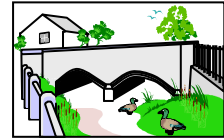


# SHARNFORD NEWS

31<sup>st</sup> May 2010

Issue No 34



A project supported by the Leicestershire Rural Projects Fund, Leicestershire County Council, The Leicestershire Learning and Skills Council and Blaby District Council

## SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The AGM of the Parish Council was held on 20 May 2010.

In his summary of the year, the Chairman said that it had been a busy year but that a great deal had been achieved – though it was unfortunate that none of the projects that had occupied the Council most had actually reached an absolute conclusion.



The Burial Ground was almost there and should be ready for some sort of official opening during 2010. The car park was complete and the gates in place but delay was being caused by Severn/Trent Water Authority's failure to lay on the water supply before the contractor could finish the road surface outside the gates. A shelter building had been sourced at an exceptionally good price but shortage of funds prevent immediate progress in purchasing it; and the Planning Authority's requirement that

a section of Mill Lane be widened, at village resident's expense, had been delayed for the same funding reasons. Tony Curtis had done an excellent job of getting the ground levelled, trees planted and the area landscaped, despite the unavoidable devastation caused by the contractor when moving earth around the site. The Chairman said that he believed the village would soon have a new burial ground to be proud of.

The second major undertaking had been to find ways of improving the situation regarding the Youth Club and major progress had been achieved. The Youth Club building and, more importantly, the land on which it stands – together with the extended land forming the Children's Play area – in Park View recreation area should, very soon, **BELONG TO THE VILLAGE!** Blaby District Council officers had agreed in principle to recommend the transfer of ownership of these assets to the Parish Council but unfortunately were not in a position to present the proposal to Blaby Councillors at their May meeting as had been intended. When this does happen, it will mean that the Parish will be in a position to set about the provision of a new building by seeking grants and raising funds. The Youth Club Committee and their supporters had already made a magnificent start on raising cash with their Sharnford Calendar sales and their planned assault on Snowdon, while the number of craftsmen and business people resident within the village who were offering their skills would go a long way to meeting the match-

funding that many grant schemes require. Any new building would belong to the Parish Council but would be on long-term lease to the Youth Club trustees.

Third in the list must come the refurbishment of the play-area itself. In addition to getting agreement to the title passing to the village, the Council had been successful in getting Blaby to agree to extend the area and, separately, in obtaining a grant of £2,125.00 towards refurbishing the equipment. The immediate proposal was to freshen up the equipment that is there – a painting task being undertaken by the Youth Club Committee – and to resurface the safety areas around each piece. All of this should be completed by the end of the summer. After that, in the extended area, it was hoped to install something extra. Members of the Parish Council were currently considering what form this should take.

Finally, the fourth major task that the Parish Council had confronted had been to meet the threat of a serious deterioration of the village's traffic situation caused by a planning application for the construction of an anaerobic digester nearby. The proposal first came to our notice in July and had been constantly with us ever since. It would be expected to generate an estimated 20,000 HGV movements per year through the village and the Parish Council had been prominent amongst the consortium of objectors, a consortium which covers the whole area. Indeed, one of the most rewarding sights of the year had been the considerable number of Sharnford residents who attended a Public Meeting in Broughton Astley last February at which it was made clear to the officers and Councillors how strongly we all felt about this industrial undertaking being introduced into such a rural setting. At this stage, consideration of the application had been delayed by the County planners for the third time as the intending developer had made yet another set of amendments – apparently moving the goal posts every time we point out a new ground for refusal of the application. The consortium now has a website, [www.lepg.info](http://www.lepg.info), where all the latest thoughts can be found.

Whilst all of the above was going on, the day-to-day affairs of the village had not been ignored. In December the Council were the promoters of a most successful production of Beauty and the Beast staged in the Evergreen Hall by a touring group of professional actors and we had submitted a bid for the same theatre group to present their version of Cinderella in December 2010. At the village fete, in June 2009, the Jubilee Cup for contribution to village life was presented to STAG for all that they had done in getting our traffic problems recognised. All the street name-plates throughout the village had been replaced where they were faded and unreadable and a Parish Council survey of blocked drains has been passed to the Authorities with a request that they be cleared. The bus-shelter was re-roofed during 2009 and the Council's urging of residents to cut back overhanging hedges eventually achieved some success. The Brook had been thoroughly dredged by the Environment Agency for the first time in at least five years, thanks to the combined efforts of the Parish Council, the village Environment Group and, significantly, an individual resident who had done some serious desk-banging.

The Council adopted the Chairman's Report and proceeded to re-elect Mr Gibbons as Chairman for the coming year with Mr Jack Feast as Vice Chairman.

***Derek Gibbons***

## BURIAL GROUND

The carpark is now complete and the gates are up. We are waiting on Severn Trent to dig a hole and connect the water supply, then the final surface can be laid on the road. An oak framed shelter is to be erected and there is garden landscaping to be done with some planting in the Autumn.



More trees have been planted. The Evergreen Hall Club have donated two Sorbus, 'Joseph Rock'. Gay & Eric from the Post Office Stores have donated an Acer, 'Crimson King' and Sandra McCuckin has donated a Silver Birch, 'jacquemontii' in memory of her brother Kevin Lloyd who died abroad. Yet to be planted are two Walnut trees provided by Ian Fulford. We have the trees but owing to the contractors still being on site past the end of the planting season it was not sensible to plant them, so a job for this Autumn.

I still need Holly, Yew, Maple, Birch, Chestnut etc saplings for this Autumn please. If you can help, please save your saplings for me over the summer.

Tony Curtis

## SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

We are now into one of the busier times of the year for the group as we continue to try and improve the village environs.

Hanging Baskets - the plants are ordered from Four Winds nursery and planting up of the baskets should start in early June, ready for installation soon afterwards. We continue to be indebted to those villagers (many for several years) who continue to water the baskets throughout the summer months. We truly cannot do the job without those special people. Our group membership averages around 12 to 14 people and the 'watering volunteers' number some 20 families. If you feel you can help us with this, we are still looking for one or two people to water the baskets positioned at the start of Coventry Road, across the road from the Evergreen Hall. Please phone Margaret if you are interested on 271156

Poors Meadow - The new benches are in position, so take a little time out to sit and reflect. Most of you will have seen that the new path is now laid and just waiting for the grass to grow through. Although it will eventually look part of the whole area, it provides a firm base to walk through without detracting from its rural/park appearance. We must say a big



thank you to Anthony Richings of ACD Plant Ltd for supplying us with a Turf Lifting Machine and a motorised Wacker free of charge. See the ACD advert in this issue. We hope you noticed too, the spring flowers planted by the school children last year. Many of you will have seen the damage to the grass, done recently by a vehicle from an electricity company entering the site in order to repair the lighting column. The parish council have the situation in hand and the damage now repaired, although it will take some time for the level and grass to come back to its previous standard.

Open Gardens Weekend June 26th and 27th. We are saddened to report that this event has been CANCELLED. As the group approached the final plans for this weekend, several more households decided against and the situation became untenable due to the lack of gardens to visit. We do realise that some villagers were making their garden look extra special for this occasion, and we sincerely apologise to them. We have put our plans 'on hold' and may re-consider this again some time in the future.

Planters - the old planters from their previous site on the Coventry Road are currently being restyled and will soon be in position by the road crossing. Look out for them, we already have a family willing to take on the watering task.

Notice Boards - perhaps you have 'noticed' (no pun intended!!) that the sign board positioned at the junction of Park View/Henson Way is a little wobbly?? One of the supports is now needing repair, again another job for the group to complete.

BlueBell Green - How do you think it is looking now the planting is more established? It still needs more work since the sun clock numbers are to be raised (perhaps a late summer job) and the grass adjacent to the pavement is troublesome, since it will keep growing through the bark covering!! We have a few ideas about what to do with this, but if you have something to say, look out for one of us, working around the village, or speak to

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Tony who can often be found there cutting the grass.

Finally the Village Fete/Family Fun Day June 13th - we shall be there with our usual plant stall, plus a few other items of interest. Even if you don't want a plant, please come and say hello.

## EVERGREEN CLUB NEWS



We have donated two Sorbus trees for the Burial Ground. The photo shows Tony Curtis planting one of our trees. See Tony's full report elsewhere in this issue of Sharnford News.

Our trip to the Black Country Museum proved to be a great day out enjoyed by everybody. The sun shone and there was plenty of interesting things to see and do. Some went down a mine, some took a trip on the underground canal system and many enjoyed the fish and chips cooked in beef dripping. Our next outing is planned for August when we will be visiting the Duxford Air Museum.

We will be running the cake stall again at the village fete and we would appreciate donations on the day for sale. Our plant sale on May 22nd is a major fund raiser and we thank you for your support each year. We now

have our own page on the village website so our events are being advertised not only locally but worldwide. However, in order to be at our fish and chip supper in September you will need to be a member, so if you wish to join us come along on alternate Wednesday evenings at 7p.m.

*Beryl Devenyi*

## SHARNFORD METHODIST CHURCH

*Minister: Revd. Barbara Fairburn(01455 842139)*

*Lay Pastor Malcolm Lapper (01455 843130)*

Regular Activities to which all are welcome:-

Sunday Worship : 10 a.m. All age worship with children's activities. 6 p.m. Traditional Evening worship.

Thursday At Ten: 10 - 10.30a.m. A short act of worship with time for quiet prayer and reflection, as well as friendship, on the last Thursday of each month.

Coffee Morning: 10 - 11.30a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month.

Christian Fellowship: 7.30p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. An informal time of bible study, friendship and prayer.

Craft Group: 7.30 p.m. 1st. and 3rd Thursday of each month supporting Operation Christmas Child's annual shoebox appeal.

Singing Group 7.00 p.m. every Thursday. Learning new songs for worship.

The Lent meetings held jointly with St.Helens were very well attended again this year and a source of good fellowship and reflection. They were brought to a close with an act of Communion on Maunday Thursday and a Service of prayer and praise on Good Friday.

The monthly Saturday Coffee mornings continue to be successful. The proceeds are given to nominated charities. As a result of the most recent one in May £115.00 was sent for the work of Christian Aid. They will continue through the Summer on the first Saturday of each month from 10.00a.m.

The Christian fellowship meetings have now been restarted after a short break, Meeting on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7.30p.m. This is a united Christian meeting and is open to all.

As from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September the work of Sharnford Methodist Church comes under the care and supervision of the Revd. Barbara Bircumshaw. Revd. Bircumshaw is currently the Superintendent Minister of the Hinckley Circuit of churches with pastoral charge of Burbage, Sapcote, and Stoney Stanton Methodist Churches. This move has been introduced because of the impending departure of the Revd. Barbara Fairburn to the Leeds district of Yorkshire and the retirement of Lay Pastor Malcolm Lapper.

There is to be a farewell Service for Barbara at Newbold Verdon on August 1<sup>st</sup> at 6.00p.m. to which all are welcome.

Malcolm's final Service at Sharnford before retirement will be on August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6.00 p.m. and again all are welcome.

A welcome always awaits anyone to come and share in the life at the Chapel, it does not have to be a special occasion!

May the joy of Summer, and God's blessing be yours.

*Malcolm Lapper Lay Pastor*

## **ST. HELEN'S CHURCH**

Our church has been quite busy over the last quarter. In March we participated in the World's Women's Day of Prayer service and the Fair Trade Coffee Morning, where a sum in excess of £430 was raised. We held a Family Service in the Evergreen Hall and the following week the children participated and presented gifts of flowers to their mothers at another Family Service in the church. The Lent House Group due to commence on the 17th February had to be postponed to the following week due to, guess what? The weather. Yes, ice and snow prevailed on that evening so it was deemed safer to wait for it to depart. This year the group were considering the meanings of the Cross and for many it proved to be encapsulated in the phrase 'The Cross shows the best God can do for us and the worst we can do for and to Him'. Think about it. Our Easter services followed the Group meetings and a cherished memory will be the daffodils blooming later than usual (so late we thought we might still have snowdrops present) all nodding their heads in the

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churchyard as the Hallelujahs rang out from the church on Easter morning. A perfect Easter card effect.

Our yearly Memorial service took place on the 25th April and it was very well attended. We hope it gave comfort to those who had been bereaved in the past year and showed that their loved ones had not been forgotten.

On May 5th years one and two from Sharnford School came to visit St. Helen's and were shown around by Mrs. Philips (our Jean). She was most impressed by the intelligent questions they asked and their behaviour was exemplary. A few days later she received

handwritten letters from the children saying ---- well, they are to be pinned to the school's notice board inside the church, so you can read them for yourselves.

During this last quarter we have held funeral services for Mick Groves and for David Arnold. We send our heartfelt sympathies to those who grieve for them. On the 8th May Karen Massie and Mark Meadows, regular worshippers at the church, were united in marriage in a church lovingly decorated with white flowers and greenery. Our flower arrangers do a wonderful job.

In the months to come we shall no doubt be participating in the village fun day in June. It has been asked if we can think of a slightly more 'glamorous' name for our toilet fund appeal but none of us can. Can any of you? Suggestions would be welcome!

Finally, we would like to give advance notice of our Songs of Praise evening on August 15th at 6.30pm. No less a person than Bishop Christopher himself is coming to address the congregation and we welcome a larger than ever congregation to be there to welcome him. Please do come.

*Estelle Perrett, PCC secretary*



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### ROUND BRITAIN QUIZ

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Deadly Sins combined with trees      | 9. Hollywood's Mr. Pitt has own river crossing |
| 2. A parent's water source              | 10. The first Pope's personal harbour          |
| 3. How old is Steve McQueen?            | 11. British Money                              |
| 4. Replacement Fort                     | 12. Ocean for a royal bird                     |
| 5. A Falklands hero with a great horse  | 13. Extremely large                            |
| 6. What bride may do in a jewellers     | 14. Stupid chips                               |
| 7. Jogging foot sore                    | 15. Bill's protection                          |
| 8. Mr. Fawcett is a university lecturer |  |

## SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP

Just a quick catch up. STAG are still on the case with the traffic situation. We are still meeting on a monthly basis to discuss events related to traffic and speeding along the B4114. We now have a page on Sharnford's section of the Leicestershirevillages.com website. This lists all of the meetings and venues. Feel free to pop along and attend.

Sadly, it is just a waiting game for us now - waiting for funding to become available for the bypass. Now the election is over we will start pushing Leicestershire County Council to give us an update on the situation with the bypass funding.

We also need to push for one of the short term options we discussed with Leicestershire County Council, which is an improved road surface that reduces vibration and noise. The section from St Helen's Church down towards the crossing is particularly bad at present and the drains are constantly rattling with HGV's passing over them.

The pollution monitor has finally been moved to Bluebell Green. It has only taken 18 months! It has been in place for approximately 2 months and we hope that we will be given details of the results soon.

We have been working together with the Parish Council with regards to the planned Bio-digester plant. I have left it to Derek Gibbons to update you on the details of the Bio-digester. One of our members has become part of a group that is dealing with the objections of all the surrounding villages. He has put a great deal of effort into the cause and the application seems to have been temporarily withdrawn. STAG would like to thank Mike for his tremendous efforts.

### ALL SEWN UP!



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Its Village Fete time again! STAG will be running the Hoopla Stall and Book Stall. We have lots of great prizes to be hooped so come along and see us. We will have a folder of all the up to date information, photos and achievements of STAG during the past year.

We will be handing back the Silver Jubilee Cup that was awarded to us by the Parish Council last year. It has been an honour for us to have held it for the year, but we know it will go to a good home. There are so many people in the village who give their time for the good of the village - that's why it is such a great place to live.

*Angie, STAG*

## ST. HELEN'S LADIES GROUP

2010 programme of events began in January with a talk by Linda Smith on Wildlife in Our Gardens, particularly pond life and proved very enjoyable and informative. The AGM in February was well attended and the new programme was discussed. March saw us enjoying an informal games evening and in April, once again, Margaret Bryan transported us to foreign climes with a super illustrated talk on her camping and trekking



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holiday across China to Nepal. Margaret and her husband are very keen walkers and their experiences are always interesting.

The Fire and Rescue Service, complete with fire engine, visited us. The information on fire safety in the home was very welcome as was the presence of 7 very nice firemen (we thought the Chippendales had arrived!!!!).

Looking forward to next month, a walking Treasure Hunt around Burbage has been arranged. This will take place on Wednesday June 9th (please note this is the 2nd Wednesday). If you wish to join us we will be meeting outside the Sharnford Arms at 7.00p.m. Apart from enjoying speakers and outings the Ladies Group make donations to various charities, which over the years has included Age Concern, Birmingham Children's Hospital, Motor Neurone Disease Association, Air Ambulance, LOROS, The Dog's Trust, Concordia Theatre, St. Helen's Church extension fund plus many more. Usual meetings are held at the home of Jean Ryan at 33 Park View on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 8.00p.m. Visitors are welcome to all our meetings at a cost of £2 including coffee and raffle. If you would like more information on the Ladies Group please contact Pat Jordan on 272229 or Jean Ryan on 273828.

### **SHARNFORD PRE- SCHOOL PLAYGROUP**

We are now into the summer term and will be making the most of the weather. Please remember to send in suncream and a sunhat for your child clearly labelled in their bags. The children are enjoying watering the plants we have grown in our greenhouse each day and measuring their growth. We hope to be able to enter some of our broad bean plants into the Sharnford Produce Show in September that we are taking part in. Letters will be sent home shortly detailing how parents can help us be involved in this exciting show.

We have nearly finished our mini-beast project which the children have loved and by the time you read this, our caterpillars will have hatched from their cocoons into pretty butterflies.

We are again running a summer playscheme which is open to all children aged 2 to 7 yrs. It is OFSTED registered meaning that if you currently claim child tax credits, you can continue to do so whilst your child attends the playscheme. Child tax credits cover up to 80% of your childcare fees.

It runs for 2 weeks, commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> August on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We opened registration last week and we are half full already. Please book early to

avoid disappointment as it looks likely we will have to turn people away again. If you don't already have a registration form, they are available to download from our website [www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford](http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford) and we are located on the right hand side of the page.

If you haven't already booked your child's place to start with us in September, please pop in and see Cath or call Alison on 01455 213779 as we are starting to fill up the spaces available.

Mums and Tots sessions are popular on a Monday afternoon. Come along and join us for a coffee and biscuit whilst your Tot plays with the other children. We have craft activities along with regular messy play, soft play and outdoor play. We are open 1.15pm until 3pm.

We will be representing the Playgroup at Sharnford Fete on 13<sup>th</sup> June and would be grateful for volunteers to help at our stand. Slots are available in half hour breaks. Please see Cath at Playgroup, or call Alison on 01455 213779 if you can help. We look forward to seeing you all there.

*Alison, Cath, Karen, Lyn & Kate.*



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### THE SHARNFORD PRODUCE SHOW

You should all by now have received your copy of the Show Schedule for The Produce Show 11th September 2010. I hope you are all excited. You will have noted the massive prizes on offer and the kudos to be achieved by winning a prize. This Show has something for everyone, no matter what your interests or age. Remember you have to be in it to win it so get planting, baking, painting, finding your best photos and spruce up those pot plants.

If you have never been to a Village Show then visit the Burbage Show at Hastings High on 14th August. This will give you ideas on how to display items in our Show.

Visit the website at [www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford](http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford)

## CONKERS AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Finally, we have opened and are now taking bookings for the remainder of this term and bookings for September. We are open for all children aged 4 – 12 years regardless of where they go to School. We are based at the All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote. We would like to thank everyone for their support in getting us ready for business.

We have been delighted to receive over £2700 in grants to enable us to purchase laptops, fencing, cooking equipment, games, jigsaws and many other resources for the children. Our focus is 80% recreational, 20% educational and 100% on enjoyment! If you haven't already booked your child's place to start with us in September, please pop in and see Lynn and Laurie at the After School Club or call Alison on 01455 213779 as we are starting to fill up the spaces available. Registration forms are available from our website page [www.leicestershirevillages.com/sapcote](http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sapcote) and by clicking on the community group's page.

## SUMMER PLAYSCHHEME

We are running a summer playscheme at All Saints Church Hall in Sapcote which is open to all children aged 4 to 12 yrs. It is OFSTED registered meaning that if you currently claim child tax credits, you can continue to do so whilst your child attends the playscheme. Child tax credits cover up to 80% of your childcare fees.

It runs for 2 weeks, commencing 2nd August on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please book early to avoid disappointment as it looks likely we will have to turn people away. If you don't already have a registration form, they can be found on our website or you can ring Alison on 01455 213779.

We look forward to you joining us  
*Alison, Laurie & Lynn*

### Conkers After-School Club

All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote  
Waiting lists now open for September  
Registrations

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 3pm – 6pm  
£6.50 per session, £10 for 2 siblings

Ad-hoc sessions available

Activities include: Cooking Crafts Painting  
Games Nintendo Wii & DS Laptops

Registration forms available from our website

[www.leicestershirevillages/sapcote](http://www.leicestershirevillages/sapcote)

Call Alison for details on 01455 213779

### Summer Playscheme

2<sup>nd</sup> August – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2010

Registration now open

Book early to avoid disappointment

Age 2 – 7 years

The Evergreen Village Hall, Sharnford  
Registration forms available from our  
website, Sharnford Preschool Playgroup

[www.leicestershirevillages/sharnford](http://www.leicestershirevillages/sharnford)

Age 4 - 12 years

All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote  
Registration forms available from our  
website, Conkers After School Club

[www.leicestershirevillages/sapcote](http://www.leicestershirevillages/sapcote)

Monday, Wednesday Friday 10am – 2pm

£6.50 per session, £10 for 2 siblings

Activities include: Cooking Crafts  
Painting Games Nintendo Wii & DS

Bouncy Castle

Call Alison for details on 01455 213779

## SHARNFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

There have been many activities taking place in Sharnford C E Primary School since our last report in February. The children in Key Stage 2 worked with Mrs Ramshaw from Leicestershire Arts to present a musical 'Animal Antics'. A lot of hard work went in to this production which the children presented to their peers from All Saints Primary School, Sapcote and their parents; many thanks were given to Miss Wallace, class teacher who made all of the costumes.

Forest School has been a great success and the children in years one and two have enjoyed many sessions at Fosse Meadows. Activities here have included building dens, bug hunting, learning names of trees and birds, whittling, looking at fish and frog spawn in the pond, building a fire and toasting marshmallows. The funding has now been extended to the end of the summer term and our reception children are now enjoying these sessions.

In March our year 5 children went to John Cleveland College and took part in an inter schools hockey festival. The children received hockey coaching by Mike Brookes prior to the event. Children in years 1, 3 and 4 have all attended multi skills festivals and had a very enjoyable time.

At the beginning of March all parents were invited to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss their progress in school and targets for the future. During April parents had the opportunity to attend a workshop of how to help their children with the modern way of doing mathematics. Our Mother's Service was led by children in class one and all family and friends were invited to attend.

School Food Support supply all school meals and at Easter they made a special Easter Meal with a choice of Roast Spring Lamb served with mint sauce and gravy, Cottage Pie, Cheese and Spring Onion Quiche, roast potatoes, duchesse nests, spring green cabbage, Easter salad mix, freshly baked Easter rolls, chocolate Easter crunch and custard or Viennese whirls.

Children in years 2 to 6 took part in World Maths Day. The children had been practising hard and in total they answered 52,218 questions. It was good fun and helped to improve the children's mental maths skills.

To celebrate National Science and Engineering week children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 went to All Saints Primary School, Sapcote for a science event. The day started with an assembly looking at forces including how a hover board works. Workshops examined micro-organisms

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	<b>Tel 01455 271233</b>

and the changing state of materials. The event proved very enjoyable especially when it came to examining mouldy cheese and making an empty cola can implode.

The School council across the federation visited Blaby District Council Offices at Narborough, where they were the guests of Councillor Alan Bailey. The children visited the council chambers where they debated issues ranging from SATS, longer lunchtimes and graffiti. They were incredibly mature and impressed our staff, with their ideas and clear arguments, which were not always what you would have expected.

Conkers, our afterschool club is now up and running. It provides parents with child care from 3.15pm to 6pm at All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote. Children from both schools are invited to attend and transport is organised to facilitate this. The children have the opportunity of cooking, craft making, playing with many toys including a Nintendo Wii.

The year 6 children completed their SATS last week and are now looking forward to a Pilgrimage Walk in Leicester at the end of May.

The school has been lucky enough to secure funding from the Local Authority to replace the roof on the main building of the school, which will improve our working conditions and energy efficiency. This much needed improvement will ensure that children and staff are warm and dry for years to come.

The PTA held an Easter disco for the children, which was a most successful evening and a quiz night for parents which took place in January. This event was very well attended. The PTA continues to help the school and donated £750 towards new books. We are presently collecting vouchers from Tesco's, Sainsbury's, Nestle Box Tops and Flora. Thank you to everyone who has sent in vouchers and please continue to do so. We have received two watering cans, a mini green house and storage container from the Morrison's vouchers collected last year.

Our thanks go to all the volunteers who give up their free time to help and support our school.

*Carol Proctor, Admin Assistant*

### **SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB**

The good weather we've been having lately has brought the youth of the village out in droves to our regular Friday night club. Football is, as ever, the most popular game, with all ages joining in the fun, although rounders and cricket equipment is being purchased to make full use of the park.

It's been nice to see new members appear, and as the weather hopefully gets better over the coming weeks, we hope to see more new faces.

The older members of the Youth Club will shortly be painting the tired looking play equipment sited to the rear of the club building, which will brighten up the area considerably. This should, all being well, be completed in time for the Fete.

Progress on the ownership of the present youth club building and land has still not been finalized, although we have heard that it should now go to Blaby District Council Full Council meeting sometime in June. Fingers crossed yet again. The Youth Club Committee are all itching to get any funding and grants in place as soon as possible in order for their dream of a new and modern hall becoming a reality.

Fund-raising for the Club is going very well. By the time you read this our Sponsored Snowdon climb should have been completed, although I'm sure some of the climbers will still be tending to their aching muscles! 6 brave climbers and 18 not so brave supporters (who plan to travel to the top by train!) will have journeyed to Wales for this event. So far we have approximately £1,500 pledged either by individuals or local businesses. More details of our event, including photos and a list of all the main donors will be in the next Sharnford News issue.



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Sharnford News issue.

The Blaby District Council Youth Bus, which travels around the south of the district, has had a re-vamp and has now been launched for Sharnford and the surrounding villages. The bus is aimed at ages 11 - 19 and has all manner of activities on board including a Wii console, ipods, mixing decks as well as all the usual arts and craft activities. We are hoping that the Youth Bus will be making a regular weekly appearance very soon, and we will keep you posted on any up and coming dates.

That's all for now, but remember.....Fridays - 6.30pm - 8 pm at the Youth Club Building, Park View. All ages welcome (under 8's to be accompanied by an adult at all times).....See You There!

*Julie Edge, Chairperson*

## **THE SHARNFORD VILLAGE WEBSITE**

The Sharnford Village website on the leicestershirevillages.com website was at the end of March the 19th most visited site in the whole County, thanks in no small part to having The Sharnford News on the website. Not only can you now view the latest issue in colour but you can also access the archive of back issues. Tell your relatives or friends who live out of our area or even abroad.

Work is ongoing to add content to the site. Soon the Evergreen Hall and also The Evergreen Club will go live. In fact they may have something live by the time you read

this. Rosemarie Simpson is working on those sites and longer term you can expect to see photos of outings and events over the years to create a permanent archive of all those happy moments. It all takes time and there are a lot of photos to scan and add to the site.

The Pre School Playgroup have taken the site to heart and have an excellent page. See your favourite lollypop man on their webpage. Also up and running with interesting sites are The Environment Group, local businesses such as Four Winds and Waterside Nursery. See also local artists such as Lisa Conti with others still to develop their sites.

The Sharnford Produce Show have a site and so do I with my Master Composter page. In fact I was on a half day course back in February to get me set up with my own page and ended up with me volunteering to run the Sharnford site (and now Sapcote, Aston Flamville & Ashby Parva as well). There is still much to do and it all takes time.

As I write this copy the Sharnford site has had 15,000 hits over 12 months. When you read this it is possible that Sharnford might be in the top 10 sites in the county.

So come on those of you who are part of village life and join the 21st century. Get a page on the website, it is free, it is easy and I will show you how to get started.

There is a contact form on the website at, [leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford](http://leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford) if you want to contact me.

If like me you missed the Hinckley Bullockers performing live in the snow at The Countryman carpark on 9th January fear not. The Video is out and a clip is available on [www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/](http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/) it is a very good video.

Further details of the website are available in the leaflet enclosed with this issue.

***Tony Curtis, The Old Police House, Halls Crescent, Sharnford, tc-123@tiscali.co.uk***

## **THE COUNTRYMAN SICK AND DIVIDEND SOCIETY BENEVOLENT FUND**

The AGM of the society was held at the Countryman Inn on 28 March. The committee, consisting of Charlie Burford: Chairman, Eric Washbrook: Treasurer, Dave Barber: Secretary, Dawn McLaren and Jill Lawson, stood down en bloc and a new committee was elected.

The new committee is made up of the following: Chairman: Paul Clough. Secretary: Stacey Clapham. Treasurer: June Feast. Members: Joe Feast, Jack Feast and West.

The out-going officers will liaise with their replacements to provide continuity and arrangements would be made to transfer the current bank credit of £1035.95.

The out-going committee would like to thank everyone who has given the society their support in the past and ask that you continue to give your support to the new committee in the future.

***Dave Barber, Out-going Secretary.***

### **SHARNFORD POST OFFICE AND VILLAGE STORE**

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## SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE FETE COMMITTEE

### Sharnford Family Fun Day

TIME TABLE OF EVENTS FOR THE FETE		
12noon	Fete Starts – Visit the many stalls	On the Park
12:30-1pm	Music by Steel Band – visit stalls or have a drink and something to eat	On the Park
1pm	Official Opening of Fete and Judging of Fancy Dress	Arena
1.10-1.30	Races	Arena
1.30-1.45	Duck Race One	Brook
1.45-2.15	Music	
2.15-2.30	Dog Agility	Arena
2.30-2.45	Duck Race Two	Brook
2.45-3.15	Music	
3.15	Races	Arena
3.30-3.45	Duck Race Three	Brook
3.45-4.15	Races	Arena
4.15	Raffle Draw	Arena
4.30	Tug of War Comp. and Beat the Goalie Final	Arena
5.00pm	CLOSE	

### PHOTO COMPETITION – ME AND MY PET / MY PET – RULES

- Max 3 x entries per person. £1 per person entry fee – can be paid at Fete. All proceeds will go to the SGJC Fund.
- 3 age groups – 7's and under, 8's - 16's and Adult.
- Please email all images as jpgs to [comp@ianpickering.com](mailto:comp@ianpickering.com)  
Put Name, address, phone number & age group onto Email  
If you do not have access to email, then photos can be delivered to Ian Pickering Photography, 27 Leicester Road.
- Prizes: £10 first place £5 second place in each category.
- **All entries to be received by Sunday 6th June, 6pm.**
- Late entries will NOT be accepted.



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## **FLYING A FLAG FOR OUR HEROES**

People are being invited to a flag raising ceremony at Blaby District Council to show support for those who have served, are currently serving or are planning to join the military.

The event marks the start of Armed Forces Week, which runs from June 21-27, and veterans along with current members of the military are particularly being urged to wear their medals or badges with pride at the short ceremony.

Lucy Wheeler, civic engagement and events officer at the Council said: "This is a great chance for representatives from the Armed Forces and the public to come together to raise this special flag as a mark of respect to all who have served, or are currently serving their country, at home or abroad."

More than 3,000 flags were raised across the British Isles last year and once again Blaby District Council will hoist its flag simultaneously with local authorities and communities throughout the country to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Britain's armed forces.

Anyone who would like to attend should be outside the council offices on Desford Road, Narborough, at 10.20am on Monday June 21.

To be invited to future Armed Forces Day events or for more information please contact Lucy Wheeler on 0116 272 7512 or email [public.relations@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:public.relations@blaby.gov.uk)

## **WHO IS YOUR LOCAL HERO?**

People are being urged to nominate their superstars in the hunt for Blaby's community champions.

The district's seventh annual Outstanding Achievement Awards are fast approaching and friends, families, and workmates are being asked to put forward individuals or groups who they think deserve recognition for exceptional work in the community.

Nominations are now being accepted for the following categories:

- Outstanding achievement by a young person
- Selfless services to a voluntary body or the community which is of a social or environmental nature
- Sporting achievement
- Community or voluntary group that improves the quality of life for residents in the district
- Individual or group that makes the district a safer place to live

The 2010 awards have received generous sponsorship from Grove Park Commercial Centre, Fosse Shopping Park, Bardon Aggregates, Ford & Slater, Leicester Marriott and Sytner Group.

Finalists will be invited to a presentation dinner on October 7 2010 where cash prizes and certificates will be awarded to the winners and runners up.

Since 2004 more than 40 individuals and groups from across Blaby have been recognised for making a difference in their communities.

To request a nomination form please contact Lucy Wheeler on 0116 272 7512 or e-mail [public.relations@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:public.relations@blaby.gov.uk).

For further information, or to nominate online visit [www.blaby.gov.uk/awards](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/awards)

The deadline for entries is Monday August 16.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS GET CASH BOOST

Sports clubs, youth groups and charities have been awarded more than £11,000 in the latest round of community grants from Blaby District Council.

The grants, ranging from £200- £5,000 were given to 22 different organisations in total, including football and cricket clubs, scout groups and various community projects such as Sharnford News – see item below.

The grants, which are given to not-for-profit community groups that want to expand or develop their services are funded by Blaby District Council and allocated by Community Action Blaby District on their behalf.

### GRANT FOR SHARNFORD NEWS

We have lately been receiving an increased amount of copy to include in Sharnford News, much of which we think you would be interested in. We are therefore pleased to report an award of £200 from the Blaby and District Council Revenue Grants, (See photo of Dave Sewell receiving the cheque from Councillor Ted Webster-Williams) which will allow us to increase the size of future issues to a minimum of 20 pages for the next two years.



To advertise in the next issue of Sharnford News please contact  
Mike Bishop on 272393

### **SHARNFORD NEWS**

Editorial Team Jean Ryan 273828

Mike Bishop 272393 and Dave Sewell 272901

*Answers to Quiz:- Sevenoaks, Motherwell, Stevenage, Newcastle, Weston Super Mare, Pickering, Runcorn, Basildon, Bradford, St. Peter Port, Stirling, Swansea, Wapping, Dumfries, Fort William*