



**SIBFORD 75**

# SIBFORD 75



## Annual Report

Sibford Old Scholars  
and  
Sibford School



## Past Presidents

1904	Joseph Spence Hodgson	1939-43	Howard Quinton
1904-05	Dr. Richard L. Routh	1944-45	Roland Herbert
1905-06	Michael T. Graveson	1945-46	John Dearden
1906-07	Robert B. Oddie	1946-47	Leslie Baily
1907-08	Joseph S. K. Parsey	1947-48	Geoffrey D. Long
1908-09	Elizabeth M. Oddie	1948-49	F. Joy Reynolds
1909-10	Edward P. Kaye, M.Sc.	1949-50	Ronald Ll. Lloyd
1910-11	Charles E. Brady, O.B.E.	1950-51	James C. Baily
1911-12	Ethel M. Harrisson	1951-52	Ronald Quinton
1912-13	Arthur B. Oddie	1952-53	Alice Long and Edward P. Kaye, M.Sc.
1913-14	Lucy S. Lamb	1953-54	Louis E. Wright
1914-16	James T. Harrod, B.A.	1954-55	E. Marjorie Simmons
1916-19	Elizabeth F. Brown	1955-56	Reginald W. Barber
1919-20	Thomas Jackson	1956-57	Arthur Johnstone, B.Sc.
1920-22	Mabel T. Harrod, B.A.	1957-58	Celia Law
1922-23	Frank W. Snow	1958-59	Lewis Poulton
1923-24	Ethel M. Sharp	1959-60	Vera Rollett
1924-25	Frank Lascelles	1961	John Coxon, F.C.A.
1925-26	Dr. Margaret Brady, B.A., M.B.	1962	Gladys Burgess, B.A.
1926-27	Christopher Martin, F.R.C.S.	1963	George Law, B.Sc.(Eng.)
1927-28	Miriam J. Carter	1964	Brian Wright
1928-29	Arnold J. Kaye	1965	Betty Thelton
1929-30	Henry John Randall, C.B.E.	1966	Gulie Grimes
1930-31	James T. Harrod, B.A.	1967	Gordon A. Wells
1931-32	Theodora Hodgkiss, B.Sc.	1968	Jonas A. Fielding
1932-33	Lionel Geering	1969	Loraine Brown
1933-34	Jane Sabin	1970	Michael van Blankenstein
1934-35	Percy O. Whitlock, M.A.	1971	Lilian D. Ward
1935-36	Margaret C. Gillett	1972	John A. Taylor
1936-37	Henry Lawrance	1973	June D. Ellis
1937-38	Frederick E. Goudge	1974	Geoffrey L. Moore
1938-39	Wilfred Pollard	1975	Arthur W. Harrison, J.P.

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## EDITORIAL

The satisfactory result of the appeal 'Sibford asks for more' would seem to indicate considerable confidence, particularly in inflationary times, in the schooling that is being provided by Sibford. Following all the gloomy forecasts it must be a relief to see the end of the tunnel. Old Scholars can feel very much a part of the success story, not only providing quite a substantial sum for the main appeal, but also walking all those miles to prove the point in August!

Once again I thank all those who have written articles or sent photographs for inclusion in the magazine, also for extra help this year which has been most welcome from F. R. who read the scripts, my college colleague, J. F. who helped with the photo section, and my press friends who have given help and advice in producing the new-style magazine.

## Dates for your diary

Day Reunion — May 22

General Meeting — June 12

Cricket Match (O.S. v School) — June 19

Reunion Week-end — August 28-31

Football Match (O.S. v School — November 6

N.B.

Volunteers to play for the Old Scholars in either or both matches please notify the General Secretary. You will be pleased to hear that the Old Scholars won this year's football match 3-2, played on November 8th!

## School Staff

*Headmaster*

Kenneth C. Greaves, M.A. (Cantab.)

*Deputy Head*

D. June Ellis, B.Sc., Diploma in Education

*Senior Master*

John K. Gilchrist, B.Sc.

ART and POTTERY

Susan Bradley, Dip.A.D., A.T.D.

\*Angela Mortimer

ENGLISH

Geoffrey Higgins, M.A., Diploma in Education

Andrew Rice-Oxley, M.A., Certificate in Education, Diploma in English

Julie Thomas, B.A., Diploma in Education

Elizabeth Sallis, B.A.

GEOGRAPHY

John K. Gilchrist, B.Sc.

Brian Holliday, B.Sc., Teachers' Certificate

Joanna Pring, B.A., Certificate in Education

HISTORY

†Kenneth T. Francis, Teachers' Certificate

Jocelyn Radcliffe, B.A., Teachers' Certificate

HOME ECONOMICS

\*Eileen Tait, Teachers' Certificate, Advanced Diploma in Sociology and Psychology of Education

†Gillian Edwards, Certificate in Education

MATHEMATICS

†Alan Jarvis, M.A., Diploma in Education

Daniel Petrencik, B.A., Diploma in Education

†Eunice Lemon, Teachers' Certificate, L.R.A.M.

METALWORK, WOODWORK  
and TECHNICAL DRAWING

Graeme Sagar, Certificate in Education, M.C.C.Ed.

†Stuart Hedley, Teachers' Certificate, City and Guilds Advanced Craft Certificate

MODERN LANGUAGES

Gilbert Todd, B.A., Teachers' Diploma

Jean Rudge, B.A., Teachers' Certificate

MUSIC

Anthony M. Rye, L.T.C.L., Teachers' Certificate

David Rennie, G.T.C.L., L.T.C.L.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

†Michael Wollerton, Teachers' Certificate, Diploma in Physical Education

†Pauline Sagar, Teachers' Certificate

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Carole Creswell, B.A., Certificate in Education

REMEDIAL TEACHING

David Foulds, B.A., Teachers' Certificate

Sylvia Atkinson, Teachers' Certificate, Diploma in Special Education

\*Robin Greaves, B.A.

SCIENCE:

PHYSICS and CHEMISTRY

H. James Shields, B.Sc., Diploma in Education

PHYSICS and MATHEMATICS

Frank Cookson, M.A., Certificate in Education

RURAL STUDIES

Gordon Wright, B.Sc., Diploma in Education

BIOLOGY

Anthony Skeath, B.Sc., Certificate in Education

CHEMISTRY

\*Elizabeth Cookson, M.A., Ph.D., Certificate in Education

†Indicates Housemaster or Housemistress \*Indicates part-time staff.

## VISITING TEACHERS

Phyllis Travis, 'Cello  
Ray Birley, Guitar  
Keith Wykes, A.R.C.M., Violin and Viola  
Peter Jeeves, L.T.C.L., Brass and Percussion  
Joan Barnwell, A.R.C.M., Clarinet  
Mabel Payne, Piano  
Thomas M. Lawrence, M.A., Piano and  
Composition

## NON-TEACHING STAFF

*Bursar:* John Miller  
*Medical Officer:* Sidney A. Agnew, M.B., Ch.B.  
*School Nurse:* Shirley Ross, S.R.N.  
*Catering Manager:* Leslie Bloodworth  
*Maintenance:* William White  
*Head Gardener:* Arther H. Dring

## Faith

Faith — which sees, and yet sees not.  
Blind faith — and yet faith is not blind;  
For in its darkness — still it sees  
The step ahead.  
One step alone — no need to see the distant view  
still hidden in the mists of time.  
One step enough.  
And so in faith I wait —  
And look to see where I must place my feet,  
Though mist obscures the way — I know  
The path is there.  
And so I wait — and yet in waiting still press on  
to attain the goal which brings and makes  
My life complete.

Member of Staff

## The 'General Meeting' Plays

Both the plays performed for the General Meeting were very successful from my point of view, and I think most other people thought they were too. It started off one night during prep when about four of us were called in to the hall for an audition by Ivan Clark and Peter Fleming. Each one of us had to say a little bit from one of the plays. Then about a week later during silent reading Peter Fleming came in and asked if I would like to be Don Miguel in the play 'Mr. Fox.' I said, "Yes!" of course.

The character of Don Miguel was no easy one though. I was meant to be a very old Mexican who used to be rich and had become very poor because of a villain called Mr. Fox; and little did I know that my daughter, played by Helen Smith, was about to marry him.

But then the nasty part of the play came — we had to learn our scripts. We had to share books and had to learn our words in only a few days. I didn't manage it and Mr. Higgins was not at all pleased with me! He told Peter Fleming to take me into room 13 AND LEARN THEM! I know that sounds as if I did not come out of room 13 alive, but it was not all that bad!

My script really consisted of one major speech and one or two little bits here and there, so I was really quite lucky. Some people like Helen Smith and Piers Woolston had hundreds of words to learn. After a long time I knew them off by heart.

Then the night came — THE REAL THING!

The whole day went normally until prep; then all the people in the plays went to the 'green room' to put on make-up. When they said we had to have make-up put on, I thought it was just a dot of powder here and there, but I was far from right. We had to put on special lipsticks and powders, moustaches, beards, wrinkles, eyeshadow stuff and all sorts of things I have left out. That took about twenty minutes for each one of us.

Then we were all ready, costumes, the lot! We could hear the audience sitting down — the lights went out — and

Paul Sternberg 3C

## Autumn

Autumn is a cold thoughtful time of the year. When walking on an autumn day, you can feel the gradual death of the countryside. You notice animals zig-zagging about, collecting the few scattered nuts. The ground looks like a patchwork quilt, here and there a splash to survive the frosts. There is a continual fall of crisp, brittle, lifeless leaves. They fall to the ground in a sequence of swirls and bounds, landing on the ground without making the slightest noise.

You can lie in the grass and watch small insects climbing the dry grass scaffolding, and you can look at the evergreens: the laurel, its shiny green leaves like Victorian chair leather. You look up at the sky and watch the clouds ploughing the blue atmosphere.

Then you look at the fields newly ploughed, the brown soil breathing and steaming, as if it were alive; and you see the worms crawling out of disturbed holes; you notice plant roots, looking as though they are trying to grab at the nearest stable point. This is the time when the hunts start, when the foxes are hunted to death; this is the time of year when you see a mixture of life and death.

Amanda Dike, 4A

### *The Countryside*

There's no movement in the forest  
The countryside is still:  
Then slowly but surely  
The world begins to wake.  
A flock of geese rise slowly,  
And skim across the lake:  
The deer walk round stiffly,  
Now their world is wide-awake.  
There is talking in the forest,  
But not from human mouths:  
The birds nearby are singing,  
As they perch on swaying boughs.  
A squirrel skips nimbly  
Through the long cool grass;  
An acorn in his mouth,  
Now he can crack it at last.  
A woodpecker is calling,  
Probably to his mate:  
No answering call as yet,  
But still, she might be late.

Pauline Thorn, 2C

### *The City*

It's a living city, filled with the past  
A city where I remember old friends,  
Where memories of childhood days  
Flood the parks, the alleys and the river banks.  
I am not alone in my memories,  
Each stone of the buildings and churches  
Carries its own story of days gone by;  
A story of royalty, then revolution,  
Of occupation, resistance and liberation,  
Another near-revolution, ending in uncertain peace.  
But the peace is there in the night sky,  
In the barges and the river,  
In the little side streets and corner cafés,  
Where the old men smile and drink their red wine.  
It is a noble city,  
Where great men live and die,  
Where writers, poets and artists  
Dream and draw inspiration;  
Where students and intellectuals  
Seek ways to change the world,  
And where little children learn  
To laugh and to cry.  
It is this city, ruffled by the stirrings of revolution  
Alive with the people of past, present and future generations;  
Beautiful to visit, wonderful to live in,  
Which is home to me,  
A place to live, to love and to believe in.

Lucy Fullerton, 6th Form

### *Summer*

Summer I think is the best season,  
The sun that shines like a golden ball  
Shines dazzling on the grass.  
The greens and browns  
The shining white,  
And the blue of the lake:  
The colours of summer are fair.  
The smell of the grass,  
And the smell of the hay  
That is tossed in the summer heat,  
And bathing in the summer light  
That is warm on your back to feel.  
And ice-creams are cool in your mouth  
That is why summer is best,  
For all things are gay and fair.

Thomas Venour 2C

## *POETRY*

### *A Time for Destruction*

Earth, a fluffy ball of cotton wool,  
Drifting silently through a sea of nothingness  
A dark shadow slowly covered the surface  
Like an invisible door gently squeezing  
The last ebb of savage life  
From the dying world below.  
A jet of fire streaked through the void,  
A shimmering stream of sparks crackling behind.  
Below, a change was appearing on the landscape.  
Small mushrooms of light bursting — and growing larger —  
Clusters merged together to form brilliant eyes  
Peering through the once fertile fields of Earth.

\* \* \*

A small hatch was opening in the rocket.  
A piece of plastic held on a stick;  
The Unoflag waved like a loose pocket,  
In a non-existent wind.  
An almost invisible book could be seen  
Attached to the base of the pole.  
Strange words portrayed in gold lettering  
On a leather base, black as coal.  
It was the oldest book in the world,  
And perhaps it was just as well.  
For in the great Genesis was once said,  
That "God created Man  
In His own image,  
To subdue the Earth" (like Hell).  
And that "God ended the work  
Which he had made."  
The price of man's foolishness  
Was dearly paid.  
Yet warnings there had been many  
Wars and terrible pollution.  
With little food, if any —  
A disastrous constitution.  
All sacrificial answers mislaid,  
And in the end all life forms slayed.  
Grandly the Earth threw out her glory  
In one tremendous galactic bang.  
No old folk did tell that story,  
No heavenly choir the saga sang.  
Perhaps there are survivors yet.  
Maybe on that craft there are a few.  
Even as the starship speeds  
Escaping Earth, the newest foe.

The stars about the capsule drift  
 Around like peas in a bowl of soup.  
 And after fifty years of flight,  
 The tail at last begins to stoop.  
 The survival control has found a planet.  
 Antennae start to quiver and turn.  
 The capsule begins to lower gently,  
 And the retro-rockets 'decide' to burn.  
 A picture of loveliness blazens itself  
 On the video screen in front of the crew.  
 Beautiful pine trees and gorgeous green emeralds,  
 Unicorns grazing in line like a queue.  
 But where is the crew of the new U.S. capsule?  
 And what are these things stepping onto the ground?  
 Why do they stand there just watching the view  
 When the auto-car vehicle is perfectly sound?

\* \* \*

Soon they wake up from their tepid taped trance,  
 A lifetime of waiting and finally; where?  
 On long-legged stumps they sternly advance  
 Sigh deeply, and take in a boxful of air.  
 Then starting to roam in the fairy-tale land,  
 A steel-strengthened claw clasps an antelope's flank.  
 One jerk and the animal's felled out of hand  
 Trampled alive by those legs tall and lank.  
 A gold crested eagle is ruthlessly killed  
 For now there is one less mouth to be filled.  
 A little lamb plays, and then runs in alarm  
 No mercy is shown; it might do some harm.  
 Even the atoms are hurt by that view  
 Earth, fire and water would once have been too.  
 Each star would drown for Man's undying greed  
 If Jesus was watching creation's life stilled.  
 A thousand years later no sign from the cell  
 Metallic confusion, their masters unwell?  
 They walked back inside; some bones cracked and dried,  
 The last Homo Sapiens had horribly died.  
 The robots then hear a heart-rending cry  
 A running recorder, a solitary fly.  
 They stand there quite still, not sure what to do  
 Their masters are dead, and they themselves too.  
 A jet of fire streaks through the void  
 With shimmering stream of sparks behind.  
 The stars beam down on many a world,  
 Peace at last for all mankind.

Gordon F. Emley

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## Home Economics

Sibford School used to offer Cookery and Needlework at 'O' level and there were no suitable tests for the less gifted children. We have recently changed to Home Economics and this can be offered at 'O' level or C.S.E. We also think that the Home Economics course is better because it is more broadly based and is better preparation for life. Some aspects of the work deal with child care, family life and problems, room planning, choice and care of equipment, entertaining visitors and the saving of time, labour and money.

E. Tait and G. Edwards

## Music

To Shakespeare it was love's food. To an anonymous third-year girl at the end of an unusually long Sunday evening meeting it was nearly the last straw. I am writing, of course, of music.

Although music has probably a different meaning for everybody, between a half and a third of the members of the school are engaged in some sort of musical activity apart from class work. Through the orange door they go clutching their violin, guitar, drum sticks or piano music. Many reach a high standard as the number of Associated Board certificates that are presented shows. All, I hope enjoy whatever it is that they are doing.

The choice of instrument seems to follow a national fashion. For some time now strings have been 'out' and brass has been 'in'. Over the last twelve months I have been very pleased to see a great increase in the number of violinists. For a while there was a smaller number of brass players, but this term we have regained our former number there. We now have two viola players who should add considerably to the string group. We also have a 'cello in the school, but unfortunately so far, no-one seems keen to learn to play it. So if anyone would take pity on a poor dusty, neglected 'cello I would be very happy to hear.

On Thursday evenings a small but competent brass sextet meets and produces some very pleasing sounds.

The School Choir has done exceptionally well during the last year. Personally, I consider the highspot to have been our performance of Fauré's 'Requiem' last Easter. For this provide our own soloists: Geoffrey Greaves, treble, and Simon Austing and the Headmaster who took the baritone solo part. A small body of voices, called for want of a better name 'The Choral Group' has been meeting to sing music of a more difficult nature and has made its contribution to the school calendar.

A. M. R.

# The way ahead

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Cook Gilchrist dealing rather well with the fire and water pots.



Posing on the side of a hill in the RheidoI Valley. Nick seems to feel the strain as does Jenkins; John looks as strong as ever!

*Photo (flat on his back) by Stephen Johnson — 5th Form*

## Award Presentations

We passed through the main gates into the cobbled courtyard of Buckingham Palace, showing our yellow or blue pass cards. A smoothly-moving file of suited, hatted and smartly-dressed people. Efficiently we were guided to the cloakrooms; then up the wide, red-carpeted staircase to the main corridor of the State Rooms. Our many muffled footsteps passed self-consciously along mirrored passages to our respective rooms, each of which indicated the part of the country we came from.

A quiet murmur of anticipating voices greeted everyone as we, The Gold Holders, seated ourselves in a double ring forming small groups of about twenty, facing our guests, parents, encouragers or friends.

We rehearsed grouping informally to be presented to Prince Philip and chatted among ourselves. The room was lined with mirrored doors and walls, all beautifully shiny and bordered with gold engraving. The ornate ceiling surrounded an enormous glass chandelier.

The Duke of Edinburgh's entrance brought a respectful silence as we rose to our feet, but his presence at once brought a sense of ease as he invited our guests to sit. He walked round the room to each group, speaking to almost everyone and asking about some part of the award and what the participant had achieved. He gave an impression of interest and attentiveness, and continually made jokes which lightened the air as people responded. The Prince left the room after ten minutes, having handed certificates for over a hundred young people to the group stewards.

We left via another long corridor which now serves as an art gallery. We entered various rooms including The Bow Room which has a large bay window overlooking the lawns on which garden parties are held and which stretch down to the lake. Once outside, there was much camera clicking as we proudly walked out through the gates, bearing our certificates.

This privileged visit made the past year's work for the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award all worthwhile for all eight-hundred of us.

Lesley Yearley, 6th Form

## Holiday Camp

During its term of office in 1973/74 the Sibford School Charities Committee decided that its aim should not be merely to raise money for charity, but to give something more to the community. It was felt that to give a summer holiday to children from a deprived background would be one form of worthwhile service which the school pupils could undertake. Through the London Education Authority we contacted two schools in the East End of London — Phoenix and Stormont — which catered for 'delicate' children.

Obviously money had to be raised for the venture, so on May 19th 1974 a sponsored walk was held. Thanks to the enthusiasm of nearly every Sibford student, and the generosity of their sponsors, nearly £1,500 was raised. During the first week of the summer holidays twenty children from the London schools spent a fascinating and thrilling holiday at Sibford. The cost: £385. £1,000 was therefore invested in the Trustees Savings Bank at 9½% interest. The result: plenty of money left to repeat the project in 1975.

Carole A. Creswell

*(Treasurer, Sibford School Social Services Committee)*

## In Retrospect

It is difficult to explain why we did the camp and what we got from it. Admittedly quite a few people were obliged to stay because they were members of the Social Services Committee. Some did it as it was their last year at Sibford and they wanted to do one final thing for the school before they left. Some honestly wanted to help the kids and make new friends. One of the helpers knew about life in a Children's Home and knew what they wanted — they wanted to be cared for, not just by their parents — and this was why this helper stayed on. I think it was basically that we all wanted to work hard to create a holiday which we and the children would enjoy and remember forever.

I think the main thing we all received from the camp was satisfaction and the delight of seeing a child's face light up in joy. The helpers themselves found that new friendships were formed with people whom they'd known for years. We felt that we had done something for the community and what's more had made a holiday for ourselves. Apart from many bruises and the odd ducking in the paddling pool, we got satisfaction and affection from the kids and pride in what we'd done.

I should like to sum all this up with a quotation of Lord Avebury's which was pointed out to me by a helper. He said: "To do something, however small, to make others happier and better, is the highest ambition, the most elevating hope, which can inspire a human being."

Katrina Wood, 6th Form

# Sport

## FOOTBALL 1974/5 SEASON

### 1st XI Results

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against
24	13	4	7	77	50

For the first time the School Senior Team played in a local competition, The Banbury Under 16 Cup. Although they were unable to complete all their matches, the team finished in fourth place. Much credit for the team's success must go to Mr. Jim Green who trained and thoroughly prepared the boys for their matches. The strength of the team was based on sound defence where Chris Phillips, the captain, proved a tireless worker. In attack, the brothers Neil and Tim Francis scored 34 goals between them.

### Junior Team

The Junior Team too enjoyed their successes and of the seven games played, four were won and only two lost. Thirty-four goals were scored and thirty-one conceded in what proved to be some high scoring matches.



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# SOSA Committee

President 1975: Arthur W. Harrison

President 1976: Grace Beckerlegge

Vice-President 1976: Frank Rollett

Officers and Committee from 1.1.76

<i>General Secretary</i>	Michael R. Finch, 52 Saxon Wood Road, Cheswick Green, Solihull, West Midlands B90 4JN.
<i>Treasurer</i>	Arthur W. Harrison, 22 Elm Road, Reading RG6 2TS.
<i>Reunion Secretary</i>	Russell Steed, 37 High Brink Road, Coleshill, Birmingham B46 1BH.
<i>Assistant Reunion Secretary</i>	Margaret Fairnington, 140 Fellows Road, London, NW3.
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	Louis E. Wright, Pantiles, West End Lane, Esher, Surrey.
<i>Magazine Editor</i>	Philip Manasseh, Orchard Lea, Combe, Oxford.
<i>Local Branch Secretaries</i>	
<i>Midland</i>	Michael J. Gibbins, The Bank House, Harvington, Evesham, Worcs.
<i>London</i>	Alan and Patricia Yardley, 31 Hamsey Gardens, Warlingham, Surrey CR3 9RS.
<i>Representatives on School Committee</i>	
to 31.12.77	Lilian D. Ward
to 31.12.77	Michael R. Finch
<i>Representatives from School Staff</i>	Alan Jarvis, Frank Cookson
<i>Representative from Friends of Sibford Committee</i>	Cynthia Harris
<i>General Committee Members</i>	
to 31.12.76	Julie Watkins, Philip Sinclair
to 31.12.77	Greta Millington, Ian A. Wright
to 31.12.78	Sarah Watts, Alexander Caviezel
<i>Other Officers</i>	
<i>Auditor</i>	John A. Taylor
<i>O.S. Representative on the Friends of Sibford Committee</i>	Frank Rollett
ADDRESS YOUR LETTER TO:	
<i>Change of Address</i>	Membership Secretary — As stated
<i>Subscriptions</i>	Treasurer — As stated
<i>Material for Magazine</i>	Editor — As stated
<i>Births, Deaths, Marriages</i>	Gladys Burgess, 31 Melrose Road, Southampton, Hants.
<i>Advertising Matter</i>	Brian Wright, 18 Vicarage Road, Kingfield, Woking, Surrey.
<i>Photographs</i>	Reunion Secretary — As stated
<i>Also members of the Committee are the Headmaster, and the Bursar</i>	

## PRESIDENT 1976



GRACE BECKERLEGGE

As nearly all Presidential Profiles start “I was born,” so will I begin. I was born, and like Topsy just grewed, in Cardiff. I went to the local schools and Sunday School where I acquired a Welsh accent.

My parents were strong Methodists, father being a ‘local preacher.’ As I grew up, I went with him to the valleys and towns around Cardiff on his preaching appointments. So how, you are wondering, did I get to Sibford? Very simply. My father’s close friend and colleague at the Cardiff G.P.O., where they were supervisors, was a Friend. It was on his recommendation that I found myself at the age of 12 at Sibford.

I spent five years at Sibford, happy after the first year, when I was unbearably teased about my accent. I was determined that I would learn to speak ‘proper — like what they did.’ What agony the Sunday morning meetings were—to be expected to sit down for one hour when one could not sit still even for five minutes! I remember how A.J. persevered with me and how, very gradually, I learned to appreciate the peace and tranquillity of that old Meeting House.

From Sibford I went to Cardiff Technical College where I took a course in Catering Management. I passed the City and Guilds examination and won a silver medal. These qualifications were not used, as the war started, and I went into an office.

In 1941 I married Philip in the Methodist Church in Cardiff and went to live in Sheffield. In the next few years we had three children, Philip Jnr., Jonathan and Elizabeth. Bringing these up—plus a husband was a full-time job, but I found enough spare time to run a youth club and teach in the Sunday School. Later, on moving to Surrey, I joined a Guide Company and became a Guider.

In mid-1974 we moved to Fairford, Glos. Having got myself settled in, I am now working three days a week, two days helping in an ‘opportunity play group’ for socially deprived and E.S.N. children, and the other day counselling their mothers, who are themselves in need of help and encouragement.

## REUNION - August '75

Why do we go back to Sibford for Old Scholars' Reunion? Is it to play table-tennis? Country dance? Take part in stage entertainments or the motor treasure hunt? Walk for ten miles? All these activities are available for us. But most of us go back to see our friends, make new friends, and T A L K.

When we arrived for morning coffee on Saturday, we found our envelope containing tickets for all meals, a very important part of the weekend! This year, Julia Smith and Eddie Smart, not Old Scholars, coped with the catering — an unenviable task: they survived, we hope. On the notice-board in our common-room we found our names on a rota

preparation of food — a once-only job; although one saw a stage army of helpers providing coffee and tea at intervals. About 70 of us booked in for the weekend, and others joined us for shorter periods.

A well-attended AGM, efficiently chaired by our President, Arthur, was sorry to hear of the illness of the Headmaster, Kenneth Greaves: his deputy, June Ellis, stood in for him. We missed John Taylor, who was unavoidably prevented from attending this time. We were glad to hear of the successful response to Sibford's latest Appeal.

Country dancing on Saturday evening saw all age-groups being put through their paces by a team of dancers from Banbury, while others of us took the opportunity to chat. Sunday morning was a leisurely affair, with nothing planned for us apart, of course, from Meeting for Worship at the Gower. After lunch, those who were energetic enough set off on the Frank Rollett ten-mile sponsored walk, while the rest of us walked or motored to Temple Mill for our picnic tea and to greet the walkers as they trudged in on their way back to The Hill. The food was good, eaten in the warm sunshine (the bananas being a stroke of genius!). Ably supported by David Harrison, Arthur Harrison presented his choice, a catholic one of music and verse, including his mother-in-law's excellent interpretation of John Betjeman's "Church Mouse," which was much enjoyed.

Later that evening, a hilarious entertainment was provided for us, produced by our Vice-President, Grace Beckerlegge. Margaret Fairninton, Johnny Doyle and Company sang of the tribulations of Johnny with the 'flu: Rhoda Finch organised an absent Mike in putting up Christmas decorations: Frank Rollett threatened with cold steel the Spaniard who blighted his life: and Philip Beckerlegge, Betty Doyle, Mike Finch, Will Norgrove, Brian Wright, and Ian and Carol Wright, with Joe Ross as Narrator, played a version of The Sleeping Beauty, which had us rolling in the aisles. After a cup of coffee, a good number of us made our way to the Elm for rockets, led by our old friend Geoffrey Long.

On Monday morning, Louis Wright had organised a most enjoyable motor treasure hunt for us which, by a strange fluke, was won jointly by our President and the School Committee guest, Gillian Hopkins! It was all good

fun, and we appreciated the opportunity to see more of Sibford's surrounding countryside

After lunch, a motley collection of enthusiasts collected on the games field for a fancy-dress hockey match, refereed as usual by Grace, and captained by Mike Finch and David Smith, the former in the guise of a monk. We have a vague feeling that the monk's team won, but no matter . . . In the absence of Robin and Kenneth Greaves on a restful holiday, the daughters of Holly House nobly provided tea and biscuits on the lawn. Again, the weather was kind to us.

for washing-up and he

The climax of the weekend was the Presidential Dinner. This year again, the tables were laid in the hall, decorated with flower arrangements by Vera Rollett, who had beautified the dining-tables and the common-room throughout the weekend, and lit by slim red candles. As usual, the dinner was excellent.

We left for London about 11 p.m., with the sounds of the disco ringing in our ears, having had a most enjoyable weekend. We were happy to see new leavers amongst those present, as well as old friends such as Elin Baily, Robert Rose, Geoffrey and Joan Long, Stan Ewan, Lily Ratheram, Wilfrid and Mabel Pollard, Norman and Marjorie Coxon, Betty and John Thelton, Brian and Ethel Wright, Will and Olive Norgrove, and many, many others. A tableful of young Baily's provided competition for young Moores when it came to requests for sponsorship for Sunday afternoon's walk, and it was good to see Leslie and Margaret Baily who joined their relatives for part of the Reunion.

Our thanks  
happy time.

Vera A. and Reginald D. Brown

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## THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

I'm not by nature a person who is always telling other people what they ought to do—call it preaching if you like. I prefer the old adage—'Live and let live.' However, when I started to think about this address it came to me that two things which had come to my notice over the past year, had remained with me, so I would like to share them with you.

Did you know that in one cubic centimetre of mature arable soil there are 10 thousand million bacteria, six thousand protozoa, 300 metres of fungi mycellium, 30/21,000,000 actinomyces, 3/500,000 algae, and in an acre of ground approximately 330 thousand earth worms who are busy turning over about 25 tons of soil a year. We marvel about journeys into space, computers, and atomic reactors and yet how wonderful is this earth upon which we stand. You may ask what good these bacteria are. Protozoa, algae and earth worms—earth is used to grow plants! These living organisms release plant foods, manufacture plant foods, they aerate the soil which is vital for their own existence as well as for the growing plants. They form humus, control moisture and prevent blow away, (erosion by wind.)

Earth, which if used well, can give us so many returns—and how wastefully we treat it. Most of the world's agricultural land is used to grow crops to feed animals which will then be used to feed us.

Just over one-and-a-half acres of ground will feed one person on a meat and vegetable diet whereas the same piece of ground will feed five people on a meatless diet.

Approximately four-fifths of the world's agricultural land is used for feeding animals, and only one-fifth for feeding man directly. If all the land was used for growing plant foods there would be no difficulty in feeding the whole world.

We import from the starving nations, large quantities of grain and other foodstuffs which are fed to our *animals* instead of the populations who produced them. A lot of these animals are kept intensively, in many cases in cruel conditions; these animals are often full of disease-preventing chemicals which are then passed on to you, the consumer.

Now we have all sat here and enjoyed an excellent dinner—I am convinced that we could have been just as happy and satisfied with a meatless meal. There are of course other reasons for not eating meat—it is claimed by various authorities that man was never intended by nature to eat meat and the further away we get from a fruit, nuts, grain, and succulent leaf diet the less likely we are to be healthy. This is borne out by National Health statistics which show the biggest flesh-eating nations to have the greatest incidence of disease.

I think some of us tend to turn away from Oxfam advertisements—we know that such conditions exist, we feel compassion and sympathy—but they apply to people so far away and unless we have personal experience I think our feelings become blunted. But I saw an advertisement last week which attracted my attention, the caption was "YOUR CRASH DIET IS A LOT MORE THAN MY ORDINARY DIET." I just had to read on. "If you went on a slimming diet in this country, you would probably make a great effort to get your intake down to 1,600 calories a day for a short period."

If you were an average Bangladeshi, you'd be lucky to get 1,300 calories a day, over the whole year. Your protein intake would be half that of the British slimmer and would leave you in permanent danger of contracting a whole range of appalling wasting diseases.

This poignant contrast is what the real world food crisis is about. Not just an occasional disaster or famine, but a continual tragedy—in which one half of the world overeats, while the other starves." We've got to learn to treasure this wonderful earth—to look after it and cultivate it, bearing in mind its constituents, and in return we shall grow bigger and better crops. I suggest that one way in which we could really make a worthwhile contribution would be for more people to be vegetarian. And I mean Vegetarian..!

Finally I would like to leave you with this thought and I quote, "In a world where two out of three are hungry is it not your moral duty to renounce meat and so make room at the World's table for four other citizens to enjoy their share of what the bountiful earth provides for us all?"

J. M. CANNING

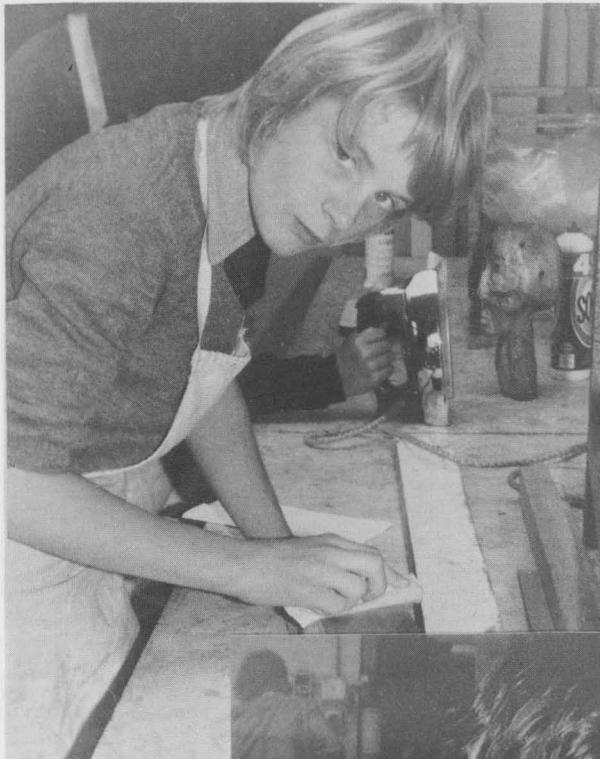
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*School  
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*Lo Sturge  
Neil Lantford  
Jonathon Leo  
Bill Turner*



*Sponsored  
walkers*



*Jean Moore Louis Wright*

*motor treasure hunt*



*Peter Moore 1 to 2  
David, Nick &  
Arthur Harrison  
Jan Wright  
Andrew & Mike Finch*



*Brian Wright in charge*

*John Arnold  
Osborne Lamb*

*Lindsay  
Martin*

*Lewis  
Pulton*

*David  
Smith*



*Relaxing  
talkers*

*Elin, Peter and Kenneth Baily*



*President's dinner*



*Lorraine  
Brown*

*June  
Ellis*

*Gillian  
Hopkins*



*Nick Bennet*

*Julie Smith*



*Arthur Louis & Polly*



*Juliet Gibson et al*

*Sunday meetings*



*After meeting matters*



*Derek Gaffee*

*Grace Beckerlegge*

*photos  
Geoff Moore  
and  
Frank  
Roblett*

# UNDER TWO ELMS

## London Branch

Once more the time has come round to tell you of the London Branch activities. Well, we commenced the year once more with our Annual General Meeting and Social Evening at Westminster Meeting House and we were pleased to welcome some 50 Old Scholars including two new ones.

We next went on a visit to the home of Pat and Chris Grimes and about 20 of us attended this occasion. In April we had a most interesting outing to the Geffrye Museum in London and then went back to Hoxton Hall for tea and a natter. About 15 of us attended this outing and because of the easier parking facilities and rather different surroundings we decided to pursue the use of this Hall for our future Annual General Meeting. This has now been arranged for January 31st, 1976 but notices will be sent out at a later date— if anyone would like to come along please do get in touch with us either by letter or phone, our address is at the end of this account and our telephone number is Upper Warlingham 2229. We would love to see some new faces as well as the old of course!

Our next venue was the Day Reunion to Sibford, unfortunately the response to a mini-coach did not materialise so we all made our own ways there and despite the appalling weather all enjoyed meeting up with our old friends and reminiscing.

In June we hoped to go on a trip to Kew Gardens but the response was not too good due mostly to holidays so this trip was cancelled. Then came the August Reunion which we are sure was enjoyed by all who attended. In September we had a walk around Greenwich with George Edwards, and this was quite well attended but unfortunately the weather was once more against us, but those of us who attended felt it was most worthwhile. Our next outing is to Reading to the home of Pam and Arthur Harrison, and so far I believe about 20 members will be attending, and then the next meeting becomes our Annual General Meeting once more.

Please, new leavers, why do you never reply to any notices sent to you — won't you even tell us what is wrong with us?

Alan and Patricia Yardley

31 Hamsey Green Gardens  
Warlingham, CR3 9RS.

## Midlands Branch

Once again the good old faithfuls supported the Christmas party held at Michael and Kathy Gibbins. This was a happy time, with fun and games followed by a delightful supper. All those who attended enjoyed themselves. It seems such a pity that other Old Scholars will not make the effort to join us.

In March we visited the Palace Theatre in Redditch to see 'The Yeoman of the Guard,' once again produced by Graham Trout. In April a good number of Old Scholars turned up at John and Monica Simpson's for the evening to talk, laced with a fish and chip supper.

July brought us to a walk on the Malverns, then on to Church farm, the home of Joy Rann. It was a lovely sunny day and although only a handful walked on the hills, there were a good number at tea. One or two Old Scholars took to the water in the swimming pool, which was most enjoyable, and our numbers were increased by Old Scholars from 'further afield.' A super day's reunion!

In September we met at Avoncroft Museum, Stoke Heath, where we were shown round the ancient buildings that are assembled there. We were delighted to be joined by Leslie Harris on this occasion.

Later 18 Old Scholars went along to Irene Smith's bungalow for coffee and a chat before parting.

Altogether a successful year for we Midland's folk. The branch secretary's address is printed in this magazine and we would like to welcome Old Scholars at our 1976 meetings.

Irene Smith

37 Redditch Road, Stoke Heath,  
Bromsgrove, Worcs.

# SOSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held in the Old Scholars' Room at Sibford on Saturday, 23rd August, 1975 at 4.00 p.m.

President in the Chair — Arthur W. Harrison.

Members present numbered approximately 60.

The Meeting remembered in silence the passing of Grace Bunker and Jack Herbert.

## 1. *Minutes*

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held at Sibford on Saturday, 24th August, 1974, and having been printed in the magazine, were taken as read and were unanimously adopted by the Meeting.

The President signed them as a true record.

## 2. *General Secretary's Report*

The General Secretary, Michael Finch, said that since the last Annual General Meeting there had been two Committee Meetings. The December meeting had been well attended but the latest meeting held that morning had been poorly attended. There had been three meetings of the Reunion Sub-Committee.

There had been three major visits to the School since the last A.G.M. The soccer fixture had resulted in an overwhelming victory to the School so had the cricket fixture. Nevertheless these visits had been immensely enjoyed by those who had taken part.

The other major visit of course, had been the Day Reunion. This had been spoilt by bad weather, but it had been successful inasmuch as Old Scholars and the School had been forced together inside the buildings, and this had proved to be extremely beneficial to know one another.

The Secretary then spoke of Louis Wright's unflinching efforts to get new members. Leavers, parents of leavers had been written to and several new members had emerged. The Secretary said that he had spoken to the leavers at the Day Reunion but had been disappointed by an apathetic response.

Recruitment of young members was causing the Committee much concern. It appeared to date back to the loss of the Whitsun weekend, although the Secretary felt that this was not the sole reason.

The Committee had established a Sub-Committee to look into the possibility of extending the Day Reunion into a Two-Day Reunion during term-time.

The Secretary said that the Committee had been encouraged at the Reunion Sub-Committee by the attendance of six present scholars who had contributed enormously in ideas and practical help towards the Day Reunion.

The Secretary then referred to the financial situation of the Association. He praised the work of Arthur Harrison who would give fuller details later.

The Secretary commented that Reunion costs have risen astronomically

and he was extremely concerned as to next year's costs. This year food alone had cost something in the region of £400.

He said that all members must look objectively as to the future form of residential reunions.

The magazine had appeared on time, despite many difficulties. The Secretary commended the work of Philip Manasseh who had done a magnificent job.

Unfortunately, the Association had again had to bear the greatest part of the costs, as the School still felt that their standard was not up to scratch.

It is hoped that a new style of magazine will be produced as a joint venture which the School hope they will be able to use as publicity for prospective parents.

The Secretary spoke of the cordial relationship which continues with the Friends of Sibford Society.

He said that the Committee were indebted to Frank Rollett for his work as the Association's Representative on the Friends of Sibford Committee.

The Secretary hoped that closer links would be forged in the future in a more tangible form.

The Secretary then reported on behalf of the Mabel Harrod Fund. There had been no further bursaries and the fund stood at approximately £90. He thanked Martin Dodsworth for his continued efforts as Fund Secretary.

Finally, the Secretary thanked the General Committee for their loyalty and hard work and in making it a happy and united committee.

In particular he paid tribute to Arthur Harrison who had not only been a splendid President but was also an excellent Treasurer. He also praised the tremendous efforts of Russell Steed, the Reunion Secretary.

Alan Yardley proposed and Philip Beckerlegge seconded that the General Secretary's report be adopted. This was unanimously agreed.

Geoffrey Long, on behalf of the meeting, praised the efforts of Michael Finch, the General Secretary, for all his work.

## 3. *Accounts*

Arthur Harrison, the Treasurer, presented the Accounts to the meeting. 1974 had seen an increase in subscription revenue but this was due mainly to increased charges. The 1974 Reunion had realised a profit of approximately £50. The current magazine would cost in the region of £400. 500 ordinary shares in Bowater had been purchased due to a special rights issue. These had cost £95.

The School Appeal Fund had been presented with a cheque for £250 on behalf of the Association, and the Treasurer read out a letter of appreciation received from the Appeal Director, Mr. Daniel Hunt.

Frank Rollett proposed and Norman Coxon seconded that the accounts should be adopted. This was unanimously endorsed.

4. *School Committee Representative*

Michael Finch reported on behalf of Lilian Ward and himself as School Committee Representatives.

He spoke of the grave problems that had beset the Committee concerning the School buildings.

The appeal had been an outstanding success with over £100,000 raised to date.

The School continued to thrive, despite its problems, with good academic standards reached. (This report is documented in detail elsewhere in the magazine.)

Vera Rollett proposed and Reginald Brown seconded that the report be adopted. This was unanimously carried by the meeting.

5. *Headmaster's Report*

The Deputy Head, June Ellis, gave the report on behalf of the Headmaster, Kenneth Greaves, who had unfortunately been taken ill.

She spoke of an excellent standard reached at G.C.E. 'O' level and C.S.E. level, although the 'A' levels had been a little disappointing.

The Remedial Centre continued to gain praise for its outstanding contribution to the school.

The usual high standard of Drama had been maintained with the production of 'Alice in Wonderland.'

The sports results had been good, especially the soccer XI who had done remarkably well. (*This report is detailed elsewhere in the magazine.*)

Brian Wright proposed and Jean Moore seconded that this report be adopted. This was unanimously endorsed.

6. *Elections*

The General Secretary spoke of the School Committee Representation.

It had been hoped to introduce a staggered term of office, but due to the difficulties that the School Committee had faced it had not been able to discuss it. The School Committee hoped that matters would be left as they were for the present.

Louis Wright proposed and Wilfrid Pollard seconded that Michael Finch should serve as School Committee Representative with Lilian Ward until December, 1977. This motion was unanimously carried.

Alexander Caviezel was unanimously elected to the General Committee as the 1975 leavers representative until December, 1978.

Sarah Watts was unanimously elected to serve on the Committee until December, 1978.

The President then proposed to the meeting that Grace Beckerlegge should be President for 1976 and that Frank Rollett should be Vice-President for 1976. These appointments were unanimously acclaimed and endorsed.

7. *Reunions 1976*

The General Secretary said that, subject to School Committee confirmation, the Annual Reunion 1976 would be held between August 28th and 31st, 1976.

The Day Reunion date would be announced in time for insertion in the magazine.

8. *Any Other Business*

1. It was unanimously decided that all monies received from the sponsored walk should be put aside for the school to use for some item in the new catering complex.

2. The President extended a warm welcome to the School Committee Guest, Gillian Hopkins.

3. The meeting instructed the General Secretary to send a letter to Kenneth Greaves enclosing greetings from the meeting and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed.

## Membership Secretary's Report

I am very pleased to be able to report an encouraging increase in our membership this year. Quite a few of the new leavers are amongst these as well as Old Scholars who had dropped out in recent years. Your cooperation in tracing Old Scholars not on my list as well as changes of address would be very much appreciated.

Rarely do I hear news of local meetings, the only viable group seems to be in London. Is it not possible to revive some of the branches at Oxford, Sibford or Bristol?

It was refreshing to see a good number of new faces at the Annual Re-union, so why not make a date with your contemporaries and meet at Sibford in '76!

L.E.W.

## Appeal Report

THE APPEAL FUND

November, 1975

I am very pleased to be able to report that to date the fund has reached £119,000. You can imagine how very pleased we at Sibford are regarding this marvellous response and it is so heartening to see the support that the School is getting from current parents, former parents and Old Scholars. To date Old Scholars have donated the sum of £4,594, which I feel sure you will agree is very encouraging.

The new building is now well under way and the main shell of the dining room/kitchen is complete. It is anticipated that the building will be handed over to the school in time for the commencement of the Spring term, 1976.

John Miller *Bursar*

## School Committee

Since the last Annual General Meeting the School Committee have had three full committee meetings and three meetings of the General Purpose Committee.

As you can imagine most of the time has reluctantly been spent on dealing with the structure problems experienced by the school.

Firstly, it was problems at the Manor relating to the catering complex, and the floors immediately above. Then there were problems with Gillett House and now unfortunately there are problems with Fielding House.

As you are aware it was decided to launch an appeal to help the school during these emergencies.

It was finally decided that approximately £75,000 should be spent on a new catering complex to be built at The Hill, using the factory-built method of construction. When finished this will appear as any traditional building, but the committee felt that it would be the most advantageous method for the school.

A further £25,000/£30,000 would be needed to demolish the existing catering complex and to renovate the remaining rooms.

£100,000 plus seemed a daunting task, yet incredibly this figure has been achieved by a tremendous response from all quarters, confirming the high regard with which Sibford and its work is held.

Despite my own forebodings, which are well known, a firm of professional fund raisers were employed and Mr. Daniel Hunt was appointed by the company as Appeal Director. He has proved to be an extremely able and helpful person and we are indebted to him for his dedication and hard work.

As to other problems, Gillett House is being repaired and work has commenced on rectifying serious deficiencies with Fielding House.

The question of liability is in the hands of the school solicitors.

As a result of these upheavals the committee is concerned as to its true function. It feels that not enough time or manpower is being directed towards helping the school and staff in a more positive manner. It has now set up a sub-committee to look at ways of re-constructing the committee so that it will be giving maximum effort towards assisting the school in a more practical way.

However, despite all this turmoil the school is thriving. It has a full complement of boys and girls despite ever-increasing fees. The committee has been encouraged to hear of good standards of achievement at 'O' level and in the CSE examinations, also two direct admissions to University were achieved for the first time.

Congratulations were extended to D. June Ellis, the Deputy Head, on her appointment as Chairman of Heads Conference for the next four years.

In view of the salary awards recommended for teachers it has been necessary to increase fees yet again. The autumn term will see fees for boarders at £442 and for day pupils £205. To keep fees within a reasonable level of inflation it has been necessary to make many cuts in the school's expenditure.

You will be glad to learn that Louis Wright and Vera Rollett were co-opted onto the General Purposes Committee for a further year. Lilian Ward and myself were also appointed making, I think, a record number of five Old Scholars on the G.P.C.

Michael R. Finch

## Friends of Sibford

This report covers activities from June, 1974 to June, 1975.

The good work done in previous years has continued, modestly expanding, and certainly with unabated enthusiasm. Despite a few resignations an encouraging increase in membership numbers from 93 to 116 occurred. In another direction came a not unexpected development when the school P.T.A., on its own initiative, was wound up, but with the happy condition that, in effect, its activities, remaining funds, along with any parents who so wished was transferred to our group. Thus, from the time of G.M. at June, 1975 we elected four members of their committee to our own. In the meantime several transfer member applications have been received. The P.T.A. standing balance of £250 (less £100 allocated toward purchase of a new car trailer) was handed over.

As to specific financial help to school projects it is meet to first mention one important and expensive re-equipping thus made possible. The Headmaster and Staff had for some time found the Language Laboratory unsatisfactory, so it was decided that the aforementioned net £150 should be added to the existing F.O.S. bank balance of £325 thus to pay for the creation of a

new audio-visual room, which project is now in hand.

During the year, other gifts included:

	£
Emergency Appeal ... ..	100
Building Fund ... ..	100
Stage equipment and records ... ..	100
Sewing machines ... ..	44
Cassettes ... ..	28
Tape recording unit ... ..	150
	<hr/>
	Total £522
	<hr/>

Finally, Friends are reminded that it is intended to continue the social activities of the P.T.A. within our orbit. Applications for membership should be made to the Hon. Treasurer: Constance Phillips, Milverton, Park Road, Hook Norton, Banbury, Oxon.

F. R.

## Headmaster's Annual Report

The records of the year reflect a very satisfactory standard of work throughout the school, both in terms of effort and of achievement, and good results were obtained in the public examinations in the summer term. Once again in the C.S.E. examinations there were a large number of grade one passes; and in the G.C.E. Ordinary Levels examinations not only were the results numerically the best of recent years but a great many of the passes were achieved with high grades.

Several changes in the curriculum were introduced at the beginning of the year. The German course, taught by Jean Rudge, was offered in the third year, instead of the fourth as hitherto, with a view to completing the 'O' Level syllabus by the end of the fifth year. In the Sixth Form, we were able to offer an Advanced Level course in Geography and an 'O' Level course in Economics, both under the direction of Brian Holliday.

The Remedial Department under David Foulds continues to offer a valuable service for which there is a great demand, and its reputation for the special help given to dyslexic children is becoming widely known. We are one of the comparatively few schools in the country which are tackling this important educational problem.

Another important innovation during the year was the course in Advanced Reading Techniques which was offered in the autumn to pupils in the Fourth Form and first-year Sixth. In addition to valuable incidental benefits, such as guidance in the taking and memorising of notes, the course promised to achieve substantial improvements not only in the speed of reading but also in the level of comprehension, and the results were most impressive. On average, our candidates trebled their reading speed, a few achieved a five-fold improvement, and the promise of substantially improved comprehension was also fulfilled. The advantages of such improved efficiency in reading are obvious, and we hope to offer similar courses in the future.

The year brought a welcome and encouraging revival of school drama. Following his outstandingly successful production last summer of the pop opera 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dream-coat.' Geoff Higgins presented in the autumn term his own dramatisation of scenes from 'Alice

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in Wonderland' and 'Through the Looking-glass.' The colourful costumes and sets were designed and made under the direction of Gill Edwards and Sue Brady, and every year-group in the school was represented in the cast.

The plays presented in this year's Eisteddfod also revealed a wealth of talent. This annual inter-House competition is now a well-established feature of the school calendar, and in each of the sections — hobbies, drama, entertainment and music — the standard seems to rise steadily each year. Much of the credit for the success of the Eisteddfod programmes this year must go to those members of the Sixth Form who helped to prepare and present them; and we appreciated the contribution made by them in this, and other ways, to school affairs. Their work on the Social Committee in organising Saturday evening activities was particularly helpful.

In the realms of Physical Education, our boys and girls achieved some success in local athletics, and in school several new records were established in athletics and swimming. Gymnastics continued to be a popular activity for the girls, trained by Pauline Sagar, and the competition organised and adjudicated by Philip Chan produced some promising performances. This was a good year, too, for our footballers, and the First Eleven, coached by Jim Green, played twenty-four matches, won thirteen, drew four and lost only seven.

Much of the leisure-time activity in school comes under the operation of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, led for us by Gordon Wright with the active support and assistance of many other members of staff. Over a hundred pupils are engaged in the scheme, and during the year six more Gold Awards were achieved — once again, all by girls.

Because of its somewhat remote, rural situation, Sibford is not well-placed for undertaking social service, yet the Social Services Committee contrives to do a good deal of useful work. In addition to their fund-raising activities and their donations to various charities, they regularly visit old people and give practical help in their homes, they help at a hospital, at a centre for the mentally handicapped and at other local institutions; and some of their members undertake similar service during their holidays. The major enterprise of the year was, once again, the holiday camp which they ran at Sibford during the first week of the summer holiday. Led by Maureen Robinette, a team of staff and senior pupils catered and cared for a party of some twenty children from central London and provided them a full programme of games, entertainments and expeditions.

Many members of staff contributed a great deal of time and energy to these

activities, but I must refer in particular to Maureen Robinette whom we were sorry to lose from Sibford at the end of the school year. We greatly appreciated her work for the Social Services Committee and for many other school activities. Also at the end of the year Eileen Tait retired from her post as Housemistress to Nansen girls but remains on the teaching staff.

We are grateful to the many parents and other friends of the school who have made gifts during the year or who have helped us in other ways. The growing interest in gymnastics, to which I have referred, was encouraged by a very generous gift of equipment from our Friend John Taylor, a recent President of the Old Scholars' Association. The Friends of Sibford have continued their generous support for the school by providing several items of equipment which we could not easily have afforded out of our annual budget; and they have also provided a much appreciated service by serving refreshments at parents' weekends. The Parent-Teacher Association paid for the materials for building a canoe-trailer.

At the Parents' Weekend in the autumn it was decided that the Parent-Teacher Association should cease to function as a formally constituted organisation after the end of the 1974/5 school year. It was not intended that there should be any reduction in the opportunities for the parent-staff consultation and cooperation; on the contrary, it was hoped that the removal of formal business meetings would permit greater flexibility in the arrangements we are able to make for Parents' Weekend. Over the years the Parent-Teacher Association gave very good service to the school, and we are grateful to those parents who have served on its committee or supported its activities in other ways. Its remaining funds and its functions are to be taken over by the Friends of Sibford, who have already appointed three present school parents to their committee.

When the school year began we were faced with the difficult problems of replacing parts of the buildings on the Manor site and the daunting task of raising a six figure sum to finance the operation. By the end of the year the greater part of the necessary funds had already been subscribed and the building of the new dining-room was well under way. In the space of a few months, what was a very worrying situation was transformed into a very promising and exciting one, and we greatly appreciate the generosity of our friends that has made this possible. We are grateful and greatly encouraged.

K. G.

# Sibford in History and Architecture

Old Scholars are relieved that the School Committee is no longer faced with what some of them felt was the necessity of selling the Sibford Ferris Manor House, the oldest part of the Friends' School. Perhaps this proposal had been made without clear knowledge of the Manor's special status: it is a 'listed building,' i.e. one of 'special architectural or historical interest.' Such lack of knowledge has been shared by us all because no full research and no writing of Sibford history had been published. From the work on which Leslie Baily is now engaged the facts are emerging. Concerning the Manor's architecture he obtained the help of an eminent architect of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments whose inspection showed, among many other facts, that the Manor is an old building enclosing an older building, except at the back (north) side where stonework of the earlier period can be seen and one original mullioned window has survived alterations (see plan, room 4).

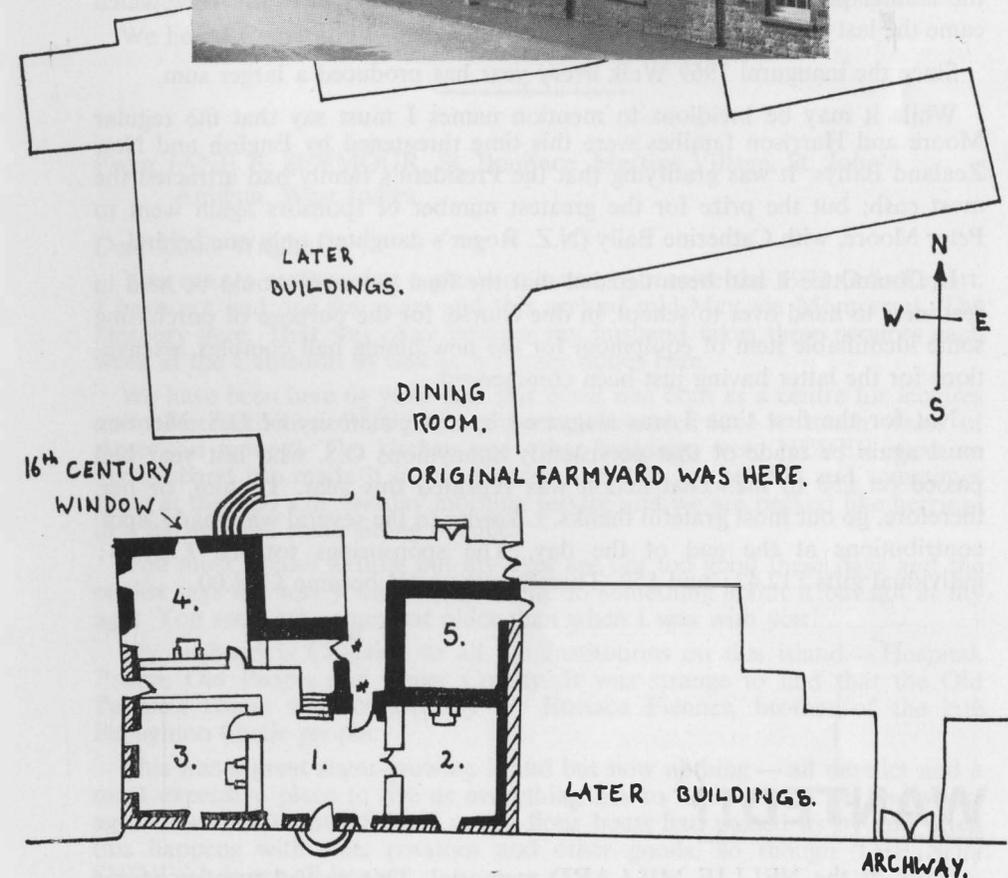
This oldest part probably dates from late 16th century, the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, and it stood approximately on the site of earlier Sibford Ferris Manor Houses since 1118 when the Knights Templars acquired a large estate here and built their manor house, probably of wood. In ensuing centuries it passed from the Templars to various lords of the manor, some of historical eminence, either national or local. The stone Elizabethan building was transformed in the first half of the 18th century when the ancient front and the sides were cladded, provided with the new-fangled sash-window, and the house given the Queen Anne fashion, inside and outside. For instance, the fine panelling which is still intact in room 3 (see plan) was installed; a sign of affluence, this type of panelling being expensive and the vogue among the elite.

This is the noble building which can now be seen. Its owners, the Walfords, had become sufficiently opulent as farmers to transform themselves into lawyers with offices in Banbury and London, and to 'keep up with the Joneses' in their redesigned Manor House at Sibford. Social change is thus shown. History and architecture live like twins together in this building. Famous nobility visited; the lord of the manor's court was held for centuries in the front hall (room 1), governing the affairs of 'Zibberd' villagers in that self-help manorial style, now gone.

The Banbury architect, Mr. G. Forsyth Lawson, a specialist in Oxfordshire's old buildings, points out that the front and sides of the Manor are of unusual thickness because the 16th century walls were kept inside when the 18th century cladding was put outside with 'exceptional good quality of craftsmanship.' Look at its finely-cut masonry and you will see what he means.

The history of Quakerism and that of English education both endow this building with an importance which must never be forgotten or sold or (as one eminent person suggested) be pulled down. The Friends' School was established in 1841 within the area shown in our plan by shaded walls. This historic Manor House is to be preserved when part of the later 19th century building is demolished (this part is not 'listed').

As a school Sibford Manor first made history by being established for the children of parents disowned from the Society of Friends for 'marrying out' to another denomination: it was a pricking of Quaker consciences. It was also notable as an agricultural school with its own farm. Its greatest national history-making event began in 1906 when the headmaster, James Harrod, made room 3 his study, and therein he and his wife Mabel worked out a scheme of full co-education, placing Sibford among the first few pioneers of this reformation in British education.



KEY.

- = 16<sup>th</sup> CENTURY BUILDING.
- = 16<sup>th</sup> CENTURY BUILDING WITH 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY CLADDING.
- = EXTERNAL REAR DOORS.

## Sponsored Walk

On Sunday afternoon, August 24th, with the advantage of perfect weather, some 37 walkers and two dogs (all sponsored) set off through Grounds Farm, Swalcliffe Common, Swalcliffe, Blenheim Farm, Epwell Turn, Tysoe Road, Ditched Lane, Traitors Ford, then on to Temple Mill meadow, there to find the annual picnic preparing with the help of many day visitors. After which came the last strenuous mile back to The Hill.

Since the inaugural 1969 Walk every year has produced a larger sum.

While it may be invidious to mention names I must say that the regular Moore and Harrison families were this time threatened by English and New Zealand Bails. It was gratifying that the President's family had attracted the most cash; but the prize for the greatest number of sponsors again went to Peter Moore, with Catherine Baily (N.Z. Roger's daughter) only one behind.

In Committee it had been decided that the final proceeds would be held in readiness to hand over to school, in due course, for the purpose of purchasing some identifiable item of equipment for the new dining hall complex, excavations for the latter having just been commenced.

Not for the first time I was staggered by the generosity of O.S. Mention must again be made of that persistently anonymous O.S. who last year had passed on £50 to me. That action was repeated this year. To him, or her, therefore, go our most grateful thanks. Likewise to the several who made 'spot' contributions at the end of the day. The sponsorings totalled £121.58: individual gifts £12.42: and £50. Therefore the total became £184.00.

F. R.

## WANTED!!

News of the NELLIE MILLARD memorial. This carved wooden statue used to be on the wall in the entrance hall at The Hill and seems to have disappeared. Any information leading to the recovery of this memorial will be gratefully received. Please contact your nearest O.S. committee member or write direct to the officer in charge of enquiries: L. E. Wright, 'Pantiles,' West End Lane, Esher, Surrey.

## Day Reunion

74 Old Scholars returned booking slips to say that they would be coming. The day, when it came, brought wet weather which adversely affected the numbers of Old Scholars who actually turned up.

The afternoon's programme was to have been the School Sports Day, until it rained and had to be postponed. In its place the school arranged a programme of indoor sports and games. The programme included, by popular demand, the tug-o'-war.

As present and Old Scholars were confined to the school buildings, there was much more mixing than in previous years. Most people seemed to be in the area of the Main Hall (particularly for the tug-o'-war) and in Fielding House. One advantage of the weather? The tea provided by the school was again the highly integrated activity we have come to expect, with thanks to June Ellis.

The Old Scholars provided a Disco for the evening — popular with present, but not so popular with old scholars. Many Old Scholars had to leave early for the journey home.

R. S.

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# LETTERS

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From JAMES STIMPSON, 36 Merivale Crescent, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire

Just a bit about Sibford School 83 years ago. I was at the school in 1892 and as far as I can remember I enjoyed every minute of it. Mr. Oddie was the headmaster. I remember the football we used to play and the gymnasium was opened that year. My sister was at Sibford School the same time as myself. I am now 92 years old and still going strong.

I go for a good walk about three miles every fine day and only eat very wholesome food.

All the best to present and Old Scholars.

(Signed) James Stimpson

---

From ALICE M. GREEN, Adderbury House, Adderbury, Banbury, Oxon.

Dear Michael,

Will you kindly convey to all Old Scholars my grateful thanks for congratulations and all good wishes for my birthday. Wilfred fetched me for Christmas Dinner and I came back to Christmas Tea. The following Saturday the American Servicemen gave us a dinner party, and then on the following Monday we had our own party.

Before Christmas we had children from three schools to sing carols and three parties of handbell ringers, and everywhere nicely decorated so we had quite a good time. It is a lovely place here and I go out every day when the weather is good.

Yes, I have happy memories of Old Scholars' gatherings when we kept open house. I have known all the past Presidents of O.S. except the first one.

I don't suppose I will be able to come to a Reunion as I can no longer do much walking. I broke my ankle seven years ago and I can only walk short distances with a stick.

With renewed thanks and all good wishes for a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Alice M. Green

---

PETER BAILY writes:

Old Scholars this year turned out to be something of a family reunion for the Baily's. Roger, Anne and their three children, Mark, Catherine and Paul,

were on a six months' visit from New Zealand. They returned to Auckland in September where Roger commenced a new job for an American cleansing company. Previously they lived in South Island.

Elin was travelling out with them. She will probably stay out there for twelve months. Leslie and Margaret Baily, and Margaret's sister Mary travelled up from Saffron Walden for part of the weekend. They have since moved to Yorkshire. Janet, my wife, and our three children continue to live near Lewes in Sussex. I work as a Training Officer in the local Social Services Department.

The arrival of Kenneth (Leslie's younger brother) and Sheila Baily for this picnic completed the family network. They seemed to know many London Old Scholars, having lived previously in Farnham and now Kingston-upon-Thames. We hope they will come back again next year and stay longer!

We heard Roger and Co. arrived safely in New Zealand.

---

From JANE E. SEYMOUR, St. Boniface, Martins Village, St. John's, Antigua, West Indies.

Dear Louis Wright,

You cannot realise what a pleasure it was to receive the 1973 O.S. Report. I have not had one for years and this arrived mid-May via Montserrat, The Deanery here. That was okay because my husband takes three services each week at the Cathedral as well as his other duties here.

We have been here 6½ years and this place was built as a centre for lectures and other activities, BUT the residents never used it—so much waste of American money! The kitchen and other buildings were NEVER used, so my husband has made it into a Church and now we get 200 and sometimes more at the 7.30 a.m. Sunday morning service and we are packed like herrings in a barrel, with some sitting outside.

You must excuse writing but my eyes are not too good these days and the oculist says if I was younger they might do something about it but not at my age! You see I am somewhat older than when I was with you!

My husband is Chaplain to all the Institutions on this island—Hospital, Prison, Old People and Leper Colony. It was strange to find that the Old People's Home was founded by Sir Eustace Fiennes, brother of the late Broughton Castle people.

This was a great sugar-growing island but now nothing—all derelict and a most expensive place to live as everything has to be imported. A few weeks ago we were without BREAD as the flour boats had passed us by and often this happens with rice, potatoes and other goods, so though THE SUN SHINES it is not all honey!

I sometimes hear from Edna Harris's daughter, and used to from Helen Oddie, but now they are all gone, so I am very thankful for any Sibford news I get

With good wishes for a good gathering.

(Signed) Jane E. Seymour

From EDITH LAMB, 11 Todd Avenue, Como, Western Australia 1652

Dear Friends,

Thank you for sending on the Old Scholars' Mag although I haven't paid a sub lately. By mutual arrangement my old friend, Miriam Carter used to attend to that for me, and since she passed on it has slipped my memory.

If you ever go to the Old House when you are at Sibford, Mary Lamb will show you some photos of Jennifer's four girls, which I sent her lately.

Although I was in England with Jenny in 1971 we only stayed two nights because I was anxious to get on to Canada. Now I regret we did not pay a visit to Sibford as now I am too old for air travel plus the fact that in October last I fell in the city and broke my hip resulting in an operation called total hip replacement. Although I am reasonably recovered and getting about again I shall have to stay put. Perth is a beautiful city and we have a pleasant house in a nice suburb. Several people I know here are connected with Sibford. Tom Evans, late of Ross-on-Wye, had three girls there at the school. Monica Jolley, née Knight, is a close friend. Her husband is the Librarian at the University.

Richard lives at Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. I stayed with him and Kathryn for three months. They have a son, David, and a daughter, Jennifer. Richard is one of the leading Canadian Philatelists and travels widely, and is often in New York or England on stamp business. In October he and Kathryn will be over to Birmingham for a congress. A pity I cannot pop over too as they are sure to visit Sibford!

Jenny only stayed a month in Canada before going on to a conference in New York. Before I went to New Zealand I was taken for a visit to Nova Scotia, so I saw quite a bit of Canada and especially enjoyed a day at Niagara Falls. I travelled alone on an American Airways plane from Chicago to Auckland stopping only briefly at Honolulu and Fiji, spent the night with Bernard Blunson and flew on to see Vivian, Kitty and their five children. On a previous visit in 1966 when Joseph was still living they had three boys, but two girls followed later, and they are a bonny family—John, Paul, Andrew, Bronwyn and Megan (Hetty's father was Welsh.) I came back to Perth in November and have not left it since except for local holidays. I prefer Perth to Adelaide where we lived six years after leaving England. Jenny's husband Paul is head botanist in the Department of Agriculture Herbarium. He is also connected with the Ministry of Science in Canberra and has to fly there for a few days every month or so. The girls, Mary 21, Jane 19, Bryony 17, and Betsy 13, all live at home at present, but Mary is going on a trip to England and Europe in July and will be away until next Easter. Jane is at University, Bryony at the West Australian Institute of Technology studying fine art, and Elizabeth (Betsy) is in her second year at High School.

Friends of ours have a large farm 40 miles away on the Darley range and we often go over. Mary keeps a horse, Lindy, there. Jane used to work with a stud of Andalusian dancing horses—they get their love of horses from their mother. I never rode anything more speedy than a seaside donkey.

I used to think I might be the oldest Old Scholar, but find from the magazine that I am not! Incidentally we have a member of Perth Meeting who is 96—Olaf Hodgkin. He has English roots.

Well I shall bore you if I keep on. Besides as you have probably guessed by now I have very poor sight. So with kindest regards and best wishes for an end to Sibford School's problems (it does seem to be at the cross roads,) your old friend, (signed) Edith Lamb.

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## News of Old Scholars

**Richard Hughes** (1959-64) is a manager for Sainsburys at Holloway, his sister **Nicola Hughes** (1962-67) is a secretary in London, and Richard's brother **Graham** (1964-69) is articled to a firm of solicitors.

**Ben Burt** (1960-64) works at the British Museum, arranging educational visits.

**Andrew Tomlinson** (1960-64) is training to be a doctor at The Royal Free Hospital in London.

**John Cottle** (1961-64) is farming 176 acres; his address: 'Bickenfields,' Sealand Road, Chester.

**Robin Chandler** (1959-64) is farming, in partnership with his father, 550 acres, arable and pigs. His sister **Rachel Wiley** (1962-67) is a farm secretary, who trained at the Staffordshire College of Agriculture, Penkridge.

**Ian Weatherhead** (1960-65) is with Thomas Cooks in London, and has travelled extensively. He met his wife whilst in the U.S.A. Amongst the places he visited were Australia, where he met **Jean Buckle** (now Williams) who is a teacher. Whilst in Ndola he met **Jean Matherson S.R.N.**, who is in the flying doctor service, and in New York he met **Andrew Trigg** (1960-65) who is a radio officer for the P. & O. shipping company.

**David Henderson** (1960-65) is farming in partnership with his father and brother at Shipston-on-Stour, 250 acres, corn, cows, and beef. He travelled to Florida in 1972 to see the Apollo 17 launch and met up with Ian Weatherhead at the same time. Nearer home he met **John Mawle** (1960-65) at the National Grassland Demonstration. John is married now. He recently toured Canada with a rugby team.

**David Laity** (1934-38) came to the Day Reunion in May. He has retired from farming, but still lives in Cornwall. His daughter, Sheriden, who was at Sidcot, lives in Madrid.

Greetings to Old Scholars for the Day Reunion were received from **Sue** and **Alfred Holland** and **Louis Wright**. **George Edwards** also sent greetings, he was convalescing at home. **Graham** and **Sheila Trout** were seen for the first time for many years at this Reunion, as was **Yolande Steiger M.A.**, who is an archaeologist who teaches English as a foreign language; she recently gave a talk to the present scholars.

**John Osborne** (1936-39) was present at the August Weekend, and there have been some interesting letters received from **James Stripson** who is 93, **Edith Lamb** who lived opposite the school and put up more parents than most at week-ends, and **Jane E. Seymour** illustrates the interest shown by those of our ranks scattered world-wide.

P.M.

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## Births, Marriages

### BIRTHS

**FOX** On November 25th 1974 to Christine (née Stott) and Keith Fox, a son, Robert Michael, a brother for Vivienne.

**BOUCHER** On June 18th 1974 to Susan (née Gee) and John Boucher, a son, Richard Anthony, a brother for Brian, Gillian and Stephen.

**RYAN** On April 26th 1975 to Joan Deborah (née Conolly) and John Ryan, a son, David John, a welcome brother for Timothy Francis. 105 Spare Acre Lane, Eynsham, Oxford.

### MARRIAGES

**HART—GILL** On November 9th 1974, Jane Hart to Richard Gill.

**UNDERHILL—CURRIE** On January 11th 1975, Stella Rosemary Currie to Paul Richard Lewis Underhill.

**PHILLIPS—BROWN** On July 5th 1975, Deborah J. Brown to Graham M. Phillips.

SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

**Income & Expenditure Account for year ended 31st December 1974**

	1974	1974	1973	1973
	£	£	£	£
<i>Income</i>				
Subscriptions (Net)		300		184
Donations		14		7
Investment income		53		49
Bank interest		45		37
Surplus on reunion		1		77
		<u>413</u>		<u>354</u>
<i>Less: Expenditure</i>				
Net cost of printing and distributing magazine for 1974	273		229	
Postage and stationery	5		27	
Sundry expenses	22		16	
		<u>300</u>		<u>272</u>
		<u>£113</u>		<u>£82</u>
<i>Surplus for year</i>				
		<u>300</u>		<u>272</u>
		<u>£113</u>		<u>£82</u>
		<u>£328</u>		<u>£215</u>
<i>ACCUMULATED FUND</i>				
Balance at 1st January 1974		215		133
Add: Surplus for year		113		82
		<u>£328</u>		<u>£215</u>

**Balance Sheet 31st December 1974**

	1974	1974	1973	1973
	£	£	£	£
<i>Fixed Asset</i>				
Land, at Elm		45		45
<i>Assets of Specific Funds</i>				
Quoted Investments, at cost	1,646		1,111	
Barbican Investment Fund units, at cost	646		646	
Cash awaiting investment	87		501	
		<u>2,379</u>		<u>2,258</u>
<i>Current Assets</i>				
Debtors	48		155	
Subscriptions in arrear	87		66	
Cash at bank	767		461	
	<u>902</u>		<u>682</u>	
<i>Current Liabilities</i>				
Creditors	592		486	
Subscriptions in advance	27		26	
	<u>619</u>		<u>512</u>	
<i>Net Current Assets</i>		283		170
Total Net Assets		<u>£2,707</u>		<u>£2,473</u>
Represented by:				
<i>Accumulated Fund</i>		328		215
<i>Specific Funds</i>				
Life membership	2,169		2,098	
Recent leavers membership	210		160	
		<u>2,379</u>		<u>2,258</u>
Arthur W. Harrison, <i>Hon. Treasurer</i>		<u>£2,707</u>		<u>£2,473</u>

*Auditor's Report*

In my opinion the above Balance Sheet, and the annexed Income and Expenditure account give respectively a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Sibford Old Scholars' Association at 31st December 1974, and of the surplus for the year.

John A. Taylor, *Hon. Auditor*

**ADDITIONS & CHANGES OF ADDRESS**

	Adams, Christopher	Not known
1918-21	Baily, Leslie W. A. Baily, Margaret	} The Granary, New Parks, Shipton by Beningbrough, York YO6 1BD
1914-17	Baker, Lillian (née Dowdall) Benton, Theodora (née Sheppard) Blackmore, Madeline (née Knight)	} 31 Holcombe Avenue, Kings Lynn, Norfolk 9 Weston Avenue, Carpenters Road, Lozells, Birmingham 19 12 East Pathway, Harborne, Birmingham 17
75	5* Blincowe, Robin P.	131 Sinclair Avenue, Banbury
1956	Blow, Walter	2 Cherry Gardens, Maldon, Essex
1919-22	Blunson, Philip	Cotmanhay, Station Road, Sturton Brigg, 5th Humber-side
1941-46	Blunt, Cicily M. (née Edridge)	10 Holly Village, Swains Lane, London N6 6QJ
1970	Booth, Amanda M.	London House, High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh, Glos.
1952*57	*Boucher, Susan (née Gee) *Bowley, Irene	1 Alder Lane, Balsall Common, Coventry The Old Bakery, Culmstock, Cullompton, Devon
71	10* Brett, Timothy Browning, Andrew Butler, Joyce	Not known Summer Hill, Broadoak, Heathfield, Sussex 25 Maidstone Road, London N11
	Cann, Joanna	c/o Mrs. L. Goodwin, Old Conduit House, Lyndhurst Terrace London NW3
	Carroll, Lesley (née Coysh)	6 Hilcot Road, Reading, Berkshire
	Carter, Michael Chandler, Robin	c/o 3 Fernbank Close, Halesowen, West Midlands Brailes Hill Farm, Brailes, Near Banbury, Oxon
1971	10* Chapple, Virginia *Chattin, Mildred A. (née Angerson) *Chattin, Jeffrey W. Cheney, Harold Chorley, Pat Compton, Jane Conolly, Barbara Louise Cookson, Frank Cottle, John Cottle, Kathy Crossley, Ruth E. (née Jones)	} 23 St. Peter's Close, Curdridge, Hants. Harbour House, George Street, West Bay, Bridport, Dorset Doghouse Farm, Chideock, Bridport, Dorset Ayesmore Farm, Shipston-on-Stour, Warks. Longacre, Helmdon, Brackley, Northants Wygates, Dog Lane, Wantage, Oxon 133 Woodstock Road, Oxford Beech Cottage, Sibford Ferris, Near Banbury, Oxon Birchenfields, Sealand Road, Chester Not known
1948-54	70 1942-47 1941-46	} 48 Aberdeen Road, Highbury, London N5 2XD 119 St. Richards Road, Otley, Yorks 3 Hill Way, Oadby, Leicester LE25 Y6 Not known
1915-18 1948-51	Farrant, Winifred E. (née Bowen) Finch, John	Not known 28 Ferry Road, Mullbridge, Hockley, Essex
1941 1937-42 1948	Geering, Sidney *Gibson, Hugh C. Gilchrist, Alexandra	2 Jays Cottage, Basingstoke, Hants. Stonsheil Lodge, Reston, Eynemouth, Berwickshire Barn Close, Sibford Ferris, Near Banbury, Oxon
1971	10* Hardwick, Julian Life Harris, Edna B. (née Roy) Henderson, David Higgs, Nicola Hindle, J. F. Howell, Jacqueline *Hughes, Richard	Not known Fircroft, 1 Fernside Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent Parsonage Farm, Great Wolford, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwicks Litchfield Farm, Easton, Oxford 56 Sarsfield Road, Perivale, Middlesex 2 Westgate Terrace, Kensington, London SW10 39 Barbican Road, Greenford, Middlesex
1961-68 1959-64	5* Jefferson, David Life Jones, Ian Maurice Aylmer Jones, Peter	Fern Hill, Hollow Meadows, Sheffield S6 6GH 10 Sandell Close, Banbury, Oxon Vine Cottage, Cropredy, Banbury
1949-54	Keates, David King, Robert Kohler, Jenepher	20 Early Road, Witney, Oxon Tarry Wood, Park Lane, Little Totham, Near Maldon, Essex 23 Torriano Cottages, London NW5
1954-59 70 1956	Lasson, Robert Lawrence, Edna Jessie (formerly O'Malley) (née Bryant) Lloyd, Diana Jill (née Wright) Lowndes, Paul Lucas, Margaret Mary (née Burgess)	11 Cliffe Drive, Whittle-le-Woods, Chorley, Lancs. Mundys Court Lane, Long Sutton, Near Langport, Somerset 10 Prescott, Yate, Bristol BS17 4LA 30 Horsley Road, Kilburn, Derbyshire 24 The Grove, Addestone, Surrey
1969 1923-27	10* McAllister, Paul Major, Leslie Manasseh, Anthony Manasseh, Pamela Manasseh, Philip G. Mathews, Lister Mathews, Jill 5* Meikle, Clair 5* Millington, Greta 5* Moyle, Ralph	2 Linden Road, Bournville, Birmingham 30 High Gables, 5 Wilton Road, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland Tregoddick House, Madron, Near Penzance, Cornwall Orchard Lea, Combe, Near Oxford Flat C, Camfield, Langley Lane, Crawley, Sussex RH11 0N8 Wick Grange, Pershore, Worcs. WR10 3PB 22 St. Mary's Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. The Old Court House, Sibford Ferris, Banbury, Oxon
1938-45 1943-48 1938-46 1949-54		

# Fifth and Sixth Form Leavers 1975

Parsons, E. Roy  
Peace, Robert  
Peck, Jennifer (née Wilson)  
Peck, Brian  
1969 Plumbe, John L.  
1911-13 Pollard, Wilfred  
1968-74 5\* Powell, Roger S.  
Powell, Judith (née Kelf-Cohen)

5\*Raw, Michael John

1940-45 Life Ricci, Eleri (née Williams)  
\*Rice, John D.  
1952 Ross, Helen (née Eavis)  
1948-52 \*Rowley, Frederick J.  
1932-36 \*Roy, William G.  
(T) Rye, Anthony

1916-19 Sale, Geoffrey Charles  
\*Salter, Dorothy (née Woodroffe)  
Seifert, Erwin  
\*Sessa, Erica M. (née Bond)  
1955-60 Shelley, Margaret Ann (née Smart)  
Sinclair, Philip  
1973 10\* Skinner, Jane

1951-57 5\* Slater, R. J. D.  
Smith, David Carlton  
Smith, Philippa  
1970 Smith, Jill (née Long)  
Smith, Brian  
Smith, Linda (née Heming))  
1930-36 Seville, Wendy (née Stone)

Tarrell, Malcolm  
Tarrell, Niall  
Tarrell, James  
1971 10\* Telford, Andrew  
Tester, Irene (née Yarwood)  
\*Thelton, James  
1918-20 Thomas, Wilfred  
1971 10\* Thomson, Anthony  
1974 5\* Thornton, Jill

1962-67 Tomlinson, Andrew Alan

1975 5\*Watts, Sarah Margaret  
1945-49 Webb, I. Robin  
1965 Whitehead, Jonathan  
1972 10\* Wilde, Judith  
1972 10\* Williams, Michael Stephen  
Williams, Peggy (née Yeoman)  
Williams, Alan  
1952 Life Williams, Nan (née Edwards)  
1969-73 10\* Williamson, Yvonne  
1968 Eynon-Williams, Aimee  
Wooding, Graham  
1957-62 Wright, Ian Anthony  
Wright, Carol  
5\* Wyatt, Sally  
Wells, Gordon A.  
Wells, Phyllis  
Yearley, Lesley

Not known  
103 High Street, Witney, Oxon  
} April Cottage, Burrow Hill, Chobham, Near Woking, Surrey  
Yew Tree House, The Buttlands, Wells next the Sea, Norfolk  
Wynyates, 12 Denehurst Gardens, Woodford Green, Essex  
Windfield, 10 Grange Road, St. Cross, Winchester,  
24 Huntsmead, Westbridge Park, Sherbourne, Dorset

Dentdale, 8 Chacombe Road, Middleton Cheney,  
Banbury, Oxon  
Trem-y-Mor, Dyffryn, Gwynedd LL44 2D11  
Not known  
32 Montacute Road, Lewes, Sussex BN7 1EN  
63 Drummond Drive, Stanmore, Middlesex  
66 Hollyhurst Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire  
The Manor, Sibford, Near Banbury, Oxon

31 High Street, Cheveley, Newmarket, Suffolk  
Not known  
Not known  
Wennington School, York  
3 Willow Close, Spratton, Northampton  
16 Worcester Road, Chichester, Sussex SX PO 19 4DJ  
The Poplar, Moor End, Yardley Gobion, Towcester  
Northants  
5 Beaconsfield Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.  
} 253 Belgard Heights, Tallaght, Co. Dublin, Ireland  
} 3 Hill Field, Sibford Ferris, Near Banbury, Oxon  
20 Highdown Road, Lewes, Sussex  
10 Freeboard Road, Braunstone, Leicester

Burwell Farm House, Near Witney, Oxon  
3 Parklands, Freeland, Oxon  
37 Friar Street, Bridgewater, Som.  
77A High Street, Thames Ditton, Surrey  
17 Lawn, Hampstead, NW3 TXR  
20 Linton Road, Hastings, Sussex  
Hogbrook Farm, Bishops Tachbrook, Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire  
Dalestones, 10 New Yatt Road, Witney, Oxon

"Shanks," High Street, Upton St. Leonards, Glos. GL4 8DJ  
Not known  
St. Agnes House, High Street, Agnes Gate, Ripon, Yorks.  
Springfield Farm, Brailes, Banbury, Oxon  
20 School Road, Thurston, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk  
} 4 Tickim Lane, Guisborough, Cleveland, Yorkshire  
24 The Vale, Woodford Green, Essex  
56 Bath Road, Keynsham, Near Bristol, Somerset  
Floral Cottage, The Green, Llanstephan, Carmarthen  
Not known  
} 3 Millbrook Cottages, Castle Grove Road, Chobham, Surrey  
} Gage Farm, Epwell, Banbury, Oxon  
} Bellever, 153 Station Lane, Lapworth, Solihull B9U 6JH  
Red Hill House East, 4 Yew Tree Close, Worcester  
WR 52 LH

## MEMBERS LIVING ABROAD

1906-09 \*Baily, Roger  
1940 Life \*Calcraff, Herbert W.  
Chattin, Janet A.

1966 Fischl, Andreas  
10\* Koch, Kewi Eileen

1900 Lamb, Edith (née Millard)  
1975 Lewis, Charles William  
1975 Lewis, Robin David  
1923-25 \*Mangan, Joy (née Morland) Teacher  
Parsons, Ian  
1945 \*Rowland, B. Christopher  
1946-53 \*Smith, Margaret Huntley  
1940-46 \*Travor, Pamela (née Gilbert)  
Williams, Gillian (née Buckle)

91 Avonleigh Road, Titirangi, Auckland, New Zealand  
252, 2251 Cadboro Bay Road, Victoria B.C. V8R JH3 Canada  
Apartment 1908, 50, Stephanie Street 50, Toronto,  
Ontario, Canada  
27 Bahnhof, Strasse, CH4132 Muttentz, Switzerland  
c/o B. A. Koch, Dept. of Animal Science, Kansas State  
University, Manhattan, Kansas 66502 USA  
11 Todd Avenue, Como 6152 Western Australia  
} P.O. Box 716, Maseru, Lesotho, South East Africa  
Pollban, Dooega, Achill, Westport, Co. Mayo, Eire  
Not known  
Not known  
New Cottage, The Grove, Epsom, Surrey  
Not known  
2 Miller Street, Richmond, Victoria, Australia

Banbury 3393

Paul Allen 2 Wychwood Gardens, Banbury  
Simon Austing c/o 14 Bosley Way, Christchurch, Hants  
Olaf Barrs Peg Tiles, Wilson Lane, Jordans, Beaconsfield, Bucks  
Keith Ball 33 Walton Avenue, Twyford, Banbury  
Jonathan Barratt 12 Pilgrim's Lane, London NW3  
Robin Blicowce Evergreens, 131 Sinclair Avenue, Banbury  
Alexander Caviezel The Nettings, Hook Norton, Banbury  
Vincent Clare c/o 271 London Road, Headington, Oxford  
Paul Cook 82 Middleton Road, Banbury  
John Cooper The Old Coach House, Lower Brailles, Banbury  
Christopher Deakin 46 Princess Road, London NW1  
Gordon Emley Maffan, Mill Lane, Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks  
Neil Francis Penn House, Sibford Ferris, Banbury  
Timothy Francis Penn House, Sibford Ferris, Banbury  
Hugh Goddard 1 Larkway, Bedford  
John Haigh 54 Sydney Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex  
Jonathan Hathaway Orchard House, 151 Loxley Road, Stratford-on-Avon  
David Higgs 4 Westmorland Avenue, Wyton, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 2HS  
Peter Hurst Bramden, Peartree Hill, Stonegate, Sussex  
David Jefferson The Forge House, Alderton, Chippenham, Wilts  
Charles Lewis 64 Stoneyfields Lane, Edgware, Middlesex  
Robin Lewis 64 Stoneyfields Lane, Edgware, Middlesex  
David Long 3 Hillfield, Sibford Ferris, Banbury  
Richard Marsh 12 Hawkswell Gardens, Oxford  
Martin McCann 23 Chemin des Pins, Brussels 1180, Belgium  
Stewart Meikle 4 Peachfield Road, Malvern, Worcs.  
Timothy Middleton Beechlaw, Eghamswood, Beaconsfield, Bucks  
Adrian Payne, Arpilla, Lowfields, Little Eversden, Cambridge CB3 7HJ  
Christopher Phillips Avins Farm, Ardingly, Haywards Heath, Sussex  
Simon Postgate Red Lion House, Honey Hill, Whitstable, Kent  
Stephen Postgate Red Lion House, Honey Hill, Whitstable, Kent  
Paul Ross The Sanatorium, Sibford School, Sibford Ferris  
Ian Salmon 1 Corwell Lane, Hillingdon, Middlesex  
Erik Saich Oak Lodge, Courtington, Lane, Bloxham, Banbury  
John Stroud Kirkstead, Green Lane, Pangbourne, Berks  
Robin Tickell Karinga, The Warren, Mapledurham, South Oxfordshire  
Hugh Warner Broomfield, Newton Green, Sudbury, Suffolk  
William Washington Barnstead, Hempton, Deddington, Oxford  
Andrew Wilson 85 Pymers Mead, Croxted Road, Dulwich, London SE21  
Susan Addinall 28 The Chantrys, West Street, Farnham, Surrey  
Elizabeth Austin The Gatehouse, Union Street, Banbury  
Amanda Barr 41A York Street, Twickenham, Middlesex  
Margaret Beech 47 Claines Road, Northfield, Birmingham 31  
Kathryn Bilbrough Espero, 18 Lakeside, Horcott, Fairford, Glos.  
Sally Britton Mill Stream Farm, Moor Lane, South Newington, Banbury  
Jennifer Charlier Palladio, Castle Avenue, Hythe, Kent  
Sallie Clark 11 Burnham Avenue, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middlesex  
Louise Collins Grooms, 58 Newtown Road, Earsash, Southampton SO3 6GB  
Jene Corden Kambah, Harcourt Hill, Oxford OX2 9AS  
Anita Davis 26 Burns Close, Welling, Kent  
Naomi Davis Ibstocks, Ponds Lane, Old Marston, Oxford  
Fiona Findlay Long House, Alleyns Lane, Cookham Dean, Berks  
Chreenagh Foley 75 Devonshire Road, Dore, Sheffield, Yorks  
Sally Hall 25 Regal Close, Kings Road, London W5  
Diana Heath 1260 North Astor Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602, U.S.A.  
Cassandra Jones Court Cottage, Parkend, Pagan Hill, Stroud, Glos.  
Susan Knott Chacombe Hill Farm, Banbury  
Winsome Malcolm c/o 11A High Street, Witney, Oxon  
Clair Meikle Wick Grange, Pershore, Worcs. WR10 3PB  
Zena Moisey Grove End Farm, Brailes, Banbury  
Susan Reid Ebbs Neuk, Hogg End, Bloxham, Banbury  
Nancy Ross The Sanatorium, Sibford School, Sibford Ferris  
Jocelyn Samuel 23 Shaftesbury Avenue, Southampton SO2 1SB  
Honor Stroud c/o 8 New Street, Aberdovey, Merioneth, Wales  
Anne Timms Chez-nouse, 1 Queensway, Banbury  
Alexa Vaughan-Lee 3 Elizabeth Close, Little Venice, London W9  
Sarah Watts Shanks, High Street, Upton St. Leonards, Glos GL4 8DJ  
Jayne Weldon c/o The Tower House, Pittville Circus, Cheltenham, Glos.  
Katherine Wilson 85 Pymers Mead, Croxted Road, Dulwich, London SE1  
Victoria Windebank The Manor House, Warborough, Oxford  
Lesley Yearley Red Hill House East, 4 Yewtree Close, Worcester WR5 2LH

Adderbury 576  
01 435 0309  
Banbury 3212  
Hook Norton 505  
Oxford 61324

Brailes 377  
01 722 3740  
C. St. Giles 2571  
Swalcliffe 458  
Bedford 68727  
0444 4159  
Stratford-on-Avon 5063  
Huntingdon 56473

Sherston 304

Swalcliffe 436  
Oxford 55759  
58 36 37  
Malvern 2188  
Beaconsfield 4838  
Comberton 2118  
Ardingly 225  
022 777 305  
022 777 305  
Swalcliffe 496  
01 573 0085  
Banbury 720390  
Pangbourne 2931  
Reading 473290  
Sudbury 72672  
Deddington 420  
01 670 0309  
Farnham 23973  
Banbury 4686

021 475 3941  
Fairford 579  
Banbury 720519  
Hythe 66653  
Ruislip 73809  
Locksheathe 3548  
Oxford 48742  
01 317 9521  
Oxford 40452  
Bourne End 23521  
Sheffield 366319  
01 998 8055

Banbury 710235

Pershore 2077  
Brailes 209  
Banbury 720 720  
Swalcliffe 496

Banbury 3037  
01 286 0503  
Gloucester 69828

01 670 0309  
Warborough 371  
Worcester 356769

# RULES

## 1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be 'Sibford Old Scholars' Association'.

## 2. OBJECTS

- (a) The continuance of the interest of former scholars in Sibford School and its work.
- (b) The furthering of schoolday friendships.
- (c) The provision of assistance to the School wherever possible.
- (d) The encouragement of a spirit of loyalty amongst present scholars.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) The Association shall consist of Ordinary, Life and Honorary Life Members.
- (b) The following shall be eligible for membership:
  - i. Old Scholars of Sibford School.
  - ii. Past and present members of the teaching and non-teaching staff of the School and their husbands/wives.
  - iii. Past and present members of the School Committee.
  - iv. Husbands/wives of Old Scholars.
  - v. Other relatives of Old Scholars interested in the School.
- (c) Honorary Membership of the Association may be conferred at any Annual General Meeting as a mark of esteem for notable services to the School or the Association.
- (d) Scholars leaving the School shall become members of the Association only after completing the appropriate application form. The General Committee shall have power to accept, reject or defer any such application.
- (e) The General Committee, shall be empowered to remove a person from membership for any reason which they think to be good and sufficient and such membership shall cease forthwith. No return of subscription shall be payable.

## 4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) Subscriptions to the Association shall be as follows:
  - i. Scholars leaving school for the year in which they leave and for the following year, a total of £1.00 and thereafter £2.00 per annum. Alternatively, for the year in which they leave and the following five years—£5.00, which could be paid by their parents with the last school fees.
  - ii. Life Membership £35.00.
  - iii. Married couples jointly £3.00 per annum.
  - iv. All other members £2.00 per annum.
- (b) The Annual subscription is due on 1st January for the ensuing year.
- (c) Any member whose subscriptions are in arrears for more than two years and who, after due reminder, shall not make the necessary payment shall have his/her name removed from the list of members.

## 5. YEAR

The Association's year shall be from 1st January to 31st December. This shall apply to the Accounts of the Association and to the term of office of President, Officers, Committee, etc.

## 6. GENERAL COMMITTEE

- (a) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a General Committee subject to the approval of the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- (b) Ex-officio President, Vice President, Immediate Past President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Reunion Secretary, Assistant Reunion Secretary, Membership Secretary, Magazine Editor, Local Branch Secretaries, two Resident Officers, one representative on the School Committee, one representative from the Friends of Sibford, two representatives from the School staff, the Headmaster, the Bursar, and six ordinary members elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for a three-year period.
- (c) Ten members of the General Committee shall form a quorum.
- (d) The General Committee shall have power to co-opt up to four members at any one time and to appoint any additional officers it deems necessary.

## 7. OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

- (a) The President and Vice-President shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for one year. Normally the President's year of office shall immediately follow the year in which he/she was Vice-President.
- (b) The General Secretary and other Officers shall be appointed for a three-year period at an Annual General Meeting. Two representatives shall be nominated to serve on the School Committee coinciding with the School Committee's normal term of appointments.
- (c) Should a vacancy occur in any office the General Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy

- (d) and the person so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- (d) All nominations for General Secretary, Treasurer and other Officers shall be in writing, signed by the proposer, seconder and the nominee and shall be sent or handed to the General Secretary twelve hours before the Annual General Meeting. Nomination papers to be included with the appropriate Annual Reunion programmes sent to all members.
- (e) Each year the School leavers shall nominate one of their members to serve, as an ordinary member, on the Committee for a period of three years following the next 31st December, and such nomination shall be confirmed by the Annual General Meeting. The A.G.M. shall also appoint one representative each year to serve for a three-year term. Should an ordinary member resign during his term of service the Committee has power to fill the vacancy so caused, until the next Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting shall then confirm the appointment or appoint an alternative member for the remainder of the term of service.

## 8. MEETINGS AND REUNIONS

- (a) An Annual Reunion of members shall be held at Sibford at Whitsuntide or at such other time and/or place as may be decided by the General Committee.
- (b) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held during the Annual Reunion.
- (c) Notice of the Annual Reunion shall be sent to all members.
- (d) The General Committee shall have full control of all arrangements at these Reunions with power to make such regulations as they may deem to be expedient.

## 9. MINUTES

Minutes of the proceedings of the General Committee shall be duly recorded in a permanent manner and the minutes of the Annual General Meeting when passed shall be available for inspection by any member by arrangement.

## 10. LOCAL BRANCHES

- (a) Whenever the number of members resident in a locality warrants the course, a local branch may be formed.
- (b) A Branch Secretary shall be elected at a representative meeting of the local branch.
- (c) Branch Secretaries shall have power to arrange local reunions and other events.
- (d) All Branches must be financially self supporting and have no call on the funds of the Association.

## 11. MAGAZINE

A magazine entitled 'Sibford' shall be published annually by the Association and sent to all members whose addresses are known. Where husbands and wives are both members only one magazine will be sent unless an additional copy is specifically requested.

## 12. ALTERATIONS TO RULES

- (a) Notice of any alteration or addition to be proposed to the rules of the Association shall be given in writing to the General Secretary at least fourteen days prior to an Annual General Meeting. Nevertheless the Annual General Meeting shall have power to deal with any alteration or addition to the Rules without such notice or any notice if the meeting so decides by a two-thirds majority of members who are present and voting.
- (b) No alteration or addition to the Rules of the Association shall become effective unless passed by a two-thirds majority of members who are present and voting in Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Rule 12 (b) and 13 (b) cannot be altered except by a 9/10ths majority at Annual General Meeting.

## 13. LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND

- (a) All subscriptions received as Life Subscriptions shall be invested in the names of Trustees appointed by the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The Life Membership Fund may not be spent without prior referendum of the recorded members of the Association. To be effective the referendum must be approved by a 9/10th majority of all the forms received by a date set by the General Committee.
- (c) The interest from the investment of the life subscriptions shall be added to the ordinary income of the Association.

## 14. WINDING UP

In the event of the Association being dissolved all the assets shall be disposed of as directed by the Annual General Meeting by a simple majority of those members who are present and voting at the Annual General Meeting.

*Sibford*, incorporating the SOSA Annual Report, is the journal of, and published annually by the SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION. Enquiries concerning distribution should be made to the Membership Secretary. Items for insertion should be sent to the Editor.

*"Ye Menne of Sheepford wendath whithersoever they wilen"*

