

SHARNFORD NEWS

1st December 2015

Issue No 56



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



Sharnford News celebrates our 14th birthday this year. The editors wish to thank all their contributors and advertisers for their support and wish all our readers a
Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Environment Group Special Event

**Saturday 5th December
10.15am
Bluebell Green Sharnford**

Come and join with us to celebrate the installation of our new Village Sign.

To be 'unveiled' by Ernie White, our own County Councillor.

In the presence of District and Parish Councillors. Also representatives from fund donors, the sign manufacturer and the Press.

Afterwards walk down the hill to the Evergreen Hall where the annual Christmas Fayre is about to begin.

All welcome at both events.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

We lost a very valuable team member recently when Maureen Butcher died on October 26th. She had been a member of the group since 2003 joining us only a year after we started. Over the years she became part of a team that needed practical help, as well as ideas to improve our surroundings.

She was our liaison person with the Fete committee, eventually becoming vice-chair and latterly chairwoman of our group. She was reliable, consistent and fair. Her knowledge of Sharnford was invaluable, as we realised when dealing with some aspects of village life that needed clarification. Her time with the Parish Council also gave us access to the general 'doings' of Blaby District Council, and what may and may not be allowed.

There won't be another Maureen, we shall miss her and will think of her in so many positive ways. Her time with us will not be forgotten. We sincerely hope that her family will find comfort in the knowledge that here was a woman who really cared about where she lived.

Yvonne Jordan

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

During our summer break in August the club members and committee had a wonderful day out on the river Trent, enjoying a roast dinner as we sailed along in the sunshine. We started our tea-meetings in September with a fish and chip supper and later in the month we held a bacon buttie morning in aid of the Macmillan nurses and we would like to thank all those who supported us at this event.

Our Christmas Bazaar this year will be on December 5th from 11am-2pm, there will be a variety of stalls, delicious pork and stuffing batches and as usual, Santa will be coming to see the children. The new village sign is due to be installed on Blubell Green beforehand and those involved will be joining us in the hall for refreshments afterwards. We do appreciate your support at our major fund raising event which helps towards the club and also to maintain the hall as a valuable village amenity.

The last meeting of the year will be on December 9th when we shall have a festive tea followed by Bingo. We do not meet in January but instead we shall be going to see Cinderella at The Concordia and then at the end of the month we will be having our Annual Dinner. Tea-meetings start again the first Wednesday in February at 3pm and we always welcome new members.

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN VILLAGE HALL

**Refurbished Hall
with all equipment
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**Telephone
Margaret
01455 274038**

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.

This year we enjoyed a dinner trip down the River Trent in glorious weather and a visit to Ironbridge

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

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION RING JEAN
ON 01455 274772

On Saturday January 9th we will be holding our first Bacon-Buttie morning of the year, with cakes, clothes and books etc for sale. We wish all those who have supported any events at the Evergreen Hall a very Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Thank you Sharnford for once again supporting our Macmillan Coffee Morning held in the Evergreen Hall Saturday 26th September. This year £548.15 was raised bringing the total raised since 2009 to £2,986.15 your generosity is very much appreciated.

Many thanks also to the Bacon Buttie makers and all the stall holders. We have already been asked to repeat the event in 2016 and we said we would.

Beryl Devenyi

SHARNFORD METHODIST CHAPEL

At the moment we are busy filling shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child charity which we have supported for about 20 years, from the start Maureen Butcher was involved and as many know, Maureen sadly died in October. The Chapel has lost a long serving, faithful member who is greatly missed and our condolences go out to Dick and family.

Those who attended her funeral will have heard how she served our village over so many years in so many ways, and the appreciation of those present was shown by the sum of £625 being donated to "Rainbows" in memory of Maureen.

Our coffee mornings on the first Saturday of the month will start again in January and on the first Monday of the month we now have a Fellowship Group at 10am, led by our newly appointed Lay Pastor Anne Haddon. We also have a book club open to anyone which also meets on the first Monday at 2pm.

A family service will be held on December 13th and then on Saturday December 19th the Chapel will be open from 10am-4pm, decorated with the theme "Let the Bells Ring Out". Refreshments and soup will be available and an activities area for children and the winners of the search for woolly sheep will be announced at 2pm.

On Sunday 20th the Chapel will be open at 2pm, also with refreshments and activities, followed by our Carol Service at 4pm. On Christmas Day we worship with our friends at St Helen's Church in the morning.

Our congregation wishes you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Beryl Devenyi

Messy Nativity Sheep Trail

At the beginning of December a small flock of woolly sheep will be arriving in Sharnford. They will be taking up residence in various windows around the village. Can your children or grandchildren help us find which sheep is in which window and enjoy some Christmas fun at the same time?

Leaflets containing more details of what to do and an entry form will be given out at school and playgroup or Kathy on 272335. Anyone finding all the sheep and returning their completed forms will be entered into a prize draw.



The poster features a red border and contains the following elements:

- Top row: 10 small white sheep icons.
- Second row: A black and white sheep on the left, the text "Have you joined the Sharnford" in green, and a black and white sheep on the right.
- Third row: The title "Messy Nativity Sheep Trail?" in large, bold, red letters.
- Fourth row: A black and white sheep on the left, the text "1st - 18th December" in green, and a black and white sheep on the right.
- Fifth row: The text "Help the shepherd find his lost sheep." in red.
- Sixth row: The text "Christmas fun for all children." in green.
- Seventh row: 10 small white sheep icons.
- Eighth row: The text "For more details and an entry form pick up a leaflet from Sharnford School, Playgroup or Kathy (tel 272335)" in blue.
- Ninth row: The text "All correct forms returned will be entered into a prize draw." in green.
- Tenth row: 10 small white sheep icons.



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ST HELEN'S CHURCH



Our Harvest in October started with a Craft Session at the School on the previous Friday at 3.15pm. Children made a Bread Harvest Sheaf to put in the Church on the Sunday and decorated boxes to fill with Harvest gifts of vegetables, fruit etc to bring to Church for Harvest festival.

The Church was decorated with fruits, vegetables and flowers. There was a special display of old farming tools and implements. Mr Bill Higginbotham gave a talk ' Farming in Sharnford

when he was a boy'. Mrs Karen Smith then talked about 'Farming today in Sharnford'. The Harvest food gifts were given to the Hinckley Homeless and money collected was given to the charity 'Tear Fund' which helps people in need, in other countries. We completed our celebration with sharing 'Brunch', bacon or sausage butties, croissants and jam were enjoyed by all.

Also in October the funeral of the eldest resident in Sharnford, Mr Alan Carty took place.

The Children Society boxes were collected and emptied. The total for the village was £478.87. Thank you to all who support this good cause, which helps children in need in this country.

On November 8th we held a joint Remembrance Service with the Methodist Church followed by an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial to remember the fallen.

We now look forward to the Christmas season;-
On Friday 18th December, 10am-12 midday and 6pm-8pm, we invite you to come and 'Light a Candle' in memory of loved ones who have died, who are far away, or who you won't see this Christmastide. Just a short pause in your busy day to remember them. All ages are welcome.



St Helen's Church Christmas Events

9th December 1pm Little Explorers Nativity (Playschool)
13th December 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols
18th December 10am-12 midday, 6pm-8pm 'Light a Candle'
20th December 9.15am Christingle Celebration
24th December 11.15pm Christmas Eve Communion
25th December 9.15am Christmas Family Worship

We hope you can take time out to visit us at any of these events to celebrate our Saviours birth and we wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Chris Berridge

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EVERGREEN HALL GOES DIGITAL

We are thrilled to announce that we have been successful in a bid to the BT/BARCLAYS BANK for a top of the range free WiFi system to be installed in the Hall. This will hopefully take place during the next three months (subject to successful survey of the hall).

Coupled with the installation, we shall have the services of the Barclays Bank Eagles team who will run 6 free WiFi sessions for those who want to know more about using the Internet. This will include newcomers to the internet, silver surfers who want to know more and excitingly a course for 7-17 year olds to learn all about coding. There have been a series of

advertisements on the TV showing the Eagles team with children and adults.

BT will pay for the internet service for 2 years and we will then have to fund it ourselves.

We are also looking to open the hall to public use of the WiFi at certain times to enable those who have no access to WiFi to be able to use the internet. We also hope to raise money to purchase one or two laptops for those who have no computer at all.

WiFi in the hall will be of great advantage to users as well, particularly to the doctors' practices who can then access patient information when necessary.

Hopefully we will have more definite news by the time of the next Newsletter.

Rosemarie Simpson

COUNTRYMAN SICK AND DIVIDEND FUND

Our annual prize draw takes place at the Countryman on Friday evening, the 18th of December starting at 8:00 pm. We are still looking for donations of prizes for the raffle – these can be accepted right up until the date of the draw. Last year we were supported by many local businesses and individuals with prizes/gifts and most are supporting us again this year.

The continued success of the event is mainly reliant on tickets sold for the raffle so please be sure to buy yours; these are on sale at the Countryman and Sharnford Arms public houses and the village Post Office. For ticket sales and prize/gift donations I can be contacted on 01455 274678.

Heath and Emma at the Countryman are also holding fund raising events so please support these – they have already raised £50 by holding a Rugby Sweepstake.

Distribution of the festive food bags will be on Saturday morning, the 19th of December.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jack Feast for the Countryman S & D Fund

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Opening hours 12 - 11.30pm Monday to Saturday and 12 - 10pm Sunday.

Food now being served 12 – 4pm Sunday and
12 - 2pm and 5 - 9pm Monday to Saturday excluding Monday evening

Sat 28th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day. 12 onwards.

Free nibbles and wine. Live music at 5pm 'Jersey Budd'.

New Year's Eve Party Children £1 – Adults £2

Children's disco 6-8.30 (under 12's to be left by 9.30) Adults party 9 – late

The Countryman, Leicester Road, Sharnford - 01455 271799

SHARNFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We were pleased to welcome 13 children to Sharnford C E Primary School in September. They've all settled in well to their new classes and are now used to the daily routines of our school. Every Friday during our celebration assembly those children who have demonstrated Christian values are presented with a certificate. Parents had the opportunity to visit the school at the start of the term and meet with their child's teacher.

Over the summer holidays we had new gates fitted to the front of the School and additional parking places created. At the beginning of October we took 55 children from the Federation to Beaumanor Hall, Loughborough for a 2 night residential visit. During their stay the children enjoyed taking part in canoeing, climbing, archery and hide and seek in the cellars. We were delighted with the very positive comments from the Beaumanor team about our children's good behaviour and their ability to work with children from another school.

Children in year 5 and 6 had an exciting morning in September when a company called 'Tropical Inc' brought in a number of exotic animals for the children to see and touch. Children in year 1 and 2 are learning all about toys and will be taking part in a session offered by Charnwood Museum to look at a range of replica toys from the past and compare and contrast them with toys of today.

We entered a number of items into the Sharnford Village Show and were delighted that our vase of 5 Marigolds won first prize. We try to continue looking after our garden at

school but if there is anyone in the community who could spare some time to help us with this, it would be extremely appreciated. Please contact the school office (272456) if you're able to help.

Maple class led our Harvest service at the Methodist Church and we collected food for Hinckley Food Bank, as well as filling 11 shoe boxes with tinned food, and small toys which will be sent to children in Eastern Europe. We held a cake and book sale in the school hall and raised £100, this will be split between school and Children in Need. We will again be raising money for Children in Need dressing in yellow or something associated with Pudsy bear. The school council have been selling Poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion and old clothes are being collected for a charity who sends them to developing countries.

Our PTA held their annual general meeting and invited new members to attend. They discussed what activities to plan for the children this year and how to spend money they had already raised. The PTA play a very important role in the school helping to raise much needed funds for school but also offer wonderful activities for the children to take part in. They are always looking for parents to join, if you wish to do so, please contact the school office.

Elections were held for the school council and 8 children were voted onto the council representing all year groups within the school. The new reception children had their photograph taken by the Hinckley Times and this was included in their 'My First Day at School' supplement. The Local Rock will also be taking a photo of this group which will be included in a future issue. Tempest photography have taken individual and family photographs of all children.

A nursing team from the National Health Services visited school and administered those children in years 1 to 6 who parents gave permission, with the flu vaccine by way of a nasal spray. We are continuing to offer an afterschool multi sports club and football club. The children have received roller hockey training from staff at Midland Roller Arena in Ashby Parva and enjoyed a day at the arena. An afterschool club is now taking part at the arena.

We have a spare piano at School that is not being used, if anyone could make use of it and collect it from School, please contact us.

We would like to thank all parents and members of the community who come in to school and listen to the children read.

Carol Proctor Secretary

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SHARNFORD SCHOOL PTA

Well, the summer is over, the kids are back at school and we're already seeing Christmas adverts on the TV. The PTA started the autumn term with a coffee morning down at the Evergreen hall. We raised a fair few pounds and supplied plenty of cakes and tea to the locals.

Our AGM was held at the start of October and one of the things we discussed was what we should be raising funds for this year. In the end we decided that renovating the peace garden at the school would be a worthwhile project and one that could really involve the children. It could also be something that might appeal to others in the village, so if you think you could help in anyway, with time, or gardening expertise then please let the school know!

A few Fridays ago we had a book and cake sale at the end of the school day. Many of the books were donated from parents and the rest were those being retired from the school's library. The school council thought it would be nice to share the profits from the sale with Children in Need, and between us we raised £105. So a massive thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event.

Before the end of term there is the Christmas workshop at school where we've lined up a great craft activity this year and there is of course the Christmas Disco to look forward to, especially as Father Christmas will be there!

In the new year, on Fri 5th Feb, there's the annual quiz to look forward too, so there's plenty of time to get yourselves into teams of 4 ready for an evening of general knowledge and hot buffet action. The quiz is always a great fundraiser and our quiz-master always does a great job of putting together a quiz that everyone can enjoy.

Happy Christmas

The PTA

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SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE

Just a quick reminder about the AGM for the Fete Committee. This will be held on **Wednesday, January 27th 2016, at 7.30pm** in the Evergreen Hall. At the meeting, we will discuss the 2016 fete and elect the committee members for the year.

Any village groups that would like to participate in the fete and receive a distribution of the proceeds need to have a representative at the committee meeting. The meeting is also open to anyone else who would like to get involved. New members and new ideas are welcome!

Looking forward to seeing you all there

Sue Stanley Secretary SGJC

SHARNFORD LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP

Sharnford Little Explorers Playgroup



Evergreen Village Hall,
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children aged 3 - 4



Lots of fun activities

Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group

Tuesdays 9.00 – 10.30am



We hope you have seen us around and about collecting resources for our autumn pictures. We love to say Hello and wave to you if you see us. We found lots of exciting things on our nature trail and spotted a squirrel collecting acorns. Our favourite activity was running through all the leaves and scooping them up and throwing them. We took some back to playgroup where we enjoyed looking at all the different colours on the leaves and then mixing paint to match.

We had great fun using our pumpkin from the Sharnford Show to make our Halloween display. We used spoons to scoop out the middle and then dried out the seeds to plant for next year. We made pumpkin biscuits to eat at our party and share with our families and had fun with our friends making pictures and masks.

This week we have been making rocky road cakes to sell and raise money for Children in Need and we went to playgroup in our pyjamas! We have been learning about how the money is spent for Children in Need and understanding how some lives are different from ours.

We are now practising our Christmas carol concert. This will take place on

Wednesday 9th December at 1pm at St Helen's Church, Sharnford. Everyone is welcome to come and watch. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas

Alison and all at Little Explorers Playgroup

SHARNFORD PRE-SCHOOLERS PTFA



Sharnford Pre-schoolers PTFA is a committee of volunteers who raise money for the children of Sharnford.



After a long summers break Bumps, Babies and Toddler Group (BBT) returned in September refreshed and full of new ideas. Our children have been very busy this term making new friends, playing with different toys and getting crafty. In our craft corner we have been making Paper plate pasta lion collages, fish celery stamping, toilet roll

rockets, firework collages, decorating homemade biscuits and having playdoh fun. Our sensory room is still going strong particularly with the little ones.

To add to the fun BBT had a Spooky party for the children at the end of October, alongside our popular coffee morning. We sold lots of yummy cakes to help raise funds to support our group. As always anyone is welcome to our coffee mornings so keep an eye out for coffee morning dates in the new year. The children had lots of fun dressing up in their Spooky themed costumes, making paper plate spiders, dancing to the music and playing with lots of toys. Great fun was had by all. . All proceeds made from the party/ coffee morning goes towards the running of BBT, toys, future trips for the children to enjoy.



We held our AGM back in September. Thank you to all who attended. Unfortunately no new members were found to join the committee. If you can help in any way or would like to join us then please contact us on our facebook page 'Sharnford Bumps, Babies and Toddler Group' or pop in and see us every Tuesday morning 9-10.30 (term time only). If you would like to see what we're up to keep an eye out for our Activities Calendar on the notice boards around the village or on our facebook page.

Our last session of 2015 will be 15th December where we will be holding our annual Christmas party. Tickets will be available from BBT Group nearer the time. We will return January 12th 2016.

Hope to see you soon

The PTFA team



SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP

At our meeting last night (16th November) we had an update on the Speed Monitor. There have been some problems and criticisms about this machine, but they have now been ironed out and it is up in the middle of the village and working properly. This is thanks to our new Speed Monitor Coordinator, Mike Shirley. The data downloaded so far proves that more than 50% of the vehicles passing through Sharnford exceed the 30 mph speed limit. Quite a few doing over 50mph. This makes the zebra crossing a dangerous place. In the next issue we will have figures to show what exactly the situation is.

Looking back through old papers I see that a by-pass was proposed as long ago as 1933, we are still waiting. Although we understand that the by-pass round Sapcote to the M69 is near the top of the Government list of "to do" when money is available.

Meanwhile, we are still working to push the situation here in Sharnford into the notice of those in power. We need more people to get involved, it is for the benefit of the whole village and I am sure many of you will realise the danger the traffic imposes on the children and elderly who live here. Our meetings will be publicised on the notice boards around the village so please, come and see what you can do to help.

June Feast

ST. HELEN'S LADIES GROUP



Since the launch of the 'Knitting Bee' in May, nimble fingered members have made a variety of items for the annual Samaritan's Purse shoe box appeal, such as dolls clothes, pencil cases, purses, scarves and hats; knitted or crocheted squares for blankets. In excess of 400 hats have been made and trimmed to adorn the Innocent Smoothie bottles in aid of Age UK. Over 47,000 hats were made nationally last year for the smoothie bottle appeal and it is hoped that this number will be exceeded for the 2016 appeal. Look out for these bottles on sale, usually in the 'food to go' cabinets in larger chain stores and supermarkets during February. 25p from the sale of each 'hatted' bottle is donated to Age

UK; a very worthwhile charity.

We had a thought provoking talk in June from a representative of the charity Friends of Belarus. This organisation is still helping families affected by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster of 1986. In July Mike Leonard gave an informative and, sometimes, amusing talk entitled "An Irreverent Approach to Political Correctness".

In August the annual BBQ was held at 48 Leicester Road where we enjoyed good food (and wine!) and good conversation! A representative from Blaby Police Volunteers came along in September, to give us some practical advice on how to keep safe in our homes and outside.

An excellent meal was enjoyed at Badger's Mount in October and in November we had a very enjoyable games evening followed by sampling different puddings made by members. A great way to end a meeting!

Meetings are usually held on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 8.00 pm 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.

*Are you going to miss
Someone this Christmas?*

*Why not come to St Helen's
Church Sharnford*

*Light a Candle to remember
them? Friday 18th December*

*10am to 12 midday
and 6pm to 8pm*

*You will find space and
Stillness to be quiet
with your own thoughts.*

*There will be someone to
listen if you want to talk.*



Information about the group can be found in the Sharnford News or by contacting the Leader, Mrs. Pat Jordan, Tel. 272229

Jean Ryan

SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB & COMMUNITY CENTRE

With the nights drawing in, the Friday night Youth Club has tried to concentrate on more indoor activities such as table tennis, table football, lego building and colouring, although the members are an ardent bunch and the wind, rain and cold doesn't seem to bother them in the slightest. We have now changed the rules to 'Winter Rules' whereby they are no longer allowed down to the brook or, in fact, anywhere not lit by the multiple floodlights we have positioned around the building and we would encourage parents to remind their children of this.

For 4 consecutive Thursdays during November a Free Youth Bus was sited down at the Youth Club and it was hoping to encourage the over 11's to come down and join in with playstation and xbox tournaments, nail art, crafts and the DJ mixing decks. Unfortunately this wasn't as well attended as was hoped but has at least led the Youth Club Committee to agree that it's the younger members that we should be concentrating on and who seem to be more enthusiastic about coming down and socialising/playing together.

The Annual Snowdome tobogganing trip followed by a chip supper has been booked and is, once again, fully booked. Lots of snow fun to look forward to there. We are also looking into putting on a Christmas disco for all members and their friends on the last Youth Club session before the holidays. Look out for more information on that nearer the time.

On a disappointing note, the weekly Fitsteps class has now ceased due to lack of support which was a blow for those who enjoyed keeping fit and having fun on the doorstep. The Matt Elliott Academy is still up and running and with both indoor and outdoor facilities available to them, it is hoped they can keep the numbers up during the winter months.

Community Centre Timetable

Alternate Mondays

7.30-9.30pm Craft Club

Contact Kathy Bryan 272335

Wednesday

10-12.30pm Over 55's Youth Club

Contact Derek Gibbons 272401

EVERGREEN HALL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER

11-2 pm



FATHER CHRISTMAS
HOME MADE CAKES
AND JAMS

GIFTS

BOTTLE STALL

RAFFLES

BOOKS

& MORE

HOT PORK AND STUFFING ROLLS

**Come and Support our Annual
Fundraiser - this helps us to maintain
the hall for everyone's use and also
helps pay for outings for our Club
Members**

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

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

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Outstanding Achievements Awards held at the Marriott hotel in October, again a huge success. Some councillors and Alberto Costa were in attendance plus finalists, friends and family. To see the full list of winners and runners-up visit www.blaby.gov.uk/awards.

Blaby is in the top 10 happy places in the UK.

Corporate Peer Challenge: The Peer challenge is designed to add value to the Council's own performance and improvement plans. The overall messages were that Blaby is a 'great council' with a strong focus on residents and businesses. Our relationship with partners was described as 'brilliant' and we show real partnership working and leadership. This has been a very useful exercise with feedback showing some useful pointers of things that we can do to improve.

Lightbulb. Work is progressing well on 'LIGHTBULB' – a pioneering programme to test out how we can join up Health, Housing and Social Care services for people.

Feel Alive from 65 event/campaign week. The Health and Leisure team held sessions to encourage people to try out a range of different activities in particular events held at Braunstone Civic Centre and the Pavilion, Huncote. Taster activities well supported in Braunstone and a Kurling tournament was held at the Pavilion with 40 people participating, both these events gave good feedback and a new Tia Chi session will be included in the Braunstone centre in due course.

Housebuilder's Forum held in September to build better relationships with developers

and housebuilders. Event well attended ranging from large to smaller companies, good debate and discussions on a number of subjects, good positive feedback from all who attended.

The Chartered Institute of Housing East Midlands Development of the Year Award. OAK COURT – the new 50



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unit Extra Care Scheme at Winchester Road in Blaby has been awarded as above. There are 50 self-contained 2 and 3 bedroom flats, 5 of which are reserved for people leaving hospital. Excellent facilities for the ageing population including 24 hour care and support tailored to the individual needs of the residents.

Blaby Together Summit - took place in September with partners from the community of business and education. The new Youth Council, as part of their 'voice' work prepared for their participation at the summit by considering what 'work readiness' is and what is needed for young people 'to be work ready'. The Youth Council have requested that they continue to stay involved and attend any subsequent meetings. We now have a very strong YC with 20 + members.

Charity Soccerthon – 24 hour event hosted at the Pavilion using outdoor pitches and then into the sports hall playing through the night the event raised £5,600 for their chosen charities (Leicester Hospitals Charity-Oncology and Motor Neurone Disease Leicestershire).

Blaby Voice Pop Up Event – held at the Pavilion for all families in the locality being supported through Early Help Services, families were specifically invited to attend by their support worker. As well as a range of fun things for families to do the purpose of the event was to capture views regarding mental health service provision.

Halloween Spooktacular – this year the event was held at Bouskell Park, Blaby. Again a fantastic event with over 600 people attending, wide range of activities for all the family. A large number of carved pumpkins were sold with children designing their own carving. Whilst this is not a 'fund raising event' the team managed to raise £650 at the event.

Best wish to you all for Christmas and the New Year from your District Councillors.

Cllrs Sheila Scott, Iain Hewson and Deanne Woods - District Councillors - BDC

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SHARNFORD GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

We are here for you, please get in touch
if you would like help or support.

We are a group of local volunteers,
offering short term help to the community
for a variety of needs, for example,
assistance around the house and home,

transport to the GP, hospital and dental appointments, or just a friendly face to talk to.

Since we've been up and running from the beginning of October, we've been able to help with a number of trips to the GP - it's flu jab season, helped someone to plant their Winter bulbs, and done an assisted food shop. The only charge is a small and very reasonable contribution to cover petrol costs e.g. a trip from home to Hinckley and back would be £3.00.

All volunteers have had the necessary checks, we are fully insured and carry I.D. so you can be confident you are in safe hands.

Typically people have got in touch when friends, family or neighbours, who usually support, haven't been available, they may be at work, on holiday, or just busy themselves. Therefore, having a group of volunteers, ensures support is on hand, and available to all those in the community, who may from time to time need it.

So with the increasingly earlier dark nights and more challenging weather, please remember we are here to help. If you or someone you know could benefit, please call the dedicated phone number **07502 615535**.

Edwina Grant



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CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. The dragon slayer, St. George, was born in Cappodocia. In which modern country is Cappodocia?
2. What are you eating if you are enjoying 'March Bread'?
3. In which country were Christmas trees banned from the early 1920's until 1935?
4. Which Christmas figure wore green in Victorian England?
5. In North America, which organisation is always the first to spot that Santa is underway?

6. Who is the traditional Christmas gift bringer in regions of Southern Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Italy and Switzerland?
7. So legend has it, whilst poking at a fire, the London based sweet shop owner Tom Smith got the inspiration to make what Christmas dinner accessory?
8. A word for wine that has been spiced and heated. Six letters.
9. One often has a glass of something before Christmas dinner as an APERITIF. The word stems from the Latin word meaning what?
10. Santa's favourite tippie is sherry, so they say. There are two main types of sherry. Name them.
11. What kind of water is added to high quality marzipan?
12. What kind of net, found on many a Christmas tree in Ukraine, is supposed to bring good luck?
13. In 'The Christmas Song' (Chestnuts roasting on an open fire...) what are the 'folks dressed up like'?
14. Which charity ceased in 1989 after 5 years in which time it raised 90 million pounds?
15. Which country gives a Christmas tree to Britain every year, something it has done traditionally for years?
16. Gaja Kristnako is 'Happy Christmas' in which language?
17. Which biblical town's name means 'house of bread' in Hebrew?
18. In 1973 which record did Slade have a Christmas number one with?
19. In 1983, who was number one with 'Only You'?
20. Which record was a Christmas No. 1 in 1975 and 1991?

VILLAGE SHOW - SEPTEMBER

Sharnford Village Show & Plant Sale

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

We wish you a Merry Christmas and our best wishes for 2016

Dates for your diary
Plant Sale Saturday 21st May 2016
Produce Show 10th September 2016

See you all in 2016

The season ran a little late, apparently it was the windiest summer for over 25 years. Sunny and dry but not very warm with cool northerly winds. Good job the Show was not any earlier otherwise exhibitors really would have struggled.

This year we had a wonderful benefactor Sharnford Lodge Saddlery Centre of Bumblebee Lane who put up £25 for the best in show prize. The winner was Alison Bates who runs the playgroup, the best in show item was a jar of jam which the lucky judge got to sample. It must have been good. Well done.

We are now looking for projects to help financially. We make a profit on the plant sale and a very small profit on the September Show, after retaining a



safe amount in our funds we distribute the rest. Our last major donation was £1,000 for the defibrillator. If you have a village project needing finance, then put your request in writing to us so that we can consider. Clearly we will not be able to give everyone all the funds they need. What we do can only be done because of your generous support at the

Show and the Plant Sale.

The plant sale will be on the Saturday a week before the half term break 21st May 2016. Owing to the apparent demise of Four Winds we will have look elsewhere for quality plants, rest assured we will do our best to maintain the plant sale 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 10th September 2016 please enter, it is just a bit of fun and it helps raise funds for village causes. The cakes and preserves sections have proved popular with some tasty entries (the judges tell me), proved by a jar of jam taking the £25 best in show prize. Also some creative and beautiful cakes so well done everyone. The men's only section for cakes has been hotly contested again. 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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Amukelani Counselling
07806 323 635
Kelerina@googlemail.com

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF SHARNFORD NEWS

Dear Sir:-

I offer you this appeal for enclosure in your pre-christmas addition – should you consider it acceptable.

“The festive season will soon be with us, and for all households that include a senior citizen residing within, a gift of produce will be delivered on the 19th December. Courtesy of the ‘Countryman Public House Sick & Divi’ who provide funding from annual raffle and donation from the village fete. This is gratefully received by all, myself included.

The contents of the gift bag are purchased from a local supermarket who provide a generous discount. However, due to a reduction in this discount, the organisers will find it rather more difficult this year to provide these goods to the very high standard they have previously set. So they need more funds: To this aim I am suggesting that those of us who are willing and able to do so, place a £5 note in a plain envelope and give it to the person who will deliver your gift bag to you. The value of which is far in excess of this amount”

If 40 of us do this, as I’m sure we will, an extra £200 will be made available to the organisers! This will no doubt give heart to them to continue with this generous gesture – don’t you agree?

BE THE FIRST OF THE 40 – please read note below

Anon

Editor's Footnote:

"This initiative has not been suggested by the Countryman Sick & Dividend Fund. Although it is a super idea, might I suggest that all such donations be made to the Countryman public house to prevent doorstep fraud."

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 Wednesday 17th February 2016**

Answers to Quiz

1. Turkey, 2. Marzipan, 3. Soviet Union, 4. Father Christmas, 5. North American Radar and Defence, 6. The Christ Child or Kris Kringle, 7. Christmas Crackers, 8. Mulled, 9. To open, 10. Fino and Oloroso, 11. Rose Water, 12. A spider's web, 13. Eskimos, 14. Band Aid, 15. Norway, 16. Esperanto, 17. Bethlehem, 18. Merry Christmas Everybody, 19. Flying Pickets, 20. Bohemian Rhapsody

SHARNFORD VILLAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Sharnford Parish Council Chair: Jack Feast 274678 email: bottlejack@hotmail.com
Clerk: Matthew Scott 07810010893 email: matthew.scott@neovialogistics.com
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) 7.30 – 9.30pm Kathy Bryan 272335

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

Direct Help Line 07502 615535

Sharnford Village Website: www.leicestershirevillages.com/sharnford

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



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