

Sibford Scene

July/August 2024

Number: 465





Well Done!



Fiona and Hugh Pidgeon's grandchild Beatrix with mum Anna met a Sibford lamb on a recent visit from Australia



Read all about egg-delivery goat Alan on Page 12



ED'S THOUGHTS

Hello!!!

Double issue this month, so lots of things going on in The Sibfords.

Learn about the history of the Friendship Club (page 23)

Catch up with egg-delivery goat Alan (page 12)

Two great films to look forward to: "Perfect Days" (31st July) and "Fly Away Home" (28th August)

Th



And the point?

Is this a hitching post for children? A very uncomfortable seat for parents? Any more suggestions would be most welcome. Please send to sibfordscene@gmail.com

Thought for the month

"May you always do for others
And let others do for you"

Bob Dylan

Cover picture:

"Hobby" by Harry Berks

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12 NOON - 18th AUGUST 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



LETTERS AND NOTICES

VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

Lottery winners for June:

1st Jane Morgan

2nd Claire Evans

3rd Kate Allen



Cels Bield - 7th June

I should like to thank my friends in Sibford and my more than kind, generous friends and neighbours in Backside Lane for their support, as I struggle to get my energy back. This weekend in particular when I've had to say 'farewell' to MR WOOF, my rescued Beard Collie (19yrs) who has my lovely companion for the last three of them.

I appreciate it all very much

Katheleen Winter

CHRISTIAN AID

Churchwarden Barbara Foster writes: THANK YOU on behalf of Aline and Christian Aid, Together the Sibfords raised £599, almost double last year's total.

Friendship Club

In July 2nd we're having a talk on (SCAMS) and how to deal with them. Anyone wishing to come and hear, you are welcome, entry £1.

The history of the Friendship Club is on page 23

SIBFORD SWIFTS



Writing this in the middle of June, we are now watching 6 chicks being fed with 2 eggs remaining to hatch. These counts are well down on last year, when by this time we had 12 chicks, the maximum we could expect in our four boxes. However, it is still possible that the first swift to return this season could, after 6 weeks as a singleton in box #1, find a partner and start a brood. [18 June: Stop Press! – it did not roost alone last night!]

There was a bit of drama on 22nd May when an intruder entered box #4. There was a big fight which ended with the intruder being seen off, but the experience seemed to confuse the resident pair in some way, because that evening they ejected two of their three eggs from the nest. Remarkably, the next morning another egg was laid, and this and the egg that had remained in the nest have now hatched. As you can see in the picture the two chicks are very different in size, having hatched four days apart, but the smaller one has so far survived a week so must be getting some share of the food. Read more about the drama, with video footage, on the village website at thesibfords.uk/about/swifts/swifts-2024

Please email me at swifts@thesibfords.uk if you have queries about boxes, calls, or indeed anything swiftian and I'll do my best to help. It's not too late to put up a box for this season; you are unlikely to get a breeding pair, but you may well get interest from "prospectors" seeking a nest site for next year.

Tim Huckvale

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NATURE NOTES

The red damselfly that I mentioned in the previous Nature Notes has now been identified as the Large Red Damselfly. This is the commonest of the red damselflies but it is still nice to see them doing so well in a small garden pond.

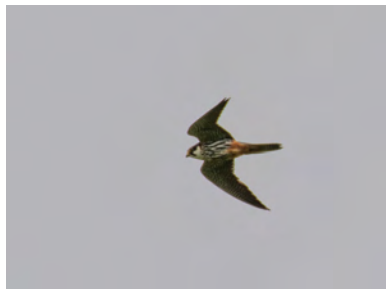
There are lots of fledgling garden birds around at present with Gold Finches and Green Finches bringing their young to the bird feeders. Blackbirds and Robins continue to feed their young even when they have left the nest.

Mike and Penny Spring sent me a photo of a moth found in their utility room which I was able to identify as a Scarlet Tiger.

Harry Berks has contributed a number of observations accompanied by some supporting photos. These include American Signal Crayfish at Lamb's Pool, Smooth Newts in the Sibford Gower Pond, Geese with their goslings and a Chiffchaff that was very vocal near the bench at the end of Lamb's Pool. However, the most exciting of his observations was a Hobby that he saw and photographed just outside the village. These birds are summer visitors to the UK coming here from Africa in order to breed. They are incredibly agile flyers feeding on insects, especially dragonflies and small birds including swifts and swallows that they catch in flight.

Please send any observations for the next Nature Notes to ajnewbold88@gmail.com. Photos are welcome and I can try to identify plants and animals if you are not sure.

Andy and Gill Newbold



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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The return of AppleFest! Sunday 6th Oct 2024. Something to look forward to after the summer – with a BBQ and bar, a bouncy castle plus lots of other apple-related delights, games, baking competitions and apple pressing. All accompanied by a fantastic line up of live music – more info in the next Scene. The scarecrow competition will also be making a return in the run-up to AppleFest, so don't throw those old clothes away just yet!

Book Swap Saturdays and Cafe: July 20th, August 17th, Sept 21st 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.

Help look after our Village Hall. We really do need more volunteers to help look after the hall and gardens. A couple of hours every month would make a huge difference. Contact Ginny 780373 or 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 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.

Quick reminder on Hirers' responsibilities: Please remember that if you hire the hall, it must be left as you would like to find it. The chairs must be stacked (use the chair trolleys) as per the photograph and advice notice on the door of the chair store, because we need to comply with our Health and Safety Policy. The dishwasher must be emptied completely and rinsed with clean water and the mesh plug must be cleaned of all food residue before replacing in the machine. Please remember that the Village Hall has a NO SMOKING policy which includes the outside space.

Charlotte Davies



FILM NIGHTS

The film on **Wednesday July 31st** is "**Perfect Days**"

Perfect Days is a luminous reflection on the beauty found in everyday life. Winner of the Best Actor award at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival, Koji Yakusho stars as Hirayama, a contemplative middle-aged man who lives a life of modesty and serenity, spending his days balancing his job as a dutiful caretaker of Tokyo's numerous public toilets with his passion for music, literature and photography. As we join him on his structured daily routine, a series of unexpected encounters gradually begin to reveal a hidden past that lies behind his otherwise content and harmonious life.

Featuring an unforgettable soundtrack of classic Rock and pop, this is a tender, shimmering and ultimately life-affirming marvel.

Nominated for Best International Film at the 96th Academy Awards.

Review Rotten Tomatoes 96%.

Film starts at 7.30 Doors open at 7.

Admission £3 pp. Refreshments available

On **Wednesday August 28th** we are showing "**Fly Away Home**" which is a film suitable for all ages.

After spending nine years apart, 13-year-old Amy(Anna Paquin) and her father Thomas (Jeff Daniels) are finally reunited. But things don't go smoothly at first, and while Thomas spends all his time testing a lightweight aircraft he has built, Amy finds solace with the geese nesting in a nearby lake. When developers then threaten to displace the geese, Amy volunteers to lead them on their migration by flying in Thomas' aircraft.

Rotten tomatoes review 88%

Film starts at 7.30. Doors open at 7.

Admission £3 pp. Accompanied children free

Refreshments available.

Petra Berry



Outdoor Learning Fun: We are always trying to improve the learning environment for our children to keep it fresh, interesting and engaging. We have recently purchased some new outdoor equipment for our youngest children to support active play and turn-taking in their outdoor learning space. The equipment is a moveable balance trail which incorporates climbing slopes, beams and a tunnel with brightly coloured circular 'stained-windows' so the children can explore the changing light when they are inside. What great fun!



One of the highlights of our term has been a visit from the Wonderdome. This is a travelling planetarium, which fits neatly into our school hall. It accommodates a whole class of children at a time and the pupils climb inside to find out all about the night sky, our solar system, the history of space travel and some of the amazing things that can happen in zero gravity. The learning is presented through lightshows projected onto the interior of the dome with stunning visual effects that completely absorb them for the length of their workshop. It really is an amazing and memorable learning experience for the children, and one that supports many aspects of the WMAT curriculum. Huge thanks to our P.T.A for supporting with the costs of this.

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/>

SUNEDAY SMALLHOLDING

Alan delivers eggs

Alan is a five year old Toggenburg goat. I had wanted to keep goats for some time and thought a milking breed would be best. Before buying my first two females I went on a cheesemaking course which helped me to focus my mind on the reasoning for getting goats. I also researched breeds and came across the Toggenburg Breeders Society. Through the society I received a lot of help and support in getting started. My first two goats arrived, Sofie and Rosie. They went to the billy goat the following autumn and my first kidding happened in May 2019. Alan was born as one of a set of triplets. Milking the goats was fine once I had got the technique right and the goats got used to it. I chose to bottle feed Alan from the start while his sisters went on their mother after I had milked Alan's share. A bond soon built between us and when a decision had to be made on his future it was clear that he had to find a job if he wanted to stay.

I thought initially that a harness would allow him to pull a cart and so began searching the internet for help which led me to join the Harness Goat Society. Here I could read member's stories and see goats in action. I did get Alan started on pulling a log around but quickly the focus changed to moving eggs rather than wood! I already had an egg round running for my village and the idea of Alan carrying the eggs led me to make a simple pack saddle which I could fix my bicycle panniers to. In no time at all, Alan was walking alongside me with full panniers of eggs and the egg delivery took on a very special and unique quality. I was satisfied that I had saved Alan from the butcher and in turn he was doing a job which helped the smallholding.

All was going well until I decided one day to walk Alan back a different way, through a different field but one with a footpath. The footpath was good, but there were two horses in the field – which was bad. The horses took an instant dislike to Alan and attacked him. It was a terrible ordeal, being chased around the field by a kicking and biting, rearing and stamping horse was terrifying. Alan escaped the attack by sheer chance as I could not control the horses to help him. Haven fallen to the ground, half sliding – half rolling, he squeezed under the fence. He got up and although shaken seemed to have no injuries, just a slight limp. We got home and Alan had some time off. He does now still walk to the village but completes a reduced egg round.

Recently, a journalist working for BBC's Farming Today on radio 4 was searching through the Harness Goat Society website for an example of a working goat and found Alan. The story of Alan's egg round was cheerful, lighthearted and amusing, leading to a flurry of interest from other radio stations; Radio Ulster, Times Radio and Heart, and Channel 5 News and BBC South on TV. Alan has always been well known in Sibford, but now people across the world are hearing about him.

Last week I met with Annette from The Harness Goat Society. She has generously given me her goat harness. ...next job is to make a cart and train up Boris!

Sue Sabin



SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

WALKING DATES

Walking dates for the next months are:
1st July, 15th July; 29 July; 12th August

Note: no walk on Bank Holiday 26th August.

All walks will leave the village hall on foot or by car at 10.00 am sharp to do a circuit of approximately 2 hours. You are therefore advised to get to the village hall by 9.55 am latest.

Dogs are welcome provided they are put on a lead when requested.

Walking boots or wellies and poles are recommended but not compulsory.

Some routes will include stiles and other similar obstacles.

For those leaving their cars at the village hall during the walk, please park it on the road and not on the car park.

IMPORTANT : To improve communication , I am setting up a WhatsApp Group for the Sibford Walkers. Whether you are a regular walker or an occasional walker, could I please ask that you provide me with a mobile number so that I can add you to the Group Chat. If you have already done so, many thanks. Any issues please contact me on 07961 161358 or email philtonphilip1@gmail.com.

Phil Hilton

FOOTPATHS

HOORAY! The new footpath warden is.....**Allan Smith , Arundel House, Backside Lane 07447 423043**. Any problems or complaints, then please contact Allan

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



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HORTI SOCIETY

Quite a lot to mention this time: The Spring Show in May happened just too late to be reported in last month's Scene. It was well attended and enjoyed and Val and her team produced more teas and delicious cakes than anyone had any right to expect.

The early morning moth visit on June 8th also drew a good crowd. It is possible that the lure of bacon rolls and hot coffee might have been an incentive to some to turn out at the ungodly hour of 8.00am on a Saturday, but we were all charmed and amazed at the beauty and variety of moths that Andy Newbold had caught. He was fantastically knowledgeable and we were captivated. People stayed for ages. Andy, come back and show us more moths please! Scorched Wing Moth, photo taken by Harry Berks

A large group of garden enthusiasts visited 2 very different private gardens in Priors Marston on 12 June; West View House, a little jewel of a plantswoman's garden, where we roamed slowly, enjoying every thoughtfully positioned plant, and Hardwick Hill, a juggernaut of a place, with ponds and wild meadows, roses, formal gardens, topiary, and vegetable gardens. You name it, it had it. It made me feel exhausted just to imagine how much work might be involved in its upkeep.

NGS Garden Open event.

6 very different Sibford Gardens will be open in support of the NGS on Sunday 23rd June. Come and look round them for 3 important reasons:

1. To give you inspiration for your own garden (or to give you that quiet satisfaction of knowing that you are doing it better)
2. To have a jolly good snoop around gardens that you might not otherwise be able to access
3. The NGS raised nearly 3.5 million pounds last year for a huge range of worthy causes. Marie Curie, MacMillan, Maggies, Mencap, and loads of others not even beginning with the letter M. Come and enjoy the soothing charm of the Sibford gardens knowing that you are benefitting marvellous charities. And then there will be tea and cake at the village hall. Win win!

On June 26th we will be visiting the small Sibford Gower gardens between 6.30 - 8.00pm. Weather permitting. Most of these gardens have never been open before. See points 1 and 2 above for potent reasons to attend and know that Gil and David Soden will be providing alcoholic refreshments afterwards at Wyatt's Close, the last of the 6 gardens. Park at the village hall and walk to the Gower crossroads for 6.25 ready for a 6.30 start.



HORTI SOCIETY

On Wednesday 10 July there is an afternoon visit to 2 private Oddington gardens, Pasture Farm and Banks Barn. They are going to be brilliant. Please contact Paul Harffey at paul_harffey@yahoo.co.uk to pre-pay. £15.00 members, £20.00 non members. we will depart at 4.00pm from Sibford Village Hall and alcoholic refreshment will be provided. In other words, usual Horti gig.

The Spring Show may be a dim memory, but we have the Summer Show firmly in our sights, on Saturday 24th August, and we hope you do too! There will be another chance to buy Sue Bannister's plants, another chance to enjoy Val's tea room, and it's not too late to make elderflower cordial and clean your jam jars out in preparation for making preserves. We just need the weather to warm up a bit so that the vegetables are worth showing. But there are flowers out. Everyone owns a vase of some sort. Come on people! Be aware, however that ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER 8.00PM ON ENTRY NIGHT.

That's quite enough from The Horti for the next 2 months. Enjoy your gardens.

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

May is the time of year when flowers bloom, birds sing and Sibford Ferris Parish Council update you on all the things we have done for you over the past year! One year ago we celebrated the coronation of King Charles with a street party which was funded in part by the Council and organised by it with a wonderful team of local volunteers. It was a great success and a sunny day that we will all remember for a long time.

The Elm crossroads became a local black spot with accidents occurring regularly. Greatly concerned by this we chased OCC to supply 4 new larger signs which are now installed and road lines repainted. We continue to get litter and fly tipping removed from the area too.

We have communicated with CDC and our local District Councillor and politicians regarding planning matters and have done our best to voice the concerns of the community over speculative development. We are saddened that once again the decision of one inspector can over turn the strong and well founded objections from Cherwell District Council, SFPC and the whole community.

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

Cont'd

We have continued to press for the re-categorisation of our village in order to try to prevent further expansion of the village boundaries with more development with even more traffic.

Over the summer we plan to get a new play park installed in Cotswold close and have been working to get quotes that fit with our budget. We also secured £12,000 in funding for this.

I have met with the new headmistress of Sibford school, Rebecca Evans, who has expressed her desire to maintain good relations between the village and the school.

Defibrillator training continues free of charge and co ordinated by one of our Council members.

We carefully manage the Council finances and assets and actively work to protect the conservation area. Also in a bid to slow the traffic we have applied for 20 mph signs.

These are just a-few of the many areas that our small Parish Council cover and I would like to express my gratitude to Councillors Andrew Meyler, John Wass, Ginny Bennett and Michael Gordon for all their voluntary work on the Sibford Ferris Parish Council and to our wonderful clerk Kirsty and the community for supporting us.

Katherine Roussel (Chair)

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In Your Garden - July/August

I am writing this in the middle of June, well wrapped up in jumpers and warm trousers, wondering if summer will ever come. However the garden seems to have enjoyed the soaking wet spring, and everything is looking tall and fairly robust. But the north wind is blowing all the petals off the roses, and the delphiniums need more stakes to stop them being blown over. So that will be the first job I think:-

1. Drive more firm stakes into the dahlias and delphiniums, and the tallest phlox, and tie them together with string, and any climbing roses that have started flapping in the wind, need tying back to the wall. They can be cut back when they stop flowering.

2 Weeds, weeds, weeds are shooting up in some impossible places to reach. Try and get a hoe to them, and bindweed is having a party romping through my hydrangeas, and its very difficult to get underneath and get the roots out. Trouble is if they reach the flowers they tend to tie them into a bunch together.

3.Lavender tends to get rather scraggy and leggy as it gets older. Give them a hard trimming after they have flowered, and if you take cuttings they grow quickly, so you can replace the rotten ones. It isn't just age that makes them look scruffy, if you have romping dogs, little boys and footballs going into them!

4. If you are going away on holiday, leave potted plants tucked into a shady wall, so that they don't get too scorched in the greenhouse, and with a saucer of water underneath them. If we get very hot weather you should water the plants early in the morning, and last thing at night.

5. Now is the time to enjoy harvesting your fruit and salads. Once your potatoes have finished flowering, they should be ready to dig up. If they are still too small, earth them up a bit. You can now do new sowings of carrots, lettuces and spinach, to keep you going through the autumn.

6. Its really important to keep deadheading everything, do it every day, pick the sweet peas too, as once they start making seed pods, they will stop flowering.

7.Trim the hedges towards the end of the month, and check that any new young trees and shrubs have not dried out, and their ties to the stakes are not too tight.

8. Alchemilla mollis is so useful lining paths and edging borders, but by now it gets scruffy, and starts seeding itself all over the place. Give it a rather brutal cut back, and in two or three weeks it will have fresh new growth bursting through.

9. If you are growing tomatoes they need to have regular watering and feeding. Remember to pinch out all the side shoots, and keep them tied gently to their stakes.

10 And a warning to you all to make sure that the lovely trailing plants that wander over the paths can be lethal. There are two very nice people in my village who have tripped over, and broken hips and shoulders, ending up in hospital for weeks. Be careful dear gardeners, and let us hope we finally have a warm, calm, beautiful summer soon.

Jupe Marshall



Thanking our Friends

In 2023, our loyal regular donors helped our hospice by giving a total of £46,723. We couldn't achieve everything we do without them! To acknowledge this special commitment, we're changing our terminology and recognising our regular givers as Friends of Katharine House. A monthly gift – no matter how small – provides security and enables us to go on caring for local people living with a life-limiting illness, not just now but for many years to come. Could you become a Friend of Katharine House and support the work of the hospice with a regular gift? Find out more at www.khh.org.uk/friend.

The Accumulator Challenge returns

Do you have what it takes to compete with local businesses, schools, colleges and community groups to become the Ultimate Accumulator? From an initial £50 investment, how much can you raise between October 2024 and February 2025. Hurry – sign up before 21 July to boost your start-up fund by £25! www.khh.org.uk/accumulator

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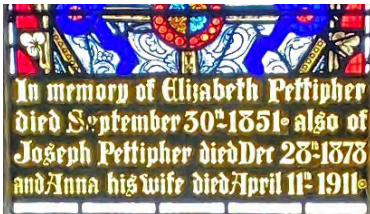
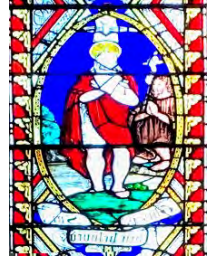


DID YOU KNOW?



Returning to the stained-glass windows in Holy Trinity Church we take a closer look at the three south facing stained glass panels on the right of the chancel. They are all about Baptism.

The central panel in the south window features Jesus' own Baptism by John the Baptist in the River Jordan and the text reads: "This is My Beloved Son" confirming that Jesus was indeed the Son of God - the long-awaited Messiah.



At the base of this window is a memorial inscription dedicated to members of the multi-generational Pettipher family who were farmers in Sibford Ferris and served the village community in many different ways.

The window to the right of the central panel depicts Nicodemus coming to Jesus by night and Jesus explaining to him that you have to be born again, spiritually not physically, so making it clear that baptism is a new birth. The text reads: "Except a man be born of water and of the spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God."



The images in the window on the left-hand side are less certain but are thought to represent Abraham being visited by three strangers, three men, while he was out in the countryside. A further reference possibly to the three 'persons' of the Holy Trinity. The inscription reads: "Three men stood by thee."

Maureen Hicks



VILLAGE PEOPLE

This month, we have our Webmaster - Tim Huckvale

Why Sibford?

24 years ago we were living in Wiltshire but looking to move near a supportive school for our youngest son to take his GCSEs and A-levels. Sibford School was an easy choice, and closer to my home town of Bedford where my mother still lived. We knew nothing of the village!



Earliest memory of Sibford

We arrived a year too late to witness the Millennium Pageant, but we were here for the time-capsule ceremony in the Millennium Field, where we snuck into the huge group photograph.

Surprising things about yourself

I have dipped my fingers in moon dust. Things about me which certainly would have surprised my younger self are getting deeply interested in both a small bird and the diaries of a 19th century vicar, and singing in two choirs. The letter S seems to be taking on a mystical significance in my life: Sibford, Swifts, Stevens, Song.

Best thing about Sibford and what would you like to change

Best things that I appreciate every day are the Sounds of Sibford. At night: owls hooting, foxes barking, but mostly Silence. Early morning: woodpecker pecking, doves cooing, horses clip-clopping down Main Street. Day-time: primary school children playing, church clock chiming, Philip the visiting pheasant Squawking. Evening: parties of Screaming Swifts. It's hard to think of something that needs changing in such a warm and welcoming community and countryside. I feel very comfortable here.

What do you do?

I'm a retired Software engineer who has found computer programming fascinating for over 60 years. I look after the village website.

Hobbies

With the S-factor, who needs hobbies?

What really gets you going?

Computers that don't do what I want even when I Scream at them.

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
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FRIENDSHIP CLUB

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB - The History

It was started in the 1970's - 1980's and was run by a Mrs Flynn. She lived in the Ferris. The club met, as now, on the 1st or 3rd Tuesday in the month. Its aim was to bring together all the villagers who were over 60. Specifically:

1. To develop a sense of communal responsibility: To provide help in case of sickness or hospitalisation by providing transport to visit, help with shopping etc. The club also advises on subjects such as action in retirement, finance and budgeting and disabled assistance. So offering comfort and support in any way needed and financial assistance if necessary.
2. To organise talks, entertainment and events as required by the majority of members
3. To raise money for the efficient running of the Club

They met in the village hall, but it seems the hall was cold, so for a while they met in LISTER common room at the Sibford Friends School. Sometime during 1984-1985 they came back to the village hall. There was a connection with Age Concern but due to a "dispute" the club went on alone, with an elected committee to run it. This continues today. Nowadays members come from all over Banbury, Epwell, Brailes and Tysoe. Anyone over 50 can join the club.

Evie Boughton



The Friendship Club in the 1980's



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



Discover Sibford School

Sibford School is inviting students and their families to come and learn more about the offering for children aged 3 – 18.

This is a great opportunity to meet key staff members, current parents and students. Take a look at our facilities, learn more about the excellent pastoral support on offer and find out more about our admissions process ahead of the Autumn Year 7 and 9 entry days.

To book a place at an upcoming Whole School Open Morning, call the Admissions Registrar on 01295 781 203 or book your place online at www.sibfordschool.co.uk/events.

Sibford Ferris Parish Council

Litter Picking

In the past Sibford Ferris Parish Council has organised an annual litter pick event to help clean up the parish. Unfortunately in recent years it has proven challenging to get together a group of people who are available on the same day so there will not be a specific event this year. If any parishioners would consider picking up just a few pieces of litter on their walks around the village it would be very much appreciated and if there are any groups of people in the village who would like to organise a litter pick the Parish Council would be happy to support them with this.

The Parish Council are planning to organise a litter picking event for early 2025 – details will be published late in 2024.

Cotswold Close Play Area

The Parish Council has obtained funding of £12k from the National Lottery Fund and has received an offer of £2.5k from County Councillor George Reynolds so with the funding already held by the Parish Council we are now in a position to get most of the equipment replaced. The order for this work has been placed and we are now waiting on a date for the work to commence but it is likely to be late August/early September.

For any Parish Council related issues the Parish Clerk can be contacted by e-mail: sfpc@thesibfords.org.uk or telephone: 07419 126206

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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)

CHURCH SERVICES

July 7th. Benefice Eucharist - Broughton 10-30

July 14th. All Age Family Service 10-00

July 21st. HC. 9-30

July 28th. HC. 9-30

Evey Boughton



SIBFORDS HISTORY SOCIETY

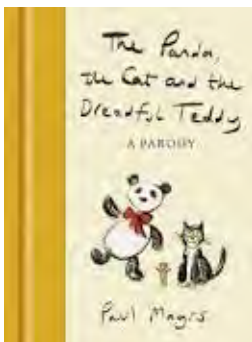
Our plans for the trip to Hardwick Hall on 4th September are nearly complete, and at the time of writing there are two seats left on the coach, so if you would like to come, do get in touch. The cost of the journey is £25. Entrance into Hardwick Hall is free to members of the National Trust, and approx. £18 for others.

Another outing is being planned: Lizzy Rowe, the art historian who came and gave us a talk in March, will take a group of not more than ten round the Pre-Raphaelite Room at the Ashmolean on the morning of Tuesday 27th August. We will take lunch at the Ashmolean and then walk to Keble College, where Lizzy will lead a tour that will take in the Holman Hunt painting 'I am the Light of the World' displayed in the chapel there. The cost will be £10 p.p. Please let us know if you are interested.

On Thursday 18th July Marie Louise Kerr is coming to talk to us about 'Matilda- the woman who would be Queen' - the Life of Empress Mathilda and her connections with Oxfordshire. As usual, we meet in Sibford Village Hall, doors open 7.15pm, talk at 7.30pm, guests £5. Diana Hughes



WHAT WE'RE READING.....



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GREAT TASTE

CAESAR SALAD



Ingredients

500g 1/2" cubes of bread	juice of 2 lemons
1 clove of garlic	100 ml olive oil
2 heads romaine lettuce	2g dry mustard
2 egg yolks	black pepper
250g parmesan cheese	s&p

Method

Over a low heat, fry the bread in olive oil and a split clove of garlic

Into a garlic-rubbed wooden bowl tear the lettuce and sprinkle with the mustard, s&p and the parmesan. Dress with the lemon juice and 85g olive oil

Toss in the eggs yolks and mix thoroughly, but don't bruise the lettuce. Every lettuce leaf should be coated and glistening

Before serving, add the croutons, tossing the salad briefly

Housekeeper Required

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SIBFORD PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

On the 2th June, we will hopefully have had an outdoor photoshoot, this time in the Millennium Field, followed by a gentle critique of the members' images on our monthly topic of "Growth".

The activity for our meeting on 30th July has not been fixed at time of writing, but we might have a member's presentation, followed by our members' images on the topic of "In the air".

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.

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. We generally meet on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the small hall at the Village Hall.

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)

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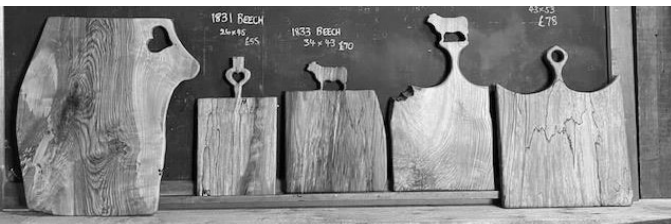
- ~ Presentation – Food Theatre! ~ Cake Boards ~ Cheese Boards ~
- ~ Chopping Boards ~ Serving Platters ~ Etc ~

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

Between Sibford Ferris and Sibford Gower. Welcome to view.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



One or two different scams this month - each with the same intention to steal your personal data and dosh.

1. Mobile phone crime. Our phones are stuffed with personal information which can provide thieves with the keys they need to access your online banking and allow them to raid your account(s). Thieves don't just steal your phone in the hope of selling it on for a few quid in the local pub, but now see it as a source of greater riches. The Halifax Bank, for example, is now strongly advising customers against storing online banking login details on a mobile phone.
2. Door scammers. There have been a growing number of cases whereby the scammer turns up wearing a hi-vis jacket and knocks politely on your door (rather than breaking in). They come up with a number of tales based around home improvements - for example, your house was built in the 1970s and needs modern insulation, or your gutters are blocked and "we've just cleaned your neighbours' gutters, can we do yours?". The scammers will always ask for cash upfront and the amount often increases as time goes by. If you are not expecting callers, don't engage with them, don't let them in. If they won't go away, call the police.
3. Cryptocurrency scams. The old Top Gear team (Clarkson, Hammond and May) have found out that their images are being used (deepfaked !) by scammers trying to sell cryptocurrency online. Clarkson's response was " I don't even know what cryptocurrency is. But it sounds ghastly." May went along the lines of " it's all bo---cks ", and Hammond's response is unprintable. I'm with Clarkson, but if you do know something about these things, just be careful.
4. Solar panels. Scam emails are appearing asking recipients to check their eligibility for funding to cover the upfront costs of installing such panels. The links are entirely fraudulent and should be avoided. Please forward the email to 'report@phishing.gov.uk.'

Info. Courtesy Money Mail and Which?

Playing T20 cricket in the Caribbean at the start of the hurricane season is probably not the best decision.

Enjoy our summer. Peter Hine, Watch Co-ordinator - Gower and Burdrop.

Tel 788830



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

- 2nd - Friendship Club - Village Hall 2pm
- 3rd - Ladies Coffee Club- Wykham Arms - 11am
- 5th - Mens Brunch - Sun Inn - 11.30am
- 10th - Horti Society visit to Oddington - 1pm
- 18th - Sibfords History Society "Empress Matilda" - Village Hall 7.30pm
- 20th - Book Swap Cafe - Village Hall 10am
- 30th - Sibford Photography Club - Village Hall 7.30pm
- 31st - Film Night: "Perfect Days" - Village Hall 7.30pm

AUGUST

- 2nd - Friendship Club - Village Hall 2pm
- 7th - Ladies Coffee Club- Wykham Arms 11am
- 2nd - Mens Brunch - Sun Inn 11.30am
- 24th - Horti Show and Plant Sale - Village Hall 2.30pm
- 18th - Sibfords History Society - Village Hall 7.30pm
- 17th - Book Swap Cafe - Village Hall 10am
- 27th - Sibford Photography Club - Village Hall 7.30pm
- 28th - Film Night: "Fly Away Home" - Village Hall 7.30pm

JULY/AUGUST BIN COLLECTIONS

- Green Tuesday: 2nd; 16th; 30th / 13th; 27th
- Blue/Brown Tuesday: 9th; 23rd / 6th; 20th

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



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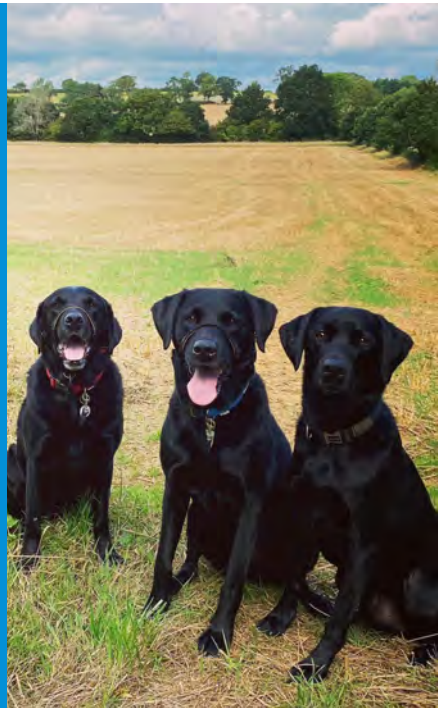
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