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SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE
Cirque de Sharnford
All the fun of the circus at Sharnford Village Fete
Sunday 14th June 2015, 12pm – 4pm



It's June again, which means it's time for the annual Sharnford Fete. It will be held on the park in Park View. We will have all of the usual attractions including BBQ, bar, refreshments, bottle stall, tombola, book stall, cakes and preserves, coconut shy, wellie wanging, duck races, bouncy castle and slide, children's nearly new toy stall, and much more too.

This year sees the return of the arena so there will also be a Fancy Dress Parade, with prizes for the best costume (hopefully circus related) in each of the following age groups: Pre-school, Infants (4-7) and Juniors (7-11). There will also be the return of the Tug-of-War competitions so get your teams together.

Door-to-door collections – if you would like to make a donation of goods for the fete, helpers will be calling on the weekend of 30-31 May 2015. We are looking for donations of bottles, tombola prizes, nearly new children's toys, and raffle prizes. If you do not want anyone to

call, please display the "NO" flyer in your window. (Please make sure that any goods donated are un-opened and within the best before date, and that any toys are clean and in good condition).

If you would like to donate cakes and other fresh goods, please bring them down to the park on the day or drop them round to Sue at 15 Park View or Kathy at Soarbrook House, Chapel Lane on Saturday 13th June.

Help on the day - It would be great if you could help on the day, even if it is for a short time. We can always use an extra pair of hands in the morning to help set up, after the

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fete to help clear up and also during the fete to help cover some of the attractions. If you are interested, then please contact us or just turn up on the day.

If anyone with a transit van or flat-bed truck could help us for a couple of hours on the day to move tables and chairs and other large items around the village, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Please support this year's fete. Even if you cannot be there, you can still buy raffle tickets or buy a duck in one of the duck races. As in previous years, money raised is distributed between the various groups that operate within the village.

Please encourage family and friends to visit for a good traditional village day out. Please keep your fingers crossed for good

weather and we will look forward to seeing you all there.

Sue Stanley (Tel. No. 273861)

SHARNFORD VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR GROUP



We are very pleased to announce that the Defibrillator unit has now been purchased, commissioned and is fully operational.

It is sighted to the left of the main entrance doors of the Evergreen Hall (see photo) which is directly opposite the Countryman Public House on Leicester Road.

To gain access to the Defibrillator, if the need arises, dial 999 and ask for an ambulance. If it is considered that you

need a defibrillator, the operator will give you the code number (write it down to avoid confusion) which will give you access into the steel cabinet sited on the Evergreen Hall. The defibrillator is housed in a small bag which you take to the patient. After pressing the power button full visual and verbal instructions on how to proceed are given. An ambulance will be with you as soon as possible



The Community Heartbeat Trust, through whom we obtained the Defibrillator, is offering residents of Sharnford, a free Awareness Evening to familiarise us with the working of the Defibrillator. This will be held on **Tuesday 23rd June at 7.30pm** at the Evergreen Hall. If you would like to attend please book a place by calling

Tony & Chris Berridge Tel. 273560. If we find this evening is oversubscribed we will arrange another Awareness Session at a later date.

We would like to thank all the various organisations and individuals who have generously given donations and support, to make it possible to have a Defibrillator in Sharnford in 2015, which one day, could save someone's life!

Thank you Sharnford!!!

Tony & Chris Berridge

SHARNFORD VILLAGE SIGN

The project to erect a village sign on Bluebell Green has got the go-ahead. The Environment Group have been undertaking the design and development of the sign for many years and were given Parish Council backing in March 2014. The basic principles were that the sign should depict the Heritage, History & Culture of Sharnford and should be easily visible by passing traffic and pedestrians. Low maintenance was to be a priority.

Back in 2011 school children were asked to draw their ideas. Their subjects included

trees, traffic, brook, ducks, wild life and others included the countryside, education, faith and happiness. By 2012 a silhouette design in steel was agreed and its location on Bluebell Green was the best compromise, being central to the village and avoiding trees and street furniture. It will be two sided facing up and down road. The attached 'artists impression' shows the sign on Bluebell Green.



A Blaby District Council initiative to encourage Parishes to improve their visual impact, agreed to part finance our project. They suggested a local supplier - Malcolm Lane & Son Ltd of Cropwell Bishop, Notts – known as MLS, who have agreed to

manufacture our sign. It will be manufactured from steel with a laser cut silhouette centre and a socket to accept the oak post. It will be hot dipped galvanised, finished in black with the raised text on both sides painted gold. The oak post will be fitted into a mild steel, galvanised and painted ground socket – bolted down to a

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cage concreted into the ground. The design has been finalised in draft form, which will be 'fine-tuned' by MLS to incorporate the fine detail a laser can produce. This, for example, will allow us to incorporate really fine detail into the church windows etc.

At a presentation to the Sharnford Parish Council in March this year, they approved the design and construction. The cost of the sign and it's installation will be met by the following :- Blaby District Council Community Grants, Skinners' Lady Neville Charity, Sharnford Parish Council, St. Helen's Ladies Group, Brindley's and personal donations.

It is expected that the finished sign will be ready for erection later on this summer. It is intended that there will be an 'Official Opening' so everyone can celebrate the completion of this significant project. Some of you who were able to get to the Parish Council AGM & Public Meeting in May, will have seen a full size model of the Sign, as well as the drawing (which is shown adjacent).

The sign, designed by the Sharnford Environment Group and drawn by Dave Sewell, represents the History, Heritage and Culture of Sharnford, and includes the following features.

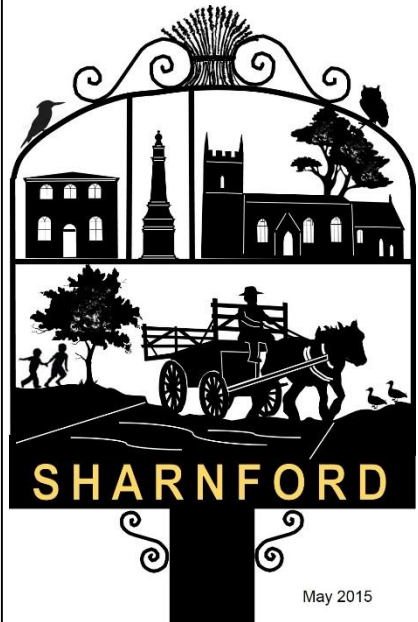
The Methodist Chapel, built in 1827 and the oldest Chapel in the Hinckley circuit still used for worship.

The High Cross Monument, depicting the Centre of Roman England (CORE) placed on the junction of the two main Roman roads, a few miles from Sharnford – The A5 Watling Street and the Fosse Way. Erected in 1712 and struck by lightning in 1791, now half its height.

St. Helen's Parish Church, over 800 years old, built in 1180 and much of the present building is 15th Century.

A farmer crossing the ford in his cart. Sharnford, mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1066, was until recent times, a farming community. The name derived from a Saxon word Scearn or Skern and eventually became Sham, which means muck or dung. So Sharnford probably means 'dirty ford' or a ford at the river of that name. The river is, of course, now called the Soar.

The other features include two ducks, a Kingfisher (once common around the brook), an owl, trees, children at play and lastly a sheath of corn.



Because of its design and materials used, it will only require minimum maintenance and it should be a part of the history of Sharnford for many, many years to come.

I thank all those involved in the project, especially those who helped fund this project with their kind donations.

Dave Sewell – Environment Group

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SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW 2015 SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

Make a note now for this year's Show - Saturday 12th September 2015 in the Evergreen Hall, Leicester Rd, Sharnford.

Judging 11.15 am. and Public Viewing 2.30 pm. With Produce Auction after the Prize Giving. Admission 50p (Free for exhibitors) with accompanied children free entry. Entry forms to be handed in by Wednesday 9th September 2015.

For Full Show Guide & further information contact organiser Mr. Tony Curtis on 01455 272532 or visit our website on www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford for additional hints and tips.

Please Note: All winning trophies and shields from last year must be returned to Tony Curtis two weeks before the 2015 Show.

SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW History and Funding Assistance to the Community

The group was set up in 2010 to start a village produce show, which had not run since before WW2? The idea came to John Proctor and also Tony & Janet Curtis at the same time. Janet and Tony were training as show judges with Leicester guild of show judges. The committee consisted of Tony and Janet Curtis, Barbara and John Proctor & Kaye

and Andrew Wormleighton, with help from Gemma and Lucy, and during the last 3 years from Sheila and Deborah Power. During this time Tony has been our chairman, Janet our secretary, and Andrew our treasurer.

The objective was to provide a non-profit making community event for the whole village and local community to enter, enjoy and be a social occasion. To achieve our start up, a small grant of £200 was received from Voluntary Action Blaby in March of 2010 thanks to a suggestion from Mike Bishop.

Following our inaugural show in September 2010 we received many plaudits on our hard work and the show was enjoyed by all. We had approximately 300 exhibits from 60 exhibitors, including multiple entries from Sharnford playgroup and primary school. We made a small profit, so decided to donate this to worthy village causes, and a small donation was made to the church towards their toilet refurbishment and the youth club.

In 2011 we agreed to continue with the show, and again received success with an increase in exhibits and exhibitors, during this year we also helped out at the village fete by running a stall, and through doing this received a donation towards our costs, again after expenses we showed a profit so donated this to the much needed new youth club building.

2012 a massive year for the country with the queen's diamond jubilee and Olympics, also proved to be a big year for us. We took over the running of the village plant sale which had previously been run for many years by the ladies of the Evergreen Hall. Following lots of hard work sowing, pricking out and watering we produced a good sale, along with help from our key sponsor Four Winds Nursery who supplied us with many quality plants. The Evergreen ladies supplied bacon butties on the day, which were most welcome to us and our customers. Unfortunately due to previous bad weather the fete was cancelled that year, but a small event was held at the Evergreen hall, and we sold excess plants to raise funds, this money was given directly to the fete committee. The show in September continued in its success, with a stable amount of exhibitors and visitors. Again at the end of the year we showed an increase in profits so donations this year were made to the Evergreen Hall, the St. Helen's Church and the Methodist Chapel, we also received a donation from the fete committee

2013 continued in the same vein, with the plant sale increasing in popularity, helping out at the fete, and the ever popular village show. We again received a donation for our help at the fete, and following expenses showed an increased profit, this was shared out, with the purchase of a second hand mower for the church yard, purchase of plants for the village planter on Coventry Road and donations to the Evergreen Hall, St. Helen's Church and the Methodist Chapel.

2014 was similar with the plant sale continuing to do well, helping out with the fete, and the show in September which had an increase in exhibits, exhibitors and visitors, which was followed by an auction of donated produce. This year we received donations from the fete committee and also a category was sponsored by the RCC to promote the Good Neighbour Scheme. We made donations to the Evergreen Hall and to STAG towards the purchase of a speed monitor sign. An idea was given to us about the possibility of getting a defibrillator for the village, so we unanimously agreed to pledge £1,000 of our money towards this worthy cause.

2015 for us has only just begun, but again we have just completed a very successful plant sale, and will again be helping out at the village fete in June. We also helped out

in fund raising for the purchase of the defibrillator by suggesting and then helping to organise a puddings evening in January which proved to be hugely successful in raising funds for the purchase.

In summary since we started out in 2010, we have received grants and donations totaling £1255. To the end of 2014 we have donated nearly £3600 to worthy causes within the village. We depend on your support at our events so we can continue.

The SVS show will be held on 12th September. We have a new sponsor for the best in show prize, Sharnford Lodge. Whilst some of you competitive souls take this seriously it is really intended to be a bit of fun and a chance to meet up at the Evergreen. We look forward to seeing you all there again.

Village Show Committee

SHARNFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Sharnford Primary School children have been very busy since our last report. There have been a number of school trips, Reception children enjoyed a day at Stonehurst Farm, Loughborough as well as a visit to Sapcote Garden Centre, who kindly donated a number of plants and seeds for the children to grow. Year 1 & 2 children have been learning about animals that live in the Rainforest and visited Twycross Zoo, Year 3 and 4 children are looking forward to an owl experience in school which includes a talk packed full of information about these beautiful birds, a flying display and a session where the children will be able to sketch the live owls.

To help Year 5 children gain an understanding and experience the rich cultural diversity of Leicester's vibrant Asian community they visited the Belgrave Road district of the city. Year 6 children are coming to the end of their time in Primary education and will be taking part in a Pilgrimage Walk along the Grand Union Canal towpath to Leicester Cathedral, considering issues related to life's journey and their move to secondary school. We have close links with the High Schools and year 5 & 6 children are going to attend a ceramics workshop and Big Bang Science day at Hastings High School.

There continues to be a number of sporting opportunities the children can attend, a multi sports after school club, tennis club and football club depending on their age. Some children have been invited to take part in a Quadkids athletics event. Boys and girls have had the opportunity of attending football tournaments and a tennis coach has been in school working with children in years 1 to 6.

Mothers' Day service and a year 5 and 6 class assembly took place in the school hall. The whole school attended an Easter Service which was led by year 3 and 4 children at St Helen's Church. 'Open the Book' team have visited school, each visit they act out a story from the bible and bring it to life, the children have really enjoyed these assemblies.

Class photographs have been taken and parents were invited to meet with class teachers for an update on their child's progress. We raised money for comic relief and collected clothing which was sent to developing countries. The PTA continues to arrange a number of events for the children and raise money for school resources. A number of parents continue to come in to school to listen to readers and help with other activities in school, we are very thankful for their help. We are still collecting Sainsbury vouchers and if you do have any spare, please send them in to the school office.

Carol Proctor Secretary

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POT LUCK QUIZ FOR ALL THE FAMILY

1. In the nursery rhyme, who took the kettle off after Polly put it on?
2. Which English city had the Viking Name 'Jorvik'?
3. According to the proverb, all roads lead to where?
4. In which US state are the Everglades?
5. Charcoal is partly burnt what?
6. If something is described as stupendous, is it impressive, stupid or 'stewed'?
7. On which river does Liverpool stand?
8. The 14 most venomous snakes in the world live in which continent?
9. Dolphins sleep with one eye open – true or false?
10. Which county cricket team play at the Oval?
11. Which is the only kind of rock that can float in water?
12. How many golf balls are there on the moon – three, one or none?
13. What was the name of the amphitheatre in which gladiators fought in Rome?
14. Great Britain comprises how many countries?
15. How many keys do most modern pianos have – sixty eight, seventy eight or eighty eight.
16. When are nocturnal creatures active?
17. Which Greek scientist is famous for shouting 'Eureka'?
18. In motor racing, what name is given to a series of tight bends?
19. Which famous outlaw was shot by Pat Garrett in 1881?
20. In the 1957 book by Dr. Seuss, what did the Grinch steal?

Answers on page 22

PLANT SALE 16TH MAY 2015



Another successful plant sale. The weather was kind, we turned the car park into an outdoor cafe and we sold lots of quality plants. The Evergreen Ladies were so busy they ran out of bacon butties before the end. Once again we had some great plants from Four Winds plus lots we grew ourselves. We were well supported by you all so thanks for turning up, the plant sale is a morning out! Photos include our 'team'. We are now looking forward to the Fete and our village show in September.

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

The current Parish Councillors stood for election in anticipation of the Election on May 7th and no additional candidates stood, we were uncontested and there was no need for an election. The current Parish Councillors are Emma Jones, Jack Feast, Sue Stanley, Lee Martin and Martyn Dalton. Contact details can be found on the Parish Council website <http://sharnford.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/>. We have space on the council so if you are interested in joining please contact the Clerk.

“Coopers Close”

As most of you will have seen the development on the edge of the village named “Coopers Close” has now been completed and I am pleased to see the new residents, all whom have a connection to the village, moving in to the new properties. I hope you agree that the development is a great addition to the community.

Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Development Plan

Instead of local people being told what to do, the Government wants local communities to have genuine opportunities to influence the future of the places where they live. The 2011 Localism Act has introduced a new right for communities to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan. The “Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan” is being guided by a Joint Board on which each parish including Sharnford, is represented. The Neighbourhood Plan will address different needs and expectations including elements such as community planning, local facilities and services, key neighbourhood projects, community led initiatives and infrastructure priorities. Watch this space for updates and information about further public consultation on the Plan.

Annual Parish Meeting

On 21st May we held our Annual Parish Meeting, I would like to thank all those that attended and contributed to the evening. Hopefully it goes some way to promoting and supporting all the great activities and initiatives of the various groups and committees

within the village. I am always astounded by the personal commitment and effort made by so many towards making this a great community in which to live.

Village Maintenance

As the better weather approaches (well hopefully) we will assess what maintenance needs to be done of the areas on the village under our care, burial ground, parks etc. We have plans to repair the shelter at the burial ground and will plan another working party to spruce it up as we go into the summer. Please make us aware of anything that needs attention. I also must thank Tony Curtis and the Environment Group for their ongoing efforts to keep our green spaces looking fantastic.

Parish Council meetings are public meetings and are held on the third Thursday of the month, at 7:45pm at the Evergreen Hall (see noticeboards for dates) and I would invite you to attend, bring your views, thoughts and questions or concerns. If you cannot attend but would like to get in touch please contact our clerk Matthew Scott or myself, or visit our facebook page or Parish website at

<http://sharnford.leicestershireparishcouncils.org/>

Emma Jones Sharnford Parish Council 01455 271048

SHARNFORD LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP

After 15 years at playgroup, Karen Smith is retiring in June at the end of the academic year. During her time at the village playgroup, Karen has built up a deserved reputation for the superb care she offers children, parents and the community. Speaking about her job, Karen says, "The best part is the care and love that the children give you back and that they still remember me when they see me around the village when they've grown up and left school."



Alison Bates, owner of Little Explorers Playgroup says about Karen, 'Karen's passion is caring for the children. You can see each day how well the children respond to her kindness and warm, caring nature. She will truly be missed by all of us.'

Outside of playgroup, Karen is a keen youth worker and spent many hours fundraising and supporting the redevelopment of the village youth club. She also plays vital parts in the Evergreen Hall Committee, St Helens Church and the village fete.

Karen is planning to spend her retirement continuing to help her husband Iain with their dairy herd, and supporting her 4 children, Lucy, Jack, Emily and Georgia. We wish her all the best.

A collection has been started at playgroup for any past and present families and students that may wish to make a donation towards her retirement gift.

This term has seen us planting sunflowers as our topic this term is 'growing'. We have

learnt how to sow seeds, water them and make sure they get plenty of sunshine. We have been reading the 'Very Hungry Caterpillar' and have made caterpillars from egg boxes kindly donated by people within the village – thank you!!

We have been on a trip to Twycross zoo with our friends from Bumps Babies and Tots and a big thank you to our PTA for making this trip possible. We loved looking at all the animals and learning about their habitats. Pictures will soon be on our website!

We have been practicing dressing in our school uniform, ready to go to big school. This term always seems to go so quickly!! Look out for us on our walks around the village, visiting big school!

Alison, Sue, Karen, Clare, Carlie and Laura

Sharnford Little Explorers Playgroup



Evergreen Village Hall,

Sharnford, Leicester



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SHARNFORD PRE-SCHOOLERS PTFA



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 BBT group meet once a week on a Tuesday morning at The Evergreen Hall, Sharnford from 9.00am-10.30am (term time only). This is planned to change to Thursday mornings 10am – 11.30am as of September 2015.

The Pre-schoolers who have attended BBT this term have been very busy! They have had great fun in our craft corner hand printing Mothers Day bouquets, making butterflies, St Georges Day flags, playing with play dough, feathery bird making and decorating biscuits to mention a few. Our music sessions with Tracey, continue to prove popular. These music sessions allow the children of all ages to explore music through singing, dancing and musical instruments. The Sensory room, particularly used by our smallest members, continues to be popular.



The children had great fun at our Easter party with a special visit from the Easter bunny who left a little Easter present for all those attending. They also enjoyed making Easter hats and playing on the bouncy castle and soft play. Great fun was had by all!!!

Some of the money raised this year has gone towards new toys and additional weekly treats. It has also paid for all the children who attend BBT and Sharnford Little Explorers Playgroup to go on our annual summer trip, this year it was Twycross Zoo! The trip was

well attended and it was particularly nice to see lots of parents and carers joining us. The weather was kind and the children loved seeing all of their favourite animals as well as enjoying a picnic in the warm sunshine.

Our last session before we break up for the Summer is Tuesday July 7th. We will be having an end of term party, to celebrate a great year and to say goodbye to some of our older children who will be leaving us to start school. So pop the date in your diary and come along with your little ones and join in the fun!

As mentioned above come September we are hoping to change the day and time of our BBT sessions to Thursday's starting 10am – 11.30am instead of our existing early 9am session on a Tuesdays. We hope more people will be able to make this slightly later time. Any comments or thoughts please speak to one of the team or join our Facebook page 'Sharnford Bumps, Babies and Toddler Group'.

Finally, at this year's Sharnford Village Fete (Circus Theme - Sunday June 14th 12pm on the Park) we will be holding a toy sale and sweetie pick and mix stall. In true BBT style we will also have a craft table where children can make their very own paper plate clown. We also have hook a duck to win yourself some sweetie prizes.

If you have any unwanted or no longer played with toys (in good condition) that you would like to donate these would be greatly received to help the various village causes. Please drop any donations off at BBT on a Tuesday morning or at Sharnford Little Explorers Playgroup.

Don't forget to get your circus themed fancy dress costumes ready for the fancy dress parade on the day, more information to come on the village fete flyers.

Hope to see you soon

The PTFA team

SHARNFORD SCHOOL PTA

The 2nd Wednesday back after the Easter break was our first ever PTA Epic Film Night which took place at the school. The evening was free for the kids and we managed to keep the film secret until everyone arrived (it was Finding Nemo). The children all brought along a comfy cushion and their pyjamas and the PTA provided them all with popcorn, snacks, and drinks at the interval! Everyone appeared to enjoy themselves, so it's something we'll look at running again!

Thank you to all those who have supported our first coffee mornings, be it baking, eating or buying. We have had great fun getting out the nice china and baking lots of cakes and it has been lovely to see so many people there. The coffee mornings will return in the autumn so please put the dates in your diaries now and come and join us for a relaxing cup of coffee (or one of our hot chocolates with cream and marshmallows) and a slice of cake.

Dates for coffee mornings - 10th September 10-12noon, the Evergreen Hall
- 3rd December 10-12noon, the Evergreen Hall

We've still got the Summer Fete and the Leavers Disco before the end of term and so far we've raised over £2000 this year. The school are wanting to buy a couple of shiny iPad and a nice big collection of new books for the library, so we shall be putting this money towards those.



A big thank you again for all the support from parents, teachers, the community at large and of course from the children who attend the events and always seem to have a good time!

Chair

SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Dear reader, as most of you will remember the Environment Group was started in the autumn of 2002 following the results of the Village Appraisal, which took about 2 years to complete. You may be interested to know some of the original comments that started our group up, (quote) ‘general tidying up of areas throughout the village – do something about the Old Star Inn garden (now Bluebell green)- a few hanging baskets, flowers and more trees, with cleaning up of the green areas - and the brook needs sorting’ And so for us, it all began.



Over the years we have completed many tasks i.e. bird boxes in village gardens, benches, trees and a new path on Poors Meadow, plus our major venture to date Bluebell Green. Some jobs will continue to be on-going such as hanging baskets (see photo left), planter maintenance (see photo below), annual litter picks, and bird feeding, not forgetting the regular weeding! We have entered competitions

and twice been successful – runners up in the BDC awards. Our next big venture is the village sign, now coming to fruition.

We have not been successful in maintaining the brook since the Environment Agency curtailed our activities. Originally we cleared the growth in and around the water, several times a year, and planted many native species, of which only the daffodils have survived. Nowadays, we do not have the manpower needed to work in this area.

As you will realise, all of this takes some organisation as we continue to say ‘we can’t do the job without each other’. Indeed our dependence upon villagers who water the hanging baskets is paramount, since there are 21 folks watering 44 hanging baskets from May to early October.

But what of the future? Our membership now totals 10, only 6 or 7 of those being regularly active. We are not conservationists or even expert gardeners, just folks who care about where we live. As our membership declines, the age of the members increases! So for the future – who knows? Those of us, who have been in from the beginning, now find it harder work, and taking more time. The next



few years will see more changes as we cannot continue without more members. We need a core group of new villagers that will take over the group whilst us 'oldies' are still around to advise and support. Could one of those new members be you?

We continue to meet at 7.30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Evergreen Hall, June 11th being the next meeting.

Have a think, join us if you can or contact one of us. We are Maureen 274374, Dave 272901 and Yvonne 274112

Yvonne Jordan



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ST HELEN'S CHURCH

A busy time in the Christian Calendar with Lent, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

In February the funeral of Pauline Pickering and in March the funeral of James (Jim) Davies took place. In April we celebrated the Wedding of David Cullinane and Helen Green. In March, the Women's World Day of Prayer was held at the Methodist Church followed the next day by the Fairtrade Coffee Morning, which raised £450 for the charity Action Aid. The next Sunday was Mothering Sunday when the families from the Play school and School were invited to our Family Service and all Mums received a thank you and daffodils.

Richard 111 Celebrations

A number of church members witnessed the procession from Bosworth, as it entered the Leicester cathedral area on Sunday 22nd March. Our Rector then went into the cathedral:-



'I attended a special service of Compline at Leicester Cathedral. It marked the arrival of the remains of King Richard III at the Cathedral and was broadcast live on Channel 4.

The most moving moments were when a black pall and a golden crown were placed on the coffin. The beautifully embroidered pall depicted all those involved with the discovery of King Richard's remains. A cross and a prayer

book nearby, together with the crown, reminded us that Richard III was a Christian King. I was privileged to witness these events and I'm pleased that the King is now at rest in a place of honour.'

Rev Mick Norman

Many church members joined the 'friendly queues' during the week to see the 'King' lying in state in the cathedral and some attended the 6pm service there, held daily. Sharnford resident, Jane Matthews was fortunate to obtain a ticket from the public draw to attend the re-interment service on Friday 27th March:-

Service of Re-interment

As the warm spring sunshine of Sunday turned to cold winds and driving rain an altogether more sombre mood descended on Leicester on Thursday. From my vantage point of a front row seat by the South Porch I was able to watch not only Leicester's great and good enter, but also many national figures take their seats. Ceremonial occasions are always performed so perfectly by our country and this was no exception. Some things

Counselling/Psychotherapy

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

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

Malcolm Soulsby
Six Acres Counselling
07715 178 874
www.sixacrescounselling.co.uk

stood out, however, along with the music: an inspirational sermon from Bishop Tim, Benedict Cumberbatch's reading of Carol Ann Duffy's wonderful poem "Richard" and the kindness shown by the Countess of Wessex when she went out of her way to talk to the children who had presented her with flowers after the service. Having grown up in Leicestershire the King Richard 111 story has been an integral part of my local history. I have always felt that he is a much maligned monarch, little different from most who held power in the turbulent Middle Ages. It was a privilege to be part of the service that laid Richard to rest with "dignity and honour". Leicester should be proud of its achievement.

Mrs. Jane Matthews

At the end of the school term we welcomed at St Helen's, Sharnford C/E Primary School for their Easter Service, parents and visitors were invited too. We thank the children, from the school, for their artwork and poems which were displayed in the church at Easter-time. Easter Sunday Family Service celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and included, refreshments and an Easter Egg Hunt for the children, in lovely weather! On 15th April we held our A.G.M. When we had an opportunity to look back on an active year.

Future Events

Cream Teas at St Helen's Church on Sundays 21st June, 19th July and 16th August 3pm – 5pm. In aid of the Brain Tumour Charity. Come and taste our delicious scones and cakes! The first event on 17th May was a great success, we even had to lay out extra tables to avoid the queues! See photo above.



Charity Fun Run on Saturday 6th June at 10am, organised by the 'Churches Together' of Sapcote & Sharnford, to raise funds for Tear Fund and Cancer Research U.K. Distance about 4.5km, run or walk it, families welcome. Sponsor forms available from Karen Smith on 01455 221350 or email: karensmith59@btinternet.com

Ride & Stride Cycle or walk to visit as many churches as you can on Saturday 12th September. Sponsor forms available from the churches.

The churches in Sharnford continue to collect tinned and dried food for the Hinckley Homeless, if you would like to contribute we would appreciate it. There is a box in both St Helen's Church and the Methodist Chapel for donations of food.

We look forward to seeing you at our Church this summer, you are most welcome.

Chris Berridge

Parking outside St Helen's Church

Mothering Sunday, 8.45am. How wonderful it was to find no one had parked outside of St Helen's Church on this special day when we held a special service for 'mums.' It was a treat for some of the elderly in the congregation, who have walking problems, to be able to park close to the Church making it so much easier for them to attend.

Most weeks, elderly incapacitated members are brought to the Church by car and there are problems caused when there is nowhere for the cars to park near the Church. This normally means stopping in the road to allow passengers to disembark, which in itself is a dangerous procedure and then driving off to find somewhere to park. Someone else is required to help the passengers safely into Church.

Is it too much to ask, that every Sunday morning, the area for parking in front of St Helen's Church is kept free from parked cars from 8.45am to 10.45am? This courtesy, good manners and understanding would be appreciated, knowing what St Helen's Church represents to the village.

Many thanks for taking time to read this, yours very sincerely and God's many blessings.

Cynthia Oliver, Churchwarden.

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

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

Come and join us at the Hall in Sharnford – meetings twice monthly on Wednesdays. Full high tea enjoyed at each meeting and last year we enjoyed full Christmas Dinner in December and a Fish and Chip Supper in September. We also have outside trips, recent ones include Gloucester Docks and Chatsworth, and the last one was to Ironbridge last month.

We also have occasional speakers to entertain us at our meetings.

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

Contact Jean Dale 274772

THE EVERGREEN CLUB

Now that it is summer time the club meets on alternate Wednesday evenings starting at 7 pm and new members are always welcome. Thank you to all those who came to our bacon buttie morning in May and helped us to raise £500 towards roof repairs and running costs. Our outing to Ironbridge will have now taken place, our next one in August will be a boat trip on the "Nottingham Prince" which will include a roast dinner as we sail. We will be running the cake stall at the Jubilee Fete and would welcome donations of home made cakes, large or small, on the day.

The Hinckley Archaeological Society is holding an exhibition of local finds around Fosse Meadows in the hall on Saturday July 18th at which refreshments will be served, and on August 8th we are holding another fund raising bacon buttie morning with cakes, books and nearly-new fashion items on sale.

Finally, the members and committee extend their sympathy to Maureen and her family at the passing away of Bob Cleaver, a well loved and generous member of our club for many years, and who will be greatly missed.

Beryl Devenyi

SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP

I have some progress to report. We have now, with the cooperation of the Parish Council, purchased the Speed Monitor for which we have been raising funds over the past few years. We will have it on show at the Parish Council event on May 21st and hope that you will come to see our display there.

Now that we have the equipment we will be looking for volunteers to help us with the erecting and occasional moving from one lamp post to another. We also need volunteers who are computer 'savvy' for the downloading of the data which it will collect.

None of these tasks are onerous and would not take much of your time, especially with several people on a rota.

Other than this, there has only been one incident recently, in which one of the flashing belisha beacons on the crossing was demolished and has not to date been replaced.

June Feast (Chair of STAG)

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SAPCOTE AND SHARNFORD CHARITY FUN RUN - Saturday 6th June 2015 10:00 a.m. Starting at All Saints Church Hall, Sapcote, LE9 4FG

Calling all runners (and walkers!). The fourth annual Charity Fun Run is being organised by Churches Together in Sapcote and Sharnford to commence at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday 6th June, starting from All Saints' Church Hall, Sapcote, LE9 4FG; to raise money for charities, to promote healthy activities and to have fun!

Previous events have been very successful and last year we had 47 participants and raised £612 for the two charities. There will be a plant sale and cake stalls in the church hall again. These were very popular last year. As per last year, the run will be started to the stirring sound of Paul Hing playing the Post Horn Galop. Paul plays the post horn at all Leicester City home games!

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

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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 or Karen Smith.

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

An entrance fee of £5.00 will be charged, which covers administration costs and any profit will be passed to the charities. Most people register on the day, but early registration prior to the event will be appreciated as this makes it easier. If you would like to find out more, please either Email details (preferred) or return your form to: Dave Harrold at daverharrold@aol.com or phone 07786985932 OR Karen Smith at karensmith59@btinternet.com or phone 01455 221350

ST. HELEN’S LADIES GROUP

The programme for the year began in March when we welcomed Jane Arnold in the guise of a WW2 Ministry of Food cookery demonstrator. Jane is very entertaining and she showed us how to make the war time rations go a long way with some lovely recipes such as mock banana sandwiches made with parsnips and banana flavouring! They tasted very good too!

In April a Skittles evening at the Heathcote Arms in Croft proved to be a good night out much enjoyed, even though some of us didn’t knock many skittles down! In May we had a ‘Knitting Bee’ in the Evergreen Hall to begin making items, such as purses, hats etc. for the annual Christmas shoe box appeal, knitted or crocheted squares for blankets and hats for the Innocent Smoothie bottles in aid of Age UK. In excess of 47,000 hats were made nationally last year for the smoothie bottle appeal and it is hoped that this number will be exceeded this year.

Looking ahead, in June a representative from the charity Friends of Belarus will be coming along to talk about the work done to help families still affected by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. In July Mike Leonard is giving a talk entitled “An Irreverent Approach to Political Correctness“ which sounds fun! In August the annual BBQ will be held at 48 Leicester Road starting at 6.30p.m.

Meetings are usually held on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 8.00 p.m in the Evergreen Hall or at the home of Jan Sewell, 48 Leicester Road. Visitors are welcome at all our meetings, cost £3 to include coffee/raffle. Information about the group can be found in the Sharnford News or by contacting the Leader, Mrs. Pat Jordan, Tel. 272229

Jean Ryan

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JULY 18TH AND 19TH
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SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB & COMMUNITY CENTRE

The light nights and milder weather has at last arrived. The Youth Club members can now take full advantage of the outdoor activities set up on the park, with football still being the most popular. Many of the members love to bring along their own Nerf weapons as the grounds and playground make for ideal hideouts, with the addition of the camouflage and fake scar face painting which we occasionally set up, making it more realistic.



Earlier in the year the Youth & Community Centre Committee took on the organisation of the Annual Easter Duck Race. It was decided early on that all monies raised would go to the installation and upkeep of the new Defibrillator which is now in place on the Evergreen Hall. The 2 races were entirely sold out which was helped by the large crowd which gathered on the day. The dredging of the brook last year certainly helped all the little ducks on their way with a special thanks to Archie and George McGunigle for helping Frazer at the starting blocks with tipping them over the bridge. All winners have now been notified and paid out with the remaining £260 being handed over to the Defibrillator Committee.

The Community Centre itself is filling up fast with bookings over the summer months with every weekend in June already booked out for various childrens parties. Of course the grassed area adjacent to the

building makes it ideal for those wanting to site any large inflatables to keep them amused.

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

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 sharnforyouthclub.wordpress.com

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

After a busy time up to and during the District elections, we would like to give our sincere thanks to all residents who voted for us as a team. Your elected members for the Stanton and Flamville ward are Iain Hewson and Sheila Scott who were re-elected, and we are pleased to have Deanne Woods as the third member of our team. We will continue to support all residents of Sharnford over the next four years.

We, as a council said thank you to Ernie White for leading our council over the last 10 + years. He will still support your parish council as a County Councillor, so you will still have close contact with him.

Our new leader is Terry Richardson and his vice-chair is Maggie Wright, both excellent members to lead our council.

Terry has been portfolio holder for Finance, Efficiency and Assets. Maggie held portfolio for Community Services. They have both been very busy selecting the new cabinet leaders, chairs of committees and committee members, these roles will be presented to the Full Council on the 27th May.

There are 17 new members of Blaby District Council all attending induction meetings along with longer serving members of the council.

Once more the Council's Web-site has been voted one of the best in the country.

The Outstanding Achievement Awards were another successful event held in October 2014.

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In November we held the Sports Awards at Countesthorpe College, which was the first time the award was held at the college.

A Place to Grow (rear of the car park at Enderby Leisure Centre) is a Community Garden Project. There is an open day on the 27 June 2015 between 11-00am and 3-00pm. You may remember that the site was set on fire some time ago, and due to a legacy of £50k this has enabled the purchase of a Lodge, and connection to the local services and to re-build the site. This will enable schools and colleges to work on their own patch, meet and interact with other members.

The launch of the Dementia Action Alliance and Dementia Awareness Week took place on the 19th

May 2015 at BDC. We are looking to make BDC a place in which we can make people aware of this disease, how we can help the sufferers and their carers.

The Older Persons Forum has a name change to The Over 50's Forum. This is a good place to meet and discuss various issues with like-minded people, a variety of speakers come to the forum.

The Pavilion at Huncote has a new "Gym", relaxation areas and a children's play area.

Fosse Meadows is a fantastic area of open space. An area was cleared using the skill of "Horse Logging" procedure. This was very popular with the children and their parents watching the horses work. Children of Blaby schools planted 100 trees in the Arboretum. There is a new "Bird Hive" overlooking the water area. BDC are looking to expand the information boards, explaining the various species of trees on site. In time we would like a building which will provide an education centre complete with facilities for visitors.

Iain Hewson

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

**Please note that the deadline for articles in the next issue of
Sharnford News is 19th August 2015**

Answers to Quiz

1. Sukie, 2. York, 3. Rome, 4. Florida, 5. Wood, 6. Impressive, 7. Mersey, 8. Australia, 9. True, 10. Surrey, 11. Pumice, 12. Three, 13. The Colosseum, 14. Three – England, Wales and Scotland as opposed to the United Kingdom which includes Northern Ireland, 15. Eighty eight, 16. At night, 17. Archimedes, 18. Chicane, 19. Billy the Kid, 20. Christmas

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 & Deanne Woods

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.

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 from 6.19am or 7.16am then 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 274772

Little Explorers Playgroup: Evergreen Hall Daily – contact Alison Bates 213779

Bump, Babies & Toddler Group: Tues 9.00- 10.30 Evergreen Hall (Term time only)

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 Sue Stanley 273861

Sharnford Cricket Club: Contact 282542

Sharnford Village Show: Annual show in September Contact Tony Curtis 272532

Sharnford Good Neighbour Scheme: Chair Edwina Grant 07969313154

Sharnford Village Website: www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford

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



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