

October 2011

No. 336

Rev Canon Timothy Wimbush

The funeral service will take place in St Mary's Church, Banbury
On Thursday 6th October 2011 at 2.00 pm

Quaker Fairtrade Tea at the Meeting House

Saturday 8th October 3 - 5.30pm

Church Coffee Morning

Saturday 15th October 10 - 12 noon in the Church

Harvest Festival and Bring and Share Lunch

Sunday 16th October 11.00 am

Friendship Club Trip to Westonbirt Arboretum

Tuesday 18th October

Advance Warning

Bonfire and Fireworks at the Primary School

Saturday 5th November 5.30pm (fireworks at 6pm)

Nature Notes

July 28th It was nice to hear that a young spotted flycatcher was seen in Sibford Ferris today. Their nests are so often built where they are easily seen by predators, particularly cats, that the proportion successfully rearing young must be lower than most birds.

July 30th My son saw a wagtail catch a peacock butterfly and shake it repeatedly to get rid of the wings before flying away with the body so I expect it was still feeding young ones.

Aug 1st While my son in law was talking on the phone a sparrowhawk chased a bird into his porch, grabbed it and carried it away. A luckier bird was the one that my sister in law noticed was in the greenhouse with her and looking terrified. She chased away the sparrowhawk that was outside looking through the glass at it.

Aug 8th On the ground among the lupins in the field behind Little London a white butterfly was struggling as though it was caught in a cobweb. When I looked more closely I could see that it was being attacked by a wasp. It managed to throw the wasp off a couple of times but each time it came back to sting it again and soon killed it. The wasp then chewed off the wings and carried the body away. I have often seen wasps catching flies, especially in the autumn when they get a bit sleepy, but this is the first time that I have seen one tackle a butterfly. It took 10 to 15 minutes in all to complete its task..

Aug 9th A hornet took a honey bee or something of a similar size from a flower in the garden this morning.

Aug 17th I was shown a plant of dodder or possibly greater dodder growing from the stem of an aster. As it had no root contact with the soil it must be fully parasitic on its host and that aster was a bit smaller than the others in the group. I have never seen dodder in Sibford but unless it came in the packet of seed that the asters were grown from it must be around. We also saw a young bullfinch that had apparently died colliding with a window.



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Aug 28th My son spotted a young male blackcap lying in the flowers. It probably died by flying into the window above.

Sept 10th An unusual caterpillar that may have fallen from a vase of Japanese sunflowers and willow gentian was crawling on the table. Half the length of its back was chestnut brown and the other half pale cream almost white. Can anyone tell me what it will turn into?

Sept 18th As we walked to stretch our legs after arriving in Borrowdale in the Lake District, a skein of perhaps 50 geese flew high overhead in one big V but as they went away to the north they were breaking formation into smaller Vs.

Sept 19th We watched a female merganser, great crested grebe and various duck on Derwent Water. There are still some patches of devils bit scabious in full bloom. On the way to Watendlath we stopped at a great viewpoint giving a view over Derwent Water as if seen from the air.

Sept 20th At the youth hostel we saw treecreepers and a good selection of tits. When they put out food for the birds they sometimes get a red squirrel come for its share.

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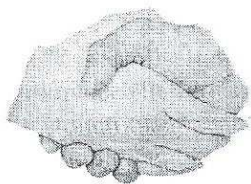
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Friendship Club

We have just returned from Woodstock Museum. We had a lovely afternoon with a "Memory Box", tea and biscuits and then we had a look around the Museum itself. They have a new exhibition on the Victorian Era including a short film showing the

changes in North Oxfordshire. There are pictures of South Newington, Bloxham and other villages around us. Even pictures of Alice Fowler's Uncle Gordon playing darts in our local pub. I think all enjoyed the afternoon out. Our next Meeting is on October 4th in the Village Hall and our next TRIP is on the 18th going to Westonbirt Arboretum. Anyone wishing to come with us please ring Eveline on 263460 for details

It's a shame that more local people aren't interested in joining our Club. Why don't you come along and see what we are up to. As long as you're 55 and over, The 1st Tuesday in the month in the Village Hall 2-4

Car Vandalism

There has once again been an incident of paint stripper being thrown over a residents car in Cotswold Close. Please be more vigilant & cautious as to where you park your vehicle, as the culprits remain at large.

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Sibford Horticultural Society

The weather held beautifully for show day, as we were holding our breath after the previous days downpours. It was lovely to see so many people come to look at the entries but the total number was very low this year. Where were the children's entries? There was not 1 under 4's entry which is pathetic considering how many under 4's there are in the villages. Parents please encourage your children to have a go next year. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 12th October, 8pm in the Village Hall when Duncan Coombes will be talking about Autumn Colour. Please come and join us - everyone welcome.

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Attendance was a little down this month due to a number of members being on holiday or unwell. It was with much sadness that President Glennis Hardman reported that fellow member Charlotte Cox passed away in July after a short illness. Sibford WI was well represented at her funeral on 2nd August. A collection was taken at the Meeting in memory of Charlotte and sent to Katharine House Hospice. Our coach outing on 10th August to Basildon Park was most successful and very enjoyable. Glennis thanked Margaret Gardiner for making all the smooth running arrangements. Adrian Williams was here today to talk about aspects of life in a Maltese village. Malta, located south of Sicily in the Mediterranean Sea between North Africa and Europe, covers an area of approximately 316sq.m, has a population in the region of 410,000 and in 2004 became one of the smallest countries to join the EU. It has a long history of being overrun by various invaders and its architecture, language, food, customs all provide ample evidence of occupation by Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Europeans and most recently the British from whom it gained independence in 1964. Much of the terrain is very inhospitable with little land suitable for cattle grazing or farming. We learned that there is a type of Maltese sheep-and-goat hybrid which wanders around towns and villages and of course fish is a staple part of the diet. The Maltese are a resourceful nation and most families keep rabbits and chickens on the roof of their houses where they also grow oranges and lemons. Older houses usually have an underground reservoir of water for their animals and domestic use and most houses also have a water tank, once more on the roof. More recently a system of desalinated drinking water has become available produced by a process of reverse osmosis. The older buildings were built from the local globagerina limestone which is still quarried on the island. Village life revolves around the usually grandiose Parish Church which at times of attack provided both sanctuary and a place to hide money and valuables belonging to the village. At such times the narrow very curving lanes which run between the high buildings not only neutralised the efforts of enemy archers but confused and frustrated the attempts of invaders and pillagers to find



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their way to the village coffers. Of course, becoming a member of the EU has brought about changes – for example the local bus service has been replaced by Stagecoach which at least probably gives the local population sufficient confidence to refrain from crossing themselves at the beginning of their journey. However, for both men and women the church still plays a very large part in their lives and never more so than during the village annual Saint's Day celebration. This will include the letting off of very large, very loud fireworks (mortar shells?) beginning at 6a.m., continuing throughout the day together with the incessant pealing of bells, the decorating of streets, illuminated church and of course the sometimes 4-hour long procession through the streets. This was a talk containing very fascinating detail illustrated by many slides and Adrian was thanked by Daphne Lenton. Val Powell and Valerie Taylor served a delicious tea. The competition for 'A Holiday View Photograph' was judged by our speaker and he awarded 1st Margaret Gardiner, 2nd Greta Baadsgaard and 3rd Rosemary Neal. Our next Meeting is on Tuesday, 11th October when we look forward to Gillian Cane's talk on 'The Mitford Sisters'. Please bring an item of Art Deco jewellery for the competition. Visitors warmly welcome.

Margaret Gardiner

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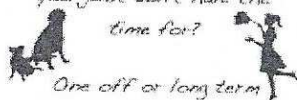
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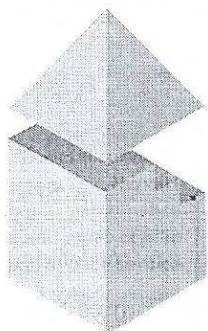
“ENTRIES WERE DOWN”

Every year The Horticultural Society makes a huge effort to put on their annual show in the village hall. Marquees have to be erected, tables positioned, display boards fixed safely, judges chosen and asked to judge, not to mention a tea, cakes galore, suitable for any Royal Garden Party, should any of our Royals care to drop in.

The show is a very good platform of just how many talents and skills there are in the village and the surrounding area. Many of us throw caution to the wind, to compete head to head, with our traditional Victoria sponges, carefully made, according to the set recipe, that on this tense occasion, you may well manage to burn! Maybe onions are your thing; exhibit your very best huge onions, against someone's outrageously large ones, specially presented tied and trimmed according to the strict rules, deadly stuff this, which yet again you just can't win.... not mentioning any names!

There are classes for all. The children's are always fun and imaginative. Do the simple decorate readymade cupcakes or for anyone there is the wonderful class for an "unfinished" item, we all have one of those. Then there is the men's only cake baking class, anything to encourage equality of the sexes. Many wonderful photograph sections and flower arranging at all levels hopeless to brilliant. Homemade drinks, pickles, jams and lots of yummiie baking. Arts and crafts, did you see the magnificent escapee bull from Temple Mill? He took up the whole stage but did he have a name? And just how did the elderflower cordial winner, manage such a crystal clear sample?

The members of this society make a huge effort, every year. I thought if I wrote in the scene now anyone who wants to, can get ahead with perhaps, sloe gin, the current champion needs someone to knock him off his pedestal! Now's the time for pickle, jam, photos, perhaps a masterpiece or even something that doesn't end up finished. Entries I understand were down this year



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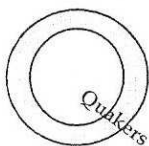
and if that continues, the village will lose a very traditional stage, for showing the visitors to the show just how capable we all are.

What I am trying to say is a big thank you to the Horticultural Society; you do a wonderful job of putting the show on the road. I know it takes time, planning and a lot of hard work on the day. It is a wonderful opportunity to bring together the young and old of the village, for sheer fun and pleasure, and to marvel at the skills of others.....oh and a bit of gamesmanship, which is good for us all. I am not a member of the Horticultural Society; did you know it is not a requirement for entering? Let's keep the entries up, and thank you for your efforts and a great deal of fun.

See you all at the 2012 Hortilympics.

Margie Taylor

Ps. has anyone actually managed to do the unbelievably difficult annual horti quiz, on any subject known to man, set by Kit Lamb? The deadline is nearly here with a box of chocolates to be won!



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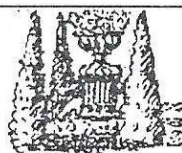
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Broadband Speeds in the Villages.

From my initial enquiries with friends and neighbours it would appear that there are very wide variations in the broadband speeds achieved, from as much as 5.5mbps to as little as 0.4 mbps (my speed this evening).

I'd like as many people as possible to test their speed at

<http://www.uswitch.com/broadband/speedtest> and forward the results to me at paul@greenacres99.wanadoo.co.uk. I'll need addresses to plot location and approximate distance from exchange as this is a significant factor, the greater distance the lower the speed. I think internet service provider could be useful as well, might indicate that some isps are providing a better service than others. I'm pretty confident that if I can get speed test results from across our villages those results will show that there is something more than distance from the exchange seriously reducing the speeds of some broadband users in our community. If I get enough information I may be able to get something done about it, at least I'll try. Any help from anyone with expertise in this field would be much appreciated.

Paul Hobson

I am very much looking forward to learning how to play squash and am looking for someone to play with once or twice a week at Sibford School. I believe the courts are £6.00 for 50mins and one needs their own equipment. I am new to this area, but very much hoping that I will be able to find a squash partner who is dedicated to getting fit and enjoying themselves. If you are interested please email rowanwalton@hotmail.com

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WELCOME TO SIBFORD

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This month we welcome Philippa Martindale and Warwick Knowles to Burdrop. They come from Durham with two cats. Philippa is a freelance academic researcher and editor. Warwick is chief economist at Dun & Bradstreet and works in Marlow. Warwick plays football and they both enjoy lengthy walks.

We have a new resident down by the pond in Sibford Gower. Stephen Gomersall and Julie Lynn-Evans are working in London and, unfortunately, will only be spending part of the week here until retirement in a couple of year's time. They both love walking and bike riding and Julie says she needs plenty of gardening tips.

Matt and Abi have moved to Burdrop in September. They came from Bristol as Matt's job with a children's book publisher relocated to Oxford. Bonnie, who is 2 ½ has already been to playgroup and is shortly expecting a brother or sister.



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SIBFORD LEADS THE WAY WITH NEW APP
Sibford School has become one of the first schools in the country to release its own App.

The Sibford School App is available as a free download for anyone with an iPhone, iPod Touch or iPad (via the App store) or with an android smart phone or tablet (via

the Android Marketplace). There are also plans to extend the App to BlackBerry users in the near future.

Sibford School head Michael Goodwin, said: "Apps are becoming increasingly popular but are still a very new idea as far as schools are concerned. Certainly we believe we are the first school in this the area to embrace this new technology."

The Sibford School App will enable parents, pupils and friends of the school to keep up-to-date with news, events and information. It also features a direct phone and email link, a map showing how to find the school and photo galleries.

"In today's modern world it is important that we use as many different forms of communication as possible," said Michael. "We already have a website, use email and texting to send messages home, and share information on Facebook and Twitter. The new App provides us with yet another tool we can use." Neil Harding, business development director for Smartphone Media, who developed the App, said: "We believe mobile is going to be bigger than the internet. The new expectation is that you can connect at any time, and that's where the technology is headed.

"This App has been tailor-made for Sibford School. Smartphone Media and Sibford School put a lot of thought into what kind of App would be helpful, both to parents of existing pupils and also to parents of prospective pupils, and we are very happy with the results."

DAILY MAIL CUP

Sibford School under 15s Rugby Club are through to the second round of the Daily Mail Cup after a 26-22 victory over Magdalen College School. They now face St Paul's Catholic School, Milton Keynes in the second round.

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OCTOBER CALENDAR

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Monday 10 October: 10am Open Morning - A chance to see what Sibford School can offer your child. For further information contact Elspeth Gregory on 01285 781300

Monday 10 October: 6.30pm Life Drawing

Thursday 13 October: 6.30pm Sixth Form Open Evening - A chance to discover more about Sibford Sixth form and the courses on offer to students aged 16 and over.

Monday 17 October: 6.30pm Life Drawing

Wednesday 26 October: 6.30pm Community Reading Group 'Westwood' by Stella Gibbons

Sibford Swimming Pool is open to the public in the evenings and at weekends. For opening hours visit the website www.sibford.oxon.sch.uk and click on 'Public Facilities'.

Advance notice: Sibford School Christmas Fayre will take place on Friday 2 December. To book a stall call 01295 781216.

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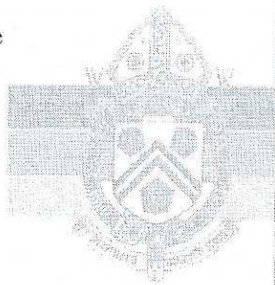
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Many thanks for your support!

Andrew Harrison

Katharine House Hospice – House to House Campaign 2011

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the recent door to door collection in Sibford Ferris; I was thrilled with the total collected of £137.86 (one very heavy tin!).

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Hilary Maguire

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Village Hall News

The Village Hall Quiz will be held on Saturday, 19th November. Teams of up to six persons are welcome to enter. A charge of £5 per head will be made. Please let Ginny 780373, or Muriel 780025 know well before the date, so that we can arrange catering.

A light supper will be laid on .Licensed bar available.

In the spring of 2012 we will hold a Family Quiz again as this years proved so popular. If anyone has an idea for entertainment / fundraising that they would like to see at the Village Hall, please contact Joan

Broady 780410. We hope to raise money to purchase a new lighting system for the hall and the stage area.

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Please remain aware and follow Police advice.

During the summer there has been an increase in the number of burglaries; clubs have had equipment such as lawnmowers stolen, cars have been broken into and mobile phones and sat navs have been stolen, please make sure valuable items are not left in vehicles; metals have been stolen too, churches are being targeted for their lead, Tadmarton church has had lead removed twice.

It is up to each of us and in our interest to make it difficult for the opportunist, conmen and bogus callers. Make sure all tools, bicycles and toys etc. are locked away out of sight when not in use; that windows and doors are closed when out of sight; that you never allow people into your property without checking their identity with their employer and never buy or sell at the door. Please look after neighbours, never give out any information, make sure post, papers and leaflets are put through letterboxes and that parcels are not left on doorsteps. The phone and internet are also used to target potential victims, never give any caller your personal details. Sadly, we live in a very mobile society where some people cannot be trusted.

If you see anything suspicious phone the police with as much information as possible.

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T:- 01295 780373

E:- sales@ombmusic.co.uk

Tickets:- £15 Concessions, OAP's & Children £10

Rev Canon Timothy Wimbush

The funeral service will take place in St Mary's Church, Banbury

On Thursday 6th October 2011 at 2.00 pm

Erica has asked us to say that the family regrets that the funeral will not be held in the Benefice but, after careful consideration and consultation with everyone involved, it was thought that for the numbers likely to wish to attend, none of the Benefice churches could hope to accommodate so many.

We are also requested to say that the coffin will be moved into Holy Trinity Church on the evening of October 5th when there will be a short private service for the family only. It will remain in the church overnight and if anyone would like to say their own prayers there in the morning of 6th and before it is moved to the Crematorium, they are welcome to do so. The Church will be open that morning from 7.00 am

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On Thursday 22nd September, 35 members and friends attended our meeting in Sibford Village Hall

We were given a most interesting and informative talk by Mark Davies from Oxford who spoke on the subject of Oxford's Historic Waterways.

He explained how the development of the Oxford Canal which opened in 1790, had a beneficial effect to the city of Oxford by enabling goods (predominantly coal) to be moved from the Midlands to locations further south including London via the Thames which the canal joins at Oxford.

Thames barges used to visit Oxford but could not use the canal due to size restrictions.

Today, there is virtually no commercial traffic on the canal and it has now become a waterway for leisure use.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th October at 8pm when Maureen and Keith Hicks will be giving a presentation on the Domesday Project which the Society has been working on for the last 18 months.

All current and any new members are most welcome.

Clerk to Sibford Ferris

Parish Council Required

We seek a person to take over as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council.

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Terrorist Tom Update.

My apologies to those of you who expected to see this article sooner. I sent the article to an incorrect email address through my tears of mourning as I had to have Samson put to sleep on 20th June. A very true and loyal friend and those of you that know me will understand what a wrench its been. Anyway, on a very positive note, the Tom Cat that was Terrorising us in the Gower and possibly elsewhere in the village is alive and well and loving his new home. I borrowed a Cat Trap from the Cat Protection League and the first night got him! He was then neutered and looked after by the vets at Hook Norton, a very big thanks to them for being so helpful, you know who you are. We had to wait for a couple of weeks to see if his owners turned up, but, they were probably miles away by then as he had been around since Christmas. TT now lives on a farm and is doing very well. Many thanks to all who tried to help him and feed him etc. Many thanks to Cat Protection League and Hook Norton Vets for all their assistance. So a very big Good Luck to TT in his new home and God Bless Samson

Julie Snelson



*Sarah Walker
Vivienne Nott*

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Contributions for the
November
Sibford Scene
to the Shop or Editor
by October 18th

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH NEWS

As this article was being written, the news came through of the death of our beloved Rector Canon Timothy Wimbush in Katharine House at 9.00 am on Thursday 22nd September. Much will be written about Tim, who has been our Rector since 1976 but for the moment we can only recommend the prayers of all of us for him for Erica, Peter, Andrew, James and all the members of their families. An announcement will be made concerning funeral arrangements as soon as possible.

This is a double blow to our community, so quickly following the sudden and totally unexpected death of Eileen Haynes, long serving member of the PCC and of our choir and immense supporter of numerous village activities and, with her devoted husband Tony, friend to so many and whose funeral in a packed church took place on 6th September.

Other news from the Parish seems at this moment of no consequence but neither Tim nor Eileen would like that to be so and would wish us to carry on with life. So as a tribute to them both and all they have done for our Parish, the Benefice and the village over many years, we report as follows:

The choir will be rehearsing as usual for the Royal School of Church Music annual Festival at Christchurch Cathedral on October 8th. Tim started our choir 25 years ago and has directed and accompanied us ever since, with the Broughton and Benefice choir additionally. He also served on the committee of the Oxford Branch of the RSCM for many years. Keith Allen has very generously agreed to take over from Tim as choirmaster at Sibford at least for the time being and Chris Alexander has been running the Broughton and Benefice choirs.

The Ride and Stride in aid of the Oxford Historic Churches Trust (where half the funds raised by us go to them and half to our church) had considerable support from our members, one of whom, a PCC member visited 50 churches by bicycle. Many thanks to him and to all the others who participated by slog or by welcoming at Holy Trinity those from other churches. The amount raised has not yet been quantified.

Many thanks to Peter and Judy Abbott who hosted a very successful Coffee Morning in their house last Saturday. The amount raised was £129, a useful addition to the hard pressed funds. Our next will be in Church on Saturday 15th October as usual, 10.00 am to 12 noon.

On 12th October there will be a special PCC meeting to discuss a Christian Stewardship Campaign.

Our traditional Harvest Festival Service will take place at 11.00 am on Sunday 16th October but our junior members will be instructing us in place of a sermon. This should be a performance not to be missed. The service will be followed by a "Bring and Share" lunch in the Village Hall to which all are invited. Most are familiar with this formula but for those who are not, just bring enough main course, hot or cold, and pudding for yourselves and usually the sum total gives a fascinating collection of dishes for all to enjoy; a modern version of the Parable of the Loaves and Fishes.

www.thesibfords.org.uk/holytrinitychurch

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, as below.
 Oct 2nd Benefice Eucharist at Epwell 10.00 am
 Oct 6th Funeral Service at St Mary's Church Banbury for Rev Canon Timothy Wimbush 2 pm
 Oct 9th Parish Communion 9.30 am
 Oct 16th Harvest Festival 11.00 am followed by "Bring & Share" Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall
 Oct 23rd Parish Communion (BCP) 9.30 am
 Oct 30th Parish combined Matins & Communion 9.30 am

Sibford Methodist Chapel Preachers for October.

Sun 2nd Miss M Newman
 Sun 9th Mrs M Radcliffe
 Sun 16th Rev C Clewlow
 Sun 23rd Rev B Rolfe
 Sun 30th Mrs C Cond



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Bus 50A. From Banbury towards Stratford-upon-Avon

Banbury, Bus Station	08.30	10.55	12.45	14.26	16.05	17.10	18.10
Sibford Ferris, Cross Roads	08.52	11.17	13.07	14.48	16.27	17.32	18.32
Sibford Gower, School	08.55	11.20	13.10	14.51	16.30	17.35	18.35
Shipston,	09.15	11.40	13.35	15.11	16.50	17.55	18.55
Stratford on Avon, Wood St.	09.40	12.09	14.04	15.40	17.19	18.24	19.24

Bus 50A. From Stratford-upon-Avon towards Banbury

NS

Stratford on Avon, Wood St	06.20	07.10	09.05	11.10	13.10	15.10	16.24
Sibford Gower, School	07.04	07.55	09.56	11.56	13.56	15.56	17.14
Sibford Ferris, Cross Roads	07.07	07.58	09.59	11.59	13.59	15.59	17.17
Banbury, Bus Station	07.28	08.25	10.21	12.21	14.21	16.21	17.39

NS = Not Saturdays

All buses will operate low floor wheelchair accessible vehicles.

For complete details of all the stops that are served by service 50A, timetables are obtainable from the Tourist Information Centre in Castle Quay, Banbury.

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Calendar of Events

October

- Tue 4th Electric Blanket Testing
- Tue 4th Friendship Club Meeting in the Village Hall p4
- Wed 5th Quiz a Quaker 6.30 - 8.00pm (see previous issue)
- Sat 8th Quaker Fairtrade Tea at the Meeting House 3 - 5.30pm p9
- Tue 11th W.I. The Mitford Sisters p6
- Wed 12th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)
- Wed 12th Horticultural Society Meeting - Autumn Colour p5
- Sat 15th Church Coffee Morning 10 - 12 noon in the Church p21
- Sun 16th Harvest Festival and Bring and Share Lunch p21
- Tue 18th Friendship Club Trip to Westonbirt Arboretum p4
- Thu 20th Sibfords Society Domesday Project Update p18
- Sat 22nd Come into the Garden Concert p15 - order form on flyer
- Wed 26th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)

November (part)

- Sat 5th Bonfire and Fireworks at the Primary School 5.30pm p5
- Wed 9th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)
- Tue 19th Central Florida Brass Band Concert p17
- Sat 19th Village Hall Quiz p15
- Wed 23rd Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40 - 4.10pm)

Cover picture. Aerial View of Sibford School

Sibford Scene

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