

SHARNFORD NEWS

1st December 2013

Issue No 48



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

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Firstly thank you to everyone who attended our meetings. We are drawing quite a crowd these days! It really does help us with our role as Parish Councillors when the public participates and brings their problems and issues to us. Although we may not have the powers to sort all the issues, we can at least point residents in the right direction. We also are fortunate to have our District Councillor – Sheila Scott and County Councillor – Ernie White, both attend our meetings on a regular basis, and they are brimming with useful information and help.

This month Derek, Bill and I met with representatives of Blaby and Leicestershire County Council and the Environment Agency. The meeting was held at The Countryman to be close to the area that flooded last year and was to discuss the ‘Community Road Closure Policy’. This is a scheme that would empower a group of residents to be able to close the road legally should a flood ever occur again. It would also empower us to set up diversions away from the village. Our first meeting was very positive and the representatives will be working with the relevant authorities to see if we are viable for the scheme and to look at diversions that we would be allowed to put in place. We also gathered information on how the village may be eligible for flood grants for equipment. Derek and Bill will be working on the project.

Following concerns from residents and from STAG, we have contacted Highways to ask for help with various issues. The first issue raised is parking outside The Sharnford Arms. We have a situation, especially at weekends that cars are parking two a breast on the road and almost touching the central reservation. We in no way blame Steve at The Sharnford Arms. Having assessed the situation, we believe the problem is that the pavement running alongside the pub car park is not fully raised; there are no markings next to the pavement, no central refuge and the road entrance is especially wide. All these factors seem to cause uncertainty as to where the car park boundaries are and where the pavement and road begins. It would be most unfair to expect Steve to don his hi-vis jacket and monitor the parking every weekend! He has a busy pub to run. Highways have put together a proposal – depending on



funding being available - to improve the area and hopefully we can ease the situation. We have contacted businesses in the area for their views.

I have also raised the issue of a 20mph zone along the problematic section of the B4114, especially as we have two small developments currently being built who will be accessing at difficult sections of the road and one proposed development at the entrance to the top of the village. I always get the same reply – NO!! I have learnt that you just have to keep searching for solutions and negotiating. I am currently proposing a 20mph zone at peak times. It would work rather like the 20mph zones outside schools. Negotiations continue.

Many thanks to the people who have volunteered to hold keys for the burial ground. We have a volunteer in Mill Lane who is opening and closing the gates at weekends. The rest of the volunteers will open and close the gates for a couple of days after a burial to allow mourners to return to the burial ground and be able to park easily.

On behalf of the Parish Council we would like to wish all our residents a very happy festive season.

Chairlady, Angie Timson-Jones



GET READY FOR ... CHRISTMAS



Wide selection of Christmas Trees Now in Stock

Our fresh Holly Wreaths are now being made on site, plus our increasingly popular 'Memorial Pot'. We also have a great choice of Primroses, Pansies, Violas, winter flowering shrubs along with a wonderful selection of House/Conservatory plants including Poinsettia and Cyclamen.

We have some great ideas for Christmas gifts with our great selection of flowering plants, and our widely acclaimed Baskets, Bowls & Planters.

We also provide a local delivery service

If you can't make up your mind or need to send the gift through the post we sell National Garden Gift Vouchers

Website: www.sharnfordgardens.co.uk Email: shop@sharnfordgardens.co.uk

Coventry Rd, Sharnford LE10 3PG Tel. 01455 221005

Winter Opening - 7 Days – Mon - Sat 9 – 4.30, Sun 10.30 - 4.30

DISCOVERING 'LORD' ANCESTRY IN SHARNFORD AND LEIRE

Since December 2012 I have been researching my paternal (LORD) ancestry. The starting point was my great grandfather THOMAS LORD who I knew to have been born in Sharnford. With local help I am researching former generations. It would seem that the family originated as farmers in Leire with connections by marriage to Sharnford. To date, the earliest mentions of the name Lord are the wills & administrations of John Lord of Leire & John Lord of Sharnford, both 1558; and the christening in Leire of Elizabeth, daughter of John Lord on 19 January 1568. Several interesting documents have already come to light that have yet to be integrated within the family history, & which

demonstrate the need for meticulous research to differentiate between generations. The same Christian names were used within families from generation to generation; for example the names John & Elisha Lord mentioned in the documents listed below:

- The will of Robert Lord of Leire dated 8 January **1655** naming his wife Elizabeth, & children Elizabeth, John, Richard, Robert, Samuel & Elisha.
- The will of Elisha Lord dated **1684** naming his sons John, Elisha & daughters whose names are hard to read.
- The marriage of a John Lord & Hannah Wade in **1690**
- An apprenticeship indenture for Thomas son of John Lord of Leire, *taylor*, to John Garle of Sharnford, cordwainer, dated 22 June **1731**
- A will of a John Lord of Leire dated **1735**, naming his wife Hannah & children Elisha, Joseph & Elizabeth.
- A marriage certificate of a John Lord & Elizabeth Smalley in December **1763**

On 31st October 1797 JOSEPH LORD, publican, married Elizabeth Hanes (both born c. 1755) in St Helen's Church, Sharnford. The witnesses were John Hanes & Gabriel Nixon. Joseph & Elizabeth had at least ten children: Thomas, Ann, John, Catherine (d.1814), Elizabeth, JOSEPH, Harriet, Jane, Sarah & another Catherine. Families were large & when children died in infancy a subsequent child was often given the same name. Their oldest son Thomas was publican of The Old Star Inn on Leicester Road, now The Sharnford Arms. He married twice: Priscilla Sutton & then Mary Farmer. A Mary Lord, possibly his second wife or a sister, was licensee of the Blue Bell Inn opposite (now demolished). (More of them in the March edition).

Joseph & Elizabeth's son JOSEPH (b. 1807), a wheelwright, was my great, great grandfather. He also married twice: firstly Martha Collins from Leire whom he married on 28 April 1832 with consent of friends. They had four children, Joseph, William, Ann & James. Martha died on 27 December 1842. Two years later Joseph married Mary Warren in Sharnford on 23 June 1844. They had seven children: Elizabeth, Harriet, John, Jane, Sarah, Emma & THOMAS (b.1861) my great grandfather. Joseph Snr & his family lived opposite King's Farm on the corner of Coventry Road in the house currently No. 26.

The photo to the right shows the Lord family house on the corner of Coventry Road. Joseph's sister Emma Lord in the white dress, her older sister Harriet & an unknown little girl.

Note the waggon.





The photo to the left is 26 Coventry Road photographed 14 Sept 2013.

The graves of Martha, Joseph & Mary, their children John, Elizabeth & Harriet & of Mary's parents William & Elizabeth Warren are beneath a yew tree in the cemetery of St. Helen's Church. The stone mason's

name is Lord of Burbage but this Lord has yet to be researched.

Like his father, THOMAS became a wheelwright & later a joiner. He married Elizabeth Mann from Priors Marston in Warwickshire; and was the last of my direct ancestors to have lived in Sharnford. Thomas & Elizabeth had eight children, three of whom died in infancy. The others were Joseph, my grandfather THOMAS ARTHUR (b. 1891), Amy, Minnie & Mary Elizabeth.

The photo to the right shows the Lord family in 1901 with L to R: Ethel Amy, THOMAS and Joseph on the back row and THOMAS ARTHUR, Minnie and Elizabeth holding Mary Elizabeth in front.



THOMAS & Elizabeth moved to South Wigston, Leicester, and then to Rugby in Warwickshire where Thomas had gained employment with J Parnell & Son Ltd, builders. In due course THOMAS ARTHUR aged 16½ was apprenticed to the company as a carpenter/joiner on 4 June 1908 for 4½ years. During WWI 'Tom' enlisted with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment & served as a sapper (military engineer) with the Royal Engineers in France. It was whilst recuperating from a wound in the leg that Tom met his future wife Annie Mabel Brown who was a volunteer nurse with St John Ambulance at the Great Western Railway Centre (Swindon). Thomas Arthur & Annie Mabel Brown were married by licence at Swindon Parish Church on 2 September 1918 whilst Tom was still on active service. He was an accomplished carpenter and later in his career he joined the Rugby Co-op Society. When the store opened a funeral department he made coffins & eventually became the funeral director! He served as a mayor of Rugby. Tom & Mabel had one child, my father THOMAS KEITH LORD. Keith

became an electronics engineer, firstly at Rugby then Criggion radio stations, & finally an executive with the GPO in London. My late brother THOMAS ANTHONY LORD was a radio engineer in Basildon, Essex & then in the Brecon Beacons. His son from a second marriage is THOMAS TIMOTHY LORD. My career was in conservation & restoration of ceramic & glass objects, firstly at The British Museum & then running my own restoration business. An interesting observation on the family occupations over the generations is that we have all been manual workers – no noble LORDS!

I'd very much like to hear from anyone who could add to my research.

Sandra Davison (née Lord) sandbill@crash2000.net Nov 2013

ST HELEN'S CHURCHYARD WORKING GROUP

A belated thank you to those who generously responded to the appeal made by Tony Allen earlier this year, which resulted in the group now having available three mowers of various sizes and a powerful strimmer/brushcutter. We are most grateful.

The new machinery has enabled us to keep the grass tidy in a large part of the churchyard, but the brambles and weeds keep threatening to overwhelm our efforts.

Tony and Liz Allen who were the stalwart members of the group, for which we are ever grateful, have moved to Hinckley to be nearer their grandchildren and are no longer able to give the same time to the group.

We are therefore looking for new recruits who would be willing to give some time to help. We try to meet on a fortnightly basis during the growing season, weather permitting, usually on a Tuesday morning for about three hours. This enables us to maintain the status quo but additional helpers would allow us also to tackle the encroaching vegetation.

If you are interested in helping or would like any further information please contact me.

John Evrall on 272602.

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN VILLAGE HALL

**Refurbished Hall
with all equipment
Available for hire**

**Telephone
Margaret
01455 270038**

SHARNFORD C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school welcomed 5 new children at the start of the autumn term and they have settled in to school life very well.

During October we took 48 year 3 and 4 children from the federation to Beaumanor Hall, Loughborough for a 3 day 2 night residential. During their time there the children enjoyed canoeing, archery, shelter building, climbing, abseiling, team games and hide and seek in the cellars. Everyone was very well behaved and had an enjoyable time. Children in year 5 and 6 enjoyed a day at the Black Country Museum enhancing their learning on Victorian Times. Pupils in year 1 and 2 visited Beaumanor Hall for a day visit where they



Tai Chi

*Not an exercise class
but something
different*

The Ancient Chinese Practice of
Gentle Coordinated Movements

**Sharnford, Evergreen Hall
Thursday 1.30 - 2.30**

Fitness not required! - Suitable for all
ages – Beginners and returners
welcome £4.00 per session

01455 324 008 for more details
– or just turn up to find out more and
give it a try.

- Also at the Village Hall, Broughton Astley
Monday 1.30 - 2.30

The Age UK charity is back this winter with their 'Donate a Coat' appeal

Last year celebrities Geri Halliwell,
Lynda Bellingham, Stephen Fry and
Mollie King

took part in donating their coats to
this great cause.

**All you have to do is donate any
coats or jackets to one of the
Age UK shops**

This will keep needy local older
people warm this winter.

'**Spread the Warmth**' is being run
nationally as 24,000 older people
may not survive the cold this winter

www.ageuk.org.uk/leics

0116 2992233

enjoyed Pirate activities including a treasure hunt, making pirate hats and solving pirate problems. Children in year 3, 4 and 5 have started their swimming lessons at Hinckley Leisure Centre and some children from year 6 enjoyed entering a basketball competition in Hinckley.

At the start of term parents were invited to attend a 'Meet the Teacher' evening which gave them the opportunity of meeting their child's class teacher, visit the classroom and hear about the weekly routine, homework arrangements, expectations and the curriculum. Parent's evenings take place on 19th and 21st November where parents will be informed of their child's progress. Parents were invited to attend an Internet Safety meeting at Hastings High School to learn all about how to keep their child safe whilst using the internet. All children have had their photograph taken and reception children's photo taken by the Hinckley Times was included in their supplement of My First Day at School, 2 of our children made the front cover! A special Bonfire menu was made by School Food Support on 5th November and the children enjoyed a meal including sausages, chips, beans, peas, salad, iced sponge or golden cracknel.

The whole school enjoyed book week and the children ended the week coming to school dressed up as a book character. Multi sports afterschool club is continuing and a football club is also running. The children are very busy rehearsing for their Christmas production and trying on their costumes. The School Council have a visit booked to visit the Blaby District Council offices and an Advent Service at Leicester Cathedral. The school have also been invited to be included in a flu vaccination programme running at the beginning of December.

Our Harvest service at the Methodist Church in Sharnford was very well attended and a number of children sang at the Remembrance Day service in Sapcote.

During this term we have collected clothing for Ragtex who send items to third world countries, food has been donated to the Hinckley Food bank to help people in crisis, small items to go in shoe boxes for the Rotary shoe box appeal who send Christmas presents to children in Eastern European countries. The children made cakes to sell for Children in Need including covering a picture of Pudsey Bear with loose change.

We entered a few vegetables into the Sharnford village show and if anyone is able to give up some of their time to come and help us with our gardening it would be gratefully accepted.

Our before and after school club, Conkers, runs every morning and evening and this provides invaluable wrap around care for our children.

The PTA continues to raise much needed money for school. They have organised a pamper evening and for the Children a Christmas disco and workshop.

We have one Governing Body for the federation of Sharnford C E Primary School and All Saints C E Primary School, Sapcote and we currently have vacancies. You don't need any particular expertise or special qualifications – just interest, enthusiasm and willingness to contribute some of your time. You do not have to be a parent but schools need people from their local community to ensure children and young people get the best from their time in full time education. Governors work as a team to support, challenge and decide what is best for the school; plan for the long term future of the school and decide how the school's budget should be spent; make decisions collectively on matters such as performance targets, school policies and the school's development plan; plans for its own learning and development to ensure it is ready for future challenges. If you are interested in joining the Governing body who meet 6 times a year, please contact the school office on 01455 272456 for further information.

The closing date for applications for children starting school in September 2014 is 15th January 2014. Please encourage anyone you know who has a child who will be starting school in September to consider Sharnford. We are able to offer small classes, good quality teaching in a small school where each individual is nurtured. We also offer enhanced resources and opportunities similar to large schools as a result of our federation. Anyone wishing to visit the School should contact the office on 01455 272456 to make an appointment.

Our thanks go to the volunteers who come in to school to listen to our children read and help with many activities.

Carol Proctor Secretary

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

OPEN TO ANYONE OVER 60 WHO LIVES IN THE VILLAGE OR THE SURROUNDING AREAS

Come and join us at the Hall in Sharnford – meetings twice monthly on Wednesdays. Full high tea enjoyed at each meeting and last year we enjoyed full Christmas Dinner in December and a Fish and Chip Supper in September.

We had two outside trips, one to Bletchley Park, the World War II spy centre and a trip on the River Severn with cream tea combined with a visit to Tewkesbury. We also have occasional speakers to entertain us at our meetings.

ALL WELCOME – Meetings are afternoons in the winter and evenings in the summer.

SUBS £4 PER FORTNIGHT
(teas, trips and meals included)

FOR MORE INFORMATION RING JEAN
ON 01455 274772



Beautiful Affordable Kitchens & Bedrooms



JTL Kitchens and Bedrooms Ltd
Hinckley Road, Sapcote, Leicester, LE9 4FU
Telephone: 01455 272333

We can give you a complete solution – including design, installation and all the building work. Or we can supply only or design and supply.

Call us on 01455 272333



E mail: info@jtlkitchensandbedroomsLtd.co.uk
Web - www.jtlkitchensandbedroomsLtd.co.uk



C. A. Page Building Contractors Ltd
9 Park View, Sharnford,
Leicestershire, LE10 3PT

Member of the Federation of Master Builders

All building and renovation works undertaken
- no matter how small

Tel: 01455 271423 Mob: 07887880745

Email: capagebuilders@yahoo.co.uk

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Firstly a big thank you to Blaby District Council for bringing along and setting up the portable skate park over the summer. Unfortunately the session due to take place in the October half term had to be cancelled due to wet weather. Having spoken to Blaby Youth they have confirmed that we will be able to book another session for Spring 2014 so I'll keep you posted on that.

The dark nights are now upon us so we will be brainstorming for ideas for indoor activities to get us through the winter. So far, Nerf Gun battles around the building have been popular along with various arts and crafts activities connected to Halloween and Christmas.

A very successful 'Nail Bar' is up and running every couple of weeks for the members (and mum's at a cost!) run by Louise Simpson and Beth Edge, and over the coming months we will endeavour to run cupcake sessions with members taking it in turns over the weeks.

The Halloween Fancy Dress Disco was a scary affair with lots of games and plenty of dancing. The prize for best dressed and most frightening costume went to Matt McConnell as a very convincing ghost. Very well deserved Matt. A great thank you to George Bacon and his groupies! – for being our resident DJ for the night, a job very well done.

The Annual Christmas tobogganing trip to the Tamworth Snowdome has been booked for Friday 20th December, with not surprisingly, plenty of takers. The trip, which includes coach travel, 30 mins tobogganing and a chip supper on return to the Youth Club, should be its usual success.

Sharnford Youth and Community Centre currently holds regular clubs such as Crafting, Over 60's Youth Club, Ballroom Boogie exercise class and The Matt Elliot Football Academy. It is also available to hire out for private functions, be it children's parties, family get-togethers etc. or for other regular clubs. Please log onto our website at www.sharnfordcommunitycentre.co.uk for all information and booking fees. Alternatively you can email us on info@sharnfordcommunitycentre.co.uk.

NOTE FOR ALL SHARNFORD RESIDENTS

The Youth and Community Centre Committee have decided to hold a Family New Year's Eve Disco to help raise money towards a much needed new car park. The cost is £5 per head (adults and children) and will include a disco, small buffet and of course a cheap bar. All are welcome but tickets **MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE** due to capacity laws. Tickets are selling fast so please contact Julie Edge or Karen Smith to make sure you don't miss out on a fun night. Here's to welcoming 2014 with a bang!

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**

Also, we are constantly brainstorming for new and exciting ways to fundraise and are currently trying to desperately get together enough money to resurface the battered and uneven car park to the front of the building. We are currently in talks with The Matt Elliott Football Academy to put on a FA Cup day/evening during May 2014 and will keep you all informed of our progress.

Julie Edge, Chairperson.

SHARNFORD LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP

Well, what an exciting time we've had! Firstly, we took part in the Sharnford Show in September with lots of entries for the clown colouring competition, pasta pictures and play dough models. We really enjoyed taking part in this valuable community show and we were so excited with our prizes and medals and had several 'best in show' rosettes! The children were so proud of their achievements and entries that we still have photographs of us on our community board at playgroup! Sue came third with her delicious blackcurrant jam and Karen came second with two corn on the cob, 3 cooking apples and a vase of roses! Well done everyone!!

With the mixed weather, we have been learning how to do our coats up and put our wellies on so we can go splashing in the puddles. It was great fun learning that if we keep jumping up and down, the puddles get smaller (and Sue gets wetter!) Back inside we warmed up with toast and warm milk ,yum! The weather has blown our garden about a bit so we needed to get busy in the garden, getting our pots ready to plant some winter flowers. We have been chasing fallen leaves and collecting different coloured ones for our investigation table. During our walks around the village, we have been identifying people in the community and things that we see. We have visited the post office where we bought some stamps and posted our letters. We were followed around the village by a

lovely friendly black cat that the children have called Jess, as we met it at the post office!

At the end of October we investigated pumpkins, squash and turnips. The children knew what the pumpkin was but we needed to visit our friends on the mobile library bus to identify turnips and squash. Later, we scooped out the seeds from the pumpkins and squash for planting later in the year to grow our own produce which we hope to enter into next year's Sharnford show! We are preparing for our first ever parents evening on 21st November and look forward to seeing as many parents as possible. Remember to book your time slot! Our wonderful PTFA will

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**

be offering drinks, cakes and goods to purchase during the evening to support playgroup. Our Christmas production will take place on Monday 16th December, further details will be issued in our Newsletter. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone!

Alison, Sue, Karen, Kat and Claire.

SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP

On 21st October we held our AGM and for my sins I was elected the new Chair. Since our inception as an Action Group in 2005, we have made many strides into making the village safer. Recently, with the idea of Dave Sewell and the cooperation of the parish Council, we negotiated with Highways to install the new brighter Zebrite lights on the crossing, which has also been repainted. It is now much easier for motorists to see the crossing from both directions. It is however in some peoples view a little too close to the bottom of the hill, especially if vehicles are speeding down the hill.



These photos show the before and after installation of the new Zebrite Lights

We are still keeping an eye on the volume and speed of traffic through the village, and keep pushing for a bypass, although we are aware of the shortage of finance for such projects.

Leicestershire County Council is looking at various schemes to take the traffic flow away from Sharnford, which we were shown at the recent Blaby South Forum. These are long term projects which we will continue to monitor.

Our meetings are at the Evergreen Hall in the Nellie Veasey Room on 3rd Monday of the month, and we would like to see some more faces joining us.

Drive Safely - June Feast

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

COUNTRYMAN SICK AND DIVIDEND FUND

Christmas 2013 is almost upon us and we will be holding our annual raffle, this is supported by many local businesses with meals being offered as prizes at both public houses – the Countryman and the Sharnford Arms. In addition Woods Brewery at Willey has offered a £20.00 meal voucher as a prize. Further prizes have been donated by Sharnford Garage, Sharnford Tractors, Ian Pickering Photography, Sharnford Post Office, JJ Car Valeting Services, Four Winds Nursery and The Village Flower Shop in Bedworth. Local engineering firm Intex have provided the raffle tickets.

We usually have around 40 prizes – many being donated by local people, if you would like to donate a prize please contact me on 274678 or call at Intex.

The prize draw takes place at the Countryman public house on Friday the 20th of December at 8:00 pm. Tickets are on sale at the Countryman, the Sharnford Arms and the Post Office – additional tickets are available from myself.



PERSONAL COUNSELLING Looking towards a clearer, brighter future

We are local Person Centred Counsellors, working with a wide range of issues helping adults, children and young people.

For a free initial session and discussion, without obligation, please contact:

Kelly Williams - Amukelani Counselling
07806 323 635
Kelerina@googlemail.com

Malcolm Soulsby - Six Acres Counselling
01455 324 008
www.sixacrescounselling.co.uk

The money raised is used to provide a festive food bag for pensioners, widows and widowers of the village and a donation is also made to the local school. Last year we distributed around 130 festive food bags. This year the delivery of these will take place on Saturday the 21st of December from 9:00 am onwards.

Jack Feast

THE OVER 60'S 'YOUTH CLUB

The experiment of starting a Club for the more mature 'young' people of the village has made a slow but steady start. Set up to enable the more active of our pensioner-residents to have access to the usual Youth Club facilities – table-tennis, darts, table-football and pool – as well as a regular meeting place for those who might just want to sit and chat over a cup of coffee, the Club is open every Wednesday

morning between 10-12, in the new Youth & Community Centre.

Already, with more than a dozen people registered, organisers are hoping to see increased numbers now that the facilities have been greatly enhanced by the acquisition of a Bowls Mat for the short-mat game, which uses full size woods. We have had a generous provision of a Wii set for those who prefer the computerised approach to games. For these, many thanks to Paul and Rowena Avril.

Though described as a Club, you don't need to 'join'...just pay £1.50 each time you come along as it's a 'Drop-in' centre. As for 'Over 60s'- who's counting? Nobody is going to ask to see your birth certificate so come along if you want to!!!

SHARNFORD SCHOOL PTA

Busy, busy, busy ,busy is probably the best way to describe our PTA at the moment and this can only be good. We enjoyed a busy summer term and returned in September to start a new academic year of fund raising and events.

We are looking forward to putting on two events for the children at the school; first up is our annual Christmas Disco, we are having a special visit from Father Christmas and will welcome younger siblings to join us. On the 16th December we take over the school hall for an hour once school finishes and the children will get to take part in a Christmassy craft activity and then wrap gifts for their parents/carers.

Not forgetting the community there are a couple of dates for everyone's diaries.
23rd December 6pm – Carol Singing – starting from the Youth Club, along Park View, Henson Way, Halls Crescent, Chapel Street and finishing at the Sharnford Arms.
7th February 2014 – Annual PTA Quiz – Evergreen Hall – teams will be made up of a maximum of 4 people, £6 a head. Hot supper and nibbles included.

As we get to the end of the calendar year it seems to be a good time to let you all know what our fundraising has allowed us to do. We bought the school a much needed new bench for the infants playground; contributed to the funding of the year 6 leavers' trip; purchased leavers gifts and this term have provided the ingredients for the children to bake Pudsey Bear biscuits and cakes to sell for Children in Need. These are all 'small'

targets, our ongoing 'large' target is to help raise funds to enable the school to refurbish its computer suite. However, none of these targets could be met without the ongoing support of the parents, teachers and community of Sharnford, so THANK YOU everyone.

Finally, the PTA committee would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the very best for 2014 and we look forward to seeing you at our events next year.

Kathy Bryan – Chair

SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Yes it's that time of year yet again when, thoughts turn to special family times, and the ever increasing



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

cost of it all. For most of us, it can be a juggling act trying to get the balance right to benefit our loved ones. For the environment group it sometimes feels we are trying to obtain an even balance, between planting, growing and building, as our membership doesn't grow! So we prioritise as to what jobs are needed to be done first! At our last meeting, we decided that in the New Year we need to fully discuss the future of the group, and how we manage varying situations. We continue to be fully dependent upon our volunteers, who water the hanging baskets as we continue to say 'we can't do the job



without each other'. And didn't those baskets do well this summer as the plants (and us) enjoyed the warm sunshine. What a lovely change for us all.

We managed to get another planter built for all to see on the Coventry Road junction. It still needs a little work, as we are considering putting a row of paving blocks all round, to make mowing easier but ultimately, to protect the planter. Perhaps you have some thoughts on this, as we search for suitable ideas? We have enough plaswood to replace all the old planters and are hopeful of getting some more completed in 2014. It all takes time though, and like all of us, we have our own jobs to get on with too.

We try to keep up with the weeding on BlueBell Green, but the main problem is the front border. However many times we tidy the area, it soon gets out of control. We are re-thinking the area for low maintenance and appearance; perhaps you can suggest something to improve this area remembering the large granites need to stay in place?

The meetings continue to be on the second Thursday of each month, 7.30pm in the Evergreen Hall, the next one being January 9th. All villagers are welcome for ideas, practical help and support. Keep a note of these phone numbers – they may come in useful if you have something to say? Chair – Margaret 271156, Vice-chair Maureen 274374, Treasurer – Dave 272901 and Secretary Yvonne 274112

Finally enjoy all you do this special time of year, and our thanks to all those villagers who have given time to support us during 2013.

SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE

£300 - We are delighted to be able to say that this is the amount that each of our community groups received from this year's Fete.

Our thoughts are now turning to Fete 2014! Our AGM will be held on the 23rd January 2014 at the Evergreen Hall; please put this in your diaries and come along on the night, new faces and new ideas are always welcome.

The Fete will be on the 8th June 2014 and the theme will be 'Traditional British Seaside', we also hope to have an evening do on Saturday 7th and it will be a 1940s theme.

All remains if for us to wish all a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chair

SHARNFORD CRICKET CLUB

What a glorious summer for cricket! The weather certainly inspired our cricketers. Under the leadership of the young legend Billy, the 1st team managed to get promoted to the Premier league – which would have been marvellous had the league not been re-aligned for 2014.

When the new leagues were being decided upon they were taking into consideration the teams ground and facilities – which was a bit of a challenge for Sharnford. Sharnford Cricket Club is one of the very few teams to own their own ground which means they do not get any help with costs for running and maintaining the ground and facilities. So it was out with the power tools and the team and the Chairman Roger Simmons set about making some necessary changes to the pavilion and ground. Well done to everyone who gave their time to the renovations. Thank you also to Andy Durose, who discovered his love for the old roller and made such a great job of rolling the pitch. He was often seen wandering off into the sunset after a game with his new best friend.

When the team weren't DIYing, they did get to play some excellent cricket. There were some personal bests this year for individual cricketers.

Anthony Gill – aka Gilly - won the division bowling averages. He was very humble in his achievement, taking time out to celebrate most Saturdays!! Legend!

Joe Richings – having played for the club from junior level scored his first century and never looked back. He certainly has a taste for scoring those runs now.

Richard Jones scored the most runs in his cricketing career and came 3rd in the league for top run scorers.

The 2nd team had a tough year as they had to sacrifice their season to provide the 1st team with players. Sadly without new players joining the club, next season the same is likely to happen. So anyone who is interested please contact the team.

They will be starting winter training in the nets February 14th.....who said cricketers weren't romantic!

If you hadn't spotted, it's a cricket WAG writing their articles. I live in hope of the team writing their own articles in the future. Although I do get to have some fun with it!

Big Knit 2013 Roundup and thanks!

Age UK Leicestershire and Rutland called for knitters to join in the Big Knit to help keep older people warm and healthy this winter. 41,960 little hats were knitted worth £10,490 with 25p was donated for each hat by Innocent drinks

The hats will be seen in many supermarkets adorning their smoothie bottles

www.ageuk.org.uk/leics

QUIZ FOR ALL THE FAMILY

1. What is the name of Woody's horse in the film Toy Story 2
2. Who played James Bond in 'Live and Let Die'?
3. Snow White's seven dwarfs are called Sneezzy, Happy, Grumpy, Sleepy, Bashful, Dopey, Doc but which dwarf is the leader?
4. What was the name of the boy in the Jungle Book?
5. What is the name of the actor who played the role of Harry Potter in the film series?
6. What colour lipstick did silent movie stars wear?
7. In the 1989 film 'Shirley Valentine' who played the role of Shirley?
8. What was the title of the film that Whitney Houston starred in alongside Kevin Costner?
9. Who played the bride to be Sophie in the 2008 film 'Mamma Mia'?
10. Who painted people in industrial surroundings in the north?
11. Who were the zany stars of the film Duck Soup?
12. Who painted a series of pictures of lilies at his home in Giverny?
13. Which sculptor drew a series of underground scenes in WW2?
14. What was the name of Dorothy's little dog in Wizard of Oz?
15. Who wrote The Wonderful Wizard of Oz?
16. Which painter gave his name to a shade of hair?
17. Who was the first British winner of the Eurovision song contest?
18. Which famous nanny was created by P.L. Travers?
19. Which English Novelist wrote The Children of the New Forest?
20. In Lord of the Rings, what was the name of Gandalf's white horse?

Answers on the last page.

BLABY OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

I have been Sharnford's Flood Warden for approaching 5 years and in that time I have attended a number of events connected to flooding, flood prevention and what to do in the event of a flood.

On 26th November 2012 Sharnford was severely flooded and no amount of training could have prepared me for the events that unfolded in the early hours of that Sunday morning. The centre of the village and Aston Lane were affected by floods with water in some places being over 3 foot in depth. This affected private properties and the Countryman public house.

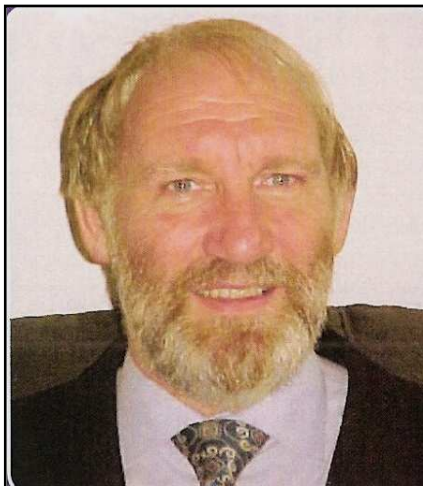
About 9 months after the event I received a letter telling me I had been nominated for an award at the Blaby District Council Achievement Awards evening. After some further communication, the message sank in that I was a short-listed finalist in the awards ceremony, to be held at the Marriott Hotel at Grove park.

The awards evening was probably Blaby District Council's equivalent of the Oscars and is sponsored by Fosse park Shopping Centre. There were five different categories with two or three people or groups in each section. I had been nominated in the 'Safer District Award'.

To my surprise I finished first in my section, the runners up were the Volunteer Rangers who are responsible for various environmental projects and general maintenance in Fosse meadows, and other areas connected with nature in the Blaby District.

All in all it was a great evening where myself and my three guests enjoyed a splendid meal, and I even met some old school friends I had not seen for 30 years!

Jack Feast



SHARNFORD ARTS AND CRAFTS SOCIAL GROUP

We've been up and running since April now and are delighted to have a core group of crafters that meet fortnightly to work on their own projects whilst having a chat and a cuppa. So far, crafts we have seen have included knitting, crochet, patchwork, beading, dressmaking, painting, sketching, papercraft and embroidery. More recently, following an approach by the Sharnford Youth and Community Centre, we've been using our various skills to make Christmas decorations for the hall.

So, if you're a crafter and fancy company whilst completing portable projects, please come and join us at the Youth and Community centre. We meet fortnightly there on a Monday evening from 7-9pm, cost £2.

The next few dates are:

9th December (then closed Christmas fortnight),

6th January,

20th January,

3rd February,

17th February

3rd March.

If you would like any further details please contact Kathy on 272335 or email us on sharnfordcraftgroup@gmail.com

ALL SEWN UP!

 CLOTHES ALTERED TO SUIT YOU 

Most alterations and repairs undertaken. Curtains shortened

For a friendly, professional service

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

METHODIST NEWS

Advent is in full swing and Christmas will soon be with us – but more of that later. I'd better do as I was told as a child and start at the beginning.

On the second Saturday in September we opened the chapel to welcome visitors on the 'Historic Churches Ride and Stride' event. As a welcomer and recorder I sat in the Chapel from 10am to 6pm and met again with old familiar faces and newcomers on their first visit to us. Thanks to the generosity of friends and family I was sponsored for £112, half of which will be used by the HC Trust and half returned for our own use.

Our Harvest Festival services were held the following day and the donations, given in lieu of produce, were divided between the 'EMMAUS' project in Hinckley and 'Farm Africa'.

In October we received two generous donations which will help with our general expenses and our kitchen fund. Our thanks to both the Fete Committee and the Sharnford Show Committee.

St Helens members joined us for the 10am service on Remembrance Sunday before we went up to the war memorial for a short, moving act of remembrance, where we were joined by other villagers.

Our coffee mornings continue, helping us to help others and the donations for the Food Bank are regularly passed on.

The Craft Group are busy at the moment filling their own shoe boxes and helping Penny to check and seal hundreds of other boxes from churches and other organisations throughout the Hinckley area. By the time you read this they will all be on their way to the Ukraine, taking love and joy to needy children there. Thanks for all the support you have given us again this year. We couldn't do it without you!



Haleys Little Comets Childminding Service.

Quality, home-based registered
childcare in Sharnford.

**Full & Part Time Spaces.
Available to collect & pick up from
Sharnford School
& Little Explorers Playgroup.**

Please contact – Haley Booth
07532268221



Residential Property Lettings and Maintenance

Your local independent firm specialising in
Residential Lettings, Property Management,
and Property Maintenance.

Full Management **£30 a month** fixed fee*

**Free EPC or first months management fee
for all new Fully Managed Instructions***

Website: www.millanepropertymanagement.co.uk

Email: info@millanepropertymanagement.co.uk

Tel. 01455 274253

*(subject to terms and conditions)

And so back to Christmas. On the weekend 21st, 22nd December our Chapel will be decorated on a 'Nativity' theme. We will open for viewing on both days and refreshments will be available. The weekend will culminate with a Carol Service on Sunday at 4.00pm. Please support us, you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Our best wishes to you all. May your Christmas be happy, merry and full of love.

Maureen Butcher

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

BDC is getting behind 'Dementia Friends', a national government funded initiative run by the Alzheimers Society. Its aim is to improve peoples' understanding of dementia and its effects. Staff training awareness sessions will be rolled out next year.

Keeping Well This Winter Campaign was launched on Monday 28th October. This is a local health campaign which will make people aware of the effects of cold weather and provide advice on staying healthy. Leaflets have been forwarded to all Parish Councils and information is also online on the BDC website.

Reading Well Books On Prescription Launch – This was launched on the 28th October and is designed to help manage your well-being by using self-help reading. A list of 30 books will be in some libraries in the county, but can be ordered through local libraries in the usual way.

Joint Community Safety Partnership – Blaby and Hinckley joint partnership were successful in securing all their bids to the police and Crime Commissioner. The funding will see the Home Security Scheme providing locks and other security items for vulnerable households, also dealing with depression and managing anxiety courses for our service users. Seasonal awareness campaigns include alcohol awareness and domestic abuse and the junior intervention project in schools. All these projects will run from now until 31st March 2014.

Housing Options – Congratulations to Vijay Jethwa who was shortlisted for the Chartered Institute of Housing 'Achiever of the Year' award, held in Birmingham. Whilst he did not win, it great recognition for all his hard work at BDC.

Halloween Spooktacular – held at Fosse meadow on 25th October. Over 350 people attended and it was a fantastic event with most of the children and staff in fancy dress.

Local Democracy Week – Events took place around the district with the highlight being a debate at the Brockington College between the three group leaders, in front of a large audience of pupils from the college – including

Sharnford Little Explorers 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

how best to allocate the councils budget. The BB19 bus was out and about asking residents for their views on improvements in the area, with councillors an board ready to listen.

Your Councillors wish all residents a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We look forward to working with you and for you in 2014.

Sheila Scott

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

Sharnford Evergreen Members and Committee recently enjoyed their annual fish and chip supper at the Evergreen Hall. A big thank- you to Paul and his staff at the Countryman for the supper. It was a lovely meal enjoyed by all. Entertainment followed courtesy of Beryl Devenyi in the form of a Call My Bluff and various games.

The Macmillan coffee morning held in September raised a generous sum of over £500, which was a great success. Many thanks to Jean Dale for all her hard work. A very worthwhile cause!

We have just held our Christmas Fair which again was a great morning. Santa made his usual appearance. The pork and stuffing baps with mulled wine once again proved popular – by 1pm we had sold out!!

Funds raised for the club totalled just over £1800. Thank you to everyone for their generosity and time.

The AGM of the Evergreen Club was held on the 13th November and the election of new officers are as follows:

Chairman - Mrs Beryl Devenyi

Secretary - Mrs Jean Dale

Treasurer - Mrs Rosemarie Simpson

Lettings Officer – Mrs Margaret Saunders

Dates for the diary:

Saturday 30th November - Annual Evergreen Club Christmas Dinner 6.30pm

Saturday 14th December – Christmas Bacon Buttie & Coffee Morning 9.30am onwards

Wednesday 8th January 2014 – Concordia Theatre Pantomime – time to be confirmed

As retiring Chairman I would like to thank all the members and committee for their support and help over the last few years, and wish you all continued good luck in the coming year.

May I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Karen Smith



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

ST HELEN'S CHURCH

In September the work began on the new Toilet & Servery in the Church. All is going well and the work should be completed in December.

Saturday 7th December 9.30 am-11.30 am - we are asking for volunteers to help clean up the Church after the building work. We can promise a cup of coffee and cake! We plan to celebrate the completion of this work at the 'Lessons and Carol Service' on Sunday 15th December at 6.30 pm, refreshments will be served after the service. The Archdeacon, Rev David Newman will be attending and you are all warmly invited to attend. So many residents of Sharnford have contributed to this project and we would like to share this evening with you.

This joyful Christmastide, to celebrate the birth of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, we will be



holding a Christingle Service on 22nd December at 9.15 am. This is especially for children and their families, when we light candles, children receive a Christingle and we remember children who are supported by the Children's Society. If you don't attend a church regularly, please bring your children along to join in this festive service.

On Christmas Eve we will be celebrating a Midnight Communion starting at 11.15 pm and on Christmas Day join us for Family Communion at 9.15 am

Have a Happy and Joyful Christmas with your loved ones, family and friends and special memories for those who are faraway or no longer with you.

You are warmly welcomed at any our Christmas Services.

'Christmas starts with Christ.'

Christmas Services at St Helen's

15 th December 6.30pm	Lessons & Carols
22 nd December 9.15am	Children's Christingle Service
24 th December 11.15pm	Midnight Communion
25 th December 9.15am	Family Communion

Chris Berridge

W J EDGE & SON BUILDERS LTD

Family run business established over 40 years
For all your Residential and Commercial work

* Extensions

*Alterations

*Paving

* Renovations

For a Free Quotation call us now

Phone: 01455 271321 Mobile: 07831 181079

SHARNFORD PRESCHOOLERS PTFA

Sharnford Bumps, Babies and Toddlers & Little Explorers Playgroup Sharnford

We have had a busy term so far, with still more to come. We started with two very successful Coffee Mornings in September and October. A big thank you to all who come down, and also to those that baked. Good news - there is still one more Coffee Morning before Christmas – Tuesday 10th December 9-10.30am, Evergreen Hall.

Our AGM took place at the beginning of November and we have some new faces on board. I have stepped down from post of Secretary and have been replaced by Fiona Holliland. Fay Hooper has passed on the role of Treasurer to Ellie Rowan.

Fay has also left the PTFA, and we would like to say a big thank you to her for the time she has given to the group. Kathy Bryan remains as Chair. Another big thank you also goes to Jo, who came down specially, to make sure the children stayed happy whilst the meeting took place. We have a wish-list from Playgroup and some ideas for BBT, so watch this space!

With regards to BBT, it is still every Tuesday 9am -10.30am at the Evergreen Hall during term time. If you are at home with a bump or preschool aged child, whether you are a parent or carer, or know someone who is, do come along and join us. Ellie has also been organising a weekly craft activity since the beginning of term, something that has gone down well with the children (and adults!)

With good wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Gabrielle Bryan, PTFA member

COME AND ENJOY MUSIC MORE!

Do you enjoy classical music and would like to know more about it?

Enjoy Music More meets at the Adult Education College in Wellington Street, Leicester on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 12.00 from September to March each year . The well-known local organist, choirmaster and music teacher Robert Foreman talks to us in his very individual style about a variety of music and we then listen to and discuss the music.

Are you interested? Ring Martin on 0116 2592868 or Ken on 01455 822285.



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 areas.

Tel ~ 07976 314975

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

www.booth-it-solutions.co.uk

Sharnford Village Show & Plant Sale

The team behind the Plant Sale & the Village Show would like to thank everyone who has supported these village events.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and our best wishes for 2014
Dates for your diary

Plant Sale Saturday 17th May 2014
Produce Show 13th September 2014
See you all in 2014



Dave Sewell takes the prize from Sheila Scott for his photo of a rainbow



First prize in the 1 flower, 1 veg and 1 fruit section



Billy Higginbotham collects his award for Best in Class from Sheila



Photos taken at the September 2013 Sharnford Village Show

The Typesetter's Knight Mayor

1 I have a spelling chequer,
It came with my pea see;
It plainly marques for my revue
Miss steaks eye cannot sea.

2 Eye strike a quay and right a word
And weight four it two say
Weather I am wrong or write -
It shows me strait away.

3 As soon as a mist ache is maid,
It nose bee four two late,
And eye can put the error rite,
It's rarely, rarely grate.

4 I've run this poem threw it,
I'm sure yore please to no,
It's letter perfect in it's weigh,
My chequer tolled me sew.

As you see from the Poem above we make sure that the Sharnford News never contains any spelling mistakes. If you find any – don't blame us – blame the Spell Checker!!

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

Editorial Team: Dave Sewell 272901 (email: desewell@hotmail.com),
Angie Timson-Jones 271561 and Jean Ryan 615820

Answers to the quiz on page16 :-

1. Bullseye, 2. Roger Moore, 3. Doc, 4. Mowgli, 5. Daniel Radcliffe, 6. Black, 7. Pauline Collins, 8. The Bodyguard, 9. Amanda Seyfried, 10. L.S. Lowry, 11. Marx Bros. 12. Claude Monet, 13. Henry Moore, 14. Toto, 15. Frank Baum, 16. Titian, 17. Sandie Shaw, 18. Mary Poppins, 19. Frederick Marryat, 20. Shadowfax

THE SHARNFORD NEWS EDITORIAL TEAM

Would like to say Thank You

To our Advertisers for their continued support in 2013,
To all our contributors for the time taken to write articles and
To all our readers

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO YOU ALL**

