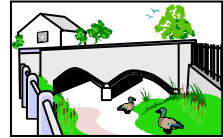


SHARNFORD NEWS

1st September 2013

Issue No 47



A Project supported by Community Action Partnership,
Blaby District, Oadby & Wigston.

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

It was my pleasure to be elected as Chairlady for Sharnford Parish Council in May. I would like to thank Derek Gibbons the previous Chairman for all his hard work and dedication – he is a hard act to follow. I am pleased that Bill Fallowfield agreed to take on the role as Vice-Chairman. Bill has been invaluable helping sort out issues during the past few months. I am pleased to announce that Martyn Dalton-Brown has joined us on the Parish Council. We look forward to working with him and his contribution has already been appreciated.

Well done to Sharnford Traffic Action Group for their efforts with regards to taking on a suggestion put forward by a village resident (via the Parish Council) to improve the pedestrian crossing. Highways met with STAG and the Parish Council and agreed to install the new ZEBRITE lights suggested. They are already installed and are a huge improvement as they are more visible from distance. The crossing is also due to be repainted.

Parking continues to be an issue with many residents. I have had a lot of discussions with residents during the past few months. In all honesty, I believe parking will always be an issue in the village – as in most rural villages. Housing built in the 70's and 80's only ever took into consideration home owners having 1 – 2 cars. Households today can have up to 4 cars. Some older properties along Leicester Road have no parking at all. So we have to be very careful in finding solutions. What sounds like a good solution to one person creates problems for another. In the meantime we need to protect our residents and businesses, but make the effort to park responsibly, and always keep clear access for emergency vehicles.

Another issue that we have regular complaints about is dog fouling on our pavements and park areas. It is a difficult problem to solve. The majority of dog owners clear up after their dogs, but some owners continue to leave the mess. To those owners I ask you to make that extra effort to keep Sharnford clean and free of this dog fouling. It only takes 30 seconds effort to clear the mess and place it in the bins provided.

The new Youth Club continues to do well and we are close to completing the lease on the building. So once again, well done to everyone connected with the Youth Club – we wish you a very successful future. It is a wonderful facility for the youngsters in our village.

We are also in the process of improving the children's park facilities with new equipment. Please remember that ball games need to be restricted to the centre of the park and not close to resident's gardens and fences.

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As more people are laid to rest in Sharnford's Burial Ground, we have been made aware of parking issues that have been created in the area. We have taken these issues on board. The Burial Ground gates will now be open on a Saturday and Sunday 10am-Dusk. We will be discussing at the next meeting, opening the gates on public holidays,

and for several days after each burial. Eventually we will need to open the gates daily. We are hoping to achieve this by having a group of volunteers to open and close the gates. Once keys have been distributed, contact numbers will be placed on the noticeboard.

The 'East Midlands Housing Group' began their process to construct affordable housing on the outskirts of Sharnford, on Leicester Road. They had an open day at the Evergreen Hall and made a short presentation to the Parish Council. The development will consist of three bungalows, two 2 bedroom houses and three 3 bedroom houses. These will be available for rent / part ownership to people with connections to the village. EMHG are in the process of buying land and intend to start building, subject to planning permission, in February. For details or enquiries, contact EMHG on 01530 276000 or www.emhgroup.org. (See also the traffic notice below)

It has been a wonderful summer and it has been a pleasure walking around and driving through the village. A big thank you to Tony Curtis for keeping the Parish owned parks and Burial Ground looking so tidy and well kept. The Environment group have worked hard keeping the beautiful hanging baskets and planters around the village watered during such warm conditions. As ever, the Evergreen Hall planters look wonderful, as does the wonderful display of baskets and planters outside the Sharnford Arms. Well done everyone!

We look forward to welcoming you to our regular meetings, where you are able to raise any concerns or issues about your village. Dates of meetings can be found on the noticeboards around the village.

Angie Timson-Jones.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF A TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER.

A Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) is to be made for the following location(s): Leicester Road, Sharnford. The purpose of the TTRO is to facilitate the installation of a new sewer connection for a development. The TTRO will incorporate a temporary road closure.

Whilst the TTRO is physically in place the diversion route will be via The A5 Watling Street, then via Lutterworth Road, Church Street, Hinckley Road and Sapcote Road in

Burbage, and finally Hinckley Road, Leicester Road and Coventry Road in Sapcote, and vice versa.

The actual duration of the restriction is not anticipated to exceed a period of 2 weeks. It will occur during a period not exceeding 18 months, commencing on the **18th November 2013**, when the TTRO is in place. A Press Release will be issued to confirm these details approximately 2 weeks prior to the works commencing.

Ian Skinner - Clerk of Works - Countywide Team

SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW

The Village flower and produce show goes from strength to strength. This year it is on Saturday the 14th September, so start planning what you are going to enter and remember that if you are struggling to grow a certain item this year, then you can bet that so is everyone else. Please enter as you have to be 'in it - to win it'. If you really can not find anything to enter we would still like to see you in the afternoon. Only 50p to get in, refreshments available and you can admire the entries. Stay awhile for the produce auction afterwards and pick up some bargains.

The categories are mostly the same as last year with just the odd change to provide some variety and to keep you and our judges on their toes! If you entered last year you should have had a schedule delivered, if you still need one you can get one from the Post Office, me, or Kaye & Andrew. Alternatively you can print one off the website; Leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford

Please support the Show, which is intended to be a bit of fun and friendly rivalry. As a bonus we have, over the years, raised funds to help with village good causes, such as the St Helen's toilet appeal, work at the Chapel, the Youth Club and the Evergreen Hall. Most recently we funded the plants for the new Environment Group planter in the one way system and a replacement mower to cut the churchyard.

Tony Curtis

ST. HELEN'S CHURCH

June began with the Sharnford Village Fete. We were blessed with good weather and all enjoyed the spectacle of the scarecrows. Our stall sported a portly scarecrow clergyman which created a few laughs! What a wonderful opportunity for all the community to get together.

Due to the glorious summer our church door has stood wide open for all our services.

At the end of the summer term the Church presented a shield to the Sharnford Primary School. The shield, in memory of the late Jean Philips, is to be presented annually to a Year 6 pupil, whom the staff consider has achieved most during the school year. Jean had been a churchwarden and contributed so much to our church for many years. The shield was

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presented for the first time this year to Grace Wignall - many congratulations to you, Grace.

On August 18th we celebrated with friends in a 'Songs of Praise' evening. A full church 'raised the roof' singing praises to the Lord. The Rev. Mick Norman gave the address.

Two weddings were celebrated in August, Thomas Oliver married Rachel Morgan and Robert Simpson married Abbi Howarth. We wish the happy couples the very best for their future lives together.

In September work starts on our servery and toilet. On completion we hope to use the Church more. Saturday September 14th is 'Ride and Stride Day' where people can walk or ride bicycles to as many churches and chapels as they can, and are sponsored to raise money for 'Historic Churches'. I or the churchwardens can give details to anyone interested. Our church will be open all day so why not call in.

Future Dates:- Sunday October 6th 9.15a.m. Harvest Festival at St. Helen's.
Sunday November 3rd 9.15a.m. We invite you to join us for Family Worship at the Evergreen Hall. Sunday November 10th 10.00a.m. Remembrance Service at Sharnford Methodist Chapel. You are warmly invited to these and any other services held at St. Helen's.

Christine Berridge.

SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB



Firstly, as those of you who walk or drive down Park View will have noticed, the large conifers at the entrance to the Youth Club car park are no more. A strong team of willing volunteers turned up early one Sunday morning to help fell, chop and chip the overgrown trees. A great big thank you from both the Youth Club and the Parish Council goes out to all who got involved, it really was a job well done. (See photo)

Friday night Youth Club is now back in full swing after a 2 year absence. With over 60 Members on the books already, it is proving even more of a success than we could have hoped. However, the Wednesday night 'older' Youth Club sessions have been put on hold over the Summer. We are hoping to get them up and running again in the Winter and we'll be speaking to Members about this over the coming weeks.



As well as the usual indoor games such as pool and table tennis, the football is proving to be as popular as ever with all ages joining in and having a great kick about. We've even had an impromptu water fight breaking out when the weather got just too hot to do anything else. Apologies to the mums and dads for sending them all home dripping wet on that occasion!' (See photo)

Earlier in the year I was contacted by Blaby District Council as Sharnford Youth Club had been earmarked as a village that would benefit from a few visits from their

mobile skate park. By the time this edition goes out we would have had 3 sessions with each one being very well attended both by members and their friends. The next sessions are booked in for Wednesday 11th September 4pm-7pm and Tuesday 22nd October 1pm-4pm. All ages are welcome to come along and try out the ramps and jumps either on scooters, bikes, skates or skateboards, and helmets are provided by BDC. The cost of the session is just £1 (£1.50 for non members).

The Youth Club committee is currently busy not only organising the regular clubs and bookings, but also making sure that there's plenty of events in the pipeline for the Youth Club Members. The next event will be a Halloween disco and fancy dress to be held on



Friday 1st November from 6.30-8.30pm with a prize for the best fancy dress.

Our annual tobogganing trip to Tamworth Snowdome has been booked for Friday 20th December and details will go out to members soon. As always, we expect this to be a very popular trip.

Well that's all for now but if there's any potential new members out there

who want to pop along and check us out, please feel free. We'd love to see you. Alternatively, you can contact me for further details on 01455 271321. The last photo shows Matt Elliott with his Academy Class. See the Timetable on the next page.

Julie Edge Chairperson

**SHARNFORD YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
TIMETABLE**

DAY	CLUB	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
Monday	Craft Club	Every 2 weeks from 7.00 - 9pm Bring along your own project to work on alongside other like minded people.	Kathy Bryan 01455 272335
Tuesday		Available for bookings and Events.	
Wednesday	OAP Youth Club	10.00am - 12.30pm £1.50 per session. Come along and relive your youth club years. Pool, Darts, Table Tennis, Table Football or just come along for a cuppa and a chat.	Derek Gibbons 01455 272401
Thursday	Matt Elliott Football Academy	4.30 - 6pm. £5 per session (no missed class or registration fees) Open to boys and girls aged between 5-13 yrs with the emphasis being on fun, fitness and skills.	www.touchlinesports.co.uk
	Ballroom Boogie	Commencing 3rd October 7.30 - 8.30pm Aerobics to popular ballroom music. Suitable for all ages and no partner required.	Alison www.abdance.cc.uk
Friday	Youth Club	6.30 - 8pm. £1.50 per session (membership £5 per year) Open for everyone between the ages of 5 and 18yrs. Come along and meet up with friends, or have fun making new ones.	Julie Edge 01455 271321
Saturday		Available for party and event bookings	Julie Edge 01455 271321
Sunday		Available for party and event bookings	Julie Edge 01455 271321

SHARNFORD ARTS AND CRAFT GROUP

Meets fortnightly, Monday evenings, 7-9pm at the Youth and Community Centre,
Park View, Sharnford.

Our next sessions will be on 2nd and 16th September.

Bring along your own projects to work on in the company of other crafters. Crafts we have had at the group inc. watercolours, crochet, knitting, patchwork, embroidery, sewing and others. We also have a swap board, books, patterns for inspiration and a refreshment corner with soft drinks and cakes.

In the run up to Christmas some of us will be working on creating decorations for the hall as well as continuing with our own projects.

If you are interested please come and see us, alternatively, you can contact us at sharnfordcraftgroup@gmail.com or call Kathy on 272335

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Over 60s 'Youth' Club</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">COME AND DO AGAIN WHAT YOU DID AS A TEENAGER!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Every Wednesday morning - drop-in 10.00-12.30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£1.50 PER SESSION</p>	<p>WHAT?</p> <p>Table Tennis</p> <p>Table Football</p> <p>Darts</p> <p>Pool</p> <p>Coffee & Chat</p>	<p>WHY?</p> <p>The aim is to provide a Drop-in Centre for all Over-60s residents to do what we did as teenagers in OUR Youth Clubs. Use the facilities or sit and chat. Make friends, meet other village residents, get out of the house!!!</p>	
	<p>WHEN?</p> <p>Starting 1st Wednesday in September</p>		<p>WHERE?</p> <p>In The New Youth & Community Centre, Park View, Sharnford</p>

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT August 2013

New Website

Blaby District Council has launched its new website. This will allow our customers to see how and what councillors do to ensure the delivery of a good service. You can browse:- meetings, agendas and minutes. Scrutiny is about councillors working with local people to improve the quality of life. An online payment system goes live on 29th August to enable customers to pay for services on line via a mobile device for council tax and invoices. During September we will be launching another payment services so that customers can pay for services online for the following:- collection of bulky items from your property, car parking permits etc;

Outstanding Achievement Awards

This year will be the tenth year that BDC are hosting the Outstanding Achievement Awards in recognition of a person(s) making a difference in your community.

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Weekly Recycling Scheme

The new scheme is proving to be a great success and the amount of recycling collected has increased. Positive feedback has been received from residents, praising the ease of using one bin and the weekly collections. Around 650 tonnes of mixed recyclable material was collected during June, which is a 9% increase on the same month last year.

Blaby District Council - Health Action Plan

The Council has developed its first Health Action Plan. The action plan demonstrates the wide range of services provided by the Council that contribute to improving local public health. We are keen to encourage different departments to think about their impact on public health and identify different ways of working which could help. The Health Action Plan gives an informative insight into the services we provide around public health. This work has

been recognised nationally by the District Council Network as an example of best practice.

Leicester Culture in 2017

Leicester is on the final shortlist to become the UK City of Culture in 2017. A winning bid would bring huge benefits to the county; the cultural programme being developed focuses on events throughout Leicester and Leicestershire. Ernie White Leader of Blaby District council has written to the City Mayor pledging Blaby DC support for the bid and wishing it well. Supporting Leicester would strengthen the bid and help provide an advantage over competing cities of Dundee, Hull and Swansea Bay. There are a number of quick and simple ways you can support the bid:- You and your friends/family can complete the City of Culture survey at :
: <http://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/corporate-resources-and-support/ukcityofculture2017>

Cllr Sheila Scott, Cllr Ernie White and Cllr Iain Hewson

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

During our summer break the Evergreen members and committee enjoyed a wonderful day out in Tewkesbury combining a river cruise on the River Severn with afternoon tea. The weather was glorious and everyone was in high spirits, a really lovely day.

Our tea meetings commence on the 4th September and will be an afternoon meeting, followed by our fish and chip supper which is at the later date of the 18th September and for this meeting only it will commence at 6.30pm.

Further dates for the diary:-

Saturday 28th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning with Bacon Butties 9.30am onwards at the Evergreen Hall

Saturday 16th November Evergreen Christmas Fayre 11am - 2.00pm

Saturday 30th November Evergreen Members Christmas Dinner 6.30pm

SUMMER QUIZ

1. Which fruit grows on palm trees?
2. What is the capital of the U.S. State of Hawaii?
3. Saint Lucia is an island holiday destination in which sea?
4. Which Prince featured in the title of the Chronicles of Narnia film released in the summer of 2008?
5. On a beach, what colours are the flags denoting the lifeguard area?
6. The use of what garden equipment is sometimes banned during particularly hot summers?
7. Which of the following would you be unlikely to find in a rock pool? Crab, seaweed, starfish or salmon?
8. Which planet is closest to the sun?
9. In which of these countries does Christmas fall in the summer? Canada, Russia, South Africa or Iceland?
10. Complete the name of this popular ice cream flavour: Rum and....
11. Which actress played Summer in the TV show the OC?
12. In which month does midsummer day occur?
13. How many players compete in a professional beach volleyball game?
14. What did Indiana Jones seek in a film from the summer of 2008?
15. "soleil" means sun in which language?
16. The Costa Del Sol is a region of which country?
17. Who had a summer hit in 2008 with Sweet About Me?
18. Which of these ingredients does a summer pudding contain? Potatoes, Bread, Pasta or Rice?
19. In a hit film from the summer of 2008, Robert Downey Junior played a man made of what?
20. What type of summer clothing is an espadrille?
Answers as usual on the last page.

SHARNFORD C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sharnford C E Primary School has had a very exciting year with the school being graded 'Good' by Ofsted and 'Good' in the Church inspection. The children have been offered a wide range of opportunities again this year including a residential, numerous day trips, sporting and musical opportunities, clubs and exciting in-school activities.

The Governors have continued to work to ensure that the school is run effectively and the PTA members have organised many great events and raised valuable funds for the school. On the last day of term there was a leaver's service where we said goodbye to our year 6 pupils and wished them well as they transfer on to their next stage of education. School reports were issued and the children spent a day in their new classes.

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Year 6 children held an enterprise day to raise money for resources in school. Each child was given £2 and challenged to organise a stall or activity. The whole school enjoyed the activities that the children arranged.

Plans have already started for events during the next academic year, a Residential for year 3 and 4 children at Beaumanor Hall, Loughborough in September October and a trip to the Black Country Museum for year 5 and 6 pupils as well as many sporting opportunities.

Our thanks go to our Governors, PTA members and all of the volunteers that have helped in school this year.

We would also like to thank the Environment Group for allowing our year 5 and 6 pupils to plant-up with them, as part of their 'Keen to be Green' topic.

Carol Proctor Secretary

SHARNFORD PTA

As we look forward to the start of a new school year and welcoming back current and new children alike we thought it would be a good time to advertise the events we will be holding this academic year which are open to the wider village.

Christmas Pamper Evening – 27th November 7pm-9:30pm

Annual PTA Quiz - 7th February

Summer Pamper Evening – 2nd July 7-9:30pm

For those of you who have children at the school the PTA AGM will be held on 11th September, 6:30pm at the school.

Last year was a successful year for the PTA and we were delighted with the support that our Pamper evening received at the end of the Summer Term, so thank you to all who came and we hope to see you at future events. As a result of the success of this and other fund raising events we were able to donate £1250 towards the refurbishing of the schools computer suite and also to purchase a new, robust and colourful bench for the use of the children in Reception, Years 1 and 2.

Finally it was our sad job to say farewell to two of our hard working parents from the committee as their children left Sharnford Primary to move on to Hastings. We would like to reiterate our thanks to Sharon Wignall and Sue Stanley for all their hard work, commitment and dedication to the PTA and wish them both well in the future.

Chair

SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Most villagers will agree that our hanging baskets this year are looking good. Thank you to our band of volunteers who give their time to keep them fed and watered. The new Planter Box on Coventry Road/Leicester Road corner has been planted and is growing well. Four Winds Nursery advised sedums and other draught resistant plants to minimise watering during the summer. A letter of thanks was sent to the Village Show Committee who generously funded the cost of the new plants in this planter. We are now looking at the possibility of purchasing roller barrels and pumps to assist carrying water to the various sites round the village.

The Village Fete, helped considerably by the lovely weather, was a great success this year. Our children's quiz and coconut shy sold out. Once again Tom's maggot racing attracted a large crowd of adults and children to place their bets and see them run.

Bluebell Green has had a general tidy-up throughout the last two months and it is planned to replant two of the beds to introduce some summer colour next year.

Finally, the erection of a Village Sign that has been in abeyance for some time is to be progressed again. The Group now hope to move forward with this project during the autumn and winter months. We hope you all had a very good summer and that it continues well into the autumn.

Margaret Grewcock – Chair

SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE

Thank You!

Thank you; everyone who came, who helped and who donated, without you the fete would not have been the success it was....and this year even the weather played its part! We hope you like the pictures at the back of this magazine and that they bring back good memories.

If it was fantastic to see so many people there and all the stalls benefited from your enthusiasm. The Scarecrow competition seemed to be well received as well and we were amazed by the variety on display...watch this space for next year's competition.

The final decision on the share of the profits will be made in the next couple of weeks and will be advertised on the notice boards around the village.

To next year ! The AGM, which marks the beginning of the formal planning process for next year's fete will be held at the Evergreen Hall on the 23rd January 2014....we will remind you of this date in the next edition of the Sharnford News. It would be great to see some new faces at the AGM with new ideas for what to do for fete day.

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Chair

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Regular Activities to which all are welcome:-

Morning Service – Each Sunday at 10am.

Evening Service – 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.

Well, what a summer we've had, just like the oldies' remember from our youth. The jubilee fete was a great success with the scarecrows putting the icing on the cake. We hope everyone had as much fun making theirs as we did, with 'Millie the Milkmaid'. She's dismantled now, all her bits and pieces returned to their owners, except the head which Beryl is hanging on to, just in case!

Our coffee mornings continue with donations going to 'Send a Cow' and the MTWAPA Academy in Kenya, where we sponsor a pupil named Sheila. She isn't especially clever but, bless her, in her last letter she promised to try harder.

Our 'afternoon tea' event in August went very well and thanks to your support we raised £508 towards our kitchen fund. It was good to join with St. Helen's for their 'Songs of Praise' – a lovely evening!

So, as autumn approaches, what have we to look forward to? On September 14th the chapel will be open all day to welcome visitors on the Historic Churches Annual 'Ride & Stride'. That day we will also be preparing for our harvest festival which is the following day, with services at 10.00am & 6.00pm

Coffee mornings will be on the 1st Saturday, 10.00am – 11.30am, as usual. On Remembrance Sunday we will be joining others for a short act of remembrance round the War Memorial at 11.00am.

All of our activities are open to everyone; do feel free to join us!

Maureen Butcher

SHARNFORD ST. HELEN'S LADIES GROUP



In August we enjoyed a most informative and interesting account of Stuart Sewell's travels around the world. His journey took him 9 months, visiting S E Asia, Australasia, South America and North America, with Vietnam and Bolivia being the highlights of his trip.

Along the way he made new friends, experienced life in the jungle with the orang-utans in Sumatra, swam with Dolphins, hiked for miles, visited Machu

Picchu (see photo), rode down the worlds most dangerous road, toured parts of America by car - camping at night, plus visiting relatives in Australia, Canada and the USA. He certainly had a wonderful adventure which he can recommend to all intrepid travellers.

October is the month of our annual dinner, which this year is at the Badgers Mount in Elmsthorpe. On November 6th we will be having a game of skittles at the Heathcote Arms in Croft. On December 4th a ladies Cappella group, called Rockappellas, will entertain us in the Evergreen Hall.

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

Jan Sewell



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SHARNFORD LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP

Play scheme. The start of term seems to have come round really quickly! It was lovely to see children from playgroup, past and present at Explorers play schemes over the summer. Our trip to Maze World, at Dobbies was great fun. It was a very hot day and our ice creams at the end were very welcome! Our swimming party at Hinckley Leisure Centre saw 30 of us become very competitive with loud cheering! It was neck and neck half way through with regards to winning. Lots of spectators came to see what we were doing and helped to cheer us on. Which team would win? Laura, playgroup Manager from last year, or Sue our new Manager or Sadie from Sapcote playgroup. It all rested

on the last race, the Team Manager's race and with Laura's long legs, there was no competition and her team took the title.

Back to playgroup! Sue has swapped with Laura from our sister setting at Burbage to be in charge at Little Explorers Sharnford. She met lots of parents at the end of summer term and throughout the holidays at play scheme and is looking forward to meeting you all again in September. Sue is a very experienced practitioner, holding her NNEB and having worked in various playgroups over 20 years. Jenny completed her project at the end of term and we waved a fond farewell to her. We hope to see her again in the future. Following her departure, we give a warm welcome to her replacement, Kat. Kat lives locally and was also able to join us for a few days at the end of term, getting to know the children and families. She has lots of ideas and games to share with us!

Following a successful 'Come and Visit' session from our Mums and Tots group, we are looking forward to welcoming lots of new children to playgroup in the forthcoming weeks. We are eager to make them all feel welcome and have been planning for their first days. Lots of them joined us on our trip to Oak Farm Park at the end of term, which was a great day out and definitely one we will repeat!

Our first week back will see us preparing our entries for the Sharnford Show with lego and plasticine models to make! Please come along and see our entries on September 13th.

Alison, Sue, Karen, Kat and Clare



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SHARNFORD STREET NAMES / THE HOLYOAK STORY

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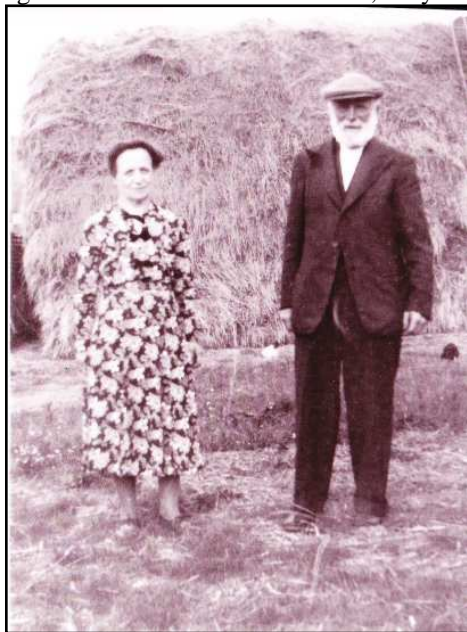
Ever wondered who were the people were in our street names? Many of our street names are self-explanatory like Fosse Close, Chapel Lane etc., - but with the exception of four. Henson Way; Buckingham Close; Halls Crescent; Holyoak Drive. These four appear in the newer part of our village where the housing was built during the late 1940's - 1950's. Mrs. Maureen Butcher, former long-term parish councillor and life-

long resident, supplies the answers and is often ready with a store of fascinating bygone village knowledge and history.

It would appear that Buckingham Way derived its name from one Tom Buckingham, a local district counsellor and a builder to boot, whilst Henson Way more interestingly owes its name to land sold for building owned by William Henson. Mr. Henson, a farmer from Aston Flamville, colloquially known to the children of yesteryear as 'Old Bronc' due to him driving a tractor everywhere wearing a large brimmed hat! Our Eric Wood, 84 years young, also has endless memories of the way of life as it was in Sharnford. He recalls being the butcher's boy for Jack Orton, the then village butcher, delivering a weekly chine of beef to 'Broncs' farmhouse in Aston Flamville.

Halls Crescent owes its name to one John (Jack) Hall, a farmer of Sharnford. Mr. Hall's farm has long gone, pulled down to make way for the straightening of the road and the new road bridge in 1910/11. The farm stood exactly where the zebra pedestrian crossing is today. The only evidence of the old farm is the white cottage known today as Oakley Cottage - this was a farmyard outbuilding that was refurbished into a modern dwelling. (1903 Ordnance Survey map).

Our photograph (**right**) is of William and Eliza Holyoak, where Holyoak Drive



comes from. Mr. and Mrs. Holyoak were remembered for their good deeds to the village and were honoured so. They lived at Ivy House farm (corner of Aston Lane) – now known as Pippilippen. I have researched a little something of the Holyoak history and background and with the kind support and help from Mrs. Barbara Bryant nee Holyoak, and her daughter Mrs. Karen Smith of Bumblebee farm cottage – we can now unfold the story of the Holyoak family.

Our Holyoak story begins in Claybrook in the Tudor reign of Henry VIII (1509-1547). A Thomas Holiocock is mentioned – the year 1525 – this is the earliest reference that can be found regarding a Holyoak. Holyoak spellings through the centuries in Claybrook and Sharnford include Holiok (my favourite), Holiocock, holiocock, Holloake – all these can be found in the parish records.

Up until the 1680's the church registers in Claybrook were written in a shorthand Latin script (to save paper which was both scarce and expensive), which makes it difficult for the researcher to decipher. But on the 4th. June 1686, a wedding in Claybrook between Richard Holiok and Judith Thornton can be clearly read. Richard was a blacksmith. Both Richard and Judith left surviving wills. Judith's will, dated 1733 – charmingly bequeaths to her grandchildren a pewter dish and a spoon each.....to her married daughter....'her wearing apparel and everything whatsoever'.....whilst son Richard (definitely out of favour) received 'only a paire of capons'....son Thomas (definitely in favour) got all the 'goods and chattels'.

Richard – grandson of the Richard of the pair of chicken's fame, a blacksmith, arrived and settled in Sharnford with his wife Elizabeth in or about November 1746 – this is the date their daughter Sarah was born. Richard would have been 24 years old. This was the beginning of the association of Holyoak with Sharnford. An interesting surviving



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his educated hand appears regularly in church briefs and witness to many village weddings. He was numerator for the 1841 Sharnford census. His clear hand, even at this great age, shows another Holyoak trait – longevity. It would be the 1880's before the Holyoaks turned their hand to farming.

Here below are more Holyoaks - brothers of William (in the first photo). From **left to right** Reuben (1862-1931) William again (1866-1958) and then Allen (1868-1951). Here Allen the proud father accompanies his daughter Beryl on her marriage at St. Helens in 1940. There are other siblings – 2 more brothers, Stephen and Chamberlain, four sisters –



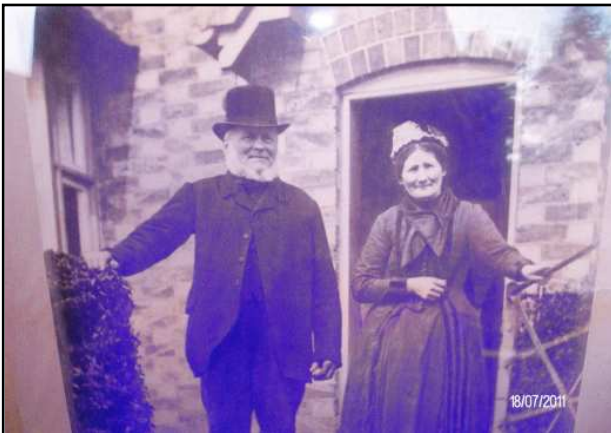
one of which Eliza married into the Tallis farming family.

Four of these brothers farmed independently of each other at Sharnford from the 1880's through to the 1940's /50's. (Kellys trade directories). William as previously mentioned, at Ivy House farm, Allen was at the Fields farm, (Coventry Road). Reuban at Highland farm (Bumblebee Lane). Stephen and his father Stephen Mears Holyoak (who was perhaps retired) – at the Gables in

Chapel Lane. Another brother Chamberlain farmed at Frolesworth.

Little, if any, social history of the Holyoak family has come down to us through the generations. The Holyoaks have always remained a quiet family, following a quiet rural way of life – perhaps with one exception - Ann, who was born in Sharnford in 1824. Hers was to be a tale of exceptional endurance and hardship; which ended in the goldfields of Australia. Perhaps, if I am able to complete the search, this tale could be related in a later edition of the Sharnford News. There are no Holyoaks living in Sharnford today.

Right – Stephen Mears Holyoak (1829-1904 and wife Mary nee Sanders (1834-1897). They are the parents of the boys in the previous photographs Mr. and Mrs. Holyoak farmed originally at Glebe House farm, Sapcote, in the 1850's, before moving to The Gables, in Chapel Lane, Sharnford where they continued to farm with son Stephen.



SHARNFORD VILLAGE WEB SITE

The village website which has been going for 10 years now has over 50,000 page hits a year. The Sharnford News is an important contributor to the web site. Every edition since June 2009 is available online, great if you want to look back at an old issue and good for all those former villagers who can keep in touch wherever they are in this country or indeed anywhere in the world. I still like the paper copy but find the online edition very handy once I have lost my paper copy.

The page statistics show that other very popular pages are, the photos from the Pictorial History of Sharnford, Fosse Meadows and High Cross, bus and train timetables gathered together in one handy place, the Youth Club, the Village Show, and of course the pubs! Our page for Fosse Meadows has a higher ranking on google than Blaby District Councils own page for Fosse Meadows! The village page for Fosse Meadows advertises the local pubs so I hope they get some passing trade from



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Sharnford Village Show
Saturday 14th September 2013
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Adults and Children's sections

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www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford
show organiser Tony Curtis 01455 272532

Fosse Meadows.

These pages then lead viewers into other pages, such as the Playgroup, tutoring, schools, computer services, The Church & Chapel, Evergreen Hall, etc, etc. There are still businesses in the village who have not yet taken up a page. The more complete the web site is the better it becomes and pages are FREE, can you afford not to advertise? It will take you less than an hour to set up a page, with help from me if you need it.

If you post an event on the village notice boards, why not also post your event on the Events section of the website as well. There are working people in the village who do not have time to look at the notice boards and/or do not walk past them. You are missing out on

communicating with villagers who might be interested in your activity or event. You are also missing out on communicating with people from surrounding villages who might be interested in your activity.

There are handy links on the website to other sites so you can look at local planning applications, council services, police crime figures, government pension forecasts and much much more.

To get started register on the site and if you want your own page contact me. The page is

then yours, my job is to moderate content and keep the site running. My contact details are on the website at; <http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/> or just google 'Sharnford' and look for the Leicestershire villages page for Sharnford. If you already have a website or Facebook page for your group, then this can be linked into the village website so that you can make use of the information already created, any photos you already have are then available on the village website. You are welcome to post your photos of village interest onto the gallery of local photos.

If you already have a page then please

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remember to keep it up to date. An out of date web page does not put your group in the best light or sell your business.

A thriving website helps put Sharnford on the map.

Tony Curtis

LEICESTERSHIRE HERITAGE APPLES PROJECT

The project is involved with tracing, propagating and distributing apples which have their origins in Leicestershire. It is also introducing some new unique Leicestershire seedlings.

When we started five years ago, just a few Leicestershire apples were available from commercial suppliers; for example: Annie Elizabeth, Barnack Orange, Dumelow's Seedling, Lord Burleigh. We have found Langton's Nonesuch, unknown in England since the 1920s, Leicester Burton Pippin, Martin's Custard, Sweetings and others, and these are all available from us. We are still looking for a couple of long-lost varieties which may survive, unrecognised, in the remains of old orchards and in private gardens: Cross's Pippin (Hugglescote) and Leicestershire St. Cecilia (bred by a monk at Mt. St. Bernard's Abbey) are still lost.



Why are we doing this? Well - apples sourced locally are frequently better in flavour and have other advantages over mass-produced apples – less 'food miles' and more freshness. They grow well in the area

where they originated. They often have an unusual property – for example, Annie Elizabeth (above left) is probably the most long-lived apple for storing. Martin's Custard (above right) has a similar flavour to Bramley but is ready much earlier. Langton's Nonesuch (not shown) is beautifully perfumed, tart and sweet; quite unlike any commercial apple.



The other two apples shown here are unique seedlings found in Leicestershire during our search for heritage varieties. The Bumble Bee Lane apple (left) is a firm winter dessert apple, to be picked in December, with a hint of

pineapple. The Calla Colossus is an enormous ribbed dessert apple ready in October (right) with a striking appearance; very juicy and slightly tart. It cooks well and can be used as an ingredient of cider.



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The Leicestershire Heritage Apples project has around a hundred varieties of apple, most of which are not in the National Fruit Collection. We also have a collection of redflushed apples (high in anthocyanins and being actively researched in several countries) and extremely late apples which can be picked after New Year.

Leicestershire Heritage Apples Project, a not-for-profit organization, can be found on the web at www.heritageorchard.co.uk.

Mel Wilson / Nigel Decon Aug 2013

Editors note: Nigel Decon will have a stall at the Sharnford Village Show in the Evergreen Hall on Saturday 14th September. If you are interested in apples, why not call in and talk to the expert!

HELP MAKING YOUR HOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT

Residents in Blaby district have got the chance to make their homes more energy efficient thanks to a new government scheme. The Green Deal allows people to make energy-saving improvements to their home or business without having to pay all the costs up front. This can include loft or cavity wall insulation, heating, draught-proofing, double glazing, solar panels and wind turbines. At present 100 residents living in the district can benefit from a free Green Deal assessment through Blaby District Council. For more information on how the Green Deal works and to organise a free assessment contact the Warms homes Officer at Blaby District Council on 0116 272 7536 or email housing.options@blaby.gov.uk

To advertise in the next issue of **SHARNFORD NEWS**
please contact Angie Timson-Jones on 271561

Editorial Team: Dave Sewell 272901, Angie Timson-Jones 271561
and Jean Ryan 615820

Answers 1. Dates, 2. Honolulu, 3. Caribbean Sea, 4. Prince Caspian, 5. Red and Yellow, 6. Hosepipe, 7. Salmon, 8. Mercury, 9. South Africa, 10. Raisin, 11. achel Bilson, 12. June, 13. Two, 14. The Crystal Skull, 15. French, 16. Spain, 17. Gabriella Cilmi, 18. Bread, 19. Iron, 20. A shoe

