

SHARNFORD NEWS

1st March 2023

Issue No 84

A Project supported by Sharnford Parish Council.

SHARNFORD BUS SERVICE – USE IT OR LOSE IT



In October 2022 saw the removal of our only regular bus service to Leicester and Hinckley. Aviva suddenly informed us that the X55 bus service was to be removed because of lack of use and the removal of subsidy from Leicestershire County Council. To keep going Aviva required £180,000 in subsidy which according to LCC is unsustainable.

The service has been replaced by Fox Connect, a new minibus service which will connect rural villages in the south of Leicestershire. The FoxConnect service is a new 'demand responsive transport service' which will provide a lifeline to small villages which have borne the brunt of transport cuts in recent years.

Unfortunately, whilst welcome, the new service does not replace the X55 bus for school children needing to get to Hastings High School in Burbage. Leicestershire County Council have had to lay on school specific transport for the 11-16 year old Sharnford children as per Government policy, but not for all of them! Four children living in the north of our small village are not catered for, leaving them unable to use school transport to Hastings High School. Leicestershire County Council have stated that it is up to the parents to get pupils to school, even though the now provided school bus goes past their home(s) with spare seats! Our MP Alberto Costa has now got involved at the request of the affected families and, with assistance from our County and District councillors will, hopefully get County Hall to see sense for these children and future high school children of Sharnford.

There are three minibuses available with Fox Connect. To book journeys, either via their app or by calling, to provide on-demand transport services between Leicester and Hinckley. The scheme will be a three-year trial and funded with £1.3 million from the Department for Transport's Rural Mobility Fund. In October the number of journeys originating from the Stanton & Flamville Villages was:

- Aston Flamville 7
- Sapcote 269
- Sharnford 59
- Stoney Stanton 277

At the end of the funded trial, if the service is not profitable, we could lose it.



Sharnford Garage Ltd

M.O.T WHILE-U-WAIT

**We test cars, light vans,
motorbikes and 3 wheelers**

Full Service & Repairs on all

Makes Petrol and Diesel

Courtesy cars Available

Leicester Road, Sharnford

01455 272336

SHARNFORD SICK AND DIVIDEND FUND

Another successful year for the Sharnford Sick and Dividend Fund, we were once again able to distribute around 120 festive food bags just before Christmas 2022. This was made possible by many local businesses, local supermarkets and individuals donating raffle prizes that amounted to around 40. The prize draw is only held once a year, but it is a yearlong process to procure prizes for next Christmas and is reliant on the generosity of individuals who have supported us for many years.

Special thanks goes to Narborough Co-op who at very short notice procured a superb Christmas hamper, this went some way to make up for the loss of prizes due to the post-strike as our letters asking for donations were not received.

A superb day for the distribution, made possible by a handful of dedicated volunteers with everything running smoothly. Special thanks goes out to the people that made the ticket sales, the support for buying tickets from the local businesses and our business contacts can only be described as fantastic - selling tickets is probably the hardest job of all, closely followed by the purchase of all the goodies required for the bags. We had a record number of thank you letters and cards, these will spur us on for this year's Christmas raffle and distribution - it may seem a long way off but it soon comes around. Support from the Parish Council and anonymous donors helped swell the coffers and helped cover the increased costs of this year's distribution.

Many thanks again to all those involved.

Jack Feast



"The Old Custom of Plough Monday still prevails, like a great many old popular tales, Plough Bullocks dressed in ribbon, a gaudy show, in a long procession shouting as they go - "HIGHAM ON THE HILL, STOKE IN THE VALE, WYKEN FOR BUTTERMILK, HINCKLEY FOR ALE!"
[Richard Fowlkes, *Elmesthorpe 1811.*]

In 1986, Tony Ashley, revived the old Leicestershire customs from Plough Monday having researched and collected the information from local texts and older residents of the area who still remembered the tradition from their parents' and grandparents' tales. Before 1986, the tradition is last recorded around the turn of the century in Sapcote.

In the past, on the first Monday after Twelfth night – Plough Monday – the plough was prepared for the new season, dressed in gaudy ribbons and taken in procession round the villages. Today, with work commitments making this difficult, the Hinckley Bullockers tour the villages on the nearest Saturday to Plough Monday, having dressed the plough on the Friday evening.



The men pulling the plough 'raddled' their faces (ie used red face make up) and were known as Plough Bullocks. They also performed molly dances peculiar to the eastern counties. All of this tradition has been kept with the men meeting early on the Saturday at The Bricklayers in Sharnford to apply the red face make up and partake of an excellent breakfast provided by the pub. Then, following tradition, the plough stops at

various local pubs in Sapcote, and Stoney Stanton as well as a few private houses in order to dance and sing and drink. In the past, if neither drink nor cash were forthcoming from landlords, the drive was ploughed up – not something currently done, you'll be pleased to note. Despite rather wet weather, the Hinckley Bullockers were out again this January, dancing round the villages having practised on Tuesday evenings during late November and December.

If you fancy having a go yourself, then you can contact Emma who organises things on em.melville@yahoo.co.uk. Or come along to Sharnford village hall (opposite the Bricklayers) on Tuesday 28 November 2023 at 8:30pm and join the practice for next year's extravaganza. Further practices will be on December 5th, 12th, 19th and January 4th with the day itself taking place on January 6th 2024.

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 PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

JUBILEE CUP

Nominations for the Jubilee Cup are invited from people living in Sharnford Parish and also all nominees must live in Sharnford Parish. The Jubilee Cup is awarded annually to anyone or group who has provided or been involved in a service or project that has benefitted the residents or Parish of Sharnford. The closing date for nominations is **Sunday May 7th 2023**. Sealed nominations can be given to any member of the Parish Council or alternatively you can present your nomination at a Parish Council meeting before this date. This gives the Parish Council just over a month to decide the award prior to its presentation at the village fete on June 11th.

HINCKLEY NATIONAL RAIL FREIGHT INTERCHANGE

After much delay the developers Tritax Symmetry submitted their application for the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange (HNRFI) to the Planning Inspectorate on Friday 3rd February. Blaby District Council then had until 21st February to comment on whether it believes the developer's consultation on the plans was adequate. The Planning Inspectorate will then have until Monday 06 March to decide whether to accept the application. If the application is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will begin assessing the developer's plans. At the same time, if the application is accepted for examination the submission documents will be made available to members of the public on the Planning Inspectorate's website:



The advertisement features a photograph of a group of women in a dance studio, smiling and performing a ballet move. The studio has a wooden floor and a white wall with a ballet barre. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

 **It's never too late to shine!**
Ballet classes for over-55s

Silver Swans* classes have been specifically designed for the over-55s, but whatever your age, if you are looking for a new way to keep fit and active our ballet classes will put a spring in your step. Whether you've never danced before or want to get back into the swing of it, our classes have something for everyone.

For more information contact Hollie on:
07340 281604
silverswanshollie@mail.com

Photo: David Tett

The period when members of the public can register as interested parties usually begins several weeks after an application is accepted.

There will be a six-month long examination phase, including hearings, towards the end of the year, and a decision is expected by the middle of 2024.

The scheme, earmarked for 440 acres of land between the M69 and the Leicester to Birmingham railway line, falls mainly within the boundary of Blaby District Council, south-west of Elmesthorpe village, but will also affect Stoney Stanton, Sapcote, Aston Flamville, Burbage, and ultimately Sharnford, where all roads lead to the B4114.

The scheme is of such scale and national importance that the application for its development will be ultimately decided by the Secretary of State for Transport.

Blaby District Council has no power to veto the project but is instead a statutory consultee in the process.

MAY 4TH ELECTIONS

On Thursday May 4th you will be able to exercise your democratic right and vote for your next District and Parish Councillors. Whoever is elected will represent you for the next 4 years.

Sharnford Parish Council is currently up to quota with seven Councillors.

On the day of the election your district ward will change name and member parishes. Currently we are in Stanton & Flamville Ward which comprises of Aston Flamville, Sapcote, Sharnford, Stoney Stanton, and Wigston Parva, with three District



Cleaning Service

- **Regular Cleaning**
- **Deep Cleaning**
- **End of Tenancy Cleaning**
- **Ironing**
- **Oven, Fridge/Freezer Cleaning**
- **Shopping**

Contact Aga on 07570643687

Sparkling Dust

Councillors. After the latest Boundary Commission consultation we will belong to the new District Ward of **Fosse Highcross** with two District Councillors, comprising of Aston Flamville, Elmesthorpe, Sapcote, Sharnford, and Wigston Parva. The name Fosse Highcross has been chosen to represent the Fosseway which runs through the district and the High Cross monument, depicting the Roman centre of Britannia, at the southernmost tip of the new ward. Elections in our parish and ward will only take place if there are more candidates than places.

Please remember that Parish and District Councillors are there to represent you on **Local** issues and not central government issues. For central government we are represented by our Member of Parliament Alberto Costa.

If you wish to vote in person on the day at the polling station you must bring photo identification.

Sharnford Pre-school

Free places for 2 and 4 year olds
Wrap around care available

Call:
07495 432569

www.sharnfordpreschool.co.uk
Manager - Mrs Nikki Gower Ofsted Registered by Petite Academy Ltd

Available Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 9:00 to 14:00
Holiday care available provided by local Nurseries and child-minders

SIX ACRES COUNSELLING

Old ways, changing times, new approaches.

Sorting through confusing or conflicting thoughts and emotions.

Searching for an understanding.

Getting it off your chest.

Person Centred Counselling for adults, young people and children.

Please contact Malcolm Soulsby on
07715 178874 / 01455 324008
or email 45sixacres@gmail.com

An extensive list of acceptable forms of ID is available, including passports, driving licences, bus passes and blue badges. See the Electoral Commission website to check which forms of photo ID are acceptable at polling stations.

The ID does not even necessarily have to be in date – as long as the photo still looks like the resident who wants to use it and the name on the ID is the same name used to register to vote.

However, only original versions of the ID will be accepted, photocopies or images will not be allowed in order to cast a vote.

Voters who do not have an accepted form of ID can apply for a free ‘voter authority certificate’ – a VAC – to allow them to cast their ballot.

People can apply online on the government website: [Apply for photo ID to vote \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Postal Votes do not require photo I/D

Postal voting is available if you cannot attend a polling station on Election Day or if you find it more convenient. Anyone aged 18 or over can apply for a postal vote and you do not need a reason to vote by post. You can apply to vote by post for a particular election, for a set time or all future elections. Apply by downloading and printing the Postal vote application on the Blaby District Council website.

POLLUTION IN RIVER SOAR

I have commented over the last four years about pollution in the River Soar caused by the misconnection of waste pipes to the storm water pipe which directs rain water from homes into the river. This is most noticeable when it rains and wet wipes are seen in the river. At long last the connection fault has been rectified by LCC Highways department but wet wipes should be disposed of in the refuse bin and not flushed down the toilet.



Tai Chi with Soul

Broughton Astley Village Hall - Monday 1.30 - 2.30pm

George Ward Centre, Barwell - Tuesday 7.00 - 8.00pm

Gentle movements matched to breathing. Focused relaxation.

£6.00 per class.

Contact Malcolm on 07708 324008 or 01455 324008

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

Residents are always welcome to attend parish council meetings, held on the 3rd Thursday of every month, in Sharnford Evergreen Hall at 7:30 PM. At the meeting you are able to raise concerns and ideas to be discussed at future meetings by your council.

For up to date information about Sharnford Parish Council go to our Facebook page or Website www.sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk.

NAME	Email	Responsibilities
Mike Shirley	mike.shirley@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Chairman
Jack Feast	jack.feast@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Vice Chair Poors Meadow Flood Warden
Gary Peryer	gary.peryer@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Drains Snow Warden
Lee Martin	lee.martin@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Cemetery High Cross Monument
Martin Dalton-Brown	martin.dalton-brown@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Play/Fitness Equipment Poors Meadow The Park
Rosemarie Simpson	rosemarie.simpson@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	St Helens Churchyard
Steve Waters	steve.waters@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Bluebell Green Streetlights
Karen Leck	clerk@sharnfordparishcouncil.co.uk	Parish Clerk

Mike Shirley, Chairman – Sharnford Parish Council

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AGENCY

SAFETY DRAINAGE MAINTENACE WORKS - A5 Smockington Hollow

We will be carrying out essential drainage maintenance works to the A5 at Smockington Hollow

During our scheme of work, we will:

- clear all vegetation
- repair drainage system, installation of a new headwall and safety barrier
- reinstate verge

When will the work take place?

This work has now been re-scheduled with revised dates now due to start on **8th March 2023** and is scheduled for completion by **end of April 2023**. Please note that all our planned roadworks may be subject to change due to weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances.

How will the work affect traffic?

To keep our programme for these works as short as possible and to minimise disruption to the local community, residents, businesses, and road users we will work under full carriageway overnight closures between **8pm and 6am, Monday to Friday**. Some elements of the work will require **full weekend** closures from **8pm Friday to 6am Monday** and these have been programmed as follows;

- Friday 17 March to Monday 20 March 2023
- Friday 24 March to Monday 27 March 2023
- Friday 31 March to Monday 3 April 2023

We will also have in place a contingency midweek closure planned for **Tuesday 2 May to Thursday 4 May 2023** to cover any unforeseen circumstances due to weather or clashes on the network.

There will be a temporary speed limit for the duration of the whole scheme from 50mph to 40mph. Also all Lay by's within the work extents will be closed 24/7.

During these closures fully signed diversion routes will be in place, which have been agreed with the Local Authority.

How will the work affect traffic?

During these closures, fully signed diversion routes will be in place, which have been agreed with the local authority. All carriageways and slip roads will be open as usual outside of our working hours.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused and will do our very best to complete the work as quickly as possible, keeping disturbances and noise to a minimum.

National Highways Agency

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.

SHARNFORD SCHOOL PTA

The PTA will be holding their annual Easter Egg Hunt again this year, keep your eyes peeled for posters around the village and details on social media. We hope you can come along and support us. We would also like to add our massive gratitude to Elmsmere Interior System Ltd for their generous PTA donation last term

Kelly, Email: sharnfordpta@asasps.org

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.

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

SHARNFORD LADIES GROUP

Sharnford Ladies Group had entertainment at their Christmas party by Jane Stocker and her electronic orchestral organ. The AGM was held in February.

In March David Grimshaw will be giving an illustrated talk about, Clocks of Leicestershire, in April Bill Haley will be telling us about Life on board the Royal Yacht, Britannia and in May there will be an afternoon tea to celebrate the King's Coronation (members only). June's meeting is Paul Gardner with Hinckley Past and Present.

The meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month in the Evergreen Hall at 7.30pm, cost £4 to include coffee and biscuits!

Lynda

Jon Warner & Son Construction Building Contractors

**New Developments, Extensions and Alterations
Insurance Work Undertaken**

**For a Free Quote
Tel: 01455 274509
Mobile: 07930 322034
Local Family Business Est.: 1990**



WALKIES

GOING BACK TO WORK AND WORRIED ABOUT LEAVING YOUR PET AT HOME?

MBF are able to provide a number of services for you and your pets: We can provide help with the following plus more:

- Individual and group walks
 - Pet sitting
 - House visits
 - Vet visits
 - Plus more

Call 07821 752 585
for more details or go to

www.mbfwalking.co.uk

Email: alex@mbfwalking.co.uk





SHARNFORD VILLAGE SHOW

The Village flower and produce show will be on Saturday the 9th September at the Evergreen Hall. We would love to see you there, whether just to have a browse and a cuppa or to enter. Please enter as you have to be in it to win it. So it's getting to that time of year when you will soon germinating seeds, spring is now in sight. If you really cannot find anything to grow we will have baking and home preserves sections to enter.

The categories are mostly the same as last year with just the odd change to provide some variety and to keep you and our judges on their toes! If you entered last year you will have a schedule delivered in early May, you will also be able to pick one up from the Post Office, Tony or Kaye & Andrew. Please support the Show which is intended to be a bit of fun and involve some friendly rivalry. As a bonus we have, over the years raised funds to help with village good causes such as the Defibrillator, St Helen's toilet appeal, work at the Chapel, the Youth Club, the Evergreen Hall, plants for the Environment Group planter in the one way system and a replacement mower to cut the churchyard.

Tony Curtis, Email: 123tcurtis@gmail.com

TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Leicestershire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/leics> has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place. John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Leicestershire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'. With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

Sharnford Post Office and Village Store

Convenience Store, Newsagents
and Post Office

Eric welcomes your custom
All the usual Post Office facilities
including Cash Deposits and
Withdrawals on all major Bankcards

Shop opening 7:00am daily
**Post Office 9:00 – 12:00, 14:30 -
15:30**



Abbey Farm Self-Catered Cottages, Wolvey

A peaceful farm stay in tranquil
surroundings
Airbnb 5* rated

01455 220322

abbeyfarm.org.uk



Whether for business or leisure, Abbey Farm is the choice for the discerning traveller. Each self-catering cottage has under floor heating, a wood-burner, fitted kitchen and en-suite bathroom

SHARNFORD HISTORY

SHARNFORD WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL

The shock of the chapel closing was quite profound. The trustees have deemed that the chapel should be closed as a place of worship, due to falling attendance numbers and the need for imperative and necessary repairs. Truly, a corner stone of the village community that survived almost 200 years, has met with the 21st. century.

My first thoughts were when I heard of the village chapel closure - could not the cost of the repairs to the building be achieved through crowd funding? Social media is a



powerful tool. It is such a beautiful old building - one of the very few old buildings left in our village. Those wooden round headed windows are distinctive with their Y tracery - they would have to be artisan made to suit each situation, this being Grade 11 listed building.

A walk round the exterior of the building shows no sign of blocked doors or windows - the enormous 2 per side windows were to let in as much light in as possible with the building showing all the originality of when it was first built. Its attractive red brick facade is a delight, complete with an 1827 date tablet above the central door. Unusually for a Wesleyan chapel, the chapel has a burial ground, but how old is the Chapel.....?

Some uncertainty abounds as to the chapel's age and humble beginnings but perhaps there is a seed of truth in either one of the following stories. The first one

from G.W. Oxley - who cites from the National Archives 1851 Ecclesiastical census (Hinckley Union) about Sharnford chapel)..... 'a building of which nothing is known was in use from 1812 to 1827. It closed when the new chapel opened.' Also from the same Hinckley Union Ecclesiastical census another writer reports that the congregation began meeting in a private house in 1795 in the village, and that they later then occupied a building (possibly on the same site), from 1812 to 1827. At that point the new chapel was built which had free seating for 186 people. The mentioning of free seating was in contrast to Sharnford's St. Helens church when at that time you paid to be seated in a pew with its own door. (A show of status and to keep the draughts out perhaps ?). The poorer people sat free of charge in the centre of the aisle.

The Rev. H. W. Stephenson in his treatise 'Methodism in Sharnford' wrote that there was no meeting house or chapel in Sharnford village prior to 1827, although a Methodist Society was formed there about 1791. The present Methodist Chapel was built at a cost of £600 (£44,332 today) and opened for public worship in 1827. Previous to this, it is believed the Sharnford Society met for worship at Frolesworth, where it is known services were regularly held in the house of Michael Clayton. Here again another line for thought from the Methodist Magazine of 1835 from an obituary dated June 28th, 1835.'At Burbage, in the Hinckley Circuit, aged sixty one years, Mr. William Hurst***. He early walked in the fear of God; and when about twenty one years of age, obtained the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of sins. A small society was about this time, formed at Sharnford the place of his residence. The people were few and despised, but he gladly united himself with them; and in the



AUTOFIT AUTO ELECTRICS

We specialise in private and commercial vehicle improvements: tow bar fitting, vehicle tracking, vehicle cameras, vehicle alarms and parking sensors

Telephone: 07377 538186

Web: autofitautoelectrics.co.uk

Email Address: autofitter@gmail.com

midst of obloquy and persecution continued steadfast. At Sharnford, and subsequently at Burbage, he discharged the office of Class Leader with fidelity and success, during a period of thirty four years continuing in office till he was called to his reward.....

*** William Hurst was born in Sharnford in 1774, to become one of Sharnford's chapel's first Leaders. He was the eldest of ten children of Benjamin and Alice (Marvin) Hurst.

All ten children were christened in the Anglican faith at St. Helens church. William married Catherine 'Kitty' Merry 6 Nov: 1802 at St. Marys church, Hinckley. They appear to have had only one child, Mary, born in 1812 at Burbage. It would seem that the Hurst family remained in Sharnford till at least 1798 when the family upped and moved to Burbage. The father, Benjamin died there in 1817, with his wife, Alice, dying there four years later.

Above we saw it was not all plain sailing in Sharnford in the early days for nonconformists - but that was small change compared to Sapcote's trials and tribulations - this dates from around 1803...from an obituary in the Methodist Magazine of

'Mr. Thomas Hinks of Sapcote....had lived without God until 1795. About this time a small society was formed. The late Mr. Joseph Suffolk was the Leader, and on his periodical visits, encountered no small annoyance and abuse. Persecution soon began to rage with violence. A large drum was purchased; and a mob was collected to follow the Preacher when he made his appearance. Numerous acts of violence put the society in no little danger. Several of the farmers encouraged these proceedings, ordering the public houses to be opened for the indulgence of the persecutors. In the end the preaching in the barn was given up; as no one in the village durst open his house, the service was discontinued for about 7 years. During this interval, our late friend and the rest of the society attended the preaching in Sharnford'.

In 1815 the Hinckley Methodist Circuit recorded that there was 18 members in the Sharnford Society. Thomas Hackett (Leader), his wife Mary Ball (**married St. Helens 12 Oct: 1791**), Thomas and Jane Corbey, (**married St. Helens 12 Oct: 1796**) Isaac Aldridge (**married Eliz. Weaver at St. Helens 9 Aug: 1789**), William Welton, Mary Heath (**she lived at Smockington**), Thomas Jackson (**labourer**), Joseph Tilley (**frame work knitter**), Mary Hirons, Elizabeth Ward, Elizabeth Haines (**wife of village shoemaker**), Nathaniel and Ann Crane (**tailor**), Jane Haines (**1745-1821**), Elizabeth Hackett and Mary Elliott. (**Bold writing from this authors notes**).

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

in the Youth & Community Centre




The churchyard of Sharnford's chapel is almost unique for I don't think there is another in the whole of the Hinckley Circuit. It came about in a most distressing way - with the death of 18 year old villager Joseph Clarke on 22 Dec: 1851, apparently by his own hand. The new incomer Rector of the village St. Helens Anglican church, the Rev. Henry Lacon-Watson (who was inducted 14 Dec: 1850), refused the burial of poor Joseph in the consecrated grounds of his church. The anguish of Joseph's parents must have been palpable. "Where do you bury our boy?". Being part of the Methodist Community, the parents with an arrangement of the chapel, it was decided that he should be buried in the chapel forecourt almost against the front door. The following year, 1852, Joseph's parents, Joshua and Susannah Clarke bought and donated a piece of land to the rear of the chapel to be designated a future burial ground. Was it bought in mind to be the final resting place for Joseph? It never happened.

The first burial in the new churchyard at the rear of the chapel was Ann Thacker, aged 17 years, 22 May 1852. She was the daughter of Richard and Alice Thacker.

And finally, attendance figures for Sharnford Chapel - from the ecclesiastical returns of the Hinckley Union for 1851.....' *On Sunday 30 March 1851 there were two services, one in the morning and one in the evening which attracted congregations of 96 and 120 respectively. The Sunday school met in a room adjoining the Chapel had 82 scholars in the morning and 40 in the evening.* The 1851 census for Sharnford gives the village a population of 611.

The latest official modern attendance Sharnford Chapel figures we have are for 2017 - was for a membership of 11, the average all week with all ages attending - 10.

**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:

- ✓ CRAFTS
- ✓ GAMES
- ✓ ACTIVITIES
- ✓ LEGO/TOYS
- ✓ BAKING

contacts:

☎ Louise 07976509507
sharnfordkidsclub@hotmail.com
f Sharnford Kids Club

Children will be walked up to school
and picked up after.. Snacks Included.

**SHARNFORD'S GOT
TALENT**

**UNDER 18'S TALENT
SHOW**

THE STAGE IS WAITING FOR YOU!

MAY 13th 2023

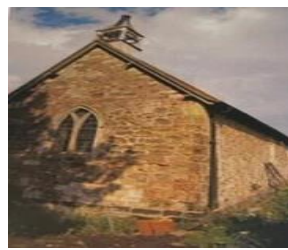
**SINGING • DANCING • INSTRUMENTALIST
SKETCHES • MAGICIANS • ACROBATICS**

Sharnford Youth and Community Centre

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING PLEASE
EMAIL SHARNFORDYOUTHCLUB@GMAIL.COM OR MESSAGE
07825924506



**ST HELEN'S
SHARNFORD
& ST MARY'S WIGSTON
PARVA**



SPRING DIARY DATES

ST HELEN'S

22 nd February Ash Wednesday	Holy Communion	7.00 pm
4 th March	Fair Trade Bacon Butties at the Evergreen Hall	9.30 am
19 th March	Mothering Sunday – Holy Communion	9.15 am
7 th April – Good Friday	An Hour at the Cross	2.00 pm
9 th April - Easter Day	Holy Communion	9.15 am

Unless otherwise stated there is a service every week at 9.15 am

We said goodbye with funerals for three of our village people who will be sadly missed. We also had a joyous baptism service for Ella and Sophia in January. At the beginning of December we held a Christmas Cream Tea in the church which was enjoyed by many. We opened the church in December for our annual Light a Candle quiet time to remember those we have lost. Our Christingle and Nativity on the 18th December was enjoyed by many children and adults – a special time. We raised over £200 for The Children's Society at this service, including the money boxes held during the year by many people.

ST MARY'S, WIGSTON PARVA

9 th April - Easter Day	Holy Communion	3.00 pm
------------------------------------	----------------	---------

The Service of Lessons and Carols in December was well attended and in December we had a baptism for baby Penelope who is part of a well-known farming family

Rosemarie Simpson

Looking around at the time of writing, there are signs of spring popping up everywhere – perhaps most noticeably under the tree in St. Helen’s Churchyard where the snowdrops and cyclamen are putting on a beautiful display between them.

As we emerge from the muted colours of Winter into the brightness of Spring, I am reminded of the time we are entering in the Church year.

For the next few weeks, Christians will be observing Lent as we remember Jesus and the events leading up to his death on the cross on Good Friday. It is a time of reflection and self-examination with a view to living our lives in a better way.

On 9th April we will be celebrating Easter, the day when Jesus came back to life and burst from the tomb, opening the way to everlasting life for everyone who chooses to follow him.

If you would like to know more about Jesus and the brightness that knowing him can bring to your life, why not come along to one of our services, or get in touch for a chat? I wish you all a blessed Lent and Easter.

Rev’d Jo Hover.07796 413883, rev.jo.hover@gmail.com



HOPE PROGRAMME

Organised by Churches in Sharnford and Sapcote to help families who are experiencing difficulties at this time. We provide a Food Hamper for the whole family

If you know of any family that is struggling at this time, please contact Penny on 07926 064214 or Rosemarie on 07831371515

W J EDGE & SON BUILDERS LTD

BUILDING CONTRACTORS

Phone: 01455 271321 Mobile: 07831 181079

**Residential & Commercial, New Developments,
Extensions, Alterations, Hard Landscaping**

Estimates Free



23 LEICESTER ROAD, SHARNFORD, LE10 3PP | 01455 271799

SUNDAY LUNCH

SUN 12-4:30PM

BURGER NIGHT

WED 4:30-9PM

WEEKLY SPECIALS

THUR - SAT



OPEN MIC NIGHT

2ND WED OF EVERY MONTH
FROM 8:30PM



BREAKFAST AT THE BRICKLAYERS

3RD SAT OF EVERY MONTH
9 - 11:30AM



SUNDAY BINGO

LAST SUN OF EVERY MONTH
7 - 10PM

UPCOMING EVENT

31
MAR

JOSH DARBY
LIVE SOLOIST
FRI - 8:30 PM

FEATURED EVENT

24
JUN

LADIES DAY
CHARITY EVENT IN AID
OF BREAST CANCER UK

TICKETS £25 PER PERSON



THE BRICKLAYERS PUB

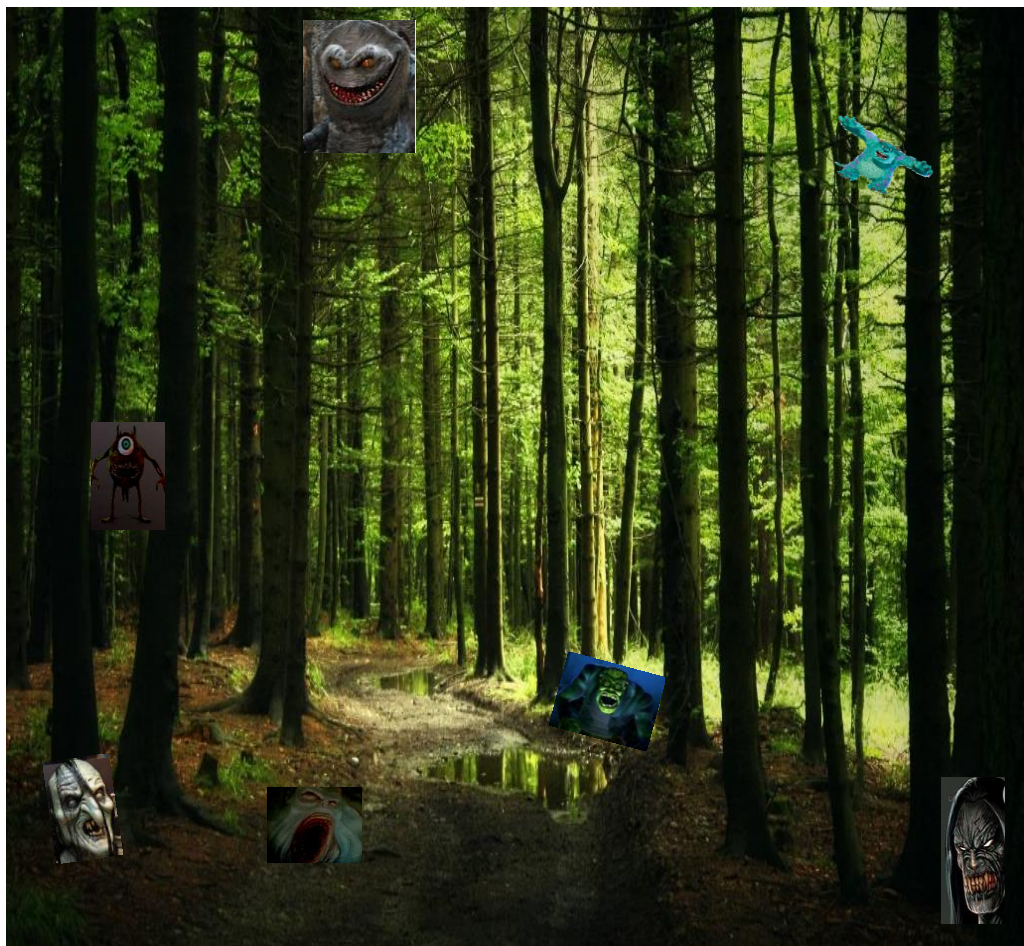
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
THEBRICKLAYERS.ORG

FOR MENUS AND EVENTS
CALENDAR



BOB AND JACKS MONSTER HUNT

How many monsters can you find hiding in the woods?



Answer here _____

If there are any young budding editors out there that would like to put an article in the next issue then please email us at sharnfordnews@gmail.com

SHARNFORD EVERGREEN HALL



Future Bacon Buttie Dates

4th March 2023 – Fairtrade Bacon Morning (All proceeds to ActionAid)

29th April 2023

In February we welcomed a new Preschool Group and the group is planning to open for 4 days a week, details to be released soon. We send our best wishes for a successful new venture.

We are looking for help in the running of our hall and club. If you could spare a little time and are interested in joining us, please give Rosemarie a call on 274158 or 07831371515

EVERGREEN CLUB

We had a wonderful trip to the Hinckley Concordia in January to see the Pantomime joined by other members of the village. Sadly, we lost three members of our club and committee. Gay from the Post Office was on our committee for many years and was very supportive throughout that time. We also lost Bettine Whitehouse and Margaret Hubbard, members of the Club. We will miss them both and specially remember the wonderful parts Margaret played in the Evergreen Show.

The Club is open to everyone over the age of 60 who lives in the local area. Meetings are held every two weeks on Wednesday afternoons for quizzes, games and afternoon tea, with lots of chat thrown in. Our annual events are a fish and chip supper in September, bingo social and lunch for the Christmas celebrations, a trip to the Concordia pantomime in January, a meal out in the Spring and an afternoon tea in August. New members are always welcome so if you would like further information, please contact Karen Smith on 07952 893156. We look forward to seeing you.

Rosemarie Simpson

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

Editorial Team: Ian 699051, and Jean Ryan 615820

Treasurer: Dave Sewell 272901

Email: sharnfordnews@gmail.com

**Deadline for articles for the next issue of Sharnford News is
Thursday 18th May 2023**

HINCKLEY BID'S EASTER BUNNY HUNT

Simply follow the clues to find the Easter Bunnies on 10 shop windows throughout the Hinckley town centre and win yourself an Easter treat, along with an entry into our prize draw for a £50 gift voucher! Details on how to enter will be released SOON - please do check back in a few weeks

<https://www.hinckleybid.co.uk/whats-on/event/hinckley-bids-easter-bunny-hunt>



SHARNFORD YOUTH CLUB
ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS FOR
THE YOUTH CLUB, ART CLUB AND
STEM CLUB

A collage of various school and craft supplies including a red alarm clock, a magnifying glass over pencils, a ruler, a paperclip, a notebook, a pencil sharpener, and a globe.

**CRAFT AND STEM
SUPPLY
DRIVE**

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT**

What We Need:
*Nintendo Wii and Xbox360 Games and Accessories,
craft and art items, knex, lego or unbranded
alternatives*

DROP OFF LOCATION
2 MILL LANE OR CONTACT 07825 924506 FOR
COLLECTION

SHARNFORD ARMS

A Leicestershire Dog Friendly pub of the year winner



EVENTS

1st Friday of each month – All In / All Out Cash Bingo

Music nights – TBC

Opening hours

Mondays – Thursday 16:30 to 23:00

Friday 16:30 to 00:00

Saturday 12:00 to 00:00

Sunday 12:00 to 22:00

Chinese Restaurant and take away service Tue to Sat 5:00 to 10:00

Now open Mondays

Beer token £35.00 for 10 beers

Regular music events



Email us at silkiesharnford@gmail.com or join us on Facebook to see all events and read all about us on Tripadvisor

SAPCOTE COMMUNITY LIBRARY



www.sapcotecommunitylibrary.org.uk



DONATED BOOKS FOR SALE IN THE LIBRARY

Many new books have been donated by our customers to raise funds to keep our library in the community – come and take a look - there is something for everyone !!

PUBLIC COMPUTERS AVAILABLE FOR USE

Did you know we have 4 computers in the library available for your use?



MONDAY COFFEE ZONE 9.30 – 12.30

Chance to meet new friends and chat over a coffee and cake – all welcome!

'Knit and Natter'



Do you like knitting or crochet?

Do you like meeting people?

Whether you are experienced or just want to learn doesn't matter!

Just turn up on **Monday afternoons 1.30-3.00pm**

SHARNFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

MONDAY	BREAKFAST CLUB	07:45 - 08:45	Sharnford Kids Club
	OVER 50'S BALLETT	09:30 - 11:30	Silver Swans
	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	15:15 – 17:15	Sharnford Kids Club
	KIDS ART & CRAFT CLUB	18:00 - 19:00	COMING SOON
TUESDAY	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
	KIDS LEGO CLUB	18:00 - 19:00	COMING SOON
WEDNESDAY	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
THURSDAY	BREAKFAST CLUB	07:45 – 08:45	Sharnford Kids Club
	OVER 50'S BALLETT	09:30 - 11:30	Silver Swans
	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	18:00 - 20:00	COMING SOON
SATURDAY	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

Page 27

Please support our advertisers

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	
Evergreen Club	Karen Smith 07952 893156	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	
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 Washbrook 272210	
Sapcote Library	Lorraine 3053674	
St. Helen's Church	Rev Jo Hover, Cynthia Oliver 272977	
Sharnford Ladies Group	Wendy Kendall 273889	1st Wednesday of month
Sharnford Pre-School	Victoria Stone victoriastonemanagement@gmail.com	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	

Bob and Jacks monster hunt answer = 7

Page 28

Please support our advertisers