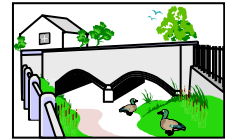


SHARNFORD NEWS

1st December 2011

Issue No 40



A Project supported by Community Action, Blaby District Council.
Available at www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/Sharnford-News-online.

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

So here we are, ten years on and wondering where all that time has gone! But at least we have made some progress, we think, starting with a single page of A4 and now regularly turning out twenty pages and sometimes more. One thing for certain is that the village and its community of people have moved on dramatically in the same period. The church and chapel communities together with the Evergreen Club, the Parish Council and the School PTA remain strong elements of our society, but we have seen significant other activity since the Village Appraisal in 2001/2.

The Sharnford News was a direct outcome of the Appraisal, as was the Environment Group, which has had a significant influence on the appearance of the village, both for us and the world that transits our lands. We can now also add in the benefits of a Traffic Action Group, which is doing much to further our cause against the ever-increasing problems on our roads, albeit as you will read in other parts of this Issue, this is a difficult task in today's financial climate. The Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002 saw the re-birth of a Fete Group, which now provides the whole village with an annual opportunity to join in some fun and games and at the same time raise useful cash, to the benefit of many parts of our community.

Of late, through the dedicated work of a very small number of people there has been the re-birth of a Village show, which in just two years has achieved notable success, bringing a competitive spirit among both young and old. Also in recent times, the Youth Club leaders, assisted by the Parish Council, have established a viable project to provide a modern building to house the Club. This project has received significant support within the village and is doing well from approaches to outside bodies, although there is a long way to go to the target. More recently there has been the formation of the Playgroup PTFA, which is already making strong headway and linking in to the School PTA.

And that is where the ten years have gone. Our aim has been to give the community the means to present itself, to itself, the District and the County, and now, to the wide, wide world. We send our thanks to all those who have laboured to write the story of the village for the past ten years – Sharnford News would be nothing without you. We must also say a huge thank you to all those businesses and individuals who have supported us with their advertisements, many for the whole period. Your contributions, together with what can now be provided by the Fete and aided by a kindly printer, have enabled us to develop a journal of which we are very proud. We hope you will all continue to support and enjoy The Sharnford News.

The Editorial Team

Sharnford Pre-School Playgroup

Evergreen Village Hall,

Sharnford, Leicester

Telephone Alison 01455 213779

www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford

Small, friendly playgroup

Awarded Good in all areas by OFSTED

(May 2009)

Open every day for 2 – 5 year olds

15 hours a week funding available for

children aged 3 - 4

Lots of fun activities

Parent and Tots Group Tuesdays 9.15am

SHARNFORD PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Following the introduction of our long day, Monday is now our busiest day at playgroup and we have welcomed some new children and some new volunteers. Esther and Jo have now been with us since September and this addition has enabled the playgroup to get out and about exploring the village, so please look out for us and give us a wave. We have also welcomed Zoe, a work experience student, up until Christmas to assist her with her studies.

Most Mondays we visit the parks and green spaces around the Village and the children are really enjoying the extra space to run around and have fun. They have particularly enjoyed collecting items for the nature table and making pictures with

leaves, printing with leaves and searching for mini beasts. We hope to continue this throughout the winter, so wellies and warm coats are needed each week please. If any families have any small wellies that their children have grown out of, we would be grateful for some spare pairs to keep at playgroup just in case.

October saw us having great fun with a spooky party and the children dressing up and playing party games. In November we look forward to Boogie Bods joining us. Boogie Bods provide Music & Movement and Fun Dance Sessions for children specialising in Early Years, which encourage listening and language skills, explore imagination and promote physical development with fun sessions for the children. They use a variety of music to engage children including traditional songs and fun pieces to encourage young groovers.

Tempest Photography is visiting us Monday 28th November. These photos make ideal Christmas presents for families, so come along to the Hall in the morning if you want your child, or yourself photographed.

We still have a few spaces left at playgroup so if you know of anyone with a young child, please remember to recommend us. January 2012 sees the opening of our new sister playgroup, Little Explorers in Burbage, so look out for our new advert!

Merry Christmas, Alison, Cath, Karen, Lyn, Rachel, Emma, Esther and Jo

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has continued with its work over the past three months under the Chairmanship of Mrs Timson-Jones.

The Affordable Housing Survey referred to in the last edition of Sharnford News was carried out in October and a very satisfying number of responses were received. As was

made clear, no-one within the village had any involvement in handling the returned forms but the Official Co-Ordinator has given us an indication that well over 100 forms were returned – a very good response rate for such surveys. He is still analysing the results so we cannot yet be sure what the outcome will be but it does seem likely that a very small development may be on the cards.

The Parish Council has negotiated with Blaby DC to try to get the Children's Play Area in Park View Recreation Ground extended to include the currently disused patch of land in the corner. The idea has been agreed in principle but consultation is now being undertaken with residents who could be affected by the change. At the same time, a bid is to be made for a cash grant to cover the balance of refurbishing and improving the play equipment following this year's resurfacing. Any suggestions relating to desirable additional equipment should be passed to Parish Councillor Emma Jones.

Three Oaks Homes, the organisation which operates what was formerly the Blaby Council Housing scheme, celebrated a significant milestone on 22 November when they unveiled their 1500th property with a lunch in the Evergreen Hall, having refurbished a property on Coventry Road.

The Biodigester campaign continues as STAG, the Parish Council and our neighbouring villages battle to prevent a further 20,000 HGVs being directed through the area each year; and the formation of the Fosse Villages Group proceeds as part of the Government's 'localism' plans.

Finally, possibilities are being examined before deciding what can be done to mark the Queen's Jubilee in June 2012 and the Olympics later in the year. It is hoped that, at the least, flags and bunting will be displayed on Leicester Road.

There will not be a December Meeting of the Parish Council, the next meeting to be 19 January, in the New Year.

**SHARNFORD POST OFFICE
AND VILLAGE STORE**

Convenience Store, Newsagents

Gay and Eric welcome your
Custom

**Grocery orders taken for free
home delivery**

**Open 7 days
Tel. 01455 272210**

CONKERS BREAKFAST CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Breakfast club is open every morning, except Fridays at All Saints School, Sapcote. It offers a hot breakfast and a selection of cereals and toast for the children of Sharnford and Sapcote and is proving extremely popular. We really need another volunteer to come along and help serve the breakfasts so if you are free Monday and Wednesday mornings, we would really love to hear from you. Please call Alison on 01455 213779.

After School club is also based at All Saints School. The main hall is very large and the space allows us to offer more physical activities both indoors and outdoors, now we have a secure outdoor area. This term sees the children practicing Wii Dance 3 moves and making novelty Christmas crafts. Children attending school clubs are welcome to join us at 4pm, so please call Alison on 01455 213779 if you would like a free trial session.

Volunteer Needed Please

Merry Christmas, Alison, Sadie and Lynn

SHARNFORD PLAYGROUP PTFEA

The theme of this edition's contribution is Thank you! Thank you to all those who have attended our coffee mornings, which returned on the first Tuesday of the month in October. We have been very pleased with the turn out from the village as a whole. The next coffee morning will be on 6th December; when we will have a cake stall, book stall and especially for Christmas there will also be a phoenix card stall.

In addition to the coffee mornings we have also had a successful sponsored toddle which was greatly enjoyed by the children and the bears that were hiding around Poors Meadow waiting to be found!

This term's fund raising will enable us to provide food at the children's Christmas party and a present which they will receive from Father Christmas. We will also be carrying forward a good amount to put towards a treat for the children later in 2012.

Finally we must say thank you to all the stall holders, helpers and customers at our inaugural Christmas Shopping Evening which we held in conjunction with the school's PTA. Certainly we all had a lovely time and are already looking forward to next year's. It could not have been a success without your support, so thank you.

Dates for the Diary : Last Mums and Tots of 2011 – 13th December
 First Mums and Tots of 2012 – 10th January
 Coffee Morning - 6th December 2011
 Coffee Morning - 7th February 2012
 Coffee Morning - 6th March 2012
 Coffee Morning - 1st May 2012

Can we also take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2012.

Kathy Bryan

AN APPEAL TO ALL DOG OWNERS

We have had an increasing amount of complaints made to the Parish Council with regards to 'Dog Poo' in the parks, children's play areas, pavements and pathways around Sharnford. Thankfully many owners are already cleaning away their dog's poo and placing it in the bins provided, but we need more of you to do the same.

Blaby District Council is aware of the problem and made an effort to make owners aware of this issue by placing signs around the village telling you 'there is no such thing as the dog poo fairy'. Whilst vaguely amusing, the campaign hasn't really improved the situation. There has been talk about Wardens giving on the spot fines being the next solution. Although this would act as a deterrent the Parish Council would prefer not to have to go down that avenue.

So we are appealing to every dog owner in the village to make a concerted effort to bag it up and place it in the bins provided. It isn't a pleasant job, but it will improve the cleanliness of the parks and children's play areas, as well as our pavements and pathways.

Thank you

Sharnford Parish Council

ST. HELEN'S CHURCH

Our autumn events followed their usual pattern. There was a Songs of Praise Evening in August when the congregation sang lustily and the Venerable David Newman preached an excellent sermon. In September the Ride and Stride raised a sum of £224.00, half of which went to the Local Historic Churches Assn and the other half came to us. In October we celebrated our Harvest Festival, collected £129.15p for Tearfund and we sent the gifts the children had brought to the church to two local associations that aim to provide housing for the homeless. In November we held our Family Service at the Evergreen Hall and on Remembrance Sunday held a short service by the war memorial where the two minutes silence was also observed.

Happily, no funerals were conducted during this period, but on September 4th Olivia Edge was baptised, as were Grace and Harry Brinklow on October 2nd. We welcome these little ones to our flock. On September 9th Emma Mead and Ross Knight were married at our church and we wish them every happiness in their new life together as man and wife.

For the regular congregation the most notable event of the quarter must surely have been the welcome return of our Rector from his three month sabbatical. We were delighted to see him back in harness and none more so than our two churchwardens, who had worked

long and hard all summer on the task of keeping the business of the church running smoothly. I am sure they will be more than happy to confirm the untruth of that old fable that a minister of the cloth works only on Sundays! Anyway, Bill and Cynthia did a great job and we thank them most sincerely for holding things together.

Our Rector, rested, restored and faith uplifted, shared some of the things he had experienced during his absence, one being his visits to Anglican churches where they worship God in a different way, concentrating on prayer or meditation for example. He is now assessing these experiences to see if our church could learn something from them.

So now we think of the months to come and the events that will take place in the festive season. These will be: -

11th Dec 6.30pm - Lessons and

Conkers After School Club

All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote

October 2010 awarded 'GOOD'
in all areas by OFSTED

Come along and join our After School Club



Crafts, DS, Wii
& Laptops



Table football Outdoor Activities
Cooking Games Competitions

Come along and have fun with us

Open Mondays 3pm – 6pm during term time
for all children aged 4 to 12 years

£3 per hour or £6.50 for a 3 hour session
Discounts available for siblings
Childcare vouchers accepted

Contact Alison on 07816 971471 for further details
OFSTED Registration number EY404111

Carols.

18th Dec 9.15am - Christingle and Nativity, 3.00pm Lessons and Carols, at St. Mary's

24th Dec 11.15pm - Midnight Communion.

25th Dec 9.15am - Family Communion.

We would love to see you at one or all of these services. The chimney pipe has been fixed and our boiler is once again emitting wonderful heat so you will be nice and cosy. Speaking of the festive season and on behalf of our P.C.C. may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and the very best for 2012.

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.



Booth-IT-Solutions

'Your local, friendly and professional IT Provider for homes, schools and SMEs without the large retail price tag!'

Web Design · Network Installs ·
Consultancy · Tutoring · Upgrades ·
Repairs

To find out about our services and prices -
Contact Darren Booth:- System Engineer & LANTRA Qualified Trainer

Covering Sharnford, Hinckley, Sapcote,
Broughton Astley & surrounding arrears.

Tel ~ 07976 314975

Email ~ info@booth-it-solutions.co.uk

www.booth-it-solutions.co.uk

Advent is here and we can begin to look forward to Christmas.

As is our custom, we will be joining with St. Helen's for their Service of Lessons & Carols at 6.30pm on December 11th. The following week, December 18th, we will hold our Carol Service at 4.00pm, so there will not be a morning service that day. On Christmas morning our short service begins at 10.30am.

Meanwhile our craft group have been beavering away since February making and collecting goodies for the shoebox appeal. As local representative for Operation Christmas Child, Penny Ross's home becomes a depot for boxes from all sorts of organisations in the Hinckley area. So over the last few weeks we have been busy checking and sealing them all. So far 600 have been sent to the warehouse and by the time this newsletter is delivered that number

will probably have doubled. I can't say exactly where they are going this year but it is somewhere in Eastern Europe. Our thanks to everyone who has supported us this year, however large or small your contribution, it all helps to bring some joy to a child at Christmas where there would otherwise be none.

For the 1st quarter of 2012 we will be cutting our evening services to one a month, on the 3rd Sunday only. Then, should the weather be similar to the last 2 years, there will be less risk to those who drive and to those of us who are a bit doddery on our feet.

On behalf of us all, I send you best wishes for a Christmas full of love, joy and peace with Christ at its centre.

Maureen Butcher

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

At our AGM on 9th November the following Officers were elected: Chairman – Karen Smith, Vice Chairman – Beryl Devenyi, Secretary – Jean Dale, Treasurer – Rosemarie Simpson, Deputy Treasurer - Sheila Jones. Our Christmas Bazaar will take place at the Hall on Saturday 3rd December, commencing at 2pm. Father Christmas and his little helpers will be in the Grotto, looking forward to meeting all the children. We will have an extensive range of stalls to start the festive season and our Christmas Raffle of wonderful prizes should not be missed. On 11th January we are off to see Alladin at the Concordia. The coach will leave the Hall at 6.30pm. Looking further ahead, there is another date for everyone's diary – on Friday the 17th February we will be holding a Nearly New Fashion Show and Sale at the Hall, starting at 7.30pm. Admission will be £3.50, to include a glass of wine and nibbles. There will also be a raffle. The proceeds of this Sale will go to Cancer Research and the Hall.

Karen Smith, Chairman

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, in August there was a great trip to the Cotswolds and in September we enjoyed our annual Fish and Chip Supper. In December we have our Annual Christmas Dinner.

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 274772

SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

What a year of unusual weather we have experienced in 2011. Sharnford must have been one of the driest places in the country. The Group continues to make an effort to enhance the village environment although we are sometimes delayed and frustrated by officialdom, the climate and the march of time.

After the hanging baskets were removed in September we transferred the contents to the burial ground composting site and cleaned the baskets in preparation for winter storage. Our grateful thanks go to the team of volunteer waterers who, despite the exceptionally dry summer, did a splendid job again this year. If you would like to help with this task next year, even just for holiday relief duties, please contact any member of the Group. Our details are on the notice boards



STANTON TAXIS

(of Stoney Stanton)

01455 27-21-89

Local & Long Distance
Holiday Destinations
Airports, Seaports
4 - 8 Seats Available

stantontaxis.co.uk
07760 767 046

The roadside planters have now been renewed with spring flowers. An eager group of pupils from the School carried out the planting of pansies and wallflowers in the triple beds by the pedestrian crossing.

The dry weather took its toll on Bluebell Green. Quite a number of the shrubs will need to be replaced next spring so we intend to take the opportunity to completely refresh some of the beds. This autumn we planted a Weeping Cotoneaster on Bluebell Green in thankful memory for the hard work of our departed member Gordon Dale. Gordon had a passion for wildlife and this tree was especially chosen to bear flowers for the bees in the spring and berries for

the birds in autumn and winter.

There are still plenty of jobs and projects big and small for us to tackle. Our main priority outside the hanging baskets and planters is to bring some realization to the idea of a village sign, but this will only be achieved if the necessary funding can be found. With another crunch looming, we can only live in hope.

At our AGM in October the following officers were elected: Chairman - Margaret Grewcock, Secretary - Mike Bishop, Treasurer - Dave Sewell. Maureen Butcher agreed to continue in her roles of vice-Chairman and Group representative on the Fete Committee.

We send our good wishes to everyone for Christmas and wish you all a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Chairman

SHARNFORD VILLAGE WEBSITE

The village website goes from strength to strength, by the time you read this the Cricket Club page should be live on the site. That is great news as they are a significant part of Village life so it is good to have them on board.

<http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/sharnford-cricket-club.html>

Also the page for the Youth Club is being updated with photos of what's going on.
<http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/snowdon-sponsored-climb.html>

There are still some local businesses out there who are not taking the opportunity to take up a free page. Can you afford not to in the current economic climate? Also there must still be voluntary groups who would find it of use to promote themselves? The site has around 39,000 page hits a year and with the recent new pages and updates that figure is likely to hit 40,000. This is a website for everyone in the village, if there is anything that should be on the website which is not, then let me know.

It really is easy to set up and maintain a page, I will help you set up your page and am always available for advice. Contact me at tc-123@tiscali.co.uk if you want a page.

Tony Curtis

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. Whose birthday is being celebrated on Christmas Day?
2. What season was Jesus actually born in?
3. Name the three Kings that went to see baby Jesus.
4. What gifts were presented to baby Jesus?
5. In 'The Grinch that stole Christmas', what was two sizes too small?
6. Where can you find the real Christmas story?
7. What did St. Nicholas do with his inheritance?
8. In legend what did St. Nicholas drop down the chimney?
9. Where did it land?
10. What Christmas song includes 'Let every heart prepare Him room'?
11. What is Tiny Tim famous for saying?
12. Who is supposed to open the first Christmas gift?
13. Name the famous Christmas film set in New York.
14. What was so good about the red nose that Rudolph had?
15. In the '12 days of Christmas', what is the meaning of 'a partridge in as pear tree'?
16. Why is Christmas often shortened to Xmas?
17. Who chose December 25th for the Christmas celebration in the 4th century?
18. Who first conceived of the idea of a Christmas tree in the 7th century?
19. Who is credited with placing the first lights on Christmas trees?
20. What were the first tree ornaments?

Answers on back page

*Please be aware that on New Year's Eve
there will be a "top" fireworks display
lasting approximately 20 minutes*

SHARNFORD C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

At the start of the autumn term we welcomed 10 children to Sharnford School and they have settled in to school life very well. At the beginning of October we took 59 children from the federation for three days and two nights to Beaumanor Hall where the children tried canoeing, rock climbing, archery, singing, shelter building and map reading. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and had the opportunity to talk about their experiences in their class assembly, which parents attended. Other school trips that have taken place this half term are year one and two children to Beaumanor Hall for a pirate day and year five and six children to the Space Centre, Leicester.

Our year one children have had the opportunity to again attend Forest School which is funded by Blaby District council and run by Mrs Freer. Year five and six children have worked with Mrs Freer in the school grounds. Year two, three and four children will have the opportunity after half term. Year four, five and six children have been swimming at

the Leisure Centre in Hinckley and will continue for two weeks after half term.

The children grew a number of vegetables this year and entered some in the Sharnford Village show. We were delighted to receive 2nd place for 5 potatoes, 2nd place for the strangest shaped vegetable and 3rd place for a pair of leeks.

Parents and Carers were invited to the 'Meet the Teacher' evening where the class teachers explained classroom routines, homework and topics the children will be covering.

Afterschool sports club runs for children throughout the school and year three, four, five and six children have the opportunity of attending homework club once a week. Other

clubs available are French and Football. Conkers afterschool club is available on a Monday evening.

We received a number of items that were ordered from Sainsbury's and Tesco voucher scheme. They were an assorted ribbon pack, wooden wheels, pva glue, wooden tree flakes, large oil pastels, active kids huff and puff parachute kit and resource cards, all purpose hold all pack, world music for children pack, 4 storage boxes and huff and puff skipping games resource cards. Thank you to everyone for sending in vouchers. We would like to thank all of the volunteers that come in to school and help.

Many activities are booked for next half term running up to Christmas as well as a disco organised by the PTA.

Mrs Carol Proctor, Admin Assistant

RUSSELL BURROWS **Plumbing &** **Heating Services**

Central Heating Gas Installation
Bathrooms Leadwork
Roofing & Building Services

Maintenance Servicing & Repairs

Gas Safe No.185016

Tel: 01455 271441

Mobile: 07947 787455

Fax: 01455 271553

THE COUNTRYMAN SICK AND DIVIDEND SOCIETY BENEVOLENT FUND

Christmas is fast approaching and our annual prize draw is on the horizon. Last year's event was a great success, but relied on the generous donations of prizes from local people. It was also supported by several local businesses, including both public houses, Sharnford Garage, Ian Pickering Photography, Sharnford Tractors, Sharnford Post Office and Store, Four Winds Nurseries and Intex Grinders.



I'm pleased to be able to report that we have already received generous support from a number of local supermarkets, including a most generous donation of £250 by Waitrose at Blaby, made in response to a letter from June Feast. Our photo shows June collecting the cheque at the Waitrose store. This money will enable us to put extra in the bags this year. We are highly dependent on donated prizes so if you have a prize you wish to donate these can be delivered to The Countryman or to me at

Intex [telephone 274165].

Tickets for the prize draw are on sale at the village Post Office, The Countryman and The Sharnford Arms. The prize draw will take place at 8:00 pm on Friday the 16th of December at The Countryman and distribution of the festive food bags will take place on Saturday morning, 17th of December.

Jack Feast

COMPOSTING - SEASONAL TIPS

What to do with leaves, now that Autumn has finally arrived? If you have enough leaves then try making leaf mould. Either sweep them up or collect them in the box on your mower which will shred them nicely. Bag them up in plastic bags or if you have enough store in a cage made from chicken wire. Make sure they are kept damp and in 18 months to 2 years you will have a fantastic crumbly material to use for seed compost and to make your own potting mixes. You can not hurry the process but for any reasonable volume this is a better way to deal with leaves than putting in your compost bin or heaven forbid (what a waste of something for free) putting in the green recycling bin!

If you want any advice on the composting of garden waste, leaves or food waste I am happy to discuss and pop round to see you.

Website <http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/master-composter.html>

Tony Curtis Leicestershire Master Composter 01455 272532

Sharnford Garage Ltd

M.O.T. WHILE - U - WAIT

**We test cars, light vans,
motorbikes and 3 wheelers**

**Full Service & Repairs on all
makes Petrol and Diesel**

Courtesy Cars Available

**Leicester Road, Sharnford -
01455 272336**

SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP

It has been a while since our last report and we felt it was time to update the village on the current situation with the B4114. We wrote to the Environment and Transport Department at Leicestershire County Council for an update. Not surprisingly, due to the current financial climate, the news is not positive for the village, but it is important that we make everyone aware. The following quotes are from the letter received from Ian Drummond (Assistant Director of Transportation), on 12th October 2011.

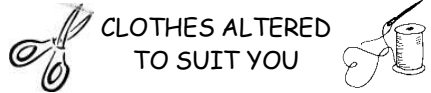
'When we produced the LTP2 for Leicestershire, covering 2006-2011, we stated that we would undertake preliminary investigations into the possibility of, among others, a Sharnford bypass. This became aligned to studies into lorry problems in Lutterworth and we concluded that a Sharnford Bypass could well bring benefits to a wider area. In 2006/2007, when there was still a prospect of a substantial capital programme for major schemes, we did put forward a proposal into the bidding pot for Regional Funding Allocations, which was the means whereby the then government distributed money for local authority major schemes. As you will appreciate, we have moved from times of relative plenty to ones of dearth and there is very little money available for major capital investment in the local transport network....'

The letter then goes on to explain the possible changes in who will be responsible for decisions on funding in the future, with the Government hoping to move it away from Whitehall to regional Local Enterprise Schemes. The letter then continues...

'The upshot of all these changes is that the new LTP3, which covers 2011-2026, does not promote any bypasses at all. We have said that new roads may well be supported where they are needed to enable new development to succeed, Melton Mowbray being an example, but it is clear that they would have to be paid for by development. The most recent estimate we have for a Sharnford bypass is in the order of 9-11million. This is a sum that we have no prospect of securing in the foreseeable future. As it would take a 1000 house development to pay that sort of money, I cannot see that the prospects for a Sharnford bypass are anything other than bleak.'

It is a big disappointment to us all at STAG, after our 5 year campaign to improve the road situation in Sharnford. Where we go from here is unclear. Our options are limited, for as long as funding is not available. The HGV's keep speeding through; they seem to get bigger every year and many continue to ignore the 30mph speed limit. The council allows projects such as the Bio-digester to be passed despite it bringing even more large vehicles through the village.

ALL SEWN UP!



Most alterations and repairs undertaken. Curtains shortened

For a friendly, professional service

**Tel: Tracey Avis in Sharnford
on 01455 274833**

Ian Pickering
 p h o t o g r a p h y
 portraits weddings commercial
 t. 01455 271371 e. ian@ianpickering.com
www.ianpickering.com

STAG will continue to meet on a regular basis and monitor the situation, also ensuring that Leicestershire County Council do not overlook us should any future funding become available. We will continue to fight for any smaller projects and short term solutions to improve the road. If anyone has any new ideas or fresh approaches to the situation, then please come along to our

meetings – dates are always available on the notice boards around the village.

Angie Timson-Jones

UPDATE FROM YOUR BLABY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – November 2011

BDC has agreed a District-wide housing requirement as 365 houses per annum over the period 2006-2029 with a split 66% PUA (Principal Urban Area) and 34% non PUA. In each year this is 240 houses within or adjacent to the PUA and 125 houses in the non-PUA.

A ‘Green Apple Award’ has been awarded to BDC for cutting carbon footprint by almost 20% in nine months. The council are now exploring how this model can be used to achieve energy savings in other areas of Council operations and sharing our experience with partners to see how a staff-led approach can benefit them.

The “Planning for Real” workshop held on 19th October was a huge success, with representation from Parish/District/Highways and District officers from various departments working together, planning for the future of our district.

BDC has joined forces with Lloyds TSB to help first-time buyers onto the housing ladder. The “Local Lend a Hand Scheme” launched on 18th October will enable first-time buyers to purchase a home with a deposit of just 5%. We are the first District Council in England to make this opportunity available to first-time buyers wishing to live in their district. Full details and information can be found on the BDC website.

A merger of CABD and Oadby & Wigston Community action began operating on the 1st October. The partnership will continue to provide an extensive range of services to the people and local communities of Blaby District and Oadby & Wigston, as they have done for many years.

The Community Safety Partnership has secured £12,000 funding across the Blaby, Hinckley and Bosworth and Oadby and Wigston authorities to run educational programmes in schools for year 7 to year 9 pupils.

Our Kerbside Recycling Service has started delivering materials collected from residents to a new plant operated by BDC partners Casepak in Braunstone. Income from Casepak is a key component in reducing the costs of the Refuse and Recycling Service to residents and helps BDC deliver a service that meets resident’s expectations.

We wish all our residents in Stanton and Flamville ward a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Cllr Ernie White 272136 Cllr Sheila Scott 272450 Cllr Iain Hewson 273957

SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE FETE COMMITTEE

ATTENTION – the date of the 2012 Fete has been changed. Next year's Fete will now be held on 27th May 2012.

The AGM will be held on 26th January 2012 at the Evergreen Hall, commencing at 7.30 pm. We look forward to seeing lots of new faces there, as without the willing help of many it would not be possible for us to put on a successful and enjoyable fete.

SGJFC

ST. HELEN'S LADIES GROUP

The group's autumn season began with the annual dinner in September at Ullesthorpe Court Hotel where members had a super meal and enjoyed a social get-together. Linda Smith, our local water gardening expert, visited in October to tell us, illustrated with slides, her preparations for the nurseries' stand at the Chelsea Flower Show. Linda was awarded a Gold medal this year to go along with the Silver-gilt won last year. November's meeting was held in the Evergreen Hall with Debbie Thomas coming along to show us how to be creative with wrapping Christmas presents. Her parcels were beautifully decorated for low cost and members 'had a go' at wrapping a bud vase, and very good they looked too.

Anne Hughes will be entertaining us with her version of a 'Christmas Cracker' in the Evergreen Hall at 7.30p.m. Everyone is very welcome to join us. There will be a small charge of £3.00 to include a mince pie and mulled wine/or soft drink.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings and further information about the group can be obtained from the Leader, Pat Jordan, telephone 272229.

Jean Ryan



Four Winds

Four Winds Nurseries & Garden Centre

GETTING READY FOR ... CHRISTMAS

Wide selection of Christmas Trees Now in Stock

Freshly made Holly Wreaths now being made plus our popular Memorial Pot.

Also a great choice of Primroses, Pansies, Winter flowering shrubs plus a wonderful selection of House/Conservatory plants including Poinsettia, Cyclamen plus many other varieties of flowering plants all used in our hand-made Bowls & Baskets which make a great Christmas present.

National Gift Tokens also available

Website: www.fourwindsnurseries.co.uk Email: info@fourwindsnurseries.co.uk

Coventry Rd, Sharnford LE10 3PG Tel. 01455 221005

Open 7 Days – Mon - Sat 9 – 4.30, Sun 10.30 - 4.30

*Steve and Jane and the Staff
would like to wish all
our friends and customers and their dogs
A Happy Christmas and Prosperous New
Year*

Many thanks to you all

SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW - 10th September 2011



The 2nd ever Sharnford Village Produce Show took place on Saturday 10th September. Would we repeat the success of 2010? We had plenty of entries, new entrants and plenty of visitors. Barry Garner, the Chair of Blaby District Council opened the Event and we all had a jolly afternoon. We had Judges from The Leicester Guild of Show Judges and Jo Pickering who Judged the photos. Hopefully, now villagers are aware that

they need to plan their holidays around our event, so that they are here for the show! Congratulations to those who won and can now market their produce as being prize winning at future Evergreen Events!

We were able to pass on £400 to the Youth Club thanks to the strong support from exhibitors, visitors and sponsors which was very pleasing. We will hold the 2012 Show on Saturday 8th September so mark the date in your diary. See the website for updates, <http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/sharnford-produce-show.html>

Thanks to everyone who took part **Tony Curtis**

SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB

Unfortunately for all involved, the works on site to rebuild the Youth Club building are not moving forward as quickly as we'd have liked. This is due to other work commitments of the volunteers. However, rest assured we are all still working behind the scenes to get things in place ready for when we have a firm start date. The test holes have been dug and inspected by Astley Fabrications who will now go away and construct the steel frame. This should be in place by Christmas. We have been fortunate enough to receive a further £1,250 from The Maud Elkington Trust to boost our funds and have a further 2 funding opportunities pending, so fingers crossed for them.

Now for the fun part. Our annual Christmas trip to the Tamworth Snowdome has been arranged and will take place on Friday 16th December. This is always a fun event and enjoyed by everyone, both young and not so young. The cost of the trip is £12.50 for members which includes return coach travel to Tamworth, half an hour tobogganing and a chip supper which will be served on your return in the Evergreen Hall. Non-Members and adults will need to pay an extra £3 to cover food costs if they wish to join us. Numbers are limited but if anyone is interested in coming along for a fun evening, please contact Julie Edge on 271321 to check on availability and details.

We will be looking for fundraising ideas in the New Year so thinking caps on residents of Sharnford. We'd love to hear from you. Hope you all have a great Christmas and a fun-packed New Year.

Julie Edge and the Youth Club Committee

SHARNFORD C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL – PTA

As we reach what is for many a very busy time of year, we would like to highlight some of the events we have coming up.

For the Children

We will again be holding a Christmas disco with a Santa's Grotto on the 9th December. Tickets are available to Sharnford Primary school pupils and their younger siblings.

Christmas Workshop – Again for the children of the school we will be putting on a Christmas workshop, where they will be able to take part in a craft activity and wrap a present for their parent(s) or carer(s). This will take place on the 19th December, after school.

For the Village

MINI BREAKS BY COACH FROM SHARNFORD

BRIDLINGTON

4 Days 3 Nights 20th / 23rd January 2012

DINNER BED & BREAKFAST

- with ENTERTAINMENT

£100.00 - Book now with £10 Deposit

LLANDUDNO

5 Days 4 Nights 26th / 30th March 2012

DINNER BED & BREAKFAST

- OLYMPIC THEMES

£220.00 – Book now with £10 Deposit

~~~~~  
For further information phone JOHN on

**01455 271262**



The annual carol singing will this year be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December and we welcome as many as possible to come and join us and Isaac the Donkey on our trip round the village. Please note the change to the route: Start 6pm

Evergreen Car Park - High Lees (where we will be joined by Isaac) - Park View (just past the turning from Holy Oak Drive) - The corner of Henson Way and Park View - Top of Brookfield and Henson Way - Halls Crescent - Bottom of Chapel Lane - Finishing at the Sharnford Arms

**W J EDGE & SON  
BUILDERS LTD**

**33 Henson Way  
Sharnford Leics**

All types of building work  
and renovations undertaken

For a free estimate call us on  
Home 01455 271321 or Mobile  
07831 181079

As in past years we will be raising money for a local children's charity.

**Quiz Night.** The quiz night will be held at the School on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012. Tickets will go on sale nearer the time and will be advertised around the village. Please come and join us for a fun, sociable evening. The price of the ticket will include food and there will also be a licensed bar.

Finally, please can we thank all those who attended the first Christmas Shopping Evening which was held as a joint event with the PTFA of the Playgroup. We all certainly had a lovely time and it was heartening to see such a good turn out. We are looking forward to making it an annual event and hope you all are too.

*Kathy Bryan*

## LETTERS

Dear Editors,

Congratulations on the work you do on the newsletter and website. I used to get the newsletter regularly from my dear friend Jean Philips, who has sadly passed on. I now have to get into the habit of checking the website. I left Sharnford 22 years ago and still miss it even though I live in the slightly more exotic Durban, South Africa. I do correspond with Rosemarie Simpson.

Keep up the good work, it is much appreciated here in the Southern hemisphere  
*Regards Rene Laher*

## FROM THE PARISH CHEST

It is with good fortune that the Rev. E. Douglas Starey of Sharnford (incumbent 1904-1925) had the foresight to remove for safekeeping, the St. Helen's parish records to the County Archives, some time prior to 1911. For as we know the disastrous fire which engulfed St. Helens (February 1984), would most probably have destroyed these invaluable records. These records now reside at the County Records Office, Long Street, Wigston.

What were the parish records? They were for the most part, a written record of the births, marriages and burials that occurred within our parish. Other items deposited for safekeeping were the church warden accounts, archdeaconry/ecclesiastical papers, Poor law records, wills from the 1480's etc., (a goldmine of information for the serious researcher) which are beyond the scope of this exercise and do not concern us here.

When did the Sharnford births, marriages and burial records begin? 1595 - the reign of Queen Elizabeth the First (1588-1603)..

What do they look like? There are four volumes dating from 1595 to 1837. The first volume (1595-1666) consists of fifteen leaves of parchment. Of these 15 leaves, three are almost fragmentary; the remaining 12 only measure approximately 12 by 7 inches. They have all been conserved now to a very high standard by the Record Office. The first page was so faded and rubbed that only with new technical advances in restoration, has it become legible once more.

**Haleys Accessories**

Supplier Of High Quality  
Ladies/Children's Hair Accessories  
& Fashion Jewellery At Fantastic  
Affordable Prices.

***'Come and visit our EBAY Shop at  
the below address to see our full  
range of products'***

**[www.stores.ebay.co.uk/Haleys-  
Accessories](http://www.stores.ebay.co.uk/Haleys-Accessories)**

*Contact Haley Booth:-  
Tel ~ 07532 268221  
Email ~ haley@h-accessories.co.uk*

What were the very first recordings? A taster I write below in *verbatim*.

“The names and surnames of [all such] as have bene Christened, maried [or buried] within the p[ar]ish of Sharneford f[ron the] feast of St. Michael w[hi]ch was [in]1595.

1595 Raiphe Howboulde sonne off R\_ Howboulde was baptized Octob\_1595  
Elm Kinge daught[e]r of Thos: Kinge was bap. Januarie  
Robert Tonstall soune of John Tonstall was bap. Maye 23<sup>th</sup>.

Marriages none  
Burialls

Alice Howball was buried Decemb. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Richard Tarleton buried Januarie 2

1596 Jane daught. Of John Bent bap. Oct\_  
Marie Turner daught. Of Richard Turner was bap\_  
Robte Daws sonne of Christoph[er] Daws was baptized Sep. 3

Mariages none

Elizabeth Broadley was [buried?] the fifth daye of maie  
Christenings

1597 Thomas Bray [sonne] of Tho[mas] was baptised Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>.  
Andrew Martin sonne of Frauncis Martin was baptized March\_  
Thomasin Buckler daughter of Willm Bucker bap. April 2

We see no marriages recorded during the years 1595 to 1597. This is indicative of the small population of Sharnford at this time. Nichols History and Antiquities of Leicester

**NEW PLAYGROUP  
OPENING JANUARY 2012**

**EXPERIENCED PROPRIETOR  
EXPANDING AND BRINGING A NEW  
PLAYGROUP TO BURBAGE**



**OFSTED REGISTERED  
BASED AT THE SCOUT HALL, BRITANNIA ROAD**

**OPEN MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 9.15AM TO 2.15PM  
FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS**

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN - CALL ALISON ON  
01455 213779 OR 07816 971471**

(pub. 1810) estimated not more than 30 houses/families in the whole parish during Elizabeth's reign. The Revd. W.R. Witcomb in his Coronation (1953) pamphlet of Sharnford likewise reaches a similar conclusion.

The first marriage was to be William Hynett and Amy Smith on the 6 February 1598.

This first volume contains 48 marriages from February 1598 to November 1634. A little nugget of information is written on the penultimate page: "Edwarde Gilberte was pressed & wente to serve the Kinge for the Towne of Sherneforde the 12<sup>th</sup>. Day of Decemb. 1624. By me Alan Washington, rector ibide[m]"

The second volume consists of 33 leaves of parchment, between 6 fly-sheets and bound in parchment boards. The first 17

leaves measure 13 by 7 inches while the rest are a tad bigger. It goes without saying that these fly-leaves attracted the then current writer over several generations with what appears to be church briefs. One in April, 1763, records the collection of five shillings 'for the colleges in America and Pennsylvania'. This volume contains entries of baptisms and burials from 1671 to 1779 inclusive, and marriages from 1672 to 1753. On the last 2 pages of this volume are several memoranda of charitable benefactions, whilst pasted inside the back cover is a permit from a Coroner dated 3 December 1747, allowing the burial of the corpse of Nathaniel Waring, of Sharnford, husbandman, who was 'starved to death with cold'. His burial entry notifies us that ten shillings were received for his Mortuary.

Volume three contains marriages from 1754 to 1812, and contain the last of the old parchment (3 leaves), for now we see the introduction of standard printed forms with entries beginning in 1761.

Volume four contains marriages from 1813 to 1837.

These last two volumes warrant further investigation to see what secrets can be revealed.

**£11,000 TO BE WON IN LOROS WINTER WARMER RAFFLE**

This year the LOROS Bumper Prize draw has a brand new name and the public are being urged to take part in the Winter Warmer Raffle with a chance to choose either a brand new Peugeot 207 Access or a massive £10,000 in cash.

A fast response draw to encourage supporters to return their ticket stubs within 2 weeks of mailing has already taken place and ten lucky ticket holders have each been sent a £10 M&S voucher. The winning ticket numbers are: 0720976, 0694322, 0721185, 0163007, 0101128, 0072264, 0068491, 0211381, 0303182, 0104142.

The tickets, which cost £1 each, have now been placed back into the raffle in time for the main draw which will take place at the hospice on Wednesday 21st December. Nick Smith, whose 35 year old wife Jo received care from LOROS in so many ways, is supporting the campaign. He is encouraging everyone to help raise money for LOROS by buying tickets to help ensure that the support they received can continue.

If you would like to purchase tickets for yourself or to sell amongst family, friends and colleagues they can be obtained now from all LOROS shops, by contacting the LOROS Lottery office at [lottery@loros.co.uk](mailto:lottery@loros.co.uk) or on 0116 2318430. The closing date for entries is Monday 12th December. Don't delay, 8 lucky winners will share a prize pot of £11,000 which includes a top prize of £10,000. It could be you so contact us today!

LOROS (The Leicestershire and Rutland Organisation for the Relief of Suffering) is based on Groby Road in Leicester. The hospice currently has to raise over £4m per year in voluntary income to fund the services provided to patients and their family members.

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

## ELIZABETH HEXTALL

**Woodwind and Keyboard Tuition**

**Flute ~ Clarinet ~ Saxophone ~  
Recorders Electric Keyboard**

**Theory of Music ~ All Ages ~**

**All Stages –**

**All Exam Boards Catered for**

**~ Established 1990**

**7 Coventry Road Sharnford**

**LE10 3PG**

**Tel 01455 271233**



### *Answers to Quiz*

*1. Jesus, 2 Spring, 3 Gaspar, Melchior, Balthasar, 4 Gold, Frankincense, Myrrh, 5 His heart, 6 The Bible, 7 Helped the poor and needy, 8 A purse of money, 9 In a young girl's stocking hanging up to dry, 10 Joy to the World, 11 God Bless Us Everyone, 12 The youngest child, 13 Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street, 14 It shone through the fog, 15 The one true God in the person of Jesus Christ, 16 The X stands for Xristos – the Greek word for Christ, 17 Pope Julius 1<sup>st</sup>, 18 The German people, 19 Martin Luther in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, 20 Apples and other fruits*

**Finally a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year  
to all our readers**