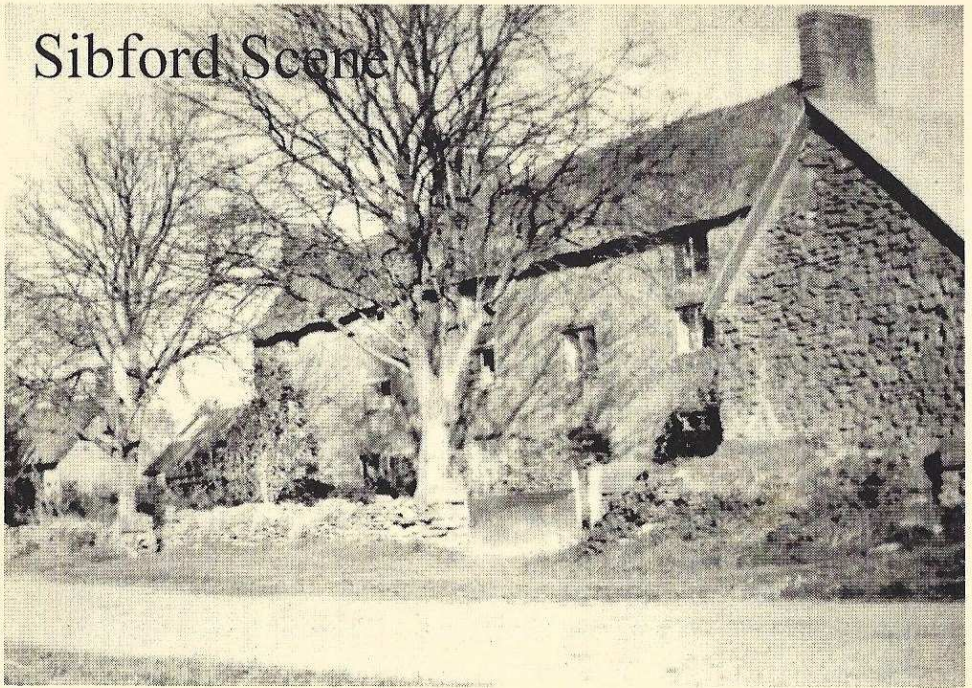


Sibford Scene



April 2014

No. 361

An Evening with Cheese and Wine
Saturday 5th April 7.00pm at the Village Hall

Gower and Ferris Spring Clean Saturday 12th April
Meet at 10 am at the Village Hall and Lanes End Corner

Good Friday Activities Friday 18th April
Messy Church - 10am to 12 noon in the Village Hall
Easter Egg Hunt - from 2pm to 4pm from the Village Hall

Dog Walkers Breakfast
Sunday 27th April at the Village Hall

Village Hall Film Night
Philomena
Tuesday 29th April 7pm

19
weeks

Nature Notes

Feb 26th A ring necked cock pheasant comes to crow on our lawn most mornings.

Feb 27th My granddaughter who is in North Wales tells me that the puddles now have lots of frog spawn in them. I am reminded that frogs are supposed to come back to spawn in the pond where they were born so perhaps the frogs there are mostly born in puddles.

Feb 28th It has been a very wet start to 2014 with 12.1 inches (307mm) of rain in the first two months. Over the three winter months (Dec, Jan, Feb) I have measured 16.01 inches (407mm) making it the wettest and mildest winter I can remember.

Mar 3rd A female blackcap was feeding on food put out on top of a wheely bin and despite threats from bullfinches and a chaffinch, went on until it had had enough. Later, when it went to the bird table a robin attacked it pulling out a beakful of feathers.

Mar 4th I thought I heard a short burst of song from a blackcap this morning which is much earlier than they usually sing. Several times over the last few days a goldcrest has come to feed on the window ledge.

Mar 7th The goldcrest now comes to the window ledge several times a day. It likes the crumbs of a bun that my wife makes for the birds. A blackcap has sung several times to-

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day. On this sunny afternoon I have seen brimstone butterflies and a bumble bee.

Mar 12th Long tailed tits were collecting nesting material in the next door garden but I don't know where they are building.

Mar 13th The rooks are really busy nest building. They are breaking twigs off the trees near the rookery and often carry them on a circuit round the trees to gain enough height to drop onto the nest from above. Sadly after all their effort they drop many of them before getting them in place hence the carpet of twigs on the footpath. A larch twig that was dropped near our door was 4 feet long with 8 cones on it. The rook that dropped it had already flown some way with it and was probably exhausted.

Mar 19th The blackcap seems to have stopped singing and has probably moved on. The ones that winter here are thought to return north to nest and presumably sing, while more come from the south to nest here. It will be interesting to see whether the female that feeds here every day waits here for a mate to come or whether she also goes. My daughter saw a red kite fly over her and not very high up.

Mar 20th My grand daughter rang to say that she is worried that a chaffinch that keeps attacking it's own reflection in one of her windows will give itself a headache!

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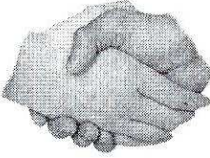
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Friendship Club

Moreton market was the trip today afterwards lunch at Timothys Tea rooms at the Fosse way Garden centre. A nice day has been had by all.

We report, with sadness, the passing of Roy Crisp of Sibford Gower, who, with his wife Gill were past Members of the Club. The Committee and Members offer their sympathy to the family.

The April trip will be discussed at the Meeting on April 1st which happens to be our Easter Tea.

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Sibford Village Hall Committee



DOG WALKER'S BREAKFAST

Sunday 27th April 2014

*Two suggested routes -
2 miles & 5 miles approx
Breakfast served in Village Hall
between 8.30am & 10.00am*

**TICKETS £5.00 (£3.50 Children under 16)
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The
Sibfords
Society

We knew we were in for a treat when Ilone Antonius –Jones promised us a performance by the Antonius Players at our Social Evening on 27th February, but Matt Platt and Ilone totally surpassed our expectations with their medley of superb music, ranging from classic to jazz , Irish jigs and boogie-woogie, and in addition requests for Nina Simone, Chuck Berry, Elton John and even Super Tramp! We were transfixed by the quieter, dreamy pieces and galvanised into action by the parts where we were asked to add our percussion skills! We are so grateful to them both for generously giving of their time and expertise for us. Everybody brought delicious food, set out attractively by Barbara Crabtree and her helpers, and the evening was a great success. Thanks to all who took part and to the volunteers who cleared everything away at the end.

The AGM was held on Thursday, 20th March, and it was well attended, despite the terrible weather. After this we were treated to a very funny and informative talk by Alan Benjamin, who retired from the police force in 1998. He took us right back into his life

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Excellent references

as a boy and young man, looking at the wacky individuals who shaped his career as a cadet and officer in the West Midlands. He kindly spared us any details of the more harrowing side of his work, and described some of the amusing incidents which took place during his time as a bobby on the beat.

At the meeting on 17th April we will be having a talk by Christine Gadsby, a guide at Blenheim Palace, on 'The Blenheim Ladies'. Please note: doors open at 7.30 p.m. and the talk begins at 8 p.m.

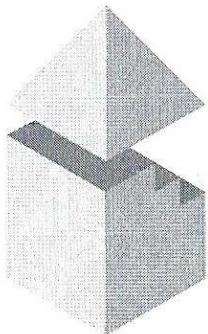
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Local Parish Council Elections – 22 May 2014

The current term of appointment for the five members of Sibford Ferris Parish Council will come to an end in May 2014. Serving as a Parish Councillor in your local community provides an opportunity to represent villager's views and respond to Cherwell District Council, Oxfordshire County Council, and other local agencies on matters of interest and concern to our village community.

If this is an area of non-political, voluntary service which interests you the current parish councillors will be happy to tell you more about the role or you can visit the village website at thesibfords.org.uk/sfpc where you can find more details and current Minutes.

Joanne Connor - 07970483917

Tim Huckvale - 780491

Maureen Hicks - 780259

Peter Robinson - 781200

Adrian Lamb - 780380

Local Elections will be held on Thursday 22 May and details will be publicised on the village notice board.

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Village Hall News

An Evening with Cheese and Wine

On April 5th join us for an entertaining evening with artisan cheeses and interesting and unusual wines. Learn about keeping and matching cheeses to wine and how to get the best out of everyday cheeses. Taste a selection of wines and cheeses with an opportunity to buy the wine you like.

Tickets £12.50 from committee members or phone 780506. Bar opens at 7pm. Proceeds to the Village Hall Refurbishment Fund.

Easter Egg Hunt

Our popular Egg Hunt Trails will again be held on Good Friday, April 18th. Two trails will be detailed, one a bit shorter for younger children and one more adventurous. £2.50 entry per child, Easter eggs for all who finish. Refreshments available in the small hall to sustain Mums, Dads and kids etc. All welcome. Start at the Village Hall from 2pm to 4pm.

Dog Walkers Breakfast

On Sunday April 27th why not treat your dog to a walk before breakfast - suggested routes 2 miles and 5 miles approx. Start from the Village Hall and return for breakfast, served in the small hall between 8.30am and 10am. Tickets £5.00 (children under 16 £3.50) Family ticket £15 (2 adults & 2 children) Tickets from committee members or 788015. Proceeds to the Village Hall Refurbishment Fund.

Fun Dog Show

This will be a separate event this year on June 7th, with lots of extra classes to suit all shapes and sizes of dogs. We plan to have a bar and refreshments/food and all sorts of doggy oriented stuff. Contact Ginny on 780373

Village Hall Fete

This will be held on July 12th, in the afternoon, with a range of stalls, games and attractions, bar and refreshments. Booking Secretary Ginny will be happy to help with any bookings you need - 780373 or contact via thesibfords.org website.

Film Nights

April 29th - "Philomena" with Judi Dench and Steve Coogan
Films start at 7-30pm with doors open from 7pm. Hot/cold drinks available. Entry £2 for adults, £1 for students

Bluebell Walk

on Sunday May 11th starting from Hell Brake Paddock, Whatcote.
Come for a gentle walk up to Hell Brake to see the Bluebells and enjoy a cream tea in the churchyard on your return.

You can start the walk any time between 2.00pm and 5.00pm
The cost is £6.00 for adults, accompanied children free – and this includes the tea and scones!

The walk will start from Church Lane, Whatcote.
(postcode CV36 5EF), and will be well signposted in the village,
as will free car parking.

Cake & produce stalls – Dogs welcome if kept on a lead.

Proceeds to St Peter's Church.

Strong shoes or boots are essential.

If you have any queries please contact Sue Price –
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President Glennis Hardman gave an outline of future Federation Events. Glennis is to attend the Inspiring Women Conference in Malvern on 14th March. Lynda Conway, Val Powell and Glennis will be going to the Council Meeting at Oxford Town Hall on 26th March. Plans for the Group Meeting to be hosted by Sibford WI on 10th April were discussed. Glennis has been successful in having a photograph chosen for the OFWI 2015 calendar – ‘Quirky Oxfordshire’.

Regrettably, few members were present to hear a fascinating talk on Transylvania given by Pam Newall, a very knowledgeable and enthusiastic speaker. We were shown wonderful slides of fairytale castles and amazing fortified churches and learnt that the town of Brasov has the largest Gothic church in SE Europe as well as one of the three smallest streets in Europe, only 80m long. Of course, the name Dracula was forefront in many of our minds and we were fascinated by the story of how Bram Stoker based his character on Viad the Impaler born in 1431 and how his birthplace is now a popular tourist attraction. One piece of information we did not expect was to discover that Prince Charles loves the area, staying at the Stag Hotel in Sighisoara and owning a farmhouse nearby as well as some B&B establishments. Our absent friends missed an enthralling and informative afternoon – their loss. Jan Warner warmly thanked Mrs Newall for her excellent talk.

The competition for ‘A Seashell’ was judged by our speaker. She awarded 1st Jan Warner, 2nd Glennis Hardman and 3rd Kathleen Winter. Kathleen Winter, Val Powell helped by other members served tea with chocolate and lemon cakes and fancy shortbread biscuits.

On Thursday, 8th April it will be our AGM. In place of the usual raffle and competition there will be a bring & buy sale.

Jan Warner

World Book Day

Teachers at Sibford Junior School weren't going to let their pupils have all the fun when it came to dressing up as favourite literary characters for last month's World Book Day.

While the children came to school representing a range of books including *Just William*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *The Cat in the Hat*, staff did their bit by arriving as characters from J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*.

Year 6 teacher, Trudy Koochitt, who dressed as the canine nursemaid Nana, said:

"The children thought it was great that we got involved too ... although I must confess I did have to remove my head for teaching and I was very glad World Book Day doesn't take place in the summer term!"



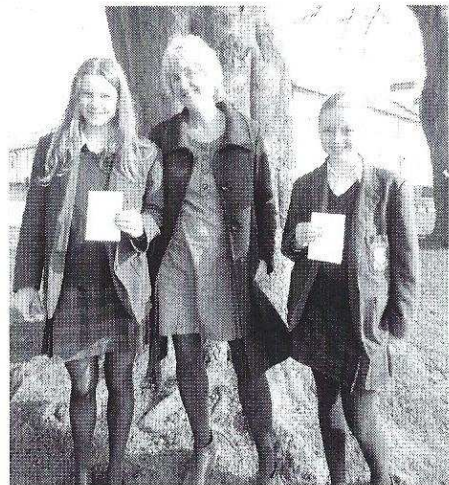
Pictured: Sibford School staff in their Peter Pan outfits.

Poet shares trade secrets

Shropshire poet and children's writer, Jean Atkin, shared some secrets of the trade when she spoke to pupils at Sibford School.

Jean, who has been making a significant name for herself in recent years, led workshops encouraging pupils to seek inspiration from nature and the world around us.

She told pupils: "Poems mean different things to different people. Reading a poem is a creative act, not unlike writing one. Find the ones that grab you and be prepared to work at them for a little bit. Enjoy the language first and let the meaning of the poem follow on afterwards. You can still love it even if you don't quite get it!"



Sibford hosts Year 1 Dance Festival

Sibford School was the venue for the recent North Oxfordshire Schools Sports Partnership Warriner Family Year 1 Dance Festival.

Youngsters from Sibford Gower Endowed Primary, Bishop

Carpenter, Hornton, Shenington, and Wroxton schools joined with Sibford's own pupils to enjoy making up dances to fit the story 'Giraffes Can't Dance' by Giles Andreae.

Sibford School Open Morning

The next open morning at Sibford School will take place on Friday 9 May, when visitors will have the chance to find out more about Sibford's Junior School, Senior School and Sixth Form. The event starts at 9.45am with refreshments and will be followed by presentations and tours of the campus. For further details call Elspeth Gregory on 01295 781203.

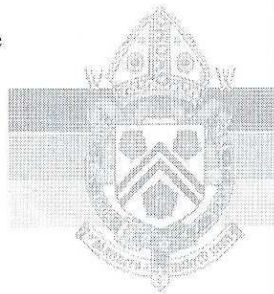
Easter Holiday Activity Club

Sibford School will be operating its popular Fun in the Country holiday club during the Easter break (Monday 7 April ~ Thursday 17 April). Children can enjoy a range of activities including swimming, crafts, sports and cooking. Cost is £28 per child per day. To book a place call Elspeth Gregory on Banbury 781203 or email: funinthecountry@sibfordschool.co.uk. Pre-booking is essential.

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Sibford Ferris Spring Clean Saturday 12th April 10.00am

Please join us at Lanes End Corner (cross roads bus stop)
and join in the effort to clear our verges and paths of litter.

Bin bags and gloves provided.

If you cannot attend on the day please email or ring Adrian Lamb (details on back cover) to offer your help and be allocated an area to do.

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 Ivor Hopkyns on 788367 (Gower or Burdrop) or Nic Durrant on 788865 (Ferris), and a copy will be delivered to you. The information will help to make you feel at home - by acquainting you with the services, schools, clubs and societies that are currently active in the villages.

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April 2014

Trading Standards No. 0845 0510845

Please remain aware and observant and report anything suspicious with as much detail as possible to the Police tel. 101 or 999 for emergencies.

Following a case in Morrisons, we have been warned not to use the same pin number for all credit or debit card and to always shield the pin number when we enter it.

The gardening season is starting. Remember to put all tools/equipment away when not in use and keep garden sheds locked when out of sight. It is also important to put toys, bicycles etc. away when not in use.

Please remember to follow police advice at all times.



Warriner
School
Farm

The Warriner School Farm Shop

The Farm Shop offers a wide range of farm produced meat and meat products, from your Sunday roast joint to the sausages and burgers for the summer bar-b-cue. There are also eggs and home made cakes for sale. The Farm lost a lot of it's education funding this year, so the farm shop is an increasingly important part of their business and the more support they get from the local community the better.

The shop is open from 9.00am to 1.00pm every Saturday morning.

Visit the Warriner School Farm website for more information.

Sibford Village Hall Committee

An Evening With Cheese & Wine

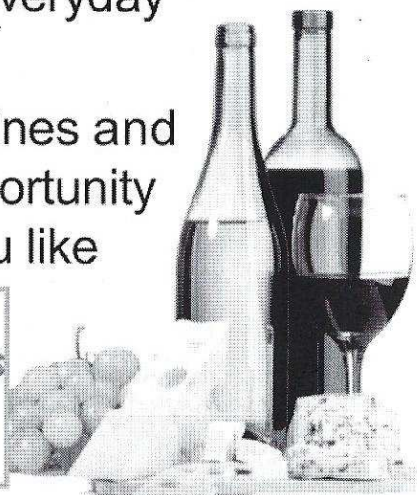
Saturday April 5th 2014

Bar opens 7.00pm

An entertaining evening with artisan cheeses and interesting and unusual wines. Learn about keeping and matching cheeses to wines and how to get the best out of everyday cheeses.

Taste a selection of wines and cheeses with an opportunity to buy the wines you like

Tickets £12.50
from committee members
or
'phone 01295 780506



Proceeds to the Village Hall Refurbishment Fund

Annual Spring Clean – Sibford Gower & Burdrop

Saturday, 12th April 2014

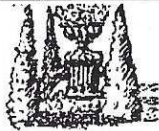
The Annual Spring Clean will take place on Saturday, 12th April 2014 and volunteers are sought to give an hour or so of their time to help with the work of clearing litter from where it may have gathered in Burdrop and Sibford Gower. We will meet at Sibford Village Hall at 10am when Peter Abbott will allocate the areas which require attention.

Clear recycling sacks (for paper, cardboard, plastic bottles and cans) and rubbish sacks (for other items) will be provided together with cotton gloves. The District Council supplies on loan only a minimal number of litter pickers and high visibility jackets so if you are able to bring along your own it will be extremely helpful.

Should anyone be willing to help but not be available on 12th April, please phone Peter Abbott (Tel: 780731) and he will discuss with you a particular area that would benefit from your attention on another day.

The Members of Sibford Gower Parish Council hope that the occasion will once again receive the usual enthusiastic support and look forward to seeing you on the 12th April.

Sibford Gower Parish Council



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Sibfords Society Programme, 2014/15

2014

Thurs 27th Feb Social, with entertainment by the Antonius Players.

Thurs 20th March AGM Constabulary Tales : Alan Benjamin

Thurs 17th April The Blenheim Ladies : Christine Gadsby

Thurs 15th May Showing of BBC Film 'Away from it all', filmed 1956 in the Sibfords.

Thurs 19th June Stratford Town Walk

Thurs 17th July Evening trip to Swinbrook; talk on 'The Mitfords' and visits to St Mary's Church and the Swan Inn.

Thurs 18th September Artists in Wonderland 'Alice and the Pre-Raphaelites' : Mark Davies

Thurs 16th October Compton Verney : Emily Medcraft

Thurs 20th November The Crown Jewels : Colonel Gerald Lesinski

2015

Thurs 19th Feb Social

Thurs 21st March AGM Swift Stories Chris Mason

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Fridays 9.00-10.00am

(beginners welcome)

Any enquiries to:

Juliette – 07703 836 856 Juliette53@btinternet.com

New class from April 24th Thursday evenings 6.30-7.30pm

Sibford CC Cricket Nets

Cricket Nets in April - Wednesday 2 and 9,
6.00 to 7.00pm, Sibford School Sports Hall,
and Wednesday 16, 23 and 30, 6.00 to 7.00pm,
Bloxham School Outdoor Nets

Sibford Walking Group

Walks are planned for;

7 April 21 April Easter Monday.

5 May Early May Bank Holiday 19 May

As ever I may be contacted by email or phone for further information.
sebannister@gmail.com and 01295 780365.

We leave the village hall car park at 10.00 am sharp. Walking boots or wellingtons and poles or a stick are recommended but not of course compulsory.

On other Mondays Diana Hughes may lead walks starting further afield.



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Sibford Horticultural Society

Our first meeting of the year saw Paul Moir talk to us about the history of Painswick Rococo Gardens. How it was laid out and how the trust who administers it now, has been restoring it. We will be visiting the gardens on May 14th, leaving the Village Hall at 2.00pm. If you wish to join us please contact Jupe Marshall or Diana Thompson.

Our next meeting is on April 9th at 8.00pm at the Village Hall where Tim Walker will be asking "Can Americans Garden?" He is a very entertaining speaker so do not miss this one!

With this Sibford Scene you should have received your copy of the schedule for this years spring show. This is the show for your cookery, handicrafts, photography and children's classes. Please try to enter something as we can only put on a show if you enter. Entries night is Wednesday 14th May and the show is on Saturday 17th May.

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Contributions for the
May
Sibford Scene
to the Editor by
April 14th



Church News

We were delighted to welcome Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School to church on April 3rd for their early Easter Service.

The Choir has reconvened after the winter break. We meet on Wednesdays at 6pm for about 1 hour; our music includes Puttin' on the Ritz, a French part song, some English choral music, and pieces in readiness for Choral Evensong. Do come and have a sing with us!

Messy Church in the Village Hall on Good Friday from 10am to 12noon will be followed by the Village Easter Egg Hunt; so come and join in both events, bringing a packed lunch with you maybe?

Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday April 26th from 10am to 12noon.

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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

Holy Trinity Church Services in April

April 6th Morning Praise at 11am

April 13th PALM SUNDAY Benefice Procession and Eucharist at Epwell at 9.45am

April 18th GOOD FRIDAY Messy Church for all younger children with an adult helper, in the Village Hall from 10am to 12noon

April 20th EASTER DAY Family Holy communion service and Easter Egg hunt 10am

April 27th BCP HC 9.30am



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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

Stagecoach – Timetable commencing 31st May 2009
Mondays to Saturdays (No services on Sundays or Public Holidays)

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				Sch		Term	
					Hols		time	
S on A, Wood St	06.20	07.10	09.05	11.10	13.10	15.10	15.24	16.24
S G, School	07.04	07.55	09.56	11.56	13.56	15.56	16.10	17.14
S F, Cross Roads	07.07	07.58	09.59	11.59	13.59	15.59	16.13	17.17
Ban, Bus Station	07.28	08.25	10.21	12.21	14.21	16.21	16.35	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.

Fares:-

Sibford Ferris & Sibford Gower to Banbury: Single £2.50 (Child£1.25)
Return £4.70 (Child £2.35)

Sibford Ferris & Sibford Gower to Stratford: Single £4.30 (Child £2.85)
Return £6.30 (Child £4.20)

Unlimited travel Cards are available for 1, 7 or 28 days but are regional and need to be bought in advance. Contact the Stagecoach sales office in Stratford tel; 01789 294155 for more details.

Calendar of Events

April

- Tue 1st Friendship Club Easter Tea p4
Wed 2nd Cricket Nets begin p19
Sat 5th An Evening with Cheese and Wine at the Village Hall p9 & p16
Mon 7th Sibfords Walking Group. 10am from Village Hall. p19
Tue 8th W.I. AGM. p11
Wed 9th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40-4.10pm)
Wed 9th Horticultural Society "Can Americans Garden" 8pm V. Hall p20
Sat 12th Village Spring Clean 10am. Village Hall and Lanes End p14 & p17
Thu 17th Sibfords Society "The Blenheim Ladies" 7.30pm V Hall p7
Fri 18th Messy Church 10am in the Village Hall p21
Fri 18th Easter Egg Hunt at the Village Hall from 2pm p9
Mon 21st Sibfords Walking Group. 10am from Village Hall. p19
Wed 23rd Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40-4.10pm)
Sun 27th Dog Walkers Breakfast at the Village Hall p5 & p9
Tue 29th Village Hall Film Night - Philomena. 7.00pm p9

May (part)

- Mon 5th Sibfords Walking Group. 10am from Village Hall. P19
Wed 7th Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40-4.10pm)
Fri 9th Sibford School Open Morning p12
Sun 11th Bluebell Walk p10
Wed 14th Horticultural Society Show Entry Night 7.30 - 8.30pm p20
Sat 17th Horticultural Society Show. 2.30 - 4 pm Village Hall p20
Mon 19th Sibfords Walking Group. 10am from Village Hall. p19
Mon 19th Sibford Gower Annual Parish Meeting in Village Hall (7.30pm)
Wed 21st Mobile Library in the Sibfords (2.40-4.10pm)
Thu 22nd Local Elections p8

Cover picture; Cottages on Hook Norton Road

Sibford Scene

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