

SIBFORD SCENE

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2022/3

Number 449



The
COBBLEDON INN
— — — — —
HOMEMADE FOOD
COBBLEDON BREW
TRADITIONAL BEERS



New regular at the Wykham!



ED'S THOUGHTS

Merry Christmas Everyone! This month we have our very own excellent pub - The Cobbledon Inn (AKA The Wykham Arms) on our front cover. Find out what it's all about on page 7

Lots of events this month including Swalcliffe Market, Carol Services, Christingle, Book Swap and more.....

Thought for the month:

"All I want for Christmas is a Rock and Roll electric guitar
And then away went Rudolph a whizzing like a shooting star"

Brodie Marvin, John Marks



LETTERS AND NOTICES

VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY!!

November Lottery winners:

1st prize - Fiona Pigeon
2nd prize - Jean Giles
3rd prize - David Allen



Mary Nash

I would like to wish all my friends a very Happy Christmas and I won't be delivering cards locally so please don't send any to me as that would make me feel guilty.



LETTERS AND NOTICES

The Town Estate Charity (Sibford Gower and Burdrop) was established about 1560 with three purposes, to support the primary school, for the general benefit of the parish of Sibford Gower and 'to relieve either generally or individually persons in condition of need, hardship or distress'.

The Trustees give small grants to individuals and organisations, where these cannot be met by government or other charitable funds. Recent examples are grants for such things as coach trips and excursions, the support of the Fielding Lunch Club, chiropody, student needs, fuel and insulation costs, small grants for garden maintenance, alarm systems and care for the elderly.

We are especially anxious in the current economic situation to help anyone in our community who is vulnerable or in need. If you know of possible ways in which we can help yourselves or your neighbours, do please get in touch with us through our secretary Peter Morgan (petermorgan2@hotmail.co.uk).

Village Hall Defibrillators

Sibford Gower Parish Council has decided to fit a new door on the Village Hall defibrillator so that no access code is required to open it, following the advice and guidance on the Resuscitation Council website (<https://www.resus.org.uk/about-us/news-and-events/consensus-statement-aed-cabinets>) which states that defibrillator units should not be locked if possible.

This will make accessing the unit much simpler and, more importantly, quicker in an emergency. Having an unlocked door will also negate the need to contact the Ambulance Service with the potential issues of a sketchy mobile phone signal in that area of the village.

However, it does mean that the unit is more vulnerable to damage or theft. Please let our Parish Clerk know if you see any unusual activity with the cabinet.

The unit is regularly checked by the Parish Council and, if it is deemed necessary, the lockable door can be re-fitted.

Please look out for training courses on how to use the defibrillator unit being run between the Sibford Gower and Sibford Ferris councils, which will be published from time to time.

Alan Berks



LETTERS AND NOTICES

Cont'd

Brian Holliday

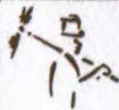
Thank you to everyone who has sent such kind messages and cards following the death of our dear Dad. We were so blessed that mum was able to nurse him at home until he died.

The Holliday family.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

This year's appeal raised £1290 from house-to-house collections & static points in the Sibfords. When other donations are added this makes a total of nearly £1750. Many thanks to all the people who carried out the collection and to everybody who contributed to this fantastic sum.

Peter Abbott



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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Film Afternoon - Christmas at Mistletoe Farm, Sunday 11th Dec 3pm

We'll be showing this just-released Christmas family movie, filmed in and around The Sibfords last year. The bar will be open for alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks and snacks.

Bridge Taster Session, Friday 16th Dec 7.30pm

Is learning to play Bridge on your bucket list but not sure where to start? Come along to our Bridge Taster evening, meet some of our local experts and have a go. Tea and cake available. There will also be three-term course starting in January. Please contact juliette53@btinternet.com or 07703 836856 to book a place (£2 per person).

Book Swap Saturdays: Dec 17th, Jan 28th, Feb 28th, March 18th 10am-12pm

Books for all ages and genres at this popular event. Come and have a drink and a chat in the Small Hall. Teas and coffees available. It's free to borrow books but donations welcome towards the Village Hall Roof fund.

Meet Caroline Newark, author of Five Weddings and a Funeral, Saturday February 18th 10.30am-12.30pm

Caroline Newark is a historical fiction writer – her books lead you down the centuries, following the lives of some of the women in her family tree. Discover the disgraceful and shocking life of Joan the “Fair Maid of Kent” plus many more... From bloodshed, to betrayal, from affairs of the heart to spying for the queen, her books promise to tell the story of how these incredible women really lived.

David Gill appointed as Village Hall Trustee

We are delighted to welcome David to our committee, bringing with him a wealth of useful experience from roles with the Sibford Drivers, Shipston Rotary Club and the Holy Trinity Church.

Book the Village Hall for your next event

Visit our website www.sibfordvillagehall.org.uk to request a booking. We have preferential rates for village residents, only £10/hr (one hall); and £18/hr (both halls). Please use us for your next birthday party or community gathering.

Charlotte Davies: chair@sibfordvillagehall.org.uk



CHRISTMAS AT MISTLETOE FARM

CHRISTMAS came early to Sibford this year when a festive film due to be screened on Netflix this month was shot in the village way back in March

Puzzled Wykham Arms' regulars found their pub decked out with streamers, tinsel, lights and Christmas tree and a new pub sign - The Cobbledon Arms.

Leading actors including Celia Imrie & Katherine Drysdale (from Bridgerton fame) star in the family film: "Christmas At Mistletoe Farm."

"It was pretty hectic but good fun," said Wykham landlady Debbie who wasn't behind the bar while the cameras were rolling, but stood back while the film crew transformed her pub and watched the stars standing at her bar.

"I enjoyed meeting some of the stars especially Celia Imrie who was lovely. We managed to open as usual throughout the filming though I think some of our customers were very puzzled by the decorations when they walked in on the first night!"

Production company Mirrorball Films, who also produced the popular Nativity series of films, spent five days on location in and around the Sibfords which on screen will be the village of Cobbledon.

They also filmed in Swalcliffe and at Fulling Mill near Broughton Castle which was chosen to be Mistletoe Farm.

Production Manager Robert said Sibford had been the ideal location: "We wanted a 'chocolate box' village and thatched country pub so Sibford and The Wykham Arms were perfect."

The film is available to view on Netflix from 23rd November or go to the special screening at the Village Hall on Sunday 11th at 3pm

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NATURE NOTES

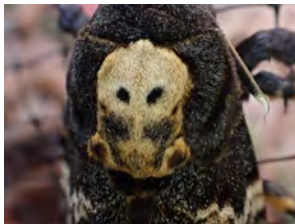
Although not quite Sibford Iain Brown reported that he found a Dartford Warbler at Balscote nature reserve in October. This was a first for the reserve and the last time one was seen in the Banbury area was in 1891!

Colin Lamb has managed to get some good photos of Hornets and other insects feeding on Ivy blossom. With the very mild weather in late October and early November I have noticed Hornets flying late into the year and feeding on windfall apples.

The Death's-head Hawk-moth caterpillar that Sue Sabin found feeding on her potato plants back in August pupated successfully a few days later and then emerged as a pristine adult moth in mid-October. After receiving a good number of visitors over a couple of days the moth was released. These moths are migrants and, as far as is known, do not survive the winter in the UK. There is some evidence that a few of the migrant moths and butterflies may head south to warmer climes as winter approaches. The skull like marking on the moth's back gives rise to similar common names throughout Europe and the scientific name is *Acherontia atropos*. *Acherontia* is a river in hell and *Atropos* is one of the Fates, the one that cuts the thread of life. The caterpillars used to be found more commonly on commercial potato crops, but the widespread use of pesticides means that this is no longer the case.

Please send any contributions for the next Nature Notes to ajnewbold88@gmail.com

Andy and Gill Newbold



LOCAL MARKETS

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

Deddington Farmers - 4th Saturday of the month

Chipping Norton - Every Wednesday. Farmers market - 3rd Saturday of the month

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

CHURCH SERVICES

Quakers

Roman Catholic

Baptist

Sibford Gower, Sunday, 10.30 am

Brailles, Saturday, 5pm; Shipston, Sunday 9am

Kineton, Sunday 11am

Hook Norton, Sunday, 10.30 am



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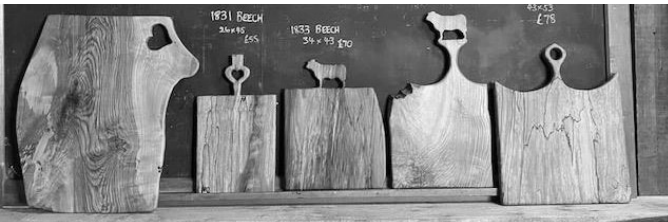
~ Presentation - Food Theatre! ~ Cake Boards ~ Cheese Boards ~
~ Chopping Boards ~ Serving Platters ~ Etc ~

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

Between Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower. Welcome to view.

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SIBFORD PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Sibford Photography Club

Sibford Photography Club is an informal group with a shared interest in photography. Activities include instructive presentations and regular photo topics with the resulting images presented and discussed at meetings (face to face or virtual).

At our meeting on 29th November, we had a practical session creating images with light, using slow exposures and handheld lights to make interesting images. Sometimes, the lights were moved to "paint" the outline of an object, but we learnt how it is also possible to create patterns by swinging a suspended light above a camera facing upwards. Following the practical session, we reviewed members' images on the monthly topic, "Autumn". There were plenty of colourful photographs with some very creative images among them concluding an enjoyable evening.

Our next two meetings will be on 3rd January 2023, then on 31st January, both at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. Feel free to come along if you have an interest in any aspect of photography.

In addition to the regular meetings, we also arrange outdoor photoshoots at local nature reserves and other places of interest.

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.



Colin's winning entry in the Photographic Exhibition

Yoga

Sibford Village Hall

Tuesdays: Slow & Gentle

Yoga 9-10am

Thursdays: Flow Yoga

9-10am

Chair Yoga

10.15 - 11.15am

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Tractor Run route

The ever-popular RC Baker Tractor Run is back – and this time they really are going the extra mile! A new extended route has been announced for this year taking the fairy-lit fleet into the heart of Banbury. We cannot wait for the buzz and the bling of the Tractor Run, so make sure you get Saturday 17 December in your diaries. You can find the route map, timings and details of how you can donate to this event here: www.khh.org.uk/tractor.

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree...

Our Tree-cycle scheme is back – and available in even more areas! So instead of worrying about how to environmentally dispose of your tree after all the festivities are over, you can make a donation to Katharine House Hospice and, in return, we will send one of our elves to collect and recycle your tree. Head to our website to find out more and check if your post code is included in the scheme. www.khh.org.uk/christmastree

The gift that keeps on giving

If you're after a great idea for Christmas pressies, then we think our Charity Calendar for 2023 makes a great gift. The calendar features 12 stunning local scenes – taken by talented members of Banbury Camera Club – and helps to raise vital funds for our hospice. You can pick up your calendars as well as our fantastic range of Christmas cards in one of our shops or find them in the Christmas Shop on our website. www.khh.org.uk/christmas-shop

We're here to help

If you have lost someone you love and would like some support, we have a team of trained Bereavement Support Workers waiting to help you. The support is free, can be carried out face to face or on the phone. And you don't need to have had any direct involvement with the hospice, we are here for anyone who needs us. If you'd like to find out more about how we can help support you, please take a look on our website: www.khh.org.uk/bereavement-services.

Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your hospice

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter and keep you in touch with all our latest news and fundraising events at the hospice. www.khh.org.uk/newsletter

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Excellent references

LOCAL NEWS

Banbury Choral Society will be giving a concert of Handel's Coronation Anthems with Christmas Music and readings on Saturday 10 December 7.30pm at The Church of St Peter and Paul, Deddington
Tickets £12.50 / £5 under 16s from
www.banburychoralsoc.co.uk

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SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

WALKING DATES

12 December – Walk followed by lunch at carters Yard for those who walk today; 9 January; (Gap due to bank holidays); 23 January; 6 February

We leave the village hall on foot or by car at 10 am sharp to do a circuit of approximately 2 hours. You are advised therefore, to get to the village hall by 9.55 am latest. Often a shorter version of the walk is possible but that it is advisable to check with Sue just before

Dogs are welcome provided they are put on the lead when requested. Walking boots and poles are recommended but not compulsory. Some routes include stiles. If you would prefer a shorter walk, please contact Sue to discuss as it is sometimes possible to leave a car about halfway, so the less energetic may drop off and drive home. At the village hall, please park either on the road or on the grass field beyond the tarmac.

Please don't hesitate to ring me on 01295 780365 or email sebannister@gmail.com if you have any queries.

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.

WELCOME TO SIBFORD

If you are new to the Sibfords and would like any advice on our village, please call Ivor Hopkyns on T: 788367 (Gower & Burdrop) or Nic Durrant T: 788865 (Ferris). We are lucky enough to have a really great village website at: thesibfords.org.uk



SWALCLIFFE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 3rd December 2022
At Swalcliffe Church
From 12 noon to 3.30pm

Swalcliffe is the place to be on Saturday 3 December as the village hosts another exciting Christmas Market including:

Market stalls with local traders featuring an array of crafting skills and products

Raffle with luxury Christmas Hampers

Popular German style bratwurst stall

Entrance fee £2 (children go free)

**All proceeds will be shared between three
Swalcliffe community causes/projects
(Swalcliffe Church, Swalcliffe Village Hall
and the Woodland Play Park)**

**Full details on
www.swalcliffe.org**



SIBFORDS HISTORY SOCIETY

On 20th October, Mike Donovan's talk on Frank Lascelles (1875 -1934), son of the Reverend Stevens, Pageant Master and Lord of the Manor in Sibford Gower, attracted a full village hall, and for the many who would have liked to have been there, Mike's talk was filmed and will be available to watch on the Sibfords' website.

The talk was a fascinating mixture of personal findings - Mike owned the Manor himself for 14 years - and thoroughly researched and recorded facts, with great onscreen visuals and two tables full of Lascelles memorabilia, many of which Mike has donated to the History Society.

Sibford is so fortunate to have had this larger than life individual in its midst; life can never have been dull in the Lascelles era! There would have been glimpses of Ivor Novello, a frequent visitor, of Frank rushing round the garden in an Indian chief's regalia, or painting in a smock, and then there were the wonderful and often controversial pageants.

The vicar of Swalcliffe summed him up very aptly: "Of outlandish personality, his somewhat unorthodox views and ideas brought him into conflict with prevailing notions and tendencies, but his name is a household word."

Many thanks to Mike and his sons Milo and Rawdon for a very entertaining and informative evening.

Looking ahead to our Social Evening on 16th February 2023, we are pleased to tell you that Steven Bruce, the auctioneer, will be giving his talk, 'Tales from the Auction Room', as well as having time to value treasures which you are invited to bring in. There will be a meal provided by Miss T and tickets will be on sale in January. Doors open at the Village Hall at 6.45 pm, and the meal will begin at 7.15pm. There will be mulled wine for all on arrival.

Diana Hughes



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In Your Garden - December

Many of the jobs this month are all about protecting the plants we have from whatever harsh winter we might get. But don't forget to look after yourselves in the cold - Therman vests, two woolly jumpers and thick socks, and a knitted hat. All of this is definitely the most chic look this year. And do physically active jobs, like raking and digging..

1. Apple and pear trees have had splendid crops this year, so when you have got every thing picked and stored away, the trees will need pruning.
2. Keep on raking up the leaves and putting them into the compost. It helps to rot them down faster if you can run the lawnmower over them, or put them through a muncher.
- 3 The little pointed tips of snowdrops are starting to peep through. Be careful when raking leaves under the trees as snowdrops are often planted there.
4. It is a good idea to insulate your outdoor tap. You can buy cosy little jackets to fasten over them. And the hose needs putting away in the shed.
5. Bring some of your wooden garden seats into the shed, and let them dry out. Some oiling or varnish will keep them from cracking and survive longer. Ladies - please get him to help you do this!
6. As the electricity bills are going through the roof, the greenhouse probably won,t get any heat this winter. As well as lining the place with that pesky and annoying bubblewrap, you can cover delicate and tender plants with hessian or fleece, and of course, bring as many as you can into the house to sit on a sunny window sills.
7. A very important job is to sit by a crackling log fire with all the exotic seed and bulb catalogues on your knee. Put a large jug of mulled wine on the table by you, and some mince pies down on the hearth to keep warm, and indulge in making a dream garden for next year. Might be a good idea to fill in your order form the next morning, and Merry Christmas to all my gardening friends.





In Your Garden - January

1. Cut back all the old foliage from the hellebores. You will find the flowers in bud underneath them, and they are longing to get to the light.
2. If the lawns are frosted try not to walk over them, or play football. or push heavy wheel barrows over them.
3. Insects and bugs don,t seem to give up in winter, so keep an eye out for them. If the pot of basil in your kitchen gets white fly, rather than spraying them with bug killer you can wash the leaves gently under the cold tap, turning them upside down, and holding the earth in with your hands. The bugs are always underneath the leaves..
4. Cut down on watering plants, and never let them stand in water for too long. Plants left outside can be propped up on bricks.
5. Poinsettias are huge favourites to have inside in winter, but do not tuck them into a dark corner, as the like to be in a good light. Let them dry out a bit before you water them again.
6. You can start planting you sweet pea seeds now. Keep undercover until it warms up, and its time to put a mousetrap in the greenhouse. They just love sweet peas. I always do a second planting a month or two later, to get a long flowering from them. I wish you all a Happy New Year and best wishes for a great garden next year.

Jupe Hitching



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DID YOU KNOW?



Following a photographic competition, the 12 winning entries now feature each month in the Sibford's 2023 Calendar. These attractive calendars are available at £6 each or 2 for £10 with proceeds going to Holy Trinity Church. They will find their way to families and friends across the world bringing them a memory of the village we call home. Behind each picture there is a depth of interest or history and I thought I would share the back stories through my monthly 'Did You Know' piece through the coming year.

The picture illustrating January was taken on a bright, early springtime day in one of the Wheathills fields in Burdrop looking across the Sib Valley towards Broadway in the far distance. This timeless view is preserved for us in perpetuity following



the purchase of the land known as Wheathills by the Town Estate Charity on behalf of the village. The steep Sib Brook Valley, more suited to sheep husbandry than arable farming, forms part of the Conservation Area which separates the two settlements of Sibford Gower with Burdrop and Sibford Ferris. The valley forms an integral part of the community reinforcing the rural character and separation of the villages. The Sib stream rises east of the village and joins the River Stour at Temple Mill. These streams are unique in Oxfordshire as they run west into the Avon/Severn and not eastwards towards the North Sea - this divide is known as a Watershed.



DID YOU KNOW?

Cont'd

As villages mentioned in the great Domesday Survey of 1086 the Sibfords have developed from the Manorial estates bestowed on his loyal knights by King William when land held in demesne returned its dues to the King. The dependence on agriculture and sheep husbandry continued through the centuries including the enclosure of the fields in the late 18th century. Now, although the size of farms has increased, the people engaged in agriculture in the Sibfords has significantly reduced. All development in the beautiful Sib Valley has been strongly resisted so we are still able to enjoy these wonderful open countryside views.

Maureen Hicks

SIBFORD STORES & POST OFFICE, SIBFORD FERRIS. OX15 5RG

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

QR Code Frauds

Back down to earth this month and into car parks.

Drivers are under attack from scammers who are exploiting the rise of cashless car parks by duping people who pay using mobile phones.

The QR (Quick Response) code is a type of square barcode scanned by a smartphone which contains information such as a web address or contact details. Scammers are placing their own barcodes on parking machines to trick drivers into entering their card details into a false payment website.

This type of con is not exclusive to car parks, as victims have also been targeted in pubs, restaurants and even when collecting cinema tickets.

Trading Standards have said the scam is very much on the increase and "it is another way to data harvest or phish for personal details and steal money". They recommend that anyone scanning a code should check it had not been stuck on top of another code or placed in an unusual location. (Source: Daily Telegraph 12.11.22).

Have a Merry Christmas.

Peter Hine

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

Sibford Gower and Burdrop




FUN CORNER

"An imam, a priest and a rabbit go together to donate blood. When asked what blood group he was, the rabbit said "I think I'm a type O".

(Thankyou, Tim Huckvake..).

What's brown and sound like a bell?

Dung!!!



A Celebration of
Christmas

in music, word and song

with
B:rackley  Wind Orchestra

Swalcliffe Church, Sat 10th Dec, 7pm

BAR, doors open 6pm

Come and sing, listen and laugh

Tickets £10, online or on the door

Advance bookings: 01295 788127

or www.swalcliffe.org (with online payment)

Donations to the MS charity very welcome

Holiday Cottage in Cornwall

On the beautiful north coast in Poldark country, character cottage set in a large south-facing enclosed garden, is available for holiday lets. It is situated on the outskirts of the vibrant and friendly village of St Agnes.

Scrumbles Hollow sleeps six in three double bedrooms, one with ensuite shower room, plus a family bathroom. Full central heating.

The spacious cottage has an open fire place in a cosy sitting room, while the dining room boasts a log burner. New, fully equipped kitchen and separate utility room for sorting out sportswear after a day on the beach or walking the breathtaking countryside.

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 lindaneyolo@gmail.com.



FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club wishes all readers a Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

On Dec 6th, the club are holding a Carol Service in the church. Time 2--3. Any non members are welcome to join us and perhaps stay after for tea and mince pies.

Dec 20th the Club will hold its Christmas Tea in the village hall.

As for Jan, the club does not usually meet because of the weather.

So officially our next meeting will be on Feb 7 th 2023

The Sec. would like to thank Tony for the 'gentle reminders' each month, without which, she would never get anything out in the Scene. Evey Boughton

RED HORSE VALE



Red Horse Vale are a long established and family run distributor of Fuels for heating and vehicles, as well as Building, Farm and Garden Supplies.

Solid Fuels • Logs and Kindling Wood
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HGV DRIVERS AND HGV MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN WANTED

We are a family run haulage company based in Shenington. William And Constance Barton first started the business in 1961 in Sibford Gower. We pride ourselves of provided the highest level of service to our customers. We operate a mixed fleet from vans up to artics.

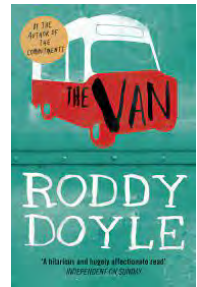
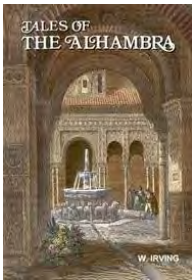
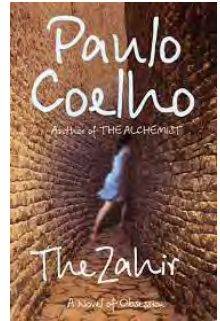
We are looking for drivers who hold a class 2 upwards. Must hold a valid CPC.

We are also looking for a HGV maintenance technician to work within our onsite workshop. The job entails carrying out any repairs that are need to our fleet and carrying out maintenance inspections at regular intervals inline with the guidelines.

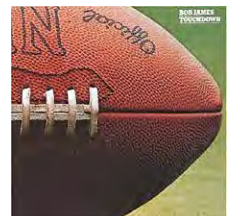
For further information, please contact Ronnie Barton on 01295 680204 or seabeatransport@btinternet.com



WHAT WE'RE READING.....



WHAT WE'RE LISTENING TO.....



LETTERCARVE

Hand-carved, hardwood signs for the home and workplace.
Personalised boards and platters, stable plates and memorials.

#MadeInSibford
www.lettercarve.com

Browse the website:
e: lettercarve@gmail.com

Stay in style in the Sibfords

Sumptuous self-catering

Newly refurbished self-catering accommodation set in stunning private gardens with heated swimming pool, tennis court and croquet lawn. 4 beds, 5 bathrooms. Sleeps 8 (plus 4 in the main house for larger groups).

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E: sally.wass@btinternet.com
www.holmbyhouse.com

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www.4thcorner.co.uk**



As the nights draw in we have had a focus on 'light' here at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School. This started with the very welcome return of the PTA Firework Extravaganza which really was spectacular. There was an excellent turn-out, from both the school and local community and people from further afield. The atmosphere was relaxed and friendly and a good time was had by all. The fireworks and the bonfire were very impressive, as was the guy made by Beech Class. Huge thanks to Andy Whitehead, Chris Cullen, Ali Smith, Charlotte Watkins and all the staff and parents who wrapped up warm to help. Brilliant!

The theme of light has continued as children from across the school have explored 'Festivals of Light'. All of the children have explored Diwali, through assemblies, story, Art & Design and R.E. They have made diva lamps out of paper, card or clay and really enjoyed learning about this important world-wide celebration. Children in KS2 are also learning about the Jewish festival of Hannukah, which this year begins on 18th of December and ends on the 26th. They will then move on to exploring the four themes of Advent as we move towards Christmas by focusing on the Candle of Hope, the Candle of Peace, the Candle of Love and the Candle of Joy.



Willow Class made beautiful poppy lanterns as part of our observance of Remembrance Day

Sport at Sibford Gower Children from Year 1 to Year 6 have taken part in Cross Country running events this half-term and we are so proud of them. As always, they have behaved in an exemplary way and been excellent ambassadors for our school. They also performed brilliantly in an event which included hundreds of children from 10 local primary schools.

Year 1&2 Girls	Came 2 nd overall with Cecily & Florence Gibson and Jessica Smith placed in the first 10.
Year 3&4 Girls	Came 1 st overall with Aura Tuthill taking 1 st place, Holly Rutledge a close 3 rd and Ember Watkins placed in the first 10
Year 3&4 Boys	Came 5 th overall with Liam White placed in the first 10
Year 5&6 Girls	Came 3 rd overall with Inca Watkins in the first 10
Year 5&6 Boys	Came 4 th overall with Andrew Rutledge taking 1 st place and Henry Boyles a very close 2 nd

"From little acorns... mighty oaks do grow"

OPEN MORNINGS FOR OUR SEPTEMBER 2023 RECEPTION YEAR

We are holding Open Mornings for parents of children who may be considering applying for a Reception place here next September. These are scheduled to take place from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m on Saturday 19th November and Saturday 26th November. If you think we might be the right fit for your child or want to explore whether we might be, please do come along to visit the classroom and meet staff.

To find out more about our wonderful, welcoming village school and the things that are going on in each class, please take some time to visit our school website at

<http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/>



HORTI SOCIETY

It is a great testament to Timothy Walker's popularity, that the large village hall was packed out for his 9 November talk on 'from Paradise lost to Paradise restored, a history of gardens and gardening through the lens of the Oxford Botanic Garden'.

The mulled wine and mince pies might also have had something to do with luring the punters in..

Timothy drew our attention to the conjoining of art, nature and spirituality within gardens and took us through the 16C idea of recreating the garden of Eden, the early botanists of the 17C, the new plants and new natural design of the 18C the glasshouses of the 19C the 20C expansion of Harcourt arboretum and the 'new natural' and pictorial meadows of the 21C.

Our next talk will be given on March 8th when Ann Chambers will be talking on the subject of 'Kiftsgate, my ever-evolving garden'. 7.00 for 7.30 in the village hall.
Diana Thompson

HANDICRAFT AND PHOTOGRAPHY SECTIONS FOR THE MAY 2023 SPRING SHOW:

HANDICRAFT

1. A piece of pottery
2. A piece of quilting
3. A hand knitted article
4. An item of cross stitch
5. A piece of metal or woodwork. Please state size on entry
6. A greetings card - made from any medium **excluding** computer generated
7. A handicraft exhibit - please state size on entry
8. A handicraft exhibit - age 16 and under

PHOTOGRAPHY

1. Photograph - landscape/country scene
2. Photograph - sunset/sunrise
3. Photograph - texture
4. Photograph - Macro
5. Photograph - water
6. Photograph- in the garden
7. Photograph- the beauty of trees
8. Photograph - a night photo
9. Photograph - action!
10. Photographs of 4 related views
11. A black and white photograph - any size (one only)
12. An enlargement- any subject (max size A4, black and white or colour)
13. A painting or drawing
14. A painting or drawing - age 16 or under

SIBFORD, PLEASE START GETTING CREATIVE!

SIBFORD BUS SERVICE

Bus 75 - Timetable from 25 July 2022

- Leave Sibford Ferris to Banbury: 06:56, 08:37, 11:09, 13:59, 17:31 (Sat only)
- Leave from Banbury for Sibford: 11:35 (Sat), 11:40 (Mon-Fri), 14:35, 17:40
- Leave Sibford Ferris to Stratford: 11:58 (Sat), 12:02 (Mon-Fri), 14:53, 17:58
- Leave from Stratford for Sibford: 06:02, 07:30 (Mon-Fri), 07:54 (Sat), 10:15, 13:15, 16:38 (Sat only)

No service on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Oil and Watercolour classes

Learn the basics in a friendly informal class with easy to follow demonstrations

OIL PAINTING -

Sibford Village Hall
(Friday's 9.30 - 12.30 weekly)

Shutford Village Hall
(Saturday's 9.30 - 12.30 monthly)

WATERCOLOUR -

Sibford Village Hall
(Friday's 1.30 - 3.30 - weekly)

nvfletcher@btinternet.com
www.nigelfletcher.co.uk
07792 657 248

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHATTER

Christmas at

Holy Trinity Church

Sibford

Saturday 3rd December

11am Christmas tree festival begins

#####

Friday 9th December

7pm Gospel Bell Concert

#####

Sunday 11th December

8am Holy Communion service

5pm Christingle service in aid of the Children's society

#####

Friday 16th December

7pm Traditional Carol Concert

#####

Sunday 18th December

9.30am Holy Communion service

#####

Saturday 24th December

11.30pm Midnight communion

Sunday 25th December

9.30am Christmas morning family communion



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 2nd - Mens Brunch - Sun Inn - 1130am
- 6th - Friendship Club Carol Service - Church - 2pm
- 7th - Ladies Coffee Club - Wykham Arms - 11am
- 11th - Christingle - Church - 5pm
- 16th - Carol Service - Church - 7pm
- 17th - Book Swap Cafe - Village Hall - 10am
- 20th - Friendship Club Christmas Tea - Village Hall

JANUARY

- 18th - SGPC meeting - Village Hall - 7pm
- 28th - Book Swap Cafe - Village Hall - 10am
- 31st - Sibford Photogaphy Society - Village Hall - 7.30pm

DECEMBER BIN COLLECTIONS

Green Tuesday: 6th; 20th.
Blue/Brown Tuesday: 13th; 27th.

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.

SIBFORD SCENE
DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE -
12 NOON - 18th JANUARY 2023

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