Norton Road site, took place on 7th April. The meeting was well attended and we hope that parishioners found the discussions useful. The questions that were submitted to Gade, their response, and the recording of the public meeting can all be found on the Sibford Ferris section of the Sibfords Website: <https://thesibfords.uk/pc/sfpc>

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Please see Website for Latest Opening Times

LOCAL MARKETS

Banbury - Every Thursday & Saturday. Farmers Market - 1st Friday of the month

Deddington Farmers - 4th Saturday of the month (click & collect)

Chipping Norton - Every Wednesday

Stourton Farmers - 1st Thursday of the month. 6-8pm



SIBFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Liz Woolley's talk on researching local history, which took place on 18th March, was predictably excellent and very informative, and she followed it up by providing us with a comprehensive list of sources for research, including addresses of county organisations and websites, books and access to courses. This was sent to all members and is available upon request to anyone who is interested.

On 15th April Deborah Hayter brought us a talk entitled 'The Lost Villages of Oxfordshire', and again we were treated to an expert hour-long summary of the topic. Deborah described in detail and with many illustrations, the various ways in which once thriving medieval villages were lost, through shrinkage, decay and desertion. Climate change played its role, arable land was increased at the expense of pasture, the Black Death robbed villages of their feudal system labourers.

Thankfully, the Sibfords survived to thrive, aided, as Maureen Hicks told us, by the three manor houses and the Town Estate Charity. Widford, near Swinbrook, was not as lucky, with its little church isolated in the middle of fields, a poignant but beautiful sight.

The next talk will be on 20th May: Marie -Louise Kerr explores the Roman settlements in Oxfordshire and their impact on the local area.

Our last Zoom talk will be by Stephen Barker on 17th June - Saints, Soldiers and Sinners; Oxfordshire characters from the Civil War.

Talks begin at 8pm and you will find details of how to join them on the website nearer the time.

We hope to be back in the Village Hall by September. Until then, thank you for supporting our attempt to keep the programme going!

Diana Hughes



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NATURE NOTES

13th March - Tom West sent me the following - This year I have noticed a family of long-tailed tits visiting the bird feeder. 8 turn up 4 times a day taking over the feeders, eating as much as they can, then charging off as if they are attending an emergency meeting. I find that they are fascinating to watch, when hanging upside down suspended from one leg whilst eating a seed with the other claw Reminds me of the spider monkeys hanging from the trees while eating. I have also seen blackcaps and nuthatches for the first time on my feeders. The local muntjac appeared in the garden, after a long staring competition which he won, he looked quite at home laying down in the sun, before disappearing, leaving me wondering how he got into the garden.



23rd March - Chris Beach noted - We have just had a pair of Bullfinches feeding in our garden (Woodway Road). They stayed around for about 20 minutes until chased away by a blackbird.

26th March - Colin Lamb sent me a photo of a pupa that he had found tucked away in some moss. I am fairly sure it is an Elephant Hawk-moth.



6th April - Alice Pennell photographed Bluebells in flower on Swalcliffe Common. Maybe the first of the year?

I have heard that there has been a definite sighting of a Water Vole in the Sibfords.

Although it has been a slow start to the Spring this year several people have commented on the bright yellow male Brimstone butterflies flying on sunny days, many of the garden birds are busy collecting nesting material and many species of wild flower are coming into bloom.

I wonder who will be the first to spot an Orange-tip or Holly Blue butterfly in the area?

Please keep the observations coming. E-mail to ajnewbold88@gmail.com

Andy and Gill Newbold

OPEN GARDENS FOR KATHARINE HOUSE – APRIL 2021 – SUMMER 2022

Our Open Gardens for Katharine House event is back again this Spring. We have a number of villages signed up already, and there is still plenty of time to get involved! If you are interested in opening your garden in support of Katharine House or for more information please email getinvolved@khh.org.uk or contact our fundraising department on 01295 816 484 or visit www.khh.org.uk/gardens

If you would like to visit one of our open gardens please see below for the villages who have already signed up:

- Chadlington village Open Gardens 23 May
- Churchill 3 July
- Hornton village Open Gardens 4 July
- Middleton Cheney village Open Gardens 18 July
- South Newington (by appointment only, please read below)

SOUTH NEWINGTON OPEN GARDEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Claire has kindly offered to open her lovely 1.5 acre garden in South Newington by appointment any time after April 12. She can offer a bespoke package to any gardening groups interested in a visit but individuals and families are also very welcome with tea and cakes available at an additional cost. Entry is for a minimum donation of £5 for adults, children free of charge. Assistance dogs only. Please email Clare to find out more: Claire_ainley@hotmail.com

WALK FOR KATHARINE HOUSE – JULY 2021

Back by popular demand Katharine House's biggest fundraising event the annual Midnight Walk returns this summer! We've been working hard to create a 2021 COVID-safe event for you to enjoy this July, but it may look a little different this year... Take on the challenge and join us as we walk to remember those we love, and support patients and families who rely upon Katharine House. Visit www.khh.org.uk/walk21 and sign up today.

THEN AND NOW

Mike Spring thought it would be nice to have some pictures of Sibford, comparing them with days gone by - here are this month's, which are taken almost exactly 100 years apart



The Old Post Office

SIBFORD SCENE
DEADLINE FOR JUNE ISSUE -
12 NOON - 18th MAY 2021

Editor: Tony Skowronski, Jasmine Cottage, Burdrop, OX15 5RN
T: 01295 780490
E: sibfordscene@gmail.com

Ad Manager & Treasurer: Ivor Hopkyns, Elmridge Farmhouse,
Sibford Gower, OX15 5RT
T: 01295 788367
E: sallyandivorhopkyns@hotmail.com

PLEASE LEAVE NO MILK TODAY, WHEN I SAY TODAY, I MEAN TOMORROW,
FOR FOR I WROTE THIS NOTE YESTERDAY.

MILKMAN, PLEASE CLOSE THE GATE BEHIND YOU BECAUSE THE BIRDS KEEP
PECKING THE TOPS OFF THE MILK

Mary West



DID YOU KNOW?

The Tale of an Ending:

The March edition of the Scene include a poem transcribed from the Book of Hours written in 1851 by the 13-year-old Sarah Dix. I challenged readers to write a suitable ending, using the same literary style, to complete the history of the Kings and Queens of England to date. The original poem ended at the beginning of the reign of King George III. Here is one suggestion for your amusement: -

George Third is remembered for being quite mad
But disease in his kidneys made them quite bad.
His son, fourth George was Regent at first
but when he was crowned, his behaviour was worse.
Chorus: Thus barring all bother, the one and the other
All came to be Kings in their turn.

King William the Fourth, last Hanoverian monarch,
A 'Sailor King' he oft' slept in a hammock.
An Irish actress gave him ten children
But he left them all to do a King's bidding.
Chorus:

Queen Victoria, just eighteen when she was crowned
Her long reign for industrial revolution was renowned.
Her son Bertie was our seventh King Edward
But after nine years his soul was bound heav'nward.
Chorus:

Fifth George, cousin to the murdered Tsar
Was King of our country through the First World War.
The next king, never crowned, was Edward Eight
But his love for a woman made him abdicate.
Chorus:

His brother George Six, married Elizabeth Bowes Lyon
Who, thro' World War Two the nation relied on.
Young Princess Elizabeth married her handsome Greek Prince
and has been our Second Elizabeth ever since ...

Chorus: And may her son's sons to the end of the chapter,
All come to be Kings in their turn.

Maureen Hicks

LANDSCAPE ABSTRACTED

An exhibition of paintings
of the landscape made in the fields
around Sibford and over the course
of the past year

15th - 23rd MAY

SWALCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL

10am - 5pm
(Covid aware)

www.nigelfletcher.co.uk



Sibford Photography Club

Sibford Photography Club is an informal group with a shared interest in photography that began holding monthly meetings (currently online) in 2020. Activities include instructive presentations and regular photo topics with the resulting images presented and discussed at meetings (face to face or virtual). For example, in May we will be discussing photos of "Our villages". This will give us an opportunity to review our best images from the club's first photoshoot held in April around the Sibfords. In the future, we might also put on a club exhibition. We would like to welcome more members to the club, so if you are interested in joining, please contact Colin Lamb at colinlamb.cl@gmail.com or phone 01295 780357.

Holy Trinity Church together with the help of the **Sibford Photography Club** are planning to produce a 2022 calendar showing the Sibfords throughout the year, to raise funds for the ongoing maintenance of the church and funds for the Photography Club. It is intended to have the calendars on sale by 1st October 2021. Details of a photographic competition to find best 12 original photographs will be available on the Sibfords website from 1 May, together with entry details.

Barbara Foster, Churchwarden, Holy Trinity Church

Colin Lamb, Sibford Photography Club.



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Saturday 8am - 6.00pm

Sunday 8am - 1.00 pm

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

At the risk of being really boring about the types of scams being perpetrated, here is a reminder of some recent ones together with additional information about mobile phone network scams.

"The lady on the phone told me to transfer every penny to a safe account" - and she did !!!

There has been a spike in consumers reporting suspicious texts as scammers impersonate parcel delivery firms, banks and the Royal Mail, taking advantage of locked - down workers shopping online. Although SMS text messages are really old tech (even for me), scammers are just starting to understand how powerful it is.

Five simple tips to avoid being scammed;

1. Be wary of calls from your 'bank'. Always call them back before engaging.
2. Remember that scammers can format texts to make them look official.
3. Never give out personal details to someone who has called you first.
4. Some phones allow you to block numbers for repeat offenders.
5. Report scam texts by sending them to 7726.

Info from Daily Telegraph, 17.4.21.

Just a reminder of the advice flagged up on Nextdoor Sibford Gower concerning a National Insurance scam, claiming your NI number has been compromised and, of course, they want all your personal details. Please don't. Peter Hine

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SIBFORD GOWER VILLAGE HALL

EVERY OTHER SATURDAY

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Zoom Yoga

Tuesdays: Slow & Gentle

Yoga 9-10am

Thursdays: Flow Yoga

9 - 10am

Fridays: Chair Yoga

10 - 11am

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juliette53@btinternet.com**

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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Dear friends,

It has been a very busy time since my last letter in the life of Holy Trinity church here in Sibford. We had a glorious Easter Sunday morning service and the church looked amazing with wonderful flower displays. There also appeared a beautiful easter garden near the path from the gate to the church. Even with all the limitations which still exist in respect of singing in church, it has been fantastic to see people from our villages feeling more confident in returning to be safely together at Sunday worship.

Since last month's letter I've had a brilliant online meeting with the Sibford cubs and scouts which I really enjoyed and I look forward very much to all the things that they can do with the church in Sibford. I've also even begun to be able to meet people in their gardens and share a cup of tea and a slice of cake, and look forward to many more such meetings and to many more slices of cake!

The week after Easter Sunday we of course received the sad news of the death of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and the day after the news we held an online Commemoration service for him and the bell in the church was tolled 99 times at Noon. It was a time of national mourning but also thanksgiving for a man who had served the Queen, our nation, the commonwealth and the world tirelessly throughout his life.

The relaxing of some of the lockdown measures in April, has brought once again a sense of a fresh hope for a summer where we might once again be together socially, because as people we are, I would suggest, made to be relational. Some of us might be a bit more reserved than others, some of us might like our own space and time alone, but ultimately it is in our relationships with each other, in our families, with friends and neighbours, do we grow a real sense of not only who we are, but also being a part of our village and local community.

As we journey individually and together, as a church family and as a community, hopefully even more positively, into the Summer months, I pray that we will all grow in the knowledge that we are all brothers and sisters, we are all God's children

Love & prayers Revd Neil Tel: 788005



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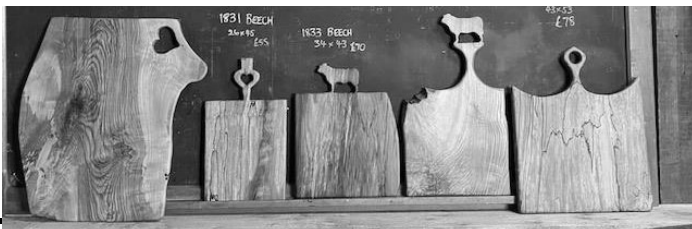
- ~ Presentation – Food Theatre! ~ Cake Boards ~ Cheese Boards ~
- ~ Chopping Boards ~ Serving Platters ~ Etc ~

**** 5th Wedding Anniversary: 'Wood' ****

Between Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower. Welcome to view.

07580 597042 - jonquilsabin@hotmail.co.uk – 01295 780418

www.at-temple-mill.co.uk



WELCOME TO SIBFORD

If you are new to the Sibfords and would like a 'Welcome to Sibford' booklet, providing details of village services and activities, please call Ivor Hopkyns on T: 788367 (Gower & Burdrop) or Nic Durrant T: 788865 (Ferris). And don't forget that we are lucky enough to have a really great village website too at: thesibfords.org.uk

HELP WANTED = DO YOU HAVE WEB DESIGN EXPERIENCE?




We are planning a re-design of the village hall community website and are looking for a little volunteer help from someone with relevant experience to assist.

Please call or text Chris on 07714 838108



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TEMPORARY TIMETABLE COMMENCING 1.2.21	NS				SSH	
Monday to Saturday	50A	50A	50A	50A	50A	
SOA - Wood Street	6.15	9.05	11.05	13.05	16.05	
SOA - Bridge Street	6.17	9.07	11.07	13.07	16.07	
Ettington - Village Hall		9.20	11.20	13.20	16.15	
Halford - Bridge Inn		9.30	11.30	13.30	C	
Tredington, White Lion	6.32	9.32	11.32	13.32	C	
Shipston - Tilemans Lane	6.37	9.37	11.37	13.37	16.32	
Shipston - Pettiphers Garage	6.40	9.40	11.40	13.40	16.35	
Lower Brailles - The Park	6.50	9.50	11.50	13.50	16.45	
Sibford Ferris - School	7.02	10.02	12.02	14.02	16.57	
Lower Tadmarton	7.12	10.12	12.12	14.12	17.07	
Banbury, Bus Station	7.25	10.25	12.25	14.25	17.20	
	<i>D/SSH</i>			<i>Sch</i>	<i>SSH</i>	
Banbury, Bus Station	10.30	10.30	12.30	14.30	14.30	17.30
Lower Tadmarton	10.43	10.43	12.43	14.43	14.43	17.43
Sibford Ferris - School	10.53	10.53	12.53	14.53	14.53	17.53
Lower Brailles - The Park	11.06	11.06	13.06	15.06	15.06	18.06
Shipston - Pettiphers Garage	11.16	11.16	13.16	15.16	15.16	18.16
Shipston - Tilemans Lane	11.19	11.19	13.19	E	15.19	18.19
Tredington, White Lion	11.24	11.24	13.24		15.24	18.24
Halford - Bridge Inn	11.26	11.26	13.26		15.26	18.26
Ettington - Village Hall	11.36	11.36	13.36		15.36	18.34
SOA - Bridge Street	11.50	11.50	13.50		15.50	18.44
SOA - Wood Street	11.53	11.53	13.53		15.53	18.46
C - Operates via Ilmington at 16.24	Sch - Operates on Schooldays only	SSH - Operates Sat & Mon to Fri during School Holidays	NS - Does not operate on Saturday			
D - Operates via Ilmington at 8.17						



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

1st - Valaai's: Sibford Stores. 530pm-830pm

1st-23rd. ArtWeeks. Museum of Modern Art, Sibford Ferris

15th - 23rd. Nigel Fletcher Exhibition - Village Hall Swalcliffe

15th - Village Hall Book Swap - 10am - Noon

15th - Valaai's: Village Hall. 530pm-830pm

20th - SHS talk: 'Romans of Oxfordshire' 8pm. Zoom

MAY BIN COLLECTIONS

Green Tuesday: 11th; 25th
Blue/Brown Tuesday: 4th; 18th

Unwanted clothing and shoes may be recycled anytime at the Textiles/
Recycling Bank at Sibford School Swimming Pool. Bottle banks at Sibford
Ferris: Elm crossroads and Sibford Gower: Wykham Arms car park.

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1

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3

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