

*Sibford Scene*

*March 2024*

*Number: 461*



## THE SIBFORD PLAYERS CAST (AND TWO LOVELY REVIEWS)



Last night was SUPERB. You were brilliant, the set was brilliant, everyone was brilliant. The movie was fantastic. I haven't had such a good evening in ages. I was so impressed. Thank you everyone; I came down from London rather tired and down from treating unhappy adolescents and dealing with social services, I didn't really want to go out again. But I'm so glad I did. SUCH a tonic. I feel happy again!

Julie Gomersall

I should like to supplement any dramatic critique of the marvellous Sibford Players production of *Murdered to Death* with a comment on the often-unsung element of the production; the behind-the-scenes efforts. From the fairy lights that welcomed us, the hospitality of the 'Green Room', the raked seating, set painting, lighting and filmed interlude. All must have taken a great deal of thought and time to produce.

As soon as the curtains opened, I was struck by the white set and the incredibly simple detail; clearly designed to enhance the 'Cluedo' coloured costumes of the cast and the importance of the paintings hung on the walls. The stage lighting was used to full effect including the spot light that drew our attention to the murder weapon. Finally, the film sequence which is becoming a staple of these productions. This in itself must have taken a great deal of time and thought and added greatly to the entertainment of the audience. Well done to everyone involved, this will be a hard act to follow.

Keith Hicks



## ED'S THOUGHTS

Hello!

We have a new contribution this month from Chris Smith - The Monthly Crossword. So, get your thinking heads on and see if you can solve it - answers in next month's issue

Oonah is featured twice this month: Village People and Great Taste.

Olivia Sparks and Cicely Glazebrook are once again running a stationery collection for schoolchildren in Malawi (page 35)

Peter and Judy Abbott are hosting a lunch for the homeless on the 18th (page 4)

And finally, thank you to all of you who came along to our play. And the 3 super reviews!! (pages 2 & 26)

### Thought for the month

"You know life is too short

For compromising

Take a hold of your dream

And realize it"

Paul Carrack

Cover pictures by Oswyn Murray and his poem about the Glebe Farm ash tree (page 13)

## The Scene Team

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## Deadline for April Issue

12 NOON - 18th MARCH 2024

# 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: 07972 26333 (Ferris). We are also lucky enough to have a really great village website at: [thesibfords.uk](http://thesibfords.uk)



## LETTERS AND NOTICES

### **Lent Lunch in aid of the Homeless in Banbury.**

**Monday 18th March 12.30pm**  
at Peter and Judy Abbott  
Bramley Close Bonds End Lane Sibford Gower.

Please join us to support this worthy cause and meet Polly who feeds the homeless in Banbury on a daily basis....a voluntary contribution will be very much appreciated.

### **VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY**

#### **Lottery winners for February:**

- 1st Alan Chater
- 2nd Brian Joynes
- 3rd Clive Warner



### **FOUND: Aluminium Walking Stick**

If you have lost an aluminium, adjustable height, NHS style walking stick, please contact Keith Hicks on 01295 780259 and I will be pleased to return it too you.



## LETTERS AND NOTICES

### **thesibfords.uk is BIG**

As Douglas Adams could have said: "The web is big. You just won't believe how vastly, hugely, mind-bogglingly big it is. I mean, you may think there's a lot of pages in the Sibford Scene, but that's just peanuts to the web." Do you need more space, perhaps for photos, to showcase the club or class that you run, to complement what the Scene editor has room for? The village website has it.

For example, visit **thesibfords.uk/clubs** to find this year's programmes of events and contact details for the Horti and History Societies, and information about other village organisations as well. From the Horti page you can also revisit the amazing blooms that were on display in the virtual flower shows at the time of the 2020 and 2021 lockdowns

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## NATURE NOTES

There were definitely signs of Spring by the beginning of February with newts appearing in our garden pond and plants such as groundsel, dandelion and red dead-nettle in full bloom. Hares are now active in the fields around the villages.

At the time of writing this I have not yet seen any bees or butterflies, but they should be appearing any day now. Buff-tailed Bumblebees may well be the first to appear.

Anne Bishop commented on how quickly a flock of Redwings can appear and strip all the berries from a holly tree. They seem to go for any red berries first before moving on to orange and then maybe yellow berries.

A friend in Brailes set aside an hour to do the RSPB garden birdwatch and much to his surprise observed Blackcap, Siskin and Redpoll all within the designated time. Redpoll was the first he had ever seen in his garden. Have any been seen in Sibford?

In our own garden a couple of Carrion Crows have become regular visitors this year and a pair of Bullfinches appeared a few days ago.

Observations for the next Nature Notes should be sent to [ajnewbold88@gmail.com](mailto:ajnewbold88@gmail.com). Who will see the first butterfly of the year?

Andy and Gill Newbold

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## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

**Warm Hub Social Afternoons: Thursdays 2.30–4.30pm.** Warm Hubs are a chance to meet up with friends and even make some new ones. Keep warm, have a tea/coffee and cake, play games, have a chat, or get crafting. Socialising is good for our mental health and it's nice to have something to get you out the house in the winter months. The Town Estate Charity is kindly funding the sessions, so they are free to attend, just "drop in". Warm Hubs will be on every Thursday until March 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Book Swap Saturdays and Cafe: Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

**The Second Deadly Sin, a morning with historical author Caroline Newark: Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.**

A treat is in store for all book lovers. Historical fiction author Caroline Newark will be returning to Sibford Village Hall with more stories of her famous and not-so-famous ancestors. This time her talk is entitled "The Second Deadly Sin". If you can't remember your deadly sins, the second is the one about greed, wanting to have more than you're entitled to, wanting to live the fairytale. There are women in Caroline's family tree who most definitely wanted to "have it all" but if you remember those childhood stories from long ago, you'll know there were big bad wolves lurking in the woods and a clock about to strike midnight so not everything ends well.



Caroline has promised to bring copies of all her books with her so if you missed them last time you will have another opportunity to buy copies at a special discounted rate.

**Easter Egg Hunt, Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2 – 5pm.**

Join us for our annual hunt around the villages answering the quiz questions or take your little ones for a run-around in the Millennium Field to find the pictures. Tea and yummy cakes in the Village Hall as always. All children receive an Easter Egg!





## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Cont'd

**Car Boot Sale, Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup> 9-12pm.** The Sibford Car Boot Sale returns, perfectly timed with your annual Spring Clean! Book a slot with [kat.davison@hotmail.com](mailto:kat.davison@hotmail.com). There will be a French café serving coffee, croissants, and bacon sandwiches to keep you refreshed as you shop. £5 a pitch



**Help look after our Village Hall.** We need more volunteers from the village to help look after our Village Hall and gardens. A couple of hours every month would make a huge difference. We really need help with keeping the plants looking lovely and gardening is good for the soul! Contact Ginny 780373 or [ginnybennett@googlemail.com](mailto:ginnybennett@googlemail.com)

**Support the Village Hall by joining the Sibford Lottery.** We have an amazing community lottery running with fantastic cash prizes every month. Join now and next month you could be a winner! Existing members, just a reminder to renew your annual subscription before March. £48 for 12 months or £4 a month. Contact [juliette53@btinternet.com](mailto:juliette53@btinternet.com) for more info.

**Book the Village Hall for your next event using our online booking system:** When you are paying the invoice for your event, please include your name and the invoice number. We have preferential rates for village residents, only £11/hr (one hall); and £20/hr (both halls). Please use us for your next birthday party or community gathering. [www.sibfordvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.sibfordvillagehall.org.uk).

**Notices:** Please do not walk your dogs on the Village Hall field. This is a play area for children and a public facility where for obvious reasons dog walking is prohibited. Keep dog walking for our beautiful countryside paths and fields instead. Finally, we have had the fencing improved at back of the hall so are ready with a better social space for our upcoming events.

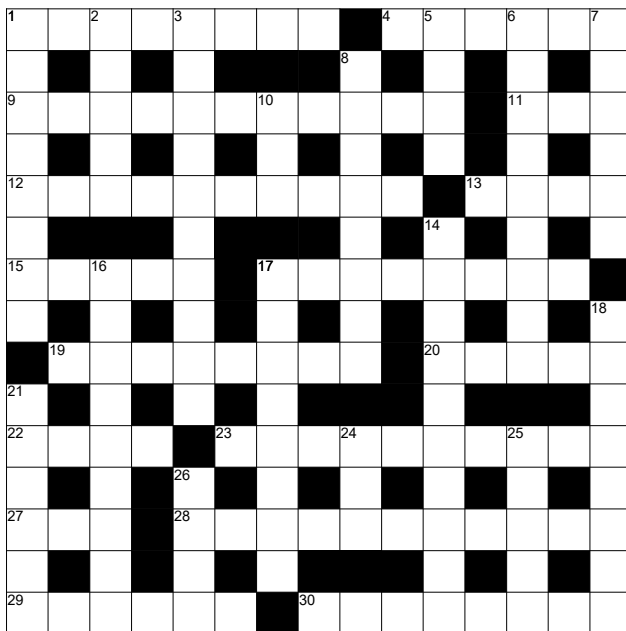
# March Crossword

**Sibford Scene February 2024**

**Chris Smith**

**ACROSS**

1. On coach to York, imbibing whiskey, there's lots of activity, but little achieved (4,4)
4. Rolled cigar lit first creates strong aroma (6)
9. Sibford craftsmen see brand start to ruin status (11)
11. Spanish sun mostly gone (4)
12. Remove air resistance with water vapour absorbing right edge (10)
13. Unkind to imply 'average' (4)
15. Primarily directors require authentic method acting for theatrical piece (5)
17. Unauthorised only around these, briefly (2,3,3)
19. Encouraged quiet frolic with Edward (8)
20. Old-fashioned fool in sports lesson (5)
22. Release some bound Oxonians (4)
23. Scene created by yours truly drinking a litre after novel (10)
27. Baby rabbit found at the front of the kitchen (3)
28. I only try hit dancing at Sibford Sunday venue (4,7)
29. Oddly not Beth in hurried creation using old material (6)
30. Learned water source almost ready (4-4)



**DOWN**

1. To rear of village lane (8)
2. Southern trip in river (5)
3. Wash my mark off at watering hole (6,4)
5. Mobile phone software heard in part of church (4)
6. Alas, cell espionage trapped Lord of the Manor (9)
7. Organ unknown in settlement (6)
8. Ended separation of corps lost in long grass (8)
10. To suffer with front chopped off tail (4)
14. Let limp elm rot at local listed building (6,4)
16. Sibford street cred found in hotel (4,5)
17. Cycling compromises principles and shifts more units (8)
18. Acted disloyally and damaged tyre bead (8)
21. Tremor ends torpor of peace lover (6)
24. 'Tis wrong way round for an instruction to a dog (3)
25. Your old, narrow, coverless bed (5)
26. And so, without resistance, Thursday was cut short (4)



We are having a lovely Spring Term here at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School. Snow drops, crocuses and now daffodils are appearing across the site and the children are noticing the birds nests in the trees before the leaves push through.

Although the Spring term is a particularly short one this academic year, lots of learning is going across the school and we are making the most of opportunities we have to enrich the children's experience while they are with us.

We have found time for special visitors in school. All the children have taken part in well-being workshops with a trained practitioner from SCARF (Coram Life Education) as well as Mental Health Week, and we have continued our focus on the link between physical and mental health. The special Sports 4 Schools afternoon with sprinter Frederick Afrifa was both exhausting and inspirational! It was an event that even our youngest children will remember for a long time, along with the words said to Fred by his coach 'Believe in Greatness'.



We believe that, with hard work, an awareness of what is possible, rich learning experiences, and inspirational and carefully planned teaching, we can support our children in developing the foundations for attaining their dreams in later life. Fred was an excellent advocate for this, both in his inspirational speaking and in his life.

We have lots of other exciting activities this term too; Reading Week when parents and grandparents are invited to come into school first thing in the morning to share books with the children, World Book Day, Science Week, and a range of science and art & design workshops. Thanks to the PTA, the school will enjoy a performance from a visiting theatre company, the PTA Disco, an Easter celebration at the church in Sibford Gower, the annual Easter Egg competition and more!

The local Town Estates charity have shown generous support for the school once again, in agreeing to fund a programme of much needed interior decoration at school. That we have a clean, well-organised and creative environment for children and staff to work and learn in is very important, not least in illustrating the respect that we should all have for education and schools.

A much-needed programme of re-painting the learning spaces is now underway and we are very thankful to the Town Estates Trustees for enabling this to happen.

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

*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/>



## Poet's Corner

For Tony Eyton RA, aged 100

A poem in the Chinese style

In the great storm the old ash tree  
That you had so admired when you bought this house  
Fifty years ago, blew down.  
It must have been forty feet and two hundred years old.  
We remembered your love of it  
As it lay prostrate across the garden  
And suddenly a great view appeared  
In the hills beyond, towards the sunset.

Bill, the farmer at Temple Mill, cut it up  
Whose grandma had been born in our house.  
And played beneath its shade.  
Now all that is left  
Is a massive stump  
And a log table in the orchard

And we remember you as we sit by the fire  
Warm in its embrace.

Oswyn Murray, February 2024

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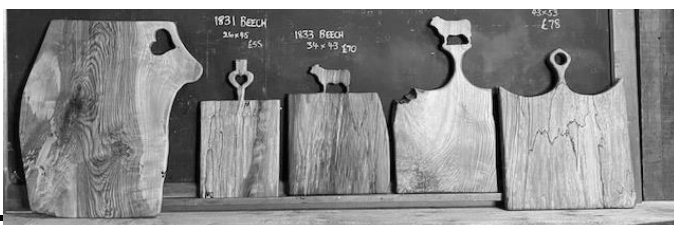
- ~ Presentation – Food Theatre! ~ Cake Boards ~ Cheese Boards ~
- ~ Chopping Boards ~ Serving Platters ~ Etc ~

**\*\* 5<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary: 'Wood' \*\***

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### **Face the fear this year**

**BRAND NEW EVENT!** Take on an adrenaline-pumping bungee jump at this year's Bloxham Steam Rally on 29 June and raise money for Katharine House at the same time. Why not take a minute to make a memory at 160ft? Hurry – the first 50 signs ups will receive free entry to Bloxham Steam Rally, worth £16!  
[www.khh.org.uk/bungee](http://www.khh.org.uk/bungee)

### **A big deal**

We're so lucky to be supported by so many local businesses. Once again, we have some brilliant sponsorship opportunities for the year ahead. As well as helping support local people, it's a great way to build your brand and demonstrate your commitment to the community – it really is a win-win! If you work for a local business and would like to get involved, take a look at our sponsorship page here: [www.khh.org.uk/sponsorship-opportunities](http://www.khh.org.uk/sponsorship-opportunities).

### **Community Ambassadors**

We're a small team, and until recently we haven't always been able to attend events and let people know about the hospice and why local support makes so much difference. We are delighted to now have a team of six incredible Community Ambassadors ready and waiting to represent the hospice. If you are hosting a community event or are part of a local group, school or business who would like someone to attend and share about Katharine House, then please get in touch with our fundraising team by emailing [fundraising@khh.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@khh.org.uk).

### **Bake a difference**

Everyone loves a cuppa and a slice of cake, right? Well, our Care for a Cuppa campaign, which runs all year round, is the perfect excuse to do just that while raising funds for Katharine House. Could you host a coffee morning, cake sale or bake-off event and help us raise some dough for our hospice? We also have lots of resources to help sweeten the deal... Find out more here: [www.khh.org.uk/cuppa](http://www.khh.org.uk/cuppa).

### **Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your local hospice**

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



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## DID YOU KNOW?

**Lady Day** is celebrated on the 25 March each year – exactly nine months before Christmas Day, to commemorate the Feast of the Annunciation when the Angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her she had been blessed and chosen by God to conceive and give birth to His Son.

Lady Day was also the traditional day on which year-long contracts between landowners and tenant farmers would begin and end in England (although there were regional variations). Farmers' time of "entry" into new farms and onto new fields was often on this day and farming families who were changing farms would travel from the old farm to the new one on Lady Day. Prior to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar by Britain in 1752 it was also known as the beginning of each New Year. Lady Day was the first of the Quarter Days when rent became due to their landlords by tenant farmers, servants were hired and school terms started. The Quarter Days were approximately 3 months apart and were close to the two solstices and equinoxes. Accounts had to be settled and unresolved law suits and debts were not allowed to linger on.

In medieval times the Cistercian Monks at Holwell Grange in Swalcliffe (now known as The Old Grange) held land adjacent to that owned by the Knights Templar in Sibford. Frequent disputes arose between the two Orders as to the cultivation of their lands. On Lady Day in 1242 an agreement was signed between the Abbot and convent of Bruern and the brothers of the Knights of the Temple at Jerusalem. The monks stated that they would either cultivate their land between Holwell Grange and the eastern field at Sibford or let it lie fallow simultaneously with the Templars. This agreement ended the often-aggressive disputes between the two Orders.

# LOCAL NEWS



Joining a running club does not have to be scary! Hook Norton Harriers brings together people of all ages and abilities to have fun running. We are club that emphasises the enjoyment in running and most importantly run together – you will not be left behind! We have weekly training sessions and meet at 7pm on Tuesday evenings at Hook Norton Sports and Social Club. We are also starting a group of Thursday evening runners in Chipping Norton. Our club chairman, Richard Hart, would love to have an informal chat with you about our club please email him on [info@hooknortonharriers.org.uk](mailto:info@hooknortonharriers.org.uk) or give him a call on 07728 892177.

To find out more please have a look at our website and social media – [www.hooknortonharriers.org.uk](http://www.hooknortonharriers.org.uk)

## CHURCH SERVICES

**Quakers** – Sibford Gower, Sunday, 10.30 am

**Roman Catholics** – Brailes, Saturday, 5pm; Shipston, Sunday 9am  
Kineton, Sunday 11am

**Baptists** – Hook Norton, Sunday, 10.30 am

**Methodists** – Marlborough Rd Banbury. Sunday, 10.30am  
Shipston-on-Stour. Sunday, 10.30am (All the same circuit)

## 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



## SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

### WALKING DATES

4 March; 18 March (note 3 week gap because of Easter); 8 April

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](mailto:sebannister@gmail.com) if you have any queries.

Sue Bannister

### FOOTPATHS

Ian has hung up his boots! After many years of fine work on our footpaths, Ian has decided enough is enough! So - we're looking for a rather splendid person to fill his boots. If you would like to do this sterling work, then please contact him on 01295 70790 or email: [ian@iansharp.net](mailto:ian@iansharp.net),



## FILM NIGHTS

**Our next film is on WEDNESDAY March 27th: "Anatomy Of A Fall."**

When her husband Samuel is mysteriously found dead in the snow below their secluded chalet, Sandra becomes the main suspect when the police begin to question whether he fell or was pushed. The trial soon becomes not just an investigation, but a gripping psychological journey into the depths of Sandra and Samuel's complicated marriage. With conflicting evidence and inconsistent testimony, words are wielded like weapons and shocking truths come to light in this thrilling Palme d'Or winner.

Doors open at 7. Film starts at 7.30. Admission £3 pp. Refreshments available.

Petra Berry

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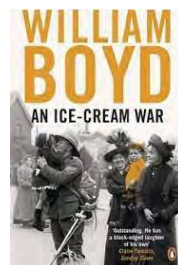
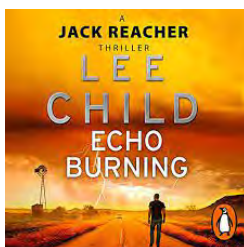
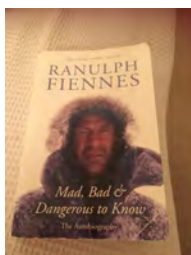
**Mob: 07905 953300**

**email:madeleine@pilatesinsibford.co.uk**

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## WHAT WE'RE READING.....





# VILLAGE PEOPLE

This month, it's our Finance & Ads Manager: Oonagh O'Neill

## **Why Sibford:**

When we started to house hunt my husband and I were both still working in London, I was also travelling back to Ireland every second weekend to care for my elderly mother, so an airport with the Cork route was essential.



## **Earliest memory of Sibford.**

Having seen our house we went to The Wykham Arms for a lovely lunch, Damien was so welcoming and told us all about the villages.

## **Surprising things about yourself.**

I have been very fortunate to have worked for extended periods in Dublin, London, New York and Sydney.

## **Best Thing about Sibford and what would I like to change.**

I love that we can walk out our front door and have so many public footpaths to take for great walks across the countryside. How blessed are we here. I would change the speed limit. Living in Ferris, there are two parts of the main road that have no footpaths. It can feel like running the gauntlet with speeding cars on those sections.

## **What do you do.**

Fortunately, I am now retired but never busier, having had a career in Finance and Private Healthcare and running our holiday cottage business. I assist with the Scene, the Wednesday lunch club, manage the volunteer rota and take minutes for the Fielding Board. Martin and I are also volunteer ushers at Chipping Norton Theatre.

## **Hobbies.**

Theatre, reading (often have several books on the go), music, walking and visiting country pubs. I am about to resume learning the piano, something I did when I was younger.

## **What really gets you going.**

Country walks, especially if we have a borrowed dog in tow, taking in the stunning views all around us. Yoga several times a week and when the weather is good we love to cycle (e-bikes).

# Yoga

**Tuesdays:** Beginner's Yoga - 9-10am  
Deddington Windmill Centre

**Thursdays** - All levels Yoga Flow.  
9 - 10am

Gentle Yoga with a Chair - 10.15 - 11.15  
Sibford Village Hall

**Fridays:** Hatha Flow Yoga - 9 - 10am  
Deddington Windmill Centre

Any enquiries to  
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## FRIENDSHIP CLUB

March has arrived and once again the Friendship Club meet on March 5th at the Village Hall.

Further dates for Members to note:

April 2nd. Easter Tea

May 7th AGM at which, I hope ALL Members will attend.

Evey Boughton

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### **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.

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For more information, please contact Linda on 01295 780 242 or 07973 226 032 or [lindalaneyolo@gmail.com](mailto:lindalaneyolo@gmail.com).





## HORTI SOCIETY

Our Horticulture Programme gets off to a brisk start in March with our first speaker of the year, Tom Duncan, who is coming to talk to us on Mount Stewart Gardens, Politics and Plants in Ireland. Whilst Tom has touched on Mount Stewart in a previous talk, here he provides us with a fresh angle on this extraordinary Northern Irish house and garden.

Come and find out on Wednesday, March 13th. Doors open at 7.00pm for refreshments and a big welcome back after the winter, and the talk starts at 7.30 IN THE VILLAGE HALL. There will also be a swift AGM before the start of the meeting. In our aim at inclusivity, our annual subscription will be kept for another year at £10.00, but becomes due in March. Please bring cash! Looking forward to seeing you all there

Diana Thompson



## In Your Garden - March

March is all about anticipation, hope and promise. and there is a thrill too, when the daffodils come out with a burst of colour, and the birds start to sing early in the morning. Loads of jobs will need doing too. Have a look at some of these;-

1.Potted hyacinths in the house are lovely, but when they have finished cut off the flower stems, and put them in a sheltered spot until the danger of frosts has past. They will flower again for the next few years if you take care of them, and plant them out in the garden. As they decline they produce single flowers, but they are still a gorgeous colour and waft scent around. Some people find they can give skin irritation, so gloves on.

2.It is time to lift and divide perennials. where you have gaps between plants you can dig out nettles, ground elder and bindweed, and spread compost or manure on these bare patches.

3.Hardy veggies, like carrots, beetroot and radish can be planted in March, but I find leeks are better sown in the greenhouse. If you chitted some early potatoes you can plant them out now.



## In Your Garden - March

Cont'd

4. Do not be tempted to sow runner beans, courgettes or sweetcorn until April, unless we get a stinking hot March - who knows what our weather is up to at the moment - quite unpredictable.

5. When the snowdrops have stopped flowering, but are still in the green it is time to lift and divide them. Do it when the soil is damp so that the bulbs can split up without damage, and plant them two or three inches deep. You just can't have enough snowdrops. Mine are beginning to look glorious, the more the merrier.

6. If you have been growing Cornus (dogwood) to have spectacular colour in the beds in winter, it is best to prune them hard back in the spring. When the last gale blew down my fence, it was the strongly tied roses that helped it to keep standing, but only at 45 degrees.

7. The plants you have in pots on your terrace or patio will need feeding, so top up their soil with compost or manure to get them growing strongly again.

8. Weeds, weeds, weeds - they are growing so fast as the soil warms up. Keep pushing your hoe through them, then when they have dried you can rake them off.

9. There is still time to browse through the seed catalogues but I should get on and do it soon. And also order in some new bags of compost or manure if you need it.

10. New shoots are appearing around the base of some perennials and round the bottom of shrubs, and my lovely Hostas. And the slugs are on the warpath. They are hungry. So am I! Time for lunch. Enjoy your spring garden.

Jupe Hitching

### **Another nice review for the Sibford Players**

Dear All

I just wanted to say how brilliant the play was tonight. Every single one of you was brilliant and funny and looked like you were having such fun up there which is what it's all about. I am sooooo impressed that you have put it all together and done so well. I love the set (amazing Sandra!) and your different characters and the movie.

Well done Jo and Vanessa! Well done everyone!

Juliette Glazebrook



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## GREAT TASTE

### SALMON TRAYBAKE

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 tsp black mustard seeds                              | 1 tbsp madras curry paste              |
| 1 tsp cumin seeds                                      | 1 tbsp lime pickle                     |
| 1 tsp ground turmeric                                  | 400g tin coconut milk                  |
| 1 tbsp vegetable oil                                   | 4 salmon fillets                       |
| 1 head broccoli, cut into florets<br>and stalk chopped | a good handful cherry tomatoes, halved |
| a thumb-sized piece ginger, sliced                     | 1 lime, juiced                         |
| 2 cloves garlic, bashed                                | a handful coriander, chopped           |
|  | rice, to serve                         |

Heat the oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6. Tip the seeds and turmeric into a large bowl and add the vegetable oil with some seasoning. Toss the broccoli florets and stem with the oil and spices, then tip into a roasting tin with the ginger and garlic, and cook in the oven for 15 minutes.

Mix together the curry paste, lime pickle and coconut milk, then pour into the tin. Nestle the salmon fillets, skin-side up, into the tin and season. Spread the tomatoes around and put back into the oven for 15-20 minutes or until the skins are starting to crisp and the salmon is cooked.

Squeeze over the lime juice, sprinkle with coriander and serve with rice, if you like.



## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH CHATTER

**Good Friday - Messy church at Shutford Village Hall**

10am to 12md with refreshments

To do crafts & stories relating to Good Friday & Easter Day all welcome.

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<https://orangerooftops.co.uk/properties/areas/st-ives/tinhay/> - please use this link to check out our photos and availability, and contact Brian & Carolyn direct at [tinhaystives@gmail.com](mailto:tinhaystives@gmail.com) with any questions.



## SIBFORD PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Sibford Photography Club is a friendly, 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). In addition to our regular meetings, we also arrange outdoor photoshoots at local stately homes, gardens, nature reserves and other places of interest.

At our meeting on 27th February, we were treated to a virtual visit to India as our member, Stuart Ralph recounted tales from his recent visit to Kerala in southern India accompanied by many fascinating street scenes, wildlife, landscape and detail photographs. We also reviewed our members' images on the topic of "Texture", with a variety of natural and man-made subjects exhibiting a wide range of textures photographed in a number of different contexts making for a diverse and inspiring selection. It was a hugely entertaining evening that was enjoyed by all.

Our next meeting is on 26th March, when we will have a tabletop photography session. Members will be invited to bring along objects they would like to photograph, anything from ornaments and household objects to books, flowers, fruit, etc., along with backdrops to create a photogenic background and lights to illuminate the subjects. We will also view the members' images on the monthly topic of "Leading lines".

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](mailto:colinlamb.cl@gmail.com) or phone 01295 780357. We generally meet on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the small hall at the Village Hall.

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**\*\* 5<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary: 'Wood' \*\***

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# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



A collection of current scams to watch out for:

1. Scammers impersonating TV licensing authority. They falsely warn you that your TV licence is about to expire or there are problems with your payments. You are then instructed to link to the website contained in the email. This of course has only one purpose - to steal your personal data. To report such attempts you are encouraged to visit: [tvlicensing.co.uk](http://tvlicensing.co.uk) or telephone 0300 303 9695, and forward any suspicious emails to: [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk).
2. Shoppers be on guard for scam emails impersonating Argos which offer 'exclusive rewards'. Scammers ask you to complete a 30-second marketing survey about your shopping to access the reward. Once again you are of course led to a malicious website requiring your personal data.
3. Action Fraud are warning shoppers to beware emails claiming that they have won a 36-piece Tupperware set. Scammers are impersonating retail brands such as John Lewis, Costco and Asda. 'Winners' are invited to complete a survey to get the free set, worth £644, online. Once again, the sites are malicious - only wanting your personal and financial data.

If you receive one of these emails, **do not click on the link**, but forward it to: [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Info courtesy Scam Watch, Daily Mail.

**One more scam: Stop. Hang Up. Call 159.**

If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details - stop, hang up and call 159 to speak directly to your bank.

How it works: 159 works in the same way as 101 for the Police or 111 for the NHS. It's the number you can trust to get you through to your bank safely and securely every time. ( For more information visit: 159 - Stop Scams UK.)

Finally, just for interest, there is a TV programme on Monday evenings, 8.30pm BBC 1, called Scam Interceptors, in which a team of computer experts take on the scammers in real time. Not at all technical and quite exciting.

Peter Hine, Gower and Burdrop Watch 788830.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## MARCH

- 2nd - Mens Brunch - Sun Inn - 11.30am  
5th - Friendship Club - Village Hall - 2pm  
8th;15th;22nd;29th - Warm Hub - Village Hall - 2.30pm  
13th - Horti Society AGM and talk: "Mount Stuart Gardens" - Village Hall - 7.30pm  
15th - Sibfords History Society - Village Hall - 6.45pm  
17th - Book Swap Cafe - Village Hall - 10am  
18th - Lunch in aid of the Homeless - Bramley Close 12.30pm  
21st - Sibford History Society AGM and talk - Village Hall - 7pm  
26th - Sibford Photography Club - Village Hall - 7.30pm  
27th - Film Night ('Anatomy of a Fall') - Village Hall - 7.30pm

## MARCH BIN COLLECTIONS

- Green                      Tuesday: 12th; 26th  
Blue/Brown              Tuesday: 5th; 19th

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 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.

# Malawi Stationery Collection

Run by **Olivia Sparks** and **Cicely Glazebrook**

Hello everybody! Cicely and I are running a stationery collection for underprivileged school children in Malawi. The students being supplied with the stationery are both primary and senior school children, and the schools are in remote areas of Malawi that do not receive any support from any charities. So Cicely and I are incredibly excited to be making a difference at these schools and your donations and support would be very much appreciated by us!



We'll be collecting all the usual day-to-day stationery, for example - pens, pencils, colouring pens and pencils, rubbers, rulers, sharpeners, calculators, felt tips, crayons, highlighters, maths sets & staplers. Cicely and I have set up collection points for your generous donations. These include The Holy Trinity Church in Sibford and St Peter's & St Paul Church in Swalcliffe which have kindly allowed us to use their porches' as a collection point. We are also collecting stationery at our houses- Hillcrest Cottage, Main Street, Sibford Gower OX15 5RW and Meadowbank, Burdorp, OX15 5RN. Each collection point will have a waterproof box in an obvious place at the collection point and will be emptied daily!

As many people may know from my last Malawi stationery collection, my inspiration to run these stationery collections mostly comes from my childhood growing up in South Africa and seeing the effect of poverty on education. Cicely spent the summer in Kenya on a volunteering expedition with Camps International. Most of this time, she spent around young school students, who are being educated in poverty-stricken areas. She was taken aback by the condition that the students were expected to learn in. After the last stationery collection being such a success, and being able to send two large boxes to Malawi I'm confident that this collection will also be able to create an impact. We received these pictures on this poster from the school after they finally received the stationery.



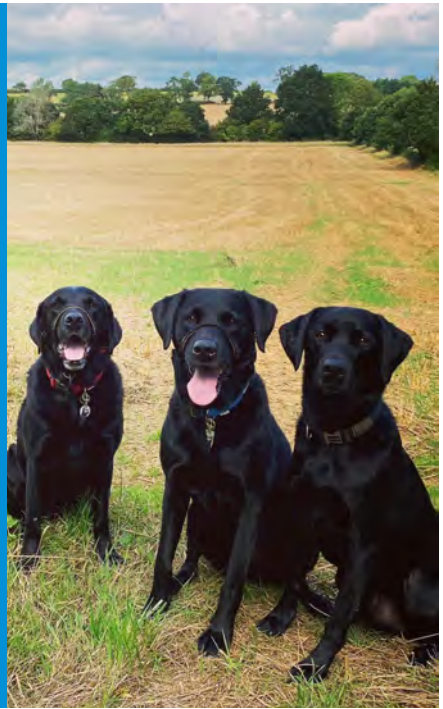
**Thank you!**

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