



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

REMEMBERING THOSE FROM SHARNFORD WHO DIED DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR (CONTINUED)

Alfred Thomas Bason was the son of Alfred and Eliza Bason of Bumblebee Farm. He joined the Machine Gun Corps and was posted to Belgium. He was killed in action on the 24th November 1917, aged 19 and is buried in the Nine Elms British Cemetery at Poperinge, Belgium. The cemetery was used by the Casualty Clearing Stations from the Battle of Ypres in 1917.

Research has found that the Basons were a large Sharnford family. One of Alfred's cousins, **Basil Thomas** was born in Sharnford but lived in Earl Shilton. He served in The Leicestershire Regiment and was killed in action on the 13th October 1915. Another member of the family through a daughter, was Thomas Ephraim Brown who is included on our own memorial, and was killed on the 11th July 1916 in the battle of the Somme.

Another large Sharnford family were the Grooms, **George Groom**, the son of George and Mary was born in 1878. His parents had 12 children but only four survived. He was a member of the Leicestershire Regiment and it is thought that he was possibly a regular soldier prior to the declaration of war, having served in India. He appears on the 1911 Military Census. He was killed in action on the 23rd October 1914 aged 36. He is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial in Belgium. This memorial commemorates more than 11,000 service men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in this sector, many of whom have no known grave.



Capt. Percy Cuthbert Harris was the Son of retired Col James Harris and Mrs Rose Harris of The Shade in Sharnford. Although in the Suffolk Regiment, the Harris family had owned the Shade and surrounding land for many years. Capt Harris served in Egypt in 1911. He died, aged 26, at Ypres in Belgium. During the Battle of Ypres, the Germans released poison gas into the allied lines. This was the first time that gas had been used by either side. His name is recorded on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres and there is also a memorial tablet in St Helen's Church erected by his parents. Capt Harris had four sisters who served with the VAD nurses in France and England

Rosemarie Simpson

CAN YOU HELP

– BELOW ARE NAMES OF THOSE WHO RETURNED SAFELY TO SHARNFORD AND WE WANT TO INCLUDE THEM IN OUR PROPOSED RECORD OF THE EVENTS OF THAT TIME.

Any family history or photographs would be wonderful if you could help.

Sapper Frederick Charles Bott	Lord's Cottage
John Hough Ellis	
Gunner Thomas Wilson Faulks	Near the School
Driver Ernest Mills	Arnolds Cottage
L. Corp William Pemberton	Coventry Road
Sapper William Robertson	Church Road
Cpl Edwards Simond (Mil. Medal)	New Inn
Driver William Oliver Smith	Coventry Road
Pt. Thomas Aldridge	Near School
Pt William Aldridge	Black Lane
Sapper Walter Bason	Coventry Road
Sapper Thomas Forryan Buckingham	Church Road
L . Corp Alfred James Cooper	Church Road
Pt Harry George Cooper	Church Road
Sgt. William Walter Goodman	Shade Lane
Beatrice Gertrude Harris (VAD)	The Shade
Rose Constance Harris (VAD)	The Shade
Theodosia Lavinia Elizabeth Harris (VAD)	The Shade
Violet Georgina Harris (VAD)	The Shade
Lt Com Robert Edward Meade Harris	The Shade
Charles Herbert	Fosse Farm
Sap. Reuben James Hincks	Church Road
Pt Cyrel Hayfield Ison	The Cottage
Pt Percy Ison	The Cottage
Gun. James Allen Jesson	Rose Cottage
L Corp Charles John Masters	Halls Farm
Pt Thomas Masters	Shade Lane
Driver George Orton	White House
Harry Wilfred Orton	White House
Driver Benjamin Stephen Richardson	The Grange
Herbert Sanders	Near School
Pt Charles Dennis Abraham Scarborough	Near School
Pt John Sheen	Church Road
Gun John Smith	Church Road
Charles Henry Timson	Shade Lane
Lewis William Geary	Church Road

WIGSTON PARVA

Pt Charles William Green
Pt Tom Willie Shilton (or Skelton)
William Henry Hunt

Kibbles Cottages
Kibbles Cottages
The Hollow

BORN IN SHARNFORD BUT LIVED ELSEWHERE

John Albert Allen	Wolvey
Pt Charles Ashford Allen	Wolvey
Pt Basil Thomas Bason - Killed in Action	Leicester
Corp. Horace George Roland Bason	Leicester
Reginald Victor Bason	Leicester
William Joseph Bason	Frolesworth
Pt Harry Ellis Bradshaw	Frolesworth
Pt Francis Joseph Cpooper	
Pt Frederick James Crocock	Sapcote
St Jeremiah Edwin Robinson (Military Medal)	Hinckley
Leading Seaman Charles Eric Scarborough - Killed in Action	Sapcote
Harry William George Timson	

Please send any information you would like to share with us to:-
Rosemarie Simpson 01455 274158, email: srose1945@aol.com or The Rectory,
Leicester Road, Sharnford, Hinckley, Leics, LE10 3PP

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THE TALE OF A WORLD WAR ONE SOLDIER.

They say that Mary, my maternal grandmother, was the sweetest girl in the world until she was jilted by her fiancée; then she became hard, prone to moodiness and uncertain of temper. It was somewhat ironic, therefore, that the man she did eventually marry proved to be an absolute gem, for James Bennett was liked and respected by all who knew him. He was a gentle but firm man who was well mannered, even tempered, full of kindness,

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and he adored his wife and his daughter Elsie (my mother) and her younger brother, another James. The family had a comfortable life for the times in which they lived. James worked for the city council as a clerk, he had a great interest in politics and worked hard on behalf of the up and coming labour party, by whom he had been noted. They were even suggesting that he should stand for election to the council if the opportunity arose. It was due to these political connections that Mary and James were often asked to attend various receptions and dinners and Elsie remembered them going off together in the evening with Mary wearing a glamorous

new gown she had made herself (she was a seamstress) and her husband looking so proud of his handsome wife. He seemed to manage Mary's odd moods, trying to tease her gently out of them or simply ignoring them until they went away. Until that fateful day in 1916.

Mary had been out of sorts all day and she ended up trying to pick a quarrel with James but he would not bite. Suddenly, frustrated by his equanimity she spat out "You are just a coward. If you had been a real man you would be out at the front fighting for your country with all the others. James turned white, turned and walked out of the room and out of the house. Several hours passed and Mary began to worry as to his whereabouts then, at last, she heard his key in the lock. She threw herself into his arms crying, apologizing and saying that she had not meant any of it. "It's too late Mary," he said gently "I have enlisted. I start my basic training next week". Mary was heartbroken but James said "No, dearest, you were quite right I should be doing my bit and I am glad you pointed it out" and he meant it too.

After his training James came home for a short leave before he left for France. Elsie remembered that he picked her up, stood her on the green topped piano stool, told her to be a good girl for her mummy and to look after her little brother. Then after a hug and a kiss he spent a precious few minutes with his wife before leaving the house. He died at Paschendaele. When the telegram came Mary rushed to her own mother for comfort but she found none there. "Don't come crying to me Mary" she said "It was you who sent that good man to his death". Eventually all James effects were returned except for a small silver watch. He had bought it for Elsie as a birthday gift but, childlike, she had over wound it and broken the spring. It was repaired and James said perhaps she had been too young for a watch so he would wear it until she grew a little older and then he would give it back to her. Its absence was explained when the war ended and a former comrade came to see the family as he had promised the dying James he would do. He told them that James had been injured in the trenches and taken to a field hospital where he had died from wounds, shrapnel had been embedded in his chest and his left arm had been blown off. The little silver watch must have been buried somewhere on Flanders' fields.

It was the end of Mary's comfortable life. She struggled for three years on very little money and then she contracted a loveless marriage with a dour strict puritan widower

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whom her children disliked intensely even though his wages put food on the table for them. How Mary must have grieved for the kind loving husband she had lost. As a family man over 35, James would never have been conscripted and he only went to the front as a result of a filthy mood his wife was in on that

fateful day. She had to live with that memory until she died.

Estelle Perrett

FARMING IN SHARNFORD IN 2014 – UPDATE & APOLOGY

Following this article in the last Issue we asked our readers to contact Iain Smith regarding the supply of fresh milk direct from the farm. We also asked if anyone was interested in buying fresh Ice Cream from the farm. Unfortunately we printed the wrong telephone number. **Please contact Iain on 07770455592.** We apologise for the error and hope that those who tried and couldn't make contact, will try again.

SHARNFORD C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

We were pleased to welcome 11 new children and their families to Sharnford C E Primary School in August. All children settled well in to their new classes and have been busy this term with lots of different events. We took 51 year 5 and 6 children from the Federation to Kingswood Activity Centre, Staffordshire for a 5 day residential and visited RAF Cosford on the way there. At Kingswood the children enjoyed activities including quad biking, abseiling, drum beat, go carting, caving and mask making. The children all seemed to enjoy themselves and were praised by Kingswood staff for their behaviour. The whole school's topic for two weeks was World War One and Remembrance.

The older children visited the War Memorial in Sharnford, Hinckley Museum (funded by Burbage Heritage group) and a re-enactment took place in school. The children in class one made poppies and portraits of soldiers, class two wrote poems and prayers for unknown soldiers and class three wrote poems about a soldier's journey through the war. On 11th November both schools in the Federation took part in a Remembrance Service at All Saints Church, Sapcote and during the service children read their poems and laid a wreath which they had made.

Children were allowed to come to school in their pyjamas or onesies for Children In Need and we raised £65. At Harvest we collected food for Foodbank, we have also filled 10 boxes for the Rotary Shoe box appeal and collected clothes for third world countries. A photograph of our new reception children was included in the 'My First Day at School'

supplement in the Hinckley Times and individual and sibling photographs have been taken. Parents have been invited to attend parents evening in November and the children have started rehearsing for their Christmas Production.

At present the clubs running in school are multi sports, football, cross country training and recorders. Years 4 and 5 children continue to learn to play musical instruments with Leicestershire Arts and year 3 children are taking part in a 'Diosing' project led by Leicester Cathedral. There are close links with Hastings High School to help children with transition to their next stage of education and year 5 and 6 are currently taking part in three E-textile sessions at Hastings.

The Government introduced free school meals for all children in reception, year 1 and 2 from the start of the autumn term. This has been well received and most children are enjoying a free hot healthy meal each day. The PTA continue to work very hard to raise much needed funds for school. They have organised a disco and Christmas Workshop for the children and a Pamper evening for adults, as well as running coffee mornings. A number of parents and adults give up their free time to listen to children read and this is very much appreciated. Thank you to everyone who sent in supermarket vouchers, we have received skipping ropes, a small balance kit, an egg and spoon set for sports day and a foam ring target set.

Carol Proctor Secretary

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT COFFEE MORNING HELD 27TH SEPTEMBER 2014

Thank you Sharnford for your generous support at the Evergreen Coffee Morning held 27th September. This year £535.51 was raised making a grand total of £2438 raised since 2009, when we started to support the Charity.

Many thanks also to the Stall Holders and of course, the Bacon Buttie makers.

Jean Dale

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

The Evergreen Club meets fortnightly when members play various games or just chat, followed by tea, cake and sandwiches. Our other social events over the past year have been a trip to the Concordia to see the pantomime in January which is always enjoyable, and we shall be going next year to see Humpty Dumpty.

In May we went on a coach trip to Sandringham, calling at Caithness Glass on the way and we also enjoyed a diversion along local roads to see the rhododendrons which were

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SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

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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.

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in full bloom. A few members continued to Hunstanton to sample the sea air and fish and chips, and as the weather was fine we all had a good day out.

In June we had a talk and slide show on birds given by Ken Reeves, who is a keen bird watcher and superb photographer. It was entertaining and informative and we hope to have him back again some time.

In August we went on a trip to Gloucester which afforded plenty of opportunity for sight-seeing and shopping around the docks area. After the summer break we had a very

enjoyable fish and chip supper, provided by The Countryman, at our opening meeting in September. In December we will be having our Christmas dinner and then for our last trip of the year we are off to Chatsworth to see the Christmas decorations with the theme Alice in Wonderland.

During the year the committee and members help out at various events in the village and we also hold our own fund raising events such as the bacon buttie mornings and the Bazaar which is on November 29th. Thank you to all who have supported us over the past year and we wish you a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We do not meet during January but new members would be welcome to join us on Wednesday February 4th at 3pm in the Evergreen Hall.

Beryl Divenyi

SHARNFORD SCHOOL PTA

December already! The PTA has, again, been busy this term and hit the ground running with our first Coffee morning back in September. The turnout was good and cakes and coffee were as popular as ever. It was nice to start the year with an event for the whole village and even the teachers didn't miss out as a goodie box was taken to the school for them to enjoy during break times.



Our next coffee morning will be on the 11th December and along with a well stocked cakes stall we will also have craft and card stalls. We have also started a book bank and have a good stock of books so

either come and buy a book or bring a book and swap it for a different one. The coffee morning will run from 10-12noon. All welcome.



Another event for the village was our annual Winter Pamper Evening. We welcomed back a number of our beauticians and the ladies of the village were invited to treat themselves and enjoy some complimentary mulled wine and mince pies. We had a range of stalls selling craft gifts, jewellery, sweet treats, pamper products and also cards and gift wrap and people took the opportunity to get ahead with their Christmas shopping. Thank you to all those who turned out for it and made the event a success.

Now is probably a good time to tell you what we are fund raising for! In addition to enabling us to contribute to some school trips we will largely be looking to pay for new books for the library to ensure that it continues to be an up to date and varied resource for the school. We are also looking to purchase some iPads for use within school. We are always looking for new ways to raise funds and really do appreciate the continued support of the parents, teachers and children at the school and those of you in wider community.

It just leaves it for us to wish you all the very best for 2015 and we look forward to seeing you at our future events; in school and around the village.

PS Please see below a little reminder of future dates for your diaries!

Chair

Diary Dates For Everyone

*11th December 10am-12noon
Coffee Morning Evergreen Hall
6th February 2015 Annual Quiz
7pm onwards*

*For further information please
contact Kathy 272335
or Julie 271321*

For the school children

*5th December Disco
15th December Christmas workshop
11th February Film Evening*

SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP

I apologise for not doing a report for a while, but we have been continuing our regular monthly meetings and trying to make our village a safer place to live. We have achieved a few things already and are, with the cooperation of the Parish Council, about to purchase a speed monitor. This with money which has been raised over the time that STAG has been in existence.

This will be put up in various strategic positions around the village and will flash up

the exact speed at which vehicles are travelling. It will be moved around at intervals so that those who drive through at speed will not get used to it and ignore it. STAG will be publicising the monitor once it has been bought, and will possibly have a meeting to explain and demonstrate how it will work. As they say – watch this space!!!

In the meantime, as I said, we meet on the third Monday of the month at the Evergreen Hall at 7.30. It would be good to see a few more faces at our meetings as this problem affects everyone in the village. Please make an effort and come.

June Feast (Chair of STAG)

TAI CHI AND QIGONG

Relax and de-stress Quieten your mind Improve your sleep
 Improve your posture and balance Reduce aches and pains

How to give a snap shot of tai chi, especially as I'm not used to writing articles? Also the tai chi style I teach is the Lee Family style with its origins 3000 years ago so there could be a lot to tell! It is a health based style with the natural flow of energy being the focus of the movements. I also like to think that I give guidance not instruction allowing the class members to find out, rather than learn, the benefits of gentle coordinated movement, posture and breathing. (You'll have to ask them to find out how true this is.)

The main approach at the Tai chi classes in the Evergreen Hall is to slow down. I recently worked with some Queens Scouts, who gave me valuable guidance by telling younger members to "keep an open mind" when trying tai chi and it is this open mind which can help to focus on the slowing down process.

Slowing down gives time to be more conscious of our breathing – the length and depth of each breath and how this can be matched to gentle movements. We also look at posture, position and movement in a conscious, controlled manner. This is all to develop the flow of energy through the body. Not energy as in power, muscles, force and effort more the natural flow of energy in and around us. Think of a length of hosepipe. It can be coiled tightly, kinked, pulled and squeezed. The water would get through eventually but with a build-up of pressure before a blockage and a reduction of flow and pressure after it. If the hosepipe is laid out gently releasing the tension and pressure in the pipe, the water will flow in a more natural and balanced way. This is the state of body awareness that we're trying to achieve - remembering to keep an open mind.



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My approach to tai chi is that you're never wrong; you're just learning different ways to match new approaches and techniques to your body awareness. Some of this can be done sitting. It is suitable for all ages, abilities and mobility. It is non-competitive and non-aggressive. And it's not all serious!

And what are the benefits? Firstly you'll spend an hour in a gentle stress free environment – when was the last time you did that? Benefits outside the class can include better sleeping; lower blood pressure; improved balance; relief of muscular and emotional tension; not curing but easing ailments and your reaction to them.

I hope some of you who read this are tempted to give the class a go and if you've been before it's okay to give it another go. There's an advert for the class on the previous page of this issue.

Malcolm Soulsby

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SHARNFORD LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP

Well, what an exciting time we've had! Firstly, we entered the Sharnford Show in September with lots of entries for the seaside colouring competition, pasta pictures, play dough models and jam tarts. We really enjoyed taking part in this valuable community show and we were so excited with our prizes and medals. The children were so proud of their achievements and entries that we still have our photographs of us taking part on our community board at playgroup! It was a winning day for the staff too. Karen was presented with a shield for best in show for her vegetables and Alison came first with her curried chutney. Go playgroup!!

So far this term, we have been out investigating the effects Autumn has on the leaves on the trees and collecting leaves that have fallen to the ground. We have been putting some of these leaves onto our light box and then looked at the veins and noticed patterns. Our autumn collages have been very colourful and we are investigating how we can make the colour orange using red and yellow.

We have had great fun collecting up leaves, putting them into piles and then running through and kicking the leaves into the air! This makes us all laugh!

Our Christmas nativity play will take place at St Helen's Church in Sharnford on Wednesday 10th December at 1pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and watch.

Playgroup closes on Friday 19th December at 12 noon for the Christmas holidays. Our wonderful PTFA are once again providing snacks and Father Christmas will be visiting the children at 11.30am! What a way to end the year!

We reopen Wednesday 7th January at 9am.
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone!
Alison, Sue, Karen, Kat and Claire.

ST. HELEN'S LADIES GROUP

In August we started to knit a variety of small hats to fit Innocent Smoothie juice bottles which will go on sale in February 2015. 25 pence from the sale of these bottles will be donated to Age UK, a very worthwhile charity. A total of 500 hats has been given as our contribution towards this, a good amount from our small group.

In November we had a lovely evening, with delicious refreshments, at Tom Payne's jewellers in Hinckley. It was fascinating to watch Stuart Jordan, the designer, making a beautiful gold bangle from a length of gold. This item of jewellery was raffled at the end of the event and won by Irene Jennings, lucky lady! The shop has some beautiful items on show; it was a pleasure to visit.

The December meeting is an open one at the Evergreen Hall starting at 7.30pm when we shall be entertained by the singing group Rockapella.

Guests and prospective members are welcome at all our meetings. Further details can be obtained from our leader Mrs. Pat Jordan on 272229.

Jean Ryan

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COUNTRYMAN SICK AND DIVIDEND FUND

Our annual prize draw takes place at the Countryman on Friday evening, the 19th of December starting at 8:00 pm. We are still looking for donations of prizes for the raffle. We have just received an excellent prize from the Grainstore Brewery at Oakham – a trip round the brewery for two people and a ploughman's lunch is included with an opportunity to sample the different beers produced by the brewery.

The distribution of festive food bags will be on Saturday morning, the 20th of December.

The continued success of the event is solely reliant on tickets sold for the raffle so please be sure to buy yours; these are on sale at the Countryman, Post Office and Sharnford Arms. For ticket sales and gift donations I can be contacted on 01455 274678.
Jack Feast for the Countryman S & D Fund

HORSES HELP OUT AT FOSSE MEADOWS NATURE RESERVE



A traditional technique to remove timber from woodland using horses is taking place at Fosse Meadows nature reserve, near Sharnford. Horse extraction, a process rarely used nowadays, involves sympathetically extracting timber from forest or woodland, in consideration of the sensitive nature of the wildlife. Unlike mechanical equipment, horses are light, quiet and manoeuvrable, minimising damage, avoiding compaction to the woodland floor, and producing no exhaust or noise pollution. The horses are being used at Fosse Meadows in order to protect significant trees in the Arboretum, and to have the least amount of impact possible on the wildlife, such as otters that are visiting the site.

Stuart Freeman, a qualified horse logger, will be carrying out the work using his two horses Breeze and Queenie. He said: "Horses have been employed to pull timber from

forests and woodland in the UK for centuries, but this declined after the Second World War due to rising costs of labour, and an increasing demand for timber led to the mechanisation of extraction. "Whilst mechanised systems have reduced the direct cost of forestry operations, the potential damage it can inflict on woodland resource and the environment has become an important issue. The horses are both trained to work in all aspects of horse extraction and we operate a range of implements." The work is taking place from Wednesday 12 November and is expected to take around a month. All the timber from the site will be used locally.

For more information, and to find out about volunteering opportunities at Fosse Meadows, contact James Poynton, call 0116 272 7704 or Email james.poynton@blaby.gov.uk

*Are you going to miss
Someone this Christmas?*

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*And Light a Candle
to remember them?*

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SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW



Another fine year, not that you would have thought that from the way the year started. Funny but that is the first line from last year's report and I guess could be repeated every year! As usual the seasons have a way of catching up so we had loads of super entries with lots of lovely craft entries and pictures. The RCC, who have been involved in the Good Neighbour scheme, sponsored a prize which went to the best in show entry from Phillip White, well done (see photo attached of Philip receiving his award from Sheila Scott District Councillor). We may have a sponsor for a major prize in 2015 so there is even more incentive to enter! As an added attraction one of our judges Sally Cunningham was on hand to offer advice on growing exotic veg.

We are pleased to announce that as well as a donation to the Evergreen we have pledged £1,000 to The Defibrillator Appeal, organised by Chris Berridge. (See report elsewhere in this Issue - Ed) With over half the money raised this looks set to go ahead next year. We have also given £250 to STAG towards a new speed monitor which should be set up in the next month or two.

The plant sale will be on Saturday 16th May 2015 and as usual the Evergreen Ladies will be busy in the kitchen producing their famous Sharnford Bacon Butties. Next year's Village Produce Show will be on Saturday 12th September 2015, please enter, it is just a bit of fun and it helps raise funds for village causes. We try to involve the children and indeed Sharnford School got a placing in just about every category they entered, well done. This against strong adult competition. The cakes and preserves sections have proved popular with some tasty entries (the judges tell me). Also some creative and beautiful cakes so well done everyone. The men's only section for cakes has been hotly contested. There are photos on the website if you did not make it as well as details of the winners.

A big thank you to everyone who supports these village events. Profits are recycled to village causes

Tony Curtis

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SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Even though the dark nights are drawing in and the cold weather well and truly upon us, it still seems the majority of members still enjoy being outside...thank goodness for floodlighting! The only stipulation the Youth Leaders have laid down is that they stay close to the building and within sight and earshot which they have agreed to do. However, if you could remind your children that this is the case, it would really help.

Various art and craft activities will be laid on throughout the winter months for those not brave enough to venture out in the cold. We are also hoping to set up a nail bar and 'tattoo' station in the coming weeks.

As Halloween fell on a Friday night, and as we know Sharnford Trick or Treaters go out en mass, it was decided to cancel the usual Friday night Youth Club. However, the following week we held a free disco to compensate with hot dogs and burgers all round. Thanks to Bradley Inman for supplying the sounds and all who turned up to enjoy the night, parents included.

Our Annual Tamworth Snowdome Tobogganing trip has been booked for 12th December and, as ever, has proved very popular. I'm sure this is helped by the hot chip supper to warm everyone up which will be awaiting them on their return to the Youth Club. Places for the tobogganing have all been filled, however, if members wish to join us for a free chip supper around 8pm, please let me know so the food can be ordered. The usual Youth Club will be held as normal, 6.30-8pm for those not able to make it to the Snowdome.

The Youth Club Committee is pleased to announce that they have recently been awarded a grant of £500 from *Unicom* to go towards general maintenance of the building. We are also hoping this will cover new roller blinds for the 3 patio windows which seem to have taken a battering of late.

The following clubs are currently running within the Youth & Community Centre and new members are welcome to pop along to any they fancy.

Monday		
7-9pm	Craft Club	Contact Kathy Bryan 272335
Wednesday		
10-12.30pm	Over 55's Youth Club	Contact Derek Gibbons 272401
Thursday		
2-2.45pm & 3.30-4.15pm	Soccer Tots (age 2-4)	Contact www.touchlinesports.co.uk
4.30-6pm	Football Academy (age 5-13)	Contact www.touchlinesports.co.uk
6.30-7.30pm	Fitsteps Aerobics	Contact Alison www.abdance.co.uk
Friday		
6.30-8pm	Youth Club (age 5-16)	Contact Julie Edge 271321

The room is also available to hire out for private functions or fundraising events and more information can be obtained by ringing Julie Edge on 271321, or check out our website at sharnfordyouthclub.wordpress.com

Have a great Christmas everyone from all at Sharnford Youth Club
Julie Edge

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME FOR SHARNFORD

Thank you to everyone that attended the Good Neighbour Scheme meeting on Wednesday 12th November at the Evergreen Hall, it was lovely to meet so many of you. A Good Neighbour Scheme aims to provide short term help for residents with tasks such as transport, shopping, befriending and household assistance through the help of local volunteers. The Scheme would hopefully encourage self help, friendship and neighbourliness within the local community.

We have identified a need for a Good Neighbour Scheme in Sharnford, and I am grateful that so many residents have expressed an interest in being involved, however we do still need more volunteers and scheme coordinators!



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Sharnford has been chosen as one of two 'pilot' schemes that Blaby District Council would like to initiate. Blaby District Council are prepared to fund the set up costs of the scheme which is a huge advantage to you as a Parish because usually the community has to apply for funding/ raise money to start a scheme.

In the first instance I have organised a meeting with the Steering Group on Wednesday 10th December 2014 at 6:30pm at the Evergreen Hall.

If you didn't complete and return the questionnaire circulated with the September edition of the Sharnford News it is not too late to do so, whether you are willing to volunteer or in need of support.

Alternative complete on line at www.ruralcc.org.uk/sharnford.

Please feel free to contact me with any specific queries you may have or request a paper copy of the questionnaire.

Jo Ling, RCC (Leicestershire and Rutland), 0116 2689 708 or jl@ruralcc.org.uk

ST HELEN'S CHURCH

In September we held our 'Ride and Stride Event', open to cyclists and walkers to visit as many churches as possible in one day. One group of cyclists who called in at Sharnford had visited over 20 churches by 1pm!

Funerals have taken place in September, Mrs Mavis Jones and in November, Mr Arthur Ralph Higginbotham and Mr Alan Whitehouse.

In October we gave thanks to God at our Harvest Festival receiving generous donations of food which were given to 'Hinckley Homeless' and money for the 'Tear fund' charity. This was followed by a delicious 'Brunch' enjoyed by all (didn't want a Sunday lunch!).

Thank you to all the 'Children's Society' box-holders whose boxes were emptied in October. £50 up on last year's total, making a total of £432.00.

If you would like a Children's Society Collection Box in your home, contact Chris Berridge Tel.273560. Just 50p a week can make a big difference to 'children in need' in the UK.

Following our WW1 Exhibition in August, 'Remembrance Sunday' was special this year with descendants of some of Sharnford's WW1 Fallen, travelling to Sharnford to place named crosses on the War Memorial to remember them and to mark 100 years since

An Evening of Puddings

Sharnford Evergreen Village Hall
Saturday 17th Jan 2015
at 7.30pm



*Sample a Selection of
Homemade
Puddings and Desserts*

*Enjoy an evening with nothing savoury,
simply for those of us with a sweet tooth*

£5.00 per person

*All profits towards the purchase of the
Sharnford Community Defibrillator*

Tickets from

Christine Berridge
01455 273560



COMMUNITY
HEARTBEAT
The Community Heartbeat Trust

the beginning of WW1. The 'Act of Remembrance' was also supported by many Sharnford residents.



Church Bell-ringing.

We are practising on Monday 7.30 to 8.30 at St Helens. We currently have a band of local people who are keen to see a regular band in the village. We are supported by some ringers from Burbage, Sapcote and Stoney Stanton who are helping with the practice. We would welcome anyone who would like to learn to ring or who can already ring to help us. Contact Tony on 272175 for further information.



Christmas Events at St Helen's

November 30th, Advent Sunday 11.00am

Joint Service at All Saints, Sapcote

December 13th 7.30pm 'Sing-a- long at Christmas' at All Saints Church, Sapcote.

Free entry, donations to Tear Fund.

December 14th 3pm-5pm Light a Candle (see separate advert)

December 14th 6.30pm 9 Lessons and Carols

December 21st 9.15am Christingle

December 24th 11.00pm Christmas Midnight Mass at All Saints, Sapcote

December 25th 9.15am Christmas Family Communion.

Christine Berridge

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN HALL

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE -
SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER**

11am - 2pm



**Christmas Gifts, Cakes,
Preserves
Bottle Stall and More**

**PORK & STUFFING BAPS
MULLED WINE**

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Writing cards, wrapping presents, stuffing turkeys, decorating trees.....it's all part of the Christmas season isn't it? Sometimes a card, a stamp, or a decoration will remind us of the birth of Jesus - the reason for the season. But it is easy to forget what Christmas is about.

Thankfully our preschool, primary school and local churches create opportunities to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please join us for a Nativity, a Christingle, a Carol Service or other Christian celebration. May Jesus, Son of God bring you hope and happiness this Christmas.

Rev Mick Norman Rector for Sharnford with Wigston Parva & Sapcote

SHARNFORD METHODIST'S CHURCH

SERVICES: Every Sunday morning at 10 am

On the last Thursday of the month we hold a short service of quiet devotion at 10 am

Christmas Services: Sunday 21st there is no morning service. Our Carol Service will be held at 4 pm followed by refreshments.

Christmas Day we will be joining St Helen's for morning service at 9.15 am

The Chapel will be open on Saturday December 20th between 10am and 4pm and on the Sunday from 2pm to 4pm. We invite you to come and see our decorations, the theme being "Angels" this year, there will be a children's activity corner and seasonal refreshments will be served.

We have regular coffee mornings on the first Saturday of each month, the proceeds of which go to supporting different charities. The December one raised £124 for Operation Christmas Child which provides shoe-boxes full of gifts for children throughout the world. Penny Ross is the local area representative and a craft group at the Chapel meets throughout the year, making and collecting gifts for the children's boxes. Anybody interested in helping this good cause, in any way, please come and join us or contact Penny. We are about to send off nearly a thousand boxes which have been gathered from different churches and schools in our Leicestershire area.

In September we were pleased to welcome our new Minister, the Rev Sue Howe who will be with us for the next 5 years. Sadly we lost a long serving and faithful member of our congregation in September when Edwin Stevens died. He had served the Chapel as

**Sharnford
Methodist Church**
Invite you to share in their
Christmas Celebrations

**See the church decorated
with
Angels**

**Enjoy tea and cakes
Free children's activities
Stalls**

**Saturday 20th
December 10am-4pm**

**Sunday 21st December 2pm
onwards
followed by a
Carol Service at 4pm**

senior steward for many years and we give thanks for his service and dedication in keeping our Chapel going as a place of worship.

With the help of money raised by our members, plus donations from the Jubilee Committee, St Helen's Ladies Group, and The Village Show, we now have a wonderful new kitchen which was fitted by Paul Horsley.

It has been a special year for Remembrance Day services and we were very pleased to welcome so many visitors who attended our joint morning service before the act of remembrance at the war memorial. Some families had traced their connection to the names on the Roll of Honour by visiting St Helen's exhibition and for the first time individually named crosses were laid in their memory.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and hope to welcome you at our services.

Beryl Devenyi

A QUIZ FOR CHILDREN

1. What is the capital of England?
2. How many days are there in a fortnight?
3. In Jungle Book what kind of animal is Baloo?
4. Name Batman's crime fighting partner?
5. What is the name of Peppa Pig's brother?
6. What type of animal is Bullseye in the Toy Story films?
7. How many days are there in June?
8. What was the name of the monk in the Robin Hood legend?
9. What form of transport does a witch favour?
10. Who was created by Gepetto the woodcarver?
11. On a farm a kid is a baby what?:
12. Who created the children's book character Tracy Beaker?
13. How many colours are in a rainbow?
14. Which river flows through London?
15. What flower has been used at the Tower of London to commemorate WW1?
16. Which English king had six wives?
17. What does Fred Flintstone wear around his neck?
18. Which is the largest city in Wales?
19. What is the name of Harry Potter's pet owl?
20. Who is the patron saint of Ireland?

Answers on the last page.

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SHARNFORD PRESCHOOLERS PARENTS, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION



Sharnford Pre-schoolers PTFA is a committee of volunteers who raise money for the children of Sharnford Little Explorers Playgroup and Sharnford Bumps, Babies and Toddler (BBT) Group. The AGM held in September was successful and we now have some new faces on the committee.

The BBT group meet once a week on a Tuesday morning at The Evergreen Hall, Sharnford 9-10.30(term time only). The Pre-schoolers who have attended BBT this term have been very busy! They have had great fun in our craft corner decorating cakes, making dangle scarecrows, bonfire collages, pasta necklaces, bunny copters and Halloween spooky spiders.

The children and villagers alike also enjoyed our Halloween Party/Coffee Morning with all the spooky themed cakes on offer. The children and BBT helpers wore fancy dress and looked amazing, a fun time was had by all.

Our new sensory room, funded through money raised by Sharnford PTFA, has proved to be successful and is particularly popular amongst our youngest members. The Pottery shed has also visited us again helping our children get creative with their hand and foot prints and making some beautiful gifts just in time for Christmas.

On the subject of Christmas, the BBT Christmas party is to be held on Tuesday 16th December 9- 10.30. All pre-schoolers are welcome to join in the fun and get into the festive spirit. It will be great to see you all there. The last BBT session will be held on 16th December and will reopen Tuesday 6th January.

We are currently collecting donations for our Christmas Hamper which will be raffled off at Sharnford Little Explorers Nativity Play on Wednesday 10th December. Donations can be placed in the designated box at any BBT session or Sharnford little Explorers Playgroup, in the Evergreen Hall by December 10th. Raffle Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of December which a chance to win a Christmas Hamper.

The PTFA are continuing with the coffee mornings the last Tuesday of each month. The PTFA coffee mornings are for the whole community so any new faces are always welcome. The next one for your diary is January 27th.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

The PTFA Team

*Steve, Silkie and Staff would like to thank all our
customers and wish them a
Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.*

SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

For a change this report tells you what we haven't done this year, instead of what we have done – you can see that for yourselves!

Village Sign – this project is on hold, since finding the money to fund this is proving difficult. If any of you has an idea as to how we could proceed with this please, please contact us.

Planters – we have enough plaswood to replace all of the old planters, which are coming to the end of their life. The one by the road crossing is next for replacement.

You may wonder why we haven't got on with the job, its time and manpower which are proving elusive!

BlueBell Green – the front border is in dire need of refurbishment, to make it easier to maintain. It's by far the 'best' area for growing weeds on the whole plot! So we have decided to take up the existing plants, lay a suitable base and concrete the edge with decorative pebbles spaced appropriately. The granites will be put back at the same time. It will eventually save time, and look more cared for. It's very probably a job for early next year.

So why haven't we done the last 2 tasks you may well ask. We need more help from your good selves. Our group is small and whilst we try to get on with maintenance and hanging basket flowers, new tasks are harder to achieve.

You may not want to join the group, or only have limited time. We are not seeking help every week, and much of the work is for the better weather anyway. Every year we have a small Christmas Social between 8 and 9pm. with drinks and nibbles provided. Perhaps you would like to join us on Thursday December 11th, in the Evergreen Hall, where you would learn what we are about. No need to let us know, just turn up!

Or perhaps you want to contact one of us, we are.... Maureen on 274374, Dave 272901 and Yvonne 274112.

ALL SEWN UP!



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DEFIBRILLATOR FOR SHARNFORD COMMUNITY!



It is felt, in common with many other towns and villages, shops and offices, a defibrillator located in Sharnford would be a life saving device worth having.

A defibrillator is a device which provides an electric shock which can re-start a heart that has stopped beating.

It will be sited on an outside wall of the Evergreen Hall and will be held in a locked, coded, vandal proof box..

If an emergency occurs, call 999 and request an ambulance. The ambulance control will identify the location of the emergency and will give the caller the

Sharnford Village Show & Plant Sale

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

We wish you a Merry Christmas and our best wishes for 2015

Dates for your diary Plant Sale Saturday 16th May 2015 and

Produce Show 12th September 2015

See you all in 2015

access code to the defibrillator cabinet. The caller will take the defibrillator unit to the patient and use the equipment. This is a well-established protocol that is in use, successfully, nationwide.

The purpose of having a defibrillator, on the spot, is to save time in treating the patient until trained help arrives, because every second counts.

The cost of a unit is about £2600 so we would appreciate your support in this project. We have already secured over £1000 due to a generous donation from the Village Show Committee

A small committee had been formed to enable us to raise the rest of the monies required. The Evergreen Committee has kindly offered to hold monies raised in their bank account.

Our first fund raiser is an **'Evening of Puddings'** on January 17th (see advert page 17)

If you can help in anyway or would like to make a donation (cheques payable to 'the Evergreen Hall') to this worthwhile project –

Please contact Chris & Tony Berridge Tel.01455 273560.

To advertise in the **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

Thank You to our Advertisers for their continued support in 2014, 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

**Please note that the deadline for articles in the next issue of
Sharnford News is Wednesday 18th February 2015**

Answers to Quiz:

1. London, 2. 14, 3. Bear, 4. Robin, 5. George, 6. Horse, 7. 30, 8. Friar Tuck, 9. Broomstick, 10. Pinocchio, 11. Goat, 12. Jacqueline Wilson, 13. 7, 14. The Thames. 15. Poppy, 16. Henry 8th, 17. A tie, 18. Cardiff, 19. Hedwig, 20. St. Patrick

SHARNFORD VILLAGE INFORMATION SHEET

- Sharnford Parish Council** Chair: Emma Jones 271048 email: evtjones@gmail.com
Clerk: Matthew Scott 07810010893 email: matthew.scott@live.co.uk
Meetings are usually held 3rd Thursday month 7.45pm Evergreen Hall
- Leicestershire County Council Councillor** Ernie White 272136
- Blaby District Councillors** Shiela Scott 272450 Iain Hewson 273957
- Police - Call 101** - To report a crime that has already happened and any other incidents or concerns that do not require an emergency response.
- Doctors** Burbage Practice 634879 or Evergreen Hall Tues 11am – 12 noon
Broughton Astley Practice 282599 or Evergreen Hall Thurs 12 noon – 1.30pm
Stoney Stanton Practice 271442 Hinckley Road, Stoney Stanton
- St. Helen's Church Sharnford** Rector Rev Mick Norman (Sapcote) 272215
Village contacts Cynthia Oliver 272977 or Chris Berridge 273560
- Methodist Chapel Sharnford** Revd Sue Howe 634168 Burbage & Sharnford
Village contact Beryl Devenyi 273740
- Mobile Library** Visits on Thursdays every two weeks. Next visit 11th December.
Calls at - Evergreen Hall 9.30 – 10am, Halls Crescent 10-10.30am
& School/Henson Way 10.35-11.30am Contact Lutterworth Library - 0116 305 3619
- Bus Service** X55 (was 148) every TWO hours Monday to Saturday
To Leicester via Sapcote, Stoney Stanton, Thurlaston, Enderby, Fosse Park
To Hinckley via Aston Flamville and Burbage.
- Sharnford Church of England Primary School** Henson Way - Sec 272456
- Sharnford Flood Warden** Jack Feast 274678
- Sharnford Evergreen Hall** To hire call Margaret Sanders 274038
- Sharnford Youth Club and Community Centre** To hire call Julie Edge 271321
- Sharnford Post Office** Eric and Gay Washbrook 272210
- Sharnford Village Groups:-**
- Evergreen Club:** Wednesdays twice monthly – contact Jean Dale 27477
 - Little Explorers Playgroup:** Evergreen Hall Daily – contact Alison Bates 213779
 - Youth Club:** Community Centre. Fridays 6.30 – 8.00 pm Julie Edge 271321
 - Over 60's Youth Club:** Community Centre. Wed 10-12.30pm Derek Gibbons 272401
 - Craft Group:** Community Centre. Mon (fortnightly) 7 – 9pm Kathy Bryan 272335
 - Fitsteps Ballroom Boogie:** Community Centre Thurs 6.30-7.30pm Abdance.co.uk
 - Environment Group:** Evergreen Hall 2nd Thursdays 7.30pm Yvonne Jordan 274112
 - Sharnford Traffic Action Group:** Evergreen 3rd Mondays 7.30pm June Feast
 - St. Helen's Ladies Group:** 1st Wednesday Contact Leader Pat Jordon 272229
 - Sharnford Golden Jubilee Fete Committee:** Contact Kathy Bryan 272335
 - Sharnford Cricket Club:** Contact 282542
 - Sharnford Village Show:** Annual show in September Contact Tony Curtis 272532

Sharnford Village Website: www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford

This website contains details of all the information above, in much more detail as well as up to date news on all matters concerning Sharnford.

Contact the Webmaster Tony Curtis 272532 or email: tc-123@tiscali.co.uk