

SHARNFORD NEWS

1st December 2021

Issue No 79

A Project supported by Sharnford Parish Council.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHARNFORD NEWS

On the 19th December 2001 Sharnford news released its first edition. This first edition was produced on a double sided A4 sheet, by the late Mike Bishop. The main issues discussed in the first release detail a “Questionnaire” to be published by the “Sharnford Village Appraisal Steering Group”. This Questionnaire that was sent to all households in the village covered topics such as

Traffic, Environment, Transport, Children & Youth, Leisure & Recreation, Communication, Community Issues and Village Issues

Twenty years on these similar topics are the foundation of the current Sharnford News.

In the first edition the local businesses and groups are listed, just like today, however it is a shame to see what we no longer have within the village such as the Sharnford Cricket Club, the Badminton Club and the Children’s Beavers group, however we now have new businesses and groups that help to evolve our Sharnford community.

As we come to close year 2021, we reflect on a restrictive year in many ways but a challenging year with world climate highlighted with COP26, troubled regions of the world and the pandemic.

So we look forward to a New Year so from the Sharnford news team, may we wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

**Sharnford Village
Best Christmas Lights
&
Window Competition**

**Get into the Festive Spirit and
enter this competition to decorate
your window, or light up your
house or garden**

Cash prizes in each section.

1st Prize - £50. 2nd Prize - £30.

3rd Prize - £20

No entry forms. Judges will walk the whole
village week beginning 20th December and
decide on the best lights or window.



SHARNFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL



We've had a busy few months at Sharnford Primary and the children have settled back into full-time school life very well!

The children have been enjoying a great range of topics ranging from WW2, Anglo-Saxons, Florence Nightingale and Ourselves to Egyptians and making houses for the Three Little Pigs!

Our school Council have now been elected and are eager to start implementing improvements alongside the teaching staff. Working with the school council we also have those children who have been chosen to be Well-Being Ambassadors, Sports Ambassadors or Playground Leaders!

So far our super community have helped raise money for some excellent charities. We raised £77 for Hello Yellow, a charity aimed at promoting the mental health of young children and we raised £113 worth of goods for Hinckley Food Bank. Mr Gray's class of Y3/4 children led us in a super class assembly all about the importance of Harvest and the importance of sharing.

Over this month the School Council have been raising money for the Royal British Legion by selling poppies! Redwood class (Y5/6) also led a whole school assembly about Remembrance and we shared poems and talked about why we have this very special day every year.

We have lots to look forward to until the end of term! The whole school are off to the panto at DeMontfort Hall in December to see Sleeping Beauty. Oh yes we are! We've also got Jed Jaggard from Up and at 'em History to give an interactive talk to our KS2 children about their current topics: the Anglo-Saxons and WW2.

Our younger children in Holly and Chestnut Class will also be getting ready for their nativity...awww!

The PTA have been very active in helping to raise funds for the school. They have been selling tea-towels, hosting PJ days, setting up nature trails in Fosse Meadows and we know they have many more exciting plans for the months ahead.

As always, our thanks as a school go to our supportive community; PTA, parents, carers, our local churches, governors, Hub Schools and IPAT.

<https://www.sharnfordprimaryschool.com>

To advertise in the **SHARNFORD NEWS** please contact us:

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Treasurer: Dave Sewell 272901

Email: sharnfordnews@gmail.com

**Deadline for articles for the next issue of Sharnford News is the
Wednesday 16th February 2022**

WE SHALL REMEMBER

On Sunday November 14th members of St. Helen's Church and Sharnford Methodist Church held a joint

Remembrance Service in St. Helen's Church. After the short service the congregation collected

around the War Memorial, joined by other members of the village, for the Act of Remembrance.

The names of those on Sharnford's "Roll of Honour" were read out. They are:-

1914-1918. Percy Cuthbert Harris, Stanley Philip Good, William Sheen, Joseph Leonard Aldridge, Alfred Thomas Jaques, Frederick John Timson, Thomas Emphraim Brown, George Thompson, George Henry Grooms, William Henry Bonser, John Thomas Hubbard, Joseph Allen Richardson, William Henry Brown. **1939-1945.** Harry Robertson, Thomas Woodrow Smith, John Pegg, Thomas Faulks, Dennis Graham Heath.

Wreaths were then laid by representatives of Sharnford Parish Council, St. Helen's Church and Sharnford Methodist Church.

Following the Exhortation "They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them" the Last Post was sounded by trumpeter Monica. A two minute silence was observed and the Reveille

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN HALL



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)

£12 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

We now have a digital projector and screen. These can be hired for the showing of films etc at a fee of £10 per session. All licences are in place for the showing of films.

COVID 19

DURING THE CURRENT PANDEMIC, PLEASE CALL ROSEMARIE ON 274158 TO DISCUSS WHETHER YOUR EVENT CAN TAKE PLACE

Aldridge, Alfred Thomas Jaques, Frederick John Timson, Thomas Emphraim Brown, George Thompson, George Henry Grooms, William Henry Bonser, John Thomas Hubbard, Joseph Allen Richardson, William Henry Brown. **1939-1945.** Harry Robertson, Thomas Woodrow Smith, John Pegg, Thomas Faulks, Dennis Graham Heath.



sounded, again played wonderfully by Monica. After the Epitaph "When you go home, tell them of us and say, For your tomorrow, we gave our today". Everyone was then invited for refreshments served in the Church.



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SHARNFORD GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE VILLAGE FETE

Sharnford Scarecrow Festival 2021

The weekend of 4th and 5th September saw Sharnford hold its first Scarecrow Festival. It was a great success. There were 38 scarecrows scattered around the village and it was lovely to see so many “Sharnfordites” and other visitors out and about in the sunshine enjoying the event and tracking down the scarecrows. The event raised just under £900 which was generated from competition entry fees, refreshments and donations for voting forms. A big “Thank You” to everyone who entered, voted and helped to run the event.

There were lots of brilliant entries, but a special mention to our top 3



1. Police Force
2. Golden Grahams
3. Superhero Key Workers

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| Park View | 28 votes |
| Fox Hollies | 19 votes |
| Chapel Street | 18 votes |



We have received some lovely feedback so we are hoping to hold another festival in 2022. We will keep you posted a bit nearer the time.

Sue Stanley Fete Secretary 01455 273861

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN CLUB

It is good to report that Members' meetings have resumed since early in July, with everyone enjoying games and now quizzes are particularly anticipated.

Our bacon buttie mornings have been held on two occasions, and judging by lovely comments they were sorely missed. In addition we ran the usual MacMillan fund raiser in September which was a great success raising £500. Looking forward, we are having a Christmas bacon buttie morning on 11th December. Also in December is our bingo social get-together (15th) and a lunch (16th). Into next year there is our outing to the Concordia pantomime on 12th January so the future is bright as long as we keep to any guidelines in place.

The Club is open to everyone over 60 who lives in the village and surrounding area. We meet every two weeks on a Wednesday for games and a high tea. Annual events are: fish and chip supper in September, Christmas lunch, pantomime in January, annual dinner in April and afternoon tea in August.

New members are always welcome, so if you would like further information please contact Jean Dale on 274774. We look forward seeing you.

Carol Hunter, Chair

**Before and After School Club
based at Sharnford Youth Club**



**Sharnford
Kids Club**

Starting for new school term August 2021

4-11 years
Sharnford
Primary School
Pupils

activities:	contacts:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ CRAFTS✓ GAMES✓ ACTIVITIES✓ LEGO/TOYS✓ BAKING	<p>☎ Louise 07976509507 sharnfordkidsclub@hotmail.com</p> <p>📘 Sharnford Kids Club</p> <p>Children will be walked up to school and picked up after.. Snacks Included.</p>

HALLOWEEN IN SHARNFORD

It was that time again for children (even adults) of the village to dress up and “go trick or treating”. Sharnford, like previous years did just that with many people out and about around the village. With this many houses were also decorated that wished to take part, from leaving pumpkins at the door to a full on horror scene. These are a collection of photos of the decorated houses.





THE SHARNFORD GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

Whilst at this time the Sharnford Good Neighbour Scheme and its volunteers aren't able to provide its full range of support, we are still available to help with things such as: picking up prescriptions, small gardening jobs, or you might like to hear a friendly voice via our telephone befriending service as this can be very lonely time.

To ensure the ongoing welfare of our volunteers and those that use the Good Neighbour Scheme Services, we decided to continue operating this reduced service throughout the winter, whilst people get their flu jabs and Covid booster jabs. However, the Steering Group will be reviewing this in the New Year, as we would very much like to return to offering our full services to our community as it is practically possible and safe to do so.

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.

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

Edwina Grant – Chair Sharnford Good Neighbour Scheme Steering Group.

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ST HELEN'S CHURCH With St Mary's Wigston Parva

Over the past months we have enjoyed joining with our friends from Sharnford Methodist Church for a service each week. The first and third Sundays are at St Helen's and the second and fourth at The Chapel. We have welcomed visiting clergy for our Communion Service and lay preachers and leaders from both churches. Our

thanks go to all who have led our joint worship each week.

Below is our calendar of services over the Christmas Period. For the Christingle service on the 19th December, in view of the Covid situation we are very conscious that we should keep everyone safe. We enjoy sharing this service with many families and because the pandemic is still with us, we are limiting numbers to be safe. We have room for 16 families and if you would like to join us, please let us know using the following contact details via our email address sthelensevents@outlook.com

CALENDAR OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday December 5 th	Family Worship at St Helens Church	10:00am
Sunday December 12 th	Worship at Sharnford Methodist Chapel	10:00am
Sunday December 12 th	Light a Candle at St Helen's Remembering all those we have loved and lost	11:30am to 1:00pm
Sunday December 19 th	Christingle at St Helen's	10:00am
Sunday December 19 th	Carol Service at St Mary's, Wigston Parva	3:00pm
Sunday December 19 th	Carol Service at Sharnford Methodist Church	3:00pm
Friday December 24 th	Midnight Communion at St Helen's	11.15pm
Sunday January 2 nd	Family Worship at St Helens Church	10.00am

Please note there is no service on Christmas Day

Rosemarie Simpson



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SHARNFORD METHODIST CHURCH



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

All are welcome to join us for Morning Worship on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at the chapel, starting at 10am. On the 1st and 3rd Sundays we walk up to the church to join in the service at St Helen's. It is lovely to have such a good relationship between the two congregations and to work closely together on events and projects within the village.

Reaching Out to Communities

Collections of donated goods for the Hinckley Area Foodbank have continued so thank you to everyone who has contributed. If you would like to donate any goods please drop them into the church, chapel, Ladies group, or get in touch with me so that I can deliver them to the warehouse.

We are very busy assembling and collecting filled boxes for the shoebox charity, Teams4U. The filled boxes will be distributed to deprived children in Eastern Europe at Christmas. As well as boxes for children, we have been able to fill some home boxes with useful and decorative items that will be presented, primarily, to the lady of the house. We estimate that we will have around 300 boxes to send to the warehouse at the end of November.

We are currently planning "Hope for Christmas" in conjunction with St Helen's and, between the two churches, we have donated Christmas books to the school, one for each child. We will be holding our annual carol service at 3pm on Sunday 19th December. Everyone welcome. Wishing everyone a peaceful Christmas.

Penny Ross



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SHARNFORD TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP – STAG



In 1989 Chris Rea released the song 'Road to Hell' about the M25. If he was releasing it today, in 2021, would it be retitled 'Road is Hell' and be about the A5, between High Cross and the M69 island?

Alberto Costa MP commented on his Facebook page on 13 May 2020 how delighted he was to see the recently completed safety improvements made to

the South Leicestershire stretch of the A5, at a cost of £3 million. This follows on from Alberto Costa, our MP for South Leicestershire, and Dr Luke Evans, the MP for Hinckley & Bosworth, meeting with the Roads Minister, Baroness Vere in January 2020. Alberto went on to state that "it goes without saying, the number of collisions and fatalities on this portion of road – especially at High Cross and Smockington Hollow – have been simply unacceptable, however Highways England have listened and acted upon local concerns. It's imperative that all using this road feel safe in doing so and I will of course be keeping a very close eye on the effectiveness of these improvements in the coming weeks and months".

Alberto has been true to his word and, at the time of writing, will be meeting with National Highways (formerly Highways England) to raise constituents concerns about the safety of the A5 and the ongoing collisions, resulting in the sad loss of a person's life at the High Cross junction a few weeks ago.

Apart from the £3 million spent on road surface improvement what other ideas have National Highways had? None that I can think of, so what are the possible answers:



1. Close off central reservation gaps, stopping right turns from Smockington Hollow and High Cross junctions. This means all vehicles will have to turn left and travel up to the next island at Magna Park before coming back on themselves if they want to go north on the A5. This will increase A5 traffic through Wibtoft. Those travelling north on A5 will have to go to the DPD island and come back on themselves if they want to go to/through Sharnford.
2. Close of central reservation gap at Smockington Hollow, stopping right turns on A5. Change the High Cross junction to a signal controlled island. This will make it safer for A5 northbound traffic wishing to turn right towards

Claybrooke and Ullesthorpe but will make a 'rat-run' down Bumblebee Lane to Sharnford.

3. Speed cameras on A5 with a 40mph limit between DPD island and south of Wibtoft and get rid of central grass verges which are never cut on time. Something to do with wildlife but I suspect more to do with saving money.

Sharnford Over 60s Youth Club
Everybody welcome – Join in a relaxed and enjoyable morning with friends!
Table Tennis, Bridge, Bowls and Darts
Coffee & Biscuits!
Every Wednesday: 10.00-12.00
At the Youth & Community Centre



Mike Shirley

VILLAGE FETE 2022

2022 will be the Queens Platinum Jubilee and 20 years since the Sharnford Golden Jubilee Committee was formed. The committee was originally set up to organise a village fete for the Golden Jubilee and this became a popular annual event and a mainstay in the village calendar. The profits from the fete are distributed between the various groups within the village for the benefit of the villagers.

We would like to organise a fete for 2022, but without new members this will sadly not be possible. We are asking for volunteers, whether you are affiliated to a village group or just an individual with some energy and passion who wants to help, everyone is welcome.

The preparations and planning for the fete normally starts at the AGM which will be held on 25th January 2022 at the Evergreen Hall. Meetings are then usually held on a monthly basis up until fete day. A tentative date of 12th June 2022 has been set as a likely day for the fete, if it is able to go ahead.

The committee are always grateful for all those who help on fete day, but we are in need of volunteers who can bring fresh ideas as well as help with the planning and organisation that goes on at the meetings before the day.

If you would like to get involved, then please can you contact either Emma Jones or myself as soon as possible to show your interest.

We would love to see as many of you as possible at the AGM in January.

Sue Stanley Fete Secretary 01455 273861



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DOGS ALWAYS WELCOME THROUGHOUT

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and read all about us on Tripadvisor**



SHARNFORD HISTORY





Stories & Rhymes

For the under 5's

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Sapcote Community Library,
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Come with your children and share
Stories, Songs & Rhymes

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In the most bizarre of circumstances'

The Mills family. Very little social history of the Mills family has come down to us through the years but with some careful research of village records I am able to add a few brushstrokes to an otherwise blank canvas. It would be very easy for me to say that the Mills family lived their lives within a cornucopia of rural idyll, wealth, health, cherub faced children etc., - but this was simply not the case. Tragedies were to come often and were never far away - which culminated at Christmas 1903 with the awful tragic accidental death of Thomas Mills whose death was recorded in the regional newspapers.

We begin our story at a convenient place with the marriage of Thomas Mills to Mary Ann Bates on the 28th.Dec:

1869 at St. Helens church (see below)

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
135	Dec ^r - 28 th	Thomas Mills Mary Ann Bates	21 20	Bachelor Spinster	Workman Labourer	Sharnford Sharnford	Thomas Mills James Bates	Labourer Labourer

1869. Marriage solemnized *after hands* in the Parish of *Sharnford* in the County of *Leicestershire*

Married in the *Parish Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the *Church of England* by *Henry Lamberton*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *Thomas Mills* and *Mary Ann Bates* in the Presence of us, *Allen Stoddards* and *Emma Bates*

Thomas Mills was christened Oct: 1849 at Claybrooke, the youngest of 5 of Thomas and Elizabeth (Hinks) Mills children of Claybrooke. Mary Ann Bates was christened in Leicester in May 1850 – daughter of parents James and Harriet (Billson) Bates - however our parish records show that parts of the Bates family were living in Sharnford

from at least 1841. Mary Ann's 11 year old brother, William was accidentally drowned in a canal at Leicester and was buried here in Sharnford October 1867.



Left - Thomas Mills

Right - Mary Ann (Bates) Mills

Between the years 1870 to 1893 Mary Ann Mills was to bear **15** children. Just imagine trying to raise such a large family keeping them fed, clothed and a roof above their heads on just a few shillings a week, that father



Thomas Mills earned as a labourer.

To buy a house was completely beyond the reach of most working-class people leaving the only alternative to rent. Rural housing rental usually ranged between 3s. to 6s, (15p – 30p) – this was a quarter to a third of the average working-class family's income. (statistics from Carol Adams *Ordinary Lives*). But we do know the cost of some of Sharnford's rents for we are fortunate to have the village entrepreneur, John Siddons Sanders contemporary account books.

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 3-5 pm. Full high tea enjoyed at each meeting. We have a full three course hot meal Annual Dinner and a Fish and Chip supper in September.

First Meeting hopefully will be on Wednesday 30th June at 3 pm where we will have a quiz before tea.

COVID 19

We are hoping to re-open fully towards the end of June when most restrictions will be lifted.

ALL WELCOME - Why not come and join us and while away a friendly afternoon in good company. New members are always welcome

Contact Jean Dale on 274772 or Carol Hunter on 271591

Here we read of some of his bargain house rentals in the village....'May 3rd.1873 John Wood took the house and garden at 1s.7d. (8½p.) per week. He also rented 'July 1872 ...to Martha Tilley a house for 9d, (4½p.) per week. Martha lived here with her illegitimate daughter Frances. Martha bought quantities of beeswax from Sanders – did she make a living making and selling candles? She was quite a resourceful lady for in the 1881 census showing she now is a tobacconist and seamstress - with the Mills family now living next door.

Living conditions for a large family in a small cottage in those days brought its share of problems. A Mr. Forbes recounts sleeping arrangements from his childhood in a 11 child family (from Maud Pember Reeves '*Round about a Pound a Week*'). *'We had all the boys in one bed – three at the top and three at the bottom. My four sisters shared the other bed and that filled the room. There was a curtain across the middle of the room when my eldest sister got bigger.'*

It was a family of eight Mills that was living at Sharnford having moved from Smockington – the only known authenticated prior address – in the winter of 1880/81. The Sharnford village school records for the year 1883, show that the 4 eldest Mills children began their schooling in Sharnford all at the same time – January 1881. Prior to this date the children attended Claybrooke school under the tutelage of schoolmaster Richard Mills. It is unclear as to whether the schoolmaster is related to our family.

Attendance figures for 1883 show the two elder girls was low. Harriet (13) attended 196 out of 417 days whilst Susan (9) 264 out of 417 days. Of course schooling had to be paid for back then in 1883 – a penny to four pence a week. Probably this cost influenced their low attendance (the fee was abolished in 1891) but most likely the majority of missing school days they would be helping mother with the laundry and nursing their younger siblings. This was to be quite **expected** of girls in those days and was not an unusual occurrence. There was no childhood for children especially for girls of yesteryear.

A Mrs. Layton reminisced in '*Memories of Seventy Years*' of her early life in a large family*'I was my mother's seventh child, and seven more were born after me – fourteen in all –which made my mother a perfect slave, generally speaking, she was either expecting a baby to be born or had one at the breast'*.

When a new baby arrived we would here people ask 'has it come to stay?' Grace Stokes, '*Between High Walls*'.

Such was the high mortality of infant deaths this was a popular aside. By the 1880's many childhood diseases had still to be conquered and minor infections could prove fatal – but the most common cause of death at



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..... or just turn up and see what's it all about.

childbirth was 'puerperal' or childbed fever caused by hygiene ignorance of the attendant at the birth. Most babies were born at home and usually attended by the village or street 'handywoman', who was usually experienced but untrained in midwifery. The doctor was only called if there were complications and his fee was £1 10s. (£1.50p). (Carol Adams '*Ordinary Lives*'). The doctor's fee would equate to over a week's wages for Thomas Mills.

Seven of the fifteen of Thomas and Mary Ann's children were to die in infancy/childhood –which was a higher proportion than the national average (1 in 4). The Mills deaths ranged from 3 weeks to 6 years. Below is a listing of the christenings and burial dates of the Mills children either at St. Peters, Claybrooke or St. Helens, Sharnford.

Baptism details

Name	Where	Date	Details
Harriet Elizabeth	Sharnford	7 th Aug 1870	
James Henry	Sharnford	28 th Jan 1872	
Susan Emma	Claybrooke	4 th May 1873	
Thomas	Claybrooke	14 th Feb 1875	Buried 26 th Mar 1876 at Claybrooke (14 months).
Mary Ann	Claybrooke	19 th Nov 1876	
Edward	Claybrooke	30 th Jun 1878	
Gertrude Jane	Claybrooke	25 th Jan 1880	
Jessy	Sharnford	9 th Sept 1881	Buried 12 th Sept: 1881 at Sharnford (3 weeks).
Ernest	Sharnford	3 rd Dec 1882	
Margaret	Sharnford	5 th Apr 1884	
Charles	Sharnford	26 th Jan 1886	Buried 11 th Feb 1887 at Sharnford (11 months)
Frank	Sharnford	5 th Feb 1888	Buried 6 th Mar 1894 at Sharnford (6 years)
Frances Betsy	Sharnford	22 nd Sept 1889	Buried 23 rd Feb 1894 at Sharnford (4 years)
Thomas	Sharnford	31 st May 1891	Buried 12 th Jun 1891 at Sharnford (2 months)
Lily Violet	Sharnford	2 nd July 1893	Buried 12 th Feb 1894 at Sharnford (1 year)

A modern Mills descendant recalls '*I remember my Nan telling me they had died of diphtheria during an epidemic and the family were still reeling from the tragedy when she (Nan) was still a little girl*'. All the surviving eight children reached full adulthood and all found sweethearts and married – six of these in Sharnford, one at Stoney Stanton and one at Wymondham, Leicestershire.

Right – Four of the Mills girls - Harriet , Susan, sister-in-law Jessie Mills, either Gertrude or Mary.

Upon the Sharnford 1901 census we read of another cross for the family to bear –that mother Mary Ann Mills was ‘paralyzed’- probably the result of a stroke. But there was one more tragic act to be played out – the death of father Thomas Mills in the most bizarre of circumstances at Christmas time 1903 – by being crushed under a steam traction engine.

At his inquest reported in the Hinckley Times 26 December 1903, witness George Grooms said both he and Thomas worked together as gardeners at Croft House, Croft (George Grooms was later to be killed in action in France during WW1 in Oct:1914). On leaving work at 5 o’clock in the December darkness of 1903, they were cycling home to Sharnford along Field lane, George on a bicycle, Thomas on a tricycle - when they encountered a steam traction engine with some thrashing machines attached, going in the same direction. George and Thomas dismounted and walked past the illuminated traction engine on either side which was proceeding at 2 mph along the narrow lane (evidence given according to the flagman who was walking behind). Thomas bypassed the traction engine but did not allow enough space with



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which to remount his tricycle – and was subsequently drawn and caught up under the engine. Thomas died a short time later of his injuries. The Coroner in his summing up said there was no question of liability to the owner of the traction engine. The jury brought in a verdict of accidental death. Thomas Mills was buried at St.Helens church, Sharnford – 21 December 1903 aged 55 yrs. His wife Mary Ann Mills, is also buried here – 23 May 1904 aged 54 yrs.

Sources

Sharnford and Claybrooke parish registers at Wigston Record Office.

Excerpts of other authors compiled by Carol Adams in Ordinary Lives.

The account books of John Siddons Sanders

Hinckley Times – 26 December 1903

With special thanks to Sharon Davies of Essex- a descendant – for her generous help and access to Mills family photographs.

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SHARNFORD EVERGREEN HALL

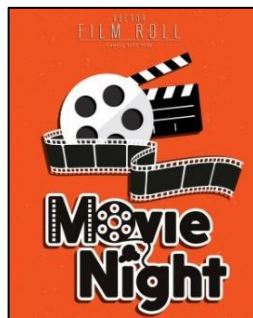


We held a successful bacon buttie morning at the end of September in aid of Macmillan Cancer support. We raised £505 for that worthy cause and many people met for the first time since the restrictions to enjoy a morning together.

We also enjoyed another Buttie morning at the end of

October. On the 11th December we will be holding our Christmas Bacon Buttie morning where our Christmas Prize Raffle will be drawn.

Are you interested in running a cine club at the Evergreen Village Hall, all the necessary equipment is already installed. Call Rosemarie on 01455 274158



Rosemarie Simpson

SHARNFORD SCHOOL PTA

In June the local community and children of Sharnford School took part in a nature trail hunt at Fosse meadows and we raised £115.00.

The school held a pyjama and movie afternoon on the last day before half term and we raised £80.00.

Most recently the children at school designed a fantastic tea-towel with their self-portrait drawings on and raised over £400.00 and there is a Christmas disco being held, to be ran by the youth club and the PTA this year where even more funds will be raised. All the proceeds are going towards the funding of improving the play area at Sharnford Primary school but we have a long way to go yet.

The school is always open to donations and are hoping to raise enough funds to improve the play area.

Any donations are greatly welcomed no matter how big or small.

Kelly, sharnfordpta@asasps.org

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12.00-9.00pm Friday and Saturday

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Thursday – Tapas and Homemade Pizza Night

Friday & Saturday - Traditional Pub Grub

Sunday - Lunch served 12:00 – 16:00

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SHARNFORD LADIES GROUP

In September David Bell gave us a very interesting talk about Leicestershire Ladies, some of whom we'd heard of but there were one or two surprising ladies. In October we had our annual dinner at the Bricklayers which was, once again, an enjoyable evening. Unfortunately, our November meeting had to be cancelled.

However we are having Four Play - a cappella quartet to entertain us in December together with mulled wine and mince pies.

In January David Goldsmith is giving us a talk with slides about the Beauty of Nature and in February it is the AGM. March's meeting is Fun with Antiques with Janet and the team.

Our meetings are on the first Wednesday of every month in the Evergreen Hall at 7.30pm. Guests are very welcome at a cost of £4 to include coffee and biscuits.

Lynda

A LITTLE LIGHT NEWS

During a recent search of old Sharnford newspaper articles the following was found dated 3rd January 1969. "*The Band Froze Up! When they made their customary tour of the village on Boxing day, Sharnford silver band found the weather conditions so cold that their instrument valves froze and they were unable to visit the houses of Brookfields*". It does go on to say they had also fulfilled other engagements in Lutterworth, Cadeby and Sapcote. During the period they raised £36.00



SHARNFORD EVERGREEN VILLAGE HALL

CHRISTMAS BACON BUTTIE MORNING

Saturday 11th December
Evergreen Hall from 9.30 am

Bacon Butties, Sausage Baps,
Breakfast Baps
Toasted Sandwiches
Mince Pies

Cakes, Jams & Chutneys
Christmas Gifts
Books

PRIZE DRAW

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

SHARNFORD PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Following on from my last report in the Sharnford News, progress has/is being made both locally and within the wider Blaby District.

After many years the old, worn out tarmac path at St. Helen's church has been replaced, but not without some complications. Because the path level has been

heightened it caused rainwater to flow into the church during the recent deluge. Hopefully this has been rectified by clearing out the soakaway storm drains. The total cost for the new work was £14,700 but this was covered by Planning Obligation funds from Blaby



District Council. The next phase will be the planting of 3,000 flower bulbs either side of the path.

You may have noticed changes at the Youth Club on Park View. The container has vanished, and the car park has been resurfaced. Repairs, which have been neglected over the last few years are gradually being rectified such as the roof leak, electrical issues, and the sighting of the combination boiler. These problems are the responsibility of the Youth Club and with the new trustees in place are now being addressed. In tandem with the repairs/improvements at the Youth Club the Parish Council are continuing with replacing the fencing on The Park and possibly the playground. This all links in with news that Blaby District Council are selling The Park to Sharnford Parish Council for the princely sum of £1. The condition of the sale is that the land will remain as a park in perpetuity, i.e., cannot be built upon and is for the free use of Sharnford residents (and their dogs).



Every month Sharnford Parish Council meets to discuss issues in the village, agree to pay bills and comment on local planning applications amongst other areas of interest. The minutes of these meetings can be found on the parish council website and also posted on noticeboards around the village. I wonder how many residents read these minutes because I was surprised to see that the planning application to

erect a 20 metre high telephone mast on Aston Lane only received 9 objections. These objections, I assume, came from those residents who received written notification from Blaby District Council. Only those residents living next door to the mast would have received letters, but the application was posted on the lamp post on Aston Lane and also publicised on Sharnford Parish Council Facebook page on 27 July. I am afraid the erection of this mast has now been approved and will be installed sometime in the next five years.

The River Soar is still suffering from pollution i.e., wet wipes and human faeces (in other words poo). It has been mentioned before that a resident(s) have incorrectly connected a toilet(s) to the storm water (gutter) pipe instead of the foul waste pipe. This storm water pipe runs under The Park from the Park View/Brookfield vicinity and can be seen

where it enters the river. Children play in the river, and this is causing a severe health hazard. Apart from the poo, after all the negative publicity, who still flushes wet wipes down the toilet? Severn Trent Water and the Environment Agency have been informed and may well come knocking on doors. If you think you may be the one at fault then inform the Parish Clerk and we may be able to help.

The proposed Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange (HNRFI) is starting to progress. Public consultation is due to start early January 2022 with a submission to the Planning Inspectorate in March 2022. We are still waiting for the developer Tritax to publish in the local press when they will formally begin public consultation, they are obliged to give two weeks' notice. A meeting between all local interested parties, including Sharnford Parish Council, and our two Members of Parliament, Alberto Costa MP and Dr Luke Evans was held on Thursday 7th October. Not the best of meetings with our MP's unable to bring much to the table other than advise on employing a consultant to help with our objections to the development. Keep an eye on Facebook and noticeboards for any further information.

In the Blaby Local Plan options document there was a proposal to build 5000 houses on land west of Stoney Stanton. This worried many residents in all the local villages, but this was just an outline proposal by a developer group called Pegasus. This group represent the consortium of landowners/land promoters comprising Barwood Land, Parker Strategic Land Ltd, and Leicestershire County Council. It is worth noting that Leicestershire County Council own approximately 17% of the land being promoted for development. Pegasus arranged two workshops in October to gauge views, comments, and ideas for the site development. Day one was for invited key statutory consultee stakeholders, including county and district councillors and Blaby District officers. Day two was for focused engagement with invited members of the public,



local businesses, social enterprises, and Parish Councils. We are still awaiting feedback from Pegasus Group.

**Local Government
Boundary
Commission Review
for Blaby District**

The Boundary Commission are minded to recommend that Blaby District Council reduce the number of councillors from 39 to 36. It will be necessary

to draw up a new pattern of wards which will be formulated in readiness for district council elections in May 2023. Comments were invited and have been submitted by the deadline of 1st November 2021. This ended the first stage of consultation. The commission will now review all comments and make draft recommendations on 1st February 2022. Further consultation will then take place, ending 11th April 2022. Final recommendations will be published 5th July 2022.

Finally, on a personal note, in previous Sharnford News I have mentioned my local correspondent who has kept me informed on all matters Sharnford and Sapcote. Sadly, my local correspondent who was Stella Woodier, a good friend, has suddenly departed this life. Stella will be greatly missed by all who knew her, especially the new members of our community who Stella always made most welcome. Our thoughts are with Alan and Stella's family.

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Jack Feast (Vice Chairman)	jack.feast@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk
Gary Peryer	gary.peryer@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk
Lee Martin	lee.martin@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk
Martyn Dalton-Brown	martyn.dalton-brown@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk
Rosemarie Simpson	rosemarie.simpson@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk
Steve Waters	steve.waters@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk
Karen Leck	clerk@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk

Mike Shirley, Chairman – Sharnford Parish Council

SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB



DONATIONS
NEEDED!

Sharnford Youth Club Charity are looking for the following....

- Childrens Jigsaws,/board games
- Craft items,/childrens stationary
- Xbox 360 controllers and games
- Nintendo Wii Controllers and games
- Childrens baking equipment
- Lego, Knex, Building blocks, Scalectrix

To make a donation.....
Call 07825924506

Email Sharnfordyouthclub@gmail.com
Facebook [Sharnfordyouthandcommunitycentre](https://www.facebook.com/Sharnfordyouthandcommunitycentre)

Sharnford Youth Club has been closed for a number of years, but thanks to a large Community Grant we have received from the District Council we are now on the road to reopening.

We have been able to purchase new tables, storage furniture, sports equipment and a projector for movie nights!

We still however have a large wish list in order to get the youth club running again on a Friday night.

We appreciate any donations large or small, the children are so excited with the prospect of somewhere to meet up with their friends again.

The trustees and

children have put together an Amazon wish list
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/jfJ7hy9?ref_=wl_share

For those that do not have access to Amazon, please email sharnfordyouthclub@gmail.com for the list, anything received will be greatly appreciated.

The Sharnford Youth and Community Centre is available to hire for regular evening groups or parties. To book email sharnfordyouthclub@gmail.com or call Laura on 07825924506

Sharnford Youth Club. Charity Number 502213

SHARNFORD SICK AND DIVIDEND FUND

Tickets for the Sharnford Sick and Dividend Fund Christmas raffle are now on sale at the village Post Office and can also be bought directly from myself – I usually have a supply with me so just stop me and buy a book! Sales of tickets have been very slow this year within the village and many of the tickets already sold have been sold to “outsiders” on my travels. It would be nice to see some more support from Sharnford residents to help keep this annual event going.

As always we need donations of prizes for the draw and many local businesses have already promised prizes - if you have a prize to donate please contact me on 274678.

The prize draw will take place on Friday 17th of December at 8:00 pm in two parts, firstly at the Sharnford Arms and then the Bricklayers. Distribution of the Christmas gift bags will take place on Saturday the 18th of December.

Any assistance with selling raffle tickets or the distribution would be greatly appreciated - please contact me if you can help in any way.

I do hope you will all continue to support this prize draw which provides Christmas gift bags for the pensioners and widows/widowers of Sharnford. Thank you in advance for any help that you can give.

Jack Feast

VILLAGE BUS TIMES (MONDAY TO SATURDAY ONLY, X55 route)

Hinckley via Aston Flamville & Burbage (stop near Bricklayers)

07:56	08:56	11:41	14:31	17:31	19:36
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Leicester via Sapcote, Stoney Stanton, Thurlaston, Enderby & Fosse Park (stop opposite Bricklayers)

05:35	06:50	09:45	12:30	15:30	18:15
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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

SHARNFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

MONDAY	BREAKFAST CLUB	07:45 - 08:45	Sharnford Kids Club
	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	15:15 – 17:15	Sharnford Kids Club
	ART & CRAFT CLUB	TBC	TBC
TUES	BREAKFAST CLUB	07:45 – 08:45	Sharnford Kids Club
	YOGA	10:00 – 11:00	Yoga with Adele
	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	15:15 – 17:15	Sharnford Kids Club
WEDS	BREAKFAST CLUB	07:45 – 08:45	Sharnford Kids Club
	OVER 60'S YOUTH CLUB	10:00 – 12:30	Derek Gibbons
	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	15:15 – 17:15	Sharnford Kids Club
THURS	BREAKFAST CLUB	07:45 – 08:45	Sharnford Kids Club
	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	15:15 – 17:15	Sharnford Kids Club
FRIDAY	BREAKFAST CLUB	07:45 – 08:45	Sharnford kids club
	YOGA WITH ADELE	10:00 – 11:00	Yoga with Adele
	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	15:15 – 17:15	Sharnford Kids Club
	YOUTH CLUB	TBC	TBC
SAT	TOTS FOOTBALL CLUB	09:30 – 12:00	Footicubs

Contacts

Yoga with Adele – Adele 07837 927227 yogawithadele@live.co.uk

Sharnford Kids Club – Louise Moore 07976 509507

Over 60's Youth Club – Derek Gibbons 01455 272401

Footicubs – info@footicubs.co.uk

The hall can also be hired for weekend functions, please contact me 07825 924506

Laura - Sharnford Youth & Community Centre

SHARNFORD VILLAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Organisation	Contact	Details
Blaby District Cllrs.	Iain Hewson 273957 Deanne Freer 07530 319637 Mike Shirley 07539 994707	
Community Centre	Laura 07825 924506	
Doctors-Broughton Astley	(01455) 282599	Evergreen Hall Thurs 12 - 13:30
Doctors-Burbage	(01455) 634879	Evergreen Hall Tue 11-12
Doctors-Stoney Stanton	(01455) 271442	
Environment Group	Naomi Allen, naomiallen38@gmail.com, 07930232648	Second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Evergreen Hall
Evergreen Club	Jean Dale 274772	Wednesdays twice monthly
Evergreen Hall	Margaret Sanders 274038	
Flood Warden	Jack Feast 274678	
Golden Jubilee Fete	Sue Stanley 273861	
Good Neighbour Scheme	Direct Help Line 07502 615535	
Leics. County Councillor	Mrs M Wright 07815 450031 Mrs.M.A.Wright@leics.gov.uk	
Methodist Chapel	Local Pastor Anne Haddon 617692,	
Over 60's Youth Club	Derek Gibbons 272401	Community Centre Weds 10 - 12.30
Parish Council Chair	Mike Shirley 07539 994707 mike.shirley@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Meetings held 3 rd Thursday at 19.30 Evergreen Hall
Parish Council Clerk	Karen Leck 07422 718186 clerk@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	
Parish village website	www.sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	
Post Office	Eric and Gay Washbrook 272210	
Sapcote Library	Lorraine 3053674	
St. Helen's Church	Rev TBA, Cynthia Oliver 272977	
Sharnford Ladies Group	Wendy Kendall 273889	1st Wednesday of month
Sharnford Pre-School	Alison Lancaster 07495 432569	Evergreen Hall
Sharnford Primary School	Mrs S Boyd-Hope, Acting Head teacher & Secretary 272456	
Sharnford Traffic Action Group (STAG)	Mike Shirley 07539 994707	
Sharnford Village Show	Tony Curtis 272532	