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COUNCILLOR CYRIL BAILEY



Sharnford resident Cyril Bailey was one of a trio of former District Councillors honoured at a special council meeting at the end of May. Cyril was made an honorary alderman along with Roy Dixon and Joe Roper. All three received the award after stepping down from their long political careers at the May elections. They had totalled 80 years between them, all in service to Blaby District.

88-year-old Cyril Bailey was first elected to the Council in 1967 and served as a Conservative councillor for 44 years, representing the Stanton and Flamville ward, which covers Sharnford, Sapcote and Stoney Stanton.

Councillor Ernie White, leader of Blaby District Council said: "As a local publican Cyril was always in pole position to know what was going on in his patch and he was so dedicated to improving his local community so it's fantastic that his hard work has been recognised."

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Following the AGM of the Parish Council, as reported in the May edition of Sharnford News, a new Council was eventually formed when new nominations were received in time for the June deadline. The new Council consists of:

- Mrs Julie Edge of Henson Way
- Mr Bill Fallowfield of Foxhollies
- Mr Jack Feast of Foxhollies
- Mr Derek Gibbons of Park View
- Mrs Emma Jones of Henson Way
- Mr Ian Pickering of Leicester Road
- Mrs Angie Timson-Jones of Leicester Road

Mrs Timson-Jones was elected Chairman of the Parish Council and Mr Derek Gibbons Vice Chairman.

This Council will remain in office until May 2014.

The Parish Council will continue to be involved with any issue which affects the village and all residents are invited to approach any member to raise matters of concern.

The new Burial Ground has witnessed its first interment and is now officially the burial place for the village. Apart from plots already reserved, the Churchyard is effectively no longer in use. The new site has not been consecrated and so is available to all religious faiths, individual plots being Blessed or consecrated according to the beliefs of the person being buried.

Representations were made to the County when it became known that the 'Park-and-Ride' buses from Enderby would no longer go on the loop to Leicester Royal Infirmary and we were quickly informed that arrangements had been made for the hospitals' own bus service to be re-routed to pick up passengers from the town centre drop-off point. Additionally we were advised that the 148 bus from the village does go the hospital.

Finally, the Parish Council has given approval to Blaby District officers to conduct a survey within the village to find out whether there is a need for 'restricted affordable housing'. This means new affordable housing which is only made available to people who have an existing and strong connection with the village. The survey is likely to occur in September/October so be on the lookout for it through your doors.

Derek Gibbons

SHARNFORD PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

We've had a fantastic summer, with over 100 children attending our play schemes at the Evergreen Village Hall, Sharnford and also the Pavilion, Sapcote. We had children from both Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth area and all the children were extremely well behaved.

We were very lucky with the weather and we spent a lot of time outdoors. We have a new outdoor painting station and we will be using the outdoors as a classroom as much as we can in the new term. At the Evergreen Village Hall, the children were aged 2 – 7 years and we spent our days making crispy cakes, fairy cakes, sun catchers, fairy wings, dinosaurs, key rings, on the bouncy castle plus much more!

Over at the Pavilion in Sapcote, the children were aged 5 – 12 years and we had belly bump racing, parachuting, rolling rings, chocolate fountain, jewellery making, pen designing and nail artistry to keep us busy! On Monday 8th August, the children went to Hinckley Leisure Centre and took part in a fun water sports activity – It's a Knockout! Around 35 children took part in team games such as raft races,

Sharnford Pre-School Playgroup



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speed racing, relay races then followed by a picnic in the park. It was an excellent day out and we really hope to repeat this all again next year. Thank you all for your support, with special thanks to Sharnford and Sapcote Parish Councils.

Back at Playgroup, in September we welcome Esther and Angela as our new volunteers. Rachel and Emma have started their Diploma in Childcare and will remain with us for a further period of time, which we are delighted about, as they have been invaluable to us over the past year.

Good luck to all the children starting School in September, we shall miss you but are looking forward to making new friends with the children joining us in September. See you on 1st September.

Alison, Cath, Karen, Lyn, Rachel & Emma

CONKERS AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

At Conkers After School Club, we have just 3 spaces left for our club on a Monday night. We have quite a few children from Sharnford coming over to us on a regular basis and enjoying our activities. We try and beat Mrs Thomas on the Wii, but she's either very good, or cheats!!! Come and find out! We make lots of exciting crafts and once a month, Mrs Horton teaches us to cook things such as spaghetti bolognaise, lemon cream or banoffee pie for example that we all get to make, taste and take home for tea! We also get to use all the really cool outdoor things such as the rolling ring, belly bumps, swing ball and giant buzzer.

Breakfast Club is keeping Mrs Horton and Mrs Hurst very busy and we are in need of another volunteer to come along and help serve the breakfasts as we now have children from Sharnford joining us too. If you are interested in helping, we are based at Sapcote School every morning 8am until 8.45am. Please call Alison on 01455 213779 for further details.

We are delighted to offer Mrs Horton our congratulations, as she has very nearly completed her NVQ3 in childcare. This is a fantastic achievement for both her, the after school and breakfast club. Well done! We look forward to seeing you again in September. Breakfast club is back on Thursday 1st, and After School Club on Monday 5th September.

Alison, Sadie Thomas, Lynn Horton & Jacqui Hurst.

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

OPEN TO ANY ONE OVER 60 WHO LIVES IN THE VILLAGE AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Come and Join us at the Hall in Sharnford - meetings twice monthly on Wednesdays - high tea and social activities. Regular special events - Full Christmas Dinner and entertainment, Autumn Supper, Trips - this year we went to the Curve Theatre to see the King & I, in May we enjoyed a High Tea at The George Hotel in Stamford and in August there was a great trip to the Cotswolds. September sees our annual Fish and Chip Supper.

ALL WELCOME

Meetings are afternoons in the Winter and evenings in the Summer.

SUBS £2 per week

(teas, trips and meals included)

FOR MORE INFORMATION RING
JEAN ON 01455 274472

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

The Evergreen Club members and friends had a delightful day out to the lovely town of Stamford on the 25th May. The weather was good for us and to top the day we enjoyed afternoon tea at The George Hotel, a real treat!

Our next trip, to the Cotswolds on Wednesday the 17th August, was also a good day for weather. We had a nice trip down the green and pleasant Fosse Way, arriving in Bourton on the Water in enough time for everyone to have a relaxed three hours in this delightful spot, where most people sampled the local lunch menus. We then made our way to Broadway and spent an hour taking in the delights of this lovely village, with its horse-chestnut lined High Street and honey-coloured stone houses. For our return journey home we descended into the Vale of Evesham and then came back through Shakespeare's leafy Warwickshire countryside. An excellent trip enjoyed by the whole party.

Our next social meeting is on the 7th September, with our Fish and Chip supper taking place at the Evergreen Hall at 6.30pm. We have after-supper entertainment which Beryl has kindly offered to organize, so I'm sure this will be great fun as always.

A reminder that the Evergreen AGM is on the 19th October at 2.30pm.

Karen Smith, Chairman

EVERGREEN HALL PLANT SALES

May 2011 saw the final plant sale that the Hall will be hosting. Both Rosemarie and Margaret have decided to retire after 13 years of ordering, pricking out, planting and nurturing all our tiny seedlings during the spring and during this time we have raised a total of £15,110 which has been used to improve facilities at the Hall. The committee would like to thank those in the village and elsewhere who have supported our sales for their generosity and loyalty over the years. We could not have done this without you.

Our Bacon Buttie mornings, however, will still carry on so we hope you will continue to support us and enjoy a good social time in the future.

Rosemarie Simpson

Conkers After School Club

All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote

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OFSTED Registration number EY404111

TABLE TOP SALE

On Saturday 3rd September there will be a Table Top Sale in the Evergreen Hall, organized by Margaret Hubbard in aid of the Hall and the Youth Club. This event will include Refreshments, a cake stall and Tombola. A few tables are still available at £5 each – please phone Margaret on 01455 272125. Please go along, even for just a tea or coffee, and support these worthy causes.

WELL DONE ADRIAN

Congratulations to Adrian Smith of Four Winds Nurseries who, in June, received the Horticultural Trades Association (HTA) Diploma in Garden Retail - a nationally recognised qualification specific to the garden retail environment. He is one of only seven people in the country so far to have done so. The photo shows Adrian receiving his Diploma.



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ST. HELEN'S CHURCH

The summer months are traditionally our quietest period but this year they were very quiet indeed. Save for our participation at the family fun day where the fruit and vegetable tombola raised a magnificent £110 - despite the weather (I know the country desperately needed rain but did it have to come in such quantities on that day?) there have been no other events to mention.

The Rector has been on his sabbatical all this time so the monthly mid week service was cancelled, no weddings or baptisms had been arranged and though there was provision for funeral services to be conducted should the need arise, happily it did not.

The weekly Sunday services did continue thanks to a small army of ministers, retired ministers and lay readers who helped us out each week. They were all very warm and welcoming and their sermons were well structured, giving us much to think about. We would like to thank them all for attending.

Now we look to the future. Mick will be back with us at the beginning of September in time to conduct a wedding and hold services of baptism.

On the 10th September the church will be open all day to welcome those taking part in the annual Ride and Stride in aid of Leicester Historic Churches.

On the 2nd October the Harvest Festival will be celebrated at a Family Service commencing at 9.15am.

On the 6th November the Family Service will be held at the Evergreen Hall at 9.15am.

On the 13th November there will be a short service of Remembrance by the village War Memorial at 10.50am, followed by the two minutes silence at 11.00am.

Then, soon after, it will be Christmas again.

Estelle Perrett, PCC Secretary

SHARNFORD METHODIST CHURCH

*Minister: Revd. Barbara Bircumshaw Tel:
634168*

Regular Activities to which all are welcome:-

Morning Service – Each Sunday at 10am.

Evening Service – 1st & 3rd Sunday at 6pm.

Thursday at Ten - Last Thursday of each month at 10am.

Coffee Morning - 1st Saturday of each month at 10 – 11.30am.

United Fellowship - 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7.30pm.

Craft Group – 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. February – November.



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COMMUNITY ACTION BLABY DISTRICT REQUIRES VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Volunteer Drivers are needed in the Sharnford area to take people who are unable to use public transport, or who have no access to public transport, to a number of places: doctors, dentists, lunch clubs, social events etc. Drivers use their own cars and are reimbursed for their mileage. They can give as much or as little time as they want.

Volunteer drivers say, “you make new friends”, “hear funny stories”, “have lots of laughs”, and “feel good when people tell what a difference the service has made to their lives”.

If you, or anyone you know, is interested in driving for the Social Car Scheme, please contact Christine Thomas on 0116 272 7668 or e-mail transport@cabd.org.uk for further details. The Community Transport Scheme is supported by Leicestershire County Council.

SPORT AND ENTERTAINMENT QUIZ

1. Which New Zealand golfer won the 2000 Australian Masters in Melbourne?
2. Who was the first man to run a mile in under 4 minutes?
3. Which deep-toned Aboriginal wind instrument was popularised by Rolf Harris?
4. Which 'Friends' actor starred in the film 'Lost in Space'?
5. The Fastnet race is part of which sailing competition?
6. In which sport is the term 'hookcheck' used?
7. Ming the Merciless was the arch-enemy of which sci-fi hero?
8. A barber, a banker and a fireman all feature in which Beatles song?
9. Who was the first bowler to take 500 wickets in Test cricket?
10. What colour ring on an archery target is worth 7 points?
11. Which pop star visited Britain in 2001 to address the Oxford Union on the subject of child welfare?
12. Which boy band became the first to have seven UK No.1 singles in a row?

Answers on back page

SHARNFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer term has been very busy at Sharnford Primary School. The children have been involved in many trips and sporting activities.

Our year 6 children enjoyed a leaver's trip to Beaumanor Hall where they enjoyed going on a new high ropes course, one of the largest of its types in the country. They had the opportunity to aerial trek – this tested their head for heights and created that adrenalin rush as they walked along ropes and poles above the ground and also had a go on the zip wire. Year 6 also enjoyed a Pilgrimage trip to Leicester Cathedral. The children walked approximately 5 miles along the Grand Union Canal towpath reflecting on issues related to life's journey and their move to secondary school.

Year 5 children enjoyed a trip to Cadbury World, Year 3 and 4 children a day at New Walk Museum, Leicester to enhance their studies on the Egyptians, year 1 and 2 children went to the Botanic Garden in Oadby where they hunted for ingredients for the Whole World Cake and reception children went to Conkers learning about the environment and habitats. Year 2 children attended a multi skills festival and our federation sports team took part in Area Sports at Saffron Lane.

The PTA organised a leavers disco in the school hall which was enjoyed by many and they also paid for all of the children to spend time at Fosse Meadows, which was a wonderful experience. The PTA continues to work hard and raise much needed funds for the school. Thank you.

The children took part in a sponsored walk on the school grounds to raise money for Sharnford Youth Club and they raised a total of £417.50.

Thank you to our volunteers for all their help over this academic year and we hope that everyone has a wonderful summer.

Mrs Carol Proctor, Admin Assistant

DAVE ON TOUR (AGAIN)! NOV 20TH 2010 – DEC 12TH 2010.



In late November 2010 I set off for my next motorcycling adventure. This time it was to be just 3 weeks but involved getting to Peru for the start. So coach to Heathrow followed by flights to Madrid, Lima and Arequipa. I had booked the trip via Peru Motors and was to use one of their bikes, as it just wasn't economic to ship mine over. Two Dutch guys run the company I had chosen and, as it turned out when I met them, the other guys on the tour were all from the Netherlands too!

Once we had checked in at the hotel our tour leader, Geert, suggested a great restaurant (ZigZag) in the centre of Arequipa, so we could all get to know one another. Given that during most of the evening they all spoke Dutch, the coming weeks were a little daunting, but it all adds to the adventure.

The next day (Mon 22nd Nov) was our first day on the bikes; luckily I had been allocated the bike I had stated as my preference, a Kawasaki 650. The first few hours saw us climb to just over 4,500 metres (14,750 feet) and a distinct tightness of the chest, even when standing still! We just managed to get to Puno on the banks of lake Titicaca before a major storm swept in. Everyone had headaches due to the altitude so it was a pretty quiet and early night.



First thing the next morning saw me purchasing Ibuprofen to help with the headache. I don't like drugs but it's no fun trying to do things after a poor nights sleep and continuing symptoms. Before setting off on the bikes we had the opportunity to go out on to Lake Titicaca to see the floating islands of reeds. A spectacular setting, if a little tourist

Cheap and Nasty



into the valley a little *interesting*. With sections of road works looming out of the mist it could have caused some serious problems, but thankfully everyone coped ok. A rough 3-mile section up the other side of the valley got us to our hotel and some spectacular views. I have to admit, standing up on the pegs and attacking the rough stuff was great fun although many of the others weren't so keen. Unfortunately, plenty of mosquitoes too, which I didn't realise until after the event - my forearms were obviously quite tasty.

After a day off on Thursday, we were back on the bikes for the trip back to La Paz, but this time using the old road known as the Death Road (check it out here <http://www.ssq.com/archive/vinlin27b.htm>). This used to be the only way in and out and was notorious for vehicles falling off the side. Given the sheer drops, that usually didn't end well. The road itself is really a dirty track with the usual gravel and rocks, nothing too problematic but those drops certainly did make you concentrate. Our tour leader took it very cautiously so I tended to drop back and attack it in sections – great fun.

The following days ride was always going to be less interesting and given the long straights on the high plain, it certainly was – yawn. Luckily the night stop at Oruro was a bit more interesting. I managed to find the market that was quite extensive, but just up ahead stalls were being moved temporarily and quickly reset as a train moved slowly though the market. I thought that only happened in India?

Sunday saw us heading for Potosi, a mining town. The morning's ride was still the long straight roads but after lunch these gave way to sweeping bends and spectacular scenery. Being a Sunday much of the town was closed but we found a great restaurant – they do know how to cook steaks!

Monday was a day off so four of us booked a tour to see some of the mine; little did we know what we were letting ourselves in for.

orientated. It was then on the bikes and a nice ride to the border with Bolivia. As it happened it was all very laid back, although it did take a while to get the bikes through. From the border it was a relatively short ride to Cococabana on the Bolivian lakeside. A coke whilst watching a spectacular sunset rounded off the day nicely.

Wednesday saw us ride via La Paz to Coroico, using the new road (more later). The climb up to the top was fine but then heavy mist and drizzle made the descent



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The mine itself produces mainly silver and tin with some zinc. First stop was a little shop part way up to the mine, where our guide showed us typical items that miners would buy. We were encouraged to buy “presents” for the miners we would meet later, as a thank you for letting us see inside the mine. This was typically a few items e.g. a bottle of juice, gloves and coco leaves amounting to about £1.80. That was until Bart (my room mate) found he could also buy dynamite and detonators, no questions asked, just freely

available from this and many other shops on the street.

From the shop it was a short ride up to the mine itself. But actually it’s not just one mine. It used to be government run until 1985 but now individuals or co-operatives rent a

section to mine. So 4,300 metres up we entered the mine, a small entrance no wider than a double door with a couple of tracks in the mud on the floor. We walked (stooped a lot, too) about 500 meters in before coming across a solitary miner and his son working in one tunnel. He explained he had been there since about 4 a.m. planting dynamite. We asked about rules for letting it off so he explained you simply tapped on the rock. Anyone who could hear knew you were going to set off an explosion, and if they didn’t hear then they were probably were not close enough for it to make a difference! Now you have to bear in mind that there is no plan of where these tunnels go so he could be very close to someone else’s tunnel. Onward we went deeper into the mine occasionally listening as you heard a mining truck approaching.



When you heard a truck coming it was just a case of find a wider bit of tunnel, flatten yourself against the wall and hope you didn’t get squashed. No joke, if one of those trucks weighing anything up to 2 tonnes hit you, that would be it.

After about a kilometre or so of walking, stooping and banging our heads we arrived at a section that wasn’t ventilated and with the dust it was a constant battle not to panic about being unable to breath (remember we are doing this at around 4,300 m – 14,100 ft). In a cavern we then came across an effigy, supposedly of the devil, to which the miners

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gave cigarettes etc. We left our offering and made our exit. Further along we came across miners working as a group. Lads in their late teens were employed to drag the ore-laden trucks out through the tunnels. Three or four to a truck, as each truck could be up to 2 tons in weight. For this back-breaking task, which they do for 10 hours a day, they get around £1 per hour. I'll never complain about working conditions again! It was with great relief that we eventually emerged from that mine, exhausted and gasping for breath. It's an experience I wouldn't want to repeat, but unless you do it at least once,

it's just something you cannot really imagine.

It was back on the bike the next day for a ride to Uyuni. We had brand new tarmac to start, but then we came to gravel and sand - it wasn't too bad, but definitely not trivial. Part way along this route we came across a now disused copper mine. Evidently it had been set up as a model of how to do this, with workers houses etc. At the entrance was a steam engine reported as being the last one that Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid held up. We walked a short way into the mine but, strangely, no takers for going in further, I can't think why.

Another hour on the bikes on gravel and dusty roads got us to the outskirts of Uyuni and a graveyard. Not for people, but for old railway engines. Now I love this sort of thing and even those who weren't into trains seemed moved by the experience. The engines had just been moved down two parallel tracks and simply left to the desert.

Well the next day (1st Dec) was one of those days that will live in my memory forever. It started pretty much as the previous day had finished with gravel roads that were dusty and a little tricky at times but fun. From there we went out on to the salt flats. The Bolivian salt flats are the largest in the world and our route took us straight across the middle. The salt you ride on is 18+ inches thick with water underneath.

Part way across is a hotel completely made from salt; walls, seats etc. It was another 30 miles of this bright white "tarmac" to the land at the far side. The salt gave



way to a track that was heavily wash boarded (like riding over thousands of mini speed bumps one after the other) interspersed with sections of soft sand. For those who've never tried it, riding a heavy motorbike over soft sand is not for the faint hearted. These were pretty extreme riding conditions and it took its toll with 4 people coming off, luckily all at low speed so no real damage or injuries.

A little more tired, we set out on Thursday the 2nd of December for the border with Chile. First there was more of the rough road before smaller salt flats gave us a bit of a respite. Once at the border, the exit from Bolivia was straightforward enough and took only a few minutes. Entering Chile (our third country) on the other hand proved a little more problematic. Nothing too difficult, just exasperatingly slow, but you just have to let them do their thing. So it was quite late when we arrived in the major town of Calama in the Atacama Desert. It didn't help that we ended up with 4 to a room, one of which snored heavily as it turned out.

Friday saw us riding the long straight roads through the Atacama Desert and crossing the Pan-American Highway until we came to a gorge that quickly descended, through a series of tight turns, the 1000+ metres down to sea level. We then headed north up the coast road. It's just a stunning section. On one side you have the Pacific Ocean and on the other a rock face hundreds of metres high with sand on the face looking as if it has spilled over the lip from the high plateau above.



Our stop for the night was Iquique; a very nice town where many of the buildings are made of wood and have a very colonial feel to them. The following day was a rest day that gave me more time to have a good look around. This included calling in at the fish docks with all the stalls just dumping the off-cuts back in to the sea ,where a large group of seals obviously knew what to expect. In the afternoon I had a long walk down the sea front in the other direction, even having a paddle at one point. Iquique is a great place with a really nice square and pedestrian area.

The following day it was up to Arica and our last night in Chile. Arica is a nice enough place and a short walk in the late afternoon confirmed a pleasant main street. Unfortunately the night was somewhat overshadowed by desperate races to find toilets – I'll say no more.



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Monday the 6th December saw clear skies and, more importantly, a settled stomach. It was a short 6 mile ride to the border where a simple form and passport stamp saw us leave Chile in less than 20 minutes. Seven hours later and we are still sat in the compound waiting to get back in to Peru! As it turned out, all we were waiting for was a simple stamp on a piece of paper. Why it took

seven hours I'll never know but that wasn't the end of it. When the papers finally got a stamp we all thought that was it. But nope, we then had to ride about 20 miles to the first town in Peru for customs checks. Now I ask you, if you had anything dodgy about your person you'd obviously off load it between the border and the first town customs area. Anyway, another 3 hours wait until someone finally agreed it was crazy to keep us and they let us go. Well, that is all the motorbikes, but not the support truck; they wanted to check that out the following day. Given we all took our bags out of the truck to go to the hotel, you have to ask what planet are they on?

So the following day, with the support truck left behind we made our way back to Arequipa, Peru. Eddie and the support truck were finally released late afternoon so didn't get to Arequipa until 1 a.m. the following morning. Although we were back in Arequipa that wasn't the end of the trip - we had a 2 day out and back trip to Chivay to look forward too.

Now to get to Chivay meant climbing over the highest pass of the tour at 4,960 meters (16,272 feet). Not only was it blowing a bit of a gale but it was snowing too! It was the first (and last) time I had to put on my wet weather gear. After a brief stop at the top, *brrrrrr*, it was a fast drop through switchbacks and tight bends down to Chivay in the valley below. About 3 miles the other side of town there were some thermal baths that Geert recommended, so given the overcast skies it was a fantastic choice. Sitting in a thermal pool with drinks and snacks on hand, nothing better on a wet and dismal afternoon.

Our luck was in that night when, firstly, the rain stopped and then the fiesta started. What followed was frenetic music with dancing to match, moving round and round the large square. Every now and then it would stop, only to start somewhere else a few minutes later. Our hotel, being just off the square, wasn't the best place to get some sleep that night. Even more so when at 7 a.m. the following morning it



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all started up again. It's a good job we had to be up early anyway!

Our last day's riding was going to be out to Colca Canyon to see the Condors but even though the rain had gone, the low clouds meant little chance of that. It was a unanimous decision, once I had been asked, as the conversation had all been in Dutch, to go back to Arequipa.

For our last night as a group, Geert took us to what he believes is the best steak restaurant in South America. It wasn't bad but just didn't live up to the billing for me. I would have much preferred to go back to ZigZag. After the meal we went to a roof top café overlooking the central square for coffee (oh, and a banana split for me!). I find it a fantastic

experience to sit above these squares at night watching everyone going about their business. Be it Chang Mai (Thailand), Marrakesh (Morocco) or Ulaan Bataar (Mongolia) it's sights and smells you never forget.

The eight Dutch lads left the following morning, due to a slight error made by their tour organiser, who had booked flights a day early. So I had the last day to myself wandering around Arequipa, never once feeling at risk or vulnerable. All in all, a great trip!

More pictures are available at www.peru10.co.uk

Dave Hounslow

SHARNFORD WEBSITE

The website is doing well and has over 36,000 page hits a year. Thanks to support from The Sharnford News who publish their quarterly news letters on the web. Thanks also to The Evergreen and everyone else who has supported the site. As a result we are in the top 20 village sites in Leicestershire. So if you have a local business, club or community group can you afford not to be part of it? The site is sponsored by Leicester Rural Partnerships and your webpage is totally FREE!

Even if you already have a website why not take a page and link it to your existing site? It is easy to create a page, there is nothing to pay and backup is on hand from me, your village administrator.

View the website at www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford then register on the site and via the contact form ask me for a webpage. Creating a page is as easy as playing with Lego!

Your village administrator is Tony Curtis.

UPDATE FROM YOUR BLABY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – AUGUST 2011

In May 2011 the council elections took place and Ernie White, Sheila Scott and Iain Hewson were duly elected.

These are some of the achievements from the Annual Report:

A clean attractive sustainable environment – 13 achievements during the past year including: Working in partnership with parish councils in the south of the district ‘Neighbourhood Development Plans’. Worked in partnership with Three Oaks to deliver 49 new energy efficient homes in Duncan Ave, Huncote. Three Oaks promises in the stock transfer agreement – 506 homes were brought up to decent homes standard in 2010/11, giving a cumulative total of 1,482 since the stock transport 2 years ago.

Safe, strong and healthy communities: 14 achievements during the past year including: First District Council in Leicestershire to sign up to the charter to support Quality Parish Councils. Supplemented free swimming arrangements following removal of central government funding. Working in partnership with police and communities to reduce crime levels. We saw a decrease by 11% in total crime – in real figures this means 619 less crimes. Burglary at dwellings decreased by 16.8%, or 70 less offences. Theft of motor vehicles was reduced by 17.1%.

Stop Smoking Clinic. In July Blaby District Council joined forces with Asda (Fosse Park) and the NHS County Stop Smoking Service to provide a free weekly stop smoking support drop in clinic. The clinic, which started on 13th July, will run every Wednesday from the in-store pharmacy between 4.30 and 6.30pm.

Community Safety. The Community Safety Partnership is a joint campaign with Hinckley and Bosworth. The key messages of the campaign are anti social behaviour, domestic abuse and burglary of dwellings.

Local Authority Mortgage Scheme. The Cabinet Executive on the 4th July approved in principle an innovative scheme to assist first time buyers to get onto the housing ladder by enabling them to obtain a mortgage from commercial lenders with a reduced level of deposit. It is anticipated that the scheme will be fully operational around the beginning of September. Your Parish Council will have details of this scheme in due course.

Resident’s Survey 2011. The recent survey with residents of Blaby District has shown a generally positive and satisfied community within the district. The survey was carried out on behalf of the Council and Blaby Together.

New Lubbethorpe Update: An Application was received at BDC in February for 4250 dwellings. 8000 notification letters were sent to residents, 1400 responses. It is intended that the application will be considered by members towards the end of the year.

Approvals: The planning application for Jarratts Farm, Sharnford, has now been approved by BDC officers.

Blaby District Council Outstanding Achievement Awards 2011 The Presentation Dinner for these Awards will be held on 13th October 2011.

Our contact details are available at www.blaby.gov.uk or through your Parish Council.

Councillor Sheila Scott

SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE VILLAGE FETE 2011

The Wet & Windy Wild West

It is the time of year when the Fete seems like a long time ago and equally the AGM a long way off. Well, there is Christmas and the New Year first, but if it isn't too late the SGJC would like to thank everyone involved with the Fete, be it donating, organising, dismantling or attending.

This year's fete was meant to transport us to the Wild West with a Country & Western theme; unfortunately the weather had other plans! Whilst 'wild' could certainly be used to define the day it would have been along with wet. Cowboys and cactuses would not have felt at home in temperatures more akin to February than early June. That said, the turn out and support provided by villagers and visitors was again impressive and heartfelt thanks to all who came are sent by the entire committee.

Music was again provided by the Redmoor Steel Band who are fast becoming a main stay of the Fete and the fact that despite the weather forecasts not a single child cancelled on the day is a tribute to their commitment.

This year the Fete followed an excellent night's entertainment in the main marquee, with music provided by Route 66 and a lovely hog roast. The aim of this event was to raise money for the Youth Club and its endeavours to build a new Youth and Community Centre. The Fete, as ever, was to be for the village by the village with all the groups involved receiving a share of the profits made. In 2011 there were 11 village groups. However, at the AGM in January it was proposed that this year's Fete itself could be solely in aid of the Youth Club's project. Eventually it was left for each of the 11 groups to decide if they would like to donate all or part of their share of the profits. In the end a majority of the groups donated between 50 and 100% of their money which meant that this year's fete and the hog roast raised £3200 for the Youth Club.

Next year we will be hosting our 10th Village Fete, and it being 2012 the theme is likely to be something to do with London 2012! So again the call goes out to all in the village to come and help either in the organising or on the day. The AGM will be held on January 26th 7:30pm at the Evergreen Hall and the fete will be on the 17th June 2012....See you there!

SGJFC

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ST. HELEN'S LADIES GROUP

The first outing of the year was the walking Treasure Hunt around Burbage, which Angela Greaves and Jenny Watkins won. The winners usually organise this event the

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following year. The group was welcomed at the new home of Jean Ryan for refreshments afterwards.

Once again Jan Sewell held the annual BBQ in her garden and a lovely evening it was too. In August we met informally at the home of Pat Jordan.

September will see us enjoying our annual dinner at Ullesthorpe Court on the 14th. Meetings in October (Linda Smith of Waterside Nursery), November (Debbie Thomas – Christmas Present wrapping) and December (the ever popular Anne Hughes) will be open ones at the Evergreen Hall so please keep your eyes on the village notice boards for full details.

Guests are always welcome at our meetings;

further details can be obtained from Pat Jordan on 272229.

Jean Ryan

SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB

Some very good news. The Sharnford Youth & Community Hall Committee have finally managed to secure enough funding to not only start on the re-building project, but actually get the main steel frame and roof up and make it watertight before Christmas.

This is not only great news for all involved but also the whole community who will, no doubt get the benefit of such a useful facility. All thanks to Mike Bishop and Dave Sewell for working non-stop in getting to this stage. Fingers crossed you will see some progress by the end of September.

Since our last update we have managed to gain funding from the following sources: CAFFY - £6,500 with a possible further £3,500 to follow when work on site starts.

Leicestershire County Councils Big Society Fund - £15,000

Possible further £4,000 from The Village Hall Fund if we can confirm we have enough to finish the job.

All this on top of the money we have raised through various events and donations of both money and materials from local companies means we are well on the way.

The not so good news is that there is still a shortfall of £40,000 to be found, so the Committee will not be resting on its laurels just yet. We are still looking into other fundraising events with a Pub

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Quiz Night to be arranged nearer to Christmas along with another Afternoon Tea and Cake Sale. Look out for posters and flyers for these events.

We have had a couple of successful Youth Club nights over the summer giving the children a chance to get together over the school holidays and meet up with friends.

Obviously as the Autumn approaches we may have to re-think arrangements with the possibility of hiring out the Evergreen Hall again during the winter months. We will endeavor to keep all our members informed of any events we have planned.

You can of course keep up-to-date by checking out Sharnford Youth Club facebook page which is now available.

Julie Edge, Chair of Sharnford Youth Club

LOROS

Gail Lewitt, Secretarial Assistant, LOROS Lotteries Ltd, 0116 2318430

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Leicestershire & Rutland organisation for the Relief of Suffering(LOROS)
Registered Office: The Leicestershire & Rutland Hospice, Groby Road,
Leicester LE3 9QE Registered Charity No. 506120 Company No: 1298456.

SHARNFORD C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL – PTA

Another school year has finished and we have said goodbye to a number of children as they move on to Hastings and we wish them all the best. As is traditional we held an end of term leavers' disco, which was again successful and enjoyed by all, and provided a small gift to the leavers.

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The other main event for us this term was the annual Village Fete on the 12th June. Although the weather was very poor we were pleased with how our stall went and the money that it contributed to the overall event. We would like to extend a big thank you to Abbie Gibson for another excellent backdrop for our stall, to the parents who lent a hand on the stall and all those children and adults who threw hoops and guessed the number of sweets.

Looking to the future the PTA will be looking to gather new members in September and this year it is of particular importance as we are saying farewell, good luck and thank

you to two very valued members; Lisa, our long standing Chair, and Nina have both said goodbye as their children move on to Hastings. If you are a parent of a child at the school and would like to help with the PTA please look out for the date of our AGM in the early newsletters in September.

PTA Committee

SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW - 10th September 2011

The annual produce show is on Saturday 10th September. Last year was a learning curve for both the organisers and the entrants! We hope that those of you who entered or came along in the afternoon to view enjoyed the day.

The Evergreen ladies did us proud and managed to raise some funds for their good causes. We made a small profit and were able to make donations to The Youth Club and the Church Toilet appeal. We hope this year' show will be bigger and better and that we can raise more money for this years good cause.

If you did not enter last year but came along to view you now know what it is all about, so go on, have a go and enter. If you did not make it, there are sections for anyone to enter. Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers, Flower arranging, Home Produce, Handicrafts - including photographs and paintings, Children's sections with three age groups and a MEN'S ONLY Victoria Sandwich. Something for everyone.

Show schedules are available from The Post Office, Four Winds Nursery, Tony & Janet Curtis The Old Police House Halls Crescent, John & Barbara Proctor or Kaye & Andrew Wormleighton . You can also print a copy from our website.

Pick up your Show schedule now because the entry form needs to back by WEDNESDAY 7th September. We may accept late entries on the day if we have space. Pay on the day.

Entries to be staged between 9am and 11am. Judging by members of the Leicester & Leicestershire Guild of Show Judges will commence at 11.15am and public viewing will be at 2.30pm

Further details are on our website www.Leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford.

Tony Curtis

NEW POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER FOR SHARNFORD



PCSO 6075 Alex Joule is delighted to be part of the Beat team for Fosse Villages. Alex joined Leicestershire Constabulary 3 years ago and in that time has been a Police Community Support Officer for three previous beats. Alex hopes to bring her experience and knowledge to provide a service second to none by getting close and personal with the community and the criminals.

Alex said; "By being visible and passionate about neighbourhood policing I am looking forward to tackling local issues which will make a difference to the community that I serve. If you see me out and about come and speak to me, let me know your issues and by working together we can make a difference. Even if you have no issues, come and say hello."

Alex can be contacted on 0116 222 2222 or by email

alex.joule@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

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To advertise in the next issue of **SHARNFORD NEWS** please contact Mike Bishop on 272393

Editorial Team: Mike Bishop 272393, Dave Sewell 272901 and Jean Ryan 615820

Answers to Quiz

Michael Campbell, Roger Bannister, Digeridoo, Matt LeBlanc, Admiral's Cup, Ice Hockey, Flash Gordon, Penny Lane, Courtney Walsh, Red, Michael Jackson, Westlife