

SHARNFORD NEWS

1st June 2014

Issue No 50



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Available at www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/Sharnford-News-online.

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

It's been an interesting time on the Parish Council recently! After much confusion it transpired that the current council's term was not complete – there is another year to do. As myself and Derek Gibbons had been working towards it ending our term this year we both took the decision to resign. I would like to thank Derek for his enormous commitment to the Parish Council, steering it through some challenging projects such as the Burial Ground and the Youth Club.

As we approached this Sharnford News issue, the remaining quorum of 5 councillors had yet to meet and elect their new Chairman. It is customary that the Chairman's report to the AGM is normally printed in the June, but as it is yet to be put to the council they have given me permission to include a few extracts from it.

'The Youth Club lease has finally been finalised. The Youth Club/Community Hall, although in it's infancy as a project flourished during the past year, through the hard work and innovation of the Youth Club Committee. I feel that it is in good hands and I am personally hopeful for its future as a great asset to Sharnford.

The Burial Ground once again is still a project in its infancy. Lessons are being learnt, but attention needs to be given to the running and administration. As the Burial Ground becomes more widely used a role will need to be created for a caretaker. This is something that needs to be built in to future budgets.

Following complaints from residents with regards to the village crossing and parking issues outside the Sharnford Arms, the Parish Council and STAG entered into negotiations with Highways. Highways were extremely helpful with both issues and we now have improved lights on the crossing. The road outside the Sharnford Arms now has visible road markings and a central refuge.

The reports from The Environment Agency with regards to air pollution were disappointing, but were no great surprise. The results were taken in two separate locations in the south part of the village. 12 months more of tests are being undertaken and if pollution levels remain at the current levels, the Authorities will have to look at ways of reducing pollution levels. The Parish Council must ensure that the results are chased up and that the Authorities act accordingly, if the results once again prove to be an issue to health in the village.

Flooding is another issue that must continue to be monitored. The Parish Council have pressed the Environment Agency on a number of occasions during the past year, to remove silt from the Soar Brook in the centre of the village. As yet we still have not had a positive response. However an exercise to remove heavy weed from the brook adjacent to the meadows was requested by the Parish Council and has been completed. The PC conducted a number of meetings with Leicestershire County Council officers to

develop an action plan to divert traffic away from Sharnford on occasions of the centre of the village flooding. We are still awaiting a final response from the officers. As much help must be given to residents who live with the threat of flooding. The Parish Council must continue to ensure that the Council is clearing drains and waterways on a regular basis.

The Parish Council have successfully liaised with Blaby Environmental Health and Planning Officers to carry out sound level testing related to Hovercraft operations at the Shades. This resulted in a temporary Planning Approval for continued hovercraft operation but with stringent noise level control criteria, to ensure nuisance avoidance for local residents. Monitoring of continued compliance is ongoing.

The proposal for a development of Affordable Housing at the north end of the village received funding and planning approval. This will hopefully allow appropriate local residents to continue to live in the village. The development will also improve the visual approach to the village from the north.

I have offered my services to the Parish Council as a voluntary 'Road Safety Liaison Officer' reporting to the Parish Council. If they agree, then I hope to continue to use the relationships I have built with Highways, to improve safety on the B4114 through the village.'

I wish the continuing Parish Council well for the future.

Angie Timson-Jones

SHARNFORD C.E. PIMARY SCHOOL

During the spring term at Sharnford C E Primary School the children have had the opportunity of attending a number of trips. Year 5 went to the Belgrave district of Leicester to experience and gain an understanding of the rich cultural diversity of Leicester's vibrant Asian community, year 3 visited different places of worship in Leicester to hear stories and learn how their faith makes a difference to the life of the believer, year 6 were invited to Hastings High School to watch the dress rehearsal of their production, Bugsy Malone.

Reception children visited Sapcote Garden Centre to learn how plants grow and class one continued their visits to Fosse Meadows where the children made mud pies and handprints, bird feeders, measured trees, had a go at bark rubbings, built a fairy town, made bracelets and woodland crowns, played colour bingo and looked for different colours, they walked to the pond to look for frogspawn, made homes for animal puppets, lit a fire and toasted marshmallows, built dens and had an Easter egg hunt. They also listened to a number of stories and played games as well as finding out about



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trees, plants, birds, minibeasts and mushrooms. There are also a number of trips booked during the summer term. Some children from key stage two attended the Hinckley Area Cross Country races and ran very well.

A sports coach comes in to school each week to run an afterschool multi sports club and football club. Parents evening was very well attended and parents were asked to complete a questionnaire to offer their views of the school. Class one led the Mother's Day assembly in school and Class three led the Easter Service which took place at St Helen's Church. School

Food Support offered a special Easter meal and the opportunity of entering Junior Chef of the year competition. Conkers, our afterschool club were inspected by OFSTED and received a grading of 'Good'. They offer before and afterschool care at All Saints C E Primary School, Sapcote from 7.30am to 8.45am and 3.15pm to 6pm.

The PTA organised an Easter party full of games for the children and it was great to see the youngest children taking part alongside the older ones. The money raised this term, which, thanks to the continued support of parents, stands at about £400. At the moment it is going to be put to good use on some new play equipment for Class one and to help towards the leavers trip. We would like to thank the volunteers that come in to school to listen to the children read and help out with trips and activities. Please visit our new website www.allsaintsandsharnfordschools.co.uk where you will be able to access further information about our school.

Carol Proctor, Secretary

WHAT'S THIS DAVE – ON THE BRIC-A-BRAC STALL?

Down at the Evergreen Fair Trade Bacon Buttie Morning the other week, Margaret Hubbard asked me this question "What's this brass thing I picked up from the Bric-a-Brac table?" "I've no idea - looks like a timepiece device" I said. Margaret, thinking she had discovered something really interesting said "It looks a bit antique, I wonder if it's worth anything?" "I'm not sure" I said "but if you don't want it I'll have it!" With that, off she went, bought it for 50p and gave it to me...."there" she said "see if you can find out what it is?".....so I did!!



Here is the object as found, after twisting the centre ring a little.

After only a few minutes search on the internet with Google and BINGO! – I knew what it was.....it

is called a **Two-Ring Universal Equinoctial Ring Dial**. The bad news however was, our piece is missing some important parts. Here is what it should look like.



A two-ring universal equinoctial ring dial - was a cutting edge scientific instrument in its time, which is about 500 years ago! Essentially it is a type of sundial that allows you to tell the time wherever you are, so long as the sun is shining.

Originally developed in the early 17th century by the English mathematician William Oughtred, it was a development of an earlier instrument, the astronomer's ring, which was used for measuring the

altitude of stars and also terrestrial objects.

You need to know your latitude, so this is the first adjustment that you need to make. Secondly you need to set the date using the sliding section in the middle. Then you rotate the inner ring until it won't turn any more, and your ring dial will now look like the picture below.

Suspend the ring dial by the cord, such that the sun shines through the pinhole in the middle, and hits the centre of the inner ring. From here you can read off the time. When you have finished, you can fold the ring dial flat again.

The ring dial does not allow for the 1 hour change in summer time, so you need to factor that in to your calculations. It can work in any latitude from 20 degrees to 75 degrees, in either hemisphere.

What is clever is that, unlike a normal sundial that needs to be aligned and requires you to know the exact direction of north, the ring dial does not need this information.

Needs no batteries!

So the last question to discover was 'what is it worth?' Could this be a 17th century lost treasure and if it was – where are the missing pieces? Maybe the stall holder could tell us where it came from....but wait a minute, what does this label on the back say? 'Made in Korea'....can't be!! Yes it was and Google confirmed you can buy this replica Ring Dial on EBay for about \$30 (£25) – sorry Margaret “don't book that world trip just yet?”

This modern replica is made of solid brass, and comes in a small cardboard presentation box, together with instructions. The dial is 6cm across.



Dave Sewell



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**SHARNFORD
VILLAGE
FETE**



Dear Villagers and Friends

Hope you'll be there!
Look what the day has in store for
you at this year's Fete.

Timetable for the day

- 12noon – Fete starts
- 12:30 – Punch and Judy Show
- 1:30 – First Duck Race
- 2:30 – Second Duck Race
- 3:00 – Punch and Judy Show
- 3:30 – Raffle Drawn
- 4:00 – Close

Running all afternoon – Bar, BBQ and
Refreshments Stall



**“THE PARK”
SHARNFORD**

**SUNDAY 8th JUNE
12 – 4pm**

*P.S If you can offer any time to
help on the day please
contact Kathy on
272335*

'Oh I do like to be beside the seaside'
The Sharnford Fete is coming!!
Sunday 8th June
12pm – 4pm on The Park, Park View, Sharnford
(by the Youth & Community Centre)

Fete day 2014 is fast approaching, we are all looking forward to bringing the seaside to Sharnford... This year's entertainment will include 2 Punch and Judy shows, Balloon Modelling, Duck Races, Paper boat crafting and racing, sand castles, a bouncy castle and all your favourite stalls: - Cake, Fresh Produce, Tombola, Bottle Stall, Children's Tombola, Beat the Goalie, Coconut Shy, Book Stall, the Stocks, Wellie Wanging and others.

Collections

To help make the stalls a success and last the duration of the Fete we rely on the support of villagers and friends for donations. If you have any donations for the Fete, please bring them along to one of the collection points and put them in the box provided. Collection points are: Soarbrook House Chapel Lane; 33 Henson Way; 5 Holyoak; The school (at 8:45 and 3:15) the Evergreen Hall during Playgroup hrs. or contact Kathy on 272335

Donations are welcomed for the Books stall; Children's Tombola; Bottle Stall and Raffle Prizes. Remember the funds raised by the Fete are channelled back into the village via the different committees who work hard to improve village life. This year's causes are the Youth Club, Evergreen Committee, Stag, Environment Group, St Helens, Methodist Chapel, School PTA, Playgroup, Village Show and the Sick and Divi.

Calling all bakers! Cakes and bakes for the Cake Stall and Refreshment stand are always welcome. Please bring them along on the day, or drop them off at a Fete Collection point on Saturday morning.

Can you Help on the Day?

We always need as many pairs of hands as can be spared, to make the day enjoyable for everyone involved. Can you help out on the Day, even for just half an hour? If you can please contact the SGJC or just come down on the day.

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

The Council will be holding its AGM on the 27th May, and BDC is ambitious for the people living, working and visiting our district. Over the past year we have seen what can be achieved through working, with and supporting Leicestershire Families programme. We have seen the benefits of developing stronger relationships with local businesses and the success with the introductions of our weekly recycling service.

BDC has achieved so much during this past year and I would like to highlight just a few.

- Planning consent for Lubbesthorpe will deliver homes and jobs for people in a sustainable way.
- Issued outline planning consent for the Everards micro brewery development again bringing jobs and leisure opportunities to the area.
- Ongoing work to return empty homes back into use.
- Obtained £100,000 to deliver a property flood protection scheme for Sharnford.
- Completed management plans for the Council's key countryside sites. Improvements made at Fosse Meadows to the car parks and the installation of a fantastic new Bird Hide.
- The Volunteer Ranger Scheme now have 16 new volunteer Rangers taking our total to 27.
- Completed the Rural Exception sites at Elmesthorpe and Thurlaston resulting in 12 new affordable homes especially for local people.
- Worked in partnership with LCC, East Midlands Housing Group and Westleigh Homes to deliver a new flagship Extra Care scheme at Winchester Road in Blaby.
- Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed the formal merger of Blaby and Hinckley & Bosworth Community Safety Partnership.
- Approved over 90 Disabled Facilities Grants, enabling disabled people better access in their homes.
- Our Warm Homes Officer completed 290 energy audits to help people make their homes more fuel efficient.
- Additional locks and security items were fitted to 41 properties of vulnerable individuals to ensure that they felt safe in their own homes.
- Produced a Health Action Plan to show how the Council's services contribute to Public Health.
- Delivered the Exercise Referral Scheme – 199 participants took place in 13/14 with 3854 attendances.
- Delivered Activity Clubs for children who witnessed domestic abuse.
- Secured a £60,000 Air Quality Grant from DEFRA with regard to AQ on the M1 motorway in Blaby District.
- New Get Active programme for residents of Braunstone Town and Blaby, 102 residents signed up to a variety of activities.
- Signed up to the Local Dementia Action Alliance to improve the quality of life of people living with dementia and their carers in the district.
- Working in partnership with the Rural Community Council to set up a Good Neighbour Scheme in Croft and Sharnford looking at the needs or isolation in our communities
- We received a 'Good' Ofsted rating for our Children's Sure Start Centres in December 2013.
- Received 4* accreditation for our website in 2014 and have been named as one of the top 20 best websites in the country. Only 13 district councils to achieve 4 stars – the highest possible rating – 31 councils nationwide
- The Housing Options Team received 'highly commended' award from LCC for working with the 4 ways 2 warmth to deliver the Warm Homes Officer roles.

- A member of our housing team was one of 8 people shortlisted for a National award by the Chartered Institute of Housing for the Housing Innovation category for his work on developing the Homefinder Private Rented Sector project.

As you can see we, as a council, have worked hard to secure the best for all our residents, we look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

Best wishes, Ernie, Iain and Sheila - BDC

YOUTH CLUB & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Hard to believe that it has been a whole year since the brand new, and much improved, Youth & Community Centre opened its doors, and what a busy year it has been.

The regular clubs which have been set up are proving very popular and include the once fortnightly Monday Craft Club and the weekly Wednesday morning over 55's Youth Club. The Matt Elliott Football Academy is going from strength to strength and now runs every Thursday, starting with Soccer Tots at 2pm followed by the 5-13 yr old sessions at 4.30pm. The Thursday evening Fitsteps Ballroom Boogie is also well attended and runs from 6.30pm. Great fun for anyone over 16, and no partner required. For more information on any of the above groups, please contact Julie Edge on 01455 271321.

The Centre is also getting booked up fast for both children's and adult parties, so please get in touch if you have a special occasion coming up and would like to come and check out the facilities on offer.

As the summer seems to finally be upon us, fingers crossed, the children are all making the most of the extra daylight hours during their Friday Night Youth Club sessions. With an average of 35 in attendance each week, the club is as popular as ever. The Youth Club is open to anyone over the age of 5, just come along from 6.30-8pm for a look around. All new members welcome.

The Summer Trip looks likely to be a day at Wicksteed Park towards the end of August with a free bus for all members running from Sharnford. Wicksteed has proved fun for all ages in the past and a great day out for the whole family. Members will be informed of the details nearer the time.

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3 of our volunteer members recently completed their First Aid Training run by Tin Hat Training at the Youth & Community Centre. It was a very interesting and informative day but all agreed they would rather not have to put their new found skills into practice anytime soon!

The Sharnford Sweet FA Cup Final Day was a roaring success, helped considerably by the fantastic weather on the day. All monies raised will go towards the resurfacing of the car park which will greatly enhance the facilities and also allow a smoother and safer surface which can also be utilised in the winter months when the park is too wet. See separate report in this issue.

For more information on the Youth Club or any of the Groups mentioned, please log on to sharnfordyouthclub@wordpress.com or visit us on our facebook site 'Sharnford Youth Club'.

Julie Edge

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SAPCOTE AND SHARNFORD
CHARITY FUN RUN Saturday 21st June 2014 10:00
Starting at All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote, LE9 4FG**

Calling all runners (and walkers!).

A Charity Fun Run is being organised by churches in Sapcote and Sharnford to commence at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday 21st June, **mid summer's day**, starting from All Saints' Church Hall, Sapcote, LE9 4FG; to raise money for charities, to promote healthy activities and to have fun!

This is the third annual Fun Run. Previous events were very successful and last year we had 34 participants and raised £367 for the two charities.

This year we will also be holding a plant sale and a cake sale in the church hall.

The Fun Run is a low-key (no pressure) running or walking event – so come and enjoy yourselves. The route chosen uses the bridle way between Sapcote and Sharnford (there and back) and avoids main roads.

The event is open to all ages, however those under 18 years must have a registration form signed by a parent or guardian and those under 16 years must also be accompanied by a responsible adult.

The charities we are supporting are “**Tear Fund**” and “**Cancer Research UK**”.

You can download a registration form and a sponsorship form at: www.allsaintschurchsapcote.co.uk or contact Dave Harrold.

The run is a relatively short 4.5km (2.8miles). The way will be clearly marked with signs and there will be marshalls along the way. The event is not a race – everyone can go at their own pace! **Why not come and join the fun!**

We are charging an entrance fee of £5.00 which will cover administration costs and any profit will be passed to the charities. Early registration prior to the event will be appreciated as this makes it easier on the day.

If you would like to register, please either Email details (preferred) to Dave Harrold at daverharrold@aol.com or return your form to: Dave Harrold, 14 Shadrack Close, Stoney Stanton, Leicester, LE9 4TN Or Phone Dave Harrold 07786985932

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE - ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

In April 2013 we were able to witness the Official Opening of the new Youth & Community Centre in Park View. The unveiling was jointly conducted by Leicester City hero Matt Elliott and Olympic Hockey medallist Nicola White, who brought along her medal for all to see.

In April this year we received a Greeting Card from Nicola, as follows:-

Dear Derek & all at Sharnford Youth and Community Centre,

I am writing to wish you a very happy 1st anniversary since opening the Centre with you last year!

By the looks of things, you have been very busy & I can see lots of smiles in the photos of the Centre online, which is a huge success!

You were such a welcoming community to me last year & I am so pleased that your new, safe and modern centre is back to being a lively hub for all ages.....just as it probably was many years ago.

A very quick update for you all – training is going well and we have a very busy summer ahead with World Cup, London Cup & Commonwealth Games. I have my fingers crossed that I will be at them all.

I wish you all continued success & I hope you are thoroughly enjoying your new Community Centre.

Best Wishes Nicola xxx

Nicola has gone from success to success but has modestly not mentioned that she was appointed Captain of the England Team for the European Indoor Championship in January – but what a delightful gesture for her to remember her visit to Sharnford.

Derek Gibbons

SHARNFORD FOOTBALL FUN DAY

The first Sharnford Football Fun Day proved to be very successful – raising close to £1,000 for the Youth Club - and was a whole lot of fun for all involved.

The day kicked off with an 11-a-side adult game featuring former Leicester City players Jon Stevenson and Levi Porter playing with Gerry Taggart and Alan Young managing the two teams from the side lines. For the record, the Sharnford Blues beat the Sharnford Reds 7-4 and clearly benefited from a significantly younger average age! It has been alleged that the Red's resorted to trying a 4-4-4 formation (with a



goalkeeper as well) but that is a total fabrication. Possibly.

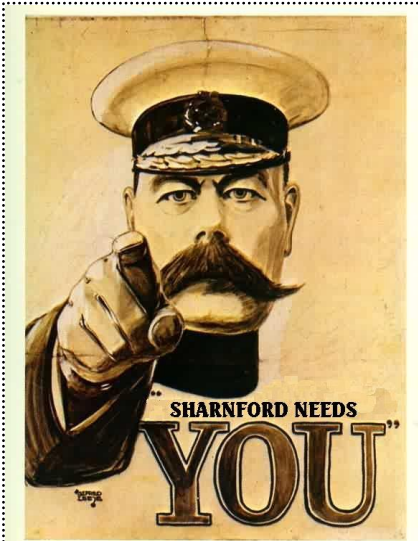
Later on, Sharnford's Community Centre played host to U8 and U11 kid's games and coaching from the Matt Elliott Football Academy, a live screening of the FA Cup Final and an evening party. Other activities included a guest appearance from former LCFC captain and legend Steve Walsh, a kid's XBOX FIFA tournament (won by Max Corti), a football memorabilia auction, a FA Cup Final score sweepstake, an all-day BBQ and much relaxing with cold beers in the glorious sunshine.

A huge thanks to everyone that helped organise and deliver this event. It was great to see so many people turn up throughout what was a gloriously sunny and hugely entertaining day for all.

Kevin Corti

ST HELEN'S C/E CHURCH, SHARNFORD

'Sharnford at War 1914' Exhibition



Saturday 16 August - 2 to 5pm
Sunday 17 August - 2 to 6pm

'Songs of Praise in Troubled Times 1914'

On Sunday 17 August at 6.30pm

SHARNFORD NEEDS YOU!

Have you any photographs, medals, letters or any items of memorabilia from the First World War 1914 – 1918 that you would be willing to loan to the Church for the ***'Sharnford at War 1914' Exhibition.***

If you are able to loan items,
Please contact Chris Berridge Tel. 273560

SHARNFORD LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP

Since the last edition we have had a most enjoyable afternoon tracking the Easter bunny and discovering eggs that he had hidden for us to eat! Yummy. We also had a bonnet parade and proudly wore our bonnets for all the parents and families to see.

At last we are now enjoying the summer sunshine, visiting the park each week with our physical play equipment such as footballs and skipping ropes and playing tag around the fields. We are learning how physical exercise makes us healthy and that we need to be active every day!



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We have had a teddy bears picnic at Fosse Meadows and will soon be having our annual teddy bears treasure hunt. We are practicing searching by hiding things around playgroup and encouraging our friends using directional commands such as left, right and straight on to encourage them.

On Monday 16th June we are off to Oak Farm Park. We are excited to be going on a coach with lots of our friends and families to learn about the farm animals and help to feed them. We are hoping it is a nice sunny day for us so that we can enjoy the trampolines, slides and football area like we did last year.

On a sad note, we will be saying goodbye to some of our children at the end of term when they go to their big school. We are busy teaching them as much as we can about how to hold our dinner trays, putting our PE kits on, doing up zips and fastening our shoes. Some of the teachers are coming to visit us at playgroup and we will be visiting as many schools as we can, joining in with assembly's and lunch times to help us get used to new routines. We will miss you all so much. You all become part of the playgroup family and we thank you for supporting our small and friendly playgroup.

There are several special ladies who have been absolute stars, working hard for our PTFA who are sadly leaving us this term. The PTFA works very hard to make all the special treats possible, such as Christmas presents from Santa, Chocolate Eggs, raising funds towards the cost of playgroup trips plus much much more. We would like to take this opportunity to thank these special ladies, along with everyone else for their hard work fundraising to enable these things to continue.

With these ladies stepping down, we have vacancies on the PTFA for people just to offer their help with fundraising ideas. We would love for you to join us. You can choose how active a part you play; just let us know what you are able to offer. You don't have to have a child with us. It could be that you are retired but like helping out and also fancy helping our children within the village and local areas. We could also do with some more help at our Bumps, Babies and Toddler sessions on a Tuesday

morning. Maybe you could spare an hour to come along and help with the teas and coffees. If you feel this is something you would like to do or just want a bit more information, please call Sue on 07896496403.

Enjoy the summer!

Alison, Sue, Karen, Kat and Claire

SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Dear Villager, by the time you read this, the village should look prettier with the addition of the hanging baskets around the village, now in place on the main thoroughfares through the village. Some of you have asked in the past why we don't install baskets on the minor roads. The reasons are cost (time and money), we would need more watering volunteers and last but not least we are not allowed to put baskets on the concrete type lighting columns. As it is, the lighting columns have to be inspected, and tested for approval by Leicester County Council regularly. This cost is sometimes met by ourselves, or the Parish Council. So we hope you can understand and appreciate what and why we have the baskets where



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 – or just turn up to find out more and give it a try.

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they are. The first baskets went up 10 years ago! Up on Bluebell Green (see earlier photo) the numbers on the sundial clock are causing some concern since they are becoming very overgrown and the numbers seem to be disappearing, so a major task for the group to remedy this summer. Its likely that they will be removed, cleaned, the numbers painted and then re-laid level with the grass. A time consuming task, but it will be worthwhile and could last another 5 or 6 years. Wheels are slowly in motion for the village sign. Dave Sewell gave a presentation to the Parish Council in March and this met with their full approval. We have discovered that an essential initial part of the process is a site visit by a planning officer from L.C.C. which has to be dealt with through the Parish Council. Without this approval (we may need planning permission) we cannot progress further, so we await the visit and are hopeful of the outcome. Dave has drawn up plans for the positioning on BlueBell Green together with some illustrations; just ask him if you would like more information. Funds need to be raised too, but without that essential planning approval our plans are scuppered!



Many of you will have noticed that the newest planters on the Coventry Road/Leicester Road corner now have paving blocks around. This is to enhance the appearance but also to protect the planters from mowing damage. Do any of you have any unwanted paving blocks? We could use them when we go around the others planters – just give us a ring please. Geraniums are

going in the planters this summer as they seem to cope best with the vagaries of the British weather!

Something odd has been going on in the planters..... in a few, this Spring, red tulips

appeared, not planted by the group members. Also the polyanthus planted by Ron in the planter on the Leicester Road exit, have been stolen! Its not bird or small animal damage since the plants were removed by the roots, leaving the empty space. Other plants were not taken..... Hope to see you at the fete, we shall be selling plants and have the maggot racing, if the sun shines. Maybe the children's quiz too. Remember our numbers should you need to contact us Maureen 274374, Dave on 272901 and Yvonne on 274112

Yvonne

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A QUIZ FOR ALL THE FAMILY

1. Who, in Greek Mythology, was the king of the gods?
2. What kind of creature is Eeyore in *Winnie the Pooh*?
3. Which country has the nickname *Blighty*?
4. Which car company has a name that translates from Latin 'let it be done'?
5. Which of these was not a World War II fighter plane - Hurricane, Lancaster or Typhoon?
6. What can you measure with a protractor?
7. Which leader's rebellion finally ended at Culloden in 1745?
8. Who supposedly rode naked on horseback through the streets of Coventry in protest against local taxes?
9. Who had a horse called Bucephalus?
10. Where on a horse would one find a frog?
11. Which famous horse race includes jumps called Becher's Brook and The Chair?
12. Who, in Sherlock Holmes stories, was called 'the Napoleon of crime'?
13. What means of escape did bank robbers in Paris use for the first time on 27th October 1901?
14. What is the name of the fashion obsessed villainess in 101 Dalmatians?
15. By whom was John F. Kennedy's assassin Lee Harvey Oswald shot dead?
16. In which James Bond adventure is Oddjob an evil henchman?
17. What did Dorothy steal from the Wicked Witch of the West?
18. In Cluedo, what is the name of the person who has been found dead at the start of the game?
19. Whose motto was 'all for one and one for all'?
20. What is the name of the hometown of the Flintstones?

Answers on the last page.

**TOP
SUNDAY
LUNCHES**

SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW AND PLANT SALE

What a lovely day for the plant sale! Street Cafe culture hits Sharnford.

We had a fantastic range of plants both grown ourselves and from Four Winds. Several competitors in the September Show were spotted buying plants. The hall was heaving and the Bacon Butties were flying out of the kitchen. It was a joy to see so many people and also to see them relax out the front in the sun in the outside seating area.

It was a good start to our fundraising efforts for village causes which will continue with our not to be missed stand at the Fete in June. Just wait and see what a Kaye has prepared for our stand! You should all by now have a copy of the schedule for our September show, please enter. It is another fun event in the village which again raises funds for village causes. There is a class in the schedule for everyone to enter, be you nine or ninety.

A big thank you to all of you who supported the Plant Sale, to the Evergreen for running the refreshments and to Four Winds for the quality bedding and other plants. All quality plants at reasonable prices.

We raised over £1000 last year for village causes and we are on track to do the same this year. THANK YOU

<http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford/sharnford-produce-show.html>

Tony Curtis

SHARNFORD CRICKET CLUB

1st Team

Captain - Billy Kilborn
Vice Captain – Jamie Simons

2nd Team

Captain – Jack Richings
Vice Captain – Liam Daly

‘Sofa-gate’ – what was that all about!! 20 odd sofas piled up alongside the ground. I did wonder at one point if they were planning to create some sort of funky grandstand with the amount of sofas that had congregated down at the ground!! Thankfully the sofas are gone and the ground is back to normal.

As is customary, it was the usual last minute panic to get the ailing pavilion and ground ready for action. Great weather and hard work have culminated in a great cricket field this season and the pavilion is just about holding together!

The two Captains are having a challenging time finding enough players to field a full team. Despite some good individual performances such as Joe Richings century in the first game of the season, winning matches is proving

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difficult. Hopefully with grim determination and players form improving as the season progresses, wins will come!

Remember to pop down to the ground and cheer the teams on. There will be a match on most Saturdays 1.30pm.

SHARNFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Revd. Barbara Bircumshaw Tel: 634168

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 – Mondays 2.00pm See details below

Craft Group – 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Feb to Nov



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Another 3 months have passed and it's time to look back at what we've been up to. Well, nothing momentous or earth shattering but we have continued in our regular worship and in our service to others.

In March we joined with St Helens to promote 'Fair Trade' and to raise funds for 'Action Aid'. Numbers & proceeds were down on last year but it was still a successful morning. Proceeds from our April coffee morning went to 'Send a Cow' and in May to 'Christian Aid'.

For our Lent project, in common with the other churches in Hinckley Methodists Circuit, we collected our loose change for 'Rainbows'. I haven't heard the circuit total yet but, as one of the

smaller churches, we managed £44 so in all we should have raised a useful sum.

Our members continue to support the Hinckley Food Bank. So for this year we have collected an average of over 15kg per month. Not a great amount but a help to those in need and a practical way of following our Lords command.

June 8th is almost with us, hope you're ready for the Fete, see you there.

Maureen Butcher

ST HELEN'S CHURCH

In March we held our Fairtrade Coffee Morning and raised £314 for the charity 'Action Aid', thank you to all who supported it. Funerals for Mrs Mary Dodds and Mr Eric Gardiner were held.

We welcomed Pupils and Staff from Sharnford C.E Primary School to the Church to celebrate their Easter Service. Members from the local community also attended. Some of the children had done work on Jesus Christ at Easter, this work was displayed in the

Church. We would like to thank the children and staff from the school for continuing to contribute work for display in our church throughout the year.

Clean up the Churchyard on May 31st will have passed when you receive this newsletter, so grateful thanks to all who helped out.

Fun Run on June 24th. For more details see elsewhere in this newsletter.

'Sharnford at War 1914' on Saturday 16 August 2 pm-5pm, Sunday 17 August 2pm-6pm at St Helen's Church. For more details see block advert in this newsletter.

'Songs of Praise in Troubled Times 1914' on Sunday 17 August at 6.30pm at St Helen's Church. Come and join us for the special service.

Ride & Stride on Saturday 13 September 10am-6pm. Challenges you to cycle or walk to as many 'open' Churches as you can. Details from Mrs C. Oliver Tel.272977

Please note that Holy Communion on the 2nd Wednesday of the month will no longer be held at St Helen's.

Holy Communion is held at All Saints, Sapcote on some Tuesdays of the month at 9.45am. The next services are June 3rd & June 24th at 9.45am. See notice in St Helen's porch for further dates of this service.

You are most welcome to join with us in our worship at St Helen's every Sunday at 9.15am.

Chris Berridge

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LAKE DISTRICT HOLIDAY - MARCH 31ST TO APRIL 4TH



A group of *old and very old* people from Sharnford and District set off from the Evergreen Hall for a much looked forward to holiday in the Lake District; staying at the County Hotel in Kendal. The short break was enjoyed very much with visits to Dalemain House, Bowness on Windermere, Kirkstone Pass, Ulveston, Lakeland Motor

Museum, Bluebird exhibition at Coniston and Grasmere. A lovely boat trip was taken on Ullswater from Pooley Bridge.

We had an excellent driver, Barry, from Robinson's Coaches, and prior to leaving Sharnford he was knighted and dubbed 'Sir Barry' for the duration of the holiday. Anyone not giving Barry his correct title was fined 10p for not showing due respect! A sum of £47.90 was raised! This amount was further enhanced by other donations collected at the end of the holiday. A grand total of £100 was given to Alex Matthew's fund for the Brain Tumour charity currently being supported by many in Sharnford and beyond. Our best wishes go to Alex and a big thank you to all who contributed.

John

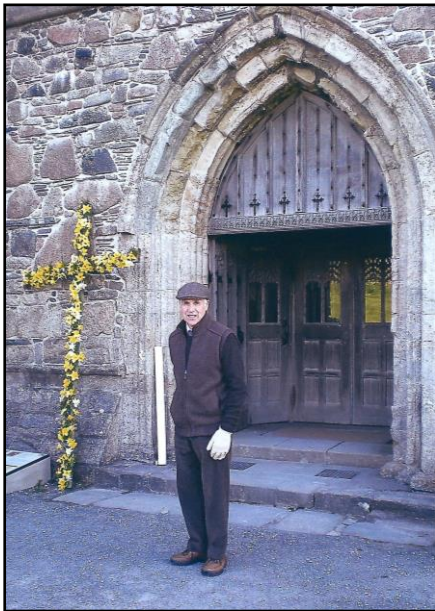
AN EASTER ESCAPE

In April 2014, after a lifetime in Sharnford & St. Helens, I spent my first Easter away from home.

My escape was a cruise on the Hebridean Princess, which left Oban bound for the Scottish Islands and back, but in particular to a place of historic pilgrimage, the Abbey on the Island of Iona.

The island itself is notoriously difficult to reach and for the previous 3 years weather conditions have made the Easter trip impossible. Putting the safety of his passengers first, it is the responsibility of the Captain to decide if the journey to the island will be undertaken.

So with anticipation and excitement I, along with the other passengers, waited for the green light. If all was well, there would be two small boats making the short but hazardous trip between the ship and the island. The trip was on.



Breakfast was served early that glorious Sunday morning and the first boat would go ashore at 8.45am. I was one of the first in line to board the small boat (no surprise there) which was to ferry us to Iona. It took some time to load the passengers, the waters were choppy and a great deal of courage and balance was needed to walk along the boarding ramp, and these were conditions considered favourable.

But it was worth the effort, once ashore the atmosphere was breathtaking. It was just wonderful walking up to the Abbey in glorious sunshine, passing The Great Crosses, walking through the Nunnery and many other historical buildings. In particular I wanted to visit the small ancient graveyard. It is the final resting place of numerous kings and saints and I was interested to find the grave of John Smith, located in a sheltered spot overlooking the loch.

At 10.15am, I joined the Easter procession which followed the cross of daffodils (see earlier photo) and a huge candle signifying the light of the world. We were also accompanied by the hand bell ringers who chimed our arrival into the Abbey and I was eager to make sure I secured a front row pew for the service taking place at 10.30am. A PEW WITH A VIEW! (see second photo)

There is a small community of approximately 100 residents on Iona and the service is run entirely by them. On that particular Easter Sunday over 250 people, including two ferry crossings and visitors, were in attendance creating a very special atmosphere and making a wonderful celebration.



To round off what turned out to be a magical Easter escape, my afternoon was spent walking around the island of Staffa, visiting Fingal’s Cave and seeing the rare and extraordinary Puffins.

William Higginbotham

SHARNFORD PRESCHOOLERS PARENTS, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

This a busy time for Preschoolers PTFA. Alongside opening up the Evergreen Hall every week on a Tuesday from 9am – 10.30am, for Bumps, Babies and Toddlers session (Term time only), we have had several successful Coffee Mornings, and would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who comes along. The next big event on our agenda is the Sharnford Summer Fete on 8th June. The Playgroup children will be making a Boat for the stall & Bumps, Babies and Toddlers Bunting for the boat. Do come along and see for yourselves on the day. We will also be organising a Sponsored Treasure Hunt for the Playgroup children after Half Term. This is yearly event which is always enjoyed.

With regards to the money we have raised, we have started having a monthly music session at Bumps, Babies & Toddlers, which the children love, thank you to Tracey Avis for providing it; bought some wooden play food; are funding the Summer Trip for Playgroup & BBT to Oak Farm; providing the food for the Playgroup End of Year Party & also the Playgroup Leavers Presents. We are also looking into providing better storage

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for the Playgroup's toys & equipment.

And now to the PTFA group itself, come the AGM in September, we will have some vacancies to fill. Kathy, Jacqui & I will be stepping down, as all our children will have left the Playgroup, and we feel that after several years it is time to move on. The PTFA really needs more members if it is to continue going from strength to strength, and it plays a vital role in the structure of the village, with Bumps, Babies and Toddlers leading to Playgroup, and Playgroup leading to the Primary School. If anyone is interested in joining the PTFA please speak to a member of the Playgroup staff, a member of the PTFA, or email Alison Bates at 'littleexplorersplaygroup@gmail.com'.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Gabrielle Bryan – Sharnford Preschoolers PTFA

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OLD SCHOOL SURGERY – STONEY STANTON

PUBLIC NOTICE- IMPACT ON LOCAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES

We wish to bring to the attention of all our patients that we can no longer in all conscience continue to provide healthcare services without informing them of the situation in relation to the community healthcare service. Such is the scale of our concern we have had to resort to this public notice.

In 2010, The Old School Surgery was struggling as the 5th most under funded Practice in the whole of Leicestershire (84 Practices). Average funding across Leicestershire was £72.95 per patient. Some practices were receiving in excess £113 per patient. The Old School Surgery received £61 per patient yet met the same standard of care and breadth of services as the most funded Practices.

To address this inequality, in accordance with the Primary Care Strategy, the NHS employers and General Practice Committee agreed that all under funded Practices receive a Fairness in Funding adjustment. This meant The Old School Surgery received £48,744 per annum to reach the minimum local funding target of £72.95 per patient. With this money we immediately employed a GP.

Since that time, there has been:

- * A real terms decline in general practice funding of 17.1%
- * An increase in local community population of 16% due to housing developments
- * A substantial shift in hospital services into general practice
- * An increase in utility bill/insurance/locum doctor expenses/training costs/expenses
- * Last year alone the Old School Surgery prescribing budget was cut by £47,000.

This is set against a background of a growing population that is ageing, with increasing numbers of patients suffering from multiple and complex medical conditions and demands. At 5.05 pm on 31.3.14, (the last day of the financial year) we received an e-mail from Lesley Harrison, N England Local Area Team contract manager (following Government policy), that the Fairness in Funding adjust of £47,595 is to be withdrawn forthwith. The Old School Surgery is now being thrown into a worse position than 2010. This will have a significant impact for the local community upon and access to local Healthcare.

We thus ask for your understanding as we fight to preserve the excellent Healthcare service that The Old School Surgery currently provides. We urge you to join with our Patient Participation Group and to contact the following individuals to make your concerns known as this situation will affect you directly.

Mr Andrew Robathan MP, c/o South Leicestershire Conservative Assn 1st Floor, 3 Green Road, Broughton Astley, LE9 6RA, Tel: 01455 283 594 Tel 0207 219 3459
Email: office@southleicestershire.org or southleicscons@btconnect.com

Lesley Harrison (NUS Eng LAT contracts manager), Fosse House, 6 Smith Way, Grove Park, Enderby, LE19 1SX, Tel: 0116 295 7626 or Tel 0116 295 7500 or Fax :0116 295 7599

Alternatively go to www.putpatientsfirst.rcgp.org.uk, which gives you direct access to a 'constructed letter' to Andrew Robathan. You just need to add your postcode – it's that easy.



LITTLE HATS GIVE BIG HELP ARE YOU A KNITTER OR DO YOU KNOW ONE?

Age UK Leicester Shire & Rutland is calling for all knitters to join in The Big Knit this year to raise much-needed funds to help keep local older people warm and healthy this coming winter.

Peter Ralphs, on behalf of this well-known local charity, said; “We are so grateful to those who are already clicking away, though our 2014 drive has started rather slowly. Last year we received an incredible 42,000 little hats by September. Obviously we need lots of help to match this challenging total which will assist our Winter Warmth Campaign 2014. Innocent drinks will donate 25p for each little hat which will adorn the smoothie bottles sold in Sainsbury stores in November “.

Knitters can get the simple knitting patterns online at www.ageuk.org.uk/leics or by calling the Business Development Manager on 0116 2237344.

Please arrange for your knitted hats to be at Age UK Leicester Shire & Rutland (Ref: BDM), Lansdowne House, 113 Princess Road East, Leicester, LE1 7LA by **the end of September**.

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN HALL

BACON BUTTIE MORNINGS

Saturday 9th August
Bacon Butties

Saturday 27th September
MacMillan Cancer Support

Saturday 15th November
Bacon Butties

FAMILY ORIENTEERING RETURNS TO FOSSE MEADOWS

Young residents will once again have the chance to explore their local parks, looking for clues and completing challenges. It's all part of Xplorer, an outdoor navigational challenge the whole family can take part in, involving a healthy mix of physical activity and decision making.

Using a simple map the aim is to find a number of markers that are located around the park. At each marker children will need to identify what is pictured and will also have the opportunity of learning some fun facts.

Harvey Morgan, Sport and Funding Project Officer at Blaby District Council, said: "Xplorer is perfect for children as they can have an adventure whilst running around in a safe and friendly environment. No experience of map reading is necessary and parents are encouraged to join in the fun. "Older children will have fun competing against their friends or other family members whilst younger children will enjoy the excitement of successfully finding the markers."

Xplorer is taking place every weekend over the summer at parks including Fosse Meadows, Bouskell Park, Mossdale Meadows, and Glen Parva Nature Reserve, and costs £1 per person to take part. Details are in the table below:-

DATE	VENUE	MEETING PLACE	TIME
7 June & 5 July	Bousell Park	Car Park	10am to 12pm
19 July & 2 Aug	Bousell Park	Car Park	10am to 12pm
14 June & 23 Aug	Fosse Meadows	Car Park	10am to 12pm
30 July	Fosse Meadows	Love Parks Day	10.30am to 3.30pm
24 Oct	Fosse Meadows	Car Park Halloween Spooktakular	3.00pm to 7.00pm
21 June, 30 Aug & 13 Sept	Mossdale Meadows	Car Park	10am to 12pm
26 July	Mossdale Meadows	Braunston Town Summer Fete	11.00am to 4.00pm
28 June, 12 July & 20 Sept	Glen Parva Nature Reserve	Glen Parva Parish Summer Fete	2.00pm to 5.00pm
9 Aug	Glen Parva Nature Reserve	Car Park	2.00pm to 5.00pm
25 June	Countesthorpe College	Car Park	10am to 12pm
16 Aug & 6 Sept	Countesthorpe College	Car Park	3.15pm to 5.15pm
18 Oct	Countesthorpe College	Active Arts Family Festival	12.00pm to 4.00pm

For more information visit www.sportblaby.org.uk/xplorer---british-orienteering.
Alternatively email leisure@blaby.gov.uk or call 0116 272 7703.

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 Quiz

1. Zeus, 2. A donkey, 3. Britain (or England), 4. Fiat, 5. Lancaster (Bomber), 6. Angles, 7. Bonnie Prince Charlie, 8. Lady Godiva, 9. Alexander the Great, 10. Underside of a horse's hoof. 11. The Grand National. 12. Professor Moriarty, 13. A getaway car, 14. Cruella De Ville, 15. Jack Ruby, 16. Goldfinger, 17. Her broomstick, 18. Doctor Black 19. The Three Musketeers, 20. Bedrock