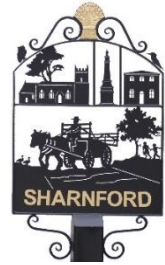


SHARNFORD NEWS

1st December 2018

Issue No 68



A Project supported by Blaby District Council.

We would like to say thank you to our advertisers for their continued support and all our contributors for the time taken to write articles

SHARNFORD REMEMBERS

At the 11th hour on the 11th November 1918 World War I, also known as the Great War came to end after 4 years and 3 months. It is estimated around 40 million people died during this conflict. This year marks the 100th anniversary of this and throughout the world many services took place to commemorate this event.



The sacrifice made by those that never returned cannot be forgotten

Sharnford news team

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SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP (STAG)



Are they ON or are they OFF? The average speed cameras of course.

Confusion from Leicestershire County Council who have not verified the recent statement in the local press that the cameras have been switched off after only two months. According to Councillor Blake Pain, LCC Cabinet member responsible for Environment and Transport, only 84 vehicles have been logged speeding through the village since they were switched on in September. This is either fantastic news, showing a massive reduction in speeding or, as I suspect, along with a number of other residents, the cameras at the Coventry Road end of the village are in the wrong place. At the time of going to print we are still waiting for feedback from Leicestershire County Council Highways Department. It would have been nice if the county council could have communicated this information to STAG and the Parish Council before going to the newspapers.

It is fair to say that a number of pedestrians as well as drivers have noticed a very remarkable drop in the speed of traffic passing through the village. The reduction in noise has also been commented on. One of our founder members Mike Lee, who lives in Stoney Stanton and has been driving through the village regularly for over 40 years, has said "It is very noticeable as you enter the village on the B4114 from the Sutton Elms direction how much more slowly the traffic is moving, and how speed descending the "hill" past the post office is much more controlled. It is also remarkable how much impatient tailgating has been reduced." He continued "The comparison with the visible traffic speeds in the STAG DVD made in 2006 is amazing!"

In the meantime, a few statistics, STAG have been electronically recording speeds and volumes of traffic in Sharnford since November 2015. In these three years over EIGHT MILLION vehicles have driven over the Pedestrian Crossing on the B4114, with TWO MILLION breaking the speed limit!! Currently the B4114 is on course to hit over three million vehicles per year. During this time, on Aston Lane, over 1.6 million vehicles have been registered, with over ONE MILLION being clocked speeding. Speeds in excess of 70mph have been recorded. During the 2020's expect to see volumes far in excess of three million vehicles per year when the new DPD Distribution Centre on the A5 and the National Rail Freight Interchange near Sapcote come online. In addition we have the Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan with its extra 96,580 homes!!! Eye watering figures.... If you wish to get involved contact Mike Shirley on 07539 994707 or email mikelennox99@aol.com

Mike Shirley – Secretary

SHARNFORD METHODIST CHURCH



Our lay pastor is Mrs Anne Haddon. She can be contacted on 01455 617692

We have All Age Worship on Sundays, starting at 10am and all are welcome.

A village choir group meets on Mondays at 6.45pm. Everyone welcome and no auditions are required!

A joint fellowship group with St Helens meets at the chapel on the first Thursday evening of the month, 7.00 – 8.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come along. Up and coming dates are: 6th December 7th February 7th March, (no meeting in January).

Friday Prayer Time is an opportunity for quiet personal prayer and meditation. It takes place on the

3rd Friday of each month 10.30 – 11.00am. Up and coming dates are: 21st December, 18th January, 15th February, and 15th March

We enjoyed visiting the Methodist Church in Stoney Stanton to join in their Harvest Festival and our own Harvest Festival where we collected donations for the charity, Send a Cow. We also welcomed children from Sharnford Primary School, for their harvest festival. Excellent food and entertainment were enjoyed by everyone at the Harvest Supper.

We have been busy preparing shoeboxes full of gifts for children as part of the annual Operation Christmas Child Appeal. These have been sent, with our love, to the warehouse in Leicester before they are dispatched to needy children around the world.

As we move into advent and the Christmas period, we are looking forward to our Carol Service on December 16th at 3 pm. We warmly invite everyone from the village and beyond to join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

The first Saturday of each month we have a coffee morning, with second-hand book sales, cakes and bring and buy. Lots of refreshments are consumed, lots of chat and laughter and money raised for good causes.

There will be no coffee morning at the beginning of January.

February 2nd - Save the Children Fund

March 2nd - Fairtrade Event at the Evergreen Hall

We are very excited to be launching our new venture, Tuesday Coffee and Cake, on December 11th. Look for our poster elsewhere in this edition. We wish everyone Peace and Love for this Christmas.

Penny Ross

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SHARNFORD EVERGREEN VILLAGE HALL



Available for Hire 7 days a week. Our hiring fees have been held the same since 2007 and are very competitive.

There is a main hall, with tables and chairs, a small meeting room, toilets, including disabled, stage and a fully fitted kitchen with crockery and cutlery, cooker for reheating (but not for full cooking)

£10 per hour for casual hire

Regular Groups enjoy a reduction in rates, charity events are discretionary but usually village charity events are free or by donation

Telephone: Margaret 01455 274038

SHARNFORD ENVIRONMENT GROUP

At the recent AGM of the group, Penny Ross was re-elected as chairwoman, Samantha Owen as Vice-chairwoman, Stuart Rowan as Treasurer and Naomi Allen as Secretary. You can find Naomi's contact details at the back of this issue of the News.

It was also decided to hold future meetings, every 2nd Tuesday in the month, in the Evergreen Hall at 7.30pm. The first meeting will be on January 8th. All villagers are welcome to join us as usual.

What an eventful 12 months it has been for the group since we began earlier in the year thinking we wouldn't survive beyond the spring and then came a welcome influx of new members who have proved their worth, since we are getting round to those tasks we hadn't been able to complete due to low 'manpower'.

How grateful we are too, to those volunteers who did the best they could – in heat wave conditions – watering the hanging baskets. Without asking, many of those villagers watered more often to try and keep the plants going.

It always comes back to the same thing 'we can't do the job without each other'.

Sharnford Environment Group will be offering Christmas Tree Chipping for all residents of the village. Please keep an eye out for full details which will be displayed on the noticeboards throughout the village.

As the year comes to a close its time to wish each and every one, an enjoyable festive season, with the best of wishes all round! See you in 2019.

Naomi Allen



SHARNFORD PRE-SCHOOLERS PTFA

Thank you to everyone who has made an effort with helping to keep Sharnford Bumps, Babies and Toddlers (BBT) up and running after worries of closure.

The children have enjoyed another few months of playing together, making new friends, creating works of art and being musical whilst the parents and grandparents enjoy a hot cuppa and a chat with fellow parents and grandparents. We have also seen a few new faces which has been great.

It saddens me to say that unfortunately the doors for BBT will finally be closing. Due to a lack of committee members, volunteers and work/children commitments it can no longer keep running. There will be a final farewell/Christmas party on the 18th December so I hope you will all make it for some festive fun, food, music and games.

Thank you to Vicky, Ellie and Fiona for running it for the last 4 years and bringing the community closer together. Keep your eyes peeled for future stay and play groups!

Bhav

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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. We have a full
three course hot meal around Christmas time and a Fish and Chip
Supper in September. We also have outside trips, go to the
Pantomime in Hinckley and have occasional speakers.**

**In the New Year we will be showing a film using our new cine club
facilities Hopefully this will be a regular addition to our programme.**

Non members are also very welcome - refreshments available.

**ALL WELCOME - Meetings are afternoons 3-5 pm
Contact Jean Dale on 274772**

COMMEMORATING THE END OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR



On Sunday the 11th November a very moving service was held at St Helen's to commemorate the ending of the Great War. Over 80 people attended in church and approximately 25 joined us at the War Memorial at 10.45 for the Remembrance. Colin Haddon from the Methodist Chapel led a moving service with Hymns and Prayers and there was additional music and singing from the small singing group in the village.

The church inside was beautifully decorated with poppies and also the children from the school added some poignant paintings to the walls. Our District Councillor Sheila Scott laid the wreath from the Church and Chapel to remember the 13 young men from our village that lost their lives. Afterwards, there were refreshments, including edible poppy cakes! and a small exhibition was staged detailing those who died. It was a very moving Remembrance on this very important day. A collection was taken and £262 has been sent to the Royal British Legion.



A very special thank you goes to all those who knitted poppies to make the special drapes both in church and outside.

Rosemarie

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Remembrance service held at St Helens church was very well supported both inside and outside. I was honoured to be invited to attend the service and to lay the wreath. This was a very special time sharing 100 years since the end of World War One, respecting the people who gave their lives for us all.

Vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the car parks and the play area at Fosse Meadows continues to be a problem, the District Council recently immobilised the roundabout and the rope slide due to on-going vandalism. Following a substantial investment to reinstate the equipment vandals targeted the area again resulting in further costly repairs. The Council have reported the most recent incident anti-social behaviour to the police and our anti-social behaviour team but policing an unlit Park in an isolated area is almost impossible. Continuous monitoring and repair is not a good use of resources, nor is it sustainable. Please report any misuse of the play equipment to our Parks and Open Spaces team. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Best wishes,

Sheila, Iain and Deanne - District Councillors



SAPCOTE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Registered Charity No: 1167496

There is always a warm welcome at Sapcote Community Library where you can borrow and browse through an extensive range of books, enjoy a hot or cold drink, meet with friends and join in with a variety of activities. We also have an wide range of second-hand books to buy, a colour copier/printer/scanner with A3 and A4 size capabilities and a suite of computers for public use.

Opening Times

Mon	9.30am – 12.30	<i>Knitting Group 1.30pm – 3pm</i>
Tues	10am – 12 noon <i>Stories & Rhymes 10.30 - 11am Book Club 1st Tues of the month 10.30am</i>	5pm – 7pm
Wed	CLOSED	CLOSED
Thurs	CLOSED	2pm – 5pm
Fri	CLOSED	2pm – 5pm
Sat	10am – 1pm	CLOSED
Sun	CLOSED	CLOSED



Over 20 children took part in our half term activities with the theme “Animal Adventures”. The children made animal themed crafts, decorated a lion cupcake and were able to have hands-on experience of a range of live reptiles including snakes, lizards and dragons! And they loved it!

NEW TOILET & KITCHEN/OFFICE ROOM for the Library

After a successful application to the Garfield Weston Foundation for a 60th Anniversary Grant, work will soon start to build a disability compliant toilet and refurbish our office and kitchen areas.

BEST COMMUNITY LIBRARY – Runner Up

We are very proud to have been nominated and then given the ‘Runner Up’ Award at the Leicestershire Rural Community Council Awards Evening presented by Jennifer, Lady Gretton. Well done to all our volunteers!

NEW MUSEUM DISPLAYS

Our regularly changing museum displays are very interesting and well worth a visit. The current display is ‘World War One’ and this will be replaced in the New Year with a display of ‘What we have inside our mobile phone!’

Wednesday Lunchtime Talks at the Library – 12.30pm – 1.30pm

27 February - Dianne Noble - **India is not for Softies**

22 May - Marianne Whiting - **My Obsession with Historical Fiction**

Only £4 including tea, coffee and Sapcote scones.

DECK THE LIBRARY FOR CHRISTMAS

During December why not visit the library and make a decoration to display in the library and one to take home? All materials will be provided.

You can support the library by: -

- Using our full library service.
- Becoming a volunteer as a library assistant, or help with occasional minor building maintenance e.g. minor repairs and cleaning. Whether it's for a couple of hours a week or a month there is always something to do. Full training is given.
- We are especially looking for a volunteer to co-ordinate our children's activities. We have a great group of volunteers who help on these occasions and would welcome someone with enthusiasm and ideas to co-ordinate school holiday and special occasion activities about 6 times a year. Please call Teresa on 01455 272496 or call into the library if you can help with this.
- **Joining the BLABY LOTTERY and selecting Sapcote Community Library as your chosen charity.**

You will have the chance to win **£25,000** plus many other prizes. You can register and read all the information at www.loveblabylottery.co.uk and **don't forget to select 'Sapcote Community Library' as your chosen charity.**

- Becoming a Friend of Sapcote Community Library. Membership is only £5 a year. Details are available at the library.

www.sapcotecommunitylibrary.org.uk

Email:

admin@sapcotecommunitylibrary.org.uk

ZUMBA with the Girls



Ditch the workout join the party

Wednesday 7.15 - 8.15pm. Broughton Astley Village Hall, Station Road, LE9 6PT

Thursday 7 - 8pm. Sharnford Youth Club, Park View, LE10 3PT

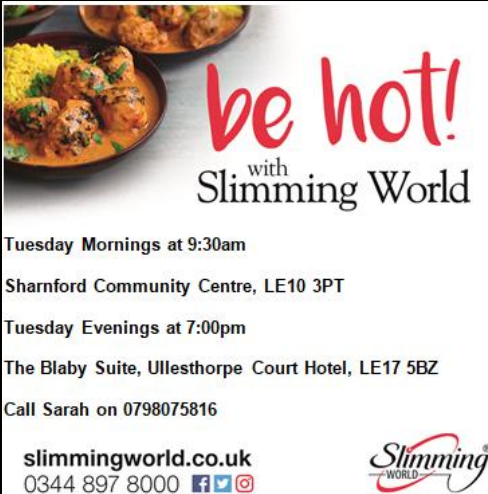
Friday 6.30 - 7.30pm. Sapcote Pavilion, Hinkley Road, LE9 4NS

First Class - £3.00!
£4.50 thereafter



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Sharnford Community Centre, LE10 3PT

Tuesday Evenings at 7:00pm
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slimmingworld.co.uk
0344 897 8000



SHARNFORD'S LAND ARMY GIRLS

Ladies! How about this job opportunity of working outdoors in all weathers – a 50 hour working week in summer – 48 hour week in Brrrrrr winter - with a wage of 28 shillings per week (£1.40p) and don't forget you will be paid much less than the male agricultural worker counterpart (38 shillings) for doing the same work! Oh, and there are, initially no paid or unpaid holidays – but you do get a free travel pass after working for 6 months.... Of course this would not do today, –gender pay and conditions, equality and all that - but IT DID HAPPEN 70 years ago and nobody complained. Wartime makes strange bedfellows.

Officially the government created the Women's Land Army in June 1939 (a direct descendant of a pilot women's volunteer scheme in 1917 - 1919) which lasted until its disbandment 21 October 1949. At first it asked for volunteers which were eventually to be supplemented by conscription – so that by 1944 it had over an 80,000 member workforce. With



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menfolk volunteered or conscripted into the nations armed forces, it left a labour vacuum which was to be filled by these able young women to provide a new rural workforce. It was necessary to grow more food at home (to be less reliant on imported food stuffs) and increase the amount of land in cultivation. They were to make a significant contribution to boosting food production during the Second World War.

For 17 year old volunteer Jean B. it was something of a cultural shock when she was placed at WARAG, the Shade, Sharnford in 1943. WARAG stood for the wartime

agricultural assist programme. A Leicester girl from the back streets ‘who had never seen a field, let alone a cow’, it became ‘the best time of my life’. A similar story also for another 18 year old Leicester girl Rose J. who arrived at the Shade in 1944, both who became disenchanted with an early working life in hosiery factories and both volunteered for the Women’s Land Army ‘to do their bit’.

The Shade was allocated 4 ladies to fill the male vacuum created by conscription, billeted on the ‘lovely’ owners Mr.& Mrs. Cooper. These live-in facilities – food and board – came at a price – a government standard of 14 shillings a week (70p) deducted from the 28 shilling per week which Jean B. says ‘left us with very little’.

For Rose J., one her earliest memories was of ‘stone-picking fields, a back breaking job’. But like Jean B., she soon graduated to the farms 2 dairies, and at milking they soon became very proficient.

Today Jean B. still treasures her excellence award diploma for milking she won in a competition in early 1944 .

Right –Here is Jean B. left and friend Cissy C. right – in full milking gear. Standards of hygiene were rigorous. Daily scrubbing out the concrete floor in the dairy wasn’t a welcome job.

The Shade, with the status of being a top-draw WARAG farming community, attracted a government fact finding mission of the then current wartime Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, (Conservative), the 1st. Earl Hudson – Robert Pierce Hudson – seen here over-page in a photo at the Shade. This visit facilitated the Shade to receiving one of the first of the ubiquitous grey ‘Fergie’ tractors, which became the preserve of Mr.Cooper; unfortunately the ladies were seldom allowed on it.

Right – the Minister of Agriculture, Robert Pierce Hudson – in trilby hat – at the Shade in 1944. He served from 1939 to 1945 until a general election that ushered in a Labour government. The Shade Land army girls here (from L to R) – unknown, Pat, and Jean B.

There were one or two other girls that were to pass through the Shade during the war years. This home had a slow



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turnover of the girls due to the opulence of the building, the space and privacy that it afforded and the good grace of the owners, the Coopers , who with their young daughter Margaret (seen here inquisitively just on the very edge of the photo) made them all very welcome.

The farming seasons came and went – planting, harvesting. Rose J. recalls ‘spud picking’ - ‘there were tons of them’. Spare time, of which there was very little, was spent with laundry and personal appearance, weekend visits to parents, (all the girls became very homesick) and for leisure - the radio and Sharnford village Y.M.C.A. hall dances. There was also whist drives and film shows. It was here that Rose J., Jean B., Cissy C., Daisy G. were to meet their prospective husbands – all village young men. Rose J. remembers that the live music was ‘very good’ and was usually provided by the Sharnford Silver Band. It all points to a tremendous community feeling in those dark days.

Middle right - Against a background of the Shade front door portico, (L to R) Margaret, Rose J. and Betty. The two young men are brothers who became the husbands of Rose J. and Jean B.



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Below left –From the Imperial War Museum collection. An evocative oil on canvas of *Bedtime* by W.L.A. girl Evelyn Mary Dunbar dated 1943. As larger numbers of women were recruited, hostels were set up to house land girls. By 1944, there were 22,000 land girls living in 700 hostels. Living conditions varied, and could be very basic.

Below right Understandably, not a popular addition to a ladies wardrobe! An overall coat made of drill marked with the WD broadmark and dated 1944, this item of protective clothing is seldom seen in photographs.



This photograph dated 11th October 1943 –is of the Land Army girls of Sapcote. This is shown because some of these girls serviced the smaller farms in Sharnford. Do note the wooden dormitory behind the ladies – it was a far cry from the palatial surroundings of the Shade.



One of these girls worked at Jarrett's farm (next to St.Helen's church). She was Esther Knight (**below**) who remained at the farm after the war ended.

Right – Joan Shaw, the first of six W.L.A. girls to marry Sharnford's young men between 1944 and 1948.. Joan served at Wayside Farm (junction of Coventry Road and Bumblebee Lane). She would also have been provisionally billeted at Sapcote.

The memories are fading, the old photographs in the



biscuit tin are getting dispersed or lost; such is the opportunity now to capture a moment in time before its gone

forever. With grateful thanks to a young 91 year old Rose J. and a 92 year old Jean B. Without their enjoyable reminiscences (and photographs), I could never have contemplated writing this piece. Thanks also go to Keith Hextall for his photograph of the Sapcote land army girls.



SHARNFORD AND FOSSE MEADOWS

Last year the walkway up to Fosse Meadows, alongside the cricket pitch became very muddy during the wet weather. During this time some wood chippings were put down by the Environment group to improve this walkway.



Late October/Early November more wood chippings have been placed further along the same walkway before the wet weather starts this winter, thus preventing the walkway becoming muddy and unusable.

Many thanks to members of the village for this hard work

Sharnford news team



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SHARNFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Reception and Year 1 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. They have learnt about how the fire started and have even made a model of the Great Fire.

Year 2 and 3 have been learning about the body, they have made the digestive system and showed it on a t-shirt. Now Year 2 and 3 are researching the Vikings in their topic 'Traders and Raiders'.

Year 4 5 6 are starting their topic on Victorians and are very excited with their book called 'Street Child'.

Across the school, we commemorated WW1 by cooking, singing songs and painting pebbles. We are looking forward to DT day and the Christmas Nativity.

The School Council were also very busy organising a day to raise money for Children in Need. We had a variety of activities led by the School Council and it was a very successful Day. Next issue we will be designing a children's fun page.

School Council

FREE COMPUTING AT THE EVERGREEN HALL

Everyone is welcome to come along to these free computer classes. They are held at the Evergreen Hall on Thursday afternoons. Refreshments provided.

Thanks to generous donations, we now have 3 laptops for people to use at the classes. Even if you don't have a computer or tablet you can come along and borrow one of ours.

We are still looking for more donations so if you know of anyone who has a laptop they no longer need. The future class dates are as follows:-

November 29th, December 13th, January 31st,
February 14th and 28th, March 14th and 28th

Adult Classes 1.30 – 3.15pm

Suitable for the terrified, beginners or improvers.

Learn how to make more of your laptop, tablet or smartphone. Become more confident and learn to use your technology to do a variety of tasks. Keep up to date, in touch and safe online

Children's Code Club 3.30 – 5pm , Children aged 6 – 11 years

Everyone welcome. No experience of coding is needed.

Penny Ross on 01455 272797

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FILMS IN SHARNFORD



Would you be interested in a Family Film Club? In January next year, we plan to test the waters with a first showing of a family film. There will be a small cost to cover expenses and times and the films to be shown will be published nearer the time.

Our cinema will be at the Evergreen Hall

For more information ring Richard Bacon on 01455 324835

SHARNFORD SICK AND DIVIDEND FUND

Our annual prize draw is only around three weeks away now on the 21st of December. We have quite a few nice prizes, with both pubic houses contributing meal vouchers, along with The Dovecote at Narborough. Numerous other prizes have been donated, so we are well under way but still need more donations.

This year the prize draw will be in two halves, starting at the Bricklayers at around 8:00 pm and finishing at the Sharnford Arms. There are still quite a few tickets available, these are on sale at the village Post Office, the Bricklayers and the Sharnford Arms - make sure you get yours. The distribution of the festive food bags will take place on Saturday the 22nd December starting at around 9:00 am volunteers are needed here, the more the merrier!

If you can help with a prize donation or with the distribution please give me a call on 274678.

Jack Feast - for the Sharnford S & D Fund



ST HELEN'S CHURCH

In October we held our harvest Festival. A generous amount of fresh, packaged and tinned produce was given which was donated to Lawrence House in Hinckley where homeless young people are helped. We also sent a monetary collection, amounting to £161.00 to Tear Fund

who help those who are struggling to find food in poor countries Lisa Bacon organised a challenging quiz for us and a great evening was enjoyed by all. Other Donations following our village fund raising were

Children's Society Boxes £445.62

Lawrence House Hinckley (Summer Cream Teas) £230.00

We are preparing for our Advent programme and a separate notice is included in this issue. We also shared a glorious harvest supper with our Methodist Friends at the Evergreen Hall on the 29th September. Over 40 people came and we welcomed our friends from St Mary's in Wigston Parva.

Rosemarie

SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB & COMMUNITY CENTRE

MONDAY	ARTS AND CRAFT CLUB 7pm – 9pm	Come along and bring your own craft project to work on.	Gabrielle Bryan 01455 631026
TUESDAY	SLIMMING WORLD 9.30am – 10.30am PILATES FOR RIDERS 7pm – 8pm & 8pm – 9pm	Ladies and gents welcome to pop along Solely for horse riders	Sarah Milne 07980 758516 Joanna Smith Joanna.smith@me.com
WEDNESDAY	OVER 55'S YOUTH CLUB 10am – 12.30pm PILATES FOR RIDERS 7pm -8pm 8pm – 9pm	Join us for table tennis, indoor bowls, darts or just come along to meet up with friends and have a coffee and a chat Solely for horse riders	Derek Gibbons 01455 272401 Joanna Smith Joanna.smith@me.com
THURSDAY	YOGA 10am – 11am PILATES FOR ALL 1.45pm – 2.45pm ZUMBA (coming soon) 7pm – 8pm	Open to all. Come along to develop mind, body and spirit Working on core strength and flexibility. Open to all ages and abilities. Combining Latin and international music with dance moves. Great way to keep fit	Adele 07837 927227 yogawithadele@live.co.uk Joanna Smith Joanna.smith@me.com Nikki Peach 07732 730832 Nikkis.chores@gmail.com
FRIDAY	YOUTH CLUB 6.30pm – 8pm	Keep a look out for re-opening date	



HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

New figures show 1817 emergency food supplies were given to local people by Hinckley Area Foodbank in 6 months. The people of Sharnford have donated 252.54 kg of food and toiletries in the last 12 months, This is equivalent to a value of £374.82 That is a brilliant achievement.

If you would like to donate to this local good cause, you can do so via St Helen's Church, Sharnford Methodist Church or Sharnford Ladies Group.

Otherwise drop donations off to me at 10 Henson You can find what is urgently needed at the website <https://hinckleyarea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> Penny Ross

SHARNFORD LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP

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 walk. We've been looking at all the changing colours on the leaves and how we can make these with our paints at playgroup, colour mixing to match the leaves. We have collected conkers and acorns and talked about shapes and texture.

We had great fun with our pumpkins for our autumn display. We used spoons to scoop out the middle and then dried out the seeds to plant for next year.

We are again raising money for Children in Need and are going 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 to ours.

We are now practising our Christmas concert and learning our songs and routines. This will take place on Wednesday 5th December at 1.30pm at The Evergreen Village Hall. Tickets are £1.00 each and are helping raise funds towards new play equipment.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas

Alison, Laura, Clare, Nat and Nikki

CHRISTMAS QUIZ FOR THE CHILDREN

- 1.What guided the three Wise Men to the birthplace of Jesus?
- 2.Santa Claus is also known as Saint Who?
- 3.What are the two main colours of Christmas?
- 4.What type of play beginning with the letter 'N' is performed by children at Christmas?
- 5.What date is New Year's Eve?
- 6.What two words are missing from the Christmas song lyrics 'I'm Dreaming of a.....'?
- 7.What was Scrooge's first name?
- 8.What type of bird often appears on Christmas cards?
- 9.True or false, Christmas Day occurs on the same day every year.
- 10.What was the first name of Jesus's mother?

SHARNFORD SCHOOL PTA

It's been a little while since the last update, but with the autumn term well under way, it is time to share what the PTA have been up to and what we have planned into the new year.

We had our AGM at the start of November and managed to attract a couple of new faces, which is great. Hopefully we'll be able to keep this up, as next year we will be losing two longstanding members of the PTA and with that comes the risk that the PTA will cease to be, which would be such a shame for the school and more so for the children.

The school are looking to replace their current computers, so we are going to be raising money towards that goal. The total amount needed is £6000, and we have said we'll contribute £3000 of that.

Currently the computers are in the central library space of the school, and because the number of children at the school has grown considerably over the last year or so, it is a struggle to get everyone in a class the access to the computers that they should. The school's solution is to get 15 laptops and a charging station on wheels; this came be moved from classroom to classroom, as needed, and frees up the library area to be better used in the future. As we get closer to Christmas we have two more events planned, both of which are very popular with the children.

Firstly we have the Christmas disco on the 14th December and fingers crossed, father Christmas will be making his usually flying visit. Because the school has grown, we're going to split the evening and have the key stage 1 children first, then after a quick break, carry the disco on for the key stage 2 children. It is brilliant that the school is growing, but it does mean that we have to change how we run the discos to accommodate everyone and still be safe.

On the following Monday we have our Christmas workshop after school; this is always great fun and we have another fun craft planned for the children.

Our annual quiz night is pencilled in for the 1st March 2019. We haven't finalised all the details, but if you'd like to put forward a team of 4 then please let me or Emma Jones know. It would be wonderful to get over 10 teams this time! And I promise we'll have tea and coffee this time! I think that's all the PTA news for now.

Ed Bryan and the PTA

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN VILLAGE HALL

CHRISTMAS FAYRE - SATURDAY 8th DECEMBER

12 - 3 pm



FATHER CHRISTMAS WILL BE VISITING

Christmas Gifts, Cakes, Preserves
Bottle Stall and More

**PORK & STUFFING BAPS
MULLED WINE**



SHARNFORD ARMS

Upcoming Entertainment

***Sat 1st December - Music from "Stoneage Mushrooms"
at 8:00PM***

***Sun 2nd December - Doggie Sunday + The Body
Shop, here to get gifts for Christmas***

***Sun 23rd December - Brass Band with Christmas
Carols - Free mince pies***

Every Sunday in December 12 - 4PM

5 course Christmas dinner £19.95

(Plus table wine @£10:00)

For all our latest information please find us on the Sharnford.Arms Facebook page

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Park view and Poors Meadow equipment update/change.

As many of you are aware, Sharnford Parish council are looking to change the equipment on Poors Meadow and Park View parks.

The equipment is being changed and updated to provide children's development and play. The equipment will also have active features so inclusive for all ages, yes ages 0 to 100, hopefully we have it covered.

It has been a long time coming and there has been some challenges in securing funding resulting in unexpected delays. The Parish council has continued to push to confirm funding and at times it has felt like pushing treacle uphill, but we are nearly there! We are now in a position to move to the next stage regarding securing funding then placing an order to a contractor to commence work. The hope is the result will be the same as what was displayed at the village fete back in June. A vast majority of the funding is to come from section S106 allocation which comes from recent housing developments in the village. We hope you are all looking forward to our village improvements as much as the Parish Council. If you have any questions please join us at the next Parish Council meeting at the Evergreen Hall.

Martyn - Sharnford Parish Council

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SHARNFORD SERVICES DURING ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2018

ST HELEN'S CHURCH

9 th December	Service of 9 Lessons & Carols	6.30 pm
15 th December	Light a Candle in Memory of Loved- Ones or for those we will not see at Christmas	3-7 pm
16 th December	Carol Service at S Mary's, Wigston Parva	3.00 pm
23 rd December	Joint Christingle and Nativity with Chapel	10.00 am
24 th December	Midnight Communion at All Saints, Sapcote	11.15 pm
25 th December	Joint Family Worship with Chapel	9.15 am

METHODIST CHAPEL

16 th December	Carol Service	3.00 pm
23 rd December	Joint Christingle Service at St Helen's	10.00 am
25 th December	Joint Family Worship at St Helen's	9.15 am

On the 18th December at 6pm . There will be village carols around the tree in the Bricklayers pub car park. Mince pies and mulled wine after at the pub

A warm welcome to everyone

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

Sharnford Little Explorers Playgroup

Evergreen Village Hall,

Sharnford, Leicester

Telephone Alison 01455 213779

Small, friendly playgroup

Awarded Good in all areas by OFSTED

(May 2009)

Open Mon, Wed and Fri for 2 – 5 year olds

15 hours a week funding available for children

aged 3 - 4

Lots of fun activities

Sharnford Evergreen Club has resumed their fortnightly tea meetings, starting with our annual fish and chip supper at the beginning of September. We also held the Macmillan coffee morning which raised an incredible sum of £587.20. The event is always very well supported, raising money for a brilliant cause and since 2009 we have raised an incredible £4740.36. Thanks must go to our club secretary Jean Dale for taking charge of this event every year!

Our bacon buttie coffee mornings continue, having held one at the end of October again raising over £500. We were overwhelmed with the number of people attending and had run out of all supplies by

11am! We will be ordering more for next time!! Thank you to everyone who supports us.

Our AGM has just been held and new officers elected, Mrs Carol Hunter has now taken on Chairman with me as her deputy. Secretary Jean Dale, Treasurer Rosemaire Simpson and booking officer Margaret Sanders. I wish them all continuing success in their roles.

Future dates for the diary:-SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER our Christmas Fair 12-3pm, call in for our delicious pork and stuffing cobs and mulled wine! Santa will be in attendance!!

SATURDAY 12TH JANUARY bacon buttie morning 9.30am onwards

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Karen Smith - Retiring Chairman

VILLAGE BUS TIMES

Sharnford to Hinckley or Leicester (X55) - Monday to Saturday (not Sunday)

Hinckley via Aston Flamville & Burbage at 0758,0805,0900,1140,1430,1730 & 1930 Leicester via Sapcote, Stoney Stanton, Thurlaston, Enderby & Fosse Park at 0553 Mon to Fri, 0613 Sat only, Mon to Sat 0656,0944,1229,1523,1814





Stories & Rhymes

For the under 5's

Every Tuesday
(Term Time Only)
10.30am—11am

Sapcote Community Library,
Church Street

Come with your children and share
Stories, Songs & Rhymes
FREE – DONATIONS APPRECIATED



**SHARNFORD ART & CRAFT
SOCIAL GROUP**

I missed the last edition of the Sharnford news, so I would like to start by saying thank you to all those that came by our stall at the fete back in June. We had a super day, and it was great to see you all enjoying our annual bag raffle and the craft items up for sale. Since then we were invited to make some poppies for the remembrance display up at St Helen's church. The final display that the church put together with all the poppies made by various Sharnford groups and individuals was lovely, & I managed to visit it twice!

We have put together new dates for our meetings next year, it would great to have some new faces join us. Pull out that half-finished art or craft project, and come down for a chat whilst getting it finished! We still have two more meetings this year on the Monday 3rd & Monday 17th December. We meet at the youth club on park view 7.30-9.30pm, and it is usually every 2 weeks, and occasionally every 3 weeks.



NEW!

TUESDAY COFFEE AND CAKE

Sharnford Methodist Church, Chapel Lane,
Sharnford
10.00—12.00pm
December 11th
And then
January 8th, February 12th, March 12th 2019

Take a break
Come along and meet friends old and new
Enjoy a drink and homemade cake
Books to buy or borrow
Small selection of cards and gifts on sale
Children Welcome

Our dates for January-September 2019 are below.

January	7th	21 st	
February	4th	25 th	
March	11th	25 th	
April	8th	29 th	
May	13 th		
June	3rd	17 th	
July	1st	15th	29 th
August	12th	26 th	
September	2nd	16 th	30 th

We look forward to seeing you there!

Gabrielle Bryan - 01455 631026 / gab.h.bryan@googlemail.com

CHRISTMAS QUIZ FOR ADULTS

1. What Christmas plant is 'Viscum' used to label? Mistletoe, Holly, Ivy or Sage
2. What is the name of Scrooge's business partner? James Willcote, John Mantis, Jacob Marley or Jimmy Booth
3. Which author made the remark "I gave them for dinner a piece of roast beef and plum puddings and after dinner a pint of strong beer apiece"? Philip Larkin, James Woodforde, Samuel Johnson or Evelyn Waugh
4. Who tried to steal Christmas from the 'Whos of Whoville' in the 1986 cartoon based on the Dr. Seuss story? The Grinch, The Snowman, Hattie Jacques or Ian Holm
5. What was the film called in which Peter Auty sang "Walking in the Air"?
6. What Christmas food is made from "marsh worts"?
Stuffing, Sweet Potatoes, Marshmallows or cranberry sauce
7. Which ocean is Christmas Island in? Pacific, Indian, Atlantic or Arctic
8. Who wrote the poem "The Cultivation of Christmas Trees"?
Paul Thereaux, Walt Whitman, James Joyce or T.S. Eliot
9. Which continent is the turkey from? S. America, N. America, Europe or Australia
10. In which author's novel is it "always winter but never Christmas"? C.S. Lewis, John Masefield, Jacob Marley or Sherlock Holmes

Counselling/Psychotherapy

Looking towards a clearer, brighter future

There may be a time when you need to talk to someone who will listen to what you really need to say, helping you get an understanding of the present, in the hope for a better future.

We are local Person Centred Counsellors, fully qualified, registered and experienced in a wide range of issues supporting and helping adults, young people and children.

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

Answers for children's quiz

1. *The Star of Bethlehem*, 2. *Saint Nicholas*, 3. *Green and Red*, 4. *Nativity*, 5. *31st December*, 6. *White Christmas*, 7. *Ebenezer*, 8. *Robin*, 9. *False – same date but different day*, 10. *Mary*



THE SHARNFORD GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

The Good Neighbour Scheme continues to be well utilised, and we are able to help and support our community at times when they most need it, thanks to our team of very dedicated volunteers.

Here's a quick reminder about what the scheme provides:

OFFERING SHORT TERM HELP TO ANYONE IN THE VILLAGE, WHO FROM TIME TO TIME MIGHT NEED SOME ASSISTANCE

What sort of support is provided?

The support is provided by a group of local volunteers within the village, and includes:

- Assistance around the house and home, for example: light gardening duties, small DIY jobs, cleaning, cooking a meal, shopping, help with letters and correspondence, or you may just want a friendly face to talk to occasionally. Whilst some jobs may be deemed too big, it is rare that we say no to smaller jobs i.e. you may just need a light bulb changing, or a picture hanging.
- We can also provide lifts for essential appointments such as doctors, hospital or dental appointments, again for times when you have no one else to call upon.

Essentially it's there for when friends and family aren't available, or if your circumstances change, for example, if you have just returned from hospital, or perhaps recovering from an illness.

Please note the scheme isn't just for older people, we can provide support to anyone who is over the age of 18

Is there a charge for the support?

The support is provided free of charge by the volunteers, except for lifts, when there will be a charge to cover petrol expenses, for example, a lift to Hinckley and back is £3.00. We will always tell you in advance how much a journey will cost.

Who should I contact if I need support?

To request support please call our dedicated phone number: 07502 615535 to speak to the Good Neighbour Scheme Co-ordinator. They will then find a volunteer to help with your request, and call you back to confirm who will be providing the support. Please note all our volunteers will be wearing an identity badge.

Please help us to spread the word by telling a friend or neighbour about the Scheme

We are a registered charity, and have all the necessary policy and procedures in place to ensure the health & safety of our volunteers and its users

Edwina Grant - Chair – Sharnford Good Neighbour Scheme

Answers for adult quiz

1. Mistletoe, 2. Jacob Marley, 3. James Woodforde, 4. The Grinch, 5. The Snowman, 6. Cranberry Sauce, 7. Indian Ocean, 8. T.S. Eliot, 9. North America, 10. C.S. Lewis



TAXI

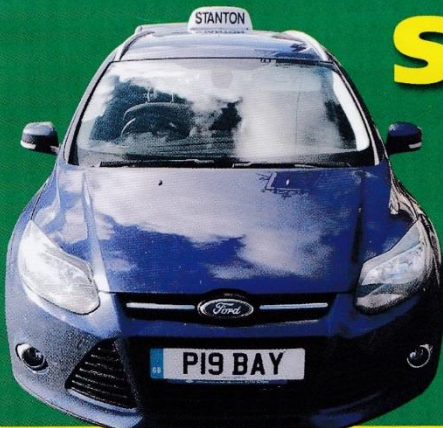
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MOBILE LIBRARY – ROUTE 13

	Location	Start	End
Sharnford	Halls Crescent	09.30	10.10
Sharnford	Evergreen Hall	10.15	10.45
Wigston Parva	Village Centre	14.35	14.50

Visits on the 4th Monday of each month - 0116 305 3619

To advertise in the **SHARNFORD NEWS** please contact
Angie Timson-Jones on 271561 or email

Editorial Team: Ian 699051,

Angie Timson-Jones 271561 and Jean Ryan 615820

Treasurer: Dave Sewell 272901

Email: sharnfordnews@gmail.com

Please note that the deadline for articles in the next issue of Sharnford News is the 20th February 2019

SHARNFORD VILLAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Organisation	Contact	Details
Parish Council Chair	Jack Feast 274678 bottlejack@hotmail.com	Usually held 3rd Thursday at 19.45 Evergreen Hall
Parish Council Clerk/	Mike Shirley 07539 994707 info@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	
Village website	www.sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	
Blaby District Clrs	Sheila Scott 272450, Iain Hewson 273957 & Deanne Woods	
Police	Call 101	For NON emergency
Doctors-Broughton Astley	282599	Evergreen Hall Thurs 12 - 13:30
Doctors-Burbage	634879	Evergreen Hall Tues 11 - 12
Doctors-Stoney Stanton	271442	
St. Helen's Church	Rev Mick Norman 272215, Cynthia Oliver 272977	
Methodist Chapel	Local Pastor Anne Haddon 617692, Beryl Devenyi 273740	
Sharnford Primary School	Mrs K Allsopp, Head teacher 272456 & Secretary 272456	
Flood Warden	Jack Feast 274678	
Evergreen Hall	Margaret Sanders 274038	
Community Centre	Julie Edge 271321	
Post Office	Eric and Gay Washbrook 272210	
Bump, Babies & Toddlers	Facebook page 'Sharnford Bumps, Babies and Toddler Group'	Tues 9.00 - 10.30 Evergreen Hall - Term time only
Craft Group	Gabrielle Bryan 631026	Comm Centre Mon(fortnightly) 19.30 - 21.30
Evergreen Club	Jean Dale 274772	Wednesdays twice monthly
Environment Group	Yvonne Jordan 274112	Evergreen Hall 2nd Thursdays 19.00
Little Explorers playgroup	Alison Bates 213779	Evergreen Hall
Over 60's Youth Club	Derek Gibbons 272401	Community Centre Wed 10 - 12.30
Golden Jubilee Fete Committee	Sue Stanley 273861	
Good Neighbour Scheme	Direct Help Line 07502 615535, Edwina Grant 07969 313154	
Sharnford Traffic Action Group	Mike Shirley 07539 994707	Community Centre Mondays 19.30pm
Sharnford Village Show	Tony Curtis 272532	
St. Helen's Ladies Group	Pat Jordan 272229	1 st Wednesday of month
Youth Club / Community Centre	Julie Edge 271321	Fridays 18.30 - 20.00